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**MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
DEBATES**

OFFICIAL REPORT

MONDAY, 7TH MARCH 1949

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, the 7th March 1949.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Stationing of punitive police in certain villages in the Rayadrug taluk.

* 222 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether punitive police have been stationed in Muradi Hanumapuram and adjacent villages in Rayadrug taluk, Bellary district, and if so, since when;

(b) how much punitive tax has been realized from each of the villages every year up till now;

(c) whether the payment of the taxes is beyond the means of the villagers and has been causing considerable hardship to them;

(d) whether all the villagers or most of them are now in a peaceful condition;

(e) whether the Government have considered the question of the abolition of the punitive police in the area; and

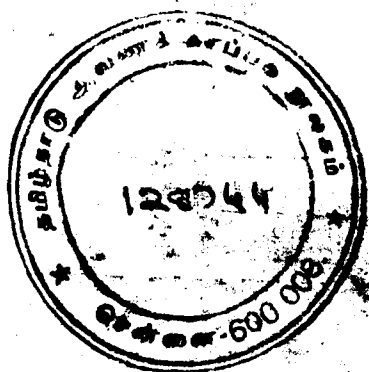
(f) whether the Government have any proposal to re-establish the Police station at Badinchal which was functioning in the area and was abolished about two decades ago?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Premier) :—“(a) Yes, since 1st November 1944.

“(b) No tax was realized during 1944 to 1947. The following sums of money were realized from each of the villages in 1948 :—

	RS. A. P.		
Muradi Hanumapuram	...	...	4,267 14 0
Godesalapalli	...	...	7,199 1 0
Kudlur	...	...	191 6 0
Gramadatla	...	...	1,308 7 0
Virapuram	...	...	56 9 0
Total	...	...	13,023 5 0

“(c) to (e) All the villages except Godesalapalli are highly factious. As already stated, the cost of the additional Police was not realized during 1944-47. The question, of causing



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hardship to the villagers did not therefore arise. In 1948, a sum of Rs. 13,023-5-0 was collected. It was however reported that the inhabitants of the village being poor and on account of the famine in the area in 1944-45, the cost of the additional police was causing some strain to most of the villagers. Government therefore considered the question of the continuance of the punitive police, but ill-feelings are still existing between the factionists and they are having disputes over division of wet lands, etc. They are also collecting followers making their private disputes a party issue and are awaiting an opportunity for clash. The presence of the police is therefore absolutely necessary for the maintenance of law and order. However, in view of the burden on the villagers, particularly because of the recent famine in the area, the Government have since decided to continue the outpost at Government cost for a period of one year.

“(f) No.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Why do not the Government establish a police station at Badanahal where one existed before in order to safeguard the peace of the area? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ A police outpost has been stationed. Therefore this question does not arise.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Can the inhabitants rest assured that they will not be taxed any further as they have already come to the end of the tether in paying the taxes for the last five years? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ The inhabitants must assure us that they would not be quarrelling and causing party factions necessitating the police force.”

SRI R. SUBYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Is there any increase in the prohibition crimes in the area, Sir? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ The hon. Member may put a separate question, Sir.”

Quantity of rice imported into the Province.

* 221-A Q.—DR. V. K. JOHN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) what quantity of rice is required for consumption every year in this Province;

(b) what quantity of rice was produced in this Province in the years 1947 and 1948;

(c) how much rice was imported into this Province in the years 1947 and 1948;

(d) what amounts were ultimately borne by the Government in connexion with such imports in 1947 and 1948; and

(e) what quantity of rice is expected to be produced in this Province in 1949; and what quantity is expected to be imported into this Province in 1949 and also what amount is ultimately to be borne by the Government in connexion with such imports?

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ (a) This is a difficult question to answer accurately as the rate of consumption of rice depends upon the availability of adequate supplies and the availability of millets. For, roughly a third of the population of the province are millet eaters and if adequate quantities of millets are not available they will take to the consumption of rice. However, taking into account the average production plus net imports during the five years ending 1941-42, the requirements of rice has been estimated at 4,962,000 tons. At this rate, the consumption requirements at present must be much higher as the population has since been growing at the rate of 1.1 per cent per year. But owing to introduction of controls and rationing since 1943-44, the total production of the province plus imports has been ranging from 4,510,500 tons in 1945-46 to 5,071,000 tons in 1947-48, the annual average for the five-year period ending 1947-48 being only 4,832,904 tons. It will not therefore be wrong to assume that even at the present reduced scale of ration, the province requires 4.9 million tons of rice per annum for consumption including seed purposes.

TONS.

“(b) 1946-47	...	...	...	...	4,919,450
1947-48	...	...	...	...	4,330,000
“(c) 1946-47	...	...	...	...	141,000
1947-48	...	...	...	...	260,560

“(d) The information required is apparently about the loss borne by this Government in the disposal of the quantities mentioned in answer to clause (c). The loss in 1946-47 was Rs. 2,39,10,761-15-1 and in 1947-48, Rs. 1,10,25,966-0-5.

“(e) According to forecasts made at present, the production of rice in 1948-49 is estimated at 4,296,000. This is only tentative and liable to change when the final forecast figures are available.

The Government of India have allotted an import quota of 80,000 tons of rice for the current year. The estimated loss to the Provincial Government on the disposal of this quantity is about Rs. 29 lakhs. This is only a rough estimate as the actual loss will depend on the source of supply.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Sir, was the Madras Province not surplus in rice in 1930-31 even assuming that the consumption was at the rate of 1½ lb. per head of the population? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ We are now in 1948-49 and the hon. Member wants us to go back to about 20 years ago.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Even when the Congress Ministry was functioning in this Province in 1937-39, was not this Province surplus in rice, Sir? ”

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" There was no such surplus at all. We were always in deficit and we were importing large quantities of rice from Burma."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Is it not a fact that the imports from Burma were for providing cheap rice for the labourers in Madras? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" We were always deficit in rice. As far as I can see, the question does not arise at all."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Have the Government perused the report of the Director of Agriculture, Mr. Hilson, who submitted a note to the Indian Tariff Board on the question of protection to the sugar industry? He has stated that the total consumption of rice lags behind production in this province."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I do not see the relevancy of the figures of 20 years ago to the present rice situation. The question concerns the present rice situation in the Province."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know whether we want to import seven lakhs of tons in 1949-50? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Certainly we want. It is not a question of our importing anything. The deficit has to be made up by the Government of India. It is the Government of India that imports whatever quantity we require on our behalf from the Government of India's import quota. We have informed the Government of India that we are likely to be deficit to the extent of $7\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of tons this year and we have requested them to give us that quantity."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know what was the deficit last year? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It was about $5\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of tons."

SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—" Are the Government aware that the rice imported from Orissa and Central Provinces is polished rice? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I am not able to say whether it was polished or unpolished rice. I am aware that certain quantities were received from Orissa and Central Provinces."

SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—" May I know why the Government insist on 73 per cent yield of rice from paddy here when they get 60 per cent yield of polished rice from those places? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The question of polished or unpolished rice does not arise at all out of this answer. Unpolished rice gives us more food. It may be 73 per cent. It varies according to the quality of paddy."

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SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—" May I know why the other Governments are allowed to polish their rice to the extent of 62 per cent? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" That is a question which has to be put to the other Governments."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" The Hon. Minister said that the normal quantity required is 49 lakhs of tons. In 1947 we produced 4,919,000 tons; in 1948 we went down to 43 lakhs and 1949 we are going down to 42 lakhs of tons. Have the Government examined, Sir, why the production is going down in spite of the grow more food campaign? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The question of the grow more food campaign does not come into the picture at all. We are interested in providing the necessary food for the people. We had adverse seasons for the last two years and our production went down. Therefore we have got to import greater quantity."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether according to the plans of production formulated by the Government, they expect this Province to be self-sufficient in the matter of rice? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" No, Sir, this Province cannot be self-sufficient."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Was not this Province self-sufficient, Sir, in 1947, according to the figures quoted by the Hon. Minister? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It also covers the food-stuff we have been receiving from outside to cover our deficit, Sir."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether this Government have formulated some plans for better production with a view to making this Province self-sufficient in the matter of rice? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The plans made do not bring in rice for the consumers. It is only a plan on paper. It has got to be carried out and it is production that has got to be increased."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Have the Government taken steps to promote the raising of a second crop in lands which generally grow only a single crop in districts like Bellary? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The raising of a second crop was never prevented by the Government and if there is sufficient rain and water, the producers are always encouraged to raise a second crop."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Did not the Government in January 1948 say, Sir, that no second crop should be raised on lands which were under single crop in the Bellary district? "

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I cannot answer for the decision of the Government in 1943, Sir."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know what was the deficit in the year before the last, Sir? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I do not remember that, Sir, and I have not got the figures here. If he puts a separate question on the matter, I shall get the information, Sir."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know, Sir, if the big irrigation schemes which the Government have in view, are put into operation there will be no deficit at all in this Province and it will be self-sufficient in regard to rice? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It is a matter of planning, Sir. We have already allotted large sums out of this year's budget for reclamation of tanks and reservoirs and we have also made plans for conserving the water-supply of this Province. Whether it would produce enough quantity of food-stuffs or not, we cannot yet say. But if these plans are properly carried out and if there is sufficient and favourable seasons, we expect though not to be self-sufficient, at least to make up some deficiency in regard to food-stuffs."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" I am referring to the bigger irrigation schemes, Sir."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The bigger irrigation schemes cannot be expected within the next year or two, Sir."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know, Sir, whether, if the bigger irrigation schemes are carried out, the Province will be self-sufficient in rice and whether we can even export rice? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" That may happen in course of time, Sir, when these schemes fructify and there may be sufficient yield to answer our requirements."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Is it the expectation of the Government or has the advice been given to the Government that if the major irrigation schemes are carried out, this Province will be self-sufficient in the production of rice? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It does not require much of imagination, Sir, to say that we shall become self-sufficient provided our irrigation schemes are properly finished and made available to the cultivators."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" In the pamphlet relating to the Grow More Food, Sir, it is stated that the Government expect to irrigate about 300,000 acres under the Cauvery-Mettur Scheme. May I know, whether that has been accomplished? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Water is made available from the Mettur Project, Sir, to the areas in the Tanjore district. And surplus water also is provided to the areas. The lands are not brought under cultivation as readily as

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originally planned. The lands that have to be brought under cultivation have never been cultivated before and to them water is provided. And year after year a certain number of acres of lands that are fit for cultivation have been brought under cultivation."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" What is the extent of land, Sir, that has been brought under cultivation within the last two years as contemplated in page 63 of this pamphlet on Grow More Food? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" A separate question may be put, Sir, so that the information may be called for."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Is there anybody constituted by the Government, Sir, to co-ordinate the efforts of the various departments in order to promote production? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The whole scheme of production is under the Agricultural Department, Sir, and such of the schemes as are brought into operation by the department are taken note of and the increase in production is also being recorded."

SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, if the Government are aware that the ryots are raising commercial crops, like tobacco, sugarcane and groundnut because they get more money in them, and if the Government will restrict the raising of such crops in order to get more yield of paddy? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" That is a question which has been oft repeated, Sir. It is a very good proposition. But the question is whether we are having sufficient of all these crops to meet our requirements. If the hon. Gentleman has in mind sugarcane and other stuffs, I may assure him that we are still very much in deficit and we have to import sugar from outside. Since we are not self-sufficient with regard to sugar we cannot prevent people from growing sugarcane. With regard to tobacco it is a commercial crop and as we do procurement with regard to rice, we cannot possibly deprive the agriculturist a little increase in his income by way of commercial crops. The Government can only see that the commercial crops do not grow so much as to interfere with our food requirements."

Condition of certain roads in the Vizianagaram municipality.

* 223 Q.—SRI P. VIRABHADRASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the length of the roads taken over by the Highways Department within the limits of the Vizianagaram municipality;

(b) whether any provision is made in the Budget for 1948-49 to repair these roads;

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(c) whether the Government have received complaints from the people of Vizianagram town that there are knee-deep pits on these roads; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the Government propose to re-transfer these roads to the Vizianagram Municipal Council?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—“(a) The names of the roads with their respective lengths taken over by the Highways Department from the Vizianagram Municipality are as shown below :—

Name of road.	Length.	
	M.	F.
Vizianagram-Palakonda road	1	6
Vizianagram-Bowdara road	0	7
Vizianagram-Nathavalasa road	0	2
Vizianagram-Modavalasa road	1	0
	3	7

The total length of the roads taken over is 3 miles and 7 furlongs.

“(b) The provision that was made in the Budget for 1948-49 to repair the roads is as follows :—

	RS.
1 Vizianagram-Palakonda road	13,386
2 Vizianagram-Bowdara road	14,032
3 Vizianagram-Nathavalasa road	3,400
4 Vizianagram-Modavalasa road	10,000
	40,818

“(c) The Government have not received any complaints in such terms from the people of the Vizianagram town but they received one from the Municipal Council in May 1948 saying that the roads had not been properly repaired.

“(d) The general question of re-transfer of roads taken over from municipalities is under consideration.”

SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO :—“May I know whether it is not only in Vizianagram but in all municipalities that the roads are in such a condition after they had been taken over by the Public Works Department and whether the Government have any proposal to transfer them to the municipalities?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—“As it is so, Sir, we are asking the municipalities to make a contribution towards the recurring expenditure on the maintenance of the roads and the question is under consideration.”

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SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO :—“Will it not be better, Sir, to leave these roads which are in the municipalities to the municipalities themselves so that they can see and keep the roads in a better way?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—“If the municipalities could maintain these roads to proper standards without prejudice to the minor roads in the municipal limits and without asking for additional grants from the Government, we can very favourably consider the suggestion, Sir.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know what control the municipalities exercise over the maintenance of these roads within their jurisdiction?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—“The maintenance of the highways passing through the municipalities is done by the Government, and subject to that, the municipalities have all other controls.”

Agrarian disputes in Tanjore district.

* 224. Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO (on behalf of Sri K. Manathunainatha Desigar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that agrarian disputes between mirasidars and kisans had been dealt with by the Revenue Department of the Madras Government;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Hon. the Revenue Minister visited Tanjore district in June 1947, and Mathurai district in June 1948, in connexion with the settlement of agrarian disputes referred to above;

(c) since when the Development Department is dealing with the above matter; and

(d) whether it is a fact that there is no statute governing the agricultural labour?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“(a) Where the disputes are between landlords and tenants, Revenue Department deal with them. Disputes in which labourers are involved are the concern of Development Department.

“(b) Yes, Sir.

“(c) Please refer to my answer to clause (a). Development Department have been dealing with the subject since May 1946, when the subject “Labour” was transferred to that Department from the Public Works Department.

“(d) There is no separate statute governing agricultural labour, but certain labour enactments like Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, and Minimum Wages Act, 1948, apply to agricultural labour also.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“Do any of these enactments provide for the betterment of the relations between the landlords and agricultural labourers?”

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Yes, Sir, it is done by the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, as I have already said."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO:—"Has any action been taken for the settlement and the determination of the wages of labourers in the Tanjore district, because I see that the landlord there gets 84 per cent of the produce and the tenant or the ryot gets only 16 per cent as is shown in the pamphlet published by our Premier, the Hon. Mr. Ramaswami Reddiyar, and it is rather very very unjust towards the agricultural labourer?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"These questions have been repeatedly examined, Sir, and certain settlements have been made with regard to certain disputes in some areas between the landlord and the labourer. We have started collecting information under the Minimum Wages Act and we propose to appoint certain committees in respect of this matter."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO:—"Are the Government taking action expeditiously because the settlement of these disputes would increase the production of paddy in this Province?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"We have been taking expeditious action in the matter of settling disputes that arise occasionally in the Tanjore district and seeing that production did not suffer."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government have under contemplation any legislation to settle the relation between the kisan and the mirasidar?"

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

Distribution of iron for building purposes.

* 225 Q.—SRI P. VIRABHADRASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) how much iron has been purchased from the Central Government from their stocks at Vizagapatnam;

(b) out of this quantity, what quantity has been given to the co-operative building societies for building purposes; and

(c) what the quantity taken away to other places is?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (a) It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to the Military Surplus Disposals at the Engineering Park at Vizagapatnam. If so, a quantity of 1,026 rolls of Sanafeld tracks and 20,086 feet of M.S. Screwed tubes were purchased.

" (b) A quantity of 790 rolls of Sanafeld rolls were issued to the co-operative building societies.

" (c) The remaining quantity of 236 rolls of Sanafeld tracks and 20,086 feet of M.S. Screwed tubes were taken over to other places."

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SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI:—"May I know, Sir, whether the iron that is given to these co-operative societies is used for building purposes otherwise?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"It is given to the co-operative building societies, Sir."

SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO:—"Are co-operative building societies started in the Vizagapatnam district?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"From the information that I have with me, as I have already said, some of the materials have been allotted to the co-operative societies. If the hon. Member wants more information, he must address the question to the Hon. Minister for Co-operation."

SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, when the co-operative building societies have not taken up building work, how the Government are giving stocks to the societies? That is my point."

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

Reduction of fees of students.

* 226 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a letter written in blood by a student as published in the *Blitz* (Bombay) of 2nd November 1948;

(b) whether the Government have received deputations and representations to reduce the fees of students; and

(c) whether the Government have considered them and whether there is any proposal to reduce the fees payable by students to the old scales prevailing before their enhancement?

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

"(a) No. They have seen the article published in the *Blitz*.

"(b) & (c) They received some representations on the subject. But they have decided that there is no sufficient reason to restore the old rates."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO:—"Do not the Government consider, Sir, that the present scales of college fees are extremely high for middle-class people to bear?"

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

"The value of money has depreciated to nearly 30 per cent, Sir, but the increase is only 25 per cent."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO:—"As the middle-class people who wish to send their children for studying in the college find it very difficult to bear this, will the Government consider the necessity for reducing the fees?"

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

"The hon. Member himself has stated many times, Sir, that the value of the money has depreciated and so the cost of things has gone up three times and therefore the income of the Government must be appreciated considerably. They have not stated that it must be increased to three times, but have increased it only by 25 per cent?"

11-30 a.m.

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Is it the policy of this Government that education must be ultimately free?"

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

"Yes, Sir. Free minimum education, primary stage first, and the senior basic stage second, and then the higher stages will rest on other consideration."

Particulars regarding educational institutions in the Province.

* 227 Q.—DR. V. K. JOHN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) how many (i) primary, (ii) middle and (iii) high schools and (iv) colleges, including training colleges there are in the Province of Madras and how many pupils are on the rolls of these schools and colleges; and

(b) out of these, how many primary, middle and high schools and colleges are run by (i) the Government, (ii) the Catholics, (iii) the non-Catholic Christians and (iv) other agencies and the number of pupils respectively on the rolls of these institutions?

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

"(a) & (b) A statement^a is placed on the table of the House."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Sir, I put a starred question. A statement is laid on the table of the House. Please give us time to read the statement so that we may put supplementary questions."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"The Hon. Minister may read the answer."

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

"Sir, it is perfectly a legitimate procedure when it is a question of figures to lay on the table of the House a statement so that hon. Members can read it."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"Anyway, the figures are not too many. You may read them."

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

"I can read them, but I must say, Sir, that the procedure adopted is quite correct. If the hon. Member wants me to read it, I have no objection."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"Mr. John, you want the answer to be read?"

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Yes, Sir." (Laughter.)

^a Printed as Appendix I on page 334 infra.

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"Sir, on a former occasion, the Leader of the Opposition himself said that in cases of figures, the answers may be placed on the table of the House."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I have no doubt at all about that. If it is a long statement, I would not have asked the Hon. Minister to read it. It is only a small number of figures."

(The Hon. Sri T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiyar read out the figures.)

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"May I ask, Sir, whether the number on rolls in respect of high schools and colleges has risen in recent times to more than 100 per cent while the number on rolls in Primary schools is even less than 15 per cent?"

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

"The proportion mentioned by the hon. Member may not be correct. I have not the correct figures. But it is roughly 60 per cent in high schools and 25 per cent in primary schools."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" (Turning to Mr. John) You don't seem to have improved after reading the statement." (Laughter.)

Women convicted of infanticide.

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

(a) the number of women convicted of infanticide now undergoing imprisonment;

(b) whether any provision exists in this Province to reclaim them without committing them to prison; and

(c) whether the Government have at any time considered the desirability of providing facilities for training to reclaim such women?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (a) Ten women convicted of infanticide are now undergoing imprisonment.

" (b) & (c) By an arrangement with the Madras Seva Sadan and the Salvation Army, all women prisoners convicted of infanticide are sent to a rescue home in preference to a jail. The first choice in the matter of detention of such convicts is given to the Madras Seva Sadan and only those female convicts who are unwilling to be detained in the Madras Seva Sadan or are not admitted there, are sent to the rescue home maintained by the Salvation Army. The sentences passed on them are remitted by the Government subject to the condition that the convict stays in the rescue home for the period determined by the Government which is usually two or three years."

Mrs. MONA HENSMAN :—"May I ask, Sir, what is the number of women convicted of infanticide in the last ten years who

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have been sent to Seva Sadan and the Salvation Army Homes, and what is the maintenance allowance that has been allowed by Government for their upkeep? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ The figure ten is the number that is now in jails pending examination to be sent to the rescue homes maintained by the Seva Sadan and Salvation Army. But the total number sent for the last ten years is 50. The maintenance allowance which the Government grant, since August 1948, is Rs. 20 monthly, and Rs. 40 annually for clothing for each person.”

Mrs. MONA HENSMAN :—“ May I ask, Sir, what the sentences given to these women originally were? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ In the original sentences, most of the sentences were transportation for life. In a few, it was two years or three years' imprisonment. But the Government remitted the transportation sentence to two years and three years' imprisonment, and sent them to the rescue homes to learn some craft.”

Mrs. MONA HENSMAN :—“ May I take it, Sir, that the Hon. the Judges and the Hon. the Members of Government concerned desire that these women should be punished for the crime of infanticide by a sentence which would prevent them from having any more infants? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ Not at all, Sir. Though the wording is infanticide, most of the cases will be charged under section 302, Indian Penal Code, for murder. The punishment is transportation for life or death, and the lesser of the two is given. That is why they are given transportation for life. But as soon as the sentence is pronounced, the High Court or the Sessions Judge, as the case may be, sends a report to Government that it is a fit case for remission of the sentence and for sending to rescue homes. In cases where they do not recommend, the Inspector-General brings it to the notice of the Government, and the Government themselves consider the question and send the cases to rescue homes.”

Ryots' forests.

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

(a) whether the Government have evolved any definite plan regarding the management of the ryots' forests by the forest panchayats;

(b) what that plan is;

(c) whether the Government have any idea to transfer the ryots' forests from forest panchayats to the Forest department; and

(d) whether the Government have implemented their plan and, if so, how and where it has been done?

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ (a) Yes, Sir.

“ (b) The present plan is to transfer the management of the panchayat forests from the Revenue department to the Forest department. The existing panchayats will be allowed to continue to manage their forests under the supervision of the District Forest Officer in all cases where such management is expected to function with reasonable competence; in cases of existing badly managed panchayats, efforts will be made to obtain reasonably competent new management and only where such attempt are unsuccessful, the Forest department will assume direct management. The ultimate aim is to constitute forest co-operative societies to manage the panchayat forests.

“ (c) No, Sir. The plan is only to transfer the supervision of the panchayat forests from the Revenue department to the Forest department.

“ (d) The Government ordered in April 1948 the transfer of the panchayat forests from the Revenue department to the Forest department in the six districts of Anantapur, Bellary, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Nellore and Salem. The transfer is being gradually effected.”

Trade in khadi.

*230 Q.—SRI MOTHEY NARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Firka Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government propose to prohibit trade in khadi by private merchants and, if so, the date from which it is to be enforced;

(b) whether the Government have any alternative scheme for the production of pure khadi;

(c) whether the All-India Spinners' Association have been consulted in the matter; and

(d) if so, whether a copy of their opinion will be placed on the table of the House?

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“ (a) The Government have decided to allow, by a system of licensing, a small number of private producers and dealers to function, subject to certain restrictions for the purpose of ensuring the genuineness of the khadi produced and the payment of a living wage to the artisans concerned. In order to avoid unhealthy competition and to facilitate inspection and scrutiny, the activities of each producer or dealer will be restricted to a specified locality. The Madras Khadi (Control) Order, 1947, is being revised to give effect to these decisions soon. A copy* of the Press Note No. 266, dated 30th November 1948, issued in this connexion is placed on the table of the House.

“ (b) In view of the answer given to (a) above, this question does not arise.

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“(c) Yes.

“(d) The Secretaries of the All-India Spinners' Association, Andhra, Tamilnad and Kerala, were consulted in the matter at a conference and their opinions have not been obtained in writing.”

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—“ Have Government any alternative scheme for the production of khadi? ”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“ Government have got their intensive khadi scheme in seven firkas.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Do the Government make a distinction between pure khadi and spurious khadi? ”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“ By producing spurious khadi, people are selling it as pure khadi. For producing spurious khadi, they are using mill yarn, which is very much cheaper. Production of spurious khadi is cheaper, and therefore they are making great profits.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Is it unhealthy to wear spurious khadi? ”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“ That question does not refer to this question.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ What is the amount spent by Government in subsidizing pure khadi as distinct from spurious khadi? ”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“ We do not subsidize. A separate question may be put.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know who is the licensing authority in respect of private manufacturers of khadi? ”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“ The licensing authority will be the Provincial Firka Development Officer and the two Regional Firka Development Officers. Government are considering the appointment of somebody from the All-India Spinners' Association also as a licensing authority.”

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—“ Does the restriction affect the production of khadi. May I ask, Sir, whether by the restriction, the Government do not want private production of khadi? ”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“ Producers of khadi represented to Government, and we invited them all to a conference where we discussed this question.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know whether the principle of nationalization is going to be applied to khadi production also? ”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“ No, Sir.”

SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—“ Sir, on the strength of the All-India Spinners' Association, this Government have introduced this scheme in this Province. Are the Government aware that other Governments have also introduced this scheme? ”

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THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“ This Government do not know what other Governments have done.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Cannot the Government take some steps to see that production of pure khadi is done by private merchants by exercising some supervision instead of prohibiting their manufacture of khadi? ”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“ We are not prohibiting. We have asked them to take out licences. There are conditions on the grant of licence, and they have to abide by them.”

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—“ Will the people thrown out of employment be given handloom cloth and mill cloth licences? ”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“ There is no need for that.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Is the All-India Spinners' Association authorized to issue licence? ”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“ The Government have accepted the opinion of the All-India Spinners' Association.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ While they are empowered to issue a licence, should they not be held responsible? Are Government going to give subsidies to them? ”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“ We are not allowing them to issue licences. They will be consulted for issuing licences.”

SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO :—“ Have the Government received any request from the Chicacole area—a fine centre in Vizagapatnam district—to put an end to restrictions in that area? ”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“ Chicacole producers also were present at the conference and they did not ask for this.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know whether the Government are aware that Chicacole khadi is the most superior khadi produced in all the centres of the All-India Spinners' Association? ”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“ That is true, Sir.”

SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—“ Has the President of the Association instructed only this Government to experiment this scheme in this Province? ”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“ That is not correct, Sir.”

SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—“ May I know whether Government think that all the khadi weavers are genuine? ”

(No answer.)

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11-45 a.m. DR. V. K. JOHN :—" The question has not been answered. The question is whether khadi weavers are genuine at heart."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" May I know the question? "

SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—" Do the Government think that all the khadi wearers are genuine at heart? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I do not know which Minister has to answer the question."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Is the cost of khadi comparatively higher than the cost of handloom cloth or mill cloth? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Why this question, Dr. John? The hon. Member knows and everybody knows about it."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" My point is why Government should spend any money or issue any licences for obtaining khadi when other cloth can be got cheaper."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" That does not arise out of the question."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know whether the Government have any alternative scheme for the production of pure khadi? That was a question which I previously gave notice of. My supplementary question now is whether the cost of production of khadi is comparatively higher than the production of handloom cloth or mill cloth and if so, by how much."

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—" It is higher, but I cannot say by how much."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether the Government are aware that the khadi produced by private merchants is cheaper than the khadi produced at the centres of the All-India Spinners' Association? "

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—" No, it is not cheaper."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—" Is it the policy of the Government to eliminate all mill cloth in course of time and make the country self-sufficient in khadi? "

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—" The Government will consider that question."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know what is the quantity of khadi produced in this Province last year? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" A separate question may be put."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Is it correct to say that the major portion of the khadi produced is unsaleable and is left unsold? "

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—" It is saleable and it is not left unsold."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Is there no quantity left unsold? "

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THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—" There must be some quantity."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" If the khadi is not left unsold, why should Government issue an order that in their departments, khadi should be preferred to other cloth? "

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—" That is the policy of the Government. Government want to encourage khadi."

Dwelling houses used for offices.

* 281 Q.—MRS. MONA HENSMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Firka Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of dwelling houses within the Madras City limits that have been taken over and are being used as offices—Government or otherwise;

(b) the number of applications for dwelling houses in the City of Madras pending before the Officer for Rent Control and the Collector of Madras at present;

(c) whether any direction has been given to the authorities concerned preventing or forbidding the allotment of dwelling houses for offices or for purposes other than that of residential dwellings; and

(d) whether any such direction, if not already issued, is proposed to be issued forthwith with penalties attached for all breaches of the same?

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—" (a) Ten. Two of these are used as office cum residence. No dwelling house has been taken over for use as office by non-Government bodies.

" (b) 1932.

" (c) No. Under section 11 of the Madras Buildings (Leases and Rent Control) Act, 1946, no residential building can be converted into a non-residential building except with the permission in writing of the Rent Controller.

" (d) No."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know what is the percentage of the private houses in Madras requisitioned by Government for Government use? "

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—" I cannot give the answer straightaway. A separate question may be put."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" In view of the large number of cases still pending under the Rent Control Act, what steps the Government have taken to see that they are quickly disposed of? "

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—" Government are doing whatever they can do to reduce the number."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Questions over."

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

II.—GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1949-50—cont.

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Mr. President, Sir, no Budget in this Province has been subject to so much criticism; criticism very stringent and in some cases bitter, as this Budget has been subjected to. Sir, criticisms have come not only from the Opposition but also from members belonging to the Congress Party. The Finance Minister on the floor of the Assembly said that Congress members who are representatives of the people are in direct touch with the people of this Province. Sir, criticisms have come also from the Press and the platform outside the Chambers of the Legislature. Now, Sir, these criticisms, in my humble opinion, are well deserved, because this is the worst Budget that has ever been produced before the Legislature of this Province. Sir, the gravamen of the charge against this Budget is the proposal to tax the poor. Sir, in no other Province in this country and in no other country in the world have the poor been taxed so heavily as they are taxed in this Province. The other day, Mr. H. P. Modi in the Central Assembly said that the rich are taxed most in this country. I do not know whether it is a fact. But it is a real fact that the poor in this Province are taxed. Every morsel of food, every ounce of liquid that goes down the poor man's throat is loaded with tax, and his throat is choked with taxes and instead of releasing him from this burden, instead of reducing or abolishing the sales tax, particularly in articles in which the poor are interested, you are trying to-day to raise the tax on the poor. Sir, I am afraid that the Hon. the Finance Minister, even after the criticism, remains obstinate, an obstinacy bordering on perversity. I have no doubt he is very sincere and he wants to see that the Budget is balanced and therefore he is taxing the poor. But, I think, Sir, that the tax on the poor is not based on any sound economic principle or financial policy. What is really the effect of the tax on the poor? There will be a rise in the cost of living. I shall give the figures later on. The result is that not only there will be a rise in the cost of production, but our goods will be sold at higher prices than the goods in other parts of the country, and the consumer has to pay a higher price in this Province. The result of this is two-fold. The poor man is hit and every consumer is hit and so on we might go the way China and other countries in the East have gone and Communism will come in and this may be the Province from which the armies of the Communists may march. Why? Because, the cost of living which has increased only by 75 per cent in the United States of America, has gone up by over 300 per cent in this Province. Now, Government are trying to suppress the Communists. The communists are gangsters and they carry on subversive activities against the people and therefore Government are justified certainly in suppressing the Communists. But, the negative methods which the Government are now adopting by putting them in jail or sending them underground will be of no use whatsoever. By doing so, they are really throwing the field open to the Communists. What

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the Government have to do is to reduce the cost of living and to see that every man is employed so that the hungry and the unemployed may not be persuaded to use the methods propagated by the Communists. Now, Sir, we have Communism prevalent in Malabar and also in the Andhra districts and in many other parts of the Province. The other day, a charge has been made against the Government that they have sabotaged the main irrigation schemes. I think the charge has been answered by the Hon. Sri Bhaktavatsalam and the Hon. the Premier that it is not Government that have sabotaged those irrigation schemes but that the Government have not got the money and the materials to go on with those schemes. Now, Sir, even if the Government have the money and the material, if the Government tax the poor and thereby increase the cost of living, surely the Communists will come into power, and they will see that none of those big irrigation schemes are carried out. Because, it helps them to see that there is disorder and poverty in the country. Therefore, I say that the result of taxing the poor as proposed in the Budget would be to assist the Communists and other subversive forces in this Province. More than that, the rupee is devalued. For instance, take the handloom cloth. The cost of production is so high that five crores worth of handloom cloth is stagnant in this Province, and cannot find an outlet in outside markets simply because it does not suit the merchants to buy this cloth at the price at which we are prepared to sell it or at the price at which we produced that cloth. If the price of the cloth which is exported is not kept low, there will be very little export. If there is little export, rupee will be devalued so that inflation will rise. Our currency may be so much devalued if we tax the poor that we will have to carry our currency in cart-loads even for buying a needle or sugar. Sir, the Finance Minister does not appreciate these results of taxing the poor. That is the gravamen of the criticism against the Budget.

“ Then, I go further, Sir. The Finance Minister should have not only desisted from taxing the poor but he should have lowered the taxes. He must have abolished a portion of the sales tax. I wish to draw the attention of the Hon. the Finance Minister and also the Members of this House that if only the Hon. Minister had gone carefully into retrenchment, he need not have imposed further taxes but he could possibly have reduced the existing taxes. Now, Sir, before going into the question of retrenchment, I might make a few preliminary observations to show that it is not necessary to increase the taxes in order to balance the Budget, because, in the first place, we have seen that the original estimates have no relation to the actuals. If you look at page 43 of the Budget Speech, you will find that the revised estimate shows an increase of nearly three crores over the normal revenues. There was a difference of three crores and over in the normal revenue between the budget estimate for 1948-49 and the revised estimate. The budget estimate for 1948-49 was 50,32.31 lakhs and the revised estimate was 53,38.27 lakhs. Again in the normal expenditure, the budget estimate for 1948-49 was 44,07.21 lakhs and the revised estimate was 47,06.33 lakhs. There is a difference of about three crores; 12 nom.

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How can you have a difference of about three crores between the actuals and the estimates of the revenue as well as expenditure which are called normal? Again, the transfer from Revenue Reserve Fund which was expected when the budget estimate was given was 5,62.00 lakhs but the actual transfer was 3,66.00 lakhs. I am mentioning the great disparity between the estimates and the actuals, because I think that the estimated deficit for 1949-50 of 390.77 lakhs may, when we get the final figures, prove to be no deficit at all. The persons who have advised the Finance Minister do not seem to have any grasp of the revenue or expenditure and there may be a difference of three and odd crores between their estimates and the actuals. In the circumstances, it was not necessary for the Finance Minister to balance the Budget at all. It is an old theory that the Budget must be balanced. If sound economic principles are applied, particularly in view of our past experience, showing a difference of three crores between the actuals and the estimates, the Finance Minister might have waited for some time and need not have balanced the Budget in the way he proposes to do.

"Sir, the Finance Minister had many other alternatives. The first alternative is, as I said, he need not have balanced the Budget in the way he has proposed to do. The second alternative is he should have looked to retrenchment. Sir, a Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee was appointed on the 28th October 1946 of which five Hon. Ministers were Members. The Ministers appear to have done nothing at all for one year. Then that Ministry changed. Sir, incidentally I may mention that the one unfortunate thing in the Government of this Province is the election of the Leader of the Party every year. For a period of twelve months Ministers who are only human beings are spending a good deal of their time in gathering strength for the next election. Therefore, the five Ministers who were appointed to this Committee on the 28th October 1946 practically did nothing at all with regard to retrenchment and reorganization. Then, Sir, another Committee was appointed on the 11th October 1947. It was a non-official Committee with Sri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar, M.L.A., as Chairman and six other members, one of whom was a very active Member of the Opposition in this Council, Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao, of whom the Opposition is proud. I understand this Committee sent in their recommendations to the Government from time to time. They held 54 meetings and on the 4th August 1948 sent their final report which recommended a saving of Rs. 4,54,17,100 in the expenditure under various heads. This was a huge amount and in the context of the mounting expenditure in the past, they might have recommended much more. Let us look into the figures of income and expenditure in the past. In 1942-43 the income was 21,92.19 lakhs and the expenditure was 20,68.63 lakhs; in 1943-44 the income was 29,84.20 lakhs and the expenditure was 29,84.14 lakhs; in 1944-45 the income was 42,28.73 lakhs and the expenditure was 28,87.18 lakhs. An amount of Rs. 1,236 lakhs was transferred to the Revenue Reserve Fund. In 1945-46 the income rose to 47,98.89 lakhs. It must be said to the credit of the then Government that they again transferred 17,81 lakhs to the

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Reserve Fund, thereby making the Reserve Fund amount to nearly 30 crores in two years. What I am emphasizing now is that even in these two years when we had abnormal revenues of 41 and 47 crores as against 29 to 30 crores in the past, the expenditure was kept below 30 crores. Then the Congress Government came into power. In 1946-47 the income was more or less the same, i.e., 45,17.10 lakhs as against 47 crores in the previous year. But the expenditure was 56,98.89 lakhs. The expenditure has increased from about 30 crores to about 57 crores. Out of that, a small amount of four and odd crores was spent as subsidy for food. The increase in expenditure of about 20 crores when the revenue did not go up must be due to something. I spent a good deal of time and attention on the figures given and found that this expenditure of about 20 crores has been incurred by the first Congress Ministry in distributing patronage. The expenditure went up not on account of any great scheme on which they spent money but on administrative expenditure. I challenge the Finance Minister, if he is not satisfied with the figures that I have given, to give other figures to the House. There was an increase of 27 and odd crores of rupees in expenditure not because there was any capital expenditure, and not because there were any great emergencies. Except for about eight crores of rupees given as subsidy for food, all the remaining money was spent in creating more jobs and spending money without any thought whatsoever. The Congress Government which came into power later thought of cutting down expenditure and again transferred to the Revenue Reserve Fund about five crores of rupees and great credit is due to the Hon. the Finance Minister who is in charge of finance to-day. But the real fact is that our popular Government are spending 20 and odd crores more than the other Governments had been spending for many years before. The reason is not found in payment of dearness allowances to the poor Government servants. They do not get much more in their emoluments than they were getting before. The fact is that many jobs have been created. Many have been helped and patronage has been distributed to the tune of crores of rupees.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"The Government could not have spent 22 crores in that way."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"I hope the Finance Minister will answer the question that I have raised in the course of his reply, although I know he is an astute politician and never replies to points which he thinks are unreplyable."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member also must give some facts and figures to substantiate his statement, if he thinks that all this is due to patronage and jobs newly created. He can find from the Budget that such and such things have been newly created and so much of expenditure has been incurred."

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—"I am not in possession of all the facts regarding the thousands of jobs newly created. But I find that a substantial amount has been spent, except Rs. 22 to 23 lakhs on

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capital outlay. The Government have spent about Rs. 57 crores and put their hands into the reserves created in the previous two years.

12-15 p.m. "The Finance Minister is an astute politician. He does not answer any points which he thinks should not be answered, points to which the attention of the public should not be attracted. In this House, Sir, a few days ago he presented the accounts of 1944-45 and the audit reports. I pointed out that 4 crores of rupees had been spent without authority, that the Agricultural Department alone spent 7 lakhs of rupees without receipts and that some receipts were obtained after an year or two and they were all lost. I asked, Sir, whether the officers who were responsible for this expenditure were continuing in service and whether the Government have taken suitable steps to see that such things do not continue at the present day. But the Finance Minister when he replied to the criticisms and the discussion did not say one word about it. There is anxiety felt in this House and outside that these conditions might still be continued. I say, Sir, with a sense of responsibility that the most ill-managed institution in this Province is the Government of Madras. Well, Sir, the most important thing is retrenchment and what does the Hon. Finance Minister say about the Retrenchment Committee's report. You will find from the Budget Speech in paragraph 2nd, what the Hon. Minister says; 'As hon. Members are aware the question of measures to be taken to combat the existing inflationary situation has been engaging the attention of the Central and the Provincial Governments for some time.' He continues: 'the measures include proposals for the reduction in expenditure and increase in the Government Revenue. The Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee constituted in 1947 submitted its final report in August 1948.' He probably forgot that five Hon. Ministers were appointed to this very Committee in 1946 but this Committee, according to him, was not constituted, but was reconstituted, because it was not the same Committee which was appointed in 1946. The Committee submitted its proposals in 1948 August. If you read the next sentence, you will see that no responsible Minister of any Government could have made the statement which the Hon. Finance Minister has made in this House with impunity. He said, 'I must apologise to the House for not having allotted a day for the discussion of the Report as promised owing to pressure of Government legislative work. Sir this Report was submitted in August 1948 and from August 1948 the Hon. Minister who ought to have been mostly concerned with an expenditure mounting from 40 to 57 crores after the popular Government have taken over, says, he could not find one day to take the House into confidence and discuss the Report of the Retrenchment Committee and he regrets that not one day could be allotted on account pressure of legislative business.'

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I do not understand why the Hon. Minister made that statement at all."

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It was made in the other House, Sir."

* DR. V. K. JOHN:—"Everybody to-day knows and people also have drawn attention to the fact that according to the Budget Speech last year, that in the previous year itself, if the recommendations of the Committee made from time to time were given effect to, one crore of rupees could have been saved. Now, I ask the Hon. Finance Minister and I put it to the hon. Members of this House, whether any Finance Minister, in these difficult days when he finds that about 27 crores of rupees are being spent over and above the expenditure in 1944-45, can get up and say in presenting his Budget that he could not attend to this most important matter and could not even discuss it in the Legislative Council because of other legislative work? Do the people not know how many Bills have passed through both the Houses running into volumes but yet the Hon. Minister says that he could not find one day to discuss this Report. But, Sir, even if we could not discuss it, has he not got his department to consider it, especially when we are spending 55 or 56 crores? What does he say? He says, he has not considered it at all and come to a decision. He merely says, 'I must apologise to the House for not having allotted a day for the discussion of the Report as promised owing to the pressure of Government legislative work. It will be sometime before orders are issued on all the important recommendations and possible economies are effected.' Is this a Government and can this be called a Government at all? He says we had a Retrenchment Committee in 1946, which was reconstituted in 1947 and they submitted their final recommendations in August 1948 and we had no time to discuss it and so we are coming forward with fresh proposals to choke the throat of the poor man with taxes."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We did consider all the proposals made by the Retrenchment Committee."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Cannot the Retrenchment Committee proposals be discussed in this House?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"They can be, but there was no demand from this House. The other House asked for it, but due to Government business it had to be put off day after day."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"So, you say that hon. Members of the House are mostly responsible for not discussing it."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"They did not ask for it, Sir, but why not the Government consider it?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Government considered all the proposals of the Committee."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"Now, Sir, the Hon. Minister is using the English language and I think the Hon. Minister for Education will agree with me that we should get rid of the English language."

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MR. PRESIDENT:—"I think the Hon. Finance Minister is making out the point, that though he did not allot a day for discussion, why did you not ask for a day."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"No doubt we can ask for a day only when the Government have considered the report. But, the gravamen of my charge is that the Government have not considered it at all and not so much that there should be discussion either in the House or by the public. He says, 'It will be sometime before orders are issued'. What is this English? I suppose the Hon. Finance Minister has gone through certain Universities and I do not know who wrote this sentence. Perhaps he is not responsible for the language that is used here."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member may excuse the Hon. Finance Minister. He has no University degree."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"He studied at Shantiniketan. It is high time he gets the help of the Hon. Minister for Education. Whether he was educated at the Shantiniketan or in the Presidency College, Madras, my point is on the language he has used, namely, 'It will be sometime before orders are issued on all the recommendations and possible economies are effected'. He says he can reduce the expenditure by something, although he has not come to a final conclusion on the recommendations of the Committee."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"But, what is wrong with the English?"

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"I am referring to the sentence 'it will take some time'. Now, Sir, what I am suggesting is, in these difficult times when we find that our expenses have gone up by over 20 crores, when we find that the Retrenchment Committee have recommended for a reduction of 4½ crores and when we find that our deficit is 390 lakhs, the first important thing that the Government should do is to retrench the expenditure and see whether they cannot do without taxing chillies and other things which they are proposing to tax to-day."

"Well, Sir, this retrenchment is not a new thing. In the previous Budget Speech of the Hon. Finance Minister of which I have got a copy here, the Hon. Minister referred to various proposals which were made by the Retrenchment Committee and said that if all these various proposals which were sent to him from time to time were attended to, he could reduce the expenditure by a crore of rupees. Now, he has not done that. On page 32 of the last year's Budget Speech, the Hon. Minister referred to the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee which was constituted and said 'The Committee has so far examined the general working of the Civil Supplies, Education, Public Health, etc., and it has also dealt with certain general matters. The recommendations already made by the Committee are under consideration and if they are all accepted by the Government they will

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reduce expenditure by over one crore of rupees.' Neither this House nor the Assembly knows anything of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee which were accepted by the Government, those which were considered by the Government and those which were rejected by the Government. What is the idea, Sir? Is there no department, no staff and no assistance for the Government to consider the various matters recommended by the Committee? On the other hand, I find the Hon. Ministers travelling throughout the Province even to open a small dispensary or a school or to attend to other small matters which any other public man or an M.L.A. or M.L.C. could have done. Perhaps the Ministers go there to gather the opinion of the people and muster strength for the next election. Sir, the first the imperative, the primary duty and the great responsibility of the Government especially in the circumstances of our finances and our expenditure is to sit day after day, hour after hour and even night after night, over the proposals of this Retrenchment Committee, come to decisions and then reduce expenditure. This the Government have not done and the result is, Government want to tax the poor."

"Now, Sir, I pass on from the Retrenchment scheme to another thing which the Government could have done if only they were alive to the problems of this Province. I asked for certain figures from the Hon. Finance Minister and he has not yet supplied to me, but I hope he will supply me the figures before this session is over. Sir, the question of the adjustment of income between the Centre and the Provinces is one of the vital points which ought to be considered by this Government and impressed upon the Central Government. As a matter of fact, all sources of elastic revenue, namely, customs, income-tax, Corporation tax, income from railways, excise duties, all go to the Central Government (the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi: 'Hear, hear') but we do not get an adequate share in these elastic sources of revenue. I wanted to know the figures of collection in respect of these items by the Central Government and the contribution to the Provinces and what amount is given to this and other Provinces from out of that collection. Of course, I am not complaining that they have given something more to other Provinces, but I say, in the interests of the growth of the industries of this Province, and in the interests of the expenditure on nation-building schemes, we must know where we are and we must have some elastic source of revenue. Sir, I am quite sure, the Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi is the last man to impose taxation on the poor if some other elastic sources of revenue are left to us to-day. But, there is none at all left to us except the sales tax and the incidence of sales tax is the largest in this Province than in any other Province and if you go on increasing it, it will be to prejudice us in every way. What has the Central Government or this Government done to come to an understanding? Let us have some definite understanding that out of the taxes collected from the Provinces by the Centre, they should have a definite share and that definite share may be either 50 or 60 or even 70 per cent and it will grow from year to year and we can take

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advantage of it, unlike the block grant which is available only if an equivalent grant is made by the Provinces. The Hon. Finance Minister regrets very much in his speech that he has to incur expenditure on capital works in these difficult times because if he does not do it, he loses the block grant allotted by the Centre.

"Sir, I want the Hon. Finance Minister and the Government of this Province to carry this unanimous opinion of every section of this House to the Government of India, that we are quite dissatisfied with the way in which they are treating us in the matter of collection from all the Provinces and the contribution to this Province. We do not know where we are going. Only yesterday the Finance Minister of the Government of India said that they are still considering to solve the conflicts between the Centre and the Provinces in the overlapping of taxation."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"That will be to our disadvantage."

* DR. V. K. JOHN:—"The Hon. Finance Minister says that when it is finally settled, it will be to our disadvantage."

"What is left to our Province out of these elastic sources of revenue except the sales tax which, I once said, was an immoral tax. It is not a tax on income but a tax on business. It is not even a sales tax but it is a purchase tax. It is a consumer's tax. I want the Hon. Finance Minister to tell the Government of India that not only the members of the Legislature but also the public men in this Province are exceedingly dissatisfied with the way we are treated by the Centre in the matter of finance and that we are starved to the extent that we cannot proceed further in the matter of education, health or any other nation-building activities. There is no use finding fault with the Finance Minister of our Province (the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi: 'Hear, hear') when I find that the revenue from all the elastic sources is collected by the Government of India and as beggars we ask for a portion of it. We do not know what we are going to do. So this is the thing that the Finance Minister should now take up with the Government of India and try to get something, something in the nature of a fixed share, a definite share or a definite proportion of the revenue collected from this Province under the various heads, so that we may know where we are. Sir, but this should have been attempted in time. The Hon. Finance Minister ought to have known that we are in deficit. We were in deficit last year. If he had taken it up with the Government of India in time, he need not have thought of introducing these new taxes on the poor people."

"Then, Sir, I come to the capital expenditure. The Finance Minister, instead of introducing new taxes, should have cut off capital expenditure because we are in difficult times and we are passing through a period of inflation and there is no use in spending a few crores of rupees on this account. At page 49 of the Budget Speech, he gives the expenditure for new schemes which runs into crores of rupees. I would suggest to the Hon. Finance Minister to take the considered opinions of both the

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Houses and, I hope, he will not be obstinate on this matter. Therefore, instead of introducing new taxes, I ask him to cut away the capital expenditure for the time being. After all, the capital expenditure will not yield revenue in a year or two. If my suggestion is accepted by the Government, we can get through this Budget without taxing the poor. When I am on this question of taxing the poor people, my attention is drawn to a report published the other day as to what Russia is doing to solve this problem. Sir, twice they reduced the cost of living and recently there was a cut of 10 per cent in the cost of living of the poor. And they said, that reduction is the second stage in the campaign for reducing retail commodity prices. And they added that 'these represented an actual saving of about 71 billion roubles'. Sir, any man knowing the elements of economics will understand the problem. Suppose, a man has an income of one thousand rupees and the cost of living is so high that he has to spend the whole one thousand rupees to maintain his family and himself. But suppose, if the cost of living is 20 per cent less, he can save two hundred rupees out of one thousand rupees and can invest it. After all, investment must come from every man. He must be able to save now by the cut of 20 per cent in retail commodity prices and that is how the Russians are able to save 71 billions roubles. After all, the revenue of the Province depends on the income of the people of this Province. If the prices are not cut down and if taxes like the sales tax are raised, then there will be no saving. If there is no saving, the result will be, our national wealth will go down.

"The cost of living index is given by the Hon. the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech at page 41. This is under the heading, 'Retrenchment Measures' because he did not want us to take notice of it. That is the way the politicians present the Budget."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Who else can present it? Only a politician can present the Budget."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"I would like an economist to do that and not a professional politician. I do not think that a professional politician can be an efficient Finance Minister. If left to me, I would rather prefer a businessman or an economist."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I think we can better wait and see how the hon. Member chooses when he gets a chance to form a Ministry."

* DR. V. K. JOHN:—"That is the one job which I would not take up. Now I come to the point under discussion. The working classes cost of living index for Madras City in the beginning of January 1949 was 323.3 as against 304.5 in the beginning of January 1948. Now, in the last year's Budget, you will find that the cost of living index in December 1946 was 249 as against 289 in December 1947 whereas, the rise in cost of living for the working classes in America is only 75 per cent of the pre-war

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cost. So, the cost of living index has gone up from 249 to 289 and from 304 to 328. I am quite sure, when you levy taxes on so many things—except the Capital Gains Tax on immovable property, you will find the figure will rise up to 500 and the Hon. the Finance Minister will never refer to it next year but will refer to something else. On the whole there are about eighteen items on which tax is going to be levied. All these will affect the poor man. See the clever way in which he has presented the taxation proposals. He says, 'the exemption from the General Sales Tax now allowed on the first sale of agricultural products will be withdrawn'. To an ordinary humble being like myself, what does it matter—whether the exemption is withdrawn or new tax is introduced. So, according to the Hon. the Finance Minister's Budget Speech, exemptions will be withdrawn in respect of the following items: (1) Coconuts and oil-seeds other than ground-nuts and cashewnuts, (2) sugarcane, (3) chillies, (4) coffee, (5) rubber, (6) potatoes, (7) pepper, (8) turmeric, and (9) varieties of plantain intended for fruits. I do not think Mr. Gopala Reddi is fond of plantains. But the average poor man is in need of it.

"As regards groundnut and cashewnut, a purchase tax is proposed to be levied and the rate is increased from 3 pies in the rupee to 4½ pies in the rupee.

"Then, cotton which is now tax-free, is going to be taxed at 3 pies in the rupee at one stage.

"Then, there is the levy of a surcharge at 12½ per cent on bus fares. I do not think he will be very happy if I spend some little time on bus fares. But he must know that this tax on bus fares will affect the poor man.

"I shall come to local bodies later on. He is a good boxer and he hits all round. Everybody is hit. Not only the poor man but the rich man is also hit."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"May I know the time the hon. Member is likely to take. Of course, as the Leader of the Opposition, he is entitled to take more time. I want to know the exact time when he is likely to close his speech."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"Sir, I will speak up to 1 o'clock.

"Then, there is the tax on advertisements and crossword puzzles. I have no objection to these taxes.

"Then, there is a suitable Provincial tax on coffee-hotels, boarding houses and cinemas'. Sir, this is a tax which will affect the poor man. If a man goes to bed, he goes to bed on a bit of tax. He walks on taxes. Everything is taxed.

"Sir, all these taxes are going to be levied on the poor man. The Hon. the Finance Minister ought to have been content with the introduction of these taxes but he has made a mistake when he says, that these taxation measures are contemplated purely as an emergency measure for the year 1949-50. But by the time he makes arrangements for the collection of these taxes the year would come to an end and he will come again with the same proposal year after year. I think that is his idea. But the Hon

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Minister must know that it is very difficult to collect these taxes. The expenses incurred for collecting these taxes will be very much. Of course, he can appoint a number of people. The Government can find scope for patronage. Otherwise, it will be very difficult to work it out. Therefore, from every point of view, I think these taxes should not be imposed on the people of this Province. It is a very wrong step taken by the Hon. Finance Minister. We should find other sources of revenue. We should not go on drawing on our resources. We should see that our financial position is very sound. I am glad the Hon. the Finance Minister is anxious to see that the reserve fund is not depleted. He, instead of resorting to new taxes should get more funds from the Centre or cut away much of the capital expenditure.

"Now, Sir, I would like to say a few words on some important topics. It is the imperative duty of any Government to promote the welfare of the poor. Last year I told Government that they should make out a list of the unemployed because it is the first and foremost duty of any Government to find remunerative employment for the people. You know they have never done it. If only you tom-tom in the streets of the City to come to a place for employment there will be hundreds of graduates gathering at the employment exchange, and thousands of under-graduates and tens of thousands of skilled and unskilled labour will present themselves. Now, what is it the Government have done to keep the people employed? Nothing. If a hundred-rupee salary job is advertised, there are thousands of applications. Un-employment is the manure for Communism.

"Now, with regard to the productive activities there is no investment by private investors. Why? Because it is feared that Government might step in and take away the business from businessmen. All this tells on unemployment and prices. This morning I find from the answer of the Hon. Minister for Food that we have produced a few lakhs of tons of rice less this year than last year, and this shows that our production is going down every year. Now, why is it going down? I suggest to Government that they better hand over the Well-sinking Scheme, Minor Irrigation Schemes and Major Irrigation Schemes and Grow More Food Schemes to private agencies. By spending only 25 per cent of what Government are now spending they would be able to produce even more than what they are now producing. There are people who would take up various big irrigation schemes and small irrigation schemes and work them provided they will not be expropriated. Why should Government fight shy of private enterprise? Let me tell you what private enterprise has done in America. In California, called the Imperial Valley there is an area of 1,200 square miles of land. There is no rain even once in 75 years. The temperature in summer is 120 degrees, in the shade. In winter it is far below zero. And now that area has been converted into a fertile land by a private business man, who brought down water from a river four hundred miles away? To-day it produces—people who have gone there and seen it have told me

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this—one hundred million dollars worth of foodstuffs. The man divided this area into 160 acre plots and gave them on lease. Each plot has a house and a telephone. And when he went away he left the message 'when you want water, do not pray to God, but telephone'. (Laughter.) 'The arrangement is you telephone and in fifteen minutes you will get water.' For one dollar, one acre of land is irrigated 9 inches high. One of my friends asked for 5,000 acres of land to build 5,000 huts on one acre plots, for his labourers—land which is now washed by sea not far from Madras. It is now two years since he applied for it and orders have not been issued due to red-tapism. Instead of encouraging private enterprise the Government discourage it. They ought to have gone on a pilgrimage to this gentleman and given him all facilities.

"Sir, now look at our nationalization scheme of Bus Transport of which our Finance Minister is very proud, for it has fetched him a net revenue of 14 lakhs. He says, 'I am giving the figures for the bus service for a period of two years—January 1947 to December 1948 without waiting for the result of the audit.' Mind you, for two years, no audit! If it were private enterprise, they would have audited the accounts every quarter, every half year and every year. The Government have invested a capital of 56.74 lakhs and for depreciation they have given credit for 10 lakhs. Sir, I would ask the Government to ask any businessman, what would be the loss by this undertaking? I daresay he will reply that the loss would be about thirty lakhs. For if you were to resell the three hundred and odd buses, what would you get? And then there are Italian buses which emit so much smoke and foul smell! (Laughter.) For the Rs. 45,000 you paid for them, you would get nothing to-day—New diesel buses are available complete with body for Rs. 22,000. As nobody here can repair them you have brought in Italian engineers to repair the diesel buses; and those engineers know no language except Italian. They are both deaf and dumb. (Laughter.) The Hon. the Finance Minister knows there is colossal loss and so he does not want to take over other areas for nationalization of motor transport; he hides it and cleverly puts the reason on the unhelpful attitude of labour as evidenced by the recent strike. Sir, Government cannot do business, cannot do any job like business people; and if they do any business they will surely incur loss. By nationalization of buses in the City we have lost thirty lakhs and not gained a profit of fourteen lakhs. And mind you for two years there is no audit! I am quite sure when the Hon. the Finance Minister replies he will not answer this point. (Laughter.) He will pass over it, because he is a politician, and he will be eloquent on minor points."

MR. PRESIDENT.—"Like a lawyer!"

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Sir, there are lawyers and lawyers. A successful lawyer will deal with the points against his client. Now I suggest to Government to give up the idea of nationalization of motor transport. Let them re-examine the position. I am not finding fault with them for the absence of profit. After all, it is

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it a matter of trial and error. Many crores of rupees have been spent on the promotion of khaddar. This also should be re-examined to see whether it is worthwhile to spend money on that.

"Now, regarding prohibition, I have to say that there is no prohibition so far as I know. I say very sincerely that there is only illicit distillation. Fishermen cannot catch fish now for want of toddy. They take cooked rice after keeping it for three or four days, it gets fermented and then they eat it and get intoxicated. In this state of intoxication they are not able to catch fish. Instead of prohibition we are having illicit distillation of arrack. When we have legislated for prohibition, we have legislated only for illicit distillation, for blackmarketing, for corruption and for demoralization. If you put any honest man or a committee of impartial men on this, they will say that there is no prohibition but there is only illicit distillation. I hope the Prohibition Minister must have also read it in the papers that a prohibition officer was caught for being drunk and was sentenced. Sir, I don't know whether you have at any time tasted drink." (Laughter.)

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I am sure several of us would have read what appeared in the 'Madras Mail' how due to prohibition fish has disappeared."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Now, Sir, there are thousands and 1 p.m. millions of people who would like to have a drink and similarly the Prohibition Officer also, whose duty it was to enforce prohibition probably wished to have a drink. Sir, you remember, that during the War, spies were employed to watch enemy activities, and spies were employed to spy these spies, and over these spies again, more spies were employed, and thus there was a chain of spies, spying on spies. So also, it seems that we must have to employ spies to keep a watch over these Prohibition Officers. Sir, I want the Hon. Minister for Prohibition, who is not here, to tackle this question very seriously and see that Prohibition Officers who are themselves addicted to drink, are not put in charge of prohibition."

"Sir, I want to say a few words about housing. I put a number of questions to the Hon. Minister for Housing, one of which was this. 'Have the Government, in the course of the last two or three years, constructed even one single hut for the poor man or the poor worker?', and the reply that I got was, 'None'. Sir, it has been estimated that in the Madras City alone we require about 167,000 more houses costing about Rs. 710 crores to house the entire population. This figure was furnished by the Chairman of the Madras Improvement Trust and also by the Madras Provincial Housing Committee. We want a number of houses to be built in the City as well in the mufassal. Housing is a national problem. In Great Britain, in America and in many other countries, housing had been taken up very seriously as a national problem after the last War. In my opinion, the Minister for Health should also be the Minister for Housing, and I do not see the Minister for Health here to-day also. Now what have the Government done in this direction? They have constructed a few houses

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for Ministers and Government Officers and are constructing some houses for the public who could afford to pay Rs. 50,000 for the purpose in Adyar. But we find that tens of thousands of the poor people in the City are living in slums and sleeping on the public pavements. Tens of thousands are living on the pavements, under the trees and on the streets. Has my Hon. Friend Dr. Gurubatham constructed one single hut for these poor people or has he given any assistance to those people in this respect?"

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The foundations are being laid. I suppose the Hon. Leader of the Opposition would have seen it in the papers about the foundation stone laid for constructing a building in the Cox Cheri."

* DR. V. K. JOHN:—"My point, Sir, is that the Government do not care for the welfare of the common man. That is my complaint."

"Take the Education Department. Here is the Minister for Education. Without going to personalities, let me ask, 'What has he done towards the promotion of education in this Province?' The educational policy of the Government has created a very great sensation in this Province. Communalism is rampant in the Education department. Instead of providing free, compulsory primary education for the children, the Government are, as it were, waging a war against girls and boys in this Province. They are asking private institutions who want to run these institutions to produce an endowment, Rs. 30,000. They say, 'If you do not produce that amount, your school will be closed.' Now, more than one-third of the schools and colleges are run by Christian Agencies. The Government and the public ought to know this fact. I am receiving letters every day from several persons, asking me to take up this question with the Government. Sir, I am not saying this as a Christian. In public life I am against communalism in any shape and form. But there is an apprehension all round among persons running Christian educational institutions that this Government are against the Christian enterprise in education and that they are trying to close down their institutions."

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

"Sir, may I request the Hon. Leader of the Opposition to point out a single Christian institution which has been closed down? I submit, Sir, that no sweeping general statements like these should be made by hon. Members, when they are not sure of the facts."

* DR. V. K. JOHN:—"Sir, I only said that they have an apprehension in their minds that their schools would be closed down by this Government. There are thousands of Christian institutions in this Province. I can produce hundreds of letters written to me by them asking me what are the Government going to do in regard to the proposed requisition of buildings. The Government want Rs. 30,000 as endowment for each school. If that is not produced, they threaten to close down the institution. As a lawyer, I know security is taken for the due performance of a contract. But,

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is it for the due performance of a contract that you insist upon this security from people who have put their money, their energy, their attention and their time into these educational institutions? Suppose somebody runs a school for six months and then closes it for want of funds, who loses? Nobody loses, because during these six months, some children who would otherwise not have been educated would have studied and learnt something. Nothing has been lost. But what do the Government do to encourage these institutions. Instead of encouraging private agencies to run educational institutions, the Government simply create a terror and an apprehension in their minds that their institutions would be requisitioned, if they are not in a position to find Rs. 30,000 as an endowment. If the Requisition Bill is passed into Law it is not the Ministers who administer that Act. It is the underlings of the Government who work this Act, and if anybody has got any grudge against any of these private institutions, he can make use of that Act as a convenient weapon. Even the other day, there was an apprehension that the Y.M.C.A. College of Physical Education, the only institution of the kind in the whole of this country was to be taken over by the Government, although thousands of rupees are being spent over it by collections from America. Sir, I am not here speaking as a Christian. I have no religion in public life. I am speaking here only as the Leader of the Opposition."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I do not understand the complaint. If the Government take up the college to that extent the Mission is relieved."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"The apprehension is that this Government are against education by Christian Agencies. There was an apprehension like that once in Travancore. The Christian Missionaries, as I said, cater to the education of one-third of the population of this Province. Some apprehension is created by the proposed Bill for Requisition of Educational Properties. I do not want to go into its details, Sir, at this stage, but I may simply point out that that Bill has created a stir among the Christian educational institutions."

"Then, Sir, take the question of regional language. As far as education is concerned, we have narrow loyalties. We have Provincialism, Linguism, Sectarianism, Communalism and Parochialism in education. After the 15th August 1947, we must all feel that we are Indians first, Indians second and Indians last. We should not think in terms of Brahmans and Non-Brahmans, Christians, Hindus or Muslims, Malayalees, Andhras or Tamils in this country. We are all Indians. But in the Education Department, I find there are so many narrow loyalties and no loyalty to the country as a whole. We must take every man as an Indian. But these disruptive tendencies are found in the Education department. What has the Education department done so far? Our ideal ought to be the introduction of free, compulsory primary education to start with. Other provinces have made a beginning in that direction; but we have done very little."

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The local bodies who want to take up a portion of education are being starved. Even now there is a 12½ per cent surcharge imposed by the Government under the present taxation proposals on properties in municipalities and the Hon. Minister in charge of Local Administration, whom I see, is not here, does not take interest in allotting more funds for local bodies. He probably does not care to hear what others speak and when yesterday, I drew your attention, Sir, to the absence of Ministers in the House, it was remarked that I want to be a schoolmaster. Whatever it is, Sir, my suggestion in regard to this matter is this. The Government must strengthen local bodies and the Corporation of Madras and provide them with ample funds. The local bodies must be given by the Government a contribution amounting to half the revenues they collect, because it is they who attend to the civic and educational needs of the people. It is the Madras Corporation that provides for free compulsory elementary education, supplies water to the City and looks after all the amenities not only of the residents of the City but also people coming from outside. Now, by the present taxation proposals, the Government are going to collect from the Corporation and from other local bodies, a surcharge of 12½ per cent on the house-tax now paid in municipalities, towards balancing the Budget. And it appears that Madras Corporation still owes a sum of Rs. 24 lakhs to the Government by way of interest alone. I say this kind of administration is absurd. We should not give this step-motherly treatment to our local bodies. The Government should assist them in every way possible. They are not assisting the local bodies sufficiently in the matter of providing education to the children. What has the Education department achieved? The Government have certain fads with them. They have achieved practically nothing at all in pushing forward education. They simply say that there are 100 more schools started this year than last year. But that was so in every year. Even during the days of British rule, they had been adding 100 schools more every year. But is it really the Government that have done so? It is the private managements, the Christian missionaries and to some extent the local bodies and municipalities that have contributed to this. Take the pay of the teachers. Of course, Rs. 9 crores are spent on education. But how is the teacher paid. It is a profession that should be respected most and paid the best, but we find that it is worst paid and least respected. Sir, it is the teachers who have got to guide, to train and to mould the character and the lives of our young boys and girls and make them good citizens of this country. How could they be expected to do their duties properly and sincerely, if they are so ill-paid? Some hon. Members suggested that we should have a younger Minister to be in charge of Food, but I submit, Sir, that if some older men like the Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan, with his experience and ability were not put in charge of that department, it would not have come to this present position. I am quite sure, Sir, that if the Hon. Dr. Rajan is not in charge of Food, there would have been famine and starvation in this Province. But at the same time, I cannot commend that he has put sufficient drive into this department, because food

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production has not in any way increased substantially. When we are down by 5 lakhs of tons every year, it is a problem that we shall have to think very seriously about. We are spending about Rs. 56 crores this year, on schemes of development and on food production, but still no tangible increase in production is expected. Sir, I must condemn this Government and condemn them as strongly as I can, because in no branch of their activities have any substantial results been achieved. Take industries; they have gone down in their production. Take housing; we see no house-building activities anywhere at all. In education, we have all sorts of complaints and in the production of foodgrains, there is still deficiency. Everywhere there is some complaint or other; everywhere there is dissatisfaction and everywhere there is shortage. People in the Province are already groaning under the heavy weight of taxation and now comes the Finance Minister with his fresh proposals of taxation and wants to put them on the heads of the poor people of this Province by taxing their daily necessities of life. He wants to take away everything they have, and make them starve by choking them with taxes. I must protest against this, Sir, and condemn the Government as a whole."

SRI S. A. S. B. RAMANATHAN CHETTIYAR :—"தலைவர் அவர்களே, ஏழைகளுக்கு வரி அதிகம் என்று பெரும்பாலும் கீழ்க்கையிலும் இங்கும் அநேகர் பேசியிருக்கிறார்கள். அதை யாரும் மறுக்கமுடியாது. ஆனால் அந்த வரிகள் இப்போது போடப்போவதில்லை. அப்படி வரிபோடுவது பின்னால் இங்கு வந்த பிறகுதான் முடிவாகும். ஆனால் பெரும்பாலும் நான் பேசுவதெல்லாம் அந்த வரி வேண்டியதில்லை என்றே சொல்லுகிறேன், வரி வேண்டியதில்லை என்று சொன்னால் துண்டு விழுவதை ஈடு கட்டுவது எப்படி என்று சிலர் கேட்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் ஏழைகளின் வயிற்றில் அடிக்காமல் அரசாங்கத்தில் வேறு எந்த வழிகளில் அரசாங்கம் வேறுவிதமாக சிலவுகளைச் செய்து வருகிறார்கள். ஏராளமான பணத்தை அலுவலியமாக சிலவழித்துக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். உபயோகமான வேலைகளைச் செய்யாமல் வேறுவிதமான காரியங்களுக்கு பணத்தை அதிகம் சிலவழிக்கிறார்கள். முன்பு *Teak* ஆபீஸ் மீது ஒரு லஞ்சக்கேஸ் நடத்தினார்கள். அதனால் லட்ச ரூபாய் நஷ்டம். கடைசியில் ஹைகோர்ட்டில் அந்த எதிரி நிரபராதி என்று சொல்லிவிட்டார்கள். அதற்காக லட்சக்கணக்கில் ரூபாய் சிலவழிப்பதா என்று கேட்கிறேன். இந்தச் சிலவுகளை யெல்லாம் கண்டு பிடிக்க சிக்கண கமிட்டிக்கு நேரமில்லை. சிக்கணக் கமிட்டி ப்யூன்களையும் கிளார்க்களையும்தான் எடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று சிபார்சு செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். யானை போன்ற இடம் தெரியவில்லை, ஆனால் கடுகு போகும் இடத்தை ஆராய்ந்து பிர்க்கின்றார்கள். ஆகையால் அனாவசியமான சிலவுகளை குறைத்துக்கொள்ளலாம். ...

"இதற்கு முன் போலீசுக்காக 1½ கோடி ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கிவைத்து சிலவு செய்து வந்தார்கள். ஆனால் இப்பொழுது அதற்கு 6 கோடி ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கி வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். நாம் கயராஜ்யம் அடைந்த பிறகும்கூட அவர்கள் பழைய ஜபர்தஸ்திலேயே இருக்கிறார்கள். நம்மை தங்களுடைய சகோதரர்களென்றும் நண்பர்களென்றும் அவர்கள் நம்முடைய காவல்காரர்களென்றும் கருதுவதில்லை. அவர்கள் நம்முடைய சேவகர்கள் என்றும் நினைப்பது சிலையாது. பழைய காலத்திலுள்ள மனப்பான்மைதான் அவர்களுக்கு இன்னும் இருக்கிறது. இன்னும் பார்த்தால் அதற்குமேல்கூட போகிறார்கள் என்றுகூட சொல்லலாம். அடுத்தாற்போல் பம்பாயில்விசாகித் ததில் நம்முடைய ஜனங்கள் என்று புரிந்துகொண்டு சகோதரர்கள் போலவும் நண்பர்கள் போலவும் ஜனங்களை பாவித்து வருகிறார்கள். ..."

[Sri S. A. S. Rm. Ramanathan Chettiyar] [7th March 1949]

சாதாரணமாக பழகி வருகிறார்கள். நம் நாட்டிலுள்ள போலீஸ்காரர்களுக்கு இன்னும் பழைய ஜபர்தஸ்து போகவில்லை. அதைக் காண்பிக்க இன்று சாலை பேப்பரில் ஒரு தகவல் வெளியாகி இருக்கிறது. ஒரு பையன் ஒரு போலீஸ்காரனுக்கு சிகரெட் வாங்கிக்கொடுக்காததால் அவனைக் கொட்டடியில் தள்ளி ரூல் தடியால் அடித்து, துப்பாக்கியால் சுட்டு காயம்பண்ணியிருக்கிறார்கள். இன்று காலை பேப்பரில் வந்திருக்கிறது (a voice : எந்த ஊரில்) சென்னை இராஜதானி கோயம்பத்தூரில் அந்த செய்தியை வாசிக்கிறேன். 'அந்த பையனை ரூல் தடியால் மண்டையில் அடித்து Look-up செய்து, பிறகு துப்பாக்கியால் சுட்டுமுயன்றபொழுது முதல் குண்டு துடையில் பட்டதாக கூறப்படுகிறது.' எவ்வளவு அநியாயம் பாருங்கள். இவ்வளவு அநியாயம் செய்கிறவர்களுக்கு எதற்காக ஆறு கோடி ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்கிறேன். இப்படியெல்லாம் சடுவந்தகாகவாக அவர்களுக்கு துப்பாக்கி கொடுத்திருக்கிறது? போலீஸ் மந்திரி இருந்தால் அவரிடத்தில் சொல்லலாம் என்றால் அவர் இங்கு இல்லை. இரண்டு நாட்களுக்கு முன்னால் அசெம்பளியில்கூட ஒருவர் (அதாவது Mrs. Ammanna Raja) Premier அசெம்பளியில் இல்லாததால் ஒரு Loud speaker-ஐ அவருடைய ரூமில் வைத்துவிடலாம் என்று பேசப்பட்டதாக அதை பேப்பரில் பார்த்தேன். ஆகையால் போலீஸ்காரர்கள் இவ்வளவு அக்கிரமங்கள் செய்வதால் அவர்களுக்குத் தகுந்த பரிசாரம் தேடவேண்டும் என்று சொல்லுகிறேன்.

"1942-ம் வருஷ கல்வரங்களைப்பற்றி சொல்லவேண்டியதில்லை. அப்பொழுது அக்கிரமம் பண்ணிய உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களுக்கெல்லாம் இப்பொழுது பெரிய உத்தியோகங்கள் கொடுத்து அவர்கள் பெரிய பதவியிலிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் அந்நிய தேசங்களாகிய கனடா, பிரான்ஸ் முதலிய தேசங்களில் அவர்களுக்கு குண்டுதான் பரிசாரம். இங்கிலீஷ் அரசாங்கம் நடத்திய காலத்தில் ஹிம்ஸை செய்தவர்களுக்கு இன்று பெரிய உத்தியோகம் வழங்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அப்படி இருப்பவர்களை கண்டிப்பாக ஜனங்களுக்கு துன்பம் விளைவிக்காமலிருக்கும்படியாகச் செய்யவேண்டும்.

"அடுத்தபடியாக குதிரைப் பந்தயம். இந்த குதிரைப் பந்தயத்தை எடுக்கப்பட்டதோ இல்லையோ தெரியவில்லை. ஆனால் குதிரை ஓடிக் கொண்டிருக்கிறது. விளம்பரம் செய்யக்கூடாது என்றார்கள். ஆனால் விளம்பரம் செய்துகொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். புத்தகம் இருக்கக்கூடாது என்று சொன்னார்கள். புத்தகம் அநேகம் வந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறது. இந்த மாதிரி ஒரு சட்டம் வந்ததாக எனக்கு ஞாபகம் இருக்கிறது."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"இந்த சபை மெம்பர் இல்லையா நீங்கள்?"

SRI S. A. S. Rm. RAMANATHAN CHETTIYAR :—"மெம்பர்தான் இங்கிலீஷில் இருந்ததால் படிக்கவில்லை. எனக்கு இங்கிலீஷ் படிக்க சக்தியில்லை என்பதனால்தான் இதைச் சொல்லுகிறேன். தமிழ் பேசுபவர்தான் படித்துவருகிறேன். அடுத்த வருஷம் தமிழில் வரும்போது பார்த்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இந்தக் குதிரைப் பந்தயம் திருமா திராதா என்று மந்திரி சொல்லவேண்டுமென்று அவர்களைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"இன்னும் சர்க்கார் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் இங்கிலீஷ் அரசாட்சி இருந்த போது இருந்ததைப்போல்தானிருக்கிறார்கள். பழைய ஜபர்தஸ்து இன்னும் குறையவே இல்லை. ஆனால் பம்பாய் மாகாணத்தில் இப்படி இல்லை. 15/16 மாறிவிட்டது. ஒரு அணு வீதம்தான் ஜபர்தஸ்து அங்கே உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களில் இருப்பதாக கேள்வி. எல்லாவற்றிலும் நம் மாகாணம் முன்னணியில் செல்லுகிறது என்று சொல்லும்போது இதில்மட்டும் ஏன் பழைய விதமாகவே இருந்துவருகிறார்கள் என்று கேட்கிறேன். அந்த மாதிரியில்லாமல் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அப்படி செய்தால் ரொம்பவும் நன்மையாக இருக்கும்.

"இப்பொழுது தேவகோட்டையில் இரண்டு கோர்ட்டுகளிருக்கின்றன. அங்கே நடக்கும் அநியாய செலவு சொல்லமுடியாமலிருக்கிறது. கீழ் கோர்ட்டு மேல் கோர்ட்டு என்று இரண்டு கோர்ட்டுகளிருக்கின்றன."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"யார் அப்படி சிலவழிக்கிறார்கள்."

7th March 1949]

SRI S. A. S. Rm. RAMANATHAN CHETTIYAR :—"பிரதான file பண்ணுகிறவர்கள் சிலவழிக்கிறார்கள். பிரதான file பண்ணுவது யார் என்று தெரியவில்லை. அங்கே கொடுக்கப்படும் rate மாமூலாக இருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் அந்தக் கோர்ட்டில் கண்காணிப்பு வேண்டும். அங்கிருக்கும் எல்லோரும் அப்படியேதானிருக்கிறார்கள்."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"நீங்கள் பிரதான file பண்ணி இருக்கிறீர்களா?"

SRI S. A. S. Rm. RAMANATHAN CHETTIYAR :—"நான் தஞ்சாவூரில்தான் file பண்ணுகிறேன், அங்கே ஒரு காலணுக்கூட கொடுக்க வேண்டியதில்லை. (The Hon Sri B. Gopala Reddi : hear hear.) சிலகெங்ை, தேவகோட்டை கோர்ட்டுகளில் லஞ்சம்தான் இருக்கிறது. அங்கே இருக்கும் ஆபீசர்கள் எல்லோரையும் ஒரேநாளில் பெஜவாடாவிற்கும் இராஜமந்திரிக்கும் மாற்றவேண்டும். Sub-Judge உள்பட. பெஜவாடா, இராஜமந்திரியிலிருப்பவர்களை தேவகோட்டைக்கும், சிலகெங்ைக்கும் மாற்றவேண்டும். அப்பொழுதுதான் இந்த லஞ்சப்பேய் ஒழியும். பொதுவாக அந்த கோர்ட்டுகளுக்கே சிலவு அதிகம்."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"பணம் ஜாஸ்தி இருக்கிறது. அப்படி கொடுக்கிறார்கள்."

SRI S. A. S. Rm. RAMANATHAN CHETTIYAR :—"அவர்களுக்கு பர்மா, மலேயாவில் பணம் போய்விட்டது. நகை முதலியவைகளை விற்று தான் கொடுக்கவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. எல்லா உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களையும் ஒரேநாளில் மாற்றினால் கூடுமானவரை லஞ்சம் இல்லாமலிருக்கும். இந்த இரண்டு கோர்ட்டுகளுக்கும் பஞ்சப்படி கொடுக்க வேண்டியதே இல்லை. ஆனால் தஞ்சாவூர் கோர்ட்டில் அப்படி ½ அணுகூட வாங்குவது கிடையாது. தாலுகா கச்சேரியில் மாமூலாக இரண்டணு கொடுத்து வருகிறது, சாதாரணமாகவே மனுக்கள் அவ்விதம் இரண்டணு கொடுக்காமலேயே போகும். இரண்டணு கொடுத்தால் உடனே போகும், இல்லாவிட்டால் சாதாரணமாக மறுநாள் போய்விடும். Law Member யார் என்று தெரியாது. அவர் இருந்தால் அவரிடம் சொல்லலாம். ஆகையால் அவர்களை மாற்றியமைக்கவேண்டும். அப்பொழுதுதான் லஞ்சம் ஒழிந்துவிடும்."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"Transfer of Sub-Judges is done by the High Court."

SRI S. A. S. Rm. RAMANATHAN CHETTIYAR :—"High Court transfer பண்ணுவதாக இருந்தால் அவர்களிடம் நாம் சொல்லலாமே. அவர்களிடம் இந்த மாதிரி நடக்கிறது என்று சொல்லவேண்டும்."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"High Court-ம் இந்த Proceedings-ஐ படிப்பார்கள்."

SRI S. A. S. Rm. RAMANATHAN CHETTIYAR :—"ஹைகோர்ட்டு ஜட்ஜுகள் ஜில்லா கோர்ட்டுகளுக்குச் சென்று inspection என்று பார்த்து வருகிறார்கள். அந்தப் பக்கம் அவர்கள் போகும்பொழுது லஞ்சத்தைப் பற்றி விசாரிக்கிறோம் என்று சொன்னால் போதும். லஞ்சம் ஒழிந்து போய்விடும்.

"இப்பொழுது நூறுக்கு 10 வட்டி வாங்கும் மார்வாடிகள் இங்கு ரொம்பப் பேர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். கள்ளமார்க்கெட் கள்ளர்களுக்குத்தான் தெரியும். இந்த கள்ளமார்க்கெட்டு ஆசாமிகளையும் 10 வட்டி வாங்கும் ஆசாமிகளையும் பிடிக்க வேண்டாமா? C.I.D-க்களால் கூட அவர்களைக் கண்டுபிடிக்க முடியாது. அவர்கள் இதைச் செய்வது சர்வசாதாரணமாக இருக்கிறது. பத்தாயிரம் ரூபாயை வட்டிக்குக் கொடுத்துவிட்டு ஒரு வருடத்தில் ரூ. 15,000 வாங்குகிறார்கள். அவர்கள் இந்த ஹைலக்குகளைவிட ரொம்பவும் மோசமாக வட்டிவாங்கி வருகிறார்கள். அவர்கள் நம்முடைய ஊருக்கு நிறைய வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். நம்மைச் சேர்ந்தவர்களும் தான் அவர்களுடைய ஊரில் இருக்கிறார்களே என்று சொல்லலாம். நம் ஆள்கள் அங்கே Servant ஆகவும் கூலிகளாகவும் தானிருக்கிறார்கள்."

[Sri S. A. S. Rm. Ramanathan Chettiyar] [7th March 1949]

நம் ஆள்களை நம்முடைய ஊருக்கு அனுப்பினாலும் பாதையில்லை. இந்த மார்வாடிகள் இங்கே இருக்கக்கூடாது. வட்டிக்குக் கொடுத்து ஜனங்களை துன்பப்படுத்துகிறார்கள்.

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ இது கொஞ்சம் முக்கியமான விஷயம், சாதாரணமாக இது ஆபத்தில் வந்துவிடும். ஆபீசர்களைப்பற்றி சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ரொம்பவும் ஜாக்கிரதையாக இருக்கவேண்டும். ஆபத்துவரும்.”

SRI S. A. S. Rm. RAMANATHAN CHETTIYAR :—“ கவுன்சிலில் சொல்லலாம் என்று சொல்லுகிறேன்.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ நீங்கள் சொல்வதை யெல்லாம் ரூசப்படுத்த வேண்டியிருந்தாலும் இருக்கும்.”

SRI S. A. S. Rm. RAMANATHAN CHETTIYAR :—“ தேவகோட்டையில் எனக்கு கேட்கக் கிடையாது.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ என்னுடைய கடமையைச் சொன்னேன், சொல்வது ஜாஸ்தியாக இருக்கிறது. அப்புறம் உங்களுடைய இஷ்டம்.”

SRI S. A. S. Rm. RAMANATHAN CHETTIYAR :—“ சிலவு குறைப்பதைப்பற்றி சிலதைச்சொல்லுகிறேன் தஞ்சாவூரை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் 15 இஞ்சினீயர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். மூன்று பேர்களுக்குத்தான் போதும். அதே மாதிரி பல ஆபீசர்களுக்கு இடங்களில் குறைவான ஆபீசர்களுக்குத்தான் போதுமானது. பத்து Health Officers இருந்தால் மூன்று பேர்கள் போதும். இவ்விதம் ஆபீசர்களை குறைக்கலாம்.

“ பல முனிசிபாலிட்டிகள் இருக்கின்றன. அவைகள் தனியாகவே இருக்கவேண்டியதில்லை. முனிசிபல் சேர்மன்களை வைத்து தொந்திரவு செய்து வருகிறார்கள். Election போக்குவரத்து தொந்திரவுகள் இல்லாமலிருக்க வேண்டும். முனிசிபாலிட்டிகள் அவசியமில்லை. அதைப் போலவே டிஸ்ட்ரிக்ட் போர்டும். எனக்கு முனிசிபாலிட்டியில் 20 வருஷம் அது பவம் இருக்கிறது. அவைகள் வேண்டியதில்லை. பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டுகள் வேண்டும்.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ இவைகளெல்லாம் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று கிறீர்களா ?”

SRI S. A. S. Rm. RAMANATHAN CHETTIYAR :—“ முனிசிபல் கவுன்சில், டிஸ்ட்ரிக்ட் போர்டு இவைகள் வேண்டாம் என்று சொல்லுகிறேன். பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டு இருக்கவேண்டும். லேட், சுகாதாரம் முதலியவைகளை கவனிப்பதற்கு பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டு அவசியம் வேண்டும்.

“ புதுக்கோட்டைக்கு இப்பொழுது 30 ஸ்டம் ஸ்பாய் செய்து இருக்கிறது என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. ஆஸ்பத்திரி, ரெஸ்ட் ஹவுஸ் ஆபீஸ், இவைகள் எல்லாம் சேர்ந்திருக்கிறது. இராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லாவிற்கு ஒரு தலைநகர் இல்லாமல் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். இராமநாதபுரத்திலிருந்து ஒரு நாளை தாதுனாக காக்களை புதுக்கோட்டையோடு சேர்த்து புதுக்கோட்டையை ஒரு தனி ஜில்லா தலைநகராக அமைக்கலாம். அப்பொழுது புதுக்கோட்டைகாரர்களுக்கு சௌகரியமாக இருக்கும். அதோடு இராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லா வாசிகளுக்கும் சௌகரியமாக இருக்கும். அவ்விதம் செய்து உதவி பண்ணவேண்டும். அங்கு இருக்கும் ஜனங்கள் அப்படி செய்வதற்கு தயாராக இருக்கிறார்கள். இது பிரதமர் அவர்களிடம் இருக்கிறது. இராமநாதபுரத்தில் புதுக்கோட்டைக் கருவிலிருப்பதைச் சேர்த்து புதுக்கோட்டையை ஒரு தனி ஜில்லாவாக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The House will now adjourn for lunch and meet again at 2-30 p.m.”

The House adjourned.

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(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—“ Mr. President, Sir, when I look at the budget speech of the Hon. the Finance Minister, I am reminded of the sign posts in the Moore Market shops ‘All prizes and no blanks’. The question is whether this budget is all prizes and no blanks or all blanks and no prizes. It is that that I want to examine but that I may not be able to do if I take up all the things that are said in the speech. The first point that would strike anyone about the prosperity of a Province is whether the industries of the Province are sound. Sir, Madras is mainly an agricultural Province. It is therefore, Sir, that I shall concentrate my attention to the two subjects of ‘Industries’ and ‘Agriculture’ leaving the other subjects to other hon. Members who follow me.

“ Sir, the subject of Industry is less complicated than the subject of Agriculture. And therefore I shall now deal with the subject of Industries with reference to the speech of the Hon. the Finance Minister in which we find a reference to it in paragraph 24. Taking paragraph 24, Sir, it looks as if it is all prizes and no blanks. There will shortly be an Industrial Finance Corporation and a sum of Rs. 51 lakhs in the Revised Estimate for 1948-49 and a further sum of Rs. 51 lakhs in the Budget Estimate, 1949-50 have been provided for the purchase of shares in this Corporation. This is for the industrial development of the Province. He has given some figures for the people to say that the budget speech is grand and that we have got all the things mentioned in this paragraph. He goes on to enumerate :

‘This Government have urged on the Government of India the need to establish an Iron and Steel Factory in this Province and have had discussions with the Steel Consultants appointed by the Government of India.’

“ That is number (1). Number (2) :

‘The Government are alive to the desirability of starting major industries for the production of aluminium, magnesium and ammonium phosphate in this Province.’

There are three industries mentioned here, aluminium, magnesium and ammonium. All very good prizes for this Presidency. But what are the budget proposals with regard to this aluminium industry and other industries? In regard to the aluminium industry, the Government of India have been asked to make arrangements for carrying out detailed analysis of the Salem bauxite deposits in order to find out the suitability of the mineral for the manufacture of aluminium. Is that a budget proposal? Secondly, on the request of this Government the Government of India have also promised to work out a scheme for the manufacture of magnesium from the magnesium deposits of the Salem district and for the setting up of a pilot plant in this Province. Is there any budget provision for it? Thirdly, negotiations are being carried on for setting up an ammonium phosphate factory at a suitable place.

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in South India as a joint endeavour of the Central and Provincial Governments. Is there any budget provision for it? Fourthly, the Budget for 1949-50 includes Rs. 25 lakhs for the purchase of shares in the Ammonium Sulphate Factory which the Central Government are constructing in Sindhri in Bihar. Here we have got a concrete budget proposal, namely, the purchase of shares to the value of Rs. 25 lakhs. Further during this year the Government purchased additional shares of the value of Rs. 20 lakhs in the Fertilizers and Chemicals, Limited, Travancore. There is a catalogue of achievements for 1948-49, i.e., the purchase of the Andhra Paper Mills for Rs. 25 lakhs; and a sum of Rs. 10 lakhs has been included in the Revised Estimate for 1948-49 for the buildings and purchase of plant and machinery for the Hydrogenation Factory at Kozhikode. That is not sufficient for the Hon. the Finance Minister; he goes on in the next paragraph:

'Hon. Members will be interested to know that this year too more companies have been authorized to issue capital for setting up plants for the manufacture of heavy chemicals in this Province—one for the production of soda ash and the other for the manufacture of caustic soda.'

That also requires a provision in the budget. 'One firm has already made arrangements to set up a factory in this Province for the production of Austin cars; while another is making similar arrangements to establish a factory for producing Standard cars and Ferguson tractors. And necessary facilities are being provided by the Government. Then, . . . the operations connected with the lignite investigation in the South Arcot district were hampered . . . and so on. Are these budget proposals or is it an Election Manifesto recounting all the endeavours and the correspondence? All that they are doing by way of budget proposal with regard to the industrialization of the Province is to get Rs. 51 lakhs provided for the Industrial Finance Corporation apart from the Rs. 51 lakhs which was provided in the previous budget, viz., for 1948-49, and Rs. 25 lakhs for the purchase of shares in the Ammonium Sulphate Factory in Bihar. Beyond that what this budget does is—if I may say so—to provide more blanks and no prizes. Absolutely nothing has been done so far as the industries are concerned. Even so far as the industrial financial corporation is concerned for which a provision of Rs. 51 lakhs has been made, is it really what you can call a serious financial proposal? Or is this an eye-wash finance that they have provided. They made a provision of Rs. 51 lakhs last year and this year there is a provision of Rs. 51 lakhs. Are they really serious that this will be utilized this year? And what are the industries on which they are going to invest these Rs. 51 lakhs? Absolutely nothing. When I see the provision for the Industrial Finance Corporation, I am reminded of a Telugu proverb: 'అకలెడు, చూలకలెడు, కొడుకుకేల సోపించెడు.' This *Lingudu* is not at all born, Sir, there is not even pregnancy and they want to provide for a *Lingudu* to be born later on. We want to know what has happened to the Rs. 51 lakhs provided for the *Lingudu* last year.

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and yet another Rs. 51 lakhs is provided for the *Lingudu*, who is not born. And the Finance Minister goes on to narrate his industrial achievements in four pages of printed matter. Is this what is called the industrial regeneration of the country? Are you addressing the electors to tell them that you are going to do this and do that? This *Lingudu* business will never do. I say: 'Make an honest endeavour and say what is the nature of the programme you have.'

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"What is meant by *Lingudu*, Sir?"

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—" *Lingudu* is a name. Therefore I say: You take credit for whatever facts you find. This 102 lakhs provided in the Budget will not be utilized, for we do not yet know what form this *Lingudu* will take, which company or factory is going to be established, whether it will be sham or real, and whether soda ash or mere ash is going to come out of them. We know absolutely nothing. The Hon. the Minister for Industries is not here and I therefore say to the Hon. the Finance Minister that there is nothing for the Government to lay before the House as their proposal regarding the industrialization of the Province. That is point No. 1. As the hon. the Leader of the Opposition has definitely asked, Sir, they must answer the point as to what they have done for the industries except this provision for the *Lingudu* which is not born, which was not born last year and I dare say will not be born in the year to come also. There is nothing to say that it is all prizes and no blanks, it is only all blanks and no prizes. (Interruption.) May I ask the hon. Member, Mr. Ranga Reddi whether really they want to provide for the *Lingudus* existing or for the *Lingudus* that are to be born hereafter. Is that your programme?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Any way the hon. Member Mr. Ranga Reddi is not pregnant." (Laughter.)

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"It looks, Sir, as if they want to provide not only for unborn children but for children that may not be born at all. I charge the Government with irresponsibility and breach of faith. (Oh!) What is all this ambiguity about? They say they are going to undertake operations with regard to the lignite investigation. Is it going to be lignite or all ash and nothing more than that?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"See Demand No. XXII."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"I have studied, Sir, the Budget proposals though not so much as the Hon. the Minister for Finance has done. It is not that I say there is no Industries Department at all. The real question is how they are going ahead. I do not say that they have not provided for Industrial Engineers, and the Industrial workshop and other things. The Industries Department may be doing so much now. But the point is what are they doing for this year apart from the things that have already been done?"

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"Then, Sir, we come to agriculture. I have dealt with industries which is a plain thing. Agriculture is a much more complex thing. In fact one of the most vital things in regard to the industries of this Province is that they do not play such a great part as agriculture. The main question asked by the hon. the Leader of the Opposition is, to what extent this Province is deficit in the matter of food. The Budget proposals themselves reveal that we are deficit by about 5 lakhs of tons with regard to rice and about 5 lakhs of tons in millets. That comes to a total of 10 lakhs of tons. When converted into money this Province is deficit by Rs. 30 crores every year. The Hon. Dr. Rajan may say that he is giving us 10 ounces or 12 ounces or 16 ounces but he is not paying for it out of his pocket, but we are asked to pay for it out of our pockets and the Madras Presidency is depleted every year to the extent of Rs. 30 crores. Hon. Members have pleaded again and again that there is inflation in this Presidency. I have a shrewd suspicion, Sir, and I feel that there is no inflation in this Presidency at all. On the other hand our revenues are depleted and as we know the money market in this Presidency is very tight and rates of interest are very high and the ryots are not able to get money even at the rate of 12 per cent. People must understand that so far as the economy of this Province is concerned it is a deficit Province to the extent of 10 lakhs of tons of foodstuffs costing Rs. 30 crores. Where is the Financial Adviser or the Economic Adviser? Do they work to fight out inflation in the Presidency? Is there going to be an economic collapse? Thirty crores of rupees are going to be the deficit. You are deficit in sugar to the extent of Rs. 3 crores. You are deficit in cotton and so many other things. Crores of rupees are going out of this Presidency. It will land you in what may be called a serious economic crisis. Therefore the main thing is not a question of Dr. Rajan giving 10 ounces or 12 ounces, but the question is how to make up this loss of Rs. 30 crores. It is not a question of money remaining in this Province, but money going out of this Province. This Province is poorer by thirty crores. Every year we are facing a deficit. We should not think of congratulating the Minister for Food, but we should ask the Minister for Production—whoever he is—what steps he has taken with regard to the drain from this country. Is it not a serious question that must engage your attention? What proposals have you made to stop this drain of thirty crores? Absolutely nothing. On the other hand you have created distrust in the minds of the people.

"I have brought to the notice of the Government time and again that production should be encouraged. What have you done? Nothing. The Finance Minister has actually put in the beginning of his speech (a) the irrigation schemes, (b) the well-subsidy schemes and (c) the activities of the Agricultural department. What is inside all these schemes? The Leader of the Opposition was asking 'how is it the production of foodgrains has decreased when the Grow More Food campaign has been in operation for a number of years'. It shows a mistake. The area of cultivation might have gone up. But there is what is called monsoon. You may increase the area under cultivation, but if the monsoon fails certain districts cannot cultivate even though they may have all

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the facilities. Monsoon for the last two years has failed. It is there you should address yourself completely and unequivocally. There are grow more food schemes in the central districts and backward areas like Cuddapah district and other dry areas. In those areas monsoon has failed. We have to provide water-supply. It is on account of the failure of monsoon, that even though the area under cultivation is more, production is not more. What should be the endeavours of this Government to combat the monsoon failure? They must find the water for irrigation. They must get electric pumps. They must get what may be called oil engines and all those accessories. They must finance the ryots in order that they may buy these pumps. But what have the Government done, I am asking? Plainly and unequivocally, you have had monsoon failure for the last two years. This year, things have been brought to your notice by means of a resolution. The only way to avert difficulties is to instal electric pumps, and extend electricity as far as possible. Advances should be given to cultivators to buy electric pumps and oil engines. I should like to ask the Hon. Finance Minister what has been provided in the Budget for this purpose? As I said earlier the only way to solve the question is to provide electricity and oil engines. Electricity takes Rs. 6 crores as capital expenditure in the budget estimate for 1949-50. How far it has gone to improve agriculture? How far it has helped the ryots to get pump sets? What are your schemes?

"I shall now take up well-subsidy schemes. According to the figures given, Rs. 7 crores have been spent on well-subsidy schemes. I congratulate the Government for doing so much, but the matter does not stop there. I wish to impress on Members of the Treasury Bench that it is no use for a man to dig a well, unless he has the electric pump to draw water for irrigation purposes. It would only mean that Rs. 7 crores have not been well spent. The real question is how much electricity has been provided for the villages, how many pump sets have been provided, and how much advances have been made to the ryots to enable them to purchase the machinery and chemical fertilizers. What provision have you made in the Budget for extensive cultivation through electricity? I see a note in the Budget Memorandum by the Chief Engineer for Electricity on page 112. He is reviewing the position in 1948-49. He says—

'Electricity was extended to about 150 new villages during 1948 bringing the total number of villages at the end of 1948 to 1960.'

Only 150 villages got electricity up to the end of December 1948, though there has been monsoon failure in 1947 and 1948. Six crores of rupees have been spent for extending electricity, but only 150 new villages could get electricity up to the end of 1948. The total number of villages served is 1,960. What is the total number of villages? It is about 30,000. What is the percentage? It is six per cent. Sir, yesterday, I travelled in a plane from Bezwađa to Madras. The plane carried only two passengers. The company showed me their bill, saying what profit they were making by

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carrying only two passengers from Madras to Bezwada. Our electricity schemes are also like that. For one hundred and fifty new villages we have spent Rs. 6 crores. Is it not a shame? Is it proper? What is the use of spending so many crores of rupees without getting electric pumps. The Note further says—

'The number of agricultural pump sets connected during 1948 was over 2,000, the total number of electric pumps serving agriculture at the end of 1948 being over 10,000. The demand for supply of electricity continues to be keen from all areas in the Province and the number of applications on hand with the electricity departments runs to several thousands.'

I have moved a resolution to the effect that a committee must enquire into this matter. What has been done? One hundred and fifty villages got electricity. Are you satisfied? Can you go and tell just like the Deccan Airways carrying two passengers from Bezwada to Madras, that during the year 1948 out of a total expenditure of Rs. 6 crores 150 villages got electricity? Is that your achievement? What is the use of saying so many schemes have been undertaken. You will find at the end of the Finance Minister's speech the words—

'The broad survey that I have made in this speech will, I trust, give a fair idea of the measures undertaken and proposed by this Government, continuously for the betterment of the people, particularly the villagers'

Out of an expenditure of six crores of rupees only one hundred and fifty villages got electricity. Is this all for the villagers? It is nothing but a camouflage. You should know your duties and responsibilities of your position when you say you have helped the villagers. What have you done for the villagers? (Interruption.) My hon. Friend from Anantapur says fireworks. I ask him whether it is fireworks—spending six crores of rupees and getting electricity to 150 villages. Are you the people to speak for the villagers? What about the oil engines? The Finance Minister has said on page 13 of his budget speech *'Up to the end of September 1948, this branch has hired or sold to agriculturists, 4,117 electric motors'*. In the Budget Speech it is stated 24,512 wells have been sunk. You have not sunk all the 24,512 wells. The old wells are there which have not been sunk. But the Finance Minister says 4,117 electric motors have been hired or sold to agriculturists. If he had realized the magnitude of the situation, he would have said *'we are starving'*. What is the use of saying 4,117 electric motors have been supplied? Let us now see about oil engines. It is stated 215 diesel oil engines have been got. At the most they can bring under cultivation two or three thousand acres.

m. “Sir, the whole achievement of this Government is that they have purchased 215 diesel oil engines! When oil engines are in great demand by the agriculturists and when they rush in for them, for what purpose is this 215? The cultivating tenants want electricity for pumping out water. Are these cultivating tenants living

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in palatial buildings? Certainly not. They are poor and they want this electricity for all these purposes. I want to know whether the Hon. the Finance Minister has a thermal scheme for Nellore. Has he any scheme for the electrification of rural areas? He says that under the Grow More Food Campaign, 215 oil engines are being used. When production has to be increased, certainly this 215 diesel oil engines are nothing.

“Now, Sir, coming to the tractors, the number is far less than the diesel oil engines. There are 145 tractors which are being hired to the ryots. Sir, one tractor for each village will not be sufficient. I ask, is this the achievement of the Agricultural department in the Grow More Food Campaign—to have only 145 tractors? Is not that again Deccan Airways business, simply carrying two persons for one hundred rupees? Sir, the hon. Friend by my side says that 75 of these tractors are not working and with regard to others, we do not know whether they are working at full speed or half-speed. The Hon. the Finance Minister has mentioned it in his budget speech as a great achievement. Does he realize the magnitude of the problem? How vast is the territory to be cultivated? Does the Hon. Minister mean business by saying that there are 145 tractors? How many ryots are in need of these tractors? There comes the question as to how these ryots feel with regard to the supply of these pumps, these diesel oil engines and these tractors. You no doubt know that they are very poor and it is for that very reason, you have got big headings in the budget speech, like *'Loans and Advances to Cultivators'*. Under this head,—it is given on page 696 of the budget estimates—let me read the figures; for loans under the Land Improvement Loans Act and Agriculturists Act, a sum of Rs. 75,98,200 is provided. Again, under loans under the special rules for pumping installations, the Hon. Minister has provided in the budget estimate for 1948-49 Rs. 7,000.

“But, in the revised estimate, he says, Rs. 63,000. When you have to purchase food to the value of Rs. 30 crores, what is this advance which is provided for? The Hon. Finance Minister belongs to a family of cultivators. He knows cultivation and yet he has provided a grand sum of Rs. 7,000! Even after getting the revised estimate of Rs. 63,000, in the budget estimate for 1949-50, the Hon. Minister has provided only Rs. 67,000. I ask, is there any imagination at all, or is there any sense of reality?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“It is 900 per cent more.”

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAIDU:—“I have no doubt it is only the jugglery of the Finance Minister and not the reality of the statistician. I ask, will Rs. 67,000 satisfy the cultivators. Will you get the revised estimate under this head only up to that figure? How many people are in need of these tractors and pumping installations and what is the provision, you have made? I say, it is really not realizing the responsibility. I am sorry, Sir, the Minister for Agriculture is not here at present. I do not know what he is doing. In the Budget, for agricultural orchards and

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nurseries, he wants Rs. 2 lakhs for pepper, Rs. 2 lakhs for condiments, for 'sonti' and so on. If you take the Budget Memorandum, you find new schemes with big headlines showing the revenue accounts for those schemes. I do not want to bother the House about them.

"Now, Sir, there is another matter, and that is about the well-subsidy scheme and the irrigation scheme under the Agricultural department. The Hon. the Finance Minister in his statement on Irrigation Schemes says:

'During the four years 1944-47, eighty schemes were sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 140 lakhs. The actual expenditure incurred was about Rs. 75 lakhs. The additional area brought under cultivation during the period was nearly 378 thousand acres and the additional production of rice was 180 thousand tons nearly. In 1947-48, 70 works were sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 67.41 lakhs and the actual expenditure in the year was Rs. 16.61 lakhs.'

Therefore, Sir, they have started these schemes but they have not trained the overseers and until the overseers are trained, nothing will be done.

"Then, Sir, the Finance Minister goes on to say:

'The Government are alive to the importance of extending irrigation facilities wherever possible and a lump-sum provision of Rs. 70 lakhs has been included in the budget for 1949-50 for expenditure on new irrigation schemes having a Grow More Food value.'

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I am glad the hon. Member has after all turned to me." (Laughter.)

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAIDU:—"The Hon. the Finance Minister is absolutely deaf to me. That is why I have been addressing him. Then, Sir, the statement goes on:

'A list of the schemes which will be considered in connexion with the utilization of this provision is given in Appendix II to the Detailed Budget Estimates for 1949-50.'

Another thing he says is *'The Government have also an ambitious and comprehensive programme estimated to cost over Rs. 19 crores for tank restoration and improvements to tanks, channels, spring ponds, etc.'* The execution of the schemes will be spread over a period of 8-10 years and a sum of Rs. 1 crore has been included in the Budget for next year for expenditure on these schemes. You see, Sir, what is provided for under this ambitious and comprehensive programme is after all Rs. 1 crore. This is absolutely nothing when the estimated cost is Rs. 19 crores. This Rs. 1 crore is just another 'Lingadu'. You can call this expanding scheme of Rs. 19 crores another 'Lingadu'. Is it then really an eyewash or is it to satisfy the members you have mentioned it?

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"Then, Sir, in the big book, a list of schemes is given. It is on page 730 of Budget Estimates.

(At this stage, the Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon entered the Chamber.)

"Sir, the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture has after all come."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"They get headache when they come here." (Laughter.)

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—Anyhow, Sir, I congratulate the Hon. the Finance Minister for having provided a 'Lingadu' for each district. On page 730 of the Budget Estimates he has mentioned so many tank restoration schemes. There is the Gantimarri tank restoration scheme costing Rs. 1,64,000, the Kotha tank restoration scheme in Peddavaripalli costing Rs. 2,64,400, there is a scheme for the restoration of breached tank at Illur costing Rs. 80,000, then there is the restoration scheme of Kothakalva of Tadpatri village, the Dorigallu project, costing Rs. 1,90,000, the restoration scheme of Palligandvucherula of Kampalli village costing Rs. 1,20,000 and a number of other tank restoration schemes. Perhaps the Hon. Minister wanted to satisfy all the members who were coming to him and pressing him and has provided a scheme for each district. Of course you have got a number of schemes. But, what are they actually? They are nothing but 'Lingadus' that are going to be born. It is all in the headings. There is no conceiving, no pregnancy and there is no delivery. That is why I say that all these schemes are 'Lingadus'. Only the Congress Government are capable of doing it. For South Arcot, you have provided Rs. 14 lakhs, for North Arcot, Rs. 3 lakhs, for Bellary—I hope my hon. Friend Mr. Bhinna Rao is no sleeping—the Government have provided 81 lakhs and so on. Similarly you find a number of schemes in the Appendix to the budget speech. Therefore, I say that this budget shows all prizes and no blanks whereas it is actually one of all blanks and no prizes. Therefore, I say, it is absolutely incorrect and unworthy on the part of the Government to say that they have provided for a number of schemes.

"Then, Sir, I should like to say a few words on the lump-sum provision for the Industrial Finance Corporation, lump-sum provision under 'Grow More Food' and other lump-sum provisions. I say, they are nothing but shelving the question. I do not say that they all should be rejected completely. But, I do hope hon. Members of the Assembly—the hon. Member Mr. Viswanatham is sitting and listening to me at present—I hope he and other hon. Members will take note of the facts which I have mentioned, namely, that many schemes mentioned are merely an eyewash and 'Lingadus'.

"Sir, there is one other subject on which I should like to say a few words and that is about the nationalization of the motor bus service. I am not going to enter into the profit and loss accounts to-day but I am glad it has caught the Hon. the Finance Minister's attention."

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some good lessons. If I am incorrect, he may correct me. Sir, when introducing the Bill on the nationalization of bus services, the Hon. the Finance Minister said,

'We have now got prohibition; we have lost so much revenue; we must make up that revenue. Therefore, why not Government start this nationalization of bus services?'

That is what he said.

"The Finance Minister thought he would get good milk from the Nellore cow of nationalization of transport. He thought that Nellore cow was a very good cow and that he would get a lot of milk there for his Prohibition programme.

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"The Finance Minister says in his budget speech:

Although from the administrative, technical and commercial points of view, the results so far achieved by the Transport are highly satisfactory, allowance has to be made for the unhelpful attitude of labour as evidenced by the recent strike. The Government do not intend to embark on any large programme of extension of nationalization for the present, until further experience has shown that a reasonable amount of co-operation from labour would be forthcoming.'

I say that the Nellore cow gave good milk to Anantharamakrishnan of Messrs. Simpson & Co., who were maintaining the services previously, but the same cow does not supply milk to the Finance Minister, the Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi. It all depends upon the shepherd and the fodder and scrubbing that he gives. That Nellore cow came round when Anantharamakrishnan whistled but it does not respond when Mr. Gopala Reddi whistles. (Laughter.) I am glad, Sir, that the Finance Minister has said that the Government are not going to embark on extension of nationalization for the present. I wish that the Government would drop this nationalization programme. Although the policy may be excellent, there is not the shepherd in this Government who could make the cow give milk.

"I now come to the final point. The Finance Minister has come forward with taxation proposals. Many hon. Friends have already dealt with this question. A question was put by the hon. the Leader of the Opposition as to why there was a mounting expenditure from 1946-47 when the Congress Ministry came into power. He referred to the budget estimates and the revised estimates for the years from 1942 to 1948. Hon. Members will find from the figures given at page 60 of the Finance Minister's budget speech that the Provincial Excise has become a bull instead of a cow. In 1947-48, 59.44 lakhs of rupees have been spent under this head. Thus the Government not only lose the excise revenue but they have to spend more. In the revised estimate for 1948-49 the Finance Minister has budgeted for 75 lakhs of rupees and in the budget estimate for 1949-50 he has provided for 76 lakhs of rupees.

"The Finance Minister has changed the name of 'Prohibition ameliorative work' into 'Rural recreation scheme'. I do not know why the name was changed. A sum of Rs. 12,24,000 has been budgeted for under this item. Then there is another sum of 35 lakhs of rupees provided for the police establishment employed

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for the enforcement of Prohibition. The staff for this work consists of 17 Deputy Superintendents of Police and several Inspectors and Sergeants. There are also 745 head constables and several accountants, attenders, muchis, drivers, cleaners, etc. All these people are also paid their pay and special allowances. Therefore, the Prohibition programme not only causes a loss of 17 crores of revenue but it also involves an expenditure of 2 crores of rupees by way of establishment charges.

"I join with the hon. the Leader of the Opposition and ask 'Why do the Government want these new taxes?' Did you announce the programme of taxes at the last election? The electorate were told last time that there would be only no drinks but they were not told about taxes. If they had been told 'All taxes and no drinks,' I can understand. They were told only 'No drinks,' but now new taxation is resorted to in the present programme which is unjustifiable.

"Then, Sir, as the hon. the Leader of the Opposition pointed out, the Retrenchment Committee made some recommendations for saving some crores of rupees. The Government did not care to examine them and yet they want to rush with the taxation programme. I know of Finance Ministers who were anxious to give remissions of taxes, but here we have got a Finance Minister who wants to put as many taxes as possible and says that he has to balance the budget. I say that this taxation is really due to the programme of Prohibition. It is really 'all taxes and no drinks'. As an opposition member, I shall say that it shall be 'no taxes and all drinks'."

SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"Mr. President, I should like to congratulate the Government upon the extension of prohibition throughout the Province. (Interruption.) I know there were some interjections, but this prohibition policy is an important plank in the Congress programme and we should really congratulate ourselves that this policy has been implemented within as short a time as possible by the Madras Congress Government. But, Sir, there are certain difficulties brought about by the introduction of prohibition. It has already been said that the introduction of prohibition has resulted in loss of revenue which has necessitated the Finance Minister to introduce new taxes. I know all taxation measures are unpopular and I really sympathize with the Hon. Minister for Finance, Mr. Gopala Reddi, that he should have introduced these taxation proposals at a time when the Province is suffering from very acute shortage in foodstuffs, in cloth, and in other things. But he has to implement a policy which has been accepted by the party to which he belongs and he is doing it honourably and creditably. It is our duty to support that policy and that is why I extend my hearty support to the budget that he has placed before this Council. But, at the same time, I wish to have to say that there are some taxes, which he has proposed to levy, which will tell upon the taxable capacity of the people of this Province. It has also increased the bus fares. I want to bring to the notice of the House that the surcharge on property taxes in municipalities will go a long way to increase the discontent of the

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people, which is already there on account of the shortage of food-stuffs and other things. But in any case the Finance Minister will have to see that the discontent is reduced to as small an extent as possible and that the popularity of the present Government is maintained.

"Sir, I should like to refer to another problem which has arisen in connexion with the introduction of prohibition. I know that in the working of prohibition, the Government are faced with so many difficulties. In the actual working, there are so many hostile elements which have to be put down and the co-operation of the public is very essential in working the Prohibition Act. In the reports that have been supplied to the members of this Legislature off and on, it has been pointed out that the illicit manufacture of arrack has been proceeding on a steady level in the Ceded districts and efforts are made to punish the offenders. Very often serious crimes result. As my friend, Mr. Bhima Rao, has told me, a prohibition officer was stabbed the other day when he went to arrest one offender. Such cases are very common in Guntur district as well as in the Ceded districts. As my hon. Friend has put it, it is very difficult to control these anti-social elements. Then the point for consideration is whether it is not the duty of the Government to provide sufficient protection for the people and to develop healthy public opinion in those places where they really want this Prohibition Act to be successful and where they really want the people to co-operate in the working of this Act. What I should like to submit to this Council is that in those places where there has been a breakdown of law and order, it should not be considered as an isolated act by itself; but it should be considered as part and parcel of the bigger problem. I submit that in those places where law and order have broken down, the Government have not taken sufficient steps to maintain law and order. That has been my point, from the very beginning. Further, the Government not satisfied with this, have threatened the people there by saying that if they do not make prohibition successful, they would levy collective fines. I submit, Sir, that the main function or duty of the State is to maintain law and order and, if they do not do that, they are not justified in enlarging the scope of the activities of the State. I know that they are interested in enlarging the State activities. They are interested in social welfare schemes. So many schemes have been propounded and money has been provided in the budget. Still I say that because they have got so many useful schemes, they should not give up the primary functions which devolve on the State. It is not a Police state, but still it has to discharge its police functions and cannot absolve or abdicate itself of such functions.

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p.m.

"Sir, this morning my hon. Friend, Mr. Bhima Rao, interpellated the Government with regard to the punitive police and I would like to refer to that question. This House is probably aware that there is an Act called the District Police Act and according to its provisions if there is a breach of peace or tranquillity, the villagers of that particular village are made to pay for the maintenance of the extra police that are quartered there.

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(At this stage Sri M. Narayana Menon occupied the Chair.) I submit, Sir, this particular provision and this Act are being mis-used by the Government. Where they themselves have to maintain peace and order, they are transferring this duty to the villagers, because they think that once they have located some police stations their duty ends there. Now, Sir, if crime has increased and if crimes are committed, is it not the duty of the State to see that they are curbed and prevented? You know, Sir, that in the City of Madras, there are a number of police cars plying on the roads giving directions to people and then you have a Traffic Inspector or a Deputy Superintendent of Police in charge, but so far as the villages are concerned, if the police are not able to control crimes, they think it is not their duty to maintain law and order but that the villagers themselves ought to maintain the police stations. That is a strange proposition which has been enunciated by the Government. I know it is not a problem or a theme propounded by this Government, but it was a theme of the previous Government and the present Government who are the heir to the previous Government are merely following it strictly without paying any attention to this particular problem. I submit, Sir, that it is mainly the function of the State to maintain such police stations. Moreover, Sir, it is a question of preventing crimes. If any crime is likely to be committed, why should they not protect the people beforehand. With regard to public health, the State takes upon itself the responsibility of giving timely injections to people for the prevention of cholera, plague and other such epidemics. So, Sir, why in the case of these crimes, especially when they know that crime is likely to be committed, should they not take steps to prevent it. Instead of preventing it, what they say is, we shall simply locate a police station in your village and you pay the cost of it. I submit, Sir, it is not fair that Government should transfer this duty from themselves and ask the villagers to pay. Why I say this is, in all other departments they take upon themselves the duty of protecting the people but not in this department alone.

"There is also another trouble with regard to this. These police people and the magistracy are not able to maintain law and order. They simply recommend, as a punitive measure, that police should be quartered in particular places, because they know it is not their money that is being spent for keeping the police in those villages. And, Government also say, after all it is not our money and so you may keep a police station there. Thousands and thousands are spent on the police that are stationed in particular villages. Moreover, Sir, these police stations are not kept only for a year or so, but they are being continued year after year for several years and it depends upon the whims and fancies of the police officials before whom these villagers have to go and prostrate. I ask why do you keep them? They are merely harassing the people rather than protecting them. If the local officers say, it is necessary in the interests of the safety of the people, this benign Government simply order that the police stations concerned should be continued. Sir, I know of a police station in the Cuddapah district in which punitive police are stationed for the last two or three years, even though not one

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crime has been reported after the punitive police has been stationed there. So, Sir, why not remove it? But they simply say, it is necessary. The reason for that is said to be, it is the presence of the police that is responsible for people not committing crimes. If that is so, Sir, why not have a mere ordinary police station there to maintain law and order. Therefore, Sir, I submit it is very hard and unfair on the part of the Government that the District Police Act should be ransacked and utilized for muteting these poor villagers without themselves meeting the cost of the police in those villages where they are located.

"There is also another aspect to be considered in this connexion. If some political tinge is given, the Government are ever ready to spend any amount. Last year 60 lakhs of rupees were provided for putting down the subversive activities of the Communists. This year 50 lakhs of rupees have been provided for the same purpose. No doubt violence has to be put down, but it is not an ideology in which they are daily engaged. Government should discharge their duty by providing money for maintaining the police stations and if the Government think that crimes can be brought down, let them have police stations in such places. Sir, times have changed and people also have changed and, therefore, I say, they should increase the number of police stations and see that law and order are maintained in villages and it is only then that the Prohibition Act will be a success; otherwise it will not. I would also say that it requires the co-operation of the people in those places. I know this Government have been preaching about the good effects of co-operation. I ask, Sir, when every village is torn by factions, how can you expect co-operation in the villages? No doubt so many schemes have been propounded. There are the ordinary co-operative societies, then agricultural co-operative societies and so on. So far as the tractors are concerned they have to be utilized in common by all people. But, what I say is, it would be a negation of co-operation and nothing tangible will be done without proper steps being taken to maintain law and order in the villages.

"Now, Sir, with regard to the food position, I would like to make a few observations. I am not one of those who said anything against controls at any time; but I only pleaded that these controls should be used sympathetically and liberally. No doubt, controls by themselves are very unpleasant and nobody likes any imposition of restrictions or any limitation of individual liberty with regard to any particular thing and especially so with regard to food, cloth and so on. But, then if controls are not worked properly and sympathetically, it causes unpleasantness and pain to people. It is, therefore, very necessary that this Government should take proper steps in the matter.

"I would like to refer to another matter. So far as the Civil Service is concerned, they still think that they have the right and privilege to frame policies and dictate policies. They do not want to go behind and work out the policies of the Government. Why I say this is, they want to wreck the policies that are propounded by the Government. I will give you one instance. In 1946, when the Congress Government were in power, I agitated that the people

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who were accustomed to eat rice and who do not grow rice but only produce millets and whose millets are taken over by the Government in virtue of their procurement policy, are not able to get any rice to eat in the local ration shops. When I asked about it, the Government say that the agriculturist, who is said to be doing very good service and has to be benefited, if he is classified as a rice eater,—it is not the question of merely producing rice that is concerned in the matter—he is entitled to get ration according to the quota. The result is in the case of a millet grower who has a right to use the grain that he produces, his grain can be seized by putties, but he is not able to get rice and he is asked to get it only in the local grain shop. But, then it is not supplied in the local ration shop to the same extent and with the same regularity as it is being done in towns. Naturally that man complains, 'why, Sir, I produce so much of grain and why should not I have as much as a non-producer gets.' I agitated before the Congress Government and the Government were pleased to agree with me and they even issued an order that the ryot who grows millets and is accustomed to eat rice should be allowed to exchange it for rice once a year. But, unfortunately the Gods, I mean the Board of Revenue said, how can it be done? The reason according to them is, it goes against the ration policy. They say, we have prepared the policy according to which the grain can be exchanged only in the local ration shops and if any other things are going to be permitted, then possibly the whole scheme will become a failure. I submit, Sir, that the rules in the Ration Manual have not been prepared with reference to the needs of the people but with reference to the success or otherwise of a particular scheme. They seem to think that if they prepare a scheme in a particular manner, it will be successful without any deviation being made in it; otherwise they will be held guilty. I say, Sir, the scheme which was proposed three or four years ago, has been adopted in toto in respect of the present rationing policy also. I, therefore, appeal to the Hon. Minister for Food to examine this policy closely again and see that the local officials when implementing it do not create all sorts of difficulties in the way of the people getting their rations. They say, oh! you have got rice in the local ration shops, and why not take it? I submit, Sir, if it is available there then there is no difficulty, but the difficulty of the people is, the ration shops are not supplied with sufficient quantity of rice and the people are not able to exchange millets for rice once a year and so they are made to suffer. What I suggest is, it should not be the policy of the Government to allow this policy to be wrecked by the civil servants, but they should be made to realize their position and their duty is simply to implement the policy of the Government and not try to wreck it. I submit, let instances like this be not multiplied wherein these civil servants are allowed to wreck the policies enunciated by the Government. Sir, there is another thing which I would like to refer to in the budget speech of the Hon. Finance Minister. It is proposed to start non-statutory rationing in rural areas. Although I was in favour of statutory rationing being introduced in rural

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areas, I was against non-statutory rationing being introduced there. That is because we have all the disadvantages without any corresponding advantages in it. If we start non-statutory rationing in rural areas, people will not be allowed to transport or purchase grain and Government do not take the responsibility of supplying foodgrains even to the extent they supply the municipalities. Therefore, what justification is there for introducing rural rationing. It is much better that it is given up in villages and confined only to municipalities, the villagers being asked to look after their own needs.

"Sir, with regard to Education, I would like to thank the Hon. Minister for Education for introducing the first Group in the Cuddapah College from the next 'academical' year. Then, I have my own serious doubts whether the promise held out by the Congress Government can ever be fulfilled. So far as the people of Cuddapah are concerned, they have performed their part of the contract. The Government wanted two lakhs of rupees and fifty acres of land for the construction of a hostel building. That they have done and it is only after that had been done, the Government were pleased to start a college in Cuddapah. Then, the estimate has been prepared for the college building. It costs only eight lakhs of rupees. Why did they not provide anything for the construction of a college building? What I apprehend is that if they delay it, it may not see the light of day. In this connexion, I am reminded of the saying, 'To delay is to deny'. Otherwise, can they not find eight lakhs of rupees for this purpose?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is to combat inflation that we have not provided for it."

-15 m. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"Sir, I ask, have they not provided any money for new constructions? I know they have provided money for the construction of a college building at Rajahmundry. How did they do it?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is not going to be spent now."

SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"You are spending this year. Whatever it is, I think the Government are not very serious about this proposal."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"When the Government are not serious in this matter, why the hon. Member should support the Government?"

SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"There are many other things to which we give our whole-hearted support. After all in this world there is a mixture of both good and evil. I think that this Congress Government is much better than any Government which is likely to come into power. Therefore, I give my support to the Government. And I shall not deflect from that duty."

"Now, I come to another point. If the Government think that they cannot provide eight lakhs of rupees for the construction of a college building at Cuddapah, why should they go on adding to

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the revenues of some particular fund which is earmarked for a particular purpose? For example, there is the Rural Water-supply Fund. Let it not be understood that I am against any amount being given to the Rural Water-supply Fund. Sir, I come from a village. I look after the interests of the villagers and I am very particular that they should have proper drinking water as early as possible. But I cannot understand the policy of the Government with regard to this matter. The Hon. Finance Minister has stated in his Budget speech that a crore of rupees has been provided for in 1947-48 for the Rural Water-supply Fund and to this amount, he has added ten lakhs of rupees this year. After all, he does not expect that whole amount to be spent in 1947-48 and he expects only half the amount will be spent in the current year. Sir, I am not well-versed in these mysteries of finance. But I cannot understand why he should go on adding to the fund when it is not going to be spent immediately. (Interruption.) If it is earmarked, let it be earmarked. You can spend it for that purpose next year. In the meantime, you can divert it. Is there any harm in diverting it? Have Government got any apprehension that this particular money if it is not earmarked now, may not be available next year? I do not think that they can have such an apprehension. Even then, the Government can float a loan. The solvency of the Government is beyond any doubt.

"Sir, I do not know whether the money that is provided for this capital expenditure is provided from the ordinary revenues. I do not think so. But still I should think that so far as this expenditure on buildings is concerned, it should be done only by floating a loan because this is a thing which is useful not only to the people who are now living but also for the future generations. Therefore, this money, the money that is necessary for constructing a college fund should never be taken from the ordinary revenue. If necessary, money ought to be borrowed and spent for this capital expenditure."

"Then, Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Bhima Rao was interesting himself about the admissions to the Medical College and Engineering College. I do not like to be bothered about it. That is a bigger question. The whole difficulty is the facility or provision is not there and therefore the people quarrel. The Bhore Committee has recommended that a medical college ought to be started at Madanapalle or Bellary to serve the needs of Rayalaseema. I say, the Government should construct, without delay, a medical college immediately. Sir, if they think that it is very unwise to spend six to eight lakhs on such a college, let them spend one crore of rupees to improve the economic condition of Rayalaseema. I know, Sir, the Hon. Finance Minister last time, when he introduced his budget, said that a Development Commissioner for Rayalaseema was appointed to co-ordinate the plans for developing the economic condition of Rayalaseema. I remember that that Development Commissioner has submitted his report and now he is serving as a Collector in some part of the Presidency."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"In Ramnad"

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SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"I am thankful to the Hon. Minister for this information. But I think he should have submitted his report long, long ago and I am sure that there would be very many plans for improving the economic condition of Rayalaseema. That report has not been published and no action has been taken. I do not know whether we have to await the publication of this report or to await the scheme for improving the economic condition of Rayalaseema."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"Is the hon. Member sure that it will be published. I think it will not be published."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It has been published."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"May I know what does the Hon. Minister mean by saying that it has been published?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is available now."

SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"Sir, I do not think I can talk in the same strain in which the hon. Member Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu spoke as I can neither rival him nor match him."

"Sir, in this connexion I also wish to say that Rayalaseema is very rich in minerals. But I feel constrained to say that beyond their appointing a committee—the Industrial Planning Committee—nothing has been done to improve the economic condition of Rayalaseema. Many more things should have been done. For instance, the Government could have started a Paint Industry. Government should have taken upon themselves the duty of starting some industries there. Did they not start a Soap Factory in Calicut? Once the Government start an industry, then the people will come forward and take up the industry and improve it. In the same manner, I would request the Government to start some industries because the people of Rayalaseema are very backward and will not come forward to start their own industries. Government should give a start in this matter. Sir, so many conferences have been held to consider how the economic condition of Rayalaseema can be improved. A resolution has also been passed that a Ten-Crore Fund should be created for working out the plans intended for the benefit of the people of Rayalaseema. Therefore, it is the duty of the Congress Government to do something in that direction and allay the fears that have been existing in the minds of the people of Rayalaseema. Last year, at least there was one heartening item because they said that they were awaiting the report of the Development Commissioner and that, as soon as it was received, they would do something for these people. But this year, we find nothing, not even that heartening item. I would have been content with it if it had been there. So, I again request my hon. Friend Mr. Gopala Reddi not to forget the needs of Rayalaseema but to do something for improving the economic condition of Rayalaseema."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"Mr. Chairman, I should like to raise a point of order. Is it in order for an hon. Member to get up

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and say that 'I congratulate the Government or support the Government' and then criticize the Government from beginning to end."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is domestic criticism."

SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"With regard to hospitals, I would like to say one thing. The hospitals are not properly equipped in my district and it is a truism to say where there is no poverty, there is no disease also; and it follows as a matter of course that it is only in the poorer districts that the hospitals should be better equipped than the hospitals existing in richer places."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The longevity of human beings is greater in Cuddapah than in any other district."

SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"It will be much more if more hospitals are there. There, the people are breaking their heads and they are dying. Not even an X-ray plant has been supplied to the Headquarters Hospital there. Last year when the budget was presented in this House, I asked my hon. Friend Mr. A. B. Shetty to supply at least one X-ray plant for that hospital. But the pity is his policy must be enunciated by the Finance Minister and accepted by him. So, unfortunately, the District Headquarters Hospital has not been supplied with an X-ray plant. No doubt, they have sent some communication that the X-ray plant will be supplied. But the Welfare Association that has been functioning there, has been asked to collect Rs. 10,000 for this purpose. After all, it is not a gift from the Government. We pay for it and we get it. What I am submitting is that for the poor districts Government ought to spend more liberally. They should increase the number of beds in the Taluk Headquarters Hospital and should supply X-ray plant and other latest appliances."

"Sir, with regard to roads, I am very sorry to say that roads are in a very, very deplorable condition."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"The hon. Member is still criticizing the Government."

SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"It was a painful surprise to me when I was travelling from Rayachoti to Cuddapah the other day to find that the metalling on the road, which is considered to be the trunk road, has given way and requires repairs. This road had been repaired only a few days back."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It may be due to failure of monsoon."

SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"How can you expect rain in January and February? There is no monsoon there. Government should have tried to consolidate the work on the roads in Cuddapah earlier. They give the contract to somebody who is not competent for the job and he does not do the work in time and the result is we all suffer."

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DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know to whom the contract was given and whether he is not a competent contractor? "

4 p.m. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" The road between Cuddapah and Pulivendla is so dusty that if a motor car passes in front of you it raises a storm of dust and it takes fifteen minutes for the dust to subside to enable one to continue his journey. The roads are in a very bad condition. Some roads which are considered to be very good, people have begun to avoid and they prefer to pass through fields rather than by road. Fortunately, Sir, the black cotton fields are such that you can travel through them at all times except when there is actual crop there.

" Sir, this year particularly we should congratulate the people of Cuddapah in having come forward with large donations for school buildings. In every place practically people have given Rs. 40,000 or Rs. 50,000 for the construction of secondary school buildings. But unfortunately whom are we to approach to get plans prepared? If you approach the Highways department, they say 'our hands are full.' May I submit Sir, this is due to the fact that since the Highways department has been created its control has been taken away from the local body. Regarding roads, there is nobody to look after them. Even the culverts are never cared for unless some accident takes place. I have known of culverts being damaged and not repaired for days and days together. I would appeal to the Hon. Minister for Public Works that he should seriously consider the question whether the Highways department should be allowed to continue as a separate department, or whether district boards should be allowed to manage the roads.

" With regard to electricity I would like to congratulate the Government, for they have done something for Cuddapah district. In the note prepared by the Chief Engineer, he has said that he awaits the sanction of Government for extension of the scheme to various places in the district. I would request Government that early orders may be passed sanctioning the scheme so that all the villages may get the benefit of this scheme. I know there is a great deal of demand. Of course my friend was saying that there is demand but it is not being met; and that only townsmen are benefited. If only early orders are passed, sufficient electricity can be generated in Cuddapah district which can be made available for rural electrification.

" Sir, I come to my last point, and that is the subject of irrigation. Time and again, I have said that, so far as Cuddapah district is concerned, minor projects should not be ignored or given up. Side by side with the bigger projects that are being undertaken, these should also be taken up. But what do we see? Sometimes, some of these minor projects are considered to have some connexion with the new projects that are being investigated and undertaken and on this score they want to put off these minor projects until the major projects have been completed. Here, I would like to mention the case of Gandikota project. I submit that according to the post-war scheme this project should have been taken up for execution and some provision should have been made

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last year. For some reason or other, it still requires further investigation, or something they say, and they postpone it. Now, this year they have been saying that the Kistna-Pennar scheme is being investigated and it has an important bearing on that project and until this project is completely investigated, the Gandikota project cannot be taken up. My submission is that this project should never be postponed; it should never be made to wait till the final investigation of the Kistna-Pennar project. If you are going to get more water by means of the Kistna-Pennar project than from the Gandikota project, so far better. We need not wait for the Kistna-Pennar project to be completed. Now, Sir, Kistna-Pennar project, as this Government are aware, is a scheme which will irrigate about 25 lakhs of acres. The districts of Cuddapah, Kurnool, Chingleput, Nellore and another district will all be benefited thereby. Sir, there has been ill-informed criticism in Cuddapah district against this project. And that is that a number of villages will be submerged by this project, that several lakhs of acres of land will be inundated, and that this project is not going to help Cuddapah district at all, and therefore we should oppose the execution of this project tooth and nail. I am very sorry that people are misinformed or they have got their own axe to grind. I do not know who started this mischief. But I should congratulate the Government for having come forward with a Press communique countering the false propaganda by saying that it is really a good project, that it will benefit a number of people and that 25 lakhs of acres will be irrigated. Last month, on the 18th February, there was an irrigation conference presided over by the District Collector. I was present there, and the Engineer who was in charge of the project also attended it and he explained the scheme by saying that about six lakhs of acres in Cuddapah district would be irrigated and it is a very good thing. I would only submit one thing to Government. When the project is undertaken many lands will be submerged. What I would like to submit to the Hon. Minister for Public Works is, for those lands which would be submerged, the owners should be given a fair and equitable compensation. I know many more waste lands will be brought under irrigation and I would like that owners of those lands which would be submerged should have a top priority in getting these lands. In doing this we will be doing only an act of bare justice. For they have no other occupation; they are not skilled workmen as it were; they know only agricultural operations and so it is better those people should get the top priority. Sir, with these remarks, I resume my seat."

* SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, I should like, at the outset, to characterize the budget presented by our Chancellor of the Exchequer as a dismal and depressing budget, to put it mildly. That such a budget should have come in the second year of our freedom, of which so much has been talked about, is most unfortunate. The feeling has already been growing in the country that the freedom that has come has been made a farce and a mockery. A great Congress leader—I think it was Lokamanya Bala Gangadhar Tilak—said 'Good Government is no substitute

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for self-government.' From bitter experience of what has been happening in the country during the last couple of years, I feel that self-government is no apology for bad Government. The test of the goodness or badness of a Government is what they do to the masses and, how it benefits the common man. Any Government which places more burdens on the people, burdens which are not justified by any extraordinary emergency, is definitely bad Government. To-day, the country is not under war conditions; but the people are in many respects much worse off than they were during the days of war. Peace, it has been said, has its victories no less than war, and if the number of heavy burdens the Government have imposed on the people is to be counted as so many victories, our Government may well consider themselves as a great champion victor of peace.

"One may well ask what happened to the election pledges given by Congress leaders, to relieve the taxation burden of the people. So vociferous and vehement were some of the leaders at public meetings that they even promised that there would be no taxes at all under Swaraj. I do not want to be so uncharitable as to suggest that they made these promises to the people with mental reservations, and that they were acting under the impression that promises were intended only to be made, and not to be kept. Far from it. I want to believe that the leaders who are sitting on the treasury benches to-day were genuinely sincere in their promise to the electorate to relieve the burden of taxation, but after assumption of office, they had begun to act under the presumption that top priority should be given to their fads and fancies first, and that the question of burden of taxation could be taken up in a leisurely fashion. It is a matter to be greatly regretted that first things have not been taken up first. Matters of fourth-rate and fifth-rate value have assumed paramount importance in the eyes of our Government. The primary function of a Government is to see that the elementary needs of the people are satisfied, they must pay first attention to the problem of food and clothing and the promotion of peace and security, and later on to their pet fads and fancies like prohibition, khadi and so on.

"What is the use of tinkering with material problems and tackling moral questions? Where was the urgency and the hurry for total prohibition in the Province? Other provinces in India which are noted for even extreme types of patriotism are proceeding slowly in the matter of prohibition. Why should Madras rush in where other provinces have feared to tread? We may add a feather to our cap, but our purse is empty. Time will show the extent of our lack of wisdom. Even as it is, things are as bad as they can be. The dismal, depressing, deficit budget is the result of giving fads top priority, instead of facts. It is a hard fact that the prohibition experiment is costing our Province a loss of Rs. 18 crores and imposing a burden of another Rs. 1 crore for maintenance of prohibition staff, etc. After all, it is a minority, not even 10 per cent of the population, that is addicted to drink. Why

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should the people as a whole be penalised in the shape of additional taxes? Why should more burdens be added to the already overloaded camel's back?

"Is India being made safe for freedom, or for Communism? If budgets like that presented by Mr. Gopala Reddi are to be the order of the day all over India, and if taxes similar to that introduced and enhanced here are to be levied in other parts of India, Communists can take a holiday and relax in quiet confidence and satisfaction. What the Mahatma won for India will go as a gift to Moscow. The Government can increase the Police force and enlarge the jails; they can imprison only persons, but not ideas. And Communist ideas thrive on the soil of unjust and unnecessary taxation, and Mr. Gopala Reddi is providing good manure to Communism by his bad taxes.

"I may also be permitted to state that the prohibition experiment—I persist in calling it an experiment, because it has never succeeded anywhere, and will never succeed even in India—has already proved to be a failure. Missionary friends of mine from Kurnool and Cuddapah tell me that every village in those districts is a centre of illicit distillation of arrack, and that such illicit distillation is going on within the knowledge of Police officials, some of whom are amenable to illegal gratification, in addition to the products of illicit distillation. Things are going on openly, but here we get quite a different picture. Prohibition can be said to be a success only if we use the language of camouflage. Paper records may make it appear a success, but facts—hard facts—tell a different tale.

"Similarly, in regard to another subject of vital importance, namely, Harijan welfare, appearances show one thing, but facts tell a different story. We all know what a great champion of Harijan uplift Mahatmaji was and how interested his followers are in promoting the welfare and advancement of the Scheduled Castes. All honour and glory to them. Our Government here also deserve to be congratulated on setting apart one crore of rupees for Harijan uplift. We all felt that the millenium had come. But what happened? The one crore was on paper, and nothing came to the people. Some one said 'If wishes were horses, beggars would be princes.' If allotments on paper can be taken to be achievements in the sphere of Harijan welfare, then Harijans may be said to be in the forefront of progress.

"Mahatma Gandhi said in September 1932 that untouchability should be abolished. It took 16 years for that abolition to take place. The Removal of Civil Disabilities Act and the Temple Entry Authorization Act placed on the Statute Book in 1947 have removed untouchability on paper."

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—"May I enquire where the Hon. Minister for Harijan Uplift is?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"He is suffering from head-ache."

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SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM :—“ If progress is to be achieved by paper reforms and paper grants, the Harijan community in South India is most fortunate, for it has these in abundance.

“ These facts may not be palatable to the powers that be who may not like to be told the truth about how they are carrying out the great Mahatma's desire to elevate the Scheduled Castes, to whom he gave a new name and wanted to give a new status. New reforms have been introduced, but the old status still continues, and will continue, so long as the authorities do not do their duty by the Harijans in as full a measure as the circumstances of the case require.

“ I should like to take for instance the question of free education for Harijan students from primary classes up to College. This concession has been given only for a period of ten years as though, in ten years' time, the disabilities of centuries will vanish away! I want to suggest to the Government that ten years is too short a period for the educational uplift of the Harijans; ten years will pass in no time. Mahatmaji wanted untouchability to be removed and you took 16 years to carry out his wishes—on paper! How much more time is required to uplift a community which had been for centuries declared as untouchable and debarred from admission to schools? I would urge on the Government the desirability of having this concession extended at least for 50 years.

“ In this connexion, I should like to recall here what the Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi said last year in reply to my criticisms on the budget. He said on 6th March 1948, exactly a year ago,—I am reading from the official report of his speech :

‘ If things take time and if schemes are not ready, certainly you cannot blame the Government because things are not done overnight. At the same time, I may ask Mr. Jagannatham why the Harijans should claim repeatedly any preferential claim? I am not saying this in any spirit of retrogression. After listening to the speech of Mr. Jagannatham, though I claim myself to be a good friend of Harijans, whether as an individual or as forming part of a Government, I wish to ask him why the Harijans should claim such preferential treatment. Are they now a superior class, or an inferior class, especially after untouchability has been removed? . . . There is a tendency among people even after untouchability has been removed, to put forward their social disabilities and claim preferential treatment . . . Sometimes with regard to these claims, we have to think and ponder over whether the Harijans are claiming too much or not. I think the Harijans must, sooner or later, learn to sail along with other economically backward communities without unnecessarily pushing forward their claims in season and out of season. ’

“ I must crave the indulgence of you, Mr. Chairman, and the House for reading at some considerable length these remarks of the Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi, but I think those remarks deserve to be quoted as revealing the present-day mentality of some caste Hindu leaders. They say, untouchability has been abolished. Abolished

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where? Abolished by law! You go to the slums, you go to the rural parts—you see untouchability not abolished but actively working. It is not by saying that things happen, but by doing. God said ‘ Let there be light, and there was light ’ and Mr. Gopala Reddi said ‘ Let untouchability go ’—but nothing has happened. Untouchability says ‘ So long as you sit tight on the one crore allotted to Harijan welfare, so long as you are chalking out five-year plans and ten-year plans, and so long as you think I can be snuffed out of existence by a mere Bill, so long will I refuse to take an “ Outpass ”. ’

“ I should like to cite a number of specific instances wherein the legitimate claims of Harijans—and all their claims have been reasonable and legitimate—have been ignored by the Government, but for want of time, I shall refer to only one. Members of my community at Malayandipatnam village in Pollachi taluk, Coimbatore district, asked for house-sites to put up huts at their own cost. The Government asked them to form themselves into a co-operative society and contribute half the cost of the sites. The society was formed and a sum of about Rs. 2,000 was collected and deposited. But the Government share of Rs. 2,000 is yet to be paid! Three years have gone, but the payment is still to come. I now understand that this amount has to come from the one-crore fund. I do not know when the Government would come to a decision.

“ One other matter to which I should like to invite the attention of the Government is that of free scholarship concession given to Harijan students.

“ This reminds me of the recent decision of the Government in regard to the Harijan Welfare Directorate. A new post of Honorary Director has been created, and Dewan Bahadur V. Bhashyam Ayyangar has been appointed to the post. I have great respect and regard for Mr. Bhashyam Ayyangar. He is a sincere and genuine friend of the Harijans. Nobody can say anything against him personally or against his record of public service, particularly his devoted service to the Harijans. But the feeling among Harijans is that it would have been better if a younger gentleman, preferably an official belonging to the Harijan community was appointed Director. Time is most precious to us, and Harijan welfare is a subject for which the wholetime attention of a young and able official who would be able to drive his points home is necessary. There are a number of Harijan Collectors and Deputy Collectors, any one of whom could have been chosen with advantage. It is a great pity that Government have not cared to devote serious attention in regard to this important matter.

“ Coming to the Harijan full fee concessions, circulars have been issued to the heads of the institutions to grant full fee concessions to all Harijan students coming under rule 92 of the Madras Educational Rules. But still there is a certain amount of hesitation and reluctance on the part of private managements to do so, and I should say they are very rightly apprehensive about the compensation which they would get. I am told that the fees

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foregone by these concessions are to be compensated only a year later. For instance, the fees foregone in 1948-49 are to be paid to the schools sometime in February or March of 1950. How can the private managements discharge their monthly commitments if Rs. 4,000 or Rs. 5,000 are thus locked up elsewhere? I remember that under the scheme of labour scholarship the labour fee concessions were granted then and there within the financial year. The managements had no fear of losing anything and they were therefore enthusiastic in recommending students for these concessions. Since we are told that the money for Harijan fee concession is to be met from the Harijan Uplift Fund, why should it not be made available to the managements within the close of the financial year?

"With regard to the salary scales of teachers of all categories, I desire to emphasize the well-known fact that teachers are the most ill-paid of our public servants. An ordinary postman gets somewhere about Rs. 70 per month. A railway coolie gets about as much. If the present salary scales of teachers continue any longer, it is feared that not only the training institutions will have to close down, but even some of the schools will have to be wound up for want of teachers. I am reliably informed that several schools, both aided and board, have been carrying on for the last three or four years without adequate staff. I would like to know what the Minister has done with schools which have not granted dearness allowance at Government rates. The teachers have not been asking for bonuses like employees in commercial firms. All they have been asking for is for a decent scale of salary, dearness allowance and house-rent allowance, which are given to other employees."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"May I ask where the Hon. Minister for Education is?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"He is suffering from head-ache."

SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM :—"I have heard our Minister's explanation of the language question several times on the floor of the Assembly. When I was discussing with a city headmaster this question, he told me that resolutions passed by the Headmasters' Association, Madras City, have not been considered at all either by the Board of Secondary Education or by the Educational department. In all these matters the Government would be well advised to formulate the policies and principles which will be largely acceptable to at least the experts in the field. It also appears that in view of the unsettled future of English, the Headmasters' Association recommended that English should be taught in I Form whereas the Government have decided that English should be started in II Form. The formula suggested by the Headmasters' Association regarding regional language, and second language is quite sound and should be acceptable to the Government."

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"Coming to the question of adult education, the programme chalked out by the Government may be considered to be satisfactory, but it should be borne in mind that the remuneration of Rs. 8 per mensem is too meagre to attract willing workers. Social workers may be available for a month or two. For sustained work, better men should be attracted with more liberal grants."

"I wanted to refer to a number of other things, but for want of time I have to desist. I want to close by requesting the Government once again not to turn their deaf ear to the grievances of Harijans, but to make a sincere attempt to remedy them and be true to the principles for which the Father of the Nation lived and died."

"I thank you, Sir."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Tuesday the 8th March 1949.

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 227 asked by Dr. V. K. John at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 7th March 1949, page 278 supra.]

(a) —

		Number of institutions.	Number on rolls.
1 Number of primary schools		36,575	3,850,748
2 Number of middle Schools		212	42,946
3 Number of high schools		763	434,307
4 Number of Colleges (Arts)		55	33,894
Do. (Training)		7	484

(b) —

	Government.		Catholics.		Non-Catholics.		Other agencies.	
	Number.	Strength.	Number.	Strength.	Number.	Strength.	Number.	Strength.
Schools—								
Primary ..	1,709	129,344	1,535	*	4,054	*	29,277	3,521,404 †
Middle ..	19	2,483	96	*	130	*	677	454,781 †
High ..	53	19,989						
Colleges—								
Arts ..	12	7,195	9	6,222	6	4,270	28	15,207
Training.	3	297	3	122	1	45	..	..

* Separate figures are not available.

† Includes scholars other than in Government institutions including those under Catholic and non-Catholic institutions.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 230 asked by Sri Mothey Narayana Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 7th March 1949, page 281 supra.]

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS (INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY) DEPARTMENT.

PRESS NOTE NO. 266, DATED THE 30TH NOVEMBER 1948.

[Production and sale of khadi by private dealers.]

In July 1948, the Government announced their decision not to allow private producers and dealers to function in the khadi field beyond 31st December 1948. Several representations have been made by organizations engaged in the production and distribution of khadi that they may be allowed to continue to operate in the khadi field subject to any restrictions that might be imposed by

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the Government or by the All-India Spinners' Association. The Government have carefully examined these representations and have come to the conclusion that to keep the spinning wheel plying in areas where the Government or the All-India Spinners' Association cannot now operate, the only course open is to allow, by a system of licensing, a small number of private producers and dealers to function, subject to certain restrictions for the purpose of ensuring the genuineness of the khadi produced and the payment of a living wage to the artisans concerned. In order to avoid unhealthy competition and to facilitate inspection and scrutiny, the activities of each producer or dealer will be restricted to a specified locality. It is therefore hereby announced for the information of all concerned that the Madras Khadi Control Order, 1947, will now be revised to give effect to these decisions.

[Issued by the Director of Information and Publicity (in charge).]

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MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DEBATES

OFFICIAL REPORT

TUESDAY, 8TH MARCH 1949

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, the 8th March 1949.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

* 231-A Q.—DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Sir, with your permission can this question be taken up tomorrow? The Hon. Minister agrees.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ Supplementary questions or the question itself? The list of questions for tomorrow would have been already printed.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ Supplementary questions may be taken up tomorrow, Sir. I shall give the answer to-day.”

Amounts collected and contributions made by the Central Government.

* 231-A Q.—DR. V. K. JOHN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) (i) the amount collected by the Central Government from this Province, under various heads, during the last year and the current year; and (ii) the contributions made by the Central Government to this Government under various heads for the same periods; and

(b) to give a comparative statement of collections and contributions made by the Central Government from and to other Provinces during the same periods?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ (a) & (b) The information required is furnished in the statements ^a appended to this answer.”

The Co-operative Central Stores, Vizagapatnam, etc.

* 232 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO (on behalf of Sri P. Virahadraswami) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of business turned out by the Wholesale Co-operative Central Stores of Vizagapatnam, East Godavari and West Godavari districts in the years 1945, 1946 and 1947 in different articles;

(b) what is the profit or loss during those years;

^a Short notice question.

^b Printed as Appendix I on pages 422-423 infra.

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(c) whether dividend was distributed to the shareholders during those years; and, if so, how much;

(d) the amounts due to the stores and from whom; and

(e) what steps the directors have taken to recover the dues?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—“(a) to (e) A statement* containing the information in respect of Vizianagaram Central Stores and the Godavari Central Stores is laid on the table of the House. The Godavari Stores caters to the needs of both East and West Godavari districts and there is no separate central stores for the West Godavari district.”

The Provincial Co-operative Council.

* 233 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have constituted a Provincial Co-operative Council;

(b) who the members of the Council are;

(c) what the functions of the Council are;

(d) whether the preparation of projects of economic development with a view to their implementation by co-operative methods is one of the functions;

(e) whether the Council has met since its constitution; and, if so, what the projects are which have been discussed; and

(f) whether the Government have passed orders on the recommendations of the Council; and, if so, what they are?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—“(a) to (f) The answer is printed and placed on the table of the House.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“With reference to clauses (c) and (d), may I know, Sir, whether the members of the Provincial Advisory Council are free to suggest points or schemes for the consideration of the Council?”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—“Yes, Sir, they can suggest any schemes or plans.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know whether this Council has considered the recommendations of the Registrars' Conference held recently in Madras?”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—“No, Sir.”

Constitution of certain advisory boards.

* 234 Q.—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether advisory boards have been constituted in respect of (i) the Reconstituted Milk Factory, (ii) the Kerala Soap Factory and (iii) other commercial undertakings of the Government;

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(b) if so, (i) who the members of the boards are, and (ii) what the powers and functions of the board are; and

(c) if the answer to (a) is in the negative, whether the Government have considered the desirability of constituting such advisory boards?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“(a) It is proposed to constitute advisory boards in respect of the Reconstituted Milk Factory, the Kerala Soap Institute and certain other commercial undertakings of the Government.

“(b) The Boards will be Advisory Bodies. The members have not yet been nominated.

“(c) The question does not arise.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“The Retrenchment Committee suggested the closure of the Reconstituted Milk Factory. May I know the decision of the Government in the matter, Sir?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“The decision to constitute advisory boards was made on the suggestion of the Committee referred to by my hon. Friend. As regards the other point, I should like a separate question to be put, Sir.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—“With regard to the Kerala Soap Factory, in view of the finding of the Economic Planning Committee that the Department of Industries is not equipped to run the factory on a commercial basis, may I know what the Government propose to do to convert the factory and run it on a commercial basis?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“I do not accept the first proposition of the hon. Member. So far as running it as a commercial concern is concerned, it is being run as a commercial concern in the sense that the Government looks to the manufacture and sale of goods also and not merely to the training of apprentices. If my hon. Friend is further interested in the matter, I may say that we have made a profit and a decent profit.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know if the accounts of the Factory are maintained on a commercial basis?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“I take it that it is so, Sir.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“It is the usual practice to have the audited statement of accounts presented to the House along with the Budget, some years ago, during the time of the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms. May I know whether this will be done?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“I think, Sir, we have already moved quite a long distance from the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms. Leaving aside that point, if hon. Members feel that such a thing is necessary now, the question will be examined.”

* Printed as Appendix II on pages 424-426 infra.

b Printed as Appendix III on pages 428-430 infra.

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The Zamindari Abolition Bill.

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

(a) what steps are proposed to be taken to give effect to the provisions of the Zamindari Abolition Bill;

(b) whether it is proposed to pay compensation in cash or bonds;

(c) whether the consent of the concerned persons is necessary if the payment of compensation is to be in the shape of bonds; and

(d) what steps the Government propose to take to resolve the deadlock in regard to payment of compensation?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“(a) to (d) The whole question will be considered after the assent of the Governor-General to the Bill has been received.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“May I know, Sir, whether expert legal opinion is against the payment of compensation in bonds?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“I do not have expert legal opinion with me. I may answer straightaway that if my hon. Friend wants any expert legal opinion and if he specifies the matter on which he wants the legal opinion, we shall be able to furnish him the information if he puts a separate question.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“After the Bill becomes law after it has been assented to by the Governor-General, how will the Government be able to pay Rs. 17½ crores if it cannot be paid in bonds?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“I will draw the hon. Member's attention to section 40 of the Act which relates to the manner of payment of compensation, the rules to be framed by the Government for the purpose, subject to the approval of the Provincial Legislative Assembly.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“Will the Government, after the assent of the Governor-General is received be competent to frame rules making it possible for them to pay compensation in bonds?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“It is a question which cannot be answered now. The powers vested in the Government under the Act passed by the Legislature recently are mentioned in section 40 to which I referred just now.”

Assignment of land to political sufferers.

* 236 Q.—SRI N. SANKARA REDDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) how many political sufferers have applied for assignment of land and how many have been granted; and

(b) what steps have been taken to assign land to all the approved applicants?

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“(a) & (b) Till the end of December 1948, 18,031 political sufferers had applied for the grant of land and 1,945 applicants were granted lands either permanently or provisionally. Non-official Advisory Committees have been constituted to assist and advise Collectors of districts in dealing with applications from political sufferers for assignment of land.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“May I know how many people have applied from the district of Bellary and how many have been granted?”

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

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“May I know what is the criterion for the allotment of land to political sufferers? What is the basis, Sir? Are they granted only to political sufferers of certain sections?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“The question to what classes of political sufferers lands will be granted has been answered repeatedly by the Government. An order also has been issued in the matter.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—“In view of the fact that only a small number of political sufferers have been granted lands and the difficulty experienced in finding more lands for the rest of the applicants, would the Government consider the desirability of paying a cash bonus to the applicants in lieu of lands?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“We are trying to see as far as possible that lands are allotted to them. Certain steps are being taken to see that compact blocks are also given to these political sufferers. The question of cash bonus cannot be considered now till we find that we are not able to assign lands at all.”

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“Does the Hon. Minister mean that in future all political sufferers will get cash payments?”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“Who said so? He did not say so.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“May I know, Sir, who is a political sufferer?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“One who has suffered for political freedom, for the emancipation of the country.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“If a Muslim went to jail when he was a member of the Congress and later on became a Member of the Muslim League, will he be entitled to this concession as a political sufferer?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“I have already said that certain rules have been framed. The type of person that my hon. Friend the Leader of the Opposition refers to will come under that provision.”

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K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Will the Hon. Minister allot him lands if he has joined the Muslim League and then left the Muslim League and joined some other party? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" It has nothing to do with the question of a person leaving a party or joining a party. It is purely a question of a person doing some service in the cause of the country. According to the Government Order already issued, if a person has suffered as per the orders passed, to what party he now belongs is not going to be looked into by the Government."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Is membership of the Muslim League service to the country? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Not according to this Government Order that has been passed, Sir."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Is it a fact, Sir, that the leader of the black shirts movement and the Dravida Khazhagam has applied for grants of lands as a political sufferer? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I have no information with me, Sir. If he comes within the provisions of the order that has been already passed, there is nothing wrong in his applying for lands."

SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" May I know what the Government have done with regard to the request of the Advisory Committee to reserve reclaimed lagoon lands in Kurnool district for assignment to political sufferers? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I have no information with me, Sir. I suggest to the hon. Member to put a definite question about this matter. This is only a general question."

SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Will the Government at least consider the question favourably when it comes to them? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" The question will be considered on its merits."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Is it a fact, Sir, that out of 1,945 cases the majority are people with means, while the remaining people who are suffering even for want of food have not been granted lands? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" It is not a question of persons having means. It is a question of the Advisory Committee and the Collector assigning lands which are available. The figures relate to the number of people who have been assigned lands. We have not gone into the question of the means of the person who has applied for lands. I do not think there is any question of priority of the man without means over the man with means. It is decided locally by the Collector and the Advisory Committee."

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SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Is it a fact, Sir, that mostly in the districts, the applications of people who are influential were only looked into and that the applications of the poor people were not looked into at all? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" What my hon. Friend has stated is wrong, Sir."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Sir, when two political sufferers apply for the grant of the same land, what are the considerations that are taken into in allotting it to them? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I believe the discretion of the local officers is taken into consideration, Sir."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Are the Government in a position to ensure that the political sufferers who are granted the lands will be able to cultivate them themselves and raise crops thereon? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" It is hoped, Sir, that they will be able to put the lands into best use for themselves and at the same time help us in the Grow More Food Campaign."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Sir, will the political sufferers be able to secure bulls and other things required for the cultivation of the 5 acres of land allotted to them and raise crops thereon? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" That is a general proposition about which I cannot say anything, Sir. I do not know about the capacity of the applicants, nor their means and resources so as to say, whether they will be able to cultivate these lands or not, and I do not think it is worthwhile to collect such information in every case, Sir."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Will the Government consider the desirability of organizing co-operative farming by allotting 25 acres to five or six people, instead of granting 5 acres to each individual? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" If the political sufferers join together and organise a co-operative society for the purpose of collective farming, then Sir, the Government will have no objection to grant them larger areas of land."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether in order to enable the political sufferers to cultivate these lands, the Government would give all the necessary facilities in the shape of loans, for the purchase of bulls, seeds and other agricultural implements? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" There are certain provisions under the Agriculturists Loan Act, which can be taken advantage of by these people to get loan from the Government for the purpose."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, in view of the fact, that most of the lands awarded to these political sufferers

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may not be worth anything at present unless they are brought under cultivation, will the Government consider the desirability of assisting the real cultivators with loans, either in cash or in kind, in order to enable them to cultivate these lands? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" If individual cases are brought to the notice of the Government, they will be considered on their merits and given whatever facilities are required for the purpose."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Sir, when grant of lands are made to these political sufferers, may I know, whether any conditions are attached thereon, that is to say, whether these lands should be cultivated by the grantees themselves and whether they should not be assigned or transferred to other people? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I believe, Sir, that they are not allowed to transfer or sell these lands to others, but so far as the question of cultivation is concerned, I think they are free to cultivate them themselves or co-operate with others."

The Silent Valley Forest.

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

(a) whether it is a fact that what is known as the Silent Valley Forest is still in the hands of the lease-holder;

(b) what the terms of the lease are;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Government cannot terminate the lease, call for fresh tenders and lease it out afresh;

(d) what the income to Government from this forest has been since it was leased out (yearwar);

(e) what the volume and varieties of timber exploited till now are; and

(f) whether it is a fact that the income to Government is comparatively small compared to the prices obtained by the leaseholder?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (a) The Silent Valley Forest is not in the hands of the leaseholder, but the lease relating to the exploitation of timber in the forest is in his favour.

" (b) A copy ^a of the agreement containing the terms of the lease is placed on the table of the House.

" (c) The lease is for a period of 15 years from 4th March 1947. The question of calling for fresh tenders or leasing it out afresh does not arise now.

" (d) The income to Government during 1947-48 was Rs. 15,034-7-0 and that during 1948-49 is Rs. 14,806-5-0.

^a Printed as Appendix IV on pages 430-438 infra.

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" (e) A statement giving the particulars asked for is placed on the table of the house.

" (f) This is the general impression. The Government have, however, no information regarding the prices obtained by the leaseholder. It is not, therefore, possible to say whether or not the income derived by Government is comparatively small."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I invite the attention of the Hon. Minister to clause 43 of the Lease Deed, and may I know, whether the District Forest Officer had, at any time, found it necessary to warn the contractor for violation of any of the conditions of the lease? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Yes, Sir."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether the District Forest Officer has made a report at any time to the Government asking them for further instructions and as to what action he should take in view of the violation of certain conditions of the lease? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, only one instance was brought to the notice of the Government and that was that the advance that was required to be maintained in deposit with the District Forest Officer, fell short at one time, and he wanted to know what to do in the matter."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know, what is the procedure followed in granting forest licences to contractors? Are they given by public auctions or by private sale? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" In this case, it was not given by public auction, but by negotiation, Sir."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Was it a matter of favouritism shown to a particular person by the Government in this case? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I think, the hon. Member knows the whole thing. This subject has been debated here many times."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Did the Government ascertain the income that would be derived from the forest, by the licensee before the licence fee was fixed? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The income of the licensee cannot be ascertained before the licence fee was fixed, Sir. It depends upon the exploitation of timber and the price that he would get from the sale of timber in the market."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Did the Government ascertain the quantity of timber that could be obtained every year from the forest and the price that it could fetch and the profit one could make on its sale? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" We have estimated the amount of timber that is available to be exploited

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from the forest. But on the question of profit that one could make out the sale of timber, I think those who gave the contract must have had that in mind, in fixing the licence fees."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Will the Government hereafter at least see that licences are given by public auction and not by private negotiations and save the complaint that Government are favouring somebody at the expense of public revenues? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, as soon as this Ministry came into office, they have issued an order that the sale of forests should be made by public auction only."

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—" Have the Government recently sold some timber from a forest in the neighbourhood of the Silent Valley included in the lease? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Yes, Sir. Some trees which were felled on the borders of the Silent Valley were sold in public auction recently and also some other trees which were felled in the Silent Valley before the lease was given had been sold in public auction."

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—" Did the Government get a higher price for such trees than what is obtained by leasing the Silent Valley Forest to the contractor? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" A very much higher rate, Sir, than what is provided for in the terms of the lease deed."

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—" May I know, Sir, what is the difference between these two rates? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, in the case of rosewood, the lease is fixed at Re. 1 per cubic foot, whereas in the public auction held about six months ago, it fetched about Rs. 7½ to Rs. 8 per cubic foot. For other trees, a rate of 4 to 6 annas has been fixed in the lease deed, whereas in the public auction, we sold them at the rate of Rs. 1-8-0 and Rs. 1-14-0 per cubic foot."

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—" Will the Government be pleased to revise the rates in respect of this contract at least hereafter with reference to the price fetched at the public auction? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" After the expiry of the present lease, we will certainly revise the rates, Sir."

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—" Is there no method of avoiding or revising these terms in the present contract, which is against public interests? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" That is a matter for the Legal Pandits, Sir, and I cannot say anything about it now."

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, in view of the fact that the income to Government is so low as compared to the quantity of timber obtained from the forest and in view of the higher prices which the Government themselves got by selling them in public auction, before and after the lease was given, will the Government have this lease deed examined again to find out if it is possible for them to terminate the present lease, so that the Government may not lose public revenues from out of the forest every year? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Certainly, Sir."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know, Sir, who the licensees are? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The name of the licensee is, ' Hope Timber Syndicate ', Sir."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, who are the partners of that syndicate? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The partners of the Hope Timber Syndicate, are, the Rajah of Chellapalli and one Mr. Gangathara Rao."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know, Sir, whether this is the first contract that they have entered into in their career? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I have no information, Sir."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Will the Government make an inquiry into how these two gentlemen found that syndicate and got this licence from the Government and whether they had any transactions with the previous Congress Ministry? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I am sure, Sir, these gentlemen had nothing to do with the previous Congress Ministry, because the Hope Timber Syndicate came into existence only in 1942 or 1943 or so."

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—" May I know, Sir, whether they were having contract with the Government in any other matter? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Yes, Sir, they were having some contracts with the Government in regard to certain military supplies of timber before."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Will the Government make an inquiry into the history and circumstances under which the lease in question was entered into and place the report of that inquiry before this House? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I do not think that there is anything for an inquiry into this matter, Sir."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Did the Government know that by entering into this contract, they are going to lose some lakhs of rupees of revenue from the forest? "

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, it is provided in the Forest Code that the lease of forest lands, or forest produce or even exploitation of timber from the forest, could be made either by private negotiation or sold in public auction and many contracts have taken place like that and there is nothing wrong about it, Sir."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" If later on, the syndicate did not place the amount of deposit, as required by the terms of the lease deed, why did not the District Forest Officer stop them from felling trees and terminate the contract under clause 38 of the lease deed? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" It was not a case where the lessee did not pay the amounts or failed to fulfil certain terms of the contract. The contractor must always have a deposit of Rs. 10,000 with the District Forest Officer, as security, and it was reported that when the contractor was away, this amount fell short by Rs. 5,000, which the District Forest Officer asked the company to make that up, and that was immediately made up. Therefore, there was no case of a breach of the terms of contract, Sir."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Will the Government consider the desirability of introducing legislation under which such destructive contracts cannot be entered into by the Government? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" There is no necessity for any particular legislation in the matter, Sir. It is open to the Government to give a contract or not, by negotiation or by public auction."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Will the Government investigate into the possibility of cancelling this contract? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I shall certainly approach the hon. Leader of the Opposition for any legal advice, if we decide to examine the matter again, Sir."

SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Will the Government be pleased to institute an inquiry into all the leases given by the Government to find out whether they are deriving proper income from the forests? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, almost all the leases previously given were only for the exploitation of timber from the forests and so there is no question of going into those leases, and since March 1947 there has been no lease by negotiation."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether the District Forest Officer was competent to enter into a lease on behalf of the Government."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I think, he is, Sir."

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DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Was expert advice taken, Sir, before that contract was entered into? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The Chief Conservator of Forests was consulted by the then Government before the contract was entered into."

Appeals from High Court Sessions.

* 238 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state with reference to the Press Communiqué issued about appeals from High Court Sessions under section 411-A of the Criminal Procedure Code, published in the 'Hindu' on 4th December 1948—

(a) the amount of cost involved in hearing, by the Full Bench of the Madras High Court, the objection raised by the Public Prosecutor of Madras about the maintainability of the appeal;

(b) the amount of fees paid to the Advocate-General and the Public Prosecutor in connexion with the hearing by the Full Bench in the above matter; and

(c) the total of the other miscellaneous charges in the above connexion?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (a) to (c) A special fee of Rs. 1,500 was sanctioned to the Advocate-General in connexion with the hearing of the objection raised by the Public Prosecutor, Madras. No other special expenditure was incurred by the Government in regard to the hearing of the objection." 11.30 a.m.

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that this right of appeal from the judgment of the High Court Sessions was the result of much agitation and that the section was introduced by the Central Legislature? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I do not know, Sir, whether there was much agitation or not. This question was dealt with at the time of the Advisers' Government and the amendment was there."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Did not the local Government as well as the High Court recommend the inclusion of a provision like section 411-A of the Criminal Procedure Code providing for appeals against the judgments in High Court Sessions? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Consultation with this Government or with the High Court cannot make a law valid if it was invalid otherwise. Objection was taken by the Public Prosecutor before the Sessions Court, the Sessions Judge referred it to a Division Bench and it referred the matter to a Full Bench. The Government has nothing to do with it."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Instead of asking the Public Prosecutor to drop this objection as the matter has not risen elsewhere

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in India, why did the present Government instruct the Advocate-General to support the Public Prosecutor in the untenable objection, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" My hon. Friend may think, Sir, that the objection is untenable but the Advocate-General and the Public Prosecutor still think that their position was right."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Do the Advocate-General and the Public Prosecutor still think that their objection is tenable in spite of the decision of the Full Bench of the Madras High Court, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Whatever may be their objection, the decision of the Full Bench is final. That does not mean they cannot hold their opinions."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Has any other High Court held a contrary view, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I am not aware, Sir."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Is it proposed to carry the matter further, Sir, because the Advocate-General and the Public Prosecutor do not agree that the High Court is right?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" No, Sir. We have not been advised like that."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Is it not open to the Law Officers of the Government to carry the matter further, Sir, where they feel that a different interpretation is possible? Are they not entitled to it?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Certainly, Sir, it will be wrong on the part of the Government to interfere with what the law officers feel."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Will the Government make a rule to the effect that where a law officer wants a particular question of law to be taken up to the High Court, the Government should not interfere with the opinion of the law officer and that he must be allowed to do it?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" There is no necessity for a rule, Sir, because there has been no occasion where the Government have interfered like that."

Women Magistrates.

* 239 Q.—MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government have considered the requests made on several occasions that Women Magistrates be given opportunities to preside at Juvenile Courts?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" No requests as such have been made to the Government so far."

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" The policy of the Government is to make these appointments according to qualifications and suitability irrespective of sex. The hon. Member is informed that there is no discrimination against women as such."

MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that I made representations to the Hon. Minister in this matter and also put a question a long time ago and it has only now been answered for the first time?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, what I said was that there was no request as such. In October 1947 and in January 1948, Mrs. Cluwala asked two questions regarding presidentship of lady magistrates in Juvenile Courts. Her first question was ' whether it is a fact that though there are three ladies in the city, with experience of 12 years, 8 years and 6 years respectively in the work of Juvenile Courts, they have not had an opportunity to preside; whether in other parts of this Province other than in the city lady magistrates are empowered to preside over Juvenile Courts and whether the Government have received any representation in this connexion. The answer to the first question was in the affirmative and the other two in the negative. The question was not answered as it lapsed consequent on the prorogation of the Council."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Do not the Government agree that ladies are more competent to deal with juvenile delinquents?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I am perfectly willing to agree, Sir, that they are competent more than anybody else not only in the Juvenile Courts but in other courts also for that matter."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Do not the Government believe in equality of the sexes, Sir, and if so, why not they appoint as many women as honorary magistrates, Sir, as there are men?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The question of the equality of sexes does not depend upon the belief of the Government, Sir. The Constitution of India as it has been framed recognizes the equality of the sexes for all public purposes."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Are there any women magistrates in Government service, Sir, apart from the honorary magistrates?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Not to my recollection, Sir."

MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—" May I ask, Sir, that at least now after answering this question, the Hon. Minister will consider my request?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Certainly, Sir. I must say that there is absolutely no discrimination because of sex. We will certainly consider, Sir."

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DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Will the Government consider the appointment of an equal number of women as honorary magistrates, Sir? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I think the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition must give an opportunity to women in the House. He is monopolising all the questions. No more questions, Mrs. Clubwala? ”

MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—“ No, Sir.”

The Veerasaiva College, Bellary.

* 240 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the authorities of ‘Veerasaiva College, Bellary,’ have decided to close the institution from the next academical year commencing from June 1949; and

(b) whether the Government have taken the necessary steps to establish a Government College in Bellary in June 1949?

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

“(a) The Government understand that the management have decided to close down the institution from the next academic year.

“(b) The Bellary Municipal Council has resolved to collect donations from the public to the extent of about Rs. 2 lakhs and has requested the Government to take over the existing Veerasaiva College, Bellary, and run it as a First Grade Government College or to permit the Municipal Council to open and maintain a first grade college. The resolution of the Municipal Council has been received by Government and is under their consideration.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Will the Government see, Sir, that there is no break in the continuity of the college in Bellary and step in and start a college in June next as in the case of Cuddapah? ”

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

“I am unable to say anything more definite than what I have stated. I understand that a deputation from certain gentlemen from Bellary would like to see us after a few days. It will all depend upon what they say and upon the circumstances then obtaining.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ If on an examination it is found that the finances of the Municipal Council do not warrant its undertaking this responsibility, will the Government come forward and start a college? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
“I am unable to say anything definite about it just now, Sir.”

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SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ In this morning's paper I saw a communiqué of the Government, Sir, saying that the Municipal Councils should not undertake collegiate education. That seems to be the policy of the Government. In view of that policy will the Government kindly step in and take over the college and run it as was being done before 1892, which fact I have mentioned in my speech on the Budget? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
“ 1892 is a very long time back, Sir, to look to. This matter will be considered on receipt of the deputation.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Is want of finance one of the reasons for the closing down of the institution by the authorities concerned? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
“ Yes, Sir.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Did not the Government go to the help of the authorities with the necessary finance? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
“ The Government did go, Sir, and offered a grant of Rs. 50,000 for the building programme for this year. And I personally promised to consider sympathetically any such claims. But in spite of that the college authorities have thought fit to close the college for some other reasons.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that for the building plans Rs. 4 lakhs are required by the college authorities, and that is the reason which my hon. Friend, Dr. John wanted to know? That being the case and seeing that the aided institutions.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The Hon. Minister says that he cannot say anything further on that now and that he is awaiting a deputation of which the hon. Member may be one.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ I only want an assurance, Sir, that there will be no break in the continuity of the college and that the Government will step in, because there are a number of buildings which they can take possession of or acquire for the college? ”

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

“ I will certainly use my good offices to get one of those buildings if the hon. Member or any Committee comes forward to run an aided college.”

SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—“ May I know what help the Committee or the Management wanted from the Government, Sir? ”

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

“ They had a building programme costing about Rs. 3 lakhs and they wanted a half grant from the Government. In the present financial circumstances the Government could not give such an amount. They have now fixed a limit of

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Rs. 50,000 for second grade colleges and Rs. 75,000 for first grade colleges. The Government said that as a first instalment they would give Rs. 50,000 this year.

Financing Co-operative Housing.

* 241 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Firka Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have any plan with regard to financing co-operative housing;

(b) whether, in view of the large amounts required to meet the growing demands from co-operative housing societies, the Government have under consideration any proposal to provide necessary funds through the Provincial Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank;

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative, what methods are under contemplation to make it possible for the Central Land Mortgage Bank to raise the requisite funds; and

(d) whether other methods for raising requisite funds for co-operative housing from public or private trusts and from insurance companies are also under the consideration of the Government?

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“(a) Co-operative Housing Schemes are at present financed by the grant of State loans. The loans are charged interest at half a per cent over the borrowing rate of Government and are repayable in about 20 years.

“(b) No, Sir.

“(c) In view of answer to clause (b) above this question does not arise.

“(d) A proposal to constitute a Central Building Society for raising funds by the issue of debentures to the public is under consideration.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government have made any efforts to secure a loan from the Central Government for financing the housing schemes?”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“The Government have got a loan from the Central Government, Sir, out of which Rs. 1 crore is set apart for building purposes.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“May I know, Sir, whether there is any plan for the construction of houses in the city and outside or whether they are groping in the dark?”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“There is no question of groping in the dark, Sir. The Government are very clear about the need for housing and we are doing whatever we can under the existing circumstances.”

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DR. V. K. JOHN :—“Is there any definite plan that has been drafted by the Government and placed either before the House or the public, Sir?”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“We have sanctioned 83 societies for the mufassal and there is one in Madras. And the construction of houses in the city is in the hands of the Corporation of Madras.”

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—“May I know, Sir, whether there is any scheme for the rural areas?”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“The scheme for the rural areas is under the consideration of the Government, Sir.”

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—“May I know, Sir, whether all these 83 societies are for the benefit of only the urban areas?”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“Yes, Sir.”

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—“May I know, Sir, when the Government will be able to give a scheme for the rural areas?”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“The Government are considering it, Sir, and as soon as they are able to do it, they will give it.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know, Sir, how many houses are likely to be constructed with the help of the Rs. 80 lakhs that is provided this year and the Rs. 1 crore provided for the next year for the urban areas?”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“We have a scheme, Sir, for constructing 5,000 houses in the Madras City at a cost of Rs. 5 crores and on a total we have got a plan for constructing 22,110 houses in the course of the next five years.”

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—“May I know, Sir, how many schemes are under progress?”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“One scheme is under progress, Sir, and the other 83 schemes are under acquisition.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“Have the Government any plan, Sir, for constructing houses for the working classes?”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“There is a plan, Sir, for constructing houses for the working classes.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“Can the Hon. the Minister say how many huts have been completed in pursuance of the building plan?”

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“Recently there was one constructed at a cost of Rs. 3,000 and another at a cost of Rs. 2,000 as samples to go on.”

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have under consideration any scheme for housing their own employees capitalising the House Rent Allowance they are giving them? "

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—" That question is being studied, Sir."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—" Is it a fact, Sir, that people already owning houses are trying to get the help of the co-operative societies for new houses? "

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—" There is no information with the Government, Sir, and if the hon. Member gives any specific instances we will look into them."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know how long will the study take, Sir, regarding the construction of houses for Government employees? "

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—" As long as it is necessary, Sir."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Would it be years or months, Sir? "

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—" It may be months, Sir, or it may be within a year, I think."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The discussion on the Budget will now be resumed."

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

II.—GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1949-50—cont.

11-45
a.m.

* SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—" Mr. President, Sir, gratitude is surest when the benefit was suddenly obtained after a series of disappointments. Malampuzha Project is an instance of what I have just now said. All of us are aware that this project had to jump over so many hurdles. It was in fact given up as lost by some of us several times. Even recently when we were making preparations for the celebration of the red letter day when sanction would be given for the inauguration ceremony, we were rather stunned to hear that a technical obstacle of a very serious nature had come across the way. But somehow or other that obstacle also was got over, and Government were pleased to sanction the Malampuzha Project. I must say that the Finance Minister rightly anticipated that friends in Malabar would be immensely glad on account of the sanction of this project. It is certainly right, and I must therefore take this opportunity of thanking the Government of Madras, the Members of the Cabinet and also other Members. I have been discussing with the Minister for Public Works for a very long time on this subject, and he told us that he would take proper steps and expedite the sanction of this project. Fortunately, for us, he has been able to get sanction even within this year."

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SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" What is the cost of the project, Sir? "

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—" It is three crores and eighty-two lakhs of rupees. It may even go up to Rs. 4 crores. I feel from the question that there is some implication behind. I would answer that. For the last two hundred years—I shall say from the time of the British administration—the necessity for irrigation schemes in Malabar has been felt, and even fifty years ago Malampuzha Project was in a way conceived. A scheme was even ready in 1913. But then a very intelligent Collector of Malabar threw it out saying that the soil in Malabar is porous, as if in other places it is rocky. After that it was only when the Congress Ministry under Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar took up office that this project was taken up and considered. Unfortunately for us that Ministry had to resign soon. Again, it was only after this Ministry came into office, steps were taken to expedite the project. It would have taken a longer time, but for the Government expediting the matter. We are therefore very proud of them, and we are thankful to the Government for what they have done at this time. The Government have sanctioned two other small schemes for Malabar in this year. All this will not suffice. There are a number of projects to be considered by the Government. I hope by this time next year the Government will give us another opportunity of thanking them more wholeheartedly than they have done at this time."

" Sir, I now come to a few aspects of the present Budget. The Budget has been criticized in many ways. I do not want to refer to any of the criticisms. But with regard to one matter I have to say a few words, and that is with reference to taxation. I was surprised to hear yesterday from an hon. Member here that this Congress Government promised no taxation when they took up office. I want to know whether they had, as a corollary, said that there would be no Government also. If you want good Government, if you want the citizens of this country to have all the amenities of civilization and culture, taxation is certainly necessary. The only point to be considered is what articles have to be taxed. Everything and anything should not be taxed. That is the only objection. I feel that Government ought not to levy what is called the Capital Gains Tax. That is to say, if a house is sold—of course after the necessary legislation is passed—25 per cent of the difference between the purchase price at the time it was purchased and the price at which it is sold, is to be paid to Government. This is the tax payable by the purchaser. I think this is a little hard. Moreover, the Government are not going to realize anything out of this taxation, for, as stated by the Finance Minister in his speech, this taxation would be in force only for one year, and it would not be extended further. When that is so, it is possible for people to put off the sale of their property for a year and defeat the object of the Government. Another way to defeat the object of Government is that people will mortgage their property to the fullest extent possible, and wait for the sale to come on next year, so that

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the legislation for the levy of the tax will not operate. Therefore, I say that it will certainly not be possible to effect anything by this sort of taxation. But it may bring some odium on the Government, and therefore it should be avoided.

"The other tax I propose to deal with is tax on food articles. Coconut perhaps is not a food in these parts. I know people in these parts do not take coconut as food, and do not use coconut oil. They will use some other oil. But in Malabar every household must have one or two coconuts every day ordinarily. Coconut oil is used for frying. If coconut is to be taxed, as proposed in the Budget, every household in Malabar will have to pay a heavy tax for the simple reason that they eat coconuts and use coconut oil. Coconut is really food, and therefore it ought not to be taxed. Then, Sir, I come to potatoes. Potato is eaten everywhere. It is said to be a commercial article. I ask, Sir, which is not a commercial article? Even ordinary grain is a commercial article, because the man who produces it does not eat the whole of his produce. He sells it. Therefore, it is a commercial article. Potato is a commercial article. Why should you tax it when once you have exempted? I say it ought to be exempted for ever. The general principle is that we may have to tax many things, but let us not tax those which are necessities of life. In fact, even cloth should not be taxed. There should be less tax on cloth. Cloth, oil, and other food articles should be taxed as little as possible. Therefore, what I suggest to Government is to drop these taxes and to tax other articles which are not necessities of life."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"What are they?"

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON:—"You have taxed many. You have reached the end. Anyhow tax them more. Tax more the motor car, bicycle, and other things to the heaviest extent. There is no harm. But please do not tax food, cloth, and oils (oil used for eating purposes). You may tax oil used for machinery. That is another matter. Food articles should as far as possible be avoided. I do not say that you have deliberately done it. Circumstances may have driven you to that extent. I can understand that. But as far as possible tax on food articles should be avoided."

"As regards sale of immovable property, I would once more say that it is very difficult for you to realize anything. Consider this aspect also. For the sale of immovable property people have to pay stamp-fee to the value of 7 per cent of the value of the property. That is, one will have to pay Rs. 7 as stamp-fee if the value of the property is Rs. 100. Then there is the heavy registration fee. There are other expenses connected with the sale. Then comes this tax—25 per cent of the difference between the purchase price and sale price. Is this not a heavy tax? Will not any man selling property feel that he is being deprived of a large amount by this Government? It is not on account of any fault on his part, but because of inflation, that prices have risen. Look at the consequence of inflation. After some years the price will go down, and the man who has purchased the property would get his value of

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the property. But the man who sells the property and who has to discharge debts, will lose money, and nothing may be left to him after the sale. These are all difficulties. These should be considered when necessary legislation is brought forward.

"Sir, with regard to irrigation and industries. In the case of administration of a country like India where there are not sufficient foodstuffs, Government must really have a complete picture of what they should do not only for this year but for five or ten years together. Your imagination may not go beyond that, because circumstances may so intervene that you may not be able to sustain a complete picture of things for ever. Consider what are the irrigation projects that have to be taken up, and what are the industries to be started. Please have a complete plan and estimate of them, and then with a drive work out what you have estimated and considered. That is to say, in five or ten years in every district all irrigation sources should be tapped, and all industries started. With regard to big irrigation schemes like the Ramapadasagar Project—which will absorb all the steel and cement that is available—we may wait for some time. But even with regard to these schemes, please have a fund styled the Ramapadasagar Project Fund. Every year reserve a certain amount for that project. At the end of a period of ten years, take up the project for work. The money in the fund can be used for the project. This must be done. Otherwise, when you take up the work after 10 years, the same difficulties will still arise, and there is the possibility of the project being postponed again. Let us not do that. Let us start with a fund for the purpose. Do not touch that money. Every year reserve money for the fund. After five or ten years, you may take up the project and bring it to fruition and completion. That is the step which you should take with regard to the major irrigation schemes.

"Even with regard to industry, I do not want the Government to start the industries because our experience of nationalization, as has been pointed out by the Finance Minister, is not very encouraging, because labour has become a source of trouble to the industrialists. If the Government give sufficient encouragement to the industrialists, they will come forward and start the industries. The Provincial Government or the Centre should introduce labour legislation under which the claims of labour should be pressed not through the instrumentality of strikes but by the constitution of proper boards and their awards must be enforced. The grievances of labour must be redressed, at the same time without overthrowing the capitalists or the industrialists. Such a thing is absolutely necessary for the development of industry.

"Then, I want to refer to land legislation. I have nothing to say about the zamindari legislation because it is all over. Hereafter also some legislations are expected. I would request the Government, in this connexion, to see that they do not attempt to create an Utopia in the course of 24 hours or 48 hours. Let us wait and move at a proper and modest pace and then let us see finally if we can create an Utopia. It is impossible because there are so many

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difficulties. First of all, a man considers himself and then only considers another. That is not the case with Utopia where all men are equal and everybody is happy. So, in the coming legislations with regard to land, may I expect that the Government will be slow and will not overthrow the landlords. Let the tenants improve, but let not the landlords die. The Government should not efface the middle classes. There is no harm in depriving the rich of a little portion of what they own for the benefit of the State. But if you wipe out the middle classes by such legislation, then the result will be an encouragement for Communism to spread.

"Then, one word about education. Now, I must thank the Education Minister for one item of good that he did us last year, that is to say, for having given us some money for the Victoria College. But, can I thank him enough? No, because we want so many things to be done. He knows them, but probably he may say he has no money. It may be so but anyhow we want such things. I cannot thank the Government or a particular Minister for those things. We want a Women's First Grade College and we are prepared to co-operate with the Government by contributing a good sum of money for starting such a college. I even now say to the Minister concerned and also the Government to start a Women's First Grade College for which we will contribute, say, not less than 3 lakhs of rupees. But they should not hand over the management to the trustees because it is not always safe. It is better that the Government take up the management and levy from us as much as we can conveniently pay. If this is done, it will be conferring a great benefit on us so far as education is concerned."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"Why not the hon. Member give the 3 lakhs of rupees to the University and ask them to start a college there?"

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—"Will they start?"

"Then, I want to say one word about Sanskrit and Hindi, which I have mentioned every time I rose to speak on the Budget. Sanskrit is really the feeder of our vernaculars. It is very difficult to get a proper Sanskrit education nowadays. We must have it in the best form possible. Before the advent of the British, Sanskrit was being taught in Ezhuthupallies—in village schools. After the advent of the British, rich persons had their own schools under them where Sanskrit was taught. I am one of those who had the benefit of the Ezhuthupalli of the village. Afterwards, the English study progressed and the Sanskrit education declined. I can tell the House that in my village very few of the age of 30 exist who know much of Sanskrit as was known before. Thus, Sanskrit is fast declining but we should not give it up. I do not know anything about Tamil Nad but in Tamil Nad the difficulty that I have always felt about Sanskrit education is the want of sufficient number of characters in Tamil to pronounce all the sounds correctly, i.e., they have got 14 or 16 characters only. With this they cannot pronounce correctly all the sounds. Though they are able to pronounce English somehow or other, they cannot do it so far as Sanskrit is

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concerned. But I see with a little modification of letters, they will be able to study Sanskrit. I think, with their intelligence if they try a little more, they will be able to shine well. But they avoid and shirk it and raise a ban on it. The Telugus, the Karnatakas and the Malayalees are able to study Sanskrit simply because there are something like 51 alphabets in their languages.

"Then, with reference to Hindi, I need not remind the House that Hindi is absolutely necessary for the development of the Indian Union. If we neglect it in any manner on the ground that it would mean Aryanisation or that nothing except the regional language, viz., Tamil, should be studied, I may say that the Indian Union will finally suffer for want of a well-developed common language with a good literature as we have in English.

"One word about the Communal Government Order. To say that one community shall suffer and another community shall not suffer is not a proper thing. But in the application of this Communal Government Order, we have to consider another aspect. It is this. The Government levy taxes. Whom do they tax? Do they not tax the rich so that the poor may benefit under the administration of the Government? Whom should they ask not to learn a little and whom should they encourage to learn? I say that they must encourage those communities which are not sufficiently educated and which have not sufficiently come up in the course of the 150 years' rule by the British Government, to come up now, so far as education is concerned. Then, they were tillers of the soil or carpenters or were following many other avocations. But they did not take up to education and unfortunately did not come up. These persons have to be encouraged. What did Mahatmaji say with reference to Harijans? Why did he prefer Harijans? They are not the only men. He realized that all of us are men. But the Harijans have been neglected for a long time and therefore, we must give them a start, with concession and help. I say that certain other communities which are not backward communities, whether they are in Malabar, Tamilnad or Andhradesa, certainly require some definite encouragement, so far as education is concerned, and if you go by merit, many of them will not see a college at all. I know that many of them are very weak in studies and unless you encourage them, they will not come up. But what is the meaning of judging a man by marks? I know several persons who came up first in the examination who were mere failures in actual life. I have seen many of them even as lawyers. With me several first-class men who were working in very many courts did not come even up to the mark of third-class law graduates in the study of the law, in the consideration of facts and in the presentation of arguments."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I suppose the hon. Member is not a first-class graduate."

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—"After I became a lawyer, I did my best to study the cases and present them. Therefore, I had no reason to be sorry for the work that I did as a lawyer. I say

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that marks should not be the criterion. Sometimes, a very intelligent man may fail in the examination for some reason or other, and a less intelligent man may come up with a first class. So marks should not be the criterion. Even in the non-educated community, there are very very able men, who unfortunately did not take to education from the very beginning. Such men still send up their children to schools but they do not take proper care of them, so far as education is concerned. I have seen several families in Malabar which send up their children to schools but do not care to see what they study. In that way, there are many difficulties for these communities. I should like to say, therefore, that although they may not get cent per cent of marks in mathematics or in physics or in chemistry, they must be encouraged and given collegiate education. They will also in course of time, on account of close association with the learned, cultured and the highest, develop in them a tendency and a desire to study and come up even in education. That was the principle followed by Mahatmaji with reference to Harijans. That is the principle which ought to be followed by every Government with reference to those communities which really do not evince so much of educational tendencies at present.

"Then, Sir, very many of these communities pay the highest revenue to the State. But the Government find that they have not got sufficient intelligence to beat the boys of the other communities and they have no opportunity to come into the college. The Government build a college out of the money which they contribute and so cannot ask them to get out of it because they have not got sufficient marks. Therefore, while recognizing that merit is very important for the development of society and for the public administration of a country, I say that it should not be the criterion with reference to education and jobs. Let us take the case of jobs. Certain jobs require only limited intelligence or limited knowledge. For those jobs anybody can be employed. But the Government want the best men for their highest administrative purposes; they really want the cleverest men and whatever Communal Government Order they may pass, intelligent men will certainly come up. They will finally be the masters of the situation, so far as higher administration is concerned. Nobody feels sorry because there is not an opportunity. Opportunity comes of its own accord and it cannot be eliminated. Now, some sort of plain speaking is necessary because on very many occasions here in this House, in the Assembly and also in the papers, I have seen comments that certain communities are very much affected by this Communal Government Order. In the final result if you take them into account, they are also in a much larger number than the members of the backward communities. They want merit to be recognized as the sole test and marks as the sole test for admission into the colleges and they want to exclude others who have got less marks from the college courses. That is not a proper and a practical proposition for us to follow.

12-15 P.M. "Then, Sir, one other matter on which I want to say a few words is with regard to the producer-cum-co-operative societies known as P.C.C. I know it was planned with good intention.

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The framers of these societies at the beginning wanted to help the people but just like certain other things, it has ultimately proved to be a hell. So far as the producer-cum-co-operative societies are concerned, some of them are really working well but very many of them are not working well. The reason is this. People who have taken up the matter are not faring well and behaving well. Papers relating to them must be in the hands of the Government. Government must therefore consider the desirability of either improving these producer-cum-co-operative societies or putting an end to them. Government may constitute a committee of enquiry and according to the report of that committee, they may finally decide what they should do with regard to them. Otherwise, trouble will arise with regard to these producer-cum-co-operative societies.

"Then, Sir, another aspect of these producer-cum-co-operative societies is this. They are made use of as election camps for the 1950 or 1951 elections whenever they may come. An order has been issued by some Congressmen in Malabar that all the Congress members of these producer-cum-co-operative societies should have meetings of their own, and should have conferences of their own but for what purpose? Is it for the purpose of the coming elections? Sir, this creates a cleavage between one member of the society and another member. Therefore, I submit that steps should be taken by the Government to have a committee formed for the purpose of enquiring into the desirability of continuing these producer-cum-co-operative societies or ending them or at least improving them.

"Sir, I had to say certain things against the Government because I did not agree with the Government in those things. But, I think at any rate, that this budget has been framed with reference to the Congress principles and Congress ideals. With regard to prohibition, it has been stated that the Government have lost a large sum of money, to the extent of several crores. I went through the budget carefully, and I find that even though we have lost about Rs. 17 crores or Rs. 20 crores, we have gained something, and the Government have now got enough money. Why is it then that the Hon. the Finance Minister wants taxation to the extent of about Rs. 4 crores? The matter is very simple. If you want greater amenities and so on, as I said, you must pay more taxes. If you impose taxes, you will have four crores more of income over and above the gap created by prohibition, and with that money, Government will certainly be able to provide greater amenities. Therefore, so far as finances are concerned, Government have got over the difficult situation created by prohibition. So far as prohibition is concerned, there is complete agreement because everybody knows that with the introduction of prohibition, there is a moral grading-up and a moral elevation of the masses. Therefore, I have no hesitation in congratulating the Government for the budget which they have presented."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Does the hon. Member support the proposed taxes?"

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—"I support them to a certain extent unless it is made up by retrenchment. If by retrenchment,

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the Hon. the Finance Minister can avoid these taxes, it will be well and good. It has been pointed out by the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition that by retrenchment, it can be done. If it is possible, I hope and believe, the Hon. the Finance Minister will do it. He does not want deliberately to tax the people unnecessarily, and he will certainly see to retrenchment if that can be possibly done. After all, it is only four crores of rupees, and that too created by the introduction of prohibition. Therefore we find this taxation. What the Congress wanted to do, they have done. Sir, yesterday, the Leader of the Opposition pointed out that prohibition is a waste. It is not so. In my own district, I have seen many drunkards. Practically, I know one person who every day had five or six glasses of drink. There are some persons who take to this drink so much that they do not know whether they are in the air or on the land. Sir, after the introduction of prohibition, the person whom I have mentioned began to improve and now he is one of the most healthy men in our place. There are very many such instances. Of course, there are some confirmed drunkards who will do anything to drink a little, to violate the law or even to commit murder. But, we cannot avoid this prohibition on account of such men. That is all what I have got to say."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Mr. President, Sir, as I sat listening to the speech of the Hon. the Minister for Finance while presenting the budget, I wondered why he felt the necessity for additional taxation. Sir, with a view to make out my point that there is no need for additional taxation, with your permission, I shall take the House a few years backwards. Sir, in the year 1945-46, when there was not even partial prohibition, the Excise Revenue was to the extent of Rs. 16,31.74 lakhs. The revenue of the Province in that year was Rs. 47.98 lakhs and the expenditure on revenue account was Rs. 32.28 lakhs which enabled the Government to transfer Rs. 17.31 lakhs to the Revenue Reserve Fund. In the year 1946-47, when partial prohibition was introduced, the Excise Revenue went down to Rs. 14,67.99 lakhs while the revenue of the whole Province went up in spite of that as the revenue was Rs. 51,98.13 lakhs. Also, Sir, there was a corresponding increase in expenditure on revenue account and it was Rs. 44,79.38 lakhs leading to a withdrawal of Rs. 501 lakhs from the Revenue Reserve Fund. Sir, in 1947-48, further extension of prohibition took place. For the whole year, Rs. 10,69.18 lakhs was the Excise revenue and the total revenue including the Excise revenue was Rs. 50,71.10 lakhs. Rs. 45,74.60 lakhs was the expenditure on revenue account leading to the transfer of Rs. 510 lakhs to the Revenue Reserve Fund. In 1948-49, according to the revised estimates, the Excise revenue fell to Rs. 381.30 lakhs but the revenue of the Province went up to Rs. 53,38.37 lakhs and the expenditure on revenue account will be Rs. 47,06.33 lakhs leading, according to the Hon. the Finance Minister still to the necessity of drawing Rs. 366 lakhs from the Revenue Reserve Fund. Sir, this year, the Budget income from Excise is Rs. 40.01 lakhs and the anticipated revenue for the Province is Rs. 51,75.32 lakhs and the expenditure on revenue account Rs. 44.94.81 lakhs. Sir, I must

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be fair to the Hon. the Minister for Finance and state that the revenue in 1948-49 in the revised budget estimates includes also Rs. 457 lakhs received from the Government of India, that is, Rs. 325 lakhs of block grant and the bonus grant of Rs. 132 lakhs. So, the actual net revenue in the year 1948-49 will be Rs. 48,81.37 lakhs while the expenditure will amount to Rs. 47,06.33 lakhs. In 1949-50, the net revenue is likely to be Rs. 44,84.32 lakhs after deducting block grants and the bonus grant and the expenditure is estimated to be Rs. 44,94.81 lakhs on revenue account."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I do not think the bonus grant was considered."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" These figures are taken from the budget speech. If it is as the Hon. Minister says, it only strengthens my position. That means the revenue was more in 1948-49 by Rs. 132 lakhs. Sir, I have quoted these figures in 1948-49 taking the revenue of the Province without block grant and the bonus and it was Rs. 48,81.37 lakhs and the expenditure on revenue account was Rs. 47,06.33 lakhs. As far as the revenue receipts and expenditure on revenue account are concerned, the position in 1949-50 is almost the same as in 1948-49 which is not disquieting at all. I have quoted these figures to show the actual position. The real trouble seems to be with regard to Post-war Schemes and Grow More Food Schemes. As far as the normal revenue receipts and expenditure are concerned, I maintain our Province has done well in spite of the fact that we lost Rs. 16 crores in Excise revenue. We, in this Province, have already made good the loss in Excise revenue because the revenue shows that in spite of prohibition, it is not much below what it was in 1945-46. In 1945-46, the revenue was Rs. 47,98.89 lakhs; in 1948-49, even deducting block grant and bonus grant, it will be Rs. 48,81.3 lakhs, and this year, it will be Rs. 44,84.32 lakhs, after deducting block grant and bonus grant. My point in quoting these figures is to show to hon. Members of this House that in spite of prohibition on which we lost 16 crores, the ordinary revenue of the Province has not gone down. We have maintained the pre-prohibition target and we have made good the loss in Excise revenue. As regards expenditure, it is in keeping with the increase in revenue. We have neither been extravagant nor parsimonious, in regard to normal expenditure and such retrenchment as has been effected or proposed will not affect normal essential services. But when we add to our normal expenditure on revenue account expenditure on (i) Post-war Development schemes; and (ii) Grow More Food schemes besides net outlay on State Trading schemes our budget is upset. Whether these items of expenditure, all or any, should be debited to revenue account is a matter for doubt."

" Sir, hon. Members of this House, especially my hon. Friend, the Leader of the Opposition, did not know that the Hon. the Finance Minister had really taken into account retrenchment in expenditure to the extent of Rs. 98 lakhs in 1948-49 and to the extent of Rs. 239 lakhs in 1949-50. So, Sir, what I want to point out is, so far as the ordinary revenue and ordinary expenditure on

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revenue account are concerned, the finances of this Province have been very good in spite of prohibition and if the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee are further examined by the Government and they give effect to them we can even gain Rs. 200 lakhs more. The Retrenchment Committee suggested retrenchment to the extent of Rs. 455 lakhs. But, Sir, I must state here that, when the Retrenchment Committee was sitting, this bogey of Hyderabad trouble and other disturbances were looming large. If you examine the section relating to Police, the Retrenchment Committee interfered least in the expenditure on Police for the Committee felt that that was not the time to suggest any retrenchment which might affect the efficiency of the Police who were engaged in an arduous task. But that is by the way.

"Sir, I would also like to examine the need for a separate Highways department. Yesterday questions were put by my hon. Friends from Vizianagram and Vizagapatnam on this and my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranga Reddi also mentioned in his speech how after the transfer to the Highways department the roads have become worse, that the repairs are not undertaken in time, that the Highways department are not responsible to anyone except to the Government and that the local people have no voice in controlling their activities. The Highways department take their own time to carry out the repairs. In my Minute of Dissent to the Retrenchment Committee Report, I have suggested the abolition of the Highways department, but that is by the way.

"Then, Sir, my hon. Friend, the Finance Minister said that the whole trouble was due to the Post-war Schemes and the Grow More Food Campaign. The Government provided in 1948 for these schemes Rs. 997.75 lakhs and this year these schemes will consume Rs. 10,71.28 lakhs. My hon. Friend, the Finance Minister, argues, if he has to get Rs. 500 lakhs lump-sum grant, should we not provide works to an extent of a thousand lakhs to enable us to get Rs. 500 lakhs. I entirely agree with him. But, Sir, if the Government of India are prepared to pay Rs. 600 lakhs or Rs. 800 lakhs, we should take advantage of the block grant and utilize it to the best purpose, so that the schemes that have been pending long might bear fruition. But why does he think it wrong to put his hands into the Revenue Reserve Fund? In this connexion, may I invite the attention of the Hon. Minister . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"Because some of you said last time it was wrong."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"Sir, if he reads the purpose for which the Revenue Reserve Fund was created by the Advisers' regime, he will find that they starved all the schemes in order to build up a reserve to enable the coming democratic Government to make use of it for works of public utility. After all, Sir, you are going to take from it only to the extent you will be entitled to the grants from the Government of India and I do not want you to take more than Rs. 500 lakhs. What is wrong in doing so? Why should you sit like misers and look at the accumulated

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reserves, especially when the Revenue Reserve Fund is meant for Post-war Schemes? I would like to invite the attention of the Hon. the Finance Minister to the statement issued by the Adviser Government when they created this Revenue Reserve Fund stating that it was for the purpose of financing Post-war schemes. If he maintains that the block grant is given to finance Post-war schemes, how is it wrong to take Rs. 500 lakhs from the fund."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"The entire Post-war Development schemes cost Rs. 132 crores according to the estimate of the Government of India and later on it was reduced to Rs. 80 crores and it was thought we were far from realizing it."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"After all, have you lost your capacity to recoup? Have we not made good the loss under Excise? Now, why do you want to tax the public of the Province when they have made good the loss incurred by the Government in carrying out their policy of prohibition? Should you not allow them some rest for your experiment to become a success? Do not create forces of opposition. But, what is wrong, I ask, in putting your hands into the Revenue Reserve Fund? If, as a matter of fact, the Hon. Finance Minister puts his hands into the fund for the purpose of running the ordinary administration, that is, for the purpose of meeting expenditure out of the Revenue account then, Sir, we are perfectly justified in asking him not to touch it. But, if the withdrawal from the fund is for financing Post-war schemes for which we get a block grant from the Government of India and if the withdrawal would be to the extent equal to the block grant, what objection can there be? I do not see any objection to it. If we took objection last year it was because he wanted to spend the reserve fund for schemes which should be financed from the Revenue Account. That was our point.

"Let me now take the Post-war schemes. There are two varieties of Post-war schemes; one debited to the Revenue Account and the other outside the Revenue Account amounting to Rs. 6,66,74,500 and Rs. 10,18,33,900 respectively making up a total of Rs. 16,80,08,400. I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to Appendices I and II to which he referred in his speech. Then under the Grow More Food schemes provision under Revenue Account is Rs. 3,56,81,100 and outside the Revenue Account Rs. 52,84,400. But, what I am unable to understand is, why you say that some schemes are debited to the Revenue Account while some others are financed from outside the Revenue Account?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"Schemes costing over Rs. 5 lakhs are usually credited to the Capital account."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"In respect of the Grow More Food scheme, the provision made under Revenue Account is Rs. 32 lakhs and Rs. 38 lakhs under outside the Revenue Account, altogether Rs. 70 lakhs. Sir, you will be perfectly justified in putting all the Rs. 70 lakhs and treat it as Capital outlay outside the Revenue Account or to the extent of rupees one crore and fifty

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thousand or even rupees one crore and ninety lakhs, which, I think the Government of India give towards bonus. You will no doubt be perfectly justified in taking this from outside the Revenue Account as part of Post-war schemes.

"From the figures I have quoted, I say, it is a bloated budget so far as the Post-war schemes are concerned. That is what the Hon. Minister himself says.

"In regard to Grow More schemes, yesterday, the hon. Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu quoted certain figures relating to the provision made in the budget for irrigation. It was Rs. 140 lakhs from 1944 to 1947, but during all those years only Rs. 75 lakhs were spent, and next year 70 irrigation works were sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 67.41 lakhs but the actual expenditure was only Rs. 16.60 lakhs. All these indicate that it is a bloated budget. Of course, it is all done with good intentions, as the saying goes, 'the road to heaven is paved with good intentions.' We thank you for saying that you want to take up all the schemes. But, I ask, are you going to take up all the schemes this year? I doubt very much whether this Province will be able to utilize the Rs. 500 lakhs which the Government of India offer as block grant and, I am afraid, part of it at least will lapse to the Government of India because we lack the personnel, we lack the raw materials and above all we lack the expeditious disposal of even papers. Red-tapism is still very rampant in this Province. It will take a year for any scheme to go through the various departments. There will be scrutiny and scrutiny and it will then return to the man who has scrutinized it once with some queries. The delay is so obnoxious. In the end, time passes and the amount lapses. That is a point to which my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranga Reddi drew pointed attention. You make unnecessary provision knowing full well that you will not be able to spend during the year. So, Sir, why have a bloated budget and go to the country and say we are in so much deficit. I say, Sir, it is not fair. As I have already stated, we have made good the loss in Excise revenue. Therefore, you cannot blame the public; they have borne the burden calmly and they paid back all the amount which has been lost by Prohibition. But, now what is wanted is for Post-war schemes. By all means put your hands into the Revenue Reserve Fund. After all even this Congress Ministry has contributed Rs. 510 lakhs one year and you may take all these Rs. 510 lakhs or Rs. 200 lakhs as you have already taken Rs. 366 lakhs in 1948-49. You are entitled to take it and use it and even then I am sure you will not be able to use more than Rs. 200 lakhs during this year.

"Sir, as I stated, I raised the point as to why should even these minor irrigation works be not debited to Capital outside the Revenue Account; why not the Rs. 130 lakhs for the sinking of wells be debited to account outside the Revenue Account. If you dig a well, it is not going to be closed to-morrow and you are not losing what you spend as you think you lose for payments made to the services, but that well will be there and it is an asset. So, why

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should you not find Rs. 130 lakhs out of Capital instead of the Revenue Account which you have provided? Sir, I would like all these things to be looked into and if it is done, I am sure the Hon. Minister for Finance will have no case for additional taxation.

"Then, Sir, let me come to the taxation proposals made by the Hon. Finance Minister. The other day, when I pointed out to him in the course of a supplementary question that the increase in the bus-fares was one of the items that contributed to the rise in the cost of living, my hon. Friend corrected me by saying that it was not a fact, but if he looks into the cost of living index in Madras City for some time past, the cost of bus-fare from and to the place of work has increased. My hon. Friend, Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu, referred to the fact that the cost of living index for the working classes was increasing rapidly. Sir, the working classes cost of living index for Madras City in the beginning of January 1949 was 323.3 as against 304.5 in the beginning of January 1948. I attributed this, in the course of a supplementary question, to the rise in the cost of rice to the extent of one-anna and two pies or four pies per 'padi' (measure) and to the increase in the bus-fares. My hon. Friend did not agree to that. But what is he going to do by these new taxes? 12.45 p.m.

"Sir, I do not want to go into individual taxes. I will take one or two taxes that are likely to increase the cost of living. My hon. Friend from Malabar has dealt with coconuts but he forgot to mention oil-seeds which is also going to be taxed. The prices of gingelly oil and coconuts which form part of a poor man's food, is going to be affected immediately. In fact, there is already a rise in the cost of coconuts in the market. Perhaps, if we go to the T.U.C.S. or any other store, we can find the price of gingelly oil has already risen. Oil is the only source of nutrition. Ghee is a luxury and is beyond the means of many people. I wish, instead of taking the advice of the Economic Adviser to the Government, the Hon. Minister for Finance had approached Nutrition Experts of the Government and asked them, what the necessities of life are and which if taxed, would not affect the nutrition of the people.

"Sir, the plantain is the only poor man's food. He wants to tax it. While we repeat the slogan 'Eat More Fruit', we at the same time try to place even plantain beyond the reach of the poor man."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"They are all being taxed from 1939. The exemption from the General Sales Tax given to them, is now being withdrawn."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"I doubt very much if the Hon. Minister is wholly correct. That is a matter to be looked into at the time when the Bill comes. Even if it is so, is this not a further burden to the existing burden?"

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"Then, Sir, I come to sugarcane. I wish my hon. Friend Mrs. Mona Hensman had taken the Hon. Finance Minister to the Exhibition on 'Nutrition' recently held in the Women's Christian College."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"They did not invite us."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"It is stated there that jaggery has got nutrition value and it is a 'must' article of food and should form part of the daily menu. This jaggery is made out of sugarcane but the Hon. Minister wants to tax sugarcane. That means, the price of jaggery is sure to rise. Sir, coconuts, oil-seeds, plantains and sugarcane form an important portion of the diet of the people. Is it fair to tax these further? My hon. Friend the Leader of the Opposition yesterday told us about what is called the Purchase Tax in England which is called the Sales Tax here. In England it only forms 10 per cent of the revenues of the British Exchequer. But here this tax is nearly 20 to 25 per cent of the revenues of the Province. Is it fair to tax all these necessities of life? As far as the poor people are concerned, have you envisaged the effect of these taxes on the cost of living and its repercussions on the salaries and wage bills of the Government as well as the business houses and others? There is sure to be a demand for higher wages and higher salaries and naturally our sympathies will be with the people who have to pay these taxes. Therefore, what my hon. Friend wants to do, if I may call, as a deflationary measure is going to be an inflationary measure because the demand for higher wages and salaries will persist and this vicious circle will go on. Therefore, it is not wise to tax the necessities of life and especially when these necessities are intended to maintain the health of the poor people."

"Sir, I now come to the main items of the budget. I have some doubt regarding the food subsidies. I would like the Hon. Finance Minister to refer to pages 6, 7, and 8 of his speech. He referred to the paddy bonus scheme sanctioned 'in respect of deliveries made during the period from December 1946 to December 1947'. Under this scheme, one-half of the bonus was ordered to be paid in cash but recovered from consumers. The other half is recovered from the Government of India. Sir, in order to recover that half, from December 1947 he is keeping up a higher retail price for rice in order to make up the loss in 1946-47. Am I to understand that is the position? Especially when the Government of India have agreed to give in 1948-49, Rs. 1.32 crores as subsidy and for 1949-50 they have promised to give Rs. 1.91 crores, is it fair for this Government to continue to maintain a higher retail price? The other day the Hon. Minister for Food announced that it has to be paid by the consumer at the rate of one-anna and two pies or four pies. We thought we were making good the loss which they are incurring now. But it looks as though the Government want to make up the loss incurred long ago."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"It is not long ago."

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* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"It is not long ago! It is true!"

"Now, I come to the Well Subsidy Scheme. A large amount is being spent on wells and tanks and as I have stated, this amount should go to Capital outlay outside the Revenue Account. In 1947-48, Rs. 166 lakhs and in 1948-49, Rs. 152 lakhs and in 1949-50, Rs. 130 lakhs were proposed to be spent and what are the results? I will only take 1947-48. A sum of Rs. 166 lakhs was spent. Nine thousand three hundred acres were brought under cultivation. What was the amount of food secured? Only three thousand tons more. What a great achievement for the 'Grow More Food Campaign.' Then, as regards 1948-49, the Hon. Minister says he has no figures yet. But so far about 18,040 wells have been completed, 24,512 wells are in progress, 62 tanks have been completed, and 67 tanks are in progress. It looks as though these wells and tanks are dug for the benefit of the whole Madras Province. I should like to know, how many of these wells are functioning, what is the acreage under each well and whether the water is sufficient for cultivation? What is the use of going on spending without knowing the results. I am one of those who pleaded for this Well Subsidy Scheme and a separate Well Subsidy Scheme for the Ceded Districts. But I do not want public funds to be wasted unless something definite is achieved. Have the Government satisfied themselves with this scheme except appointing a Special Officer for Wells, and some Deputy Collectors under him and an army of revenue subordinates? Have they satisfied themselves after their experience in 1947-48 that after spending 166 lakhs of rupees, they could cultivate only 9,300 acres of land? Have they satisfied themselves that the money that they are spending is being well spent? I do not mind even if they spend Rs. 200 or 300 lakhs for this scheme but wells must be dug with the object of securing water so that it can be utilized for increasing production. The Hon. Finance Minister says that this is by no means a mean achievement. There is no doubt, this is no mean achievement. But what are the actual state of things. Has all this money been rightly utilized? Has all this led to increasing the acreage under cultivation? I do not mind if they grow commercial crops and add to the agricultural wealth of the country. Who is supervising all these things? It is impossible to think that when about thirteen thousand wells and sixty-two tanks have been completed, still the acreage has not increased. And 24,512 wells are in progress and what is the area cultivated under them will be? I only pass on this point of view to the Government. Let it not be understood that I am against the Well Subsidy Scheme. I would like more wells to be dug. And as Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu has suggested, more diesel engines and electric pumps may be supplied so that water in those wells may be utilized for production. At the same time, nature also requires to be conquered. Have all these wells water in them? Have the lands under these wells been cultivated for any purpose—let it be commercial or food crop? I leave it at that and request the Hon. Finance Minister to be the real watch-dog in regard to the Well Subsidy Scheme."

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‘ Sir, I now come to questions of general interest before I go to matters of parochial interest. When I was serving on the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee, we were told that a scheme for the separation of the Judicial and the Executive functions had already been settled and we were also told that if it was worked out, it would result in a saving of 1.9 lakhs of rupees. So, the cost of civil and criminal administration in this Province, after effecting this much desired reform, would not cost this Government anything more but that it would save them 1.9 lakhs of rupees. We have put all this in the Retrenchment Committee Report. But the other day we read in the papers that the Assembly was informed that the scheme had been deferred. For what purpose has it been deferred—a scheme on which so much time, energy and money have been wasted? It was approved by the Committee of the Cabinet and perhaps it was approved by the Cabinet also. Why was it put in cold storage? Has not this reform been a plank in the Congress platforms for a number of years? Why that reform should be given up especially when it costs you nothing and when it improves the civil and criminal administration of this Province? I do not know what unseen hand is behind it. I do not know whether postponement is due to any direction from any quarter or whether the Government themselves are nervous about introducing this reform. Why should they be nervous, I ask, when they know that it has been thought over so long and all the proposals have been worked out by a special staff employed for that purpose and when everyone concerned felt that this was a scheme worth trying. I beg Government to try it in the Ceded Districts where the civil courts have not enough work. Let it be tried in the districts where the munsif has not enough work and if you feel afterwards that it has failed, then you can give up the whole scheme. At one time, you feel that it should be given effect to and later on you decide that it should be put off. Is it fair to the public of this Province, I ask? ’

p.m. DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Sir, I am sure the Hon. Finance Minister will never answer this point.”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ It is not his business! ”

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Sir, I now come to the Zamindari Abolition Bill. What a confusion has been caused in the province! It looks as though there is no father and there is no mother in the zamindari area. (Laughter.) If you go to the zamindari area you see the tenant does not care for the zamindar; the zamindar does not care for the interests of tenants including irrigation works, because he knows very soon he will be ousted; the tenant does not care for the zamindar and refuses to pay rent to the zamindar, for he thinks, another bill will be passed by which past rents will be wiped off. Sir, this sort of suspense is neither good to the State nor to the tenant nor to the landlord. The Hon. Minister for Finance says he is not able to collect peshkash, because landlords are not able to collect rents, and the landlords in return are not taking care of the irrigation works.

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What steps are you going to take to see that cultivation at least is carried on in zamin areas? Some reduction of rent is said to be done in the estates. It will take two to three years to have that work completed. Every week's *gazette* publishes pages after pages showing in how many estates rents have been reduced. How many estates remain to be tackled! Why not take some interim measures to promote cultivation? I do not think the Hon. Finance Minister will say that cultivation has not suffered. It must have suffered, because there is nobody to ask, there is nobody to tell, there is nobody to order, there is nobody to obey and there is nobody to demand. I do not know how Government can keep quiet as their peshkash is not being collected properly.

“ Sir, before I pass on to other subjects I must here say a word about the development of distressed areas, as I always call the area from which I come. What have you done for the distressed areas? A Development Commissioner was appointed, and the Hon. Finance Minister said, his report is available. May I invite his attention to the answer given in this House by his colleague that the report with the orders thereon will be duly published. But neither the orders have been passed nor the report has been published! It may be you got the report in the printed form for your reference.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ The answer given was that the report has been published, and if hon. Members apply for it they will get one.”

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ It is far better to tell us what you propose to do in the matter than keep the people in suspense.

“ Now, Sir, I come to the services. I am a protagonist of the services as my hon. Friend knows.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ And also a member of the Retrenchment Committee.”

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ What have we done to improve the lot of officers, gazetted and non-gazetted. You are taking the maximum work out of them, and the return they get for that is you tax the very necessities of life. That is the only return they get for their loyal service.”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—“ Not always loyal.”

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ How can you, when the cost of living index goes up, prevent these people from being discontented and not attending to their work properly? As a result—here I have again to revert to taxes—of several taxes there will be a demand for higher wages, there will be a demand for higher salary, and if that is not conceded, there will be consequent distress and perhaps a strike, though I do not want this Government to face it just at this time. It may be a fact that they cannot threaten you with strikes. But all the same it is up to you to be

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more considerate towards them and yield to their demands to the extent possible instead of allowing this distress to grow. Sir, I would like, in this connexion, the Hon. Finance Minister who is in charge of this subject to consider very carefully the scheme we have propounded in the Retrenchment Committee Report about the reorganization of the pension system. It will give great relief to the families of those who die in service and at the same time make provision for those who wish to live after retirement. It is a scheme on which we have spent days, because we wanted to know all the points of view. Compulsory insurance, provident fund and pension, all the three are combined in it. I am glad to learn the non-gazetted services have welcomed the proposal. I would like this Government to adopt it; even if it costs them something more it does not matter; for it will improve the relation between you and the services. The scheme involves actuarial calculations, and there are also many details to be worked out before you think of adopting it."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"You want them to live long."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"This is for people who live long and who do not live long. The scheme gives them provident fund as well as pension. But there is a feeling among many Government servants that they will die mostly in harness, because you overwork them so much, give them poor salary and tax them so much. So how can they live long? It is wonder that most of them survive, and a few people for three generations have drawn pension. But such cases are rare."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The Pension Bill is mounting up."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"But if you adopt the system we have suggested you may bring down the Pension Bill."

"I now come to irrigation. I am grateful to my hon. Friend, Mr. Bhakthavatsalam, for the long list he has given as an appendix to the detailed budget estimate. But I wonder how many hon. Members of this House have taken the trouble to total up the amounts those schemes cost. It is Rs. 416 lakhs under head 18 and Rs. 942 lakhs under head 68 and all are supposed to be put into execution during this year, I think. Sir, I ask whether it is possible for this Government to execute all these schemes. Could not my hon. Friend Mr. Bhakthavatsalam arrange a kind of priority for these works?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTHAVATSALAM:—"That is not possible for we do not know when the investigations of these schemes will be over."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"May I then point out that he has already exhausted the money he has provided? Malampuzha takes away 2 crores."

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTHAVATSALAM:—"We are not spending the 2 crores this year."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"In order that a layman like me can understand what is it that they propose to do; why not say these schemes are ready for execution this year, these schemes are under investigation and these schemes will have to be investigated so that people may know where they are? Take for example, the following: In Anantapur district the Mid-Pennar Project, the Upper Pennar Project and the Bhairavantsippa Project are included. It looks like creating a Heaven in Bellary. Why not tell that these are schemes under consideration and these are likely to be taken up, so that people may be ready to assist the Government when the schemes are ready? I am grateful to the Hon. Sri M. Bhakthavatsalam for he has taken many schemes from the archives of the Secretariat including those like the Upper Pennar Project which was once considered as not feasible. He should help us by giving us a rough idea of schemes that are likely to be ready, of schemes that are likely to be investigated and of schemes that are likely to be completed during the year. I hope he will bear this request in mind and do us the favour of telling us what in his opinion, so far as the files indicate, are the projects that would be ready for execution during this year."

"A word about the Gandikota Project. Sir, yesterday my hon. Friend Mr. Ranga Reddi referred to this scheme. Sir, this morning we read in the papers on what grounds the Ramapadasagar Project has to be put off. What was the estimate for it? About Rs. 130 crores. What is the estimate for the Kistna-Pennar Project? Rs. 80 crores. That is a rough estimate. These estimates, as my Hon. Friend Mr. Bhakthavatsalam knows, change, and always change to a higher figure and not to a lower figure. But will not the same consideration affect the execution of the Krishna-Pennar Project? Will not the same points urged by the Hon. Minister for Works, Mines and Power in the Central Government, apply to this scheme? Don't you require a large personnel, a large quantity of cement, steel, etc., that stood in the way of Ramapadasagar, for the Kistna-Pennar Project also? If so, why put off this Gandikota Project?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTHAVATSALAM:—"I may say that Gandikota Project is not held up on account of the Kistna-Pennar Project. It is not taken up because the investigations are not yet over and there are difficulties in its investigation. We are trying to complete investigations as early as possible."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"I am sorry I cannot lay my hands readily on the answer the Hon. Minister gave the other day in which he said that Gandikota Project will have to be stopped if the Kistna-Pennar Project comes into existence. We may take it for granted then that this Gandikota Project will not be taken up till we dispose of the Kistna-Pennar Project. Why keep hanging this Gandikota Project which will bring relief to a large number of villagers. That is why I suggest that efforts

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should be made to see whether the Gandikota Project cannot be so modelled as to be linked with the Kistna-Pennar Project. Our Engineers are clever enough to devise ways and means.

-15
m. "I now come to Prohibition. Before Prohibition was introduced the cost under Excise was Rs. 51.59 lakhs for the enforcement of Excise Laws. What is the expenditure now, Sir? Rupees 76,89,000 on the Excise staff for enforcement, Rs. 35 or 36 lakhs under Police for enforcement, and for ameliorative measures Rs. 13 lakhs. We have lost 16 crores of revenue. From the point of view of commonsense I ask why foot this heavy bill for the sake of enforcement? Sir, have the Government ever thought as to how best to reduce the cost of enforcement. Have they examined the suggestions made by their own Prohibition Enquiry Committee? The cost of enforcement is mounting up. The number of Deputy Superintendents, Circle Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors and the other officers of the Police department is considerably more than what it was. When there was no Prohibition, the cost of enforcing the Abkari Laws was only Rs. 51.59 lakhs. But for the enforcement of Prohibition the Government are spending more than one crore. Could you not reduce the cost of enforcement to at least Rs. 51.59 lakhs? It should be possible to bring down the cost. I can only say that no attention is being paid to the question. During the course of our enquiry, we found out that there were ordinary Police stations and Prohibition Police stations. Cannot these two be combined? The mentality that Prohibition is something superimposed must be got rid of. Many of the Government officers feel that offences against the Prohibition Act are something different from theft, murder or dacoity. To us who believe in prohibition, any offence against the Prohibition Act is as much an offence as theft, murder or dacoity. Why have separate Police stations for prohibition work and make the people feel that offences against Prohibition are something different from offences against the other laws of the land? Once we have passed a law, it should have the same effect as the other laws."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"When does the hon. Member propose to conclude his speech?"

*SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"If the Hon. President permits, I shall stop at 1.30 p.m. and resume after the lunch interval."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"No."

*SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Then, I will finish as soon as possible."

"I understand that there is a separate Prohibition Staff College. Why should the Prohibition staff be different from the ordinary Police staff? There should be a combined staff for Police and Prohibition work. If the existing excise staff is not considered by the Inspector-General of Police to be competent to do Police work, let the Excise staff be given training in Police work. Were not the members of the Excise department detecting crimes when they were Excise sub-inspectors?"

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THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM:—"The training given in the Police Training Schools is only for Police work."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I think the Hon. Minister can reserve his remarks for reply."

*SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Why treat the Prohibition staff as separate from the Police staff? That is all my point."

"My Hon. Friend, the Minister for Public Health, is not here. The Retrenchment Committee recommended the abolition of subsidized rural medical practitioners and suggested the alternative of opening primary and group combined medical and public health centres. The Committee has shown how under this scheme it is possible to turn out more work with less expenditure. To our great surprise, even the head of the department agreed with this. But the scheme as it has emerged is different from what was suggested and is as costly as before."

"Then I would like to bring to the notice of the Government the need for making better arrangements for the treatment of cancer. Cancer is spreading. We do not know what the causes are. More attention should be paid and, if necessary, research should be undertaken into the causes and cure of cancer. This is a matter which calls for attention."

"I do not want to lose this opportunity for dealing with the Hon. Minister for Education. I congratulate him on the marvellous energy that he possesses. But sometimes people with marvellous energy monopolise to themselves all thinking and acting. I would like my Hon. Friend to use his energy in thinking out schemes and at the same time recognize that there are points of view other than his own in regard to any scheme that he adumbrates. My questions in the Council are intended to make him feel that there are other points of view than his own. Even those of us, who hold a different view from that of the Hon. Minister for Education, are interested in the spread of education. His attitude is somewhat mysterious to me. He appoints a University Grants Committee and immediately abolishes it! Everywhere in the world, there are University Grants Committees. Why did he abolish that Committee? Did he find it inconvenient because some Members did not agree with him in some matters? I was an inconvenient Member of the Provincial Board of Education. The Board was reconstituted ousting the inconvenient Members. I say this not because I have got any personal grievance. This attitude of the Hon. Minister in not brooking other points of view than his own passes my comprehension. He seems to think that he is the repository of all wisdom and that he alone knows all things about education. I would like him to change this attitude. The way in which things are done in the educational field causes great head-ache to the people. I am surprised to find the following passage in the Budget Speech of the Hon. Finance Minister:—

The policy of the Government in regard to elementary education is to extend basic education to the whole Province as

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early as possible and in view of this policy, they have decided that further extension of compulsory elementary education to new areas should be held in abeyance, until most of the existing schools have been converted into basic schools.

I thought that the Government were committed to compulsory basic elementary education. After all, what is the difference between the present education and basic education? There is no difference. Subjects like cleanliness and health education ought to be taught in every school. Only yesterday I read the review of the Administration Report of District Municipalities. According to the statistics furnished, the percentage of boys and girls of school-age who did not attend any school were 16.7 and 40.8 respectively. Every municipality, except Rajapalayam, is collecting education tax. Why should not the Government permit these municipalities to enforce compulsory elementary education within their areas? The Advisers' Government passed an Act in 1941 by which the Government were divested of their responsibility to give a contribution equal to the amount of education tax collected. You may convert the existing schools into basic schools or open new basic schools. I don't think the basic schools are in any way different from the present elementary schools. But don't keep the Province waiting without giving effect to the extension of compulsory elementary education till provision is made for the teaching of basic education. The basic training schools are not different from the other training schools. What is it that is new in these basic training schools? Teachers trained in the basic training schools are treated differently from those trained in the ordinary training schools. Why create caste distinction in education? What is wrong with the present training? There is nothing wrong. Can you not remodel the present training system if it is wrong? We have got the means; only we have not got men who are inspired with the ideals with which my Hon. Friend the Minister for Education is inspired. Nobody can take exception to the imparting of basic education. Education through activity and experience ought to have been the basis in the past and it ought and should be made the basis even now. Pray, for Heaven's sake, do not introduce caste system in education. Don't make the basic schoolmaster feel that he is superior to the ordinary schoolmaster who has not had the fortune to undergo the basic training."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :— "May I say that the Government are attempting to do just what the hon. Member suggests? In the course of the next two or three years, all teachers will be trained in basic education and all training schools will become basic training schools."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :— "There is no difference between ordinary education and basic education. It is only we that make a difference. Ordinary as well as basic education are meant to serve the same purpose. Therefore why put off the extension of compulsory elementary education? The Retrenchment Committee has suggested the formulation of a scheme for

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introducing compulsory elementary education throughout the Province within a period of ten or twenty years and the utilization of all the available resources for the spread of education—call it basic education or any education you like. Some education must be given to the people. They have waited too long. I wish that my Hon. Friend Mr. Gopala Reddi had not introduced into his budget speech the passage which I quoted just before. The passage makes the people feel that there is something new in this basic education.

"I wish to say a few words about adult education."

MR. PRESIDENT :— "There is only a minute more for the hon. Member to conclude his speech."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :— "We have tried the system of paying Rs. 6 or 8 to the teachers imparting adult education. That system has miserably failed. Please don't attempt it again. The psychology of the adult is not the psychology of the child. The teacher who teaches adults must be a kind of village guide who lives among the villagers themselves. Teaching of three R's is not all that adult education centres should try. An English educationist reviewing the growth of adult education in Great Britain has said :

'To-day more than ever before it is realized that an educated man is one who is capable of entertaining himself, capable of entertaining a stranger and capable of entertaining a new idea. If he cannot entertain himself, he is a burden to himself; if he cannot entertain a stranger, he is anti-social; if he cannot entertain a new idea, he has no place in a democratic society. To give him each and all of these capacities is now recognized to be the task of adult education.'

"I wanted to deal with several other points but for want of time I cannot do so. With these words I resume my seat."

MR. PRESIDENT :— "I would like to know from the Hon. Leader of the House how many Ministers would like to reply and the approximate time that they would require."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :— "To-morrow is the last day for the general discussion of the Budget. Members may be allowed to speak till lunch interval. About three or four Ministers will reply and the whole of the afternoon sitting may be reserved for them."

MR. PRESIDENT :— "After lunch interval, Mrs. Hensman; Mr. Ibrahim Sahib, and any other Member who would like to speak can speak."

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

* MRS. MONA HENSMAN :— "Mr. President, Sir, a number of my hon. Friends have spoken already on this budget and I therefore do not wish to repeat what has been already said, but I wish to offer a few remarks on the subjects touched upon

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here. Sir, in view of the fact that the Hon. Finance Minister knows his facts and his figures far better than myself, I shall not quote page or volume nor go into details of expenditure; I shall deal only with the main items which have now been introduced and some that have been revived, rather than with the figures or numbers of the lakhs and crores of rupees involved. May I also submit, Sir, that in this House we have no need to speak at length for fear of losing our seats and no such remarks have been made, whereas in the other House remarks have been made that those who do not represent any particular constituency may not have very much to say on behalf of the people. I would state that, on the other hand, Sir, I feel that those who are independent in their views and represent no particular constituency like myself, have perhaps come into more contact with the people and have a chance of knowing their grievances and wants quite as much as if not more than those whose constituencies are limited by geographical boundaries and whose areas of activities are confined only to a few square miles. (An hon. Member. 'Hear, hear'.) And in connexion with this particular budget, I should like to stress certain important aspects, which will particularly affect women, over which we are deeply concerned."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member's influence is limitless." (Laughter.)

MRS. MONA HENSMAN:—"Sir, as an independent member belonging to no particular political party, I should like to say a word about party discipline, namely, that it is party discipline that has prevented many of the hon. Members on the other side of the House from criticising the budget in a very out and out manner. But, for my part, I am not bound by any party discipline to-day. I want to offer some constructive suggestions to the Government and I trust that my hon. Friends on the opposite benches will take them in good part, because, as you know, Sir, I am never vituperative, nor do I believe in injecting any poison, but I firmly believe in the infiltration of good ideas and in the infection of constructive thinking."

"First of all, Sir, I should like to say that we have listened to the budget speech of the Hon. Finance Minister with great interest and we are looking forward to the reply that he is going to give us to-morrow in this House. One of my hon. Friends on the other side characterised this budget as a budget of the kitchen. I think, Sir, that I must rather call this a budget that strikes at the home and I feel that if the taxes that are mentioned at pages 51, 52 and 53 of the budget speech of my Hon. Friend, the Finance Minister, are really put into operation, and if they are not reconsidered between now and the actual introduction of the various Bills with respect to them, and if the Hon. Finance Minister persists in his proposals and treats these criticisms as mere academic discussions, then I should like to make it plain to you, Sir, that we who represent the homes of this Province will find it very difficult to keep ourselves and our husbands happy and our

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children strong and healthy during the coming year. For instance, look at the list of the 12 articles upon which he has proposed to put a tax. Most of those articles relate to the stores of the kitchen and they are taken from us one by one—from our homes and from our kitchen—and are going to be heavily taxed. When I say heavy taxation, I mean this in the full sense of that word. A few things here and a few things there have been chosen for taxation, says the Hon. the Finance Minister in defence of his policy, but their accumulated effect on our homes will be very considerable, because we will soon have no proper curries at all, and if we prepare our curries without these essential articles—without turmeric, coconut and chillies—just because these articles are taxed, they will not be palatable at all. I want to mention to you, Sir, that the gentleman who puts these taxes and other rich people like him who can afford to spend anything, may not feel the pinch or any difficulty in buying these articles at a higher cost, but what about the workers, who toil all day long, the drivers and conductors of the buses and the trams, and the man in the street, who cannot go home for any nice dishes? They are the people who are really affected and it is they who stand to suffer on account of these taxation proposals. Perhaps they may not feel the difficulty at once and may have good meals for a few weeks more, till the taxes are actually imposed on these articles. They will have turmeric, they will have coconuts, they will have potatoes and they will have plantains and all the other nice things that are mentioned in the budget speech, which are articles of the kitchen, on the day of the presentation of the budget and they will have all those things in great quantities, too in their store-rooms for a time so that they can eat as much curry as they want. Even later on, that will be possible for the first week, or fortnight of this month. But on the first week of next month, if the taxes are imposed on these articles, they will not have any nice curry at all, but on the other hand, they will have to take a little rice and perhaps a little onion and nothing more, but water—that is, if they can get the water from the taps."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"With perhaps no water at all!" (Laughter.)

* MRS. MONA HENSMAN:—"And with a little water, perhaps, although we are now having water difficulty also added on to everything else."

"You know, Mr. President, that we have had a Bill recently passed and our gentlemen friends here greatly trembled about the consequences that would follow and the crisis that would ensue in their home policy if that Bill became law, and we the women on this side of the House assured them and also re-assured the House that we, for our part, were perfectly happy over that Bill, because it was intended only to put right the wrongs that have been done to women for decades together, and we feel that it would in no way effect the harmony and happiness of family life and that it was not in the least calculated to make the happy husband and wife wish to separate from each other."

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"But, Sir, I think this budget is going to act as a weapon or a tool in the hands of these gentlemen to create domestic discord in all families in which up to now there was peace, love, happiness and harmony before. What, after all does a man expect from his family and his home? Is it not peace, harmony and comfort and a tasty meal prepared in the house? This is a very great factor that goes a long way to make for family happiness and make an ideal home. But what does this budget seek to bring about? It seeks to deprive the family of the essential articles that are required to make our dishes palatable, and how could harmony in the family prevail, between the husband and the wife, when the husband is served with mere rice and onion, without any curry, or a curry which contains no pepper, no condiments, no chillies and no coconuts and other things?

"Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. R. Suryanarayana Rao has already dealt with those articles one by one in great detail, so I shall just say a word about them. Take the proposed tax on plantains. They are the only fruit that an average person or an average worker or a man-in-the-street can buy. Now the Hon. Minister is going to put a tax on it. Hitherto there was toddy freely available and the poor labourer after his hard day's work, went to the toddy shop and was satisfied with that. But to-day he has no toddy and he has taken to some substitute either in the form of tea or coffee, or plantain or sugarcane or potato. Sir, do not mistake me; I am not for one moment pleading that toddy should come back, but the Government are now proposing to tax these things which are a substitute for toddy, and the middleman who sells these things, passes the tax on to the consumer and he has to pay it. I would request the Hon. Finance Minister to be kind enough to see that none of these taxes are passed on to the consumers, even if he cannot see his way to drop these taxes on these articles. But, Sir, one small sentence, or one little assurance that he will drop the tax on at least some of these domestic articles of food, may help a great deal in restoring harmony in family life.

"Then Sir, there are proposals for taxing coffee hotels, boarding houses and cinemas. During the war the hotel-keepers have made huge profits and it is they who can afford to pay these taxes and it is they who should be made to pay. But why should the poor clerks and the underlings who cannot get home in the middle of the day, when they go to these eating houses for a little *rava uppumavu* or *iddli* or a cup of coffee be made to pay extra to the hotel-keeper, for that is what it will come to in actual practice?"

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I think there is a proposal to tax hotel-keepers also."

* MRS. MONA HENSMAN:—"Again, Sir, I feel that the tax on the unearned profits derived from the sale of properties is a very difficult matter. Then again, Sir, the man who grows crops is going to be taxed twice over under this budget. Now we are asking people to grow more food. The agriculturists who grow crops can neither read nor write nor can they maintain accounts properly. They do not see the papers nor read the wonderful

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speeches that are made in this House and they will have only a minus balance, if they are to pay a tax on their crops. The agriculturist is already being taxed to the full and if this tax is also put on his head, it will not be possible for him to pass it on to the consumer or to the man who takes away the crop from him for distribution among the people of the country. This middle man, Sir, will take advantage of this tax, and mulct the poor agriculturist of all he can. I therefore request the Hon. Finance Minister at least to leave out of the Bill, when it comes, this tax on crops, because we know the agriculturist has no additional margin of profit and does not make any money out of cultivation. He is now hard hit, especially in view of the failure of the monsoon. On his behalf, I once again plead with the Hon. Minister to see that no additional burden of tax is placed on his shoulders.

"Now, Sir, what about newspapers and mill cloth? They are also brought in under these taxation proposals. What about cross-word puzzles and advertisements? They are also going to be taxed. Sir, most of us in this House are not accustomed to working out cross-word puzzles and we do not know how much income will be derived from that tax. But as regards advertisements, I think, probably it will be a very profitable business. Many of the newspapers which have not got a good circulation, which cannot maintain big establishments and printing presses, and which cannot pay for a highly paid staff of editors and sub-editors, mainly depend upon advertisements for their existence. Sir, I know recently how some students of an institution got up an entertainment and met most of their expenditure by covering their programmes with advertisements from different firms in the City. And in the case of newspapers, especially, as my hon. Friend Mr. Farookhi pointed out the other day, advertisements are meat and drink to the public mind, creating public opinion, just as food and water is to our bodies. We ourselves have no objection to cross-word puzzles being taxed, but, Sir, not advertisements. My Hon. Friend the Finance Minister, when he is thinking of taxing these cross-word puzzles, is probably having in mind the huge and fabulous prizes that are being paid by the organisers of popular magazines to those who work out solutions, as we have seen in the *Illustrated Weekly of Bombay* and other journals. I do not think there are many cross-word puzzles brought out in this Province that make such a tremendous amount of money as it being made in Bombay or in any other part of India and I do not think that the Hon. Finance Minister's proposals to tax newspapers would bring in any substantial income to the Government.

"Now, Sir, take health and mill cloth; they go together. We know that people have been suffering from want of mill cloth for a very long time, but the position has eased a bit now, and mill cloth is now being made available at a relatively small price to the public but most of the children of the middle-class and poorer class families who go to school still have only a scanty amount of clothing. Most of these children are below 10 years old and the parents cannot afford to buy more costly cloths, such as dhoties or veshties, etc.

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So, they will necessarily have to buy mill cloth to clothe their children and provide them with a set of trousers and a shirt, which as they grow, will not fit them, and will probably have to be worn by the children next to them in age, if there are any, in the family. Sir, we are told that Russia is poor, China is poorer and India is the poorest of all and this was said by no less a person than Dr. Sherwood Eddy, an American, who has travelled lately in all these countries and has just returned to this country. We are the poorest of all people, no doubt, but on that score, I am not here blowing any trumpet of despair, nor am I asking for any thunder or lightning to come and strike at anybody in this country. The rumblings of discontent are to be heard on all sides, even in this Province—should not our Government heed them? Nor do I feel, Sir, that the rumblings and discontent are going to be strengthened or otherwise by this budget. I am concerned with these things, Sir, as I am with other matters of the home and I feel that this is going to make it extremely difficult for the average person, the teacher, and the peon, in our own City, let alone in other parts of the country, to make both ends meet. We are talking about retrenchment proposals. I am glad to see that the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee have not been put into practice yet. Sometimes it is the addition of a post on Rs. 1,000 or so they have recommended, and another time it is the dismissal of 700 peons. It is to be regretted, Sir, that with the best of intentions on their part, I must say that this does not make for good budgeting. In this matter, Sir, I am told that the peons and menials—I am talking of the peons as an example because we have them before us here—are paid at much lower rate in this Province than in Delhi. Sir, I make a strong appeal that we have to give them a higher pay or some special allowance, by way of clothing or housing allowances if we raise the cost of living any more.

“Then, what about the Police who are stationed here? I feel that the Police should be kept very much on a level with the Army and the Navy. They should all be given some sort of accommodation for themselves and their families and they must be given the necessary rations also, so that there may not be any need for swelling our budget in money, but in kind and at the same time we can make their life more comfortable and happy.

“Then, Sir, I agree with those hon. Members of the House who spoke about the overhead charges of enforcing Prohibition and that they are neither necessary nor desirable at this time. If Prohibition is to work according to the will of the people, through the people and because of the people, it cannot be guided or guarded or ordered by putting the people into houses and locking them up. It will just have to be taken up as a measure of reform. I think, Sir, the whole Province is more or less behind the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition and the more propaganda that is done about it the better and the money spent on that cannot be a waste, and let it be there instead of being spent on Police stations and Prohibition centres. Unless these are extremely well run and very carefully looked after in the spirit of the Prohibition Minister himself, they cannot succeed.

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“Now, Sir, this budget is a budget of service on the part of the Government, the Treasury Benches and the Party-in-power and a budget of sacrifice for everybody else. I think when it comes to a matter of sacrifice the Members of Government have certainly sacrificed much, and we know that the hon. Members on the Treasury Benches with others throughout the country have never talked of themselves nor have they thought of themselves first. But other people also have their rights and in order to balance a budget, have we the right to sacrifice people for whom we are responsible? When we talk of balancing the budget of our homes we have got to satisfy our husbands. But in a national budget, I take it that the Government should move on more expansive lines, for at the end of the year, as was pointed out, we have always got some reserve. After all the budget year consists of only 365 days and perhaps there is not so much time as they expect for spending all the money. Of course money is deposited in the name of some object or other but at the end of the time there may be some grants and some money left over. Then, Sir, there is the question of inflation but I leave it to gentlemen who know more about this subject than myself to deal with the difficulties brought about by a higher cost of living.

“I am glad, Sir, of one or two things in the budget. The Hon. the Minister for Jails has been kind enough to take over the Vigilance Home Sri Sadhana and make it a Government Home. I think that this is a splendid possibility of doing away with all the evils that these homes are seeking to reform. But I say, Sir, that in addition to that we should go a little further, because the girls who are just now being taken in and penalised for solicitation and those for other crimes on the streets are all put together in the shelter. Mr. President, the other day when I visited that place I found that in a room which can accommodate only 15 or 16 girls comfortably, there were 71 girls brought from all over the Province including the City of whom some know much of life and some know nothing. It seems to me, a pity, Sir, that all these girls are put together like that for want of a grant for a house which could properly accommodate them. I am sure, Sir, that the Hon. the Minister concerned will do his best in the near future.”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“If I may interrupt for a moment, Sir, I may say that the grant is already there. We have made a grant of Rs. 350 for a house to be rented. We want a house. If the hon. the Lady Member would find us a house we can take it up to-morrow itself.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“It is the job of the Government to get a house.”

* MRS. MONA HENSMAN :—“I am glad, Sir, that the Government are moving in the matter.

“Then regarding housing, Sir, we were told this morning in answer to a question that the co-operative societies were moving forward in the matter, and that there is one society for the

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City and 83 societies contemplated throughout the rest of the Province. I congratulate those responsible for the good work that is being done. But let me ask: Who are the people who are getting these houses? A few days ago when I went to Adyar I found that those who have a house already, and those who have been the moving spirits in the housing societies and are on the committees, are getting the houses first. Of course, the second, third and the last will surely come. I would request the Hon. the Minister for Housing to prevent dwelling houses being taken up for other purposes. I would also impress upon those who are responsible for building these new colonies that the first to be considered should be the person who is brought to the City with his wife and children and who requires some housing to be provided for him, and not those who choose to move from one house to another and those who have already got houses to live in.

"Coming to the question of violence, Sir, I must say this is a sad story. I saw to-day in the papers that the Government—not this Government, but the Central Government—are prepared to wage war against those who wish to transgress the law of constructive reform in this Presidency and elsewhere. Sir, violence never brought peace. We as a nation have proved this beyond doubt. During the last 20 years we have had in our midst the apostle of peace and we have had a bloodless revolution, shall I call it, and we have passed from one phase of Government to another without shedding blood except for certain specific cases which we all regret. Now here we are in our own country declaring war and fighting against our own people. We must remember one fact—that the strongest will always be on top and each will strive to be the strongest. That is where I would like to sound a note of warning. Therefore, I would like to request the Government that before they tax people they must see everyone is made content and peaceful and they must ensure a modicum of security to all before they can relapse into aggressive methods and aggressive ways.

"Sir, the Hon. the Minister for Education has been very kind in making grants for many colleges last year and this time also we are obliged to him for his providing a dining hall in one of the hostels of a leading women's college in the City. I am also grateful to him, Sir, for other extensive grants that he has made. Three women's colleges have come into existence aided by Government but not started by them since our last Budget Sessions. Another women's college which was formerly started by the Government has passed into the keeping and into the care of a party other than Government. But, Sir, I would ask: What about the Government starting a new women's college somewhere, not necessarily in Madras, but wherever the Hon. the Minister for Education thinks fit? I would urge before him, Sir, for there is a need for a certain number of—say half a dozen or so—intermediate colleges for women and they could be filled to capacity immediately they are started. Sir, that is our need to-day, more than anything else. A clever girl or a girl who wishes to distinguish herself in a course will go on to other colleges. The average

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girl of 14 to 18 in the Province needs a dramatic society, a musical society, the influence of college women and the freedom of college life. I think that this should be one of the main features of progress during the coming year and I hope the Hon. the Minister for Education would think about the matter seriously.

"Then I have to say something about the storage of food for the school children. Sir, the mid-day meal has been very much missed. If the private organisations could combine and approach the Government they could get all the help from the Hon. the Minister for Education to distribute the mid-day meal in the elementary schools. Still, Sir, at this time when the children cannot get much to eat in their homes, I do feel that it would be absolutely essential to the future of the nation to have something like a free meal provided for in the schools.

"Then, Sir, the Hon. the Minister for Health has given us much to hope for. But I may say, Sir, that this is not the time to press for some reforms, whatever may be their nature, whether controversial or not, when the vitality of the average school children is low. Of course, Sir, we might be profited by the experience of other countries in the striking reforms and other progressive steps that are being taken there. Still, Sir, when the vitality of the children is low to introduce some other bacilli into the school child may not be such a desirable thing to do to-day, as it would be three or four years hence, when presumably we may come out of this particular slump as it were of our debt and deficit.

"Sir, I do not wish to keep the House for long because I know that there are a great many other people to speak. And also I consider a man convinced against his will is of the same opinion still. I would also like to make one last request to the Hon. the Finance Minister, Sir, and that is that he should seriously consider all the matters placed before him by the various hon. Members of the House, because we are somewhat anxious, that most of the measures that are introduced on paper here may never be put into effect!"

* MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—"Mr. President, Sir, several of my colleagues have spoken about the budget and I think, mine may appear as a woman's view point as I will deal with the women, children, the sick and the needy, but I think that is the duty of the social worker. As the hon. Member who spoke before me said, we do not represent any constituency and therefore I think we can represent public opinion better or be able to express public opinion better."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"You represent the home."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"And also social service in the Presidency."

* MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—"We are very glad, Sir, for the expansion of the Women's Welfare department and I congratulate the Hon. the Premier and the Hon. the Minister for Finance for the encouragement they are giving to this department."

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I am sure that the Ministries that will follow will be grateful for the creation of this department. The Hon. Minister has realised the value of this department's influence with reference to the firka development, cottage industries, adult education, and several other aspects. In the home they have recently opened for women, women have turned out very good work. There are 250 women there. We can have many more homes. The lady officer in charge of this department, Mrs. Naidu, is to be congratulated on the expansion of this department and her work, and I hope she will see that with the one lakh of rupees provided in the budget there is further growth. What I would like to say is that we, who knew this department and were its founder members early in 1941, feel very sorry that the Government should call the Advisory Committee only twice a year. How can we keep ourselves up to date with matters that are going on, and how can we know or express our criticisms important or otherwise? When we ask the officer-in-charge, she says 'Government say that we should meet twice a year'. May I suggest that the Central Committee may have more women representatives from the City which can meet at least once in two months so that we can meet oftener? Members coming from mufussal and City members may meet once or twice a year."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Is it the Government Order?"

* MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA:—"I think so. I have made enquiries. There is no opportunity for us of knowing what is going on with regard to the work on cottage industries. If you want to improve your cottage industries and other industries, I think there should be ladies in that department, because we are the chief buyers. Men also are consumers, but we consume quite a lot. (Laughter.) We can get you a good market not only in our own country but also in other countries."

"I see, Sir, that Government have made provision to open more schools for the defective and handicapped children. For years we have been asking for a school for the mentally backward children. May I ask the Hon. Minister in charge of Jails if he is satisfied with the conditions in certified schools? Do you know, Sir, that certified schools are overcrowded, and also that boys who come out of the school after their release go back as criminals? I do not think that is a very satisfactory state of affairs. The sting that it has as a 'Certified School' should first be abolished."

"Juvenile Court Magistrates do not send destitute children to the certified schools. They prefer to put them on probation. I would like to tell you that in 1948 we had a total number of 1,084 destitute children, out of whom we sent 118 boys and 34 girls to the certified schools. We are satisfied with the girls' certified schools but not satisfied with boys' schools. Destitute children are not to be mixed up in certified schools. The Central Remand Home of the Madras Children's Aid Society is supposed to accommodate only 80 boys. But actually there are 150 to 180 boys. They sleep in a room intended for 80 boys. If you go there

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in the morning, you are not able to stand in the premises. It is very unhygienic. Due to lack of sufficient staff, there has been a number of escapes. Let the police have other places for children whom we cannot take care of. Either the Government must consider stopping this expansion for defective and handicapped children, or have another Remand Home in the City of Madras. I am sorry that every time I get up to put questions about juveniles, the answer is given that 'we know all about human nature.' I am glad this morning a question has been answered. The answer came to my question why ladies should not preside in juvenile courts. We have a very admirable President sitting in the juvenile court in Diwan Bahadur K. Narayanan Nair. I do not understand why we, ladies, are not allowed to sit in juvenile courts as new lady Magistrates have been appointed in the last month or so; that shows how much aptitude we have for this work. The gentlemen are not anxious to sit for five or six hours. They have got to understand the mind and the psychology of children. We do not want to be appointed only as conductors. We have got experience and the knowledge. Therefore please bear in mind our request to be appointed as magistrates in juvenile courts. The other day the Leader of the House, Dr. Rajan, said that women should have equal rights in all services, and yet we are denied this right. I hope he will keep up that gallantry." (Interruption by Dr. T. S. S. Rajan.)

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I hope you are not going to shut them out on the score of their colour." (Laughter.)

* MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA:—"Bus conductors have been appointed. But we are asking for recruitment to the police. The Government are shelving that proposal. Other Governments like Central Provinces have taken up this question, but the Madras Government instead of being progressive are going back."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We have appointed women bus conductors."

* MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA:—"I think you may expand your activities in two or three years. A lady should not speak on Prohibition but as my hon. Friend put it, I think the heavy expenditure on Prohibition might well be utilized in other directions. If you make drinking an offence as such, you only make the people drink more. I give you examples. Since Prohibition was introduced any number of young children in company with their elders have been manufacturing illicitly soti seri which is more harmful to the health of the individual. I think it is no exaggeration to say that every week there are twenty cases of this illicit drinking, where not only the parents, but children also are taking drink. This has become a cottage industry. Rice which is badly needed for the ordinary consumer is being black-marketed for this purpose and used for illicit purposes. There are people who have this habit. We may not know them. But for the man who works throughout the day, it is very difficult without it to do physical work. Now, the Hon. Finance Minister is going to tax coffee

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and plantain. How can you find other means of relaxation for these people? Let them please have rationed drinks. I am sorry that is how I feel now.

"We are glad that the Stri Sadana Rescue Home has been taken over by the Government. This is what the Madras Vigilance Association had been working and aiming for but unfortunately it did not for a moment think that the voluntary work of the Home would be lost. When we pressed the Hon. Minister to take over the Home he said that he would do his best but he would like the voluntary aspect to stay. We are sorry that the Hon. Minister has lost sight of that. The Stri Sadana has been under V. T. Lakshmi. We voluntary workers may come, but we do not have that freedom to do things as we used to do. The Madras Vigilance Association as such meets at the Y.M.C.A. and tries to do propaganda to stop immoral traffic in the City. I am sorry that red-tape is coming into the organization. Slowly the atmosphere of the certified school is creeping into that Home. I say this because we are the people who worked for that Home. Some people have worked for two decades. We worked against great deal of criticism. This work has been going on well. Girls are well-fed and taken care of. But how can we, sitting in the Y.M.C.A., do work in the Stri Sadan in Mylapore. We have no money to pay for our patroller. Immoral traffic is increasing in the City.

"Turning to the probation system, I think Government have seen the value of it. Probation Officers have reclaimed many a criminal. What an enormous saving to Government they have made. The prestige of the offender also is not lost. I understand it costs Government three hundred rupees to keep a criminal in jail, for a year. The cost is negligible if these criminals are on probation. These officers who are doing good work are on very low scale of pay just as the police constables. These officers have to make an investigation of 25 cases every month, and supervise another 25 cases. You give them a travelling allowance of Rs. 10. How can you expect the people to go over their whole area with this poor travelling allowance, especially when bus fares have been raised?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The bus fares on only 17 routes out of 37 have been increased. Fares in other routes have not been increased."

* MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA:—"How can they cover all their areas? At least give them Rs. 35 towards travelling allowance. The Government have increased the provision for probation work by Rs. 11,000. The Minister for Jails will please see that these probation officers get better pay and travelling allowance. There are two women probation officers, and they are covering a wide area. I have been talking of men probation officers who look after men alone. But women officers have to take care of women and children. I hope better facilities will be given to them."

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"We are happy to learn that our venerable social worker van Bahadur Bhashyam Iyengar has been appointed Honorary Director of Harijan Welfare. It is wise on the part of the Government to have secured his services as a Honorary Director to co-ordinate the Harijan welfare work in the Province. Likewise, other Provinces are waking up to the usefulness of social service. The recent Indian Conference of Social Work held in Madras showed how other cities in India are waking up to this problem. Bombay has started a social welfare department. I have been making this request for a long time, but if you think that social service is not quite important enough for a Minister for Social Welfare, at least appoint a Honorary Director for this work."

"I have said time and again that it would save both the time of the Government and the organizations if there is a separate department for social welfare. Then we can get all the information that we want from that department. Now we have to go to so many departments to get the information we require."

"I am sorry to say, Sir, that quite a good number of mushroom societies are springing up. Good societies are losing their name because of these humbug societies. (Interruption.) People use the name of national leaders, and do no service. I know you are all from the people, and we are very happy about that. Our national leaders should check up these societies. It is time you have to go into this matter and find out the bogus societies."

"We asked the Minister for Education to have a Social Welfare Institute. He asked us to give a draft scheme. A Committee under the leadership of Colonel Bhatia had met and prepared a very simple and not an expensive scheme. But the Government have shelved it. There is no school of social service in this Province. We took lot of trouble about this scheme. The Minister has asked us to shelve the scheme. There are a number of men and women who are ready to do social service. But you do not give them facilities. Even people who do good work are misunderstood as just trying to exploit the name of the social welfare societies. I hope the Minister for Education will at least give us some building grant. With our voluntary agencies we can run the school. We do not want to shelve the scheme. We have taken lot of trouble, but we feel sorry that the Government cannot find the money for this social welfare school, when they are spending money on Firka Development, Harijan Uplift, etc. You are step-motherly in your treatment of social work. I repeat once again that our Ministers and Secretaries are busy people. They have more and more important matters to attend to. Leave this social service work to people who can really help. We are here to help you."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"You are also busy." (Laughter.)

* MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA:—"Even then, we will find the time to do work."

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2-18 p.m. "Turning to public health, we are glad to see, Sir, that a sum of Rs. 4 lakhs more has been granted for hospital services for the coming year but the conditions of hospitals are not what they should be. Again, may I speak on behalf of the nurses? The efficiency of any treatment lies in nursing and again our nurses have very poor facilities for their recreation. What recreational facilities they do have in their mess, is through their own efforts. They buy gramophone or some other thing or do some knitting work. Therefore, I say it is the duty of the hospital authorities to provide and set aside some grant so that they may purchase some radio or some musical instrument for these nurses because these women stand on their feet for hours and have to deal with more patients than they are expected to do and therefore, you must at least give them some comforts and some recreational facilities. So, please take care of your nurses.

"Then, Sir, I am glad to know that a provision is made for building Nurses' quarters in the Kasturba Gandhi Memorial Hospital. I hope they will be well equipped and airy unlike the quarters in some of the hospitals, conditions in which are such as any Government would be ashamed of.

"Sir, we hear a lot of propaganda about the introduction of the B.C.G. Vaccine inoculation. I am glad that the Government in this Province are interested in T.B. patients and are making some improvements in the hospitals and also giving better facilities for T.B. patients like more clinics and sanatoria as well as the introduction of the B.C.G. Vaccine inoculation. But, are the Government aware of the large incidence of V.D. in this Province and what steps and measures are the Government taking to combat this disease as well as to check the increasing immoral traffic in the City?

"Sir, we who run voluntary organizations had many means in the past of raising money but now Government are becoming puritanical for they try to stop amusement in any form. People in India unlike in other countries have to work very hard for a bare living and if relaxation and light amusement of an unharshful character are stopped, where, Sir, you are going to raise the spirit of your nation and at the same time how are voluntary agencies to raise the money? In Dublin, they raise money yearly by lottery or raffle and thus the large hospitals there are maintained from the money got out of the raffle. Here, we cannot have any raffle. If this state of affairs continues, we cannot raise any money. (Interruption: 'There is the race.') I am not a race-goer and I have never bet in my life. I therefore request the Government to permit us at least to have a lottery or a raffle so that we can raise some money for our organizations. After all, 10,000 people go to the Races and the Race Club has been very generous with the many charities they do. Therefore, please be a bit elastic in allowing a certain amount of amusement to the people of your Province and at the same time allow us to raise money for good causes as otherwise the time will come when all voluntary effort would have to close down. (Interruption.) Broadminded people there are. But, they are too broadminded. There must be representation of all

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ew-points. I can tell you that you do not have a fair representation of the broadminded. I trust as a Government you will have more representation of the broadminded. It is not a personal request, but there should be more representation.

"Sir, I am not unmindful of the help which the Government have given to voluntary agencies. You do encourage us and do help us in many ways. Sir, I have been critical but I would like to close by saying that we are grateful to the support our Premier and other Ministers give to the voluntary agencies by their encouragement and their interest. We are also very grateful and not unmindful of the goodwill of our Government. We would ask them to make the best use of such voluntary agencies and let us do our best to improve the condition of those who look to us for guidance and help. Finally, I request the Government to help us and to spread this message of social welfare throughout the country, so that we can create the necessary funds which can be utilized for the best and most useful purposes."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—(Began to speak in Telugu.)

MR. PRESIDENT :—"May I know on what points and on what departments the hon. Member is going to speak?"

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—"I am going to speak on Congress ideals, the Gandhian programme and so on."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"Is it a general speech or does it deal with particular departments? I want to know this so that I may fix in what language the hon. Member may speak. If the hon. Member wants to speak about the Agricultural department, then it is better he speaks in English than in Telugu."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—"I obey your command and I shall try to speak in English. I thought that I could feel very free in my own mother-tongue."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I have suggested this so that the Hon. Minister Mr. Madhava Menon may know what the hon. Member is saying."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—"I thought the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon knows Telugu quite well because Mrs. Madhava Menon knows Telugu."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"It is creditable to me too much to say that I know all that my wife knows." (Laughter.)

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—"Sir, much has been said about the budget and I would like to add a few things to what has been said. Sir, I want to examine how far the Government have worked up the Congress ideals and Gandhian ideals. This Government have a duty to the country, Sir. We have, on the platform, before the elections, given out a programme and the people expect a lot of things from us. What are the things that they expect? What is it that we have promised and what is it that we are not able to

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do? I think all this requires a close examination. I feel, Sir, as a disciple of the Father of the Nation, Mahatmaji, we should follow his ideals; we should follow in his footsteps and see that all the programmes that he has laid before us are fulfilled. It is with that fundamental idea that I wish to enter into these discussions. I feel, Sir, that the Hon. Ministers who are now occupying an elevated position, must feel it their duty to work up to those ideals for which Mahatmaji lived and died. Sir, I am very much disappointed at the way in which it is being worked up. Sir, even the little which was done here and there is only a half-hearted measure. What is it that should be done? We must see that the village is made self-sufficient. That is the first criterion. Sir, the village must be self-sufficient in food, self-sufficient in cloth and other things. If the Government do that, then certainly we would have achieved our object. Sir, ninety per cent of the population of this country live in the villages. That is why Mahatma Gandhi said, you must make the village self-sufficient in cloth, self-sufficient in food and self-sufficient in cottage industries and self-sufficient in all the necessities of life. The villager should not go to the town for anything that he may require. It is only that kind of Swaraj that Mahatma Gandhi envisaged. Our Congress people are in power. Therefore, it is our duty to work up all those ideals."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Did we not introduce Prohibition? "

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, Prohibition benefits only a section of the people. I agree you have introduced Prohibition. But, what about the programme of self-sufficiency which we have promised to the people? There is the Firka Development Department. It is perhaps the only department working in that direction, because schemes and plans have been drafted for that purpose by the great patriot, Sri J. C. Kumarappa. Government are meeting out a sort of step-motherly treatment to the villages. Whatever little the Government do, it is delayed by red-tapism. This red-tapism is something like the 'Vitharani' which is difficult to cross. Sir, the other day, I was asking about cart-tyres to the agriculturists. Sir, the agriculturists require very badly these cart-tyres. You want more food to be grown. But, you will not give him the necessary material and the money. You want him to produce, produce and produce but you give him nothing. What is the condition of the villagers? They are very much dissatisfied. The Ministers are sometimes unseeable and untouchable. But, when we go into the interior, when we go to the villages, we can very easily judge that the people in the village are so much dissatisfied. Sir, the other day, I was asking the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon about cart-tyres. As I said, there is a great demand for cart-tyres everywhere. Sir, I have chosen to live in the village because I thought I could follow the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi by living in the village. But wherever I go in the village, the ryots want cart-tyres. Though cart-tyres are available in a certain foundry in Vijayavada and the manufacturer of the cart-tyre is willing to sell them at Rs. 80 even though the controlled rate is

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26, the application should be made to the Agricultural department. The Agricultural department scrutinizes the application then refers the matter to the Industries department. The Industries department in turn directs us to the Iron and Steel Controller, because the manufacturer of the cart-tyre cannot sell the tyre at a rate higher than the controlled rate. The whole thing is on in this way and the villager who needs the cart-tyre very gently is not supplied at all. The Central Government cannot give us cart-tyres. They say, go and purchase wherever it is available. But, the villagers do not know where they are available. The best solution for all these evils is to give up all controls.

" Then, Sir, about subsidies to wells—I take some interest in Anna Sevak—the people in our taluk want to dig about 250 wells, if the Government say, we will give you only Rs. 20,000. Then, how are we to induce the people to dig the wells? If this is the way, how are you going to help production of food?

" Then, Sir, coming to the supply of electricity, electricity is available in large quantities. Out of the electricity that is produced in this country, only five per cent goes to the rural areas. Ninety-five per cent is consumed in the urban areas. Well, Sir, for what purposes is this electricity made use of? Is it intended for us only to sit down in the office and enjoy the cool breeze under electric fans? Is it not intended to be used for growing more food? Sir, if you want to grow more food, then you must supply all the wells in this Presidency with electric pumps. Then you will have more food. You must give enough money for digging wells; you must also supply electricity to them so that you may be able to bring not thousands of acres but lakhs of acres under cultivation. What is it that the Government are doing with this electricity? Sir, in Vijayavada, there was an electric extension. But the power has been supplied mostly to the cinemas, hotels, refrigerators and such other things and it is not given to the rural population for the purpose of Grow More Food. We have been asking the Government for the last three years to give electricity to the various firkas. I have got a plan for 500 village units. That means about 2,500 acres of land can be utilized for agriculture, for growing vegetables or some other food-stuffs if only electricity is given. I would even go to the extent of saying that we should not use these electric 'pankas' until better times come and we should utilize that electricity for Grow More Food purposes. Just as was done during the war, you must treat the supply of electricity to the villages as an emergency measure. Sir, the other day, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said, 'I am not going to import any more'. Therefore, it is high time that we try to be self-sufficient. There are ways and means of doing it. But rapid action is necessary. The food question can be easily solved by giving the ryot all the facilities and all his requirements so that he can speed up production. Sir, when the Hon. Mr. Prakasam was the Food Minister, he was telling us how he could put through this scheme. Unfortunately, to-day, he does not happen to be the Food Minister. If he were here, there would have been miracles. We are disappointed. He

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once gave us a magnificent talk about how he was able to produce more food within a very short time. In this connection, Sir, I would like to invite your attention to what Mahatmaji said in regard to economic equilization. He said there should not be any disparity among people. They say they want to give relief to the labouring ryot, to the man who toils with the sweat of his brow, who has to get the full benefit of his labour, but what have they done? The big man is there. If it is a question of nationalization of industries, you want to give him compensation. The theory of Mahatmaji was that the man who works and toils should have a share in the profits. Instead of paying the capitalist any compensation, what you should do is to put him in charge of the factory and pay him a thousand rupees if you want and not any compensation. The only thing is to confiscate the thing. Otherwise, what is the meaning of this compensation? Even Maharajas are now being deprived of their kingdoms. Perhaps, I do not know what they are going to do for them. If you want to take up the industries and nationalize them, I say there is no use in paying any compensation. So, Sir, if you do not take a bold and courageous step in regard to the nationalization of industries, I do not think you are going to help anybody. That is the only remedy if you want to follow the ideals of Mahatmaji. What did Mahatmaji say in respect of highly paid men drawing Rs. 3,000 or Rs. 4,000. As a matter of fact, the man who works hard day by day is the Non-Gazetted Officer. Perhaps the District Collectors and Deputy Collectors sit in their offices for only 2 or 3 hours; on some days they do not even attend the offices. People have to go and wait for hours on end in the office only to come back disappointed, because they are told the case is adjourned to some day next month. Yet, they are paid Rs. 2,500 and more per month as salary. Why is it? It is because the old British Government paid them such salaries and it is a pious obligation on your part to pay them at that rate. What is this pious obligation? Drastic action is necessary and you must cut down their salaries and pay more to the man who actually works and toils. Otherwise, it is an anomaly. I do not think it is right. If their salaries are cut down, do not be afraid they will leave the service. I am sure they will all be there.

"Then, Sir, the standard of living of the people should be equalized. I understand that the batta of a poor clerk or a peon is 8 annas or so for going all the way to a village about 100 miles distant, whereas a Collector gets Rs. 10 per day. This inequality must go. Instead of taxing the very poor in regard to the necessities of life, Government must take a bold step and see that all the salaries are equalized, and that there is no disparity between the poor and the rich. That is the only remedy.

"Coming to khadi, what is the ideal of Mahatmaji. Now, this Government are only making a half-hearted attempt in the matter of khadi. I do not know what they think about it or whether they believe in what Gandhiji has said. If, on the other hand, they do not believe in khadi, I would request them to say, we do not believe in khadi and we do not want to work up to the

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ideal of Mahatmaji. But, they have not the courage to say that khadi is not good. Perhaps the only two items that have been blessed most by Mahatmaji are khadi and firka developments. But, again these two items are neglected by this Government. In regard to khadi work, Mahatmaji drafted a scheme, but where are we now in regard to that? No progress has been made in that direction. Then in respect of the firka development, some three years ago, they started about five firkas and the five firkas are still going. I ask, is it not necessary that we should grow from strength to strength? What is the fundamental principle which Mahatmaji has initiated to make the villagers self-dependent. The idea behind those principles was to make the villager self-dependent. He should not be made to depend on others for food, cloth and other necessities of life. He should not depend for all these things on people in Bombay, Calcutta or Madras. I say, Sir, that khadi is more essential to the villager. He has only to work at the charka for about a few hours in the week without any difficulty and it is enough if he sits for half an hour per day. Just as food is necessary, cloth is necessary for any individual. A little amount of spinning will do for him; it is also a recreation and some concentration is no doubt necessary also. Sir, when we want to make the country self-sufficient in khadi, the policy adopted by the Government is only detrimental to the achievement of the object that Gandhiji had in view. I would, in this connection, quote an instance. At the time of the Prakasam Ministry there were 290 charkas plying in our firka and we had also enough material like cotton, food, etc., to be supplied to the firka. To-day we do not find even 19 charkas there and I would attribute this to the policy of the present Government. At present, I may even say that the number of charkas there is not even 29 but only 20. It is no exaggeration when I say that it is all due to the policy pursued by this Government. Now, what did Prakasam say? The country must depend on itself for its cloth. This is the policy he put forward boldly. I do not know whether this Government believe in that policy or not. So, Sir, instead of wasting public money, I think, the Government will do well to decide once for all whether they stand for it or not.

"Now, Sir, coming to medicine, I would like to observe that Indian medicine is neglected and allopathy only is given all patronage. No doubt, there is the Indian School of Medicine but I do not know whether to call it a school of Indian medicine or what. It looks as if it is semi-Indian medicine and semi-allopathy. I should think that Ayurveda should be taught in the mother-tongue or in Sanskrit and there is no use in asking people to go to the medical colleges and get tuition in English. They should be taught real Ayurveda. Surgery may be left to the allopathic doctors but there is surgery even in Ayurveda. Government should try to make up their mind and see that the indigenous systems of medicine are encouraged. In fact, I would prefer all the Ministers to go to Wardha to get some training for 3 or 6 months and to see for what ideals Mahatmaji lived.

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They should pay a visit at least to Wardha and even undergo some refresher course and see whether they can live up to the ideals for which Mahatmaji stood. Mahatmaji said that naturopathy is the only cheapest system for the villager and that people should be taught how to live happily. That was the fundamental principle of Gandhiji. So, Sir, if you take to nature and treat yourself by the five elements of nature, you will get perfect health, instead of taking medicine and poisoning your system. That is why Mahatmaji recommended naturopathy. I do not know whether the Ministers have tried to understand what naturopathy is. When the Hon. Minister for Public Health was invited the other day to preside over a conference of naturopathic doctors, he addressed them about the allopathic system of medicine and when I asked him about it he said that allopathy also teaches naturopathy. Naturopathy is quite different. It is also an indigenous system of treatment. Probably the Government think that some Cooney in Germany or some other experts in America found out this system. Sir, my only object in saying all these things is to impress upon the Government that when people expect something from the Government in one direction, they move in another direction. I say, the people are only dissatisfied and over and above all these, there come these new taxes. Therefore, I would request the Hon. Finance Minister that if he is not able to balance his Budget, to keep up to the ideals of Mahatmaji by taking more money from the rich people, confiscate all the industries in the Presidency, work them, and take all the profits that are being derived by the capitalists for the use of the Government. Otherwise, there will not be economic equality.

"Sir, I do not know what the Government are going to do with the 8 lakhs profit they made on the buses this year. I do not know whether they are going to give relief to the people employed on this transport who are toiling day and night or to the passengers, or is it to be kept in reserve for some other occasion? I think it is but fair that the profit that you get out of this transport should be distributed to the men who toil because it is they that earned the profit for you. This policy should be pursued by the Government. Once you agree with this policy with which Mahatmaji agreed, namely, the man who toils should reap the benefit of his work, because he has earned it with the sweat of his brow, then that is the only solution for all these problems. I only appeal to the Hon. Finance Minister to save the prestige of the Ministry, save the prestige of the Congress and save the prestige of the Members, by not going ahead with these taxation proposals, because we feel we are very much embarrassed to go about clad in Gandhi cap and khadi cloth. Sometimes while travelling in buses, we get very bad abuses, though we do not understand the language of the people in Madras. They say, Gandhi cap and so on and then begin to abuse in Tamil saying these Ministers are going to tax the poor people, and do this and that. I could only guess what they are saying

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"You may in your Telugu language abuse them in return, so that they may not understand your abuses."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member must have understood this much, that it was abuse and not praise."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO:—"Sir, I know enough Tamil to understand the gist of what they are talking, although I do not now literally what they are talking. So, Sir, I say that the Hon. Minister should realize the position."

"Sir, at any rate I am not against taxation. But let us wait a few happier times. We have not given the people enough food, enough clothing and other necessities of life. We have not given them anything. With what authority can we tax. When people are satisfied with their lot and are happy and prosperous, we can levy any tax. Therefore, I feel that we are not justified in taxing the poor people. We have no right to tax them. I am confident that if such conditions are created, the revenues of our province would rise up to even hundred crores of rupees. The Hon. Finance Minister says that we are facing a deficit this year. Taxation is not the only method by which you can cover up that deficit. There are other ways by which you can do that. Let there be a drastic reduction in the salary and wage bill of the Government and let the unnecessary departments be abolished. For instance, there is the agricultural demonstrator. What is he doing in the villages? Practically, he is not doing any useful work in the villages. He goes to a village and asks the people there to put the manure here and there and tell them that they would get good yield. Beyond that he is not doing anything at all. If you ask them whether he is of any use to them, about 15 per cent of the people will say that he is not serving them in any way. The other five per cent may say in favour of him because he may be obliging them. So, I request the Hon. Minister for Agriculture, Mr. Madhava Menon, to see that this post of agricultural demonstrator is abolished forthwith. At the same time, I would suggest to the Hon. Minister for Agriculture to put these agricultural demonstrators in charge of a farm. Sir, demonstration is much better than preaching. Let them work in that farm and see the result. That is how you can develop agriculture. Our agriculture is in the same old groove and it must come out of it. It must be developed on a more scientific basis."

"Now, Sir, I come to the subject of decentralization. Is there any decentralization now? No, there is centralization for everything. Decentralization is the policy that should be adopted by the Government. Otherwise, even though you may rule for hundred years, you cannot do anything for the good of the people. This machinery of centralization has been set up by the foreign Government to make us slaves. Though the foreign Government have gone, still we stick to that old machinery. You must somehow or other see that things are done more rapidly and quickly. Even the Ministers complain that the orders they pass take six

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months or even one year before they are scrutinized and communicated to the respective persons. Perhaps, it may even happen that some of the affected persons may not see the order during their lifetime.

"Sir, the village panchayat must be given full powers to manage its own affairs. It must be given money. We are yet to bring a Panchayat legislation. I do not know when it is going to see the light of the day. I think, perhaps it may take even decades. In the case of the irrigation schemes, the Hon. Minister for Agriculture with the Chief Engineer can visit the places affected by these schemes and pass orders then and there. These schemes must be taken up immediately and they must take up this matter with the Government of India in right earnest.

"There is electricity. It should be extended to the rural parts. You can even cut off electricity to the towns. Only through electricity, you can grow more food.

"Then, I come to controls. Controls should go. The scarcity of foodgrains is only artificial. Once controls are removed, there may not be much scarcity of foodgrains. Merchants will rush foodstuffs to places where controls have been removed. Mahatmaji advised us that we must give up controls. Because some Secretary of the Government thought it fit to re-introduce controls, we are having controls in this Province.

"Before I conclude my speech, I request the Government to take a bold and courageous step and make the villages self-sufficient in food, cloth and other necessities of life. Cottage industries should be started there. I once again appeal to the Government that they should decentralize their administration. Otherwise, there is no salvation for the people of this Province and we will be doing no good to them. Sir, we must establish a Kisan-Mazdoor Praja Raj as advocated by Mr. Ranga. At least to save the prestige of the Congress, I hope the Hon. Finance Minister will look into all these matters. With these words, I close my speech."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—"Mr. President, Sir, a good deal has been said about these new taxes, taxes on plaintains, taxes on coconuts, taxes on bus fares, taxes on chillies and taxes on other things. There is no doubt that these are taxes which will affect the ordinary man. As this proposal for taxation has already been criticised and attacked, there is no point in my repeating the same thing. It is easy to attack a new tax however small it might be—an easiest thing for a politician or legislator to do. I for one, do not propose to follow this easy path.

"Sir, Prohibition which was introduced throughout the Province has cost us 17 crores of rupees as the Finance Minister has said, and here again this is another case where we cannot have any good thing without working for it and without making sacrifices for it. These taxes would not amount to 17 crores of rupees and I am sure it has given the Finance Minister no pleasure to put on these new taxes to compensate for the loss brought in by the introduction of total prohibition throughout the Province. If the public of the Province are asked to-day, whether they would

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have prohibition with these taxes or whether they would have prohibition abolished without these taxes, I am sure, the majority of public opinion in this Province will have prohibition with these taxes (hear, hear).

"Sir, I will point out another peculiarity about these taxes. Although they do affect the common man, they definitely will not add to the cost of living. But if you carefully look into the details of these taxes, you will see that these taxes are mostly levied on things which do not go into the calculation of the cost of living index. So, if after the introduction of these taxes, one will look into the index of the cost of living, I am sure there will be no increase in it because of these taxes. For instance, newspapers, bus fares and hotel food are not taken into account when calculating the cost of living index. This clearly shows the ingenuity of the Finance Minister that he has so chosen these articles that the increase in these taxes will not tell on the cost of living at least so far as the ordinary man is concerned.

"Sir, it has now been proposed to put a tax on cross-word puzzles. I would certainly have been glad if this cross-word puzzle had been abolished. There has been a persistent demand from the public for the abolition of these cross-word puzzles just as there has been demand for the abolition of horse racing. Cross-word puzzle is a form of gambling. One invests a small amount and hopes to reap a big reward. There is the element of gambling. If the Finance Minister or the Cabinet had proposed to abolish cross-word puzzles, they would have had the full support of the public opinion in that regard. As it is, I do not know how the cross-word puzzles are proposed to be taxed. But I suggest that the tax should be imposed on the amount held out as the reward, that is the tax should form a certain proportion of the value of the prize. If that is done, it will not only bring in revenue but it will help abolish and eradicate certain mushroom cross-word mongers. A good deal of fraud is being committed in the cross-word business. Sometimes rewards are announced to individuals who do not exist! If there had been prosecutions for such a fraud, there would have been many convictions. So, if the tax is put on the amount held out as the reward, then probably there would be less tendency for those people to fix such fabulous rewards.

"Then, there is the tax on advertisement. I have no details with me to support this tax on advertisement. I want to know from the Hon. Minister for Finance whether this tax is confined to newspaper advertisements alone or whether it is applicable to other forms of advertisement such as the slides shown in the cinema. So far as newspapers are concerned, we have a society here in Madras in which all the prominent newspapers are members—'The Hindu', 'The Mail', 'The Indian Express', 'Dinakaran', 'Thanthi', 'Dinamani', etc. Practically all the dailies and weeklies are members of the society. I would request the Finance Minister and in fact, other members of the Cabinet as well, to consult this society before they bring in a legislation affecting newspapers. If the Finance Minister could tell the society how he proposes to raise this tax, I am sure the society would be prepared to point out the ways and means of contributing that money.

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without affecting their business in any serious manner. Although I have said that there is a degree of fairness in the tax proposed, I would point out one aspect to the Hon. Finance Minister. Last year the revenue actually received exceeded estimates by something like three crores. The trend towards surplus receipts is still there and still continues. Now should the trend of surplus continue in the coming year also and if there is any surplus, I hope that he would then consider the question of remitting a portion of the sales tax now proposed. There is one other matter in which it is possible to effect economy. I refer to the 81 lakhs of rupees which have been provided for the elections. It has been officially announced—and those who follow the political trend will certainly see—that we are not going to have elections before 1952. There was an interview with Dr. Ambedkar who is now engaged in drafting the constitution, and what he said in that interview appeared in the Press. There was also a statement from the Deputy Prime Minister which appeared in the newspapers three or four days ago. From what we see, the next general elections are unlikely to happen before 1952. If that is so, there is no need to spend 81 lakhs of rupees in the coming year. If this amount is also saved, the Finance Minister will have some more money to give to the tax-payer by way of relief.

“Sir, in preparing the electoral rolls it is very unwise to take steps too early. Last year preliminary rolls were prepared and those rolls have already become out of date even before they were printed, because in preparing those rolls the basis taken was 1948, that is to say, anyone who attained 21 years of age before January 1948 was put into the rolls. That was how the rolls were prepared, but we already see that it has been announced by the Constituent Assembly that the basis should be 1949, i.e., those who have attained 21 years of age on 1st January 1949 should be put into the list. Thus we are getting another batch of persons entitled to be on the electoral rolls. In that way the electoral roll has already become out of date. Another reason why electoral roll should not be prepared now is that there may be deaths before the general election and many people whose names ought to be dropped out of the electoral list will continue in the list and that will increase malpractices in elections. It is well known that in the last elections to the Corporation, many dead persons were resurrected and impersonated. It is better therefore to postpone preparation of the rolls to a later date, very near to general elections, so that there may be less of these inaccuracies.

“Now, Sir, it is not from the view of the taxes that I propose to judge the worth of the budget. The worth of a budget and the value of it should be judged by seeing how far it takes the country towards its goal. Having achieved independence, the goal of our nation is to increase the wealth of the country and to raise it to the level of the foremost nations. Now, the budget should be viewed and seen as to how far we have progressed towards that goal. Sir, our country is still the poorest in the world as Mrs. Hensman said. What a man gets now is not enough for his food or clothing. We have not got much to be proud of. We have not much to show in the eyes of the world. When any friend from

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overseas comes to Madras, I take him to see the museum or the light-house but I do not take him anywhere near the harbour. The reason is if you go to the harbour, you find men pulling heavy loads by their hands and heads. You find near the harbour a number of men who take huge loads, two tons or three tons in a cart and push it by their hands and heads. Such a scene could not be seen in any part of the world. The reason is that although it is quite possible to have animals or horses to drag them, it is cheaper if men themselves draw. Man-power in our country is cheaper than animal power. Now, that is only as it should be having regard to the production in our country. Some days ago the Finance Minister in the Central Parliament said the average income of a man in our country is Rs. 17 per mensem. It looks as if we have progressed a little from what it was some years ago. A few years ago it was Rs. 6 per mensem. Therefore it looks as if there is an advance in money value, but actually when you see whether there is any increase in the real income, and what the money would fetch, we find there has been no advance. Now, Sir, why is it that the average income is so low in our country? The reason is that within our Province we produce so little goods, the value of which will be something like 85 crores, which divided by 5 crores of people provide Rs. 17 per head. After all what a man gets is a part of what he produces within the country. Therefore the production of agricultural or industrial goods must be increased, so that what the average man will ultimately take is a share of the total goods which are produced within the borders of the country. That is why leaders like Pandit Nehru and Sardar Patel have laid stress on production. Pandit Nehru speaking in Calcutta said ‘we must produce or perish.’ He had an eye not only on the advancement of wealth within the country but also the raising of our country in the eyes of other nations. Sardar Patel, while in Madras, stressed the point again during the course of his address to the Chamber of Commerce. The Finance Minister, Central Government, again stressed the point that unless we produce more goods, it is impossible to bring down inflation or find relief to our suffering humanity.

“Sir, it stands to reason that our first duty then is to increase the production in our country so that the wealth of the country may go up and its economic standards may rise. If our country is to become the foremost nation in the world, then we must increase our production by thirty times because the American production is thirty times the production in our country. If you are going to be satisfied with a second position in the world then we must increase our production by fifteen times because production in Great Britain is fifteen times the production in our country. If we are merely to save our honour and self-respect, if we are merely to be ranked as human beings in the comity of nations, we must increase our production by double the present one. There was recently a legislation in our province to stop the cruel scene of men dragging heavy loads. You cannot stop it by mere legislation. The real remedy is to increase the production of various kinds of goods and to raise the standard of living. It was Pandit Nehru who, in a speech made a few months ago, provided a test for deciding the success or failure of our administration. He said that the success or failure of a Government could be judged only by

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seeing how far it has increased the production without the country. It is no credit to a popular government to say that they have kept the administration running. It could have been a credit for a foreigner ruling the country to say that he kept peace and order in the country. But to a popular government that is no credit at all. The test, as I said, will depend on how far they have increased production and raised the standard of living and how far they have relieved poverty. Judged by this test I regret to say that this problem is hardly realized by Government. On the other hand we notice that the Government of Central Provinces have not only introduced tractors in the Province but have actually started a factory to manufacture tractors. I also recall what the Hon. Finance Minister in answering a question in the Assembly several months ago said, that this Government produces nothing; it only helps others to produce. It is only yesterday the Hon. Minister for Food said that we have plans on paper. Sir, judged, as I said, by the test, 'have this Government taken the country a step further in producing more', we find nothing to console ourselves. If we produce within our Province 85 crores worth of goods, agricultural and industrial, we will then have twice as much as we have at present. But is there a plan to produce that?

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P.M. "Some months ago the Industrial Planning Committee produced their final report, in which they have suggested various measures. They have suggested that many factories could straightaway be started in this Province. For instance, they have said that pneumatic tyred vehicles may be produced immediately, and industrially it would be a paying concern. Then, they have said that Government should run small ships and aircraft service. I do not know what has become of the aircraft 'Hanuman' which was purchased some time back. I know it is not being run in any service for the use of the public. It is probably laid up! I ask what is the purpose of Government in taking over the bus transport service in the City of Madras? Government could more usefully utilize their resources in running a small steamer service or internal aircraft service as suggested by the Industrial Planning Committee. It has been announced that the policy of the Central Government is not to nationalize the existing industries because it does not add to the sum-total of the production in the country, but to concentrate on the starting of new industries. The Industrial Planning Committee has suggested several new industries—saw mills, steel rolling mills, and the manufacture of electrical goods like motors, transformers, electric cables etc. I am sorry to say that nothing has been done to implement this recommendation. There is one very interesting suggestion in the report and that is to start immediately a gas producer plant for Madras City to supply fuel in the shape of gas to the houses in Madras through pipes. This will save drudgery in the kitchen and provide employment for a good number of men. The Committee has also suggested the starting of an automobile industry. The Hon. Minister for Industries mentioned in a recent speech about the brown coal deposits which were found in the South Arcot district. Originally it was thought that there was only one seam of brown coal. But later on a second and a third seam were discovered. The third seam has got a depth of eighty feet. Originally it was thought that the coal deposits were confined

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an area of 25 square miles, but now it has been found that they extend to 100 square miles. In our school days, we were taught there was no coal and iron in our country and that that was the reason why our country could not be industrialized. But to-day we come to know that our country is very bountifully endowed with mineral resources.

"The report of the Industrial Planning Committee says that the Industries Department as it now functions is totally useless in industrializing the country. It is said that the department is hindering rather than helping the process of industrialization. One is to sympathize with the Hon. Minister for Industries who is to drive a car with all brakes and no accelerator. The Committee has suggested a thorough reorganization of this department and I hope that steps will be taken early in that direction. The department runs a soap factory. Soap factories started by private arrangements after the starting of the Government Soap Factory are now producing 12,000 tons of soap annually, whereas the Government Soap Factory is producing only 700 tons. The report has made a scathing criticism of the Industries Department as it functions at present. It says that the department is badly equipped and that it could not run any industry on progressive lines. The technical education imparted by that department is described as useless and totally devoid of practical application. The experts in the Industries Department are described as bringing no credit to the Government. The District Industries Officers are not rendering any really useful service. These are not my own ideas but the ideas given expression to in the report of the Industrial Planning Committee. Rupees 20 lakhs have been spent on the Fisheries Department and all this money has not in any way helped to increase fish production. The Industries Department is criticized in the report as paying too little attention to existing industries, not to speak of starting new industries. The department was organized at a time when probably it was thought desirable to put a check on the increase of production in the country. But in the changed circumstances of to-day the department should be thoroughly reorganized. It is suggested in the report that the Minister for Industries should himself provide the driving power and that he should be the chief propagandist. Private initiative is no longer coming forward to run industries. Perhaps private initiative never existed in this country, and whatever private initiative there was has been killed. To-day there is no private initiative and therefore the report suggested that Government initiative should take the place of private initiative. (At this stage, Mr. President resumed the Chair.) Industrialization will be welcomed by the people at large. Tools of production have been venerated in our country from time immemorial. There is the celebration of Ayudha Puja every year at which the tools of production are worshipped. I plead that there should be a thorough reorganization of the Industries Department and that the people should be infused with enthusiasm to produce more on the industrial and agricultural side so that there may be a rise in the standard of living and an alleviation of the sufferings of the poor people due to chronic poverty."

[8th March 1949]

III.—EXTENSION OF THE TERM OF CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE
COUNCIL.

* **THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI** :—" Sir, we are very happy to convey to the House that His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to accept the recommendation of the Ministry and to extend by one year the term of office of the following Members of the Council under section 61 of the Government of India Act as amended recently by the Constituent Assembly :—

K. Venkataswami Nayudu—Madras City, General.

N. Venkatachalamaji—Vizagapatnam, General.

N. Ramabhadraraju—East Godavari, General.

B. Narayanaswami Nayudu—Krishna, General.

L. Subbarama Reddi—Nellore, General.

B. Bhima Rao—Bellary, General.

C. Perumalswami Reddiyar—North Arcot, General.

S. A. S. Rm. Ramanatham Chettiyar—Tanjore, General.

M. K. Sundarama Ayyar—Mathurai, General.

M. D. T. Kumaraswami Mudaliyar—Tirunelveli, General.

K. Madhava Menon—Malabar, General.

D. Manjaya Hegde—South Kanara, General.

V. Hameed Sultan Maracair Sahib—Madras South, General.
Muhammadan.

K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur—Madras West Coast, Muham-
madan.

Mr. A. S. T. F. Rodrigues—Indian Christian.

Likewise, the term of office of the following nominated Members also has been extended by one year :—

Dr. Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar.

Sri P. B. K. Sarma.

Sri A. R. L. Pathy.

Since this is very happy news to some of the Members, I took this opportunity to convey it to the House. Normally the terms of office of the above Members expire on 31st March 1949 except that of **Mr. A. R. L. Pathy**. By this extension, their terms will last till 31st March 1950. We expect that by 31st March 1950, new elections will be held."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" If the elections do not take place before that date? "

* **THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI** :—" We shall see whether the Constituent Assembly makes any transitory provisions or whether this Government should take any independent action. The present Act gives power to the Governor to extend the term of office of Members."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Sir, on behalf of the Members whose term of office has been extended, may I thank the Ministry for

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commending the extension of the period of our service to the country by one year and His Excellency the Governor for accepting the recommendation? For my part, I was thinking of retiring from public service. I never thought of contesting an election as I could not stand the stress of an election campaign. To such of us, this extension of term comes as a God-sent privilege. Once again I convey our thanks to the Ministry and His Excellency the Governor."

GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1949-50—cont.

* **SRI L. SUBBARAMA REDDI** :—" అధ్యక్షా, ఇక్కడ మా ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్ యొక్క సభ్యత్వ కాలము ఒక సంవత్సరము పొడిగించబడుతున్నది. ఈ ప్రభుత్వమువారు చేసిన నిశ్చయమును ఇండియా గవర్నమెంటువారు అనుమతించినందులకు వారికి నేను నామమాత్రపు అభినందనములను అర్పించుచున్నాను."

"ఈ ఒక్కటే విషయములో అనేక తర్కనభర్తనలు జరుగుచున్నవి. ముఖ్యముగా గవర్నమెంటువారు రాజ్యాంగబద్ధముగా పూర్తిగా నిశ్చయము చేసుకొని ముఖ్యంగా దీని ప్రజలయొక్క సైలిక, ఆర్థికస్థితిని, రానున్న భవిష్యత్తును పరిగణించి వారిని అభినందించక తప్పదు. ఈ సభ్యత్వమును నిజంగా పూర్తిగా అనుమతించి వారిని అభినందించుట అవసరము. అందుచేతనే కొన్ని లోపములు ఉన్నప్పటికీ ఈ సభ్యత్వమును అనుమతించి ఇచ్చేటట్లు చేసి, నిరుద్యోగమును ఈ కొద్దిరోజులలో పూర్తిగా నిర్మూలించడము అవసరము. కాదు, మరికొంతకాలము తలుచుకొని ఈ దుర్భాగపాస్తి గ్రామమువారికి ప్రభుత్వము వారుకట్టగా ప్రయత్నిస్తే వారి ఆర్థికము వారి జీవనముగా జరుగుతుందని నమ్ముచున్నాను. ఇప్పుడు అనేక చోట్ల ఉద్యోగములు తగ్గవుగా చేస్తున్నారు. ఈ విషయము అంగీకారమును వారుచేయుచుంటే వారిని అనుమతించి గవర్నమెంటువారు తక్షణముగా క్లియరుచేస్తే ఇది మానవీకరము. కాబట్టి ఇటువంటి విషయములలో

మనము హెచ్చు ప్రయత్నము చేసి కొంతకాలముగా సాచారుని తయారు చేయించడము పూర్తిగా మానిపించినట్లైతే దీనివారియొక్క సైలిక, ఆర్థికస్థితి నిర్మూలించుట రానున్న భవిష్యత్తును పరిగణించి చేసుకోవలసివచ్చును. ఈ సభ్యత్వమును నిశ్చయించుట ముఖ్యముగా పరిగణించాలి. కూలివారి చేసుకోవలసివచ్చుట వారు వారి రానున్న భవిష్యత్తును నేను వ్యతిరేకముగా చెప్పుకొన్నట్లు ఆంగీకరించుట ముఖ్యముగా నిశ్చయించుట మనవారు చాలావరకు త్రాగుట మానివేసినారని, ఇప్పుడు వారికి తనలాంటి ఇండి కట్టుకోవాలి అని పొర్రుకున్నామని, ఈ విషయంలో ప్రభుత్వము వారికి చాలా సహాయముచేసినారని భరితమైతే భరితమైతే వారు. ఈ సభ్యత్వము నిశ్చయించుట ప్రభుత్వమువారికి అనేక చోట్ల రూపాయలు ఖర్చు అవుతున్నాయని కొంతమంది సభ్యులు వాదించినారు కాని ఎంత ఖర్చు అయినప్పటికీ ముఖ్యంగా దీని ప్రజలను రానున్న భవిష్యత్తు వారి సైలిక, ఆర్థిక స్థితిని అభివృద్ధిపరచి వారి జీవిత కాలాని పెంపొందించుటకుగాను ప్రజా సహాయమును అందజేయుటకుగాను ప్రభుత్వము చేయవలసిన ముఖ్యసహాయములలో ఇది చాలా ముఖ్యమైనది."

"ఒక్కటే లోపమును భరించుటగాను కొంతకాలము వెదురుకొనిచూచి గౌరవనీయులగు ఆర్థికశాఖ మంత్రిగారు చెప్పినారు. ఈ కొత్తసభ్యులను చేసేటప్పుడు అంతర్జాతీయమైన వాటిని నిధింపకుండా ఉన్నట్లైతే చాలావరకు ఉంటుంది. అందుచేత ముఖ్యముగా ప్రజాసహాయమును కాపాడక తప్పదు. కాబట్టి మా ప్రభుత్వము

[Sri L. Subbarama Reddi] [8th March 1949]

విధించినట్లేనే ఆ పదార్థాల ధరలు హెచ్చిపోయి వాటిని వేదవారు కొనికొన్నారేక
చాలావాణ్ణు పడుతూని మనచేస్తున్నాను. అందుచేత అటువంటి వాటిమీద పన్నులు
చేయడంని కారవసయియలగు అధికశాఖామంత్రిగారిని కోరుచున్నాను. ఈ పన్నులను
విధించే సందర్భములో ఉత్పత్తిదారులవద్దనుంచి కూడా sales tax వసూలు చేయదలంచి
నట్లు చేపుచున్నాడు. ఉత్పత్తిదారులవద్దనుంచి వసూలు చేసేటటువంటి పన్నును సహా
కొద్దిగా ఉంటుంది. ఆ కొద్ది మొత్తమును వసూలు చేసేంతవలసిన అవసరముకూడా
కనపించుటలేదు. ఇట్టిదు మనప్రభుత్వమువారియొక్క Revenue Reserve Fund
లోకి. గా. అధికమంత్రిగారు చేర్చిన 5 కోట్ల రూపాయలలోనుంచి ఉత్పత్తిదారుల
వద్దనుంచి వసూలు చేయదలచిన ఒకకోట్ల ఒకటిన్నర కోట్ల రూపాయలను పీసీఐఆర్
చేసి, ఆహారపదార్థాలమీద కొత్తపన్నులనులేకుండా చేసినపైత చాలావాణ్ణుగలం.

సామాన్య పక్షాలు ఈ పన్నులను భరించలేరు. వారికి ఇదిచాలా దుర్భరముగా ఉంటుంది. కాబట్టి ఆహారపదార్థాలమీద కొత్త పన్నులను వేయవద్దని నా సలహా. వ్యవసాయానికి వృద్ధికి, తద్వారా అధిక ఆహారోత్పత్తికి కావలసినటువంటివి వ్యవసాయానికి పనికివచ్చే ఇంజనసామానులు, ఎరువులు, వీటిని రైతులకు సకాలములో ఇప్పించుటకు గవర్నరుగారు వారు శోధయ్యచేయవలసియున్నది. ముఖ్యంగా ఇనుపకరములు ఇవ్వటం వ్యవసాయ మునకు తక్కువగా ఉన్నదని వాటి కోటాలు ఎక్కువ చేయించి రైతులకు సకాల ములో ఇప్పిస్తే సేగాని ఆహారోత్పత్తి ప్రకారముగా జరుగదు. పట్టణాలలో వ్యవసాయ పనిముట్లు చేయించుకోటానికి ఇనుముదొరుకుటలేదుగాని పట్టణాలలో ఇచ్చేటటువంటి ఇనుపసామానులకోటాలు చాలా ఎక్కువగా ఉంటున్నాయి. ఈ పట్టణాల కోటాను కొంతవరకు తగ్గించి ఆ ఇనుముతో రైతులకు కావలసినటువంటి వాటిని తయారు చేయించి ఇవ్వవలసిందిగా కోరుతున్నాను. వాటిని తయారు చేయించి రైతులకు సకాలములో ఇప్పించి వాటిని వాడుకగానుంచుచి. ఈ సంవత్సరం మా జిల్లాలో సంతకాసిన కూరలు ఇప్పిస్తున్నారు. ఇది చాలా పనికిరానిది. వీటితో రైతులు సమస్య సరిగా చేసుకోలేరు. కాబట్టి మంచి వారలనే ఇప్పించవలసినదిగా కోరుచున్నాను. ఈ కొద్దై మాత్రము పని ముట్లైనా రైతులకు సకాలములో ఇవ్వటంలేదు. ఇందువలన సాగుచేయటం అలభ్యము అవుతోంది. మా జిల్లాలో Agricultural Department వారు ఈ పనిముట్లను సకాలములో ఇవ్వలే కుండా ఉన్నారు. కాబట్టి గౌరవనీయులగు వ్యవసాయ శాఖామంత్రి శ్రీ మాధవ మీసా గారు ఈ విషయంలో కొంత శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొని పనిముట్లు సకాలములో ఇచ్చేటట్లు ఏర్పాటు చేయవలసినదిగా నేను కోరుచున్నాను.

“ పబ్లిక్ వర్క్స్ డిపార్ట్ మెంట్ కిగాను Public Works Department పంథిగారు ఆసక్తికరమైన చాలా కాలమునుంచి ఆసక్తికరమైన పనులను చేస్తున్నారు. వీరి పనులలో ప్రధాన జాతి రీయింగ్ ఇన్వెస్టిగేషన్ చేస్తున్నారు. ఈ విషయంలో ఇక్కడ నగ్గి పరియ్యాలను, ఇంజనీరింగు డిపార్ట్ మెంట్ లోను ఎక్కువ సంవత్సరాలనుంచి మూలభూమి పనులను చేసి కావలసిన పనులను చూచి చాలా scheme లను కొనసాగించి ద్వారా పనులను గొరవణియాలను శ్రీ భక్తవత్సలంగాని అభినందించి వినియోగిస్తుంది. Scheme లను తయారు చేయించినంత మాత్రాన ప్రభుత్వమువారి వాణ్ణిక తగ్గదు. ఈ scheme లను P.W.D. Scheme ల క్రిందనా, లేక Grow More Food Scheme ల క్రిందనా sanction చేసినారు. కాంక్షను చేసిన స్కీములను సాధ్యమైనంత త్వరగా పనులను ప్రారంభించివారిని అమలు జరిపినట్లే ఆహారకొరత తగ్గుతుందని నా మాట.

మా నేర్పూరు జిల్లాలో రోడ్డు చాలా మోసమేసటువంటి స్థితిలో ఉన్నది. కాబట్టి పట్టణాలనుండి పెంజడ్లు పిలిచియుగాని జాబితీ మరమ్మతులు చేయించడవల్సింది.

3th March 1949] [Sri L. Subbarama Reddi]

చాలా కాలముగ్గ జరగటం లేదు. ఈ రోడ్డు వరకాలములో వేయక అలభ్యముగా వ్యాపకములన రోడ్డు నిర్మాణమునక, వేసినా గుంటుబడికి చాలా దూరం వరకుముందే తయారైనది చేయటానికి చాలా అలభ్యముగా ఉన్నది. వీటి నిర్మాణంలో కూడా Highways Department వారు చాలా అలభ్యము చేస్తున్నారని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. రోడ్డు పకాలములో ఈ రోడ్లను పాగుచేయువనలనిపించగా రోడ్డు మున్నాను.

“నెల్లూరు జిల్లాలో ప్రథమ ప్రపంచయుద్ధమునకు ముందుగానే ఒక రైలు మార్గాని నెల్లూరు-కడగిరి-ధనికొండకు వేయఁబానికే scheme ను ఇండియా గవర్న మెంటు వారు approved చేసి దానిని survey కూడా చేయించినారు. అంతలో ప్రథమ ప్రపంచయుద్ధము వచ్చినది. దానితో ఈ scheme ను నిలిపివేశారు. తరువాత అనేకసార్లు ఈ విషయాన్ని ఆధికారులకు మనవి చేసుకొన్నాము కాని పని జరుగ లేదు. ఇప్పుడు దానిని గరించి వీటి ప్రసక్తలేకుండా ఉన్నది. మా నెల్లూరు జిల్లా చాలా పెద్ద జిల్లా. 13 తాలూకాలు ఉన్నాయి. వీటిలో 10 జిల్లా, రెండు తాలూకాలు మాత్రమే మాగాణి తాలూకాలు మిగతా 11 తాలూకాలు మట్టి తాలూకాలు. ఇవి చాలా విస్తీర్ణముగా ఉన్నది. రవాణా సౌకర్యాలు ఎక్కువగా లేవు. కాబట్టి ఈ రైలు మార్గము వేసినట్లైతే దివంగత పదార్థాలు మొదలైనవివంటివి రవాణా చేసుకొనుటకు, ప్రజల ప్రయాణానికి చాలా సౌకర్యముగా ఉండుంది. కాబట్టి ఈ రైలు మార్గాన్ని మనకు ముందాసు గవర్న మెంటువారు ఇండియా గవర్న మెంటు వానికి విభారముచేసి వారు దానిని approved చేసుకొని దానిని నిర్మించునని తమకు తెలియ చేసున్నాము.

[illegible]

* S. K. SHAIK ROWTHIER SAHIB BAHADUR Mr. President, Sir, the budget of the year 1949-50 is considered by the public as a taxation budget as it has not offered even a token relief to the poor and middle classes. This fresh taxation which affects the ordinary man could have been avoided. The amount of deficit is so small that it could easily be covered by drawing from the Reserve Fund or by retrenchment. This increased taxation would increase the cost of living index, to reduce which efforts are being taken both by the Centre and the Provinces. This taxation affects the poor man. We have protested against this.

[S. K. Shaik Rowther Sahib Bahadur] [8th March 1949]

enjoying his favourite drink on the ground that his family life and health are to be saved and almost in the same breath we ask him to pay more for bare necessities like sugar, chillies, tea, coffee, etc. Can the poor man suffer such taxation? Certainly not.

"Wealth in this country had been growing with the co-operation of the industrialists but that is stopped now. They do not produce more because they say they have no initiative. Fifteen and a half annas in a rupee are taken away from them as taxes by the Government and they do not want to take risks. They fear that the proper compensation would not be given when the industrial concerns are taken over by the Government in their scheme of nationalization of Industries.

"As regards the sales tax on cotton at three pies at one stage it will affect the production of yarn and cloth. Sales tax in this Presidency is high when compared with that of other Provinces. This Province is at a disadvantage in marketing its products outside the Province, because sales tax rules in this Province involve taxation at multiple points and put our price to the consumers at a disadvantage with those Provinces and countries which tax sales only at one point. I submit, Sir, that sales tax in our Province should be uniform with other Provinces. Sir, the import duty levied on cotton cloth by the Central Government is not likely to affect the indigenous textile industry, but would assist the hand-loom industry to maintain the market by slightly increasing the cost of mill-made cloth. But this help is not adequate. The hand-loom industry should be given substantial help. Hand-loom industry in the Province was next only to agriculture in importance and this unfortunately has not been recognized by the Government. They have to give substantial protection for the hand-loom industry which gives employment to five lakhs of workmen and sustenance to two million people in this Presidency. A large number of workmen will be thrown out of employment if the Government do not come to its rescue. In the year 1947-48 huge stocks of hand-loom cloth worth several crores had been lying unsold in factories and sale depots owing to the restriction by the Government of exports to other Provinces and countries outside Indian Union such as Pakistan, Burma, Malaya, and Ceylon. Consequently several factories had to suffer heavy loss and had to be closed and many weavers were thrown out of employment. Our Government realized the situation very late and lifted the ban on exports to outside countries for a few months only which enabled the factories and sale depots to dispose of a major portion of their stocks, but not the whole. The Government ought to have removed the restriction completely and allowed free exports, without permits to countries outside Indian Union such as Burma, Malaya, Ceylon, etc. Though the Government of India subsequently lifted completely the ban on export of handloom cloth to countries outside the Indian Union the exporters found it too difficult to recapture the old markets.

"There is another handicap as regards the hand-loom industry, i.e., yarn is not supplied to all the existing looms regularly. It seems that a census of looms was taken in the year 1944 and it was considered to be not a correct one. During the previous control

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led ration cards for the supply of yarn to factories and individual weavers were issued on the basis of that census which was considered to be incorrect, the result being that yarn was supplied to many bogus looms and not to all genuine looms. There were many complaints about the matter and the Government's attention was drawn to it by many petitions. The Government promised to take a fresh census of looms, but unfortunately the census was not taken. Subsequently the rationing system was abolished. After decontrol weavers and factories were able to purchase yarn as much as they required though the prices were high. When the re-control on supply of yarn was introduced recently the Government again adopted their old method of supply basing on that incorrect census taken in 1944 and that causes great hardship to the weavers and factories. I suggest to the Government that a fresh and correct census of looms may be taken without delay and yarn supply be based on the new census and hardship avoided.

"The tax on bus fares will raise the cost of living of the average citizen and especially of the poor classes to whom no other form of transport is available.

"To the surcharge on electricity imposed during the past year there is now a sales tax to be collected from the consumers including the occupier of the little bazaar shop with one bulb. This also will cause great hardship to the people.

"Sir, the proposal to levy a betterment tax of 25 per cent of the increase in value of property sold since 1938 will cause great hardship and the most unreasonable of all the budget proposals is that which gives a retrospective effect to the said betterment tax. Any profit made would have been spent long ago and if a demand was now made for one-fourth on profit which may have been acquired 10 years ago, nothing but an untold harassment would follow. In order to ease the food situation I suggest, the Government should pass orders by legislation to reduce the extent of cultivation of commercial crops and to increase the area of cultivation of food crops in order to produce more food grains. The Government should undertake irrigation projects in all districts by raising loans if necessary as the matter is very urgent and important and avoid waste of money in purchasing food stuffs from foreign countries at a very high cost and suffer loss. I congratulate the Government for sanctioning the Malampuzha Irrigation Scheme although the scheme was shelved for a very long time and I hope that the scheme will be completed in a few years."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The House will sit till 5-30 p.m. to-day."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU:—"Mr. President, Sir, I felt at first that I should keep quiet this year and not speak on the budget on account of the directions given to me by my doctor."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I have absolutely no objection." (Laughter.)

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU:—"Later on I had to revise my decision, Sir, in spite of the advice of the doctor, because when

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it is a question of dealing with facts and figures in the budget there is no question of getting any excitement. (Interruption). I also felt, Sir, that if I kept quiet it would amount to dereliction of duty on my part, for this year's budget offers extraordinary features and no Congressman of standing worth the name and no Congressman who thinks in terms of Gandhism and the prestige of the Congress can keep quiet. So, Sir, I wish to offer a few remarks on this budget. It is said, Sir, that this is a deficit budget. My contention is that this is a surplus budget, and therefore there is no need for taxation. And even if there is going to be any taxation it cannot bring about deflation of currency as it was claimed by the Hon. the Finance Minister in his speech in the other place. On these three points I wish to offer a few remarks.

"I said, Sir, that this is a surplus budget. After all the making of a budget surplus or deficit depends, as one of the great economists has said, on one's subtle intelligence and intriguing capacity. My Hon. Friend, Mr. Gopala Reddi, has got that supreme intelligence, but I never imagined that he has got that intriguing capacity. I do not know, Sir, whether I can see the hand of my Hon. Friend in this budget, with all his sobriety and his poetical tendency and his æsthetic sense and friendly manners."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"Telugu".

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—"I thought, Sir, that he was not capable of preparing such a budget. But to my disappointment I find some change has come over my Hon. Friend, Mr. Gopala Reddi, after he became the Finance Minister. He has himself confessed, Sir, that there is some possibility of effecting change in the budget to bring about less expenditure. He has said: 'It is possible that there may be savings here and there in the provisions made for new schemes and the final deficit for 1949-50 will be somewhat smalled.' Such being his opinion, I ask, Sir, why he did not work out to the maximum point and bring out the figures in as actual a manner as possible. Even in the last year's budget he expected some deficit but in the revised estimates we find that the estimated deficit is not there. It is very much less. Whereas he estimated a deficit of Rs. 6 crores the actual deficit is only about Rs. 3½ crores. And this year he anticipates a deficit of about Rs. 3½ crores and I say that this deficit can be easily made good by way of more returns from the sales tax as it was the case in 1948-49. I do not know why he should take this budget for this year in an extraordinary manner and provide for new taxation. Sir, in five minutes this budget could be balanced and in 10 minutes it can be made a surplus budget. In this budget there are crores of rupees allotted for certain items the purpose of which has not been mentioned actually. It has become a habit, Sir, that certain lump sum provisions should be made and at the end of the year they are misappropriated for other purposes." (Laughter.)

MR. PRESIDENT :—"You mean they are diverted for other needs?"

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—"I say misappropriation, Sir, because, the purposes of the different items of expenditure

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were not shown to us at the time of the presentation of the budget. They would consult the Finance Committee and some scheme would be taken up to please this member or that member and then it may be presented to the members of the House for their information. For such items some crores of rupees are provided here."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I want to point out to you that as you say there is no proper appropriation there can be no misappropriation."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—"The allotment was not made so that it might be appropriated towards another item."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"You were saying that within 5 minutes you could balance the budget. The Hon. Minister for Finance will be pleased if you can show him how to. You have got half an hour before you and you can show him."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—"I shall try to do it, Sir. The estimated deficit is only about 3½ crores of rupees. If I show that certain items can be easily deleted from the expenditure side of the budget and that they are not necessary to meet the needs of the Government, it is sufficient proof, Sir, that it can be made a balanced budget. On page 16, Sir, a lump sum figure of about Rs. 300 lakhs is given to the Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Society as Agents for the distribution of yarn."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"It is not from the Revenue Account."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—"It does not matter, Sir, I shall give you figures both from the capital account and from the revenue account. I shall come to them one after another. I ask, Sir, why this loan should be given to this particular society without developing the normal trade channels."

"After all, Sir, the headings do not matter. It is the expenditure with which we are concerned. Under the head Industrial Development, we find that there is a provision in the budget for 1949-50 of Rs. 35 lakhs for the purchase of shares in the Ammonium Sulphate Factory which the Central Government are constructing in Bihar. I do not understand why when other Provinces are starting some factories, here we are taking shares in those factories showing a deficit here and taxing the poor tax-payer. And last year the Government have already purchased shares in the Fertilizers and Chemicals, Limited, Travancore, to the extent of Rs. 20 lakhs. You are spending away money like this. No doubt it is for industrial purposes. But I ask, is it necessary to put extra taxes on poor people—taxes on food articles. Between good purposes and taxes, you have to choose which is necessary at the present juncture to keep up the prestige of the Congress. We have a number of grow more food schemes. As my hon Friend Mr. Narayanaswami Naidu stated yesterday, there are about Rs. 2 crores allotted for the purpose. When they will be formed, how they will be formed, and how the two crores of rupees will be spent, are

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not at all known. It is all 'lingudu' as Mr. Narayanaswami Naidu said. Likewise, I have now shown that an expenditure of four crores of rupees can be easily cut off—be it capital expenditure or revenue expenditure, for we will be spending away that amount. The head of account does not matter, but it is the expenditure that matters. Likewise, I have tabulated a number of things from the budget, which can easily be cut out. As the Finance Minister himself accepted in his statement, certain items can be easily deleted without any serious effect on the administration of the Province. It may be capital expenditure or revenue expenditure, it does not matter. Then again there are the post-war reconstruction schemes. Some of the Members of the Opposition have stated that this extra taxation is not meant to recoup the deficit that has occurred on account of prohibition. Prohibition is altogether a different thing. The deficit on account of prohibition has already been made up. There is no hardship on that account. The Finance Minister stated that further taxation is meant to arrest inflation. He has made that statement in two places in his speech. He has said that as part of the campaign against inflation, the Government have decided to impose taxes. The whole thing, I take it, revolves round the question of inflation, and that fresh taxation is only to arrest this inflation. I am at a loss to understand how this taxation, which is expected to yield Rs. 3½ crores, can arrest inflation in currency, and bring about deflation. First of all I want to know from him or from the Economic Adviser to the Government of Madras how much inflation of currency has taken place in this Presidency? What was the currency in circulation in this Presidency in pre-war years? What was the inflation of currency during the war years? What are you doing to bring about deflation in the currency after the close of the war? The Government of India are trying to bring about deflation in the country. When you take these facts into consideration, you cannot state that extra taxation is meant for arresting inflation. In fact, in the whole of India including Pakistan inflation of currency was about 8½ times more than what it was in pre-war years. In 1946 by the ordinance of the Government of India currency notes of the denomination of Rs. 500 and over were withdrawn from circulation. Later on the Government of India issued orders for the withdrawal of rupee coins of fine silver content—Edward VII and George VI coins. In currency there are now only one hundred-rupee notes. There is no higher denomination. The ordinance of 1946 withdrawing currency notes of Rs. 500 and over has brought out a very large circulation of notes. But inflation was not decreased. It had no effect on inflation. I said, Sir, that there is 8½ times inflation. As far as this Presidency is concerned, I am afraid no economists can tell us how much inflation is here. In this Presidency from 1920 up to 1949—within a period of nine years—our taxes have increased by 3½ times. That is from about Rs. 17 crores it has come to Rs. 60 crores. But correspondingly we do not find any increase in the wealth of this Presidency. There has been no increase in production. What moral right have we to levy fresh taxes? Do you know the actual national wealth? Do you know the yield of this Province? Do you know what the

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per capita income is? Without any idea of these things, what right have you got to impose fresh taxes year after year. There is the Economic Adviser and a large staff. Have you asked him to put out an investigation into the national wealth, per capita income, and the incidence of taxation? Yet you come forward with proposals for fresh taxation. I ask, Sir, whom are you taxing? I tax the women and the devotees. You tax food articles. You there is need for food control. At the same time you want to tax food articles. By taxing plantains and coconuts, you are taxing devotees. You are taxing people who are eating plantains and coconuts. People in Malabar taking coconuts are taxed. In some parts of this Presidency, coconut is a substantial food. You are taxing coconut. You are taxing pepper. If pepper cannot be had in places in Tamilnad, they will be put to suffering, because sambhar cannot be had. As far as Andhra districts are concerned, you are taxing chillies. We use chillies. The lowest man in society or a boy eats chillies. What does the agricultural labourer eat? These chillies are made into powder. A small quantity of salt is mixed with this powder, and he uses this powder while taking his *mjeer*. Without this chilly powder, he cannot take his *conjee* at all. He has no *sambhar* and no *curry*. He has no *rasam*. He has only this chilly powder for his *conjee*. You want to tax this chilly. You want to tax our *pasupu*. I may tell that it is anti-septic. It is used in Andhra districts. The Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi also knows. We use it in our houses. Our women use it mostly. In places where modern civilisation has not penetrated and where glycerine, vaseline and face powder have not gone, this *pasupu* is used. In the country-side all women use this for hands, face and eyes.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Widows do not use it." (Laughter.)

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU:—"All are not widows. (More laughter.) Men also do not use it. It is an article which is being used in every dish that we eat. This article is a symbol of our Hindu religion. You want to tax that article. I say all this because I am part of your Government. I am one belonging to the Congress party. We are all returned on the same ticket, and the same election manifesto. It is the yellow box that returned you and me to power. Now you want to put an end to that colour. It will take revenge against us. (Laughter.) When you next go to the polls and ask the people to cast their votes in the yellow box, the people will say, you fellows; you have taxed us, and you ask us to put our votes in the yellow box."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We will change the colour of the box." (Laughter.)

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU:—"Of course, we can go on changing colours. That is politics. As the Andhra poet Girisam himself said, to go on changing colours is the nature of a successful politician. But I am sure the Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi is incapable of doing that. He only wishes it. Sir, you are taxing the potatoes. The potato is an essential part of our food."

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MR. PRESIDENT :—“ Especially with ‘ Pooris ’.”

5-15 p.m. SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—“ Then, Sir, Government are taxing tea, coffee, rubber and so on. Taxing of rubber is a matter between the Hon. Minister and the Industrialists. About coffee, I do not mind taxing it because it may be classed as an article which touches the pockets of only the rich. Then, Sir, sugarcane is also taxed. Sir, sugarcane is part and parcel of our daily food. Then oil seeds are taxed. You want to tax oil baths also! Sir, gingelly oil and groundnut oil are being used in the houses and also in the hotels for frying and also cooking purposes. All these are to be taxed. These are the poor man's food and these are his articles of daily use. Now, Sir, it has become the fashion of the day to tax even the post-card and the post-cover. Is this the march forward that we have made? If that is so, it is a most unpleasant march forward. What is it that Gandhiji has said? He wanted that the poor man's salt should not be taxed. We fought for it; we went into jails. Now the Hon. the Minister for Finance wants to tax all these necessities of the poor man. He says he wants to tax these things in order to arrest inflation. Can he do it? Already people are oppressed and suppressed by the heavy cost of living and these taxes will only oppress them more and they cannot be relieved from that oppression. Sir, the tax is imposed to get a revenue of Rs. 3½ crores. If we touch the poor man's pocket, is it going to bring about deflation? Inflation is a disease for which the doctor is a different man and not you. The doctor is the Central Government and only the Central Government should cure that disease. Of course there are representatives of this Province in the Constituent Assembly and they must fight with the Central Government and they must see what to do to check this inflation and they should also suggest the lines on which the Central Government should proceed to bring about deflation. Sir, the measures that are said to be adopted by the Central Government to bring about deflation are not really effective but they are only makeshifts. After the first world war, the British Government in India had taken certain lines of action and they brought about deflation. Whenever Government increase the currency, prices rise. That is the history of currency in any country. But, when the currency was contracted, prices came down. Thus the Government brought about the depression in 1932. After the first world war, in order to bring about deflation, Government had contracted the currency by various means; they did it by throwing silver into the market and selling the silver at cheaper rates. Thus they could contract the currency. Then, Sir, the silver rupee coins having a large silver content were withdrawn and they put coins with less silver content in the market. They also sold the silver which they got from the rupee. The result was deflation. If you adopt these measures, you will be able to contract the currency. That will be the best method. If you are capable of doing it, I would also suggest another method. My hon. Friend, Mr. Narayana Menon, suggested a method which is of a confiscatory nature. In France that is being done. The

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or day, in France, they have depreciated the value of their currency. Likewise in India also, if you depreciate the value of currency by 35 per cent then prices will come down and nobody be affected. Sir, I have suggested these two methods that could be adopted by the Government for checking inflation. But, Provincial Government cannot do this. Sir, as I said previously, inflation is not a question which should be tackled by us. Leave it to the Government of India. The affairs of our own Province are too much for us. Ours is a deficit Province. As a matter of fact, I may bring to the notice of this House that the money market is very tight here. The rate of interest used to be only 2 or 3 per cent. Yesterday, the rate was 12 per cent. Sir, if there is an inflow of money, certainly the rate of interest cannot go up to 12 per cent. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Narayanaswami Naidu yesterday said, we are sending out thirty crores of rupees every year for the food which we get. For the last three years, this is going on. Then, how can the Government say, that because there is inflation in this Province, they want to impose extra taxation? Even if we concede, Sir, that there is some inflation in this Presidency, how is this extra taxation which is expected to bring in a revenue of only Rs. 3½ crores going to help us to bring about deflation? Sir, it will only be a drop in the ocean. It will only bring about unpopularity to our party, to our Congress Government and to our great Seer and Saint of India, who have given us a very good heritage. We must try to live up to that heritage.

“ Sir, you are really not aware of the difficulties of the poor. You have got your cars. You are rich. You do not contact the poor. Your contact with the poor is very little. But, we who go about in trams, in buses and also in rickshaws, know what happens. The other day, Mr. Narayanaswami Naidu said how the Government were abused by the public. I have myself practically seen while going in a tram how people laugh and heckle the Government and so on.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ Is it in Telugu or in Tamil? ”

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—“ In all possible ways. I do not want to repeat what they said. I therefore suggest that our Transport Minister at least should be moving about in trams and buses or going in rickshaws in order to know how the public feel and what the public say about the Transport Department. You must recollect to yourself what you have promised to the poor. Those problems still remain unsolved. Therefore, Sir, I say we should do everything to keep up the prestige of the Congress. To-day we are all one party. We may have so many differences among us. But, we must think ourselves and do the things. In fact, Sir, the budget was not placed before the Party and therefore the Party as a whole is not responsible for the fresh taxation. When the Hon. Mr. Prakasam was here, I was one of those people who fought and said that the budget should be placed before the Party. My hon. Friends also were with me then. Many of us fought with

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Mr. Prakasam on that issue and asked him to place the budget proposals before the Party. About the introduction of prohibition, the Party discussed it thoroughly. Sir, I say, these fresh taxation measures taxing the poor man's articles of food and daily necessities were not brought to the notice of the Party and they were placed in the Assembly without the Party knowing about them."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" These taxation proposals will be placed before the Party in the form of Bills and when they come up before them, they can criticise them or vote them down."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" Some taxes are already here."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The budget will not impose any taxes. The proposals will come before the Party in the form of Bills and then the Party can discuss them and vote them down."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" But even then, the Cabinet will be irresponsible to the wishes of the people. It is evident from the manner in which they are carrying on these taxation proposals. Sir, they could have avoided much of the criticism—criticism not only from the Opposition side but also from this side of the House."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" That is the purpose of discussion here."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" My point is, Sir, that there is no need for fresh taxation at all. I say, Sir, this is not a deficit budget and therefore, there is no need for extra taxation; there is no need to tax the poor people in the name of inflation which we cannot arrest because it is the Central Government that should bring about this contraction of the currency and the deflation. I recently heard that some of my friends in the Constituent Assembly and the Central Legislature would take up this matter with the Central Government so that they could directly deal with the question of inflation and bring about the desired effect. Some of our hon. Friends would have seen that the prices the world over have begun a downward march, and if we are in touch with world conditions to-day, we can, with a fair confidence, say that by the end of this year, prices are sure to come down and the question of inflation will not arise."

" Then, Sir, the Hon. the Minister for Finance said that these taxes are only temporary measures. Sir, no tax will be a temporary measure when once it is imposed. I never saw any tax being relaxed once it is imposed. Once a tax is imposed, my hon. Friend, Mr. Gopala Reddi or his successor or his successor would like to continue it. As I said, Sir, there is no genuine need for any extra taxation at all. If there is any genuine need, then Government can consider the number of proposals which are given by the Taxation Enquiry Committee of 1936. Without considering all those proposals which are very modest, Government have come forward with these unworthy and wonderful proposals of taxation."

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" The hon. Member may suggest one."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" There is the agricultural income-tax which can be imposed. Again, there is the death duty. You can also impose birth duties."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Was it one of the Taxation Enquiry Committee's proposals? The hon. Member should certainly know those proposals."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" Agricultural income-tax was there."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The agricultural income-tax and the death duty are condemned by public opinion."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" I think the death duty is accepted."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The Central Government are taking up that matter. The complaint of the Provincial Government is that they take away the whole thing."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" There are various other ways and means of taxation. But, this way of taxing the poor man and his essential articles of food will create very many difficulties."

" Sir, in one place in his budget speech the Hon. Finance Minister said that there are very many difficulties in the way of introducing the agricultural income-tax under conditions prevailing in the Province and that the Zamindari legislation is no bar to it. I say, Sir, that the Zamindari legislation may not even see the light of day for some more months to come and if you are convinced of the need for the imposition of a graded income-tax on agricultural income, you can at least impose it in ryotwari areas. You may even exempt people owning less than 5 acres of land, you may even begin taxing persons owning above 100 acres of land—we do not mind it—and you may then begin your graded tax. I say there will not be any difficulty because the revenue accounts are already there. After all you want only 3½ crores to meet the deficit. That is nothing. Moreover, you say, this is only a temporary phase and that at the end of March there may even be no deficit. You have also the Revenue Reserve Fund to fall back upon. The Hon. Finance Minister has said that this year he has put into it some amount and so you can take back something from it easily should there be a deficit, which is after all only 3½ crores. So, Sir, there seems to be no need for imposing extra taxation and trying to . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Has the hon. Member got any fresh points? "

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" Then, Sir, I have a word or two about local grievances. In this connexion, I would like to refer to rural electrification scheme in the West Godavari district to which I have often referred."

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MR. PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member was saying the other day that the poles broke or some such thing."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" The poles are kept intact there and the Hon. Minister for Public Works has also allotted some money this year, as he was doing each year, but I do not know whether at the end of the year the whole allotment is going to be utilized or under what item of expenditure it will be merged. I hope the Hon. Finance Minister alone can enlighten us on this matter. Sir, whenever I ask him about it, I am told that it would be done and that something was spent though on the first pole. I would therefore request him to see that the electrification scheme is completed as soon as possible because it is mainly concerned with the rural parts and if that scheme is completed, you can also supply electricity for agricultural purposes.

" The second point is about lecturerships in the Queen Mary's College, Madras. The Hon. Minister for Education has been . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" That is not a local problem, I suppose."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" No, Sir, it is not a local problem. The Hon. Education Minister has been kind enough to elevate the position of pandits—Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam pandits, etc.—and I must thank him first of all for having created posts in the Madras Educational Service cadre in the Presidency College for Telugu along with other languages. But in the Queen Mary's College, Madras, where there are about 80 Telugu girls, no such lecturership for Telugu exists. As a member of the Senate of the Andhra University, I can say, that during the last 10 or 15 years only two girls joined the Telugu Honours course and passed and both of them are now employed, one at Guntur and the other in the Queen Mary's College, Madras. But I regret to find that none of them got a post in the Madras Educational Service cadre, whereas the Tamil pandit is in the Madras Educational Service cadre. Of course, the plea may be put forward that there are a large number of students in the Sanskrit and Hindi sections. No doubt, the number of students in those two sections is only as many as there are in the Telugu section. Again, Sir, Sanskrit and Hindi are optional subjects, and they are not part of the regional language in Madras. So, I request the Hon. Minister for Education to see that in the interests of the women studying the Telugu language and in the interests of the Queen Mary's College, a Telugu lecturership is created there.

" Sir, I wish to refer to one other point in this connexion and that is about the scales of pay of the secondary grade teachers. The scale prescribed for the secondary grade teachers has created great hardship among them. Those people who have joined service earlier and those people who have served much, are getting less than those who have newly joined under the revised scales. Their increment during the first five years is Rs. 8 and later on only

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 231-A asked by Mr. V. K. John at the Legislative Council meeting held on 8th March 1949, page 357 supra.]

Central revenue collected in the various provinces.

A. 1947-48.

Name of the province.	Customs.	Central excise duties.	Corporation tax.	Taxes on income other than Corporation tax.	Other heads.	Total.
RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
Madras ..	16,18-60	6,20-70*	1,92-74	4,19-63	60-42	29,12-09
Bombay ..	57,57-54	3,87-51	16,77-59	36,43-19	10,82-67	1,25,48-50
West Bengal ..	27,99-88	10,41-83	14,85-22	10,94-71	59-27	64,80-96
United Provinces ..	..	5,29-21	51-67	1,17-79	1,68-80	6,31-89
Central Provinces and Berar ..	..	1,24-62	29-89	10-19	1-75	1,66-45
Bihar ..	..	2,51-11	5-57	2,45-71	11-17	5,13-56
Assam ..	2-50	1,92-13	90-15	16-46	5-53	3,06-77
Orissa ..	..	16-65	..	..	2-04	18-69
East Punjab ..	2-07	15-66	3-67	50-56	2-27	74-23

Note.—(1) The figures given for the provinces of West Bengal and East Punjab represent collections for the newly formed provinces from 15th August 1947 to 31st March 1948.

* (2) The details for the Excise duties are:—

	RS.
	LAKHS.
Sugar ..	30-75
Matches ..	1-41
Tobacco ..	5-26-94
Vegetable products ..	2-10
Coffee ..	27-59
Other heads ..	54-91
Total ..	6,20-70

(Similar details for other provinces are not available).

B. 1948-49 (April to October 1948—7 months.)

Name of the province.	Customs.	Central excise duties.	Corporation tax.	Taxes on income other than Corporation tax.	Other heads.	Total.
RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
Madras ..	8,32-12	5,11-19	60-61	2,77-20	26-90	17,06-02
Bombay ..	31,34-58	3,24-09	7,79-79	10,82-27	12,07-05	74,27-78
West Bengal ..	22,89-64	15,53-56	9,15-13	9,75-65	41-45	57,25-23
United Provinces ..	..	4,29-68	16-89	1,76-47	98-87	7,31-91

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Name of the province.	Customs.	Central excise duties.	Corporation tax.	Tax on income other than Corporation tax.	Other heads.	Total.
RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
Central Provinces and Berar ..	..	91-09	0-87	39-55	1-24	1,33-66
Bihar ..	11-12	1,76-00	2-13	62-90	13-78	2,65-93
Assam ..	7-86	1,32-92	73-86	2,95-38	0-84	5,10-36
Orissa ..	..	16-44	..	..	0-81	17-25
East Punjab ..	51-14	21-58	2-08	1,53-75	3-95	2,32-50

Note.—For Madras, figures in respect of collections made up to the end of December 1948 are also available and they are as follows:—

	To end of December 1948.
	RS.
	LAKHS.
(1) Customs ..	10,71-25
(2) Central Excise ..	6,65-08*
(3) Corporation tax ..	98-87
(4) Taxes on income other than Corporation tax ..	4,48-38
(5) Other heads ..	15-46
Total ..	22,92-64

* The details are:—

	RS.
	LAKHS.
Sugar ..	25-58
Matches ..	1-77-15
Tobacco ..	3,26-42
Vegetable products ..	3-83
Coffee ..	85-51
Other items ..	66-61
Total ..	6,65-08

(Similar details for other provinces are not available.)

C. Contributions from the Central Government to the provinces.

Name of the province.	Income tax.		Export duty on jute.	
	1947-48. Revised Estimate.	1948-49. Budget Estimate.	1947-48. Revised Estimate.	1948-49. Budget Estimate.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
Madras ..	6,85-00	6,85-00	..	..
Bombay ..	6,34-54	7,57-26	..	..
West Bengal ..	3,60-00	3,60-00	50-00	1,00-00
United Provinces ..	5,65-06	7,19-53	..	..
Central Provinces and Berar ..	1,78-44	2,16-36	..	..
Bihar ..	3,06-00	3,99-00	10-00	19-00
Assam ..	89-22	1,08-18	5-77	6-48
Orissa ..	87-38	91-39	1-35	1-00
East Punjab ..	1,48-00	1,75-00	..	..

Note.—1) Figures for actuals of 1947-48 or Revised Estimate, 1948-49, are not available for other provinces. For Madras, the actuals for 1947-48 and 1948-49 in respect of the income-tax assignment are available. They are as follows:—

	RS.
	LAKHS.
1947-48 ..	6,85-00
1948-49 ..	842-22

(Includes a provisional credit of Rs. 90 lakhs in respect of the period from 1st April 1947 to 14th August 1947.)

2) As regards the provinces of the Central Excise duty on tobacco, the Government of India are now paying the Government Rs. 22 lakhs a year as compensation for the suspension of provision taxation on wholesale trade in tobacco. As already stated in the speech introducing the Budget for 1949-50, the Government feel that it would be invidious to continue this position in regard to tobacco, while other commercial crops are subjected to additional taxation in this Province. The Government of India will therefore be addressed in the matter.

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APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 232 asked by Sri B. Bhima Rao (on behalf of Sri P. Veerabhadraswami) at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 8th March 1949, page 338 supra.]

GODAVARI CENTRAL CO-OPERATIVE STORES.

(a) The amount of business turned out by the Godavari Central Stores in 1944-45, 1945-46 and 1946-47 in different commodities—

Serial number and name of the commodity.	Purchases.		
	1944-45.	1945-46.	1946-47.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
1 Rice	12.56	44.60	25.37
2 Wheat and wheat products	4.38	10.20	34.13
3 Pulses and grams	2.10	1.40	3.14
4 Sugar	2.60	2.15	2.01
5 Tamarind	0.03	0.36	0.10
6 Oils	0.15	0.08	0.32
7 Chillies	0.10	0.11	0.01
Total	21.92	58.88	65.08

Rice and other rationed articles including wheat and wheat products Others	Sales.		
	1944-45.	1945-46.	1946-47.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Rice and other rationed articles including wheat and wheat products	12,04,400	53,00,000	59,01,800
Others	8,48,317	8,90,938	6,92,648
Total	20,50,717	61,90,938	64,94,448

(b) The profit or loss during the years—

Year.	Profit.	Loss.
1944-45		RS.
1945-46	Rs. 47,038 after recouping the previous year's loss	24,696
1946-47	(Neither profit nor loss)	

(c) Dividend distributed to the share-holders during these years—

	1944-45.	1945-46.	1946-47.
Dividend distributed to individuals	Nil.	Six and one-fourth per cent of paid-up share capital.	Nil.
Societies	Nil.	Do.	Nil.

(d) The amounts due to the stores and from whom—

Item of account.	As on 30th June 1948.	As on 15th January 1949.
	RS.	RS.
1 Sundry debtors—Credit sales to stores	8,360	3,803
2 Sundry debtors—General Stores Societies—Employees of societies and other individuals	1,16,309	64,385
3 Collectors and Government agencies	75,838	12,506
4 Millers	2,94,279	24,696
5 Producer-Consumer Co-operative Societies	17,931	Nil.
6 District Supply Officer, Tadapalligudem (rice export to Coimbatore)	48,437	24,606
Total	5,61,154	1,30,056

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Steps taken by the directors to recover the dues—

As could be seen from the statement, the amount due on 30th June 1948 at Rs. 5,61,154 is reduced to Rs. 1,30,056. The remaining dues also are being settled and action is being taken in cases where necessary.

VIZIANAGRAM CENTRAL CO-OPERATIVE STORES.

(a) The amount of business turned out by the Vizianagram Co-operative Centres in the years 1944-45, 1945-46 and 1946-47 in different commodities—

Name of commodity.	Purchases.			Sales.		
	1944-45.	1945-46.	1946-47.	1944-45.	1945-46.	1946-47.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Gar	1,26,462	3,73,066	3,80,661	1,47,567	2,97,476	4,87,554
Cereals (paddy, rice and millets)	7,19,707	25,83,708	1,14,66,962	6,63,594	15,00,426	98,68,273
Wheat and wheat products	40,509	19,050	10,226	36,253	53,454	14,904
Waxes and dhalla	85,916	13,881	1,03,426	72,397	24,581	93,271
Household goods	4,610	13,745	5,778	60	2,591	6,750
Coffee seeds	5,816	6,858		1,400	3,176	1,238
Tamarind	900			200	200	200
Turmeric	681			575	704	
Mustard	4,600				4,971	
Chillies	829			21,849	996	
Menthulu	1,286			349		1,149
Cloth		1,521	48,926			54,533
Coconut oil			1,00,057			42,306
Total	9,91,316	39,03,829	1,22,11,078	9,44,159	18,75,492	1,08,10,832

(b) Profit or loss during these years—

Year.	Profit.	Loss.
1944-45	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
1945-46	82,177 5 0	22,994 9 0
1946-47	1,43,808 8 0	

(c) Dividend distributed to the share-holders during these years—

Year.	Amount of dividend.
1944-45	Nil.
1945-46	3,356 12 4 or 64 per cent of paid-up share capital.
1946-47	5,921 12 6 or 64 per cent of paid-up share capital.

(d) The amounts due to the stores and from whom—

Name.	Amount due.
	RS. A. P.
1 Vizagapatnam Sugars and Refinery, Limited, Anakapalle	27 10 6
2 Reception Deputy Tahsildar, Vizianagram	27 8 11
3 Revenue Divisional Officer, Vizianagram	123 15 0
4 Bharat Commercial Syndicate	64 8 0
5 Yellamanchilli Co-operative Stores	94 3 9
6 Madras Provincial Co-operative Marketing Society	3 2 6
7 Narasimhan Co-operative Stores	21 2 3
8 Sri P. Lakshminarasimha Murthy	38 9 6

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(d) The amounts due to the store and from whom—cont.

Name.	Amount due.		
	RS.	A.	P.
9 Narasapatnam Co-operative Stores	1,326	4	6
10 Veeraghattam Co-operative Stores	56	14	0
11 Madugula Estate Employees' Co-operative Stores	1,503	12	0
12 Sompeta Co-operative Stores	4,122	1	4
13 Etikoppaka Toy Manufacturers' Co-operative Society	1,000	0	0
14 Allipore Stores	497	11	0
15 Chinnacole Co-operative Stores	53	10	9
16 Ch. Audinarayana	130	15	6
17 Vizianagram Devasthanam	4	7	4
18 Kurupam Co-operative Stores	3	13	4
19 Palakonda Stores	6,540	6	6
20 Sompeta Co-operative Stores	3,941	4	0
21 Rajam Co-operative Stores	1,528	12	3
22 Vizianagram Co-operative Stores	8	2	3
23 Veeraghattam Co-operative Stores	1,072	14	3
24 Yellamanchili Stores	417	9	5
25 Ichapur Co-operative Stores, Limited	60	0	0
Total	22,719	7	10

(e) Steps taken by the directors to recover the dues—

These amounts are the balances outstanding against primary stores and individuals as on 1st January 1949 in the course of business. The Co-operative Central Stores has issued notices to the societies and individuals to repay the amounts. In case of No. 4, Bharat Commercial Syndicate, Salem, notice was given through the standing vakil of the stores and action is taken to file a suit in the Civil Court at Salem.

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 233 asked by Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 8th March 1949, page 338 supra.]

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The members of the Council are—

- (1) The Hon'ble the Minister in charge of Co-operation—Chairman.
- (2) The Registrar of Co-operative Societies.
- (3) The President, Madras Provincial Co-operative Bank, Limited, Madras.
- (4) The President, Madras Provincial Co-operative Union, Madras.
- (5) Sri P. L. Narasimha Raju, M.L.A., President, Co-operative Central Bank, Vizianagram.

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(6) Sri Rao Bahadur V. K. Eradi, B.A., B.L., President, Malabar Co-operative Wholesale Stores, Kozhikode.

(7) Sri P. Vasu Menon, Advocate, Palghat.

(8) Sri Rao Bahadur T. M. Chinnayya Pillai, President, Hindu Religious Endowments Board, Madras.

(9) Sri Nivarthi Venkatasubbiah, M.L.A., Nandyal, Kurnool district.

The Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies is Secretary to the Council.

(c) and (d).—The Council is purely an advisory body. Its functions are to advise on any matter or scheme referred to it by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies or the Government. It may call for information from the Registrar or the Government and may take the initiative in the formulation of new plans or policies for the development of the Co-operative movement and suggest new policies or new schemes.

(e) The Council has met twice so far and considered the following subjects:—

- (1) Amendments to rule VIII-A of the rules issued under the Madras Co-operative Societies Act, 1932, so as to exclude agricultural credit societies with unlimited liability from its purview and to increase the proportion of medium-term loans up to five years from 25 per cent to 50 per cent.
- (2) Provincial Co-operative Union's scheme on Co-operative education and propaganda.
- (3) Service conditions of non-official co-operative employees.
- (4) Framing of a rule under the Madras Co-operative Societies Act to regulate the activities of non-official co-operative employees' associations.

(f) (1) The Government have accepted the Council's recommendation and have amended rule VIII-A accordingly. This rule has been further amended so as to allow the grant of medium-term loans up to five years for the development of Cottage Industries, as suggested by the Council.

(2) The Council's recommendations are under the consideration of Government.

(3) A copy of G.O. Ms No. 1210, Development, dated 11th March 1948, in which the Government have passed orders on the recommendations of the Council regarding the service conditions of non-official co-operative employees is attached.

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- (4) The Government examined the question but were advised that the rules for regulating the conduct of the employees of co-operative societies and in particular for prohibiting them from engaging in political activities cannot be framed under the Madras Co-operative Societies Act. The Registrar has been informed accordingly.

ANNEXURE.

G.O. Ms. No. 1210, Development, dated 11th March 1948.

[Co-operative Societies—Non-official employees—Service conditions—Representation to Government—Orders passed.]

The Government have recently received numerous representations from the Madras Non-official Co-operative Employees' Association and other associations of non-official co-operative employees containing suggestions for the improvement of the service conditions of these employees. The Government carefully examined these suggestions and concluded that, as the question was an important one, it was advisable to place the whole matter before the Provincial Co-operative Advisory Council. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies was accordingly asked to take necessary action in the matter.

2. The Madras Provincial Co-operative Union appointed a sub-committee to go into the general question of service conditions of non-official co-operative employees and the sub-committee made its recommendations. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies placed the recommendations of the Sub-Committee before the Provincial Advisory Council and has communicated its views to the Government.

3. The Sub-Committee appointed by the Madras Provincial Co-operative Union made the following recommendations and suggested that they might be adopted by the Provincial institutions, Central banks, wholesale stores, urban banks and land mortgage banks with a share capital of Rs. 3 lakhs or a working turnover of Rs. 3 lakhs.

(i) Scales of pay of certain employees—

Scale of pay.

	Rs.
Clerks, Supervisors, Inspectors, Cashiers or shroffs	40—2—60
Accountant	60—4—100
Secretary or Manager	100—10—150
Peons and attenders	15—1—25

(ii) Allowance—

Dearness allowance—Rs. 18 or 17½ per cent of pay whichever is greater.

House allowance and bonus—As far as funds permit.

(iii) Travelling allowance and daily allowance—

The sub-committee considered that the existing rates were poor and require revision.

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(iv) Gratuity—Gratuity should not be given in addition to, and irrespective of, amount in the Provident Fund, but should be given according to following scale:—

(a) For an employee who has put in at least ten years' satisfactory service or if he dies in service:—

(1) If he has Rs. 1,500 or more in his Provident Fund inclusive of the society's contribution and exclusive of any loan—Nil.

(2) If he has less than Rs. 1,500 exclusive of any loan taken by him the difference between Rs. 1,500 and the amount to his credit in the Provident Fund including the society's contribution subject to a maximum of three times his substantive pay on the date of retirement or death.

(b) For an employee who has put in five years' service and who lies or is medically incapacitated—a gratuity of 15 days' pay for every year of service up to a period of nine years.

(v) Medical relief—

The health and welfare of the employees being the rightful concern of the employer, Provincial Societies, Central Banks and wholesale stores should provide medical aid to the employees.

(vi) Employees' Reserve Fund—

Every society should create an employees' reserve fund from out of the net profits after making provision for other existing reserves but Reserve Funds should not be utilized for the payment of increased salaries.

(vii) Fines—

Should not be abolished.

The Provincial Co-operative Advisory Council considered the above recommendations and passed the following resolution:—

"In regard to scales of pay, allowances, and generally the recommendations of the Sub-Committee of the Provincial Co-operative Union are accepted and may be recommended to the Provincial institutions for adoption consistent with their financial resources."

Regarding medical relief, wherever possible, the central institutions may provide for it.

There is no objection to an employees' reserve fund being credited out of the net profits of co-operative institutions as a part item of the existing distribution of profits provided this employees' reserve fund is employed for medical relief or some special distress of the employees. The Statutory Reserve Fund cannot be touched to benefit the staff."

4. As regards the constitution of a separate Provincial Board to which the aggrieved employees might prefer an appeal, the sub-committee of the Madras Provincial Co-operative Union recommended the constitution of such a board with the presidents of the provincial institutions as members. But the Provincial Co-operative Advisory Council considered that in view of the jurisdiction of the Civil Courts in disciplinary matters over the staff under section 51 (1) of the Co-operative Societies Act there was no need to constitute such a board.

5. The Provincial Council also resolved that no special powers need be conferred on the Registrar to compel Co-operative institutions to

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adopt service rules as the existing provision under Rule II (uu) of the rules made under the Co-operative Societies Act required Co-operative institutions to adopt service rules. Where co-operative institutions successively and deliberately refuse to do so the Council considered that it was open to the Registrar to invoke the powers of supersession.

6. As regards the setting up of joint boards of employers and employees in districts to determine the strength of employees of each institution, the Council accepted the suggestion of the sub-committee of the Provincial Co-operative Union that no such joint boards were necessary.

7. The Government accept the views of the Provincial Co-operative Advisory Council. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies is requested to issue a circular to all societies suggesting the scales of pay and the other conclusions for their adoption.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 237 asked by Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 8th March 1949, page 341 supra.]

Agreement containing the terms of the lease of Silent Valley Forest placed on the table of the House.

AGREEMENT made this fourth day of March one thousand nine hundred and forty-seven between The Hope Timber Syndicate, Calicut, Malabar district (hereunder called the "Contractors" which terms shall where the context admits include the said Hope Timber Syndicate, their heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives, and permitted assign) of the one part and the Governor of Madras (hereinafter called "the Governor of Madras" which term shall where the context admits include his successions and assigns) of the other part.

WHEREAS the contractors have tendered for the purchase of certain timbers in the Forests of Attapady and Silent Valley for fifteen years from fourth March 1947, and such tender has been accepted with the previous approval of the Chief Conservator of Forests, Madras, and the Conservator of Forests, Ootacamund Circle, by the District Forest Officer, Palghat, acting for and on behalf of the Governor of Madras upon the terms and conditions hereinafter appearing.

AND WHEREAS the contractors have deposited Rs. 10,000 (rupees ten thousand only) as security for the due and faithful performance by them of each and all of the provisions herein contained.

AND WHEREAS the contractors have remitted into the Imperial Bank of India at Calicut an advance remittance Rs. 5,000 (rupees five thousand only) to be adjusted towards the value of timber removed and whereas the contractors have agreed to replenish such adjustments as soon as there are made keeping this advance remittance always up to Rs. 5,000.

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Now these presents witness that for carrying the said agreement into execution the contractors and the Governor of Madras do hereby mutually contract and agree with the other of them as follows:—

Rights under contract.

1. The contractors will subject to the conditions and restrictions mentioned in the last column of the first schedule hereto fell, extract, purchase and take delivery of and the Governor of Madras will sell the outturn of all marked trees of the species noted in the second schedule that may be in or upon the land set forth in the first schedule hereto at the rates quoted for each species in the second schedule subject to the minimum in each year of the outturn from all marked trees in the compartment or compartments allotted to that year, save and except all or any of such timber to which any right-holder, permit-holder or bona fide ryot is now or may at any time or times hereafter be entitled to under the provisions of the Madras Forest Act, 1882, or any statutory modification thereon or under any rules or proceedings of the Forest Department of the Government of Madras.

2. The rates quoted in the second schedule shall, at the request of either party be subject to revision in March 1949 and in March of every second year thereafter. The rates as agreed on after revision shall apply only to trees felled on or after April 1st following the date of such revision. The contractors shall have right of appeal to Government against any revision of rates proposed by the Forest department.

3. The contractors shall not dispose of or sublet this contract or any part thereof without the previous written permission of the District Forest Officer, Palghat, for the time being (hereinafter called the District Forest Officer) which permission may be refused by the latter without assigning any reasons for so doing. An appeal against such refusal by the District Forest Officer shall lie to the Conservator of Forests, Ootacamund Circle.

4. In case of any question arising with regard to or any objection being taken by any person to the contractors' rights to fell, collect or store such trees or to remove the timber thereof collected along any routes or through any part of the said lands, the District Forest Officer may if and whenever any such question may arise, serve the contractors with a written notice prohibiting their felling, collecting or storing such trees in any part of the said lands or collecting the timber thereof or regulating the storing or removal thereof, and on the service of any such notice the orders and directions therein contained shall until the same are varied by the District Forest Officer be taken as part of the conditions of the contract anything herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding and shall be observed and performed by the contractors.

5. The contractors shall not be entitled to claim compensation for any loss they may incur by carrying out the provisions of a

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such notice, nor for any loss caused to them by their being prevented or obstructed by any zamindar, land-owner, or other person, on plea of right of ownership, or right of enjoyment or otherwise, from felling, collecting, storing or removing any of the stock.

6. The contractors shall commence to work systematically from one end of the leased area to the other end and as far as possible the trees enumerated shall be felled in serial order.

7. The contractors shall regulate felling with due care for the remaining growing stock. If any unmarked tree is damaged by the contractors in the course of their felling, they shall if so required by the District Forest Officer, pay the value of such damaged trees at the rate fixed by the District Forest Officer. An appeal against the District Forest Officer's decision shall lie to the Conservator of Forests, Ootacamund Circle.

8. The contractors shall convert all the trees felled except those that are wholly unsound and admitted as such by the Forest department after inspection by the District Forest Officer or any other officer deputed by him. The decision of the District Forest Officer in the matter shall be final and conclusive. All logs of 48 inches girth and up and of 6 feet and up in length in respect of rosewood and 10 feet and up in length in respect of all other species in the second schedule must be converted and paid for.

9. The contractors shall, if a sufficient quantity of softwood be available and if called upon to do so, install a creasting and seasoning plant for treatment of softwoods from the leased area. The design and location of such a plant shall be subject to the approval of Government.

10. The contractors shall employ the necessary personnel to work the forests to the satisfaction of the District Forest Officer.

11. The contractors shall have all fellings and removal done by men employed by them and shall not allow purchasers of produce or anyone else to carry out the same.

12. Without the permission in writing of the Range Officer, Mannarghat, the contractors shall not engage or employ in any work under this contract any coolie employed by the Forest department.

13. The contractors shall accept responsibility for illicit fellings of trees or illicit removals of forest produce from the area to be worked in any year of the lease during that year and for three months thereafter and also likewise within a belt of two furlongs wide in reserved forest around that area and such illicit fellings or removals may render this agreement liable to be terminated and render liable to forfeiture of all moneys paid by the contractors and all stock the subject of this agreement collected under the contract but remaining unremoved from the leased area on the date the District Forest Officer orders termination of this agreement.

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14. The contractors shall be responsible for the value of the timber or other material illicitly cut from the leased area and likewise within a belt of two furlongs wide in reserved forest around the leased area and they shall pay on demand the sum fixed by the District Forest Officer and approved by the Conservator of Forests, Ootacamund Circle (whose decision thereon shall be final and conclusive) for damage in respect thereof.

15. Subject to the above provisions the contractors may employ an agent or agents to assist them in the work but no such agent shall be considered as duly accredited agent of the contractors for the purposes of this contract unless he is approved by the District Forest Officer and shall have been provided by the contractors with an adequately stamped power-of-attorney and a copy of the same shall have been deposited with the District Forest Officer and approved by the District Forest Officer. The contractors or their agents shall supervise and control the working on the spot and shall be present whenever notice is given by the District Forest Officer or the Range Officer for inspection of the leased area.

16. The contractors shall not, without the previous written permission of the District Forest Officer, appropriate or allow to be appropriated any minor produce that may be found in the leased area.

17. No elephants or other animals of the contractors shall be allowed to graze in the leased area unless covered by permit issued by the District Forest Officer, Palghat, at such rates as may be determined by the District Forest Officer.

18. No elephants or other animals belonging to the contractors shall be allowed to graze in the Government Plantations and the contractors shall be responsible for any damage to Government Plantations caused by their elephants.

19. The contractors, their servants, and their agents shall use only such roads or tracks as are approved by the Range Officer, Mannarghat, for the bringing into or taking from the said leased area any cart, animal or material. The contractors shall not use on forest roads any carts, lorries or other vehicles that are not fitted with pneumatic rubber tyres.

20. The transport of timber by the contractors over the Attapady-Tonkara and Attapady-Silent Valley roads shall not exceed 50,000 c.ft. during the year-ending 31st March 1948 and during this period the maximum load carried by any vehicle operated by or on behalf of the contractors shall not exceed 90 c.ft. irrespective of species.

The question whether these limitations should be imposed during the next or any subsequent year will be considered by the department in the light of the conditions then existing. The contractor shall abide by the decision of the department on these points subject to confirmation by Government.

The Range Officer, Mannarghat, with the approval of the District Forest Officer, may at any time close a road to traffic.

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in his opinion, it is not fit to bear traffic. The contractors will be bound to abide by any such decision and there shall be no appeal against it. The contractors shall not be entitled to claim for compensation or damage on account of such closure.

21. The contractors shall accept the departmental measurements as correct.

22. The contractors shall be liable for damage done to culverts and any other erection or construction on roads when such damage is caused by their negligence or by negligence of their agents; employers or workmen. The value of such damage shall be fixed by the District Forest Officer whose decision thereon shall be final and conclusive and the value fixed shall be paid by the contractors.

23. The contractors may with the previous permission of the Range Officer cut from Government Forests, free of cost, jungle-wood species of and below twelve inches midgirth (other than those mentioned in the second schedule hereto annexed) for kalangies in dragging.

24. The contractors shall complete felling and conversion of marked and numbered standing trees in the compartment or compartments allotted to them each year before 31st March in the succeeding year. The District Forest Officer may at his discretion grant suitable extension of time beyond 31st March for completion of felling from the leased area on payment by the contractors of such sum as the District Forest Officer may at his discretion fix but the contractors shall not be entitled to claim such extension as a matter of course.

25. Logging after felling the trees shall be done as far as possible with crosscut saws.

26. All timber felled by the contractors from the areas specified in this contract shall remain at stump site until it shall have been hammer-marked and measured and log numbers, tree numbers and dimensions and volume of logs are chiselled thereon, under the supervision of the Range Officer, Mannarghat, or the subordinate nominated by him in this behalf. The contractors will then be permitted to drag the logs to a central depot in or adjacent to the leased area. The chiselling of numbers, etc., on logs at the stump site shall be done by the contractors and at their cost under the supervision of the Range Officer, Mannarghat, or his nominee. All timber from the area specified in this contract shall be retained by the contractors suitably stacked in a depot within or adjacent to the area and shall not be removed from the said depot until the contractors furnish the Range Officer, Mannarghat, with a list prepared by the subordinates in charge of the work showing the log numbers, tree numbers, species, dimensions and volume of such timber ready for removal and until such timber ready for removal shall have been paid for in full by the contractors on measurements recorded at stump site.

27. The contractors shall store the timber only in a depot or depots approved by the District Forest Officer. The contractors

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The contractors shall be responsible for the safety and protection of standing trees and in the event of any such timber being lopped, felled or damaged on any cause whatsoever, the contractors shall pay the value hereof as may be fixed by the District Forest Officer.

28. At no time are the contractors entitled to remove from the area leased, timber to a greater value than payments made.

29. All timber collected by the contractors under this contract shall be removed only under cover of permits issued by the Range Officer, Mannarghat.

30. The contractors shall complete the removal of all timber subject to this contract outside the reserved forest limits by 31st March 1962. Any timber lying within the reserved forest limits on 31st March 1962 shall at the discretion of the District Forest Officer revert to and become the absolute property of the Governor of Madras and the contractors shall have no further claim to it. In addition to the above the contractors' security deposit will be liable to be forfeited.

31. The District Forest Officer may at his discretion grant suitable extension of time beyond 31st March 1962 for completion of removal outside the reserved forest limits on payment by the contractors of such sum as the District Forest Officer may at his discretion fix but the contractors shall not be entitled to claim such extension as a matter of course.

32. The contractors shall be responsible for the acts of themselves, or their agents and of all persons employed by them or by their agents and shall make good any damage to the forest done by themselves, their agents or by persons employed by themselves or their agents or resulting from their acts or omission, by fire or otherwise, the amount of such damage to be fixed in each case by the District Forest Officer against whose decision thereon an appeal shall lie to the Conservator of Forests, Ootacamund Circle.

33. If any fire occurs in the forest area to which this contract applies, the contractors, their agents and employees shall render every assistance and use their best endeavours to extinguish the fire and every such person shall in all cases give immediate notice of the occurrence of the fire to the nearest Forest, Police or Revenue Officer.

34. The contractors shall keep correct accounts in the form prescribed from time to time by the District Forest Officer, of all timber obtained and removed under this contract and shall submit them to the Range Officer not later than the 20th of each month in respect of the preceding month.

35. A bill shall be sent to the contractors on measurements recorded at stump site by the Range Officer or his nominee not less than once a month. The value of the timber shall be ascertained by the Range Officer, Mannarghat, from the advance remittance made by the contractors and referred to in the preamble and the contractors shall replenish such adjustments within 15 days of receipt by them the contractors of each bill.

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36. At the request of either party this method of payment shall be subject to revision at the end of second year of this contract or later as may be desired. As from the time of felling, the timber shall be at the sole risk of the contractors who shall make their own arrangements for its protection from fire, theft, wastage or damage of anything whatsoever.

37. Provided, however, that if the contractors fail to pay the sums of money due after adjusting from their advance of Rs. 5,000 (rupees five thousand only) on the dates on which they are due, they shall, without prejudice to the rights and remedies of the Governor of Madras arising on account of such failure, pay interest on such excess amounts at the rate of $6\frac{1}{2}$ (six and a quarter) per cent per annum from the dates on which they are payable. For purpose of calculation of interest delays of fifteen days and less shall be reckoned as half a month and over fifteen days but less than thirty days as one month.

38. If a bill is not paid on the due date, the District Forest Officer may at his discretion suspend further felling, collection and removal of timber including the removal of the timber already collected and lying within the leased area. And if the bill is not paid with interest within thirty days of its falling due, the District Forest Officer may at his discretion terminate the contract at the risk of the contractors, resell the contract or do the remaining work departmentally. In either case, the contractors shall not have any right to in or over or to remove timber already collected by the contractors and lying within the leased area as also that lying in the reserved forest limits or depots. Nor shall the contractors have any rights in or over, or to let or remove the balance of marked standing trees. Security deposit will be forfeited to Government and the contractors shall be liable to make good any loss that the Governor of Madras may incur by such resale of the contract or any departmental work but shall not be entitled to any surplus which the Governor of Madras may realize by resale or by departmental working.

39. Any amount payable under these presents by the contractors to the District Forest Officer acting on behalf of the Governor of Madras may be recovered as arrears of land revenue under the Revenue Recovery Act, as provided in section 66 of the Madras Forest Act V of 1882, as amended by Act I of 1934.

40. The sum of Rs. 10,000 (rupees ten thousand only), deposited by the contractors is a security deposited for the due fulfilment of each and all of the conditions of this contract for breach of any of which by the contractors, the District Forest Officer shall be entitled to forfeit the deposit in whole or in part either during or after the expiry of this contract and in the event of any such forfeiture pending the continuance of this contract any sum so forfeited shall be immediately made good by the contractors who will not be allowed to continue their work until such deposit has been brought up to the full amount originally deposited.

41. The security deposit or the balance thereof, if any deductions shall have been made under any of the above conditions, shall

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be returnable to the contractors two months after the expiry of the contract on production by the contractor of an order in writing by the District Forest Officer releasing the contractors from all liability under this contract.

42. The contractors shall at all times comply with the provisions of the Madras Forest Act, 1882, and all rules from time to time in force thereunder, and the provisions of this contract shall be taken in all respects as subject to such Act and Rules.

43. The District Forest Officer at his discretion on behalf of the Governor of Madras and without prejudice to any other remedy may, in the event of any breach by the contractors, by his agents or by any or by all persons employed by either of them of any of the conditions herein contained, terminate in writing this contract.

44. In the event of termination of this contract as provided in paragraph 43, the contractors shall not have any right to in or over, or to remove timber already collected by the contractors and lying within the leased area as also that lying in the Reserved Forest limits or depots. Nor shall the contractors have any rights in or over, or to let or remove the balance of marked standing trees. The security deposit will also be liable to be forfeited.

Further, the contractors shall be responsible for, and make good to the Governor of Madras, any loss which the Governor of Madras, may incur in terminating the contract and in the resale of the area or in the departmental working thereof, for completion of work in the area as prescribed in this contract, but they shall not be entitled to any surplus which the Governor of Madras may realize by resale or by departmental working.

45. In the event of the Government finding it necessary to requisition timber in the possession of the contractors, compensation will be paid by the Government on the basis of actual cost to them plus a reasonable margin of profit.

46. In case of any dispute arising between the District Forest Officer and the contractors as to any matter arising under this contract other than those concerning which the decisions of the District Forest Officer are herein declared to be final and conclusive, such disputes shall be referred to the Collector of Malabar within one month from the date of the District Forest Officer's orders and the Collector's decision thereon shall be final and conclusive.

First Schedule above referred to.

District.	Taluk.	Village.	Name and particulars of area.	Name and particulars of produce.	Conditions and restrictions.
Malabar.	Ernad ..	Silent valley.	Marked trees of species noted in the second Schedule.	..	Minimum girth to be felled - 4' Grewia: 4' BHO: 8' Mango: 10' All other ..
Wallo ..	Attapadi ..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..

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Second Schedule.

Species-	Rate per cubic foot of converted log measured at stump site.
	RS. A. P.
Dalergia latifolia (Veeti)	1 0 0
Pterocarpus marsupium (Vengai)	0 8 0
Lagerstromia lanceolata (Venteak)	
Terminalia paniculata (Pillamarudu)	
Mossua ferrea (Churuli)	
Palaquium ellipticum (Pali)	
Poon (Chambakam)	
Hopea glabra (Iruimbagam)	0 6 0
Red cedar	
White cedar	
Artocarpus integrifolia (Pilavu)	
Peociloncun indicum (Vayal)	
Grewia tiliaefolia (Chada hi)	0 4 6
Cullenia excelsa (Chukkamullam)	
Acrocarpus fraxinifolius (Malaveppa)	
Bischofia javanica (Cholavengai)	
Eugenia species (Naval)	0 3 0
Diospyros species	
Any other marked species	

In witness whereof the contractors and the District Forest Officer have hereunto set their respective hands the day and year first above written.

Signed by the abovenamed
in the presence of ;

Contractors.

Signed by the abovenamed
in the presence of ;

District Forest Officer, Palghat.

11

Statement showing the volume and varieties of timber exploited in the Silen Valley Forests.

[Vide answer to part (e) of Legislative Council Starred Question No. 276.]

Varieties of timber.	From Compartment 18 (Part) completed in 1947-48.	Compartment 16 (now working) from 1st April to 25th November 1948.	Total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	C.F.T.	C.F.T.	C.F.T.
1 Mesua ferrea (Churuli)	5,981	12,101	18,082
2 Palaquium ellipticum (Pali)	21,777	16,630	38,377
3 Poon (Champakam)	7,434	7,889	15,323
4 Cullenia excelsa (Chukkamullam)	4,159	1,600	5,759
5 Acrocarpus fraxinifolius (Malaveppa),	947	348	1,295
6 Lagerstromia lanceolata (Venteak).	194	..	194
7 Vateria indica (Kungilam)	1,991	1,389	3,380
8 White cedar (Vellagi)	762	1,031	1,793
9 Bischofia javanica (Cholavengai)	687	361	1,048
10 Miscellaneous species	81	27	108
	44,013	41,345	85,359

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**MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
DEBATES**

OFFICIAL REPORT

WEDNESDAY, 9TH MARCH 1949

VOLUME XX—No. 7

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, the 9th March 1949.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI K. B. RAMA KRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

128744

[Supplementary question on question No. 231A answered on 8th March 1949.]

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Sir, have the Madras Government made any representations to the Government of India for an increase in the share of the income-tax that this Province gets and with what result? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ Repeatedly this Government have taken up this question with the Government of India. At the recent Finance Ministers' Conference this was one of the subjects discussed. Almost all the Finance Ministers of the Provinces urged upon the Government of India to increase the quota of the Provinces. The Constituent Assembly appointed a Committee some time ago with Mr. N. R. Sarkar as Chairman. That Committee made certain recommendations. But in the Draft Constitution, they have deferred the whole issue. At the end of five years a Financial Commission will go into the question and the matter will be reviewed then.”

(At this stage, Mr. President noticed a stranger occupying a seat in the benches intended for Members of the Council, and on being informed that he was Mr. N. Govindaswami Nayudu, M.L.A., directed that he may occupy a seat in the Gallery intended for Members of the Legislative Assembly.)

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Before the Partition, under the Niemeyär Award, Madras and the United Provinces were each getting 15 per cent of the income-tax from the Centre. How is it now that the Madras Province gets 18 per cent, while the United Province gets 19 per cent? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ The reasoning of the Government of India was not communicated to this Government. But I did raise this matter at the last Finance Ministers' Conference and they could not give me convincing reasons. I thought that the population of the United Provinces being larger than that of Madras, the Government of India would have considered that the United Provinces should get a higher percentage.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ What is the recommendation of the Madras Government regarding the export duties under which the Central Government gets such a large sum from this Province? ”

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ The Sarkar Committee made some enquiries from this Government and we recommended that the export duties must be given to the Provincial Governments.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ What is the result of it, Sir? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ Everything is in *status quo*, Sir.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ I find from the figures supplied, that the Central Government gets four crores of rupees under Excise on tobacco. What is the share of this Government? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ In 1943-44, when the Advisers were in charge of the administration, the Government of India and this Government entered into a sort of agreement whereby the Provincial Government would receive Rs. 22 lakhs under tobacco taxation and waive all claims for taxing tobacco in all stages, from the production stage to the manufacture of cigars and cigarettes. Tobacco is exempt from taxation in all stages under the General Sales Tax Act in lieu of this Rs. 22 lakhs.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ When this Government entered into an agreement for Rs. 22 lakhs, what was the income from this source? Was it four crores or much less? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ It must have been much less. The Government of India introduced the tobacco excise duty only in 1943 while we introduced the Sales Tax Act in 1940.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ When was the tobacco tax legislation enacted by the Rajaji Government in 1939 given up and why was it given up? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ In lieu of the Rs. 22 lakhs which the Government of India promised to pay us, we waived all claims for the taxation of tobacco. They are having the excise duty now and they get about Rs. 4 crores from this Province.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know what was the income from this Province when the Advisers' Regime entered into a compact with the Government of India? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ I think they took the average for the last three years, 1910 to 1913, and arrived at the figure of Rs. 22 lakhs.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ What has happened to the power taken by this Government to terminate the agreement which the Advisers' Regime reached with the Central Government? Do I take it that the agreement has been terminated? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ It has not been terminated. It is not desirable to denounce it unilaterally. We have to correspond and consult with the Government of

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India with regard to our share of the tobacco excise duty. We have formally addressed them in the matter and we are awaiting their reply.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know, Sir, after the Advisers' regime entered into a compact with the Government of India, whether the Tobacco Taxation Act passed by this Government has been kept in abeyance or repealed? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ It was kept in abeyance. I am not quite sure. But whatever was done by the Advisers had to be re-enacted by the Assembly and the Council within two years of the revocation of section 93. When it was being re-enacted the Provincial Government took power to terminate the contract whenever they deemed it necessary.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Sir, will the Government communicate to the Government of India that there is a strong feeling in the Province that this Province is not equitably treated in the matter of contributions from the Centre? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ It is a very general question, Sir. Member after Member in the Constituent Assembly urged upon the Government of India and the Constituent Assembly also that they should allocate more elastic sources of revenue to the Provinces. So far nothing has been done. Certainly, when a suitable opportunity arises, this Government will take all the necessary steps to urge upon the Government of India to allocate more elastic sources of revenue.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Will this Government also communicate to the Central Government that their attitude on this question might strengthen the separatist movement of the Dravida Khazhagam in this Province? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ I do not know, Sir, if Madras alone is being discriminated against. It seems to be the case with all the Provinces. I know the difficulties of the Assam Government. They export a large amount of tea to other countries, but they do not get anything out of the export duty. Likewise other Provinces export other articles. Bihar and United Provinces export sugar, but they do not get a share of the export duty. Therefore it is not a case of Madras alone being discriminated against. All the Provincial Governments have urged upon the Government of India in this matter.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Will the Government give the information to this House from time to time with regard to the result of their representations and negotiations with the Central Government? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ When negotiations are being carried on with the Government of India, I do not know whether it is desirable to disclose the nature of the

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correspondence, but whenever a question is put, whatever information could be reasonably given, we will certainly see that it is given."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, have this Government represented to the Government of India at any time that at least the loss sustained by them on account of giving up the tobacco tax should be made good to them and not merely this Rs. 22 lakhs? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" This 22 lakhs represents the average for the three years—1940-41, 1941-42 and 1942-43—and was arrived at in 1943. Things have changed now and the Government of India derive a large amount of revenue from tobacco excise and we are perhaps entitled to greater share."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know, Sir, what was our share of income-tax in the pre-partition days? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Under the Niemeyar Award it was 15 per cent of the divisible pool of 50 per cent of the total collections. After the partition, it is now 18 per cent since West Punjab, Sind and East Bengal have seceded."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" What was the percentage that the United Provinces was getting before partition and what is it getting now? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Before partition, United Provinces got 15 per cent like Madras. But now Madras gets 18 per cent and United Provinces gets 19 per cent."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" From the point of view of receipts under income-tax, Madras contributes more than United Provinces, but still the United Provinces is given a higher percentage. Is it not inequitable, Sir? In 1947-48, Madras and United Provinces got Rs. 685 lakhs and Rs. 565 lakhs, respectively, but in 1948-49 while Madras gets only Rs. 685 lakhs the share of United Provinces has increased to Rs. 719 lakhs? Has this inequality been brought to the notice of the Central Government? Why is the share of the United Provinces increasing, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" The accrual of the tax from any particular Province was not taken as the basis. Otherwise Bombay and Bengal ought to have got much more but Bengal gets only 12 per cent and Bombay 21 per cent. Previously they were each getting 20 per cent. Niemeyar Award was not made on the accrual basis, on wherefrom the income-tax is collected, because the head offices of so many firms might be in Calcutta and Bombay where the taxes are paid but the firms might be transacting business in Central Provinces and elsewhere. The place of accrual was not taken as the basis, but other factors were taken into consideration."

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K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Are the Government aware of the other factors which have gone to a reduction of our share of these taxes? Are they different from the factors taken into consideration for the Niemeyar Award? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Niemeyar Award does not contain the reasons for arriving at the proportions. It is presumed that they took into consideration the population basis, the accrual basis, the requirements of the Province, the backwardness of the Province and all these things. When Niemeyar gave the award, Madras got 15 per cent and United Provinces also got 15 per cent."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, may I know whether the treatment—the step-motherly treatment—given to this Government by the Central Government is due to the fact that Madras is very far away from Delhi and that there is no representative there to represent our case? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Sir, I do not want to charge the Government of India with any partiality for any Province or that they have any prejudice against Madras simply because geographically we are far away from Delhi. But it is a fact that United Provinces has a larger population than Madras and perhaps that is the reason why she is getting a greater share than Madras."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" In view of the fact that Madras is a poor Province and also as her agriculture has yet to be developed, does not the Government think that we should get a higher percentage from the Centre to meet our requirements and may I know if that factor has been taken into consideration. Also, may I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware that the Meston Award was based on the fact that we had large reserves at that time and that there was no necessity to allocate a greater share to this Province? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Sir, the Meston Award and the Provincial contribution to the Centre were given up as early as 1926. But till last year our receipts were much larger than the receipts of United Bengal or even the United Provinces. Because of the introduction of Prohibition throughout the Province, our receipts have gone down and United Provinces has taken our place. Otherwise, Madras receipts are always higher for any Provincial Government and I do not know whether that is also taken into consideration? "

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Have the Government of Madras impressed upon the Government of India the need for a greater allocation to this Province especially in view of the fact that we want more finance in connection with the Zamindari Abolition Bill? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Sir, in the last Finance Ministers' Conference, very severe and emotional speeches were made by members from the Punjab and Assam. Even Dr. B. C. Roy who was acting as the Finance Minister

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at that time, made a very telling speech that Bengal should be treated more liberally in this matter because now she is getting only 12 per cent of the income. Judging from those speeches, I am sure no Province is satisfied with regard to this matter, including Madras."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"The contribution by the Centre of 22 lakhs of rupees under Tobacco is based on the income of four crores of rupees they get from this Province under this item. Have the Government realized that if that amount of four crores of rupees had been made available to our Province, we would have covered up the deficit this year?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is simple arithmetic. If there is a deficit of four crores of rupees and if there is an income equal to that amount, the deficit is covered up. That is a simple matter."

The Highways Department.

* 242 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state with reference to answer to question No. 41 given on the 14th August 1948—

(a) when the Highways Department was constituted and the circumstances necessitating the creation of that department;

(b) what the personnel of the department is and whether it is made up of both Public Works Department and District Board Engineering staff and in what proportions;

(c) whether rules governing recruitment to the Highways Department, either directly or by transfer, have been framed;

(d) what the rules governing promotions to higher posts in this department are;

(e) whether the principle of communal representation governs recruitment, direct or by transfer, as also in regard to promotions to higher grades;

(f) whether recourse to use of emergency provisions in filling up vacancies has been resorted to;

(g) the number of posts of Assistant Engineers and Divisional Engineers filled up since 1st January 1947 regularly and under the emergency provisions;

(h) the names of Assistant Engineers promoted in normal course and under the emergency provisions as Divisional Engineers, the rank of each in the list of Assistant Engineers, the length of service of each and the salary each was drawing on 1st January 1947;

(i) whether it is a fact that persons who are aggrieved have been stopped from preferring appeals in respect of appointments made under the emergency provisions;

(j) whether it is a fact that some Assistant Engineers who are promoted as Divisional Engineers were recruited as Local Fund Assistant Engineers as per communal Government Order;

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(k) whether the promotion of these Local Fund Assistant Engineers as Divisional Engineers is also governed by communal principle;

(l) whether the starting salaries of Assistant Engineers and Divisional Engineers in the Highways Department are different from those of the Local Fund Assistant Engineers and District Board Engineers; and

(m) whether the Government propose to continue the Highways Department?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"The information asked for is placed on the table of the House."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"May I know, with respect of clause (i) of my question, whether persons aggrieved on account of appointments made under the emergency provisions, have no prospect of getting redress and that they cannot prefer appeals?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"If there are appeals, Government will consider them."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"But is it a fact, Sir, that under the Service Rules, no appeals are allowed if the appointments are made under the emergency provisions?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"But they can put in something like a review."

Agencies for mill-made cloth.

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

(a) the agency or agencies through which mill-made cloth has to pass before it reaches the consumers;

(b) what the function of each agency and the remuneration it is entitled to are;

(c) whether it is a fact that the existence of these agencies results in the increase of price to the consumers;

(d) who selects these agencies and what the qualifications prescribed for each are;

(e) whether these agencies find a place in the Textile Control Order and whether they are all licensed;

(f) whether these agencies operate in respect of cloth obtained and sold by the co-operatives also; and

(g) whether it is a fact that the existence of too many agencies creates difficulties in enforcement?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The different links in the chain of distribution of mill-cloth are (1) representative buyers, (2) wholesale consignees, (3) wholesale dealers and (4) retail dealers in the case of cloth coming from Bombay and only wholesale dealers and retail dealers in the case of cloth from local mills."

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(b) *Representative buyers.*—Representative buyers on his agent will proceed to Bombay and reside at the centre in Bombay allotted to him. He will register himself as a dealer under Bombay Sales Tax Regulation and a commission agent under the Bombay Textile Control Orders. He will contact the Assistant Textile Commissioner, Bombay, and obtain purchase authorities and transport permits to this Province for the cloth to be procured by him. On receipt, he will purchase on his own account with his own finance cloth up to the quantity allotted to him each month from mills in Bombay, taking care to secure the best available varieties which are popular and saleable in this Province and arrange for the despatch of goods as and when he has purchased enough to send in a full wagon to the wholesale consignees linked to him along with invoices in the name of the wholesale consignees and Railway receipts through a Bank. The representative buyer will make his own arrangements for warehousing, insurance against fire, rioting and civil commotion at his own expense. He will insure the cloth while in transit to this Province. Quantities to be despatched to each wholesale consignee will be fixed and communicated to the representative buyer in advance. The representative buyer will be allowed a margin of 1.75 per cent of the ex-mill price of the cloth. He will distribute the cloth to the wholesale consignees at ex-mill price plus 1.75 per cent and also pass on railway freight, transit insurance but will bear all other handling charges.

Wholesale consignee.—On receipt of advice from the Bank the wholesale consignee will pay for and take delivery of the Railway receipts within three days of its presentation and clear the bales with his own finance. He will distribute the bales to the various wholesalers in the district in accordance with the instructions of the Collector sent to him in advance. As soon as the bales are received he will intimate the wholesalers concerned under certificate of posting. He will charge as his margin .75 per cent of the ex-mill value of the bales and pass on the railway freight, transit insurance charges alone to the various wholesalers in proportion to the value of the bales. If the payment by the wholesaler exceeds fifteen days he will charge interest at 6 per cent for the excess period till the bales are cleared by the wholesaler concerned. He will make his own arrangements for keeping the bales and bear all handling and other charges incidental to the clearing of the bales at the railway station and their transport to his godown. If the wholesaler requires the bales to be despatched to his place of business, the consignee should arrange for this and charge the incidental expenses to the wholesaler.

Wholesale dealer.—The wholesaler will distribute cloth to retailers linked to them according to an *ad hoc* formula drawn by the Collector. He will sell cloth to the retailers

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at ex-mill price plus 10 per cent thereof in the case of cloth from Bombay and at ex-mill price plus 6.25 per cent thereof in the case of cloth from local mills. This will give him a margin of 3.25 per cent of the ex-mill price.

Retailer.—He will sell cloth in retail to consumers and charge ex-mill price plus 20 per cent thereof in the case of cloth from Bombay and at ex-mill price plus 16.25 per cent thereof in the case of cloth from local mills. This will give him a margin of 6.60 per cent of the ex-mill price of cloth.

(c) The existence of representative buyers and wholesale consignees increase the price of cloth coming from Bombay to a small extent.

(d) *Representative buyers.*—The representative buyers are selected by the Provincial Textile Commissioner. In selecting the representative buyers preference is given to persons who have had past experience in the procurement and who can command influence over the mills. The selection has been for the present confined mainly to those who had done procurement during the previous control period.

Wholesale consignee.—Wholesale consignees are selected by the Provincial Textile Commissioner in consultation with the Collectors and no special qualifications are fixed in the matter of selection. He should of course command the necessary finance.

As for the qualification of wholesale and retail dealers the attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to his short notice question No. 152-A in this House on 27th November 1948.

(e) Except for the representative buyers who are at Bombay all others find a place in the Madras Cloth Dealers' (Control) Order, 1948, and pay licence fees. Representative buyers are appointed subject to execution of an agreement in regard to the functions to be performed by them, margins to be allowed, etc. They will have to take licences under the Bombay Control Order.

(f) No, Sir. The co-operatives have got their own procuring agency.

(g) No, Sir. On the other hand it facilitates quicker distribution of mill cloth coming from Bombay. In fact it has been found from experience that all the agencies mentioned above are essential links in the chain of distribution.

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“The answer is too long and I think I must a separate question later on if any points arise out of this answer. But what I am anxious and should like to be assured is whether it is not a fact that the existence of a number of intermediaries between the producer and the consumer has not increased the price of cloth to the consumer?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“Since printing that answer which is placed on the table of the House, a

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slight change has occurred. The representative buyer and the wholesale consignee have been clubbed together and to that extent it has made the possibility of getting better cloth more easy and I believe that so far as the consumer is concerned, he pays not more than 20 per cent of the ex-mill price."

Analysis of 'Vanaspathi'.

* 244 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether they have got a chemical analysis made of the ingredients of 'Vanaspathi' manufactured by various vegetable oil companies and sold to the public;

(b) whether the said analysis has disclosed the fact that it is deleterious and injurious to the public health;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action to prohibit the manufacture and sale of such commodity to the public; and

(d) if not, what steps have been taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“(a), (b), (c) & (d) The Government of India are conducting certain investigations on the nutritive value of 'Vanaspathi' and the results of the investigations are not yet known. Meanwhile no steps will be taken to prevent the production and sale of Vanaspathi in this Province.”

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Are the Government aware that in the Dominion Parliament it has been said that one of the institutions which have been carrying on research on 'Vanaspathi' has come to the conclusion that it has a deleterious effect upon the health of the people?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“The report which I have also seen in this morning's papers does not say what the hon. Member has now stated. It says that seven institutions are carrying on research on 'Vanaspathi' and the results are not known.”

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I would like to correct the Hon. Minister's statement. One of the institutions has come to the conclusion that it is injurious to the health of the people.”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“I suppose, one other institution came to a different conclusion.”

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Anyhow, as there is some controversy about it, will the Government devise some measure to prevent this 'Vanaspathi' from being mixed with ghee; that is, 'Vanaspathi' from being used for adulterating ghee.”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Adulteration of

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K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Are the Government aware that though it is an offence, still in the remotest parts of our Province, ghee is being adulterated with 'Vanaspathi' and will the Government see that 'Vanaspathi' is coloured so that it may not be possible to mix with ghee?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“That is a matter that can be dealt with by the Central Government so far as colouring is concerned. But if it is a question of adulteration, as I have already stated, there is already provision to punish the offender.”

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM:—“వనస్పతిని ఆహారముగా ఉపయోగించిన ఆరోగ్యమునకు భంగకరమని విమర్శలు జరుగుతుంటే ఈ ప్రభుత్వమువారు వీలైనా కంపెనీలను అధికంగా అప్పులు ఇచ్చి సహాయపడడముగాని, డబ్బు contribution లుగా ఇచ్చిగాని సహాయపడడము తటస్థించినదా?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Contributions ఇవ్వడము లేదు. అప్పులుగా మాత్రమే డబ్బు ఇవ్వబడినది.”

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know what it is?”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“The question is, while this thing is being investigated have any contributions or loans been paid to these companies?”

“The answer is, no contribution is given but loans are being given to them.”

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM:—“ప్రజల ఆరోగ్యమునకు భంగకరమని ఆరోగ్య కులు విమర్శించుచున్న నుకూడా వాటిని గమనింపుమంటే ఈ కంపెనీలకు లోన్లు ఇవ్వడము ప్రజాధిపత్యమునకు వ్యతిరేకముగాదా? ఆ కారణముచే ఈ కంపెనీలకు సహాయము చేయవలసి ఉన్నదా?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“సభ్యుని ఆరోగ్యమునకు భంగకరమని గమనించుటకు ఇంకవరకు రూపిగా తేలియలేదు. ఈ విషయము ఇప్పుడు చోర్యంబులు జరుగుచున్నవి. ప్రకటనమునందు, మన దేశములోనే కాకుండా అన్ని దేశములలోను వనస్పతిని ప్రజలు ఉపయోగిస్తున్నారు. ఇప్పుడు దీని నుంచి వేర్వేరును గురించి ఇరుగుదూర్తులలో భంగకరమని తేలియవరకు వనస్పతి కంపెనీలకు సహాయము చేయవలసి ఉన్నదా?”

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“On a point of order, Sir. The Hon. Minister did answer the question in English even though the hon. Member has put the question in Telugu. If answers are given in English, we can have the benefit of them.”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“The hon. Member who put the question does not know English and the answer may be given in English.”

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SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—“ఇది ప్రజల ఆర్థికమునకు భంగకరము కాదా, అప్పుడా అనే విషయము సందేహముగా ఉన్నందువలన పరిశోధనల ఫలితములు తెలిసేవరకు ఈ కంట్రోలెడ్ ప్రొద్దుకాపివ్యవస్థను మానకూడదా?”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ఈ ప్రశ్నకు జవాబు చెప్పినారు.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Government of Madras took active steps to promote the ‘Vanaspathi’ industry on a regional basis and helped the promotion of these companies?”

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

Distribution of controlled cloth by co-operative societies.

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

(a) whether the co-operative societies which have been entrusted with the work of distributing controlled cloth, have experienced difficulties in disposing of the allotted quotas;

(b) whether these societies have requested the Government to relieve them of this responsibility;

(c) whether owing to the existence of unsaleable stocks of high priced cloth, there is a likelihood of these societies incurring losses; and

(d) whether the Government propose to make good bona fide losses incurred by these societies in undertaking distribution of controlled commodities such as cloth?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“(a) & (b) In order that supplies of cloth may continue to be available to the public unimpeded, pending finalization of arrangements for distribution through normal trade channels, the Government entrusted as an interim measure procurement and distribution of the entire quota of cloth allotted to this Province to co-operative societies. By the beginning of November 1948, arrangements had been completed for the deputation of representative buyers for procurement of cloth from Bombay Surplus Area and the licensing of dealers for distribution of cloth in the Province; and ever since (then) the quota of cloth from Bombay Surplus Area was allotted to the trade. The co-operatives confined themselves to the distribution of cloth produced by local mills. Difficulty has been experienced by the co-operatives in the quick disposal of cloth taken by them. This is mainly due to the following circumstances :—

(i) that the entire provincial quota was allotted for them continuously for three months at the commencement of

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the control, pending arrangements for distribution through normal trade channels, thereby entailing an undue strain on the co-operatives;

(ii) that the price of cloth is high resulting in slow disposal and consequent accumulation of stocks;

(iii) that under the scheme of control unpopular varieties offered by mills had to be taken by co-operatives with the result that the congestion of stocks was accentuated;

(iv) that textile business is largely season-bound.

There was no request from co-operatives that they should be relieved of their responsibilities.

(c) It is premature to hazard an opinion on this point.

(d) No, Sir.”

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“Has not the present situation been created because of the fact that co-operative societies were asked to deal in a trade in which they have no experience and which does not fall within the purview of co-operation?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—Co-operation falls within the purview of many things including trade. Any trade can be carried on a co-operative basis. I do not see how it does not fall within the purview of co-operation.”

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“Is it not a fact, Sir, that the main concern of the co-operative society is to help their members mutually and not to make profits for its members or to engage in trade affecting the whole public?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—That is co-operation in theory. But it does not prevent a co-operative society extending its help to non-members.”

Planting of casuarina, etc.

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

(a) whether the possibility of planting casuarina and other fuel species has been investigated;

(b) what the results of such investigation are;

(c) what action, if any, the Government propose to take to ensure fuel supplies to the different areas in the Province; and

(d) whether the Government have evolved a plan of action and if so, how they propose to implement it?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—(a) Yes, Sir. (b) Working Plans for the management of the reserved forests in this Province have been enforced for many years, one of the main objects being to provide fuel

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requirements. These working plans are revised once in ten years. Over-exploitation during war years led to special investigations to meet the fuel scarcity of the immediate future by artificial plantations. As a result of the investigations casuarina planting has been taken up on a large scale, especially along the eastern coastal areas of the Province, viz., Guntur, Nellore, Chingleput, South Arcot, Tanjore and Ramnad districts. Interior areas in the North and South Arcot districts and also the 'padugais' on either side of the rivers, Coleroon and Cauvery, in the Tiruchirappalli and Tanjore districts, have also been taken over for planting casuarina. For raising other fuel species, tank-beds and other uncultivable lands in the districts of Mathurai, Ramnad and Tirunelveli and areas in a belt along the proposed Tungabhadra-main channels and the Hagari river banks have been selected.

In the working plans in respect of the forests in Mathurai, Tirunelveli, Salem North, Vellore East and Chingleput forest divisions, which were recently revised, provision has been made for raising fuel species besides casuarina for firewood supplies. So far, a total extent of 18,193 acres has been planted with casuarina as part of the Provincial Post-war Reconstruction Scheme in different parts of the Province as against 150,000 acres on a ten-year rotation of 15,000 acres a year.

As regards other species, 1,655 acres have been planted since 1942 in the form of a narrow strip, and 280 acres of block plantations and 183 acres of wind-belt plantations were raised in 1947-48 on the banks of the Hagari river to prevent loss of ryots' lands by sand dunes. The Government have also the following schemes under consideration:

(i) Afforestation of waste lands in the Mathurai, Ramnad, and Tirunelveli districts.

(ii) Afforestation of waste lands in Tanjore and Tiruchirappalli districts.

Further, with the transfer of several panchayat forests, which are now in a denuded condition, to the control of the Forest Department, efforts will be made to raise fuel species in suitable localities to meet local demands. A large-scale planting of casuarina has already been undertaken to meet the demands of Madras City.

(d) A regional plan of firewood supplies in the Madras Presidency was prepared in 1944. To meet the requirements of firewood in the different areas in the Province, the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) has again been instructed by Government to collect fresh statistics on the lines collected by it in 1944 through the existing district staff and submit a report in due course after examining the position with reference to the statistics collected.

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Surplus stocks of timber.

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

(a) the quantity of surplus timber taken over by the Forest Department from the Department of Supplies and the price paid for the same;

(b) whether these surplus stocks have been disposed of, and if so, what the amount realized by such sale is;

(c) whether the rates at which the sales were effected were considerably lower than the market rates; and

(d) what method was adopted for the disposal of these surplus stocks?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“(a) 227,421 cubic feet of timber were taken over for Rs. 5,90,989-2-8.

“(b) Yes, Sir. Rs. 9,16,881-3-7 were realized.

“(c) No, Sir.

“(d) Out of the stock taken over 27,751 cubic feet of timber were issued to the Railways at rates agreed upon between the Central and Provincial Governments and 2,127 cubic feet were issued to the Provincial Motor Transport Controller at rates fixed by the Chief Conservator of Forests. The balance was sold in public auction.”

Provision of endowments to educational institutions.

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

(a) what the rules governing the provision of endowments to educational institutions are;

(b) whether the rules permit of exemptions;

(c) whether any educational institutions or organization maintaining educational institutions has been granted exemption and, if so, what the considerations are;

(d) whether the Government have received any representations from any religious or secular body on the question of endowments; and

(e) whether the Government will be pleased to make a full statement to remove the grave anxiety caused by the policy of the Government?

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

“(a) The existing orders governing the creation of endowments to secondary schools are as follows:—

(1) Schools opened prior to 1st April 1940 are exempted from providing an endowment.

(2) Schools opened during the period from 1st April 1940 to 31st March 1948 are permitted to build up an endowment within a period of five years.

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(3) Schools opened on or after 1st April 1948 have been asked to provide for an endowment of Rs. 35,000.

(b) & (c) As already stated, only schools opened prior to 1st April 1940 are exempted from creating endowments. No other exemptions have been granted.

(d) Yes.

(e) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to the hon. V. K. John's Question No. 112-A given on 23rd November 1948."

Board of Film Censors:

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

(a) what the constitution and powers of the Board of Film Censors are;

(b) whether the constitution and powers of the Board of Film Censors are one governed by a statute or rules framed under it or both;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Board of Film Censors has prepared a "Motion Pictures Censorship" Code;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Government have 'generally' or 'wholly' approved the Censorship Code;

(e) whether, before approval was accorded to the Code, it was published for public criticism;

(f) whether before or after the approval of the Code, representations have been received by the Government;

(g) whether it is a fact that banning the representation of Gods and Goddesses is one of the provisions of the Censorship Code;

(h) whether the Government have considered the point of view of film trade that the prohibitions laid down in the Code practically rule out natural development of the plot of a story;

(i) whether the Government propose to enforce the Censorship Code in respect of all films, whatever may be their country of origin now being shown or advertised for future show, and

(j) what the number and name of films or scenes in them which have come within the orbit of prohibition laid down in the Censorship Code are?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
(a) & (b) The constitution and powers of the Board of Film Censors are governed by the Cinematograph Act, 1918, and the rules framed thereunder. The Board is appointed for the purposes of examining and certifying films as suitable for public exhibition.

(c) Yes.

(d) The Government have generally approved the Code.

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(e) No, but the South India Film Chamber of Commerce was consulted by the Board. Copies of the Code were distributed to the producers in this Province and their reaction to it watched before approval was accorded.

(f) No representations have been received by the Government.

(g) No, but the Code requires that mythological characters especially Hindu Gods and Goddesses should be represented, when they are dealt with, so as to inspire reverence and should not be depicted so as to bring ridicule on them.

(h) The film trade has not made any representation to this effect.

(i) Yes.

(j) The rules that are being made from time to time are for the general guidance of the Board of Film Censors. When they censor, it is not possible to say as to the transgression of which rule any particular picture is censored."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"May I know whether any representation is given to the Press in the constitution of this Board?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
"Yes, I believe so, Sir."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"May I know while publishing the 'Motion Pictures Censorship' Code, whether it was proper on the part of Government to have generally approved it instead of publishing it and calling for the opinion of the people?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
"I think that expresses the general view of the public in the matter."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"Sir, in Madras City there is an association called the Eastern Newspaper Society, which is recognized by the Government of India as a representative organization of the Press; may I know whether that society was consulted in selecting the representative of the Press on the Board?"

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

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"May I know, wherever an organization exists, for an interest, will Government consult it before they select, or nominate a representative of that interest?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
"Yes, that is being usually done. When an organization comes into existence, unless they intimate it to Government, it is difficult for Government to consult them."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"Sir, in a number of Tamil pictures shown in the City of Madras, there are scenes of immorality like cutting

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and maiming of human beings shown; will Government consider the advisability of omitting these bloody scenes or at least certify them to be shown only to adults?"

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

"I believe there is such a provision already in the Code. If the hon. Member feels that there are such scenes in a particular film and if he brings them to the notice of Government, Government will draw the attention of the Board to it and take suitable action."

MRS. MONA HENSMAN:—"In view of the fact that the rules of constitution of the Board were made in 1918, at a time when cinematograph was in its infancy in this country, may I inquire whether it is not open to Government now to revise the rules of the constitution of the Board of Film Censors?"

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

"Yes; any amendment of the Act will have to be done with the concurrence of the Government of India, because cinema is a concurrent subject. If there are any particular aspects in which the hon. Member thinks any amendment is necessary, Government will be glad to consider it."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask whether it is not a fact that in a concurrent subject, the Government of India can give only directions to the Provincial Governments?"

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

"In the domain of any matter which is under concurrent jurisdiction consultations are necessary before any action is taken."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Child-Welfare Centres.

29 Q.—SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) how many Child-Welfare Centres are working in each district;

(b) how many centres are being entrusted to each woman medical officer; and

(c) whether the L.M.P. women medical officers are eligible to be appointed as first grade women medical officers; and if so, how many L.M.P. women medical officers are promoted to first grade; and if not, why not?

(d) A statement is given in the annexure showing the number of Maternity and Child-Welfare Centres in the respective districts.

(b) Each woman medical officer is ordinarily expected to visit 8 centres and in special cases up to 12 centres.

* Printed in Appendix II on page 454 infra.

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(c) Under the existing rules, L.M.P. women medical officers are not eligible to be appointed as first grade women medical officers. Hence the latter part of the question does not arise.

Political pensions.

30 Q.—SRI S. B. ADITYAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the number of political pensioners in the year 1941-42 and subsequent years (yearwar) and the total amount of pensions drawn by them (yearwar);

(b) the number of pensions newly sanctioned in 1941-42, and subsequent years (yearwar) and the amounts sanctioned (yearwar);

(c) the reasons for sanctioning the pensions;

(d) (i) what "Malikhana Allowances" are, (ii) reasons for paying them, (iii) persons to whom these are paid, and (iv) amounts of these allowances per year;

(e) (i) what are "Carnatic Stipends", (ii) reasons for paying them, (iii) persons to whom these are paid, and (iv) amounts of these pensions per year; and

(f) (i) what are "Tanjore Family Pensions", (ii) reasons for paying them, (iii) persons to whom these are paid, and (iv) amounts of these pensions per year?

A.—(a) to (f) As the hon. Member is aware political pensions are payable out of the Central Revenues and the subject-matter of the question relates to the Central Government. The Provincial Government are acting only as agents to the Central Government in the administration of these pensions. The hon. Member may therefore address the Government of India.

Students selected for foreign studies.

31 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state and lay on the table of the House—

(a) the names of students selected from this Province and sent to foreign countries for post-graduate or other studies together with the details of their qualifications, such as degrees taken, class, etc., as well as the names and occupations of their fathers and the districts to which they belong;

(b) whether any of them were found to be incompetent by the Universities abroad and hence have returned to the Province; and if so, who they are;

(c) which of the above students were sent at the expense of Government of India and which of them by the Provincial Government; and which of them were sent under Watson's Scholarship Scheme;

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(d) what expense has been incurred by the Government of Madras on their account in each of three preceding years; and

(e) who are the members of the Committee that selected above students?

1.—(a) A total number of 108 students were selected during the three years for advanced studies overseas, viz., 44 in 1945-46, 43 in 1946-47 and 21 in 1947-48. The collection of the other information required by the hon. Member will take much time and trouble and no useful purpose may be served by collecting it.

(b) The answer is in the negative.

(c) All the 108 students were sponsored under the Government of India, Ministry of Education, Overseas Scholarships Scheme, under which the entire cost is shared equally by the two Governments. The Government have no information about the number of students sent under the Watumal Scholarships Scheme.

(d) Rs. 82,803-4-0 in 1945-46, Rs. 2,47,965-2-2 in 1946-47 and Rs. 6,44,612-6-8 in 1947-48.

(e) 1945-46—

(1) A. R. MacEwen, Esq., C.I.E., M.C., I.C.S., Member, Board of Revenue (*Chairman*).

(2) Sri Diwan Bahadur T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai, Member, Public Service Commission, Madras.

(3) Rai Bahadur Dr. B. B. Dey, D.Sc. (Lond.), F.R.I.C., Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

1946-47—

(1) E. Bennet, Esq., I.C.S., Member, Board of Revenue (*Chairman*).

(2) Sri Diwan Bahadur T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai, Member, Public Service Commission, Madras.

(3) Dr. S. R. U. Savor, I.E.S., Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

1947-48—

(1) Sir Gerald Priestley, K.C.I.E., I.C.S., Member, Board of Revenue (*Chairman*).

(2) Sri Diwan Bahadur T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai, Member, Public Service Commission, Madras.

(3) Rao Bahadur Dr. S. R. U. Savor, I.E.S., Director of Public Instruction.

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

(a) the number of applications for admission into the Agricultural Colleges and the Veterinary College received during the years 1946, 1947 and 1948 (yearwar);

(b) the number of seats available (yearwar and collegewar) and the number admitted during each year in each of the colleges; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the number of Agricultural and Veterinary Colleges to meet the growing demand for admissions?

A.—(a) & (b) The information is given below:—

Colleges.	Number of applications received for admission.			Number of seats available.			Number admitted.		
	1946	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948
Agricultural College, Coimbatore.	379	277	311	96	96	96	107	95	96
Agricultural College, Bapatla.	582	586	417*	96	96	96	96	96	96
Madras Veterinary College.	904	569	605	P. 70 N.P. 10	P. 90 N.P. 10	P. 90 N.P. 10	P. 71 N.P. 8	P. 85 N.P. 10	P. 88 N.P. 8

NOTE.—(1) * This number includes applications received at Coimbatore from the Telugu districts and from the districts of Madras, Chingleput and North Arcot which were considered for admission at Bapatla College, of this the total number of applications received at Bapatla was 344.

(2) 'P' represents candidates belonging to this Presidency and 'N.P.' represents those coming from outside this Presidency.

(c) The answer is in the negative.

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

II.—GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1949-50—cont.

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The House will now proceed to the next item in the agenda. Mr. Ahamed Ibrahim Sahib will now speak, and he will have half an hour."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. President, Sir, before I proceed with my observations on the budget, I would like first of all to mention one thing and that is that the presentation of the budget in this House has become very stale and a mere formality inasmuch as the same budget speech has been made in the Lower House that very morning itself. In this connexion I would appeal to you:—"

MR. PRESIDENT:—"What is the remedy? I was just wondering whether it was not possible to have a joint session for the presentation of the budget and then have independent discussions."

"According to tradition"

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I have to bring to your notice that a similar feeling existed in the previous Council and Assembly in 1936-37. We had then arranged that the budget should be presented in both Houses, there by the Finance Minister and here by the Leader of the House; it was done like that, i.e., the presentation took place simultaneously in both the Houses although this House is not entitled to a discussion on cut demands."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I suppose that happens in England also. The same Minister does not present the budget in the House of Lords. If you agree to it, that will be a remedy but otherwise the same Minister can make the same speech in a joint session. But as it is, it is a strain on the Finance Minister, if it is not possible for both the Houses to sit together."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" If the House agrees, there is no legal difficulty. We could have a presentation of the budget here at the same time it takes place in the Lower House. So a joint session may be avoided."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" It is a very nominal matter whether it is presented here or there."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" No doubt it is nominal in the sense that nothing happens on that day but it is a great strain on the Finance Minister and is stale for all of us."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I think it may be laid on the table."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I think the Leader of this House can read it."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" That was the practice adopted in the Central Legislature. The Finance Minister read his speech in the Assembly and the Finance Secretary used to make his speech in the Council simultaneously."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I think the House will be thankful to you for the suggestion. You can now proceed with the speech."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I must first of all appreciate the very cheerful and genial manner in which the Finance Minister has been conducting himself throughout the proceedings. (Laughter.) But I am afraid I cannot say that the same feelings of delight and cheerfulness will be produced in the minds of the masses by this budget. First of all I would point out that the budget does not reveal any good planning for the Province. We anticipate, Sir, generally"

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I suppose you heard me when I said you have only half an hour."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" No, I am sorry to say that it is too short a time for me, as I have to cover a number of subjects."

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MR. PRESIDENT :—" We have got time only up to 1-30 p.m. There are a number of speakers who want to take part in the debate. So you must finish in half an hour. The hon. Member could have spoken yesterday or the day before when there was a dearth of speakers. What does the Hon. Finance Minister say? Is it enough if the Ministers commence their reply at 3-30 or 4 p.m.?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" The hon. Members may be allowed to speak till 3-30 p.m. and the Ministers may reply after that."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" If necessary, the House can sit till 6 o'clock."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Yes, Sir."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I will be glad if the business of the House is so adjusted as to enable all the members to take part in the budget debate. But it will be better if the members finish their speech by 1-30 p.m. and allow the Ministers to reply when the House re-assembles after lunch. If the members do not want to listen to the Government, I have no objection to allowing them more time. It is for the members to say whether they want to hear the reply of the Ministers."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" They want to hear themselves as well as hear you. (Laughter.) Mr. Ahmed Ibrahim, Dr. Tajuddin, Mr. M. D. T. Kumaraswami Mudaliyar and Mr. K. Natarajan want to speak. I suppose no other member wants to speak. (Mr. K. Venkataswami Nayudu and Mr. T. Purushotham stood up indicating that they wanted to speak.)

" Mr. Ahmed Ibrahim cannot take more than forty minutes. Let him be as concise in his remarks as possible."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" In a budget speech one would expect the Finance Minister to expound the policy of the Government with regard to several matters and say how that policy has been implemented during the current year and how it will be implemented in the coming year. As has been pointed out by my hon. Friend Mr. Narayana Menon, we cannot get a complete idea of the policies and programmes of this Government from the present budget. The term of the Assembly is fixed at a definite number of years, as there must be sufficient time for the Government to formulate policies and put them into execution. The purpose of fixing a definite term is defeated by the way in which this Government is conducted. Year after year the leader of the party in power is elected, and with every change in the leader, there is a change in the personnel of the Ministry. The result is that we cannot expect continuity in policies and programmes from year to year and that has been the experience during the last three years within which four budgets have been presented. There has been no continuity of policy and this is so because the Damocles's sword is hanging over the heads of Ministers. From the time the leader of the party is elected, they keep their eyes

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fixed on the coming year and all their acts are directed towards keeping their partymen in good humour. I earnestly appeal to the party in power to change this procedure and elect a leader for the full term of the Assembly, so that there may be continuity of policies and programmes. I make this appeal in the interests of the good governance and future prosperity of the Province.

"I want to reiterate a suggestion which I made in my speech on the budget last year. The Central Government are following the very good practice of constituting a Standing Advisory Committee for each portfolio and consulting it whenever occasion demands. Almost all subjects within the purview of each Minister is discussed in that Committee. Even international affairs like the Geneva Convention with regard to trade and commerce was discussed in the Standing Advisory Committee for Commerce. No subject is precluded from the purview of these Standing Committees. I suggest that this Government also should adopt that system. The Government require the association of all parties in the governance of the country. In this connexion, I would like to refer to a supplementary question put and answered in the Assembly. The question was: 'Since there are more talents outside the Cabinet in this House, why do not the Government go by the advice of a Standing Finance Committee?' The reply given by the Hon. Finance Minister was: 'Certainly better talents, instead of sitting in Opposition, should walk into the Cabinet.' I do not know whether he gave that reply seriously or in his usual jovial manner. Does it mean that there should be no Opposition? If there is no Opposition, there can be no democracy. Opposition is a necessary part of all forms of democracy. Otherwise the fundamentals of democracy will be completely lost. Already in this Province there is a very big numerical majority for the party in power and the Opposition is reduced almost to nullity. If the Hon. Minister wants that the Opposition should be completely obliterated, there will be no democracy and there will be only Fascism or Nazism.

"I began by saying that the reaction of the common man to the budget will not be one of cheerfulness and delight. This sentiment has been echoed by members from all sections of the House including the members of the party to which the Hon. Finance Minister belongs. I do not know whether the Hon. Finance Minister still feels that there is need for imposing this new taxation on the poor people. The tax on food, clothing and houses will hit the poor people hard. Just now the people of the Province are suffering from scarcity of food and cloth and shortage of houses. The imposition of new taxes will make their life very difficult. Almost every one of the items chosen for taxation hits the poor and lower middle class people and not the rich. The Hon. Minister may say that a tax is proposed on coffee hotels and boarding houses. But the hotel-keepers will not pay a pie of that tax from their earnings. They will collect even twice or thrice the amount of the tax from the people who go to the hotels either by increasing the price or by reducing the quality and quantity of their dishes. Only the poor and the middle class people frequent the hotels, and they will have to bear this extra tax. Does the Hon. Minister think that the poor

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and middle class people are in a position to bear the surcharge of 12½ per cent on houses? The people are already groaning under the weight of taxation and this surcharge will make their position very difficult. During the days of the British Government, the Congress Party was time and again painting a rosy picture of the Government that would come into existence when they would assume office after the attainment of freedom, and held out ambitious hopes to the people. All those hopes have now been dashed to the ground. If you go about the streets of the Province, you will certainly find that that is the reaction of the majority of the people. There may be one or two Congressmen who on account of party discipline may say that everything is all right. In the interests of the party in power, in the interests of the prosperity of this Province and in the interests of the maintenance of law and order, I say that the proposed taxes should not be imposed now. The Communist menace is threatening the whole world and it is there very near our frontiers in Burma, Malaya and several other countries. It is there in this very Province itself. The Communist-controlled labour unions of the South Indian Railway decided to launch a railway strike to-day (9th March 1949). But they have postponed it to the 14th March. We do not know when the menace will assume an alarming proportion. The Communists are presenting an attractive programme to the public. They say that under Communism in power there will be equality, that every one will get so many acres of land, and that there will be a Heaven on earth. The budget proposals will serve as a very good foil to the Communist programme. The Government may say that they have brought the Communist menace under control by arrests and detention. The British High Commissioner for South-East Asia, Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, said the other day in the course of an interview at Calcutta that 'Communism could not be suppressed by any negative action and that we have to find some positive action which will lead to a steady improvement in the people's economic conditions. This is the only way to combat Communism.' Judged by that test the budget proposals fall very very short of expectations. They will simply drive the poor and lower middle class people into the ranks of the Communists.

Again, Sir, you have been promising that when we achieved freedom, this land would be prosperous. 1

Mr. PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member may give up that point and go to some remarks about the budget."

Mr. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"What have you done to raise the standard of the people and to increase the purchasing power of the people? On the other hand, you have increased the cost of living. It is said that these taxation proposals are made to check inflation in the country, but all these are regressive measures and are not deflationary. Many of my hon. friends have dealt with the subject and I do not want to repeat what they have said. That is a very good rule to follow: repeat what others have said and I hope you will observe it."

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K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ I will not repeat. But if any of them needs emphasis on my part, I will state them.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I think all these points have been very well emphasized and if you have got anything new, please go.”

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ The poor people will be seriously affected by these taxes. I do not think anything is left. The late Mr. Yakub Hassan, while referring to the British mandate in Mesopotamia about 20 years ago, said: ‘The Britisher, wherever he goes, taxes water, houses, cloth and everything. He leaves out only air.’ I do not know whether the Hon. the Finance Minister will tax air also next year. After all, the deficit is a matter of 3 crores and odd. He may get a surplus if portions of the bloc grants are not utilized. At the worst, he can draw this amount from the Reserve Fund. This Reserve Fund was created from the sales-tax introduced for the purpose of carrying on the prohibition scheme. While the Advisers suspended the operation of the Prohibition Act, they did not utilize the proceeds of the sales-tax but they put it into the Reserve Fund. Now we are putting into operation the prohibition scheme and it is but meet and proper that whatever deficit there is may be met from the Reserve Fund. There is nothing harmful and there is nothing wrong in drawing from the Reserve Fund for the purpose of meeting this deficit.”

“ Now, I come to the industrial policy of the Government. The policy that is being pursued seems to be a dog in the manger policy. The Government will not take serious and expeditious steps to start new industries nor would they allow others to start industries. You have got the Industrial Planning Committee Report. What steps have you taken to put into effect all the schemes formulated in that report? You have not given any incentive to private enterprise for starting industries. On the other hand, you have thrown cold water on them. The other day, the Hon. Prime Minister of India himself said that ‘it is necessary that those who are prepared to consider investment in industrial enterprises and those who are prepared to devote their energies and ability in organising the industries should be given an assurance and certainty about the immediate future.’ After all, what is the assurance given? It is that for ten years you would not interfere with industries. That is because the Centre has not got the necessary personnel and the resources to take over the industries. Yesterday, Mr. Mothey Narayana Rao said, ‘Confiscate all industries and let Government run them.’ If this is the kind of impression that is created in the mind of the public, do you think anybody will come forward to start any industry? A similar remark was made in the Central Parliament also two years ago by a very responsible person who is still holding a responsible position in the majority party in the Legislature. He said ‘Well, Sir, they may develop industries but one day by a stroke of the pen, we will take over all of them.’ Will there be any incentive to private enterprise unless you give the necessary amount of assurance and certainty? Industry will suffer. If there are no industries, do you expect the country to become

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prosperous? It was once said that South India being one of the most ancient lands, all the mineral resources have been extinct, but fortunately by an accident it has been proved to be not correct. South India is very rich in mineral resources. Only the other day, while speaking at a certain meeting in Mambalam, our Minister for Industries said, ‘The underground wealth of our Province is very great. But we have not determined the actual nature and extent of the mineral resources of this Province.’ There is a very good demand for whatever mineral resources have been found. We have got bauxite, copper, iron ore and lignite.” In South Arcot, millions of tons of lignite are available and if you only tap the brown coal, all this trouble will be over. There will be no necessity to tax the people. You will get crores of rupees and the standard of the people will be terribly increased. It was said that there were only two seams of coal but last week another seam of brown coal was discovered. What steps have you taken to tap this brown coal and make money out of it? Millions of tons are there and you will be able to make crores of rupees out of this. There is no need for taxing the people. But unfortunately the industrial policy of this Province has not only been the policy of the dog in the manger but has also been snail-slow. We have been asking from the very beginning, since this Government came into power, that a fit and proper geological survey of the various mineral resources of the Province should be made. We have been told time and again that the thing is in the hands of the Government of India but the Government of India have been suffering for want of hands. Can we not find the necessary personnel, even if necessary from foreign lands? Are we not importing expert personnel for other purposes? Why not you get the necessary expert personnel from outside and have a proper survey and then try to tap the resources as early as possible so that the poverty of the people may be eradicated? It is a matter which deserves the serious consideration of the Government and the Budget does not show any serious attempt to tap these mineral resources. It means money to the Province, in every sense of the term. The other day I put questions about the starting of an iron and steel factory. It was conceded by the Labour Minister that our ore is the best ore in the country. With all that, you are waiting for months, and even years, for the good wishes and for the pleasure of the Government of India. Why not start it yourself? Instead of taking over this bus transport, you could have started the iron and steel factory. Why should you take over this bus transport at all? It was being run by other persons. There was no need for you to step in and take it over. Instead of spending your money in bus transport, you could have invested your money in a more profitable industry which the Province is in urgent need of.

“ It was said that the policy of the Government has been not to take over existing industries. But was it followed in the case of bus transport? Was it not taken over? The result is that the people are now suffering on account of the monopoly practised by the Government regarding the routes. Again, you have invested some amount in the Travancore Fertilizers and Chemicals, Limited and in the Travancore Sulphate Factory, which are suffering

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for want of manures. On account of that, our agriculture is suffering most. Why cannot you start a Fertilizer Factory here itself instead of contributing capital for these companies in far-off Bihar and Travancore? Some others are thinking for you, but you won't think for yourself and act for yourself.

"Then, Sir, with regard to the handloom industry, that is the greatest cottage industry of this Province. What have you done to relieve the distress of that industry? The other day in the Dominion Parliament the Finance Minister, Dr. Jhon Mathai said 'handloom industry is one of the biggest cottage industries in the country. With increased mill production and increased exports, this industry would, in the coming year, be facing a crisis. Are we interested in safeguarding the position of the handloom industry?' That was the question he put. I put the same question to the Labour Minister who is unfortunately not here in the House. What is the step you have taken to safeguard and protect the handloom industry of this Province? You know, Sir, that handloom industry of this Province has survived not on account of internal consumption but on account of the exports. What have you done to encourage foreign export so far as this particular commodity is concerned? On the other hand, you have done everything to discourage foreign exports with the result that that industry is in a very difficult situation to-day. They were manufacturing articles for exporting to particular foreign countries. Suddenly you stopped the export to those countries with the result that large stocks have accumulated and are still remaining here unsold. I refer to Pakistan. You were allowing export of handloom cloth to Pakistan and we were hoping that it would be continued. But suddenly exports were stopped. Now, Sir, handloom cloths have accumulated and their value will come to crores of rupees. As exports to Pakistan have been banned, we have got very big quantities of handloom cloth and yarn but are not able to export. The position has become worse. You are giving them yarn for only 10 days' work. The cloth that is manufactured with this yarn has accumulated. What are you going to do to relieve the congestion? You must have a proper plan in this matter. Your policy has been haphazard and on account of that every industry especially the handloom industry, has suffered terribly. You have been changing your policy from time to time irrespective of the condition of the industry, irrespective of the sufferings which these people undergo and irrespective of the reactions and repercussions which are caused on the industry. I would ask, 'Is that the way to deal with this matter?'

"Again, with regard to this yarn, I said during the question hour one day that yarn had gone into the blackmarket. I was questioning the Hon. Minister for Industries. I still maintain that in certain places yarn is not available in spite of the fact that the Hon. Minister for Industries says that it is available. I have been receiving representations repeatedly from various places that yarn has gone into the blackmarket and that it is not available at the normal price. Of course, if you pay more, you may get it, but not at the normal price, especially the sewing thread yarn. You may remember that in various places of the Province, this

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industry was manufacturing ball thread for sewing and the yarn needed for that particular trade has gone into the blackmarket because that yarn has been removed from the category of those yarns which have been controlled. The Agents of the Government themselves are trading in blackmarket in respect of this yarn with the result that so many of those who are engaged in manufacturing ball threads are not able to get yarn and most of them have become idle. I understand that they have made representations to the Government in the matter, but still nothing has been done. The difficulty for yarn is there.

"Sir, next I come to medicine. We know that our country suffers from want of physicians and doctors miserably, and as was pointed out by a responsible officer of the World Health Organization the other day, at a conference held at Delhi, the health of the Indians is the poorest in the world. What have the Government done to relieve the distress and to improve the standard of health among the people? The Hon. Premier himself has been repeating time and again, the necessity to encourage the Indian system of medicine. I know that he is a believer of the Indian system of medicine and he has been urging for its encouragement. But what has been done by the Government in this direction? When the Hon. Mr. Prakasam was the Premier of this Province a scheme was evolved for the encouragement of Indian medicine and five colleges for the indigenous systems of medicine were proposed to be started in five centres in this Province. That proposal has been dropped completely and even the School of Indian Medicine in Madras, which was raised to the status of a college, has been receiving only a step-motherly treatment from this Government. In the Budget speech for the year 1947-48, the Hon. Mr. Prakasam said, 'With regard to this aspect of the question, we have provided for the conversion of the existing School of Indian Medicine into a College and for opening a research institute in Indian Medicine in Madras'. We find on page 20 of the Budget speech of the Hon. Finance Minister, it is stated that 'A research department in the College of Indian Medicine, will be opened shortly'. Therefore no action has been taken since 1946 to open that Research department. The more the Hon. Premier waxes eloquent over the efficacy of the Indian system of medicine, the more this Government are giving a step-motherly treatment to it. All the proposals regarding the starting of five Colleges for Indian Medicine in the Province and of the Research Institute in Madras have been thrown to the winds, probably because the Hon. Minister for Public Health is not a believer in this system of medicine, as against his chief. However, Sir, the people of this Province have complete faith and belief in that system. I can quote so many instances where the Indian system of medicine has proved its efficacy, where the Allopathic system has miserably failed. Very many chronic cases have been cured by Indian medicine, where the best Allopathic physicians and surgeons have failed to cure them. I appeal to the Government to take serious steps to encourage the Indian system of medicine especially in view of the fact that the Committee appointed by the Government of India have submitted a report and have made some constructive proposals for the development of Indian medicine, that

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'for producing a synthesis between the Indian system and the Allopathic system.' This is the first sentence of their report and I wish to lay special stress on that. But at the same time, that report said that the Siddha System and the Ayurvedic System are more or less the same. But with that I completely disagree. Both these systems are entirely different from each other and should be treated separately as is being done in the School of Indian Medicine.

"Coming to education,—unfortunately the Hon. Minister for Education is not here,—I must concede that the Education Minister has got abundant enthusiasm and sincerity in the matter of education. But he is a little bit hasty and over-confident. It is on that account that we have to disagree with him in very many matters. With regard to compulsory elementary education, it is true he has been making very great efforts for its rapid spread throughout this Province, but I do not know why he should now hold it in abeyance. Is it because of the policy of the Government to introduce basic education in this Province, that they have thought it necessary to hold up the spread of compulsory elementary education? What we want now very badly is that there should be no citizen in this ancient land of ours, who does not know the three R's. The first thing that you have got to teach the children is the three R's. It is only then that you can think of imparting basic education to them. But on the other hand, our Education Minister puts the cart before the horse and says, 'Let the elementary education wait, and let the children be taught basic education first'. In the first place, Sir, people should know how to record their votes in the polling booths. What is the percentage of our population who know how to vote? And to say that compulsory elementary education should wait till basic education is imparted, is a thing, which I cannot understand, especially when there is a difference of opinion in the country with regard to the necessity as well as the utility of basic education. It was in 1946 that the National Planning Committee, at a Conference held in Bombay under the Chairmanship of no less a person than the present Prime Minister of India, decided that a craft-centred system of education will be spiritually harmful to the children, but still this Province is proceeding with experimenting that system of education. After all you are only trying that experiment. But why should you give up or suspend the spread of compulsory elementary education, I cannot understand.

"Then, Sir, let me come to the question of the bifurcation of the secondary school courses. It has been recognized that it is desirable to bifurcate the courses of study at the secondary stage and Government have decided about it. But the question is, 'Is this the proper time to introduce the bifurcated scheme, when you have not finalized the syllabus and when you have not settled the required text-books?' Now the Government have ordered that this bifurcated system should be introduced in 50 schools during this year and in 50 more schools next year. Nothing has been said about the progress so far achieved. There are no text-books available because it is a new system of education.

"Then again, Sir, it was ordered last year by the Government that Tamil should be made the medium of instruction in the

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colleges in this Province. Not a word is mentioned about the results of that experiment in this Budget speech. What has happened, nobody knows. I ask, Sir, 'Is it possible to introduce Tamil as the medium of instruction in the college classes so soon, with all your enthusiasm for your mother tongue?' Should you not look into the practicability of the question? Can you give up English altogether from the college courses? Have you got the necessary books and the necessary teachers? It was said that technical terms have been invented in Tamil for the purpose. Is it enough? Should they not become popular among the teachers and the public? Even the teachers would not be able to use them in a proper manner and while such is the case, how do you think of making Tamil as the medium of instruction? If Tamil becomes the medium of instruction, how will our scholars be able to contact the outside world and understand the researches made in other countries? Will you be able to get on with your invented terms? These are the various problems that will be confronted with, and it will be very difficult to get over these difficulties. That is why, it has been suggested that we can make use of those terms in foreign languages, which are common in other parts of the world, in this country also, without inventing our own terms for them in our mother tongue. That is the latest view of the leading educationists in this country and that is the way to acquire knowledge. The Government's attempt to translate them into our mother tongue, is only a fad. There is no harm in our assimilating those foreign terms, which are used in all the countries of the world and there is no charm in inventing these new terms in our mother tongue in our Province alone. (At this stage, the Hon. Sri T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar entered the House.)

"I am glad, Sir, that the Hon. Minister for Education has come, although I am at the end of my speech."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member has got only two more minutes to finish his speech."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I request you to show some more indulgence to me, for I have many more points to speak."

"Then, Sir, I come to the necessity for religious instruction among our boys and girls. Only yesterday, I read in the papers how the Hon. Premier was feeling very much about the great gap that has now been created between material and moral progress of our country. That, I submit, Sir, is due to the want of people's faith in religion and God and unless religious instruction is imparted to our young boys and girls at their tender age in schools, they will lose faith in religion and God in their later lives and ultimately our society and our country will also become materialistic, like western countries with all its evil consequences. I would appeal to the Hon. Minister for Education to consider this question from this point of view and decide whether it is not in the interests of the community to arrange for imparting religious instruction among boys and girls. I submit, Sir, that imparting religious instruction in private will not be so conducive to the pupils as in public schools, because it is there that each religion will bring out its best in it,

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and it is only then that our boys will be able to shed their narrow and communal outlook and understand religion in its broad aspects with a broad vision.

"Sir, there was a conference held about a year ago by the Hon. Minister for Education with certain representatives of the Muslim community about Muslim education in this Province, and certain agreements and conclusions were arrived at and one of them was that for five years from then, the Muslim College for Women in this City must be kept on, exclusively for the education of Muslim women. But I regret to say, Sir, that not only non-Muslims were admitted into that institution, but it was also ultimately abolished this year. (Interruption) I am not saying that the Hon. Minister for Education has not implemented all those conclusions, but only that, he has not given effect to the decision specifically arrived at, at that conference. Sir, I was one of those twelve Muslim members who were present at that Conference and I submit, Sir, that the continuance of this College was specifically discussed and agreed to by the Hon. Minister, but now I find that it has been abolished.

"With regard to the constitution of the Press Advisory Board, I should like to point out that the present Committee consists of only one section of the press. The other sections of the press and other schools of thought have been completely omitted. The object of the Government in constituting the Press Advisory Committee is to ascertain the views of the various sections of the press on public matters but to constitute the Advisory Committee with only one section of the press would completely defeat the very purpose for which it was constituted.

"Now, Sir, let me say a word about betting on horses. Even as early as 1947, the then Hon. Premier promised that a measure for the abolition of betting on horses would be brought forward before 1st April 1947, but no credit was taken for the revenue that was expected to be derived therefrom in that year's Budget. But now even though the Betting Act prohibiting betting on horses has been passed by the Legislature, we do not know when it will come into force. Whether it will be brought into force this year or not, and whether it will come into force only after four or five years, nobody knows. But all the same, the Hon. Finance Minister has taken credit in this year's Budget for Rs. 20 lakhs, which is the estimated income from the betting tax. It is difficult, therefore, to understand, whether the Government are really sincere about abolishing betting on horses and whether they will give effect to that measure at all.

"Sir, I want to deal with one or two other small matters, but for want of time, I shall simply mention, them, before I conclude. With regard to the evacuees from Burma, I should like to say that there are still many refugees who had come from Burma during the last war, and they and their dependents were getting certain allowances from the Central Government. But now I understand that action is being taken by the Government to recover those allowances. Sir, most of them have not yet settled themselves

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in this country and are still in the same position as they were before. What is the use of asking them to repay these allowances, and harassing them with demands by the Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars? I think, it is high time, Sir, that the Provincial Government should represent their case to the Central Government and recommend to them to write off this amount or to wait till better times dawn upon them.

"The other thing that I want to mention is about the need for protected water-supply in Kayalpatnam. It is a matter which has been under the consideration of the Government for a long time past. People are now suffering very much for want of drinking water and they have made repeated representations to the Government, but the Government are still very slow to move in the matter. A scheme was drawn up for the purpose years ago, but I do not know in what stage that scheme now is. I request the Hon. Minister for Public Health to take special note of this and see that the scheme is expedited, and taken into execution at least this year, because the people in Kayalpatnam have been suffering for want of drinking water for the last so many years.

"Lastly, Sir, there is a bridge between Ramnad and Kilakarai. During heavy rains, this bridge gets breached every year. People therefore will have to go along by a diverted route, which is very muddy and no cart could go on that route. Thousands of people living in Kilakarai have to come and go to Ramnad daily and during the rainy season, they are almost cut off from the outside world. This matter has been repeatedly brought to the notice of the Government, but no action has been taken on it yet. Sir, it is a matter which requires top priority at the hands of the Public Works Department."

* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB RAHADUR :—"Mr. President, Sir, this week has been the week of reckoning not only for the Hon. the Finance Minister but also for all the Hon. Ministers. They are in the dock as it were and before the Bar of this House and the Bar of the public at large. Their failures, their blunders, their political blunders, both of commission and omission, are being considered and weighed in a very delicate balance and the far reaching consequences of their administration will be known in the coming elections. Sir, I would characterize this Budget as a blood-sucker Budget, because it sucks the very life-blood of especially the poor and also the lower middle class people. I won't be concerned, Sir, if the Budget touches the well-lined pockets of the upper ten thousand. Now as we all know, it is so difficult to keep body and soul together since the standard of life has gone high and the prices of commodities are soaring from day to day, month to month and year to year.

"I would secondly characterize this Budget, Sir, as a school boy's Budget. I do not find in it any skill or talent on the part of the Hon. the Finance Minister or on the part of other Hon. Ministers. It is simply just like a circus man trying to balance his body; this Budget has been balanced in a most artificial way. Suppose I have a piece of cloth which is not sufficient what should I do? I must weave and prepare a sufficient length for cutting the

12-30
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coat according to the cloth. But in what way has the Hon. the Finance Minister cut the coat of this Province? Simply with one stroke of the pen, he has taxed all and sundry in a most merciless way. I am afraid, Sir, the Hon. the Finance Minister as also the other Hon. Ministers are devoid of one very vital organ, a bodily organ, and that is the 'Bowels of compassion'. (Interruption.) That is the idiom, Sir. And secondly, I believe the milk of human kindness is not only curdled in the breasts of these people but it has also, gone, rancid. (Interruption.) The word 'rancid' is a very ordinary word, Sir.

"I would say, Sir, what the Cabinet of the present Government should have done in the matter. They should have put their thinking minds together and brought into being several self-liquidating or productive schemes so that through the income of those schemes the Budget could have been balanced without touching the empty pockets of Tom, Dick and Harry. Sir, these last four days this unkind Budget has been discussed threadbare and not one aspect of it is left uncriticized. But I have no such ambition to do it over again. I shall however endeavour to place before this House and before the so-called popular and national Government a few constructive suggestions for their consideration and implementation. In this connexion, Sir, I would discuss two or three outstanding topics of supreme paramount importance.

"I shall first deal with the Education Department whose active Minister is here to listen to us. I shall take up the Nursery Schools. In India and in our Province Nursery Schools are very very few and far between. In the Reorganization Scheme of Education I find no reference at all to this class of institutions. This type of institution is a newcomer in our country. It has been demonstrated beyond doubt as to what could be done at a very moderate cost to safeguard the interests of the young children and to help them to develop well during the precocious growing years. It has been believed that for all of them a good start in life is most important. This fact has been stated and re-stated from the days of Plato and Aristotle onwards and modern medical and psychological research has confirmed this judgment of sound commonsense. It goes without saying, Sir, that the children's needs are imperative. The Nursery School designs to give every child between two and five years of age a healthy open air life, good food, sleep and happy occupation in the care of women who are by temperament and training capable of undertaking its direction. In addition, frequent medical inspection as a means of early detection and treatment of any symptom of illness is also provided. The establishment of a close net work of nursery schools and classes in every area in our Province is a great desideratum. All voluntary nursery schools should be entitled to receive a grant out of public money to the extent of say 75 per cent of the maintenance expenses. Open air life, a balanced day of activity and rest, nutritious and well-cooked food, frequent medical inspection, opportunity for freedom and training in independence, self-reliance and other good habits are regarded as the guiding principles. A hospital trained nurse should be on the staff. In order to meet the demands of teachers, well and suitably qualified, facilities for nursery training should be

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provided. Nursery school teachers should have equal rank in salary and status with those who teach older children. Their training should be specialized to suit the tastes of women who must be part teacher, part nurse and part social worker. They should spend considerable time in the study of children's physical and psychological development and their inter-relation. They should become acquainted among other things with the various social services related to the child welfare. To a child, the nursery school ought to be a way of life. To get good food, care, and attention and happy play is every child's birth right. Through such schools children are sure to acquire social sense and healthy emotional development.

"I now come, Sir, to the housing problem and the housing shortage. Housing, Sir, is one of the three basic necessities of life and as such it is of paramount importance to one and all. Therefore there should be an actual building programme for a period of some 20 years ahead. Besides the programme should be reviewed every year. We should see that at all stages the man-power plan harmonizes with the building plan.

"Sir, we should have two plans, one a long range plan and the other a short range plan in order to tide over the present emergency period.

"I shall, now refer to the man-power plan. The Ministry of Labour should undertake the full responsibility for a special training during a period of six months about 2 lakhs of trainees during the first three or four years. The Government is to bear the cost of this training. An Apprenticeship and Training Council should be set up. This is very necessary for the successful and rapid expansion of the Industry.

"Once the man-power plan is settled the next problem is the framing of the building plan which will ensure that orders shall be placed in such quantities as to give full employment.

"The plans for the different materials, essential and minor, are not such a difficult matter once the building plan is settled. It is possible to calculate the approximate demand for each separate material for some years ahead. Timber is the one outstanding difficulty. The present shortage due to abnormal condition is exceedingly acute. So every possible effort should be made to cut down the use of timber to the absolute minimum in all buildings, on the one hand by good planning and on the other by the maximum use of alternative materials. The question of building materials prices is the major cause of high building costs. It is therefore of urgent importance that the Government take the matter seriously for investigation and suitable action.

"There is one thing which in the long run is likely to prove the most important of all in securing a good output from the apprentices and indeed from the industry as a whole and that is improved education or appropriate technical education. The normal entry to the building industry should be through a junior Technical School. The object of this education is not only to make

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good craftsmen but to give them the passion for craftsmanship which will ensure good work. A Building Apprenticeship Training Council should be appointed to deal with the matter. Higher technical education and University education of this type should also be thought of. There is another aspect of education which is important and should be greatly developed. We may call it education for citizenship to enable the craftsman to understand the part played by the building industry in the life of the nation. There is a fine opportunity for this kind of education now. Government should endeavour in every way to provide a pleasant and comfortable house in fine surroundings for every citizen, rich or poor.

"Research in the building industry has been little thought of. Perhaps it is because the building industry has been the most traditional and conservative of all industries in India. This is a complex industry covering a large number of separate industries. In the Western countries as a result of research work new materials, new processes and new methods of construction have been developed in recent years, and have come into practical use on a large scale. As a result, specialized firms have come into existence and are now operating on a substantial scale. An expert committee should be appointed to go into the matter at once.

"One word, Sir, about slums which are an eye sore and hotbeds for all sorts of infections. There is a total lack of sanitation, and they are absolutely bug-ridden. The verminous conditions prevailing are abominable there indeed! There are ample evidences of a perfect menagerie of animal life, including lice, rats, mice, cockroaches, snails, toads, scorpions, snakes and what not! Can it be any wonder that such places breed an unhealthy and discontented population? That is doubtless the origin and birth place of Communism. A wise Government which want to abolish Communism should first abolish the slums and improve the living conditions of these under-privileged and the have-nots. In this way a large item of the Budget for maintaining a huge Police Force can be avoided. It is the prime duty of the Government to re-house slum-dwellers as soon as possible, thereby ensuring a new and better kind of living for them. The Minister in charge of Housing should be one full of zeal, enthusiasm, energy, the requisite knowledge and above all a man of vision.

"I now come to the Medical Department."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I suppose that is the last."

* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I want to say a few words on psychosomatic medicine. At the present time all over the world there is a lively interest in what is called psychosomatic medicine. It literally means 'mind and body' medicine. It is indeed a new term for a very old subject, rather old wine in a new bottle. In other words it is the study of the patient as a person, as a psychological unit, as a whole human being."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"We cannot have wine in this Province even in any bottle."

* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, it is only the proverb. Insistence upon the conception of man as a

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biological unit is a fruitful innovation in medical thought of the present day. Until recently the generally accepted view was that man consisted of mind and body and the separation between the two was sharply drawn and differentiated. Upon reflection we may accept the view in the domain of medicine that mind and body are one, or rather mind and body are too intimate to be differentiated. In point of fact in metaphysics and philosophy there is even abundant room for speculation, argument and belief about the mind or soul. However it is clear that mind permeates all bodily functions in an intimate and inseparable way. Therefore the state of mind will have an important influence upon every other bodily function and may determine the course and effects of these functions. From daily experience every one is familiar with profound effects that thought and emotion have upon bodily functions. The practice of psychosomatic medicines began before the dawn of history. Later on it fell into disuse, in the West. In India it was long forgotten and is high time it is revived and introduced into medical practice in hospitals and in individual practice.

"Medical social work is simply social work teamed or linked with medicines. As the Commonwealth Fund publication on the subject points out, care of the sick depends for success upon an understanding of the sick person. The human individual can never in reality, but only by abstraction, be isolated from the other people. The actual patient cannot be understood without the knowledge of his social environment. Hence the medical practitioner needs the help of social case work. Social case work was introduced into several hospitals under different forms and conditions. Since the beginning the combined efforts of doctors and social workers in the care of the sick persons have developed a special area study. Co-operative practice will no doubt mean more consultation and more joint conferences on recorded material in cases under care. In the West, psychiatrists are increasingly being used as consultants on general medical and surgical studies. An interesting illustration is the gastro-intestinal clinic in a large teaching hospital to which were regularly assigned a team of internist, surgeon, psychiatrist, medical social worker and dietitian with the internist as the leader and co-ordinator or somebody else who assumes increasing responsibility for the case, depending upon the particular case of the patient's illness. The medical social worker studies the patient's emotional reactions and attitudes towards his associates and also his cultural environments. When the physician, psychiatrist, and social worker are all assisting the patient with their medical care, they focus upon different aspects of his problem. Physicians more and more refer patients to social workers, not for some arbitrarily selected and limited service but for assistance in understanding the whole patient and his problems and in working out an individualized plan of treatment related to this particular patient's needs as a person. The social worker is well oriented regarding emotional factor in illness. Early in this century, certain clinical professors in medical schools began to appreciate the needs to include in their teaching something on the social aspects of medicine. One of the forerunners of social

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work in hospitals was the work done by the medical students under Dr. Charles B. Emerson and the Charity Organization Society of Baltimore as part of the Medical Course at St. John's Hopkins Medical School in 1902. Later when social work department had been established in teaching hospitals, professors of medicines turned to their social work associations in the hospitals and invited them to participate in teaching medical students. Through the discussion the medical and social instructors help the students and appreciate some of the more important facets of the subject. A similar constructive interest has also been developing in recent years in the convalescent care and after-care of the sick person. Medical social work is now functioning as an integral part in many Civil and Military hospitals. In many hospitals social workers are invited to attend ward rounds.

"Therefore, Sir, I appeal to the Hon. Minister for Public Health to consider this aspect of medicine. I know, Sir, the Health Minister is a very simple, sincere and well-meaning gentleman. I hope he will bear in mind the suggestions I have given, and implement them as soon as possible.

"With these words, I resume my seat."

* SRI M. D. T. KUMARASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, before I begin to speak I wish to thank the Government for the extension got for some of the Members of this House to continue to sit as Members of the House for one year more. I am the last to speak on this side of the House.

"I felt that I will have to repeat what my hon. Friends have been saying on the floor of the House. I thought I can also add to the number to see if it will have any effect. But I am sure it will have no effect, and will only create headache to my friends. The Hon. Sri Gopala Reddi is the Finance Minister to-day also. I appeal to him to consider the various aspects and see if he can find a way to help the poor and not put them to difficulties. They are already in a very bad state.

"This year I find almost every one on the other side is also speaking vehemently against the Budget proposals. Does that not show that many Members in the House are against this year's Budget? I have not so far heard even one Member wholeheartedly supporting it. Is it not a clear indication of their disapproval? Leave apart the Opposition. Do not think that we on the Opposition speak for opposition's sake. I strongly and wholeheartedly support the various objections raised on this side of the House by Members during their speeches, and request the Government to take them in good spirit and see to the rectification of the defects.

"The various forms of taxes proposed seem to be an eye-wash when it is said that they are only temporary measures. They will work great havoc and hardship on the already suffering poor and the middle class.

"We see the sales tax is not a sales tax, but a tax on the consumer.

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"Sir, at the time of the introduction of the sales tax, it was 1 p.m. said that it would not affect the consumer. But experience shows otherwise.

"Regarding food, in reply to a question by the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition, the Hon. the Minister for Food gave figures of production and consumption of rice. It is seen from the figures furnished that while consumption at the present reduced scale of rations has been about 4.9 million tons, production has gone down from 4,919,450 tons in 1946-47 to 4,330,000 tons in 1947-48, necessitating increased imports. We do not know the production in 1948-49. It is computed to be 4,290,000 tons. Whatever may be the causes, it is a fact that production has not even kept pace with average consumption. On the other hand, year after year, production is going down in spite of mounting expenditure on Grow More Food schemes including subsidies to well sinking schemes. It is time the Government investigate the matter before expenditure on food production is increased.

"In regard to the well-subsidy scheme, already hon. Members of this House have drawn attention to the large expenditure on this scheme and the large amounts spent. The public feeling is that most of the amounts spent have not produced water, and that the scheme has also pulled down some of the poor agriculturists as they have no money to complete the work and as the amount allotted for the work is not adequate in most places. On account of the rocky beds and in other cases, loose soil, they find it difficult to set up the foundation. Sir, the whole scheme requires re-examination. The Hon. the Minister for Food laughed at me on a previous occasion, but I still hold the same view. I request him to make a thorough investigation into this matter.

"Then, Sir, as already explained, the large sums of money spent on Grow More Food and sinking of wells without any system of work are a waste. Figures prove it clearly. If only such sums of work are a waste. Figures prove it clearly. If only such sums are better spent for the proper improvement of the existing irrigation works in time, we are sure to grow more food and overcome the monsoon troubles to a certain extent.

"Sir, money need not be wasted lavishly on pet schemes at the cost of the poor.

"Sir, I am indeed very happy to know of the several irrigation schemes under contemplation and I wish that they should be completed early.

"In war time it was found very necessary to create a number of departments but even long after the close of the war, the same departments with different names are continuing and day by day they are on the increase resulting in top-heavy expenditure in every direction. Only where it is necessary to spend for the good of the people, Government should take steps to increase the expenditure and not otherwise.

"Then, Sir, the Local Self-Government Department has become a department in the dark. This Government is perhaps afraid of elections and now the boards are run by the respective District Collectors who are already burdened with heavy work

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which is growing from day to day in every direction. It is not at all possible for them to do justice with the result that the entire work is carried out by the Personal Assistants who are only the Secretaries of the District Boards. Sir, the entire administration is run by them. The district is not at all benefited by such an administration. It is high time that the representatives of the people are made to be in charge of the District Board. Then, every taluk will have its needs properly looked after.

"Then, Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government that the bridge at Vasudevanallur is still in the old condition in spite of the increasing traffic on the road and early steps are necessary to put it in order.

"Regarding public health, anti-malarial and anti-filarial measures are becoming increasingly necessary owing to the menace of mosquitoes. Before malaria and filariasis become widespread throughout the Province, steps should be taken to arrest them. Basis of grants to municipalities and local bodies for these measures should be altered. The present basis of one-third will not do. Not only the basis of grants should be altered so that really deserving local bodies may be assisted in the task of stamping out these diseases, but the Government should not hesitate to compel local bodies to undertake these measures.

"There are already 34 malaria control units. What is the nature of the work the units are doing? Is it merely preventive? Are these units attending to curative work also? If the incidence of malaria has become less as a result of the work of these units, why not increase the number of these units and bring malaria under complete control?

"Coming to the question of housing, it would be better if a comprehensive policy regarding rural and urban housing is formulated and given effect to. The Provincial Housing Committee reported long ago. Still the Government are sleeping over it. Why not make a beginning on some well-settled plan to reach the target within the course of a few years? Co-operative housing alone will not solve the problem. Why should Government postpone such a scheme? There is no use of postponing it.

"Then, Sir, steps should be taken by the Government to improve facilities in minor ports. There is the Minor Ports Fund. Even if improvements are undertaken out of loans raised for the purpose, the return will be good. Let a small committee be appointed to examine the improvements required for minor ports and let them make recommendations. This will be of assistance to Government.

"Then, Sir, I come to the question of building grants to educational institutions. Sir, a grand sum of Rs. 2 lakhs during 1948-49 and a further sum of Rs. 10 lakhs during 1949-50 for elementary school buildings are provided. There is a large number of elementary schools housed in dilapidated buildings and huts. It is high time we evolve a policy in regard to school buildings and

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allow it. Why not finance them out of loan funds? Sir, a large number of high schools have come into existence. Between 1947 and July 1948, as many as 135 high schools have been started, and most of them need buildings. Therefore, it is necessary to make greater provision on a planned basis. I thank you, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"If the hon. Member, Mr. Purushotham wants to speak, this is the time for him. The Leader of the House may send for him. Where is the Party whip?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"He is absent."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Sri Venkataswami Nayudu will now speak."

* SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAYUDU:—"Mr. President, Sir, I must congratulate the Hon. the Finance Minister in having presented not merely a 'carry-on' budget but a budget which really aims at certain improvements. Sir, he has taken credit to impose new taxes. People will not grudge new taxes if only new services resulted therefrom. I find from the Budget that large grants are made for Education, Public Health and such other important items so that if these works are carried on to the fullest extent, there would be no doubt that the monies allotted would have been well spent. As it is, we find that the income sources are not very flexible and so, the Government are compelled to levy taxes.

"Mr. President, Sir, so many things have been said about the Budget that I do not want to traverse the same ground. But, as a City representative, it is my duty to tell the House that the City is being neglected in so many ways. Everybody claims the City for himself. The Andhras and the Tamils claim the City as their own. But, the City is not well looked after. For instance, in this capital City, the demand for the supply of drinking water is very great whereas water is allowed to waste elsewhere. Sir, the Poondi Reservoir which was built at such a great expense is now a mere plain land where we can play cricket or football. There is no water in the Poondi Reservoir. This question should be considered by the Government. Sir, we want to give water for (grow more) Food purposes but we have no water even for drinking purposes. After all those ryots to whom we supply water from the Red Hills lake for growing more food produce very little food and so, I suggest that the supply of water to them may be stopped. We can live without food; but, we cannot live without water or air. This grow more food scheme can wait until we are assured of a good drinking water-supply for the City. Therefore, we should not allow water from the Red Hills lake or from the Poondi to be given to the ryots for agricultural purposes, when the City is badly in need of drinking water. Government should see that this precarious condition is avoided. Government should treat this like a war measure and come to the rescue of the citizens of Madras. They must see that all available sources of water supply are investigated. Sir, this precarious condition of water supply to the City must be avoided at all costs. That is why, Sir, capital Cities are also treated as

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Commissioner's Provinces, because they should not be considered like other places. Here, the whole Government machinery is going on; here, the Government transact the whole business of administration. Lakhs and lakhs of people are invited to the City and it is the duty of the Government to see that they send them back without disease. They must give them good water-supply and other amenities. Sir, the question of good protected water-supply is not yet solved. Even to-day, it is a debatable question whether we should have mechanical filters for the City of Madras or not. Sir, there is no City in this country or anywhere in the world, a big city of such a magnitude, which has not got mechanical filters. Here we have got only slow sand filtration. For a City of this magnitude, we should have a scheme for protected water-supply and mechanical filters are very necessary if we should give protected water-supply. Sir, Bangalore, which is a small town, has got mechanical filters, and a good water-supply scheme, whereas the City of Madras has not got such protected water-supply. Sir, the City is now extended from 30 to 60 miles. The beneficent Advisers' Government was kind enough to give us this extended area. The City is nearly doubled. But, how to give them amenities? That is the problem for us. Government have given us this extra space, but the Government should also be sympathetic to the requirements of the people. Sir, as it is, we see from the Budget that the grants provided for the City of Madras are cut down. It is less than half. When the City has now doubled its area and two times the previous area has to be cared for, the grants are cut by 50 per cent! It is really a heavy cut and how can we give more amenities to the people in the City of Madras? Similarly, the Corporation started a housing scheme called the Shenainagar scheme and it was started with the help of the Government and this year they have entirely cut off the whole loan and so the whole scheme had to be suddenly stopped. Sir, when the housing condition in the City of Madras is so abominable, and when people are living in hovels at this stage they have stopped the grant all of a sudden, while even a small grant of four or five lakhs would have really kept the machinery going and some more houses would have come into existence. But, this cutting off of the grant has unfortunately put an end to the Shenainagar scheme which was started two years ago. It is really unfortunate that it had to be stopped abruptly.

Sir, the next subject on which I would like to say a few words is about the housing schemes both in the City of Madras and elsewhere. The Government have given us a crore of rupees during this year and about Rs. 80 lakhs last year and there are about 80 or 90 societies in the whole Province. The only two schemes which have now come up to any appreciable extent are the Madras Scheme and the Palayamcottah scheme. The main difficulty in the way of starting these schemes, is the question of acquisition. In all the places the work has to be held up because of the delay in acquisition. We have heard of laws' delays but acquisition delays are something still worse than laws' delays. I say, Sir, it is not enough if you merely provide money and then say it has not been spent, but it is necessary to see that the acquisition proceedings are expedited, so that the housing problem may be

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solved. As one hon. Member said the other day, in Madras 14 or 15 people will have to live in a house, taking the smallest to the biggest house into consideration, and so there is so much dearth of houses. It is therefore very necessary that Government should try to make the people live in better houses. We read the other day in the papers that in London and other places in the continent the housing schemes have a very big drive, whereas here it is only in a small measure we are doing it. If Government feel that more houses have to be built for the middle classes and the poor—whatever may be the type of houses—we should see that during the next year at least more houses are constructed and the housing trouble thus reduced.

Sir, the next subject on which I would like to draw the attention of the House is in regard to propaganda and publicity. It is very necessary that every one of the public, as well as the officials and people working in Government, should realize their heavy responsibility in carrying on the Government. We are going through very critical days, but there is a sense of indiscipline and a sense of drift among all the people. Our Government officials who have been doing such good work for the British Government, for the British Government, are to-day not half so enthusiastic to help our own Government. They feel that now they have got the liberty to speak, they have got the liberty to vent their grievances, but they have not the liberty to work in the same way as they did before. For this, it is very necessary that there must be very good propaganda for the Government. It is not as if the Government is not doing their work, but it is really due to the fact that propaganda and publicity are not sufficient and all those who are getting their salaries from the Government are themselves not doing proper propaganda. They do not feel that they must advertise the work of the Government, while on the other hand, they should feel that it is the Government of our own, which is yet in its teens and therefore it should be helped. It is therefore very necessary that good propaganda should be carried on. Previously, there used to be the National War Front and so many other organizations for carrying on propaganda on behalf of the Government and unless we have such an organization, even with our meagre resources, and work well, I am afraid we cannot do our work properly.

Then again, Sir, there are already disruptive elements, for instance, the Communists, the Black-shirts and others. The Communists are able to catch the ideas of people, but there are really certain difficulties in the way of the Government, being a young Government; and the people must be made to realize this because then only the Government will be doing better work.

Now, in regard to the Home Guards, they started well and they have been given very good training. Many young men had really very good training and I am afraid that unless you follow this up, they will forget the good training they have received. So, Sir, it is very necessary that Government should devise some means by which the services of these young men are put to proper use. For instance, in the case of the Scout Movement, the

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scouts are requisitioned for service in various places. Therefore, they are always alive and working. I am afraid, the Home Guards are not so utilized. It is well known that if there is a college function, the University Corps go and exhibit their talents, but we have not seen these Home Guards anywhere at all, not even in Government functions. I therefore suggest that it is very essential to put these men to some use. (The Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi. They are not in the City.) I know there are about a thousand in the City of Madras.

"Then, Sir, as regards the question of bus fares, nationalization of transport has been done with two purposes, one for getting some more money for the Government and the second, for giving more comfort to the people. I would like to suggest here, that even though you sacrifice some little money, people should be given some more comfort. From terminus to terminus, a boy should put a rupee in his pocket to go to school and come back. It is really a very heavy drain on many middle class and lower middle class people and other poor people who travel in buses. So, Sir, as I have suggested above, even at the cost of sacrificing some more money, if Government reduce the bus fares, it will be very much appreciated by the people. Since I want the nationalization of transport and nationalization of so many other things to succeed I do not want to say anything against it because I am sure there will be some relief on account of this nationalization.

"Sir, I do not want to take more time, but I would like to say that the question of the levy on the sale of buildings should be the deep concern of the Government. If they could get some more money from it, I would not grudge it, but really it would retard all transfer of property which will neither help the Government nor the transfer of property, which is good in the interests of the public because at a time when there is so much trouble for housing, it is necessary that some of these houses should change hands. So I would like the Government to consider deeply this matter and see whether this can be postponed for some time more. I thank you, Sir."

* SRI K. NATARAJAN :—"Sir, I have been at great pains to go through all the big books connected with this year's Budget and I must begin by saying that in consonance with the declared policy of the Congress, it has really gone far in supporting or implementing that policy and I find that all the allotments are for the benefit of the common man also, although I read in the papers that the Hon. Leader of the Opposition was so vehement about the Budget having made no provision for the common man. What can be said about the lump sum provision of Rs. 70 lakhs for expenditure on new irrigation schemes having a Grow More Food value for 1949-50 and a provision of about one crore being included for tank restoration improvements, channels, springs, etc.? Well subsidy schemes have achieved tangible results. 47,846 wells have already been newly dug, besides 25,618 old wells repaired. There is a provision of one crore for housing schemes and there is also a provision for the opening of 30 new primary and five group (combined medical and public health)

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centres; and enhancement of subsidy to rural medical practitioners from Rs. 600 to Rs. 900 per annum and to midwives from Rs. 380 to Rs. 480; there is a provision of Rs. 35 lakhs in 1949-50 for public education as against Rs. 7 lakhs in the previous year; Rs. 10 lakhs for the construction of buildings for elementary schools and Rs. 25 lakhs for secondary schools; provision for the opening of new Government schools for deaf, dumb children, blind children and mentally defective children; the extension of the adult education section; opening of a National Cadet Corps for which a provision has been made for Rs. 15 lakhs; there is provision for village reconstruction at a cost of Rs. 5 lakhs; a provision of Rs. 5 lakhs for Harijan uplift from the general revenues; Rs. 5 lakhs for the betterment of backward classes; a provision of Rs. 51 lakhs for the purchase of shares in the Industrial Finance Corporation; a provision for the starting of six new industries and another provision for khadi schemes. So, Sir, it cannot be said for a moment that all these provisions do not touch the common man. It must, on the other hand, be conceded that the common man it is who will be really benefited by these schemes. Sir, it has been usual for me in my last three speeches on the Budget, to refer to the grievances, especially of the Tanjore district, but I am glad to say that so far as Tanjore is concerned I have been able to find out at least ten items which have a bearing on the improvement of the conditions in Tanjore and the most important of them are, irrigation, education, Banana Research Institute, agriculture, tuberculosis, sanitation but I need not enumerate them all. All that can be said about the Budget is that the grants might have been somewhat more substantial but that is a question which depends on the resources of the Government at the time.

"The next question, will be when considering the ins and outs of a Government Budget (for any Cabinet, be it composed of the present Treasury Bench or, let us assume that some Hon. gentlemen from the Opposition will come, and even then some 5 or 6 gentlemen will have to sit in conclave) to find out what is the revenue; what are the essential items of expenditure, whether there is a growing necessity for any new schemes and see how much can be spared without trenching either upon the Reserve Fund or upon additional taxation. I believe that has been done in this case. But, the only question I want to address myself is this. Are the fresh taxation proposals which have been adumbrated in the Budget necessary? Can there not have been a retrenchment policy adopted? And, supposing these taxation proposals take effect, will they yield results in the manner expected by the Hon. Finance Minister? Or, are they really repugnant in this sense, that they add to the discontent of the population, especially when you see that the fabric of the Government is always broad-based upon the contentment of the people. Now, so far as these taxation proposals are concerned, of course, it has been repeated both in this House and in the other House that these taxation proposals are taxing the poor and the middle classes. Of course, no man can grudge a tax. (The Hon. Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiyar: But, the population is

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poor.) No doubt the population is poor and therefore we must see that as far as possible the majority of the population are not affected by these taxation proposals. Now taking the ten items, except cotton perhaps, all the other items, may not technically be called food products, but still they are necessarily food articles as for instance, coconuts, oil seeds, chillies, coffee, potatoes, pepper, turmeric, plantains, sugarcane, etc.

"Now, Sir, as the Hon. Premier has been reminding me and pulling me, I shall be very happy to quote his instructive suggestion from his pamphlet on 'Agrarian Reforms and Parity of Economy.' At page 6 of that booklet, he says: 'Over 50 per cent of families own less than 2 acres; 30 per cent between 2 and 5 acres; 7 per cent between 5 and 10 acres, while those who own above 10 acres are hardly over 10 per cent. There is the absence of subsidiary occupation and there is also social value attached to possession of land. All these have become necessities of life'"

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member may continue after lunch. The House will now adjourn to meet again at 2-30 p.m. to-day."

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

* SRI K. NATARAJAN:—"Sir, the condition of the poor agriculturist has been well brought out in an article written by Dr. B. Natarajan, Economic Adviser to the Government of Madras. It is published in the 'Madras Information,' dated 1st February 1949. This article refers to the instability of agricultural prices and how it affects the lot of the poor agriculturist. He says, 'High cost of cultivation might eat away the margin of profits from high prices'. I also share the same view. Again, he says, 'these increases appear gratifying, but due allowance must be made for the increase in the prices of essential commodities other than rice consumed by the ryot'. Regarding wages, he says, 'According to a wage census conducted in 1946, grain wages in the course of the previous five years have risen by 252 per cent and money wages by 240 per cent in the case of field workers and by 203 per cent and 197 per cent in the case of women workers'. Then he refers to the agriculturists. 'These ryots being self-sufficient farmers, hardly sell anything at the prevailing high prices; yet they have to purchase the necessary consumption goods and agricultural implements, manure, etc., at abnormally high prices.'

"Under such circumstances I request the Hon. Finance Minister not to impose these taxes on these articles which are now exempt from the General Sales Tax. After all, it is not one article that is going to be taxed. Taxes are proposed to be levied on articles of food like coconuts, pepper, chillies, potatoes, plantains, etc. Sir, I know some instances where people arrange their meal time in such a way that they will have that one meal for the day at 3-30 p.m. so that they may not feel the necessity for another

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meal. They may take coffee in the morning. When such is the condition of the people, the Government propose to levy further taxation.

"Sir, you are going to tax plantains. Many people eat plantains during night time before they take milk or water. Poor people eat plantains like food. Whenever they do not get rice, they eat these plantains and quench their hunger. Such is the condition of the people. I leave it to the Hon. Minister for Finance whether it is necessary for him to tax it at this juncture especially when people are hard pressed.

"Then, it is proposed to levy a tax equal to 25 per cent of the increase in value of the immovable property from 1938. My objection to this tax is two-fold. Firstly, it will be hard-hitting the poor and middle class people and will not serve the purpose for which it is intended. Secondly, how are we to determine the increase in value of the immovable property from 1938. Where is the census? Are you going to do it arbitrarily or are you going to calculate it on a scientific basis? No doubt, the price rose up from 1938 for only two or three years. Afterwards, it has gone down and when you consider the price of building materials, the cost of labour and other attendant things, the value of the house has not appreciably increased now. By this tax on immovable property, you are causing hardship to the people who are really in distress. Suppose, a man is in debts and has mortgaged his immovable property; he may not be in a position to sell his property because of this proposed tax. The mortgagee may not come forward to buy his property on the ground that the registration authorities may suspect his bona fides with regard to the purchase of this house. He may think that they will suspect him to be a person connected with blackmarket. Therefore, he will not purchase it. The result is, it has to be sold in a court auction. Thus the purpose of this tax is not served. The Government may think that they will get an appreciable amount out of this transaction. But I am sure it will not bring in any appreciable income to the Government.

"Then, there is the surcharge of 12½ per cent on bus fares. Again this is taxing the poor. Some people criticized the Government that the Government bus transport is in a very unsatisfactory position. Of course, there may be some difficulties in the way of the management of the bus transport. But still it has become a profitable concern as can be seen from the figures given by the Hon. Minister for Finance in his budget speech. I am sure they may even get a higher profit next year. As has been suggested by some speakers, there is still inconvenience to the passengers and the bus fare has not been decreased. When people are expecting a decrease in the bus fare, the Government have proposed to levy this tax on bus fares which in turn will affect the bus travellers, viz., the poor and middle class people.

"Then, there is a surcharge of 12½ per cent on the house-tax now paid in municipalities and panchayat areas towards meeting the cost to Government on account of grants payable to local bodies. Sir, the municipalities are already collecting a tax which is above

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normal. Already a surcharge on stamp duty in respect of transactions relating to immovable properties both in Madras City and in the mufassal is collected by the Government on behalf of local bodies through the Registration Department. The house-tax I am paying is very high. I do not want to complain about my personal grievances. What I mean to say is that the municipalities are already collecting a tax from the house owners. If the Government also want to tax these people, then they will be hit twice and will be the worst sufferers.

"Then, there is a special sales-tax on electricity to be collected from all consumers including local bodies. Sir, electricity has ceased to be a luxury. There are very many houses where electricity is used out of necessity. Electricity is also used for agricultural purposes. So this tax will hit them also.

"Then, there is the tax on advertisements. There is already a Sales Tax on newspapers. Now, there is going to be a tax on advertisements. There must be one tax, either the Sales Tax or the proposed tax on advertisement.

"Then, there is the tax on cross-word puzzles. I have not understood what a cross-word puzzle is and I do not know whether it will affect the poor man and I leave it to the Hon. Minister to do anything he likes.

"Then, there is to be Provincial tax on coffee-hotels, boarding houses and cinemas. As this has already been covered by some speakers, I do not want to say anything more on this point."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"That means, you welcome it."

* SRI K. NATARAJAN:—"I cannot say that. Although these taxes are intended for one year, I really fear that it may be extended year after year. It is quite possible that legislation for this purpose may not come forward in the near future. Most probably it may come next year and then it will become a permanent feature in every Budget. So, I do not think that these taxation measures are contemplated purely as an emergency measure. Instead of resorting to such taxes, the Government could have drawn four crores of rupees from the Revenue Reserve Fund to cover up the deficit this year.

1-45 -m. Last year it was no doubt a surplus budget. It was a normal budget without any deficit. It became a normal budget on account of two precautionary measures. One was there already a sales-tax. Secondly fifty lakhs of rupees were taken from the reserve fund. Therefore it became a normal budget. Here what is done? A few taxes are proposed to be levied by legislation. Therefore I for one do not find any difference between the previous budget and the present budget except that there was no taxation mentioned in that budget."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I suppose you suggest that the same method may be adopted for this year."

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SRI K. NATARAJAN:—"No; when Mr. Farookhi was speaking you were pleased to tell him that a few constructive suggestions may be made. We who are outside the Cabinet are not able to stand on firm grounds. We have to study the budget figures before we can do so. I have some suggestions to make to the best of my ability. The suggestions may be taken for what they are worth."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"What I said was that in some of the matters like education, better facilities in hospitals etc., everyone of us can think about and suggest. So, I thought, you who are equally competent to think about all these things can suggest something and I am sure Government would be thankful to you. I do not think they are so self-opinionated as not to welcome suggestions."

* SRI K. NATARAJAN:—"Before I proceed, I may say that there are very good features in the budget. I do not quarrel with the provisions made in it. They are excellent. But I want the House to deal with the taxation proposals from three standpoints, viz., whether there are no alternative proposals, secondly, whether these will serve the purpose and thirdly, whether some retrenchment might not be made in order to obviate the necessity for additional taxation. These are the three standpoints which I want the Minister to give his attention to. If it is said that this is an emergency measure for one year, I for one am inclined to think that this deficit of Rs. 50 lakhs may be met out of the reserve fund. I ask, Sir, which is preferable out of the two alternatives, viz., taxation for one year or taking fifty lakhs out of the reserve fund. I ask which of the two alternatives will not create discontent among the people. These taxation proposals are, in my humble opinion, an unnecessary burden on the poor masses and the middle class people. Let it not be said that this is an emergent measure and it is intended for one year. The taxes you propose will create discontent among all ranks of people, rich and poor. I do not quarrel with the policy of taxation at all. We who are outside the Cabinet cannot get into touch with all facts and figures. Therefore I am making a few suggestions which may be adopted, if found acceptable.

"I now come to the alternative proposal which I have to suggest. In G.O. No. 1829, Education, dated 19th August 1947, it was announced that a Standing Advisory Board for technical education was to replace the Expert Committee already appointed in G.O. No. 1213, Education, dated 18th June 1946. Has effect been given to it? What progress has been made? If that Standing Advisory Board had met they must have formulated certain proposals. Should we not expect the Ministry to give effect to these proposals. Now in every portfolio as in the Central Government there must be an advisory committee. Even before the Advisers' Government came in, in the previous Government there was a Standing Finance Committee which was also referred to by one of the speakers this morning. Therefore first of all, revive it instead of leaving it solely to the concern of the Ministers. Let

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there be a Standing Committee of experts on finance,—and also regarding every other portfolio let them consider questions as they come; let them consider ways and means and then chalk out a plan. That will be a good thing.

“Then, the next thing I want to mention is, that there was a retrenchment and reorganization committee appointed. One of the members of the committee was Mr. Suryanarayana Rao. I find from a reading of the report of the committee that the majority recommend the suggestion of the abolition of the Board of Revenue. In pages 14-15 they say that there is no necessity for Personal Assistants to Collectors in every district. In page 17 they say there is no necessity for a separate inspectorate of local boards. In page 19 they say there is a large expansion of staff in the Secretariat. In page 32 they say there is no necessity for Personal Assistants to District Superintendents of Police. Then they recommend the abolition of text-book committee. Then they say that the eight posts of Deputy Directors of Agriculture are unnecessary. In Appendix II they say, the net result of all these proposals is a saving of Rs. 454 lakhs. Not only this. While the Committee was functioning they were considering almost every subject, and as they were coming to preliminary conclusions they were sending them to Government. So it is not as if they sent their report to Government at the far end of deliberations. It was possible, if only they cared to do so, to carry out the suggestions of the committee as and when their recommendations were received. This Rs. 454 lakhs could be saved, because experts have thought over it and calculated it. Anyhow making allowance for differences of opinion, a sum of Rs. 100 lakhs may be deducted from this Rs. 454 lakhs, and a saving of Rs. 354 lakhs may be effected. Therefore, I say, if only the recommendations of the retrenchment committee had been adopted earlier, there may be no necessity for this new taxation to get over the deficit.

“Then, Sir, I come to another subject. If we are going to learn a lesson from the bus transport in the City of Madras, I say, why not nationalize all transport in the mufassal. You may fail in one or two districts, but in the other districts you may succeed. Thereby you may get enough money to run the concern.

“As regards agriculture, I may suggest one or two things. Now there is a craze—and I understand that some of the Government newspapers including the *Madras Information* advocate it very strongly—for the use of tractors. Government have invested a large sum on tractors. From the information furnished, I see, that certain tractors have been used only by some cultivators. Sir, I must impress on Government the fact that tractors can be used only with profit by persons who have a large acreage of land. So, for the benefit of small cultivators, bullock and bull breeding stations should be started. As regards chemical manures, there seems to be a craze for them nowadays. On the other hand I would suggest oil cake, green leaf manure and cow dung, and they are better substitutes for chemical manures. I am fortified in this by Mr. M. S. Sivaraman, Director of Agriculture. He said that green leaf manure is better than all other

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fertilisers, as people can afford it. He has recommended rearing of quick-growing shrubs on roadsides, sides of canals, rail-roads, tanks and other vacant spaces and porambokes, where it is not profitable to raise anything. Sir, we have in our Province a large extent of fallow and waste lands, and they can be utilized for this purpose.

“Then, Sir, even this Government have proposed certain retrenchment in certain directions. They have said that touring must be avoided by officers. Sir, this is a golden rule. As you know, every rule has an exception. But here, that rule ‘that every rule has an exception’ must have no exception. Touring by every officer, high and low, must be avoided. Then retrench all contingency expenditure, postpone all new works which do not form post-war development schemes or Grow More Food schemes. From the budget it will be seen heavy expenditure is to be incurred on buildings. Cannot these buildings be postponed for the present, say, for the next one or two years? Is the expenditure on buildings of the nature of capital expenditure or recurring expenditure? Recurring expenditure must be avoided; for the Heavens will not fall if these things are delayed for one or two years, till things get better.

“Sir, these are the alternative suggestions I make. I am very diffident in making these suggestions, not because the Hon. Ministers will not listen to me, but because there will be some fallacy in these suggestions, as I am not equipped well with these things. Anyhow they can be considered for the moment and given effect to wherever possible.

“Then there are three or four subjects which are not strictly germane to the budget proposals, but still, I would like to say something about them here. First, is the subject of judiciary and the executive. Sir, a committee was appointed and it has submitted its report.”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“I shall be glad if the hon. Member will finish by 3-15 p.m.”

* SRI K. NATARAJAN:—“Sir, enough has been said on the necessity for that separation, and in fact we have been promised separation. The report was submitted on 7th March 1946. I will content myself by saying that it is long overdue.

“Now, I come to Pudukottai. It must not be merged in any district; it must be made an independent district. (A voice: You said some time back it should be amalgamated with Tanjore district.) Yes, I do not press it now. For it has dimensions large enough and income large enough to be formed into a separate district. On 23rd March 1948, Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar asked a question regarding the circumstances under which the Government of Madras took over the administration of the Pudukottai State. The then Home Minister, Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan, replied: ‘When we were asked to take over a certain State, we took it over and added it to the district which we thought was contiguous to the State as administrative convenience permitted.’”

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The whole question of how the future alignment of districts ought to take place will depend upon a fresh examination of the question. I have also been connected with Pudukottai in the sense that some clients call me to argue their cases in the courts of that State. The system of administration of justice obtaining there is in many respects different from the system obtaining in the districts of this Province. The people will not suffer in the least by constituting that State into a separate district from the point of view of their happiness. Gradually the Government may bring the system of administration there into line with the system in this Province, and then merge the State with the adjoining districts according to administrative convenience. That is why I suggest that the State may be constituted into an independent district.

“ My hon. Friend, Mr. Ahmed Ibrahim, said that Homeopathy, Ayurveda and other systems of Indian Medicine were not given sufficient attention. The Government have only provided for a token grant of Rs. 100 in the budget. It is quite possible that different people may hold different opinions about the efficacy of a particular system of medicine. But it is wrong for the present Ministry, because of the opinion of some of the Ministers, to deny what was promised by the previous Ministry. We have to examine the question from the point of view of the patients and how they take to a particular system of medicine. Before the advent of the British Government and the Allopathic system, the people depended upon Indian medicine. All that we want for the cure of diseases is a synthetic combination of all systems of medicine. Such a combination will reduce the cost of medical administration and treatment.

“ There is the Tanjore Chattram Endowments (Utilization) Bill. The endowments were created by the Mahratta Rulers of Tanjore and the income from them has been utilized for feeding and otherwise helping pilgrims to Rameswaram and also for other charitable purposes such as the maintenance of schools and the distribution of medicines to women during their ante-natal period. No doubt many pilgrims are not going to Rameswaram now on account of facilities of railway traffic, and many women are not coming forward to avail themselves of the offer of medicines. One of the objects towards which the income from the endowments could be utilized is said to be the maintenance of a training school in agriculture in Orathanad. In my personal capacity and not as a representative of my constituency, I submit that the income should not be diverted to objects which, though beneficial, are not cognate with the objects for which the endowments were created.

"I regret to say that there is very long delay in giving effect to the recommendations of several committees. Several committees were set up and they have submitted reports—the Housing Committee, the Water-Supply and Drainage Committee, the Industrial Planning Committee, the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee, the Committee for the separation of the Judiciary and the Executive, etc. When a committee submits its report

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immediate effect should be given to its recommendations as far as possible. I concede that the report need not be taken as gospel truth and that it has to be examined by the Government. But that examination must be done as quickly as possible. The Committee for the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive sent up its report in 1946. Mr. K. Bashyam, when he was the Law Minister, said that its report would be given effect to. Last year also, the Home Minister, Dr. P. Subbarayan, said in the Assembly that the recommendations made by that Committee would be put into effect as early as possible. But we find from newspaper reports that the question has been shelved. I appeal to the Ministers not to delay in giving effect to the recommendations of the several committees.

“The measures for which allotments have been made are very good in themselves and they contribute to the benefit of the common man. The proposed taxes will hit the people hard, especially at a time like this when the cost of living is very high. My suggestion is: don't impose any more taxes on the people, reduce expenditure by adopting retrenchment or draw the deficit of the year from the Reserve Fund, and let us see how things develop next year.”

[illegible]

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కాననానికి పుష్కరికానికూడా వెళ్ళకంజేయలేదు. ప్రజా ప్రభుత్వము అంటే అనాటి రాసు రాజ్యముకంటే. బహుళ ప్రజాస్వామ్యాన్ని అలక్ష్యముచేయక పాడడమే దాని లక్ష్యము. అటువంటి ప్రజాప్రభుత్వాన్నే, రాసురాజ్యాన్నే మనదేశ పితా అయిన గాంధీ మహాత్ముడు ఆశించినాడు. కాబట్టి సరేమమెకటువంటి విమర్శలను ప్రభుత్వమువారు తోసిపుచ్చుచు నమ్ముచున్నాను.

“ఈ ఆయనయే పట్టికలో అధిక ఆహారోత్పత్తి (Grow More Food) కి గాను విడుదల చేయబడుతుంది. ఏర్పాటు చేసినారు. ప్రతి సంవత్సరముకూడా ఈ విధంగా ఏర్పాటు చేస్తున్నారు. కాని ఇందులోనుంచి సరిగా డబ్బు ఖర్చు చేయబడుచున్నట్లు గాని, ఆ స్కీముల ప్రకారము వసులు జరుగుచున్నట్లుగాని కనుపించుటలేదు. మన ఆహారశాఖామంత్రిలు గౌరవనీయులైన రాజగోపాలాచారి statement ను మనకు ఇచ్చినారు. దీనినిబట్టి చూచిననుకూడా అధిక ఆహారోత్పత్తి జరుగుట లేదనే చెప్పవలసి యున్నది. వంట ఎక్కువ అగుటకు బదులుగా ఇంకా తక్కువ అవుతుందేమోననే ఆనుమానముకూడా కలుగుతోంది. 1947-48 వ సంవత్సరములో అధిక ఆహారోత్పత్తి స్కీములకుగాను 67 లక్షల రూపాయలను ఏర్పాటు చేశారు. కాని ఈ allotment లో నుంచి సంవత్సరాంతానికి 16 శాతం రూపాయలను మాత్రమే ఖర్చు చేయగలిగినారు. ఈ విధంగా వసులు జరిపించుచున్నట్లుయితే రైతులు అధికంగా ఆహార పదార్థాలను వివిధంగా పండించగలరో జోషపడుతుంది. బడ్జెటులో కేటాయించిన డబ్బులలో చాలాభాగము నిలువ ఉండిపోతోంది. కాబట్టి బడ్జెటులో ఏర్పాటు చేయించిన స్కీములమీద allot చేసిన డబ్బు సాధ్యమైనంతవరకు అంతయు సంవత్సరాంతములోపల ఖర్చు చేయవలసినదని ఉద్యోగస్తులను హెచ్చరించవలసియున్నది. లేనిచో అధికాహారోత్పత్తి జరుగుట కష్టము. ఆహారశాఖామంత్రిగారు మన ఎదుట ఉంచిన రెక్కలనుబట్టి చూచినట్లైతే మన రాష్ట్రంలో ఆహార కదార్థాల ఉత్పత్తి వివిధంగా తగ్గిపోయినదో మనకు స్పష్టముగా కనుపడుచున్నది. ఈ సంవత్సరంలో మనకు 5, 6 లక్షల టన్నుల బియ్యము, 5 శాతం టన్నుల చిరుధాన్యాలు (millet) తక్కువ ఉంటుందని అంచనా వేశారు. కాని ఈ వంటునుకూడా మన రాష్ట్రంలో పండించటానికి తగిన సమయాలు జరిపించబడుటలేదని తోస్తోంది. ఆహార ధాన్యాల సరఫరాకూడా సరేమంగా జరగటంలేదని తెలియజేసినారు. ఇటువంటి పరిస్థితులలో మన రాష్ట్రములో కాటకము ఏర్పడుతుందో ఏమో తెలియదు. అట్టి పరిస్థితులలో ప్రభుత్వము ఏమిచేయగలదోకూడా తెలియదు. కాని మనము ప్రజలను ఎంతోకాలము ఈ తక్కువ రేషన్మీద ఉంచలేము.

“మా మార్పు గోదావరిజిల్లాను మిగులు (surplus) జిల్లాగా classify చేశారు. జిల్లాను అంతన ఒకటిగా తీసుకుంటే మిగులు జిల్లా అని ఒప్పుకోవచ్చును. కాని ఈ జిల్లాలో కొన్నితాలూకాలలోనే వరిధాన్యము పండుతుంది. మిగతా తాలూకాలు మట్టి తాలూకాలు. ఈ తాలూకాలలో ధాన్యము పండదు. ఇవి deficit తాలూకాలు. వీటికి ఆహారధాన్యాలు పల్లపు తాలూకాలనుంచే ఇదివరకు ఎప్పుడూ సరఫరా చేయబడుతుండేవి. కాని ఇప్పుడు మా మార్పుగోదావరి జిల్లాలోని పల్లపు తాలూకాలలోనుంచి నేకరించిన ధాన్యమునంతను ఈ మట్టి తాలూకాల మాటనే ఆశించినకుండా బయటకు పంపించేస్తున్నారు. జిల్లాయొక్క అవసరముల నన్నింటిని గమనించకుండా వేలకొలది టన్నుల ఆహార పదార్థాలను ప్రతినిత్యముకూడా జిల్లా వెలుపలకు రవాణా చేస్తున్నారు. ఇది ప్రభుత్వమువారు గమనించుచున్నట్లులేదు. ఈ విధంగా ప్రభుత్వమువారు అనుసరించుచున్న విధానాన్ని ప్రజలు హర్షించటం లేదు. ప్రజాస్వామ్యాన్ని అలక్ష్యముచేసి, కానన సభ్యులమైన మా యొక్క విషయాలను

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[Sri T. Purushotham]

అదరింకకపోయినట్లైతే మిగులు (surplus) జిల్లా అయిన మార్పుగోదావరి జిల్లాలో కూడా మేముకూడా కలుగవచ్చును. కాబట్టి ఈ విషయాన్ని గమనించి జిల్లాయొక్క అవసరాలను తరుకక, ఆ జిల్లాకు సరిపోయినంతసేపును అక్కడ నిలువ ఉంచి, మిగతాచోటనే జిల్లా బయటకు పంపించే ఏర్పాటులు చేయిస్తారని నేను అనుకుంటున్నాను.

“మద్రాసు పట్టణంలో 19వ ప్రయాణీకులు చెల్లించవలసిన రేట్లు హెచ్చించి నారని ప్రయాణీకులలో ఆందోళన ఉన్నది. Floating population కు ఈ హెచ్చింపు అంత బాధకరింగా ఉండకపోయినా ప్రతినిత్యము వాతావరణం పోయేటటువంటి ద్వారా లకు, చిన్నచిన్న ఉద్యోగస్తులకు చాలా దుర్భరంగా ఉంటోంది. ఈ విషయాన్ని ప్రజలు ఎక్కువగా చెప్పుకో నుచున్నారు. కాబట్టి రైల్వేలలోను, ట్రాములలోను ఉన్నట్లుగా ఈ బస్సులలోను ప్రతినిత్యము ప్రయాణము చేసేటటువంటివారికి season ticket ను ఏర్పాటు చేసినట్లైతే చాలామంది పేదసంపాదకులు ఉపకారము చేయవలసి నదిగా ఆరికేశాఖామంత్రిలను కోరుచున్నాను.

“నేను ఇప్పుడు చేసినటువంటి సలహాలను పరిశీలన చేయించి వాటిని కొంతకాలం తైనను ఆమలు జరుగ ప్రయత్నిస్తారని అనిస్తున్నాను. ముఖ్యంగా కొత్త పన్నులను విధించే విషయంలో పేదవారికి వాటిని పట్టుకుంటే బట్టాన్ని చేస్తే వాటిని తాగుంటుంది. సామాన్య సంపాదకులైన ఆహార ఒక వెయ్యి రూపాయలలో 1 శాతం రూపాయల ఆదాయమునకే వారిమీద కన్ను తూర్చి తగ్గించవలసివచ్చింది. ఇటువంటి సందర్భాలలో ఇప్పుడు చాలా బాధపడుచున్నారు. అంతేకాకుండా ఇప్పుడు ఆమలులో ఉన్నటువంటి భూగిస్తు విధానాన్నికూడా మార్చవలసియున్నది. ఎడో ఒక minimum ను, 5 ఎకరాలలో, 10 ఎకరాలలో నిర్ణయించి, అంతకు తక్కువ భూమికల వారిపై కన్ను లేకుండా, అంతకుపై భూమికలవారిపైనే కన్ను విధించి విధానాన్ని వారుపై కన్ను లేకుండా, అంతకుపై భూమికలవారిపైనే కన్ను విధించి విధానాన్ని ఆమలు చేయించవలసినదిగా కోరుచున్నాను. ఈ పన్నుకూడా ఆదాయాన్ని బట్టి పెల్లించే పద్ధతిని ఆమలు జరుపుతారని చిన్న వ్యవసాయదారునికి తగినంత సమాధానము చేస్తారని మహారాజ్ ఆదర్శాలను అనుసరించటానికి శాయశక్తులా ప్రయత్నిస్తారని అనిస్తూ ఇంతటితో విరమించుచున్నాను.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“Mr. President, Sir, for the sake of convenience, whatever I have got to say by way of reply to these general discussions on the Budget in this House and also for the information of the public outside, I have put it in this printed speech of mine, which has been circulated to the Members of the House, because the food position which vitally concerns the public of this Province requires the greatest amount of publicity and I have felt that the Government in their transactions cannot deal anything in secret about the question of food, and this printed speech will give all the information required by the public on that subject. But personally, Sir, I should like to supplement it with certain remarks, which I shall presently do.

“Sir, I should like to state at the outset, that to carry on the food administration of this Province with a certain amount of satisfaction, the co-operation of the public is absolutely necessary, not only with regard to production, but also with regard to procurement and distribution, and unless that amount of co-operation is forthcoming, the working of food controls and distribution will become almost impossible. Sir, food is a thing which concerns

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everyone in the Province and it is good that even the poor and the ignorant man knows exactly what our commitments are in this respect, because he has got a duty towards the Government and the public in this matter. Sir, blackmarketing is a thing about which much has been said in this House and outside. But I really do not know who is the guilty party in this blackmarketing transaction. I think, without exception, that men, women and even children are guilty of the same. Every train that comes into this City, brings with it hundreds of poor men, women and children carrying with them a few measures of rice, in a small bundle of cloth or in a gunny bag, and sell the rice in the blackmarket. In that way, hundreds of bags of rice are being daily smuggled into the City and sold in blackmarket. Could any human agency tackle with that question which is the prime necessity of the people? And is it possible for the Government to keep watch over this smuggling in every train and in every station and in every street and road, to catch these offenders and bring them to book? But it stands to reason that a large abuse in this manner should be checked and strong action taken against it, because this kind of blackmarketing is injuries to the people of this Province, when it is moved about in uncontrolled quantities. Sir, I have been trying to find out, who is the guilty party in this transaction, but I am still at a loss to know, who is really guilty, whether it is the person who sells the rice in the blackmarket, or the man who purchases it. I have got a Bill almost ready for being introduced in the Legislature, with regard to blackmarketing, but I have my own doubts whether that Bill is really going to help me in preventing blackmarketing. It has often been said that control produces blackmarketing. To a certain extent it is true, but can we get on without control is a question which I should like to put before Members of this House. Of course, we did without control for about a year and I was one of those who, though originally opposed decontrol, agreed to work it within certain limitations. The poor man was certainly not very fascinated with decontrol, although the food situation in this Province did not grow into very serious proportions on account of decontrol. I am glad, Sir, that decontrol has been withdrawn, and that control has been brought in again and I am also glad that the Government of India, driven to the necessity of enforcing control, have laid down certain broad principles and rules for the guidance of Provincial Government and are taking all steps and giving all the assistance necessary to tide over the present crisis.

"Sir, there are three fundamental factors which I want not only the House to remember, but also everybody in the Province to remember, because, unless they are recognized, people will not be able to understand and appreciate the real situation in the Province. The first is that this Province is deficient in foodgrains, not only now, or during the last two or three years, but for the last so many decades. We have, in fact, never been self-sufficient in the matter of food production. But, of course food was flowing freely, when trade was free and when imports of food were freely

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coming into this country, from Burma, Malaya and from other countries outside and therefore we did not have any difficulties in this matter. In certain cases, the imported food was much cheaper than the food produced in this Province. But those days are gone. We have come to a chronically deficit stage now, from the year 1944.

"Secondly, we have embarked upon a campaign of Grow More Food in this Province and are spending large sums of money over it. This campaign of Grow More Food has got a place in our solution of this problem and I have, in my statement, given full details of the amounts that have been allotted and the progress that has been made and the results so far achieved. It has often been said, in this House as well as outside, 'What have you produced? Have you been able to produce one single additional grain of paddy? Your Grow More Food campaign is a failure and so on.' Sir, I want to disabuse from the minds of Hon. Members of the House and also of the public outside, that our Grow More Food campaign is not at all a failure, and I want them to go through these statements given in my printed speech and to understand them clearly. Just as I have made it absolutely clear that we are a deficit Province, so also I want to make it absolutely clear that we have produced more food and we are producing more food as a result of this Grow More Food campaign, as these statements and figures will clearly show.

"Then, Sir, the next question that may be asked is 'Have you got over the deficit?' Certainly not, Sir. But I am on my way towards meeting the deficit. That is what I am prepared to say, because, in this statement, I have mentioned how I am going to deal with the question of making good the deficit.

"Thirdly, Sir, another factor which I want to bring to the notice of the House as well as the public at large is this. For some mysterious reason or other, rice production not only in our Province, but all over the world has gone down. We are paying a bigger price not only in this country, but in America, in China and Siam, in Japan and other parts of South-East Asia. Therefore, the International Food Council has to-day warned us that the production of rice is low and is getting lower and lower and this year particularly it has become very low. What are the conditions that produce this diminution in the international market is more than I can say. But it is clear that those of us who have got to depend on rice as a staple food have to be anxious with regard to our future. Of course, we may get rains in the next season and perhaps we may get an increased crop; but would it solve our food problem? That is what we, the rice-eating population, have to think of. Our food problem, Sir, is complicated in many ways. Not only we have not got enough food and we do not produce enough food, but the food that we produce is so consumed by our people that it will not be possible to arrange what I would call a balanced diet for all our people. That is where exactly the trouble comes not only for this Government but also the Government of India. The

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other day, Sir, the Hon. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has drawn the attention of this Government to the anxious situation with regard to food in this country, particularly with regard to rice. What is it that he has to say? He says: we cannot even buy any more food outside because our resources are at an end and all our progressive schemes have come to a standstill for food is swallowing so much of our resources. That is the statement made, Sir, by a responsible Prime Minister of the Country. He further says that it is high time that people who are dependent on rice rearranged their food in such a way that it may be possible to make ourselves self-sufficient with the food that we produce in this country. Even if we produce all that we want, deficient as we are, he says, our dietary has to be rearranged in such a way that we could cater to all our requirements, first of all, Sir, existence and secondly with regard to nutritional requirements. I must tell this House, Sir, that rice after all is said to contain very poor food, poor in this way that it does not contain all the necessary ingredients of a balanced nutritional diet. (Dr. Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur: No article is perfect.) Wait a minute, you have not heard me yet. While elaborating on rice, Sir, we must see what the mass of our people are taking. That is where the difficulty comes in. According to the new scheme of the Government, they want to give foodgrains up to 12 ounces. These 12 oz. in terms of rice is not a very plentiful food for those who are habituated to eat rice, because I know working class men who take anything up to 40 oz. in 24 hours, not over but as a minimum requirement. I can show you persons who are doing that. But I may tell you why. It is in order to make up the food requirements of the body, they have to take such bulk. Our people who are poor get only rice and they must get all the requirements of the body only from rice and the result is that he has to take rice in bulk. He simply goes on consuming. If you come to a more rationalized diet, we can freely manage it in this country. That is what the Prime Minister also tells us. He says: Do not go on only harping on rice. You so manipulate your dietary to give to rice-eaters some other additional form of diet which will go to make up the full meal of the man and in which he will have the basic diet of rice plus something which will go to make up for a balanced nutrition. That is why, Sir, we now propose to give the people a quantity of foodgrains of 12 oz., of which only 8 oz. will be rice and the other 4 oz. by way of wheat and wheat products, kambu, cholam, etc. The result is that our diet will as nearly as possible approximate to a balanced diet. A man who wants 12 oz. must take it in two or three varieties of substances which would add to the nutrition of the body.

"An experiment has been carried out, Sir, in many parts of Northern India. They have attempted at this problem and they have been trying to solve it for some years. What they do now is to grow sweet potatoes. Sweet potatoes are grown in large quantities if only they are properly cultivated in suitable lands. They do not require so much water as rice or any other crop. What they do in the north is to add a certain proportion of the sweet potato flour with their basic food, *ata*, i.e., wheat flour. That becomes a standardized and balanced diet because it contains sugar

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also. So also it can be done with regard to rice. Our rice diet should be so manipulated so that we can take a certain amount of sweet potato in whatever form we may like. It is grown easily and it is easily available, at least it is not so very difficult as rice. ~~That is the endeavour of the Government of India, Sir, and it is the advice given to us.~~ I put it to you, Sir, and to the public of the Province that it is high time that we should not entirely depend upon rice alone. The alternative I suggest is either ragi, kambu and also this sweet potato. All these contain a very good nutritional value which can be easily added, and these go to the advantage of health and nutrition of our working class population. To-day, Sir, some gentleman remarked about the Nutritional Exhibition at the Y.W.C.A. It is a very good object lesson no doubt. We notice our people not taking all the cereals which are available except the working classes. The working classes take them. We have divided people into two categories. One set of people are rice-eaters and the other set is called mixed diet eaters. Mixed diet eaters do have better health and more strength. The working classes as a rule take only mixed diet. If you want a man to work on the field, he should have mixed diet only. It is cheap, very easily produced, and it caters to the health requirements of his constitution. If that were so, and if, as a principle, we endeavour to give a mixed diet in our rations, I want people to understand this, and not to ask and clamour for rice only. They incessantly clamour for rice. But the tragedy of the situation is that they not only want more rice, but they want more of a particular kind of rice. The fight between boiled rice and raw rice is right through in the Circar districts. People are fortunately or unfortunately used to take raw rice in some districts. They suffer from beri-beri and other countless ailments as a consequence. They, however, will take only raw rice. Boiled rice according to nutritional standards is excellent food. It retains many of those valuable foods that are wasted in ordinary raw rice. But is it possible to change the habit of people? It is very difficult, to change the taste of a nation, particularly when it is a habit of so many years. How are you going to get over the food position? If it is a question of a few years, I can get food from some countries, or beg from the Government of India for a little more quantity. What is more, I can go and lay my hands on the most distasteful of all occupation—food procurement in this country. I may tell you how distasteful this procurement work is. For that very reason, I would not like to have any control. But we cannot help. I have to procure if I want to keep the country self-sufficient in the matter of food to the extent possible. I may here tell you, Sir, that there was a report last week that procurement officers were badly beaten and thrashed by the villagers. All the revenue officers and the village officers were badly handled. Then the Collector of the District had to rush the police force to defend the officers. What an ugly situation it is? It was not as if food was not there. The food was there, but the people would not give it to Government. They had food which was beyond their requirements, and it is this the Government wanted to procure. The other point to be considered is that Government are not taking away food without paying for it. What is more? I have given

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them 50 per cent more prices much to the regret of my hon. Friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao who said 'you have enhanced the retail price by one anna and six pies, and one anna and four pies.' I have enhanced the prices. I have enhanced it by 50 per cent, a rate which no other Province in India has done. I fought for it for the last six months. I refused to procure until this higher price was given. Even this is not a high price to pay. For, as a farmer, I know the cost of production has gone up so high. Even another 50 per cent has to be added to it. But this cannot be done without any system of control. You must see whether this price is within the capacity of the poorest man for whom it is intended. Taking into consideration the cost of production according to the latest standards, we have fixed the price, that is, 50 per cent more than what is given. That is what I have put down in my report. I hoped and thought that, with this enhanced price, procurement should be very easy. But I am sorry to say that people in our districts—particularly very greedy producers—want to make very good profit. They had come to make good profits on account of decontrol last year. Having had the benefits of decontrol, what happened was that they put up their prices. The result was that prices went up by 350 per cent. That was the prevailing price more or less in the market, when Government felt that they could not continue at this rate. Therefore we had to re-impose controls. People who were selling at 300 per cent were obliged to part with their surplus at the prices stipulated by the Government. Naturally, it is very hard for them to do so. I am sorry for the producers who have been denied this very high price. I am also told and warned that, if I continued controls, production would gradually go down, and that the whole system of procurement work would collapse. I have to see whether that warning is going to turn out to be true in the end. As it is, we are deficit in foodgrains. I can certainly ask the Government of India to give me more, and I am trying to get as much as I can. But the difficulty is these producers who have got foodgrains with them, instead of giving them to Government at the fair price, ask us to make up the deficit by getting grains from the Government of India. They say that they will sell their paddy at a profit which they had before. That is where the actual difficulty comes. If procurement officers meet with a hostile set of producers, procurement becomes very very unpleasant. All our procurement officers have to go to the villagers to procure. I cannot send with them a battalion. We have necessarily to get the co-operation of the villagers and the producers. By no stretch of imagination can coercion succeed in this matter. It is the universal type of food requirement which humanity wants, and people should come forward to help the procurement officers. Without their help and complete co-operation, I cannot possibly procure all that I want. It might easily be said you have not given pumps; you have not provided water, and you have not given manure. All that I know. But I ask to what extent it is possible? In this statement I have given facts and figures to show how much we have managed, how much we have to procure, and how much of the tax-payer's money has gone into the Grow More Food campaign. Crores of rupees

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have been spent. There are as many as 125 schemes ready for execution. Tanks which have been neglected for ages, have now been dug up. We are sinking lot of wells at a rapid pace. But there is one point to be considered, Sir, and it is that all this ~~can~~ succeed only if there is rain. If there is no rain, there will be no water in the wells, and there will be no water in the tanks. Therefore, the first requisite is rain. I wish I had that same beautiful picture as given by the Leader of the Opposition the other day. He was giving us a glorious picture about America and how food production is going on there. He was saying as if by simply pressing an electric button, and putting dollars, down came the rain to order. It will certainly be Heaven on Earth if that could be achieved in this country. But then, I ask, is it possible to achieve it by human agency? I can understand it as a solution to the food problem. But to-day it is something which I cannot understand, because we cannot have that in our country. (Dr. V. K. John: Government have no imagination.) We may imagine all things on earth. Food does not come by imagination. Any amount of imagination will not help us. We are prepared to go to any extent that is possible for us. All our resources are concentrated on this question of food. In my statement, I have said how many departments are working at this problem. The Revenue department, the Agriculture department and the Food department are working at it. There are the procurement officers. After employing so many departments to procure food, still we find ourselves in deficit to the extent of 10 lakhs of tons this year. On account of no rainfall consecutively for the last two years, no food has been grown. Yet I have to get food, and see that our people do not starve. How is this to be done? That is the question the Food Minister has got to face. If a man dies of diarrhoea the question arises whether that person died of starvation. I have answered several questions in this connexion both in the Assembly and in this House that those deaths were not due to starvation. But those who wanted to attack the Government did not care to know the truth. Every death was sought to be made out as death due to starvation. It is our endeavour to see that the poorest man gets his ration, and that as far as possible he gets a balanced diet from the shops. We know how many retailers we have got. We have got about twenty-five thousand. In the City of Madras itself there are many retail shops. All these are controlled, checked and inspected. I cannot say that there is no fraud. How many bogus ration cards are there? How many issues are supposed to be made against bona fide cards? If every individual shop should cheat and commit fraud on the Government, you can understand the difficulty of a human agency to control the food situation. Yet, we are doing all these things. Our food has got to be preserved. We are trying to preserve it in the best manner possible. We put it in a place where it can be secure. Unfortunately in this Province of ours, you have six surplus districts. About twenty districts are deficit. But we have to feed all the districts. My hon. Friend was saying that we have taken some taluks in East Godavari for draining them of foodgrains. It is

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not our intention to drain any place. We appeal to the generosity of the producers in the name of the suffering humanity to surrender their surplus grains to Government.

"Now, Sir, we are giving help to the agriculturists in the shape of land revenue remissions. The crops in certain places have become so poor that it is less than four annas in the rupee in most of the districts. Should not those districts which have got more give some of their food to these deficit districts? Therefore, Sir, the question of food is not a question of politics. It is not a question of Andhra or Tamil. It is a question of the whole people of the country who have got to be fed. I simply make this appeal and say that this food question is above all politics, is above all parties and above all elections."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM:—"What about the local people? Their needs should also be met."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I also speak for the local people; I speak for one and all. I do not at all ignore the local people. All the time, I have been pleading for everyone. I do not speak for anyone in particular. I only want the people to be more generous and to give to the Government the surplus which is more than their requirements."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM:—"I have not argued this point on the Tamil or Andhra question."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I am simply making a statement that the food question cannot be solved in that way because I have seen people saying, 'Do not give because you lose all your advantage'."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"When any hon. member is speaking, no other member has got the right to interrupt except with my permission. With my permission, any member can rise up and speak on a point of personal explanation and not as an argument. If the Hon. Minister makes any statement which affects the statement made by an hon. Member, and if that Member wants to give a personal explanation, he can do so with my permission. But he cannot argue with the Hon. Minister. I hope hon. Members will please observe this rule."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM:—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"What is the point of explanation?"

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM:—"The Hon. Minister just now said with regard to West Godavari that people are asked not to give. I say, Sir, that in certain taluks, Government are procuring without taking local opinion into consideration at all and they are exporting paddy outside the district without caring for the local opinion. That is my statement. It is not a question of Andhra or Tamil."

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* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I said that local requirements are given first consideration. In my statement, I have said that every producer is entitled to one pound for himself, for his family and children. This fundamental principle is observed in producing. The producer can keep enough for his own food. He cannot say I am not left enough food. That argument should be stopped because in this year's procurement, I have clearly said that the producer should be given enough so that he may be able to fight the inflation on behalf of the Government. In the statement which I have circulated, I have clearly shown that the producer can have it. There are people who are ignorant or the officials may be ignorant. I have made it clear that the producer is entitled to keep food to the extent of one pound for each individual in his family. That is very clear. What the Government want is only the surplus. It is the duty of the Government to see that nobody is suffering and therefore Government takes up the responsibility of feeding every man. In fact, my food policy is working in such a way that everyone will get his food requirements based on that principle. All people must be fed at a rate every day. Taking that fact into consideration, the budget is made. I suppose hon. members will not do any more calculations, you cannot accuse me of that. It is a social attitude on the part of some of our people."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The complaint seems to be that the officers do not properly observe these rules. If the Hon. Minister has got anything to say on this point, he may do so."

* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Everyone knows the rule very well. Last time when procurement was made, the selection of officers was done at random. Almost anybody was recruited. But, this time we have made it a condition that the persons ought to be members of the staff of the Revenue department and if there is any act of commission or omission on their part, their future will be affected, because they expect to be in the Revenue department and to get some promotions. Therefore, in the recruitment of these officers, we have taken care to see that, as far as possible, they are recruited on this basis, and that only a small percentage of people are recruited from outside. Even from the Revenue department, only people with good service to their credit will be recruited. That being the criterion, they must be expected to discharge their duty honestly. Of course, there may be some people who are over-enthusiastic and overdo their business. In this connexion, Sir, I may take the House into confidence and inform the House that a fortnightly report of the procurement and the conduct of all those officers is being called for. The Civil Supplies Commissioner gets every report and he sends them to the Government. Therefore, from the Secretariat, as far as possible, we keep an eye upon what our officers are doing in the districts with regard to this procurement. Sir, procurement, as I said, is an unpleasant task and I want to minimise

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that unpleasantness as far as possible and as far as the Government can do it. I have a plan for that procurement system. I will not go into those details now.

"Sir, with regard to Grow More Food Campaign, you will see that the expected additional production in tons will be 66,781 lakhs in the coming year. Actual expenditure with regard to irrigation schemes and so on roughly comes to one crore and odd rupees. We have also got a scheme for the improvement of irrigation tanks. We have diverted more money for that purpose. The village tanks are fairly well attended to. We have also diverted more money to non-deltaic districts for the restoration of tanks, spring channels and reservoirs, so that they can work well and help the cultivators to grow more food. That is the innovation that we have made in this Budget.

"Sir, two questions have been raised and two complaints have been made with regard to these foodgrains. One is whether the stock is well cared for. I must confess here and now that adequate storage facilities are not there. There are not hygienically constructed godowns where these foodgrains could be stored. Sir, for a long time, we have got to move the grains from one place to another and there is a waste in the movement. There is the bottle-neck in transport. In spite of the fact that we are having some wagons for that purpose, still the movement of foodgrains presents us a great problem. Although we took all the power to commandeered the wagons, still they are not sufficient. Besides these, we have to employ a large number of lorries. There are about 200 or 300 lorries working. Then, Sir, there is the threatened strike by the railway. If that should come off, then it may become very serious to the people of the whole Province and people may die of starvation. Then, Sir, our rolling stock is not enough. We have to get them all the way from Godavari, Krishna and from all those areas up to Kozhikode and other places. We meet the transport charges and other things and the poor people get the rice at the same scheduled rate. We get the rice from America or China or other countries, and we have to pay nearly three times for transport and other charges. But, we charge the consumer only the scheduled rate from the beginning of the year to the end of the year.

"Then, Sir, about the quality of rice, we put all our stocks together. After all, rice is an article which rapidly degenerates. If it is kept as paddy, perhaps it may not degenerate so quickly. But, it is twice or three times the bulk of the rice and so, the movement of paddy becomes difficult. Therefore, we have tried to keep rice as far as possible and keep it in as best a condition as we can. What happens is this. The rice that is shipped from South America or China or other places—god only knows in what condition it is shipped—comes travelling for months over the seas. We are not in a position to say whether it is of a good or a bad quality. Sometimes, the rice gets spoiled before it arrives. What do we do? Now, Sir, the Department of Food has got a number of Entomologists and Assistant Entomologists whose duty

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is to inspect the godowns. They see the condition of the foodgrains before issue and they certify to their purity and then only it is issued. Even then I get many interpellations about the purity of rice. Last week, I had an interpellation about the foodgrains in Vizagapatnam. True, it was bad. What did we do? We cleaned it up by fumigating and then make it fit for human consumption. We bear all the losses and we issue only such good grains as are fit for consumption.

"Then, Sir, as regards the price, I must say that it is not possible to give the producers more than the price that we have given them at present. I have already explained the price control policy with regard to intensive procurement. I must say as far as our department goes, there is nothing wrong. But, here, public declarations have been made and we have also received some complaints about the bad treatment by our officers and also complaints that they do not give enough foodgrains to the cultivators for their requirements or supply them with cheap grains for their cultivation next year. We will only be too glad to go into those complaints. We have got an agency to go into that question. They are constantly in touch with the public and it is their duty to see that no such complaints are forthcoming. It will also be better if the public are in touch with the Government for the efficient discharge of our duty with regard to food and we will be glad to receive and to go into any complaints that they may make.

"Lastly, Sir, I should say that I have taken this opportunity in this House to make a long statement simply because I could not get an opportunity in the other House—not that I make any difference between this House and the other House—but it so happens that the number of speakers there and the number of replies that have to be given were so numerous that it was an enormous task in the Assembly to find time for this in that House. Here the position is less difficult, on account of the thinner nature of the House, and it was possible to elaborate the food policy here. When I say this, I do not mean any disrespect to the Members of the Assembly to whom I propose to supply copies of this statement so that they may study that statement and when the Budget Demands are taken up by that House, if they want any elucidation on any of the points mentioned therein, certainly we will be glad to make such an elucidation. With these words, I resume my seat."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"We are thankful for the extra 4-15 p.m. privilege."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—"Whether it is the Upper or the Lower House, we are all Members of the Legislature and our responsibility is neither less nor greater whether we sit in the Assembly or in the Council."

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHITTINGAM CHETTIYAR :—"I am very grateful, Sir, to the Members of this House for their criticisms and the interest they have taken in matters educational."

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One important matter has been raised by the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition and that is with regard to the policy of the Government in regard to aided institutions. Before I deal with that, I would just like to refer to a few other points referred to by others. My hon. Friend, Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao, referred to the University Grants Committee and said that it was abolished because some members proved inconvenient. That is the word he used, Sir, and that there was difference of opinion. I must say here that the distinguished members of that Commission had always been very useful in the deliberations and we had no difference of opinion of any sort even on a single occasion. But, Sir, the University Grants Committee in England and even at the Centre is very much different from what we have constituted here. Large funds were placed at the disposal of the University Grants Committee and they were asked to distribute them to various universities. But here the purpose is very different. When the universities apply for grants, these applications, before being considered by Government, are referred to the University Commission and the opinion of the Commission is placed before the Government and the Government issue final orders. The result was that there was a great deal of delay in the disposal of the applications of the universities. Certain Vice-Chancellors of the Universities represented that this seemed to be another wheel in the coach and that meant great delay. So the Government thought that this agency in the middle could be avoided so that the matter could be expedited. There was no other reason why this was abolished. Here I must take the opportunity of paying my tribute to the work and to the advice given by the University Grants Committee so long as it existed.

"With regard to the re-organization of the Provincial Advisory Board of Education, I hope that it is really no reflection upon anybody's work. The Hon. Member referred to himself. I always welcome suggestions from whatever quarter they may come and I hope his omission will not be taken in any personal sense. The Hon. Member referred to adult education and I had a talk with him over that matter outside this House. Whatever constructive suggestions which he or other hon. Members have to make in this important matter, Government will always be glad to take them.

"Coming to the suggestion made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Farookhi, he referred to the fact that girls should have some useful training to help them in their future life. I am afraid he has not gone through the pamphlet which gives particulars about the re-organization of girls' education. I would like to read a few lines as to how girls' education is sought to be re-organized in the scheme, from page 11 of the pamphlet:—

"With a view to make the training more purposeful, home craft has been made the basic craft for all girls' schools, so that it will train them for life. While it is not the intention to prevent any girl from taking the subjects that she chooses to study when she goes for higher studies, this aspect of re-organization seeks to train the large majority of girls for the avocation which they may choose in life, later on."

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It indicates that the just the thing which he wanted is attempted to be done in the present re-organization scheme of the Government."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I just wanted to point out to the Hon. Education Minister what was actually happening in regard to girls' education, and I suggested that this should be rectified."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Well, Sir, This has been begun in the first form this year and will become more effective as years go on."

"Mr. Ibrahim referred to the medium of instruction in colleges. I do not think it is necessary for me to go into it elaborately, especially as I had made an elaborate statement in the Assembly quite recently."

"Dr. Tajuddin wanted nursery schools and I am glad to tell him that nursery schools are being recognized as special schools wherever they are opened. Till recently there was a nursery school in the Lady Willingdon College and since the lady who was in charge of it retired, and we could not get another person suitable to occupy her place, it had to be suspended temporarily. Now, we have sent an officer overseas for training and when she returns, that school will be re-opened."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will that be sufficient?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"It is a training school to train workers who can start new nursery schools and I think one nursery farming school is sufficient for the present and if the need for more schools is felt later on, the Government will certainly attend to it."

"I now turn to reply to the statement made by certain members, especially the Leader of the Opposition, with regard to Government attitude to aided institutions. I must say at the outset that it is the policy of Government to help and encourage aided institutions in all grades of education—elementary, secondary or collegiate. It is for that reason that after this Government have come into power, greater facilities have been given for aided institutions which were never before available to them. I may mention in brief the steps taken by Government in this direction. The grants to aided elementary schools have been considerably increased. Aided elementary school teachers are also paid in full dearness allowance at Government rates. In addition, an amount not exceeding one-fifth of the grant to be paid to teachers is being paid for expenses of managements. I may be allowed to mention here that many of the aided elementary schools including those managed by Missions are just paying their teachers what they are receiving by way of grant."

"Coming to secondary and training schools, the grants to these institutions have been increased from the traditional net half"

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a net two-thirds. Secondly, while the Government have allowed the increase of instalments of fees from eight to ten, only eight instalments as before are being taken into account for purposes of grant. Though most of the aided schools charge more than the standard rate some schools charge as much as Rs. 7-8-0 for high school classes as against the standard rate of Rs. 5-4-0 only the standard rates are being taken for purposes of calculation of grant. But at the same time, for making good the fee concessions that are being given to Harijans and the backward communities, the Government are calculating at the rates charged for by the institutions themselves thus giving them the advantage of the higher rates they are charging. These are some of the main additional facilities that this Government have given to aided agencies to encourage them. It will not be too much to say that in the present circumstances, many managements are not contributing anything towards the recurring expenses of the high schools conducted by them. In fact some institutions are able to make a saving and put it by for use for future contingencies. Statistics given below will show how aided agencies have taken advantage of these facilities to open new institutions. In 1946-47, 31 new secondary schools have come into existence; 44 in 1947-48 and 40 in 1948-49.

"One other matter I must refer to here. That is with regard to the requisition of buildings for Educational Institutions Bill to which the hon. the Leader of the Opposition referred. This Bill does not apply only to institutions managed by any particular communities. Instances have been pointed out that where certain managements have been corrupt and refused to mend even after repeated warnings, the Government are unable to take steps by way of stoppage of grant or withdrawal of recognition—those are the greatest steps that may be taken—because of the difficulty of making alternative arrangements for one thousand and odd children that may be studying in those schools. The Government have to-day a duty not only towards the managements but towards the children and the staff of those schools. This Bill is intended only against such very bad managements. I may assure the House that good institutions of whatever managements have nothing to fear from this Bill. The Government are anxious to take all along with them interested in education throughout the Province. I may add that when the Bill is taken for consideration, the Government will accept all reasonable amendments which will serve to protect good institutions. It is for that reason the Government invited such of those people who wanted to give evidence, to do so before the Select Committee. The Select Committee will consider all the representations that have been received and will go into the matter with great care and make whatever changes as may be necessary.

"The total number of secondary schools in this Province in the beginning of the current year was 1,041 of which 523 are aided schools. Of these schools, 229 are conducted by Christian Missions as against 294 conducted by others. Similarly out of 59 Arts

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Colleges in the Province, 46 are aided institutions. Of these, 17 are colleges managed by Christian Missions and 29 by non-Mission agencies. It will be seen that only 37 per cent of the aided colleges are conducted by Mission agencies as against 63 per cent by non-Mission agencies.

"Now I would like to give you certain concrete figures to show as to how Mission institutions have been treated by Government. One of the surest ways of finding this attitude is with reference to the grants paid to these institutions. When you look at the equipment grant paid to them, it will be seen that in the current year, Mission colleges have been given a grant of Rs. 1,64,465 as against Rs. 55,043 to non-Mission colleges in spite of the fact that the number of Arts Colleges maintained by Missionary agencies is much less than those maintained by non-Mission agencies."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"What is the number of students."

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, this goes by institutions. This certainly does not show that Christian Mission institutions have been discriminated against.

"Now let me come to capital grants. When this Government came to power, there was a general ban on capital grants to boys' schools and colleges. But in spite of it, in 1946-47, i.e., the first year in which the Congress Government came to power, a grant of Rs. 1,68,443 was paid to Missionary Colleges (two) as against nil grant to non-Mission institutions. This again does not show that the Missionary institutions have in any way suffered at the hands of this Government. Again in 1947-48, three Mission colleges were given a grant of Rs. 68,155 as against nil grant to non-Mission institutions. This again, I may point out, does not lead to a different conclusion. Coming to the current year, i.e., 1948-49, colleges conducted by Christian Missions were sanctioned a capital grant of Rs. 3,15,800 as against Rs. 41,000 to non-Mission institutions. This again, may I point out to you, Sir, does not show any discrimination against Missionary institutions. In fact, these will show that Mission institutions have been treated with favour rather than otherwise.

"I may point out, Sir, that good institutions conducted by whatever community have nothing to fear from this Government. This applies to Mission institutions as to others. But, Sir, I must point out there have been institutions addicted to corruption and such other misdemeanours under Mission managements as in others. The Government owe a duty to the public and to the people of this province to take action against these institutions and take steps to put them right. This should not be interpreted as prejudice against any particular community. In fact they should welcome these steps to cleanse these institutions. I may add in the end that good institutions conducted by whichever agency will be respected and supported by Government.

"The task of education is indeed great and can be done only with the co-operation of all and I request through you, Sir, the

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co-operation of not only the members of this House but all those interested and engaged in this noble work of education so that we may build a great and glorious India."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"May I say I am obliged for the statement?"

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Yes. I hope the hon. Member will revise the statement already made by him."

4.30 P.M. THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, in the general discussion on the Budget, not much has been said about my department."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Does the Hon. Minister think so?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, generally much has not been said about my Department by the hon. Members of this House except Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu and Mrs. Clubwala. Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu began his speech with a Telugu proverb.

‘అవి లేదు, చూడు లేదు, కొడుకు లేదు సోమలింగం’

and said that the entire Budget is a ‘lingudu’ and that this Government are only creating ‘lingudus’ and that the Government are not serious about it. I am also sorry to notice that he is not here. Sir, it is easy to criticise the Government . . .”

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I am sure he will read your speech wherever he may be."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, it is not fair on the part of Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu to make certain allegations and then go away from here. Let us see what are the ‘lingudus’ referred to by him which exist in my Department. He spoke mainly about Industries and Agriculture.

"Referring to Agriculture he said that electricity has not been pushed on to the villages. His charge is that electric connexions are given only to 150 villages."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The Hon. Minister need not speak about electricity and let him leave it to his colleague, Mr. Bhaktavatsalam."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, I am speaking about electricity because I have something to do with electricity as far as Agriculture is concerned. Moreover, I am speaking on behalf of my hon. Friend Mr. Bhaktavatsalam as well."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"May I know why Mr. Bhaktavatsalam is avoiding speaking himself."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"It will save some time."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I will give you some time. I want to know from the Hon. Minister what he has to say about electricity."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"My hon. Colleague will deal with the subject adequately."

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, in 1948 electric connexions were given to 150 new villages and 2,000 electric pump sets were supplied for agricultural purposes. This is no mean achievement. It is easy to criticise the Government but the hon. Member must know that all of a sudden electricity cannot be extended to villages in the interior of a district. Giving connexions is by itself a particular scheme. We cannot give electric connexions to every place when we do not have enough supply of power. Power is limited even in places where it is generated. For instance, even in places like Pykara, Mettur, Papanasam and in a few Thermal Stations in the Andhra districts, electric connexions are not given freely. Even if energy is available, electrical goods like wire are not available. It is very difficult to procure these materials because of the aftermaths of the war. Wherever we have given extension of electricity, we have given preference to villages, sometimes even at the expense of the town people. I challenge Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu to contradict this statement of mine. Of course, at present it is not possible to extend electricity to the interior parts of a village. For instance, if electric connexion is taken from a village, that village is given the benefit of electricity. So, it is wrong to say that we have not extended electricity to the villages.

"Next, I come to electric pumps. Electric pumps are being manufactured at top speed and we have lost no opportunity to purchase all of them and distribute them to the ryots in the villages. In this connexion, I must remind the hon. Members of this House that we have supplied 2,000 electric pumps during 1948 for agricultural purposes. This is no mean achievement. But the main problem is the shortage of these pumps. Top priority is given to the purchase of these pumps and the rural electrification is being expedited. Sir, you know last year . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Before the Hon. Minister proceeds further, I must remind the Hon. Minister that last year both this House and the other House were told that the Government had placed orders to purchase two crores worth of these materials. I would like to know what the position is to-day? Are you getting materials and if so, when?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Orders have been placed for the supply of the materials."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"It will take not less than two years for the supply of these materials from the date of the indent."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Two years more!"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, we have made provision in the budget for the rural electrification of our Province. No other Province has advanced in the matter of rural electrification than this Province. Even the Mysore State has only one thousand agricultural pump sets. But we have about 10,000 pump sets."

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MR. PRESIDENT:—"About these electric materials, I suppose they are coming in driblets. Is it not as if we have to wait for two years before any supply is received?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Yes, Sir, we are receiving in driblets and they are being used."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Then, I come to irrigation schemes. Investigation for some of the schemes has been completed. Some of the schemes have not been investigated. The policy that we adopt with regard to these schemes is, we take the approximate cost of each scheme and suppose if it comes to fifty lakhs of rupees we make provision for it in the Budget. By adopting such a course, we need not come again for the sanction of this amount, and we can begin work as and when the details of the scheme have been worked out. Therefore, it is wrong to say that we have made provisions for these schemes just to satisfy Madras Legislative Assembly members or anybody else."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu is not here. The point is the total amount of the schemes as given in the list is thirteen crores of rupees but provision is made for a smaller amount."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"If I understood Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu aright, his point was why not Government have all the schemes properly investigated before including them in the Budget. Why have the Government included them in the Budget without the necessary investigation?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"In that case, it will take two or three years to take up these schemes."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, that means all the schemes have to be postponed for an indefinite period. We do not know when the investigation will be completed. As soon as the investigation is completed, we will proceed with the schemes. I hope we may be able to complete it before the close of the year. At the same time, I must say that we may not be able to take up all the schemes shown in the list."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"May I know, if the schemes that have become already ready, even if they cost more than the actual amount provided for them, will be taken up by the Government?"

MR. PRESIDENT:—"It will come in the Supplementary Budget."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Yes, Sir, it will come in the Supplementary Budget."

"Sir, Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu and some hon. Members of this House referred to the distribution of oil engine pumps. The policy of the Government is to purchase oil engine pumps and supply them on hire to the ryots who cannot afford to purchase them."

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For those people who can afford to buy them, we are making purchases on behalf of them and sell to them. But the main difficulty is we do not get them in large quantities. Supply is not commensurate with the demand of the public. During the last two years we have purchased very little."

"Sir, I was rather surprised at the reference made by Mrs. Hensman that the Government is on the path of violence and that we are not following Gandhiji in regard to this matter. In dealing with the present disorders in the country, the Government have had to take certain precautionary measures, and this cannot be construed as any violence. If we take it in that spirit, then no action can be taken against disruptive forces who are out to create chaos in the country. Practical politics would not permit such a course."

"Then, I come to the Madras Vigilance Association, about which Mrs. Clubwala made a complaint."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"Is it a complaint or criticism?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"You may take it in any way you like."

"I entirely agree with Mrs. Clubwala and Mrs. Mona Hensman on one point. That is, the Rescue Home, that we now have, is terribly overcrowded. It had been said that women convicted under the Immoral Traffic Act should not be sent to jails but should be sent to Certified Schools. Our idea is to send them to the Rescue Home and for this purpose we have provided sufficient money. Now that Rescue Home which was accommodating 10 to 12 persons at the beginning, is overcrowded with 71 persons. I am trying my best to find alternative accommodation elsewhere and I am in touch with the Collector of Madras with regard to this matter but he is not in a position to provide accommodation for this purpose."

"Mrs. Clubwala was glad that the Vigilance Association has been provincialized but she is not satisfied with the atmosphere created in the Rescue Home. I shall quote her inimitable words. 'I am sorry to say this but I do not say it in a spirit of criticism but in a spirit of love of the work and for the human beings that are there, you have not done wisely in not keeping the voluntary aspect in the Home. We have interviewed the Minister concerned and the Chief Inspector of Certified Schools and however much you may spend on the health and well being of the girls they will need ladies of goodwill and understanding to help them. Seeing is believing. The girls miss us and we miss the work that was built through years, years against public criticism and public hardness and also Sir, I feel that the atmosphere of the Certified School has crept into what was once a Home.' Sir, I entirely agree with Mrs. Clubwala that there should be an atmosphere of Home and that children should not miss voluntary workers. If at all they miss voluntary workers, it is not because of any fault of Government in having provincialized the institution and it is not because

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of any hindrance Government have put in the way of Vigilance Association running Stri Sadhanam. Sir, one should remember that practically Government are running the Home now; for, subscriptions were not forthcoming and repeated representations were made to Government that the institutions should be provincialized, and so we provincialized them. In doing so, I said on various occasions that the idea of Government is that voluntary workers and voluntary organizations should not be in perpetual want of money and that they need not waste money and time in going about for collecting subscriptions. I said money will be supplied by Government and the workers should run the institutions. I still say that this is the idea of Government. On several occasions Mrs. Clubwala and her workers have approached us and said 'We have no cash balance; unless you give 3,000 rupees now, the children will have to starve.' This is the state of affairs in which Government came to their help. Now Sir, can any one say that we have put any obstacles in the path of their work?

"Mrs. Clubwala said permission to hold a meeting in the Stri Sadana was refused. Sir, I have no information, and it has not been brought to the notice of the Chief Inspector either. Sir, the real point in the matter is the Vigilance Association wants more control over the staff working there. As long as provincialization remains and Government are in charge of them control cannot be slackened. Now, why should voluntary workers have control over the staff and work of the Homes where the feeling is that good work is done for the inmates? Now since the staff has been provincialized they prefer to be under the control of Government rather than under that of the Vigilance Association. They have so expressed to me and I challenge Mrs. Clubwala to prove to the contrary. About the question of the inmates, I am afraid the weights of the inmates have gone from four to eight pounds after we took over management. We were not anxious to take over control of the Homes. You sought our help several times and we said we would relieve you of the financial aspect."

MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—"On a point of explanation Sir, without going into details I have to submit that myself and all my colleagues feel that there are certain restrictions put in our way. We cannot have the services of the workers because they are under the control of Government. We cannot get into the homes freely and see what is happening there. We get no reports. Naturally we feel Government are not sympathetic towards us. We have no money to pay for patrolling."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"I am prepared to go further than what Mrs. Clubwala wants in this matter. The position was this. Government said the Vigilance Association shall be in the position of an advisory body. We are prepared to place every matter except routine matter before the advisory body. They say they want a patroller. After all the work has to be done. Whatever work the advisory body ask them to do they will certainly do. I am still to know a case where it has not been done

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or any handicaps were put in the matter. I want the voluntary aspect more than the official aspect to be maintained. When voluntary workers are relieved of the financial aspect of this work they must be more enthusiastic to do any work. I appeal, entreat and pray, go to Stri Sadhanam and help the home! Please carry out all instructions without any *infra dig.* Do not think that till now you were masters and that now non-official control has been removed and therefore motherly aspect is absent."

MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—"That is why we say that we must have some powers to enter that Home, so that we shall know something of what is happening in that Home. Already we hear of immoral traffic is on the increase and also venereal disease. People have come to me with many complaints."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I think Mrs. Clubwala may meet the hon. Minister separately and settle matters with him."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"What I want to inform the House is that Government are as anxious, if not more anxious than Mrs. Clubwala, that voluntary helpers, particularly social workers like Mrs. Clubwala and her associates, should give us more help and if there is any difficulty, we are prepared to see that they are removed. I am very sorry to hear that girls in the Home miss them. I wish they would have more occasions to meet hereafter."

"In the matter of provincialization I still repeat what we have done is simply to relieve the workers of their difficulties for money. We want them to continue to help the Home. We want them as an advisory body. We have to-day issued orders to the Chief Inspector to consult the Vigilance Association in all matters regarding the welfare of the institutions except routine matters of administration. Mrs. Clubwala rightly said about the work of probationers. It is true that when we put ten people under probation, the cost to Government is much less than that of maintaining those ten men in jail. The cost of maintaining them in jail comes to Rs. 200 and more. Now in sending them as probationers there is also the advantage that the men are given an opportunity to improve. About the emoluments of probation officers and the increase in the number of probation workers, we shall certainly consider the suggestions of Mrs. Clubwala. The work of probation officers which she has so vividly described, I hope, will impress the Finance Minister to agree with the emoluments which Mrs. Clubwala pleads for them."

"Mrs. Clubwala said that this Government is not giving sufficient attention to matters of social welfare. Her complaint was that we have not appointed a Minister for social welfare."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I think that is a request which ought to be very favourably considered." (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"She said that the work is so important that it should be put under a separate department and she even suggested that at least at the head of welfare

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officers an honorary social welfare officer may be appointed. Sir, we do not minimize the importance of social work; and perhaps even if we agree to the appointment of a Minister for social welfare work, none else will be fit for the post than Mrs. Clubwala. (Laughter.) But unfortunately she belongs to some other party than the Congress and we cannot appoint anybody other than a Congressman. No doubt she has been in the field of social welfare work long before Congress took up that work. But we have to take into consideration other points in appointing one as Minister. There are no Congressmen available."

MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—" I do not belong to any party."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I request Mrs. Clubwala to join the Congress Party! (Laughter.)

MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—" May I rise on a point of information? It is not proper to say that no Congressman is available. There is Diwan Bahadur Bhashyam Ayyangar who is a Congressman. He has been a social worker for a very long time. He can be appointed as Minister for Social Welfare Work."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I think that may be discussed outside the House at the time when the Ministry is to be formed, if it is to be."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Then, Sir, she said that she was satisfied with the conditions of certified schools for girls but not of boys. There is only one school for girls. Sir, knowing them as I do, I do not think there is anything to complain about the comparative efficiency of both. She also said that no woman has been appointed as president of the juvenile court, as women know child psychology better. Quite possible. I have answered that point yesterday; I said that women have not been appointed not because there is the disqualification of sex, but because it is only an accident. We shall try to remedy it if it is considered necessary. Sir, I have answered all points, and I have nothing more to say."

p.m. * THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Mr. President, Sir, before attempting to answer the several criticisms levelled against the Industries Department, I should like to refer hon. Members to the provisions made under Demand XXI and under Demand XXXIV. Details for these demands will be found on pages 88 and 89 and pages 106 and 107 of the Budget Memorandum. The budget estimate under the former provides among others for a full year's expenditure on the Hydrogenation Factory, the Andhra Paper Mills, the Polytechnics, for better progress on the investigation of lignite deposits, for new schemes like the establishment of a Chemical Testing and Analytical Laboratory, development of sericulture, opening of a large-scale coir factory, opening of six industrial schools, etc. Under the latter head are included mostly new capital expenditure of about Rs. 24 lakhs (net) for new Cinchona Plantation and of Rs. 6 lakhs for the Ceramic factory,

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Rs. 61 lakhs for the Industrial Investment Corporation and Rs. 24 lakhs for the purchase of shares in the Ammonium Sulphate factory at Sauri.

I shall first refer to the charge that the Industries Department is totally useless for the purpose of industrialization of the Province and a reference was made in this connexion to the observations made by the Industrial Planning Committee. I am afraid it is necessary for me to explain at some length the functions of the Industries Department and its achievements before attempting to refute the charge made against it. The Industries Department has been organized, not with a view to start industries only but mainly to give information to the public in regard to industrial and commercial matters, to assist the trade in exporting their articles to markets outside India and to import machinery and materials from abroad and to start new industries. This department renders assistance to promoters of industrial concerns in getting capital, materials, etc. The Department has also examined several applications for State aid and a sum of about Rs. 40 lakhs has been sanctioned as loan to industrial concerns. The department also imparts technical education through Polytechnics, the Government Textile Institute, the Kerala Soap Institute and the Leather Technological Institute. There are also experts in the Department to advise private industrialists and departmental institutions in various matters connected with the starting of industries. The department manages some commercial undertakings such as the Kerala Soap Institute, the Industrial Engineering Workshops and the Oil Factory. Two more have been added to this list, viz., the Andhra Paper Mills and the Ceramic Factory. The existing commercial concerns are working at a profit—the profit in 1947-48 being Rs. 2 lakhs from the Kerala Soap Institute and Rs. 27,000 from the Industrial Engineering Workshop. Some hon. Members questioned whether the Government commercial undertakings were run on business principles. These figures and a careful study of the budget memorandum must convince them that business principles are observed in Government commercial undertakings in the matter of allowance for depreciation, interest on the capital outlay and so on. The department has recently organized the Ceramic Factory at Gudur and is now engaged in constructing the Hydrogenation Factory at Kozhikode. Work on the Oil Technological Institute is in progress and every endeavour is being made to bring the Andhra Paper Mills into full production at an early date. As regards the last concern, it was till recently a private concern and the Government did their best to assist it to expand production. It did not succeed and when there was a danger of the Company being taken over by outsiders, the Government stepped in and purchased the concern for Rs. 25 lakhs. The department has also framed a five-year programme for sericultural development and it is expected to be put into operation from the next official year. Industries cannot spring up overnight or merely because the Government is enthusiastic. The vast majority of industries have to be organized by private

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enterprise and where private enterprise is not forthcoming or where the Government consider that the industry is best organized under Government auspices, they will not hesitate as in the case of the Andhra Paper Mills, to step in and organize industries. Hence I find it difficult to appreciate complaints from one section that the Government are slow in starting industries and from another section that the Government should not enter the industrial field mainly reserved for private initiative. It will thus be clear that the department is doing its best to promote industries both private and Government and many members of this House can testify to the enthusiasm with which departmental officers have assisted them in installing industries. As regards the criticism that the Government have not implemented the recommendations of the Industrial Planning Committee in this and in other matters. I may say at once that the recommendations of the Committee cover all industries. The preliminary examination of the recommendations is over. The recommendations relating to the reorganization of the Industries Department and the addition of a Statistical branch to the Industries Department are under the consideration of the Government. Many decisions have been taken and implemented and it is wrong for any one to assume that no action has been taken on the report. Thus, the report was the basis of action relating to the amendment of the State Aid to Industries Act, and the setting up of the Industrial Investment Corporation, the need to get more officers of the Geological Department to work in this Province, Lignite Investigations, etc. A few other recommendations are still under consideration as they involve huge capital outlay and require detailed examination. Naturally, these will take a little more time. The hon. Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu characterized this department as an imaginary child. I wish he were present here to hear me and know the facts.

"Another point raised in the debate related to the Industrial Investment Corporation. The Corporation could not be brought into existence earlier owing to the delay in amending the State Aid to Industries Act. The amendment has been approved by both the Houses of the Legislature and it has only to receive the assent of His Excellency the Governor. All arrangements are now complete to register the company before the end of this month. Financial institutions have readily offered to take shares in the Corporation.

"A question has been raised as to why the Government should take shares either in the Central Government Fertilizer Factory at Sindri or the Fertilizers and Chemicals, Limited, Alwaye. The Government have taken shares in these concerns not on a profit motive but because they wanted to ensure regular supplies of fertilizers for use as manure by the agriculturists in this Province. This Government have entered into an agreement for a period of five years with the Alwaye Factory for the regular supply of 40 per cent of the total production of Ammonium Sulphate and 25 per cent of Super Phosphate. The Government have got a right to expect this much of their production. It is proposed to secure

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the product from the Sindri Factory on a similar basis. This is therefore not an unnecessary expenditure; in fact it is a perfectly justifiable and necessary expenditure of the Government. I would invite the critical Members of the House to take advantage of the available machinery and try to set up new industries in this Province. If, in any regard, they find us lacking, they can criticize us as much as they like. I did not reply individually to the points raised by each Member as I thought that a consolidated statement like this would explain the position of the Industries Department, what it has done so far and what it proposes to do in future."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"A very good suggestion is made by the Leader of the Opposition. He offers to stand tea for us."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"We can adjourn for fifteen minutes as soon as tea is ready."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The Hon. the Finance Minister can go on till tea is made ready."

* THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Mr. President, Sir, for full nine days, five days in the Assembly and four days in the Council, I had to listen to various varieties of speeches attacking the budget proposals. As many as sixty Members in the other House and twenty-five in this House participated in the discussion and they did not give even the usual formal congratulations to the Finance Minister. The spectre of the taxation proposals was before them and they could not think coolly and calmly. Except my dear Friend from Tanjore, Mr. Narayanaswami, not one of the speakers wanted to mention the good things done by the Government to the backward communities and the Harijans. They overlooked all the pages from 1 to 60 and confined themselves only to that part of the budget which dealt with taxation. That was the plight in which I had to listen to 85 speeches during the last nine days. The Finance Minister was attacked by Members from the Ministerial benches, Opposition benches, and the Muslims and the Christians. Anybody in Vizagapatnam or Tirunelveli who has read their speeches will think that the Finance Minister has already collapsed. But the Finance Minister is still alive and hopes to kick also if necessary! The Members could not find anything to enthuse over. Mr. H. M. Jagannatham was very critical that the provision for Harijan uplift was scanty, that we were sitting tight on the one-crore fund and that we were doing nothing for the amelioration of Harijans. As I said in my budget speech, the total expenditure on Harijan uplift during the current year will be Rs. 63 lakhs—Rs. 58 lakhs from general revenues and Rs. 5 lakhs from the Harijan Uplift Fund. This is exclusive of the loss of fee income by the grant of concessions to Harijans from the infant standard to the college classes. He has not said a good word about this. We have provided for Rs. 5 lakhs in the budget for expenditure on measures for the backward communities. Neither in this House

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nor in the other House, the speakers had said a good word about this. We have provided a crore of rupees for tank restoration. Except the hon. Mr. Natarajan, nobody even mentioned this. It looks as though whatever we do does not benefit the common man. It is not correct to say that all the taxes are going to fall on the poor man and that whatever the Government do benefits only the rich man. That is not the way to look at the budget proposals. I am not in an isolated position with regard to budget criticism. I see how in the Central Legislature the budget is being attacked day after day, not by Members sitting in Opposition because there is no Opposition there, but by the Members of the Congress Party. Even the erstwhile Congress President, Acharya Kripalani, had to say some very harsh things about the budget. I have got the budget debates of other provinces, and in all of them the Finance Ministers are pleading for necessary funds to balance the budget. It is in the same *ragam* and perhaps to the same *talam* that all the Finance Ministers are singing, and the song of the Madras Finance Minister alone need not be singled out for special criticism or vituperation. I do not know whether the word 'vituperation' is too mild to describe some of the speeches which have certainly provoked me.

5-15
p.m.

Sir, even if there is not anything for me to entitle over in the budget, let me also inform hon. Members that there is nothing for me to repent, or to ponder over, or to retract from whatever I have said in the budget proposals; and as I said in my budget speech, these proposals are only under consideration. We have not taken any final decisions on the various proposals that are mentioned therein. They are now only in the consideration stage. The Government will look into them again in the light of these criticisms and will consider how far they will enable us to balance the budget. Sir, let me, in this connexion, read the exact sentence from my budget speech: "The Government have therefore decided that additional taxes which would bring in enough revenue to cover the anticipated deficit should be imposed next year, and I shall indicate briefly the new measures of taxation under consideration." These measures are therefore only under consideration and I did not say that they are the final proposals which will be brought into force.

Sir, the question of balancing the budget has also been attacked from various aspects. Some hon. Members said that there is really no deficit at all and that the Finance Minister was simply imagining that there is a deficit of Rs. 4 crores, where there is going to be none actually, and even then he could have drawn it from the Revenue Reserve Fund. That is a very easy solution, Sir, and I could have adopted it, and I need not have to meet all these criticisms of the 85 hon. Members of the Legislature. I did not want to dip my hands into that Fund, which has been built up by the Advisers. I could have done it without anybody suggesting it to me, because that is the most obvious way of meeting any budget deficit and I could have come out with glorious colours and received congratulations as well from the various sections of the House. But is that administration? Is it the proper way of administering the finances of the Province, by dipping our hands year after year

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into the Revenue Reserve Fund, which Fund, as I said, has been built up for emergency purposes, when the Government meet some emergency, getting into a difficulty, and spending these amounts of money on various schemes of public health and social welfare, and when the budget deficit is not expected to be met. This is the purpose for which the Revenue Reserve Fund was created. But in order to cover this normal revenue deficit as it develops, is it administratively sound, that I should draw year after year upon that Fund, which now stands at Rs. 37 crores? That is not a healthy practice nor a sound principle. It is perhaps our good fortune that war has intervened and the Advisers have been able to accept this Fund. Of course the war has its own merits and demerits, and its own advantages and disadvantages and this advantage we had after the war, because the Advisers have left us this legacy of the Revenue Reserve Fund. Therefore this Fund will be available for our future development. Perhaps, tomorrow if the Andhra Province is formed, and if they want any capital for their developmental activities, this Fund will be available and if Madras is taken away into the Tamil Province, perhaps this Fund may be given as compensation to the Andhra Province to build up their capital for their own activities. I therefore submit, Sir, that this is not the time to draw on the Revenue Reserve Fund and to deplete it or to waste it according to my fancy, because tomorrow people may come and say, "The Advisers have built this Fund with great care and you have come and spent it to meet your revenue expenditure." Sir, as I said, it is an easy and a cheap way of doing things. Perhaps I could have gone to the people and said, "See, I have not taxed you at all and in spite of it I have been able to introduce total prohibition in all the 26 districts in this Province and this is the pioneer Province which has been able to introduce total prohibition in the whole of India." Sir, in the United Provinces, they have 48 districts and till now, they have introduced prohibition only in seven districts and this year, they are going to introduce prohibition only in two additional districts. That is to say, only in nine districts out of 48. They have introduced prohibition in only two districts out of 48. But here we have introduced total prohibition in all the 26 districts have gone dry, resulting in a revenue loss of about Rs. 17 crores. Sir, this budget must be viewed with that background. But still the Government are spending so much on education, so much on irrigation, so much on tank restoration schemes and so on. Everybody seems to have forgotten that picture and that background at all, and went on diving, bombing at me. Probably, they expect me to do some jugglery, Sir, I have lost Rs. 17 crores annually on account of Excise revenue by the introduction of total prohibition, and they want me not to tax them and get on merrily.

Sir, I know that every taxation is a taboo. Hon. Members want everything to be done and every department to carry on their activities without taxation. They ask, "What is it you have done for Agriculture? What is it you have done for Industries, for Maritime uplift, for rural water supply, for elementary education and so on?" Various questions are being hurled at the Government.

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But if you examine the budget of every year, you will find that there is some addition and there is some increase under every item. Take for instance, Education; this year we are spending about 17 per cent of our total expenditure in the Province. Sir, I have been looking into the Bihar budget just a while ago, and there the Finance Minister, Mr. Sinha, has spent only 7 per cent on education and he has taken very great credit for it, whereas we are spending about Rs. 9 crores for education which is as much as 17 per cent of our total expenditure. Next to Bombay, we are the only Province spending the highest percentage of our expenditure on education."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"What is the proportion of this expenditure to the total income of the Province?"

* THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I shall let you know that to-morrow, Sir, because I have not got the figures with me. I need not therefore dilate upon that point now, but let me deal with one or two things which have been raised by certain hon. Members, before I go to financial matters.

"Sir, the question of Gandhism was referred to by my hon. Friend from West Godavari. He asked me 'What have you done to implement the Gandhian programme in this Province? We have been returned to this Legislature on the Gandhian ticket. We have gone into jails and we have fought and won the elections with Gandhiji's name in our lips and after three years of your administration, what have you done in that direction? Have you done anything towards increasing the production of khadi or any other aspects of the Gandhian programme?"

"Sir, let me first ask my hon. Friend, what is prohibition—prohibition in all the 26 districts of this Province? Is it not one of the very dear things that Gandhiji has at heart, and wanted that the Congress should enforce prohibition rigorously throughout the country? Sir, I claim that prohibition is the greatest and biggest reform of the Gandhian programme, which we have implemented throughout the Province. Likewise, Sir, every year we are spending Rs. 58 lakhs for Harijans and on Harijan uplift and Rs. 5 lakhs for other backward communities, by way of educational and other concessions. That again is a very close object of Gandhiji.

Take temple entry. This is also a very dear thing to Gandhiji. Has not this Congress Government enacted the Temple Entry Legislation? To-day, right up from Simhachallam in the north, to Srirangam in the south, almost all the temples are thrown open to the Harijans. If here and there a Harijan is not allowed to enter into a coffee hotel or a saloon, the Government are prepared to take stern measures to see that those caste Hindus who are responsible for such ill-treatment are brought to book. Even to-day we have seen in the papers that the proprietor of a big coffee hotel in the City has been arrested and has been let on bail, because he has refused to allow a Harijan to enter his restaurant. My hon. Friend Mr. Mothay Narayana Rao, with all the Gandhism

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in him, cannot accuse us of being apathetic towards Gandhism or to the Gandhian principles. It is not true, Sir, that we are slipping out of the Gandhian path.

"Again Sir, take khadi. We have given all encouragement to khadi. The Firka Development Schemes, the Basic Education Scheme and the encouragement of Hindustani—all these, I claim are Gandhian programmes, which we are trying to implement. Otherwise people could not have thought of having these things now. We could have gone on in a humdrum way, like the previous British administration, by looking after Public Health, Irrigation, etc. But these social schemes have been undertaken by the Government and large sums have been spent on them, because we thought that these things were dear to Gandhiji, and though he is not with us to-day to guide us, still we are following the programme which he has set for us, and are trying to encourage and to implement them as far as possible and as far as our resources permit. Therefore, Sir, it does not come with good grace from my hon. Friend Mr. Narayana Rao, who is himself a great disciple of Gandhiji and a follower of the Gandhian principle, to say that we have done nothing in this direction. If we are really indifferent to Gandhism, if we want to neglect the Gandhian principles and his teachings in a Cavalier fashion, we would not have our two Members of the Cabinet in charge of all subjects which are very dear to Gandhiji. My hon. Colleague Dr. Gurubatham, who is an ardent disciple of Gandhiji and of the Gandhian philosophy, is in charge of almost all the subjects, relating to the constructive programme of the Congress as adumbrated by Gandhiji, and my hon. Friend Mr. Kurmayya is in charge of Harijan welfare, and Harijan uplift, and all of us are trying to do our best to implement Gandhism as far as possible. So, Sir, I request my hon. Friend Mr. M. Narayana Rao not to be very critical about this matter, but to offer constructive suggestions and help us in the difficult work which we have undertaken.

"Sir, Gandhism is a very difficult thing. In spite of all his teachings and preachings, even many Congressmen could not follow Gandhism in the true sense of the term. Everybody cannot become an ascetic like Gandhiji and everybody cannot treat the Harijans with the same endearment and kindness, which Gandhiji has shown towards Harijans. Perhaps it is the prejudice of generations. But yet, Sir, the Hindu community has responded to his call in a very magnificent manner within the last 25 or 30 years. I have seen a vast social revolution having taken place to-day in our country and now Harijans are occupying a place almost equal, if not higher, in our villages and elsewhere. Again, in our schools and colleges, Harijan boys are given the same treatment as are given to other caste Hindu boys. At the same time, certain special facilities and special concessions are shown to them, both in the matter of admission and of teaching fees. Now in all walks of life they are treated on a par with other communities, and this is a tremendous change, which has been brought about in recent years and we must be very proud of it.

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"Sir, our difficulties have already been great and this has been accentuated by two successive failures of the monsoon. Even God seems to be conspiring with the Leader of the Opposition in creating difficulties for the Government."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Sir, is the Hon. Finance Minister in order, when he says, that God is conspiring with the Leader of the Opposition in creating difficulties for the Government?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—"The Hon. Leader of the Opposition must be proud of the credit given to him, because he is being associated with God."

* THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"Sir, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition is a sportsman and I hope he will take it in the good spirit."

"Sir, last year we had a failure of the monsoon and this year too, the monsoon has failed."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I think the House may now rise for tea and meet again after 15 minutes."

The House adjourned for tea to meet again at 5-45 p.m.

5-45 p.m. * THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"I was just mentioning, Sir, that nature also went against us and we had very bad monsoons these two years. It means additional remissions to the agriculturists and it comes to the tune of several lakhs of rupees. This also adds to the acuteness of our food problem which is already bad in our Province. It is an irony of fate, Sir, that we who have the Godavari, the Krishnas and the Cauveries should be in a deficit and should be importing foodstuffs from Brazil and Argentine in this post-war period. But I also know, Sir, how our Food Minister in spite of his age has been tackling this food problem these two years. (Interruption.) He is only a young man, Sir, of 69 and I have been wondering."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I know of a young man of 73 who felt very angry when he was called old!"

* THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"It is a question of the temperament of the man, Sir. I always wondered, Sir, how our Food Minister has been tackling this problem. I know that he receives a number of telegrams from the deficit districts and he receives trunk calls from the various Collectors and the Civil Supplies Department. We were actually shivering at the prospect in August, September, October and November last year, Sir, when the food position became very acute in our Province. Somehow, he has tided over the crisis by getting imports from the Centre or from abroad and fortunately for us we did not repeat the Bengal scenes in Madras. Sir, I must really congratulate the Hon. the Food Minister for the way in which he has been tackling this problem. Just imagine how great the strain must be, when he receives a telegram from some area in the Nellore district saying 'We have no rice here. We have been starving for the last two days. Please

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send supplies immediately for the Food Minister sitting in the Secretariat. Yes, he could immediately contact the officials, the Collectors, the District Magistrates or perhaps somebody at the other end of the telephone line and he could immediately arrange for transport and see that the taluk or district got its supplies. In these days of transport bottlenecks and other difficulties, have not we been steering through our food policy in a way, though it could not give satisfaction to all concerned, that we could at least supply all the districts with the necessary rations, whether it is 8 ounces or 10 ounces. They got it and nobody has died of starvation since 1942."

"With regard to retrenchment, Sir, that seems to be the easiest way of telling the Government: 'Why do you resort to this unnecessary and unpopular taxation, if you only retrench you get Rs. 4 crores, and your problems are solved and you need not court unpopularity.' Yes, Sir, it is easily said than done. Members from outside who do not actually look at the machinery of Government and know how it operates naturally feel that all this is a waste. They seem to think: 'What are all these lower division clerks and upper division clerks, the army of secretaries, assistant secretaries? What is it that they are transacting here day in and day out? How is it that it has become so bloated in such a short period from 1942 to 1947?' Similarly, Sir, when we go to Delhi and when we look at their Secretariat, we also feel: 'What is this Government of India doing? They have so many deputy secretaries, so many assistant secretaries in every department? And this appears to give us an impression that it is all a colossal and extravagant waste. Yet people have been working. People who actually look into the administrative machinery feel that it cannot be retrenched overnight. They have been doing certain things. All the departments were groaning due to the activities connected with the war and they are just now executing all their plans elaborated during the regime of the Advisers and all the post-war blueprints are just now being executed by the various departments. With what conscience, Sir, can any Food or Finance Minister cut down or retrench the Food or the Civil Supplies Department? Of course all these proposals come to me. When the question concerns food, I do not even look at the files. To be frank, Sir, because it comes from the Civil Supplies Commissioner and the Food Minister wants it, and it is a matter of food which must have the highest priority I do not interfere with it. Similarly, Sir, with regard to the Public Works Department they are executing the various irrigation schemes which have not been taken up all these centuries. There are tiny rivers flowing in the dry taluks which the previous administrators during the British period did not think of harnessing so that the dry taluks may get irrigation facilities. So, Sir, all these thousands of years the waters were going to waste. And just now the Public Works Department are getting into the execution of the schemes and their investigation and it is very difficult for us to say that there should be some retrenchment in the Public Works Department. Likewise, Sir, w

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are spending Rs. 9 crores with reference to the Education Department. And it is also necessary that we should see that every pie that is spent for the aided schools and the secondary schools, etc., is properly spent and for that we must have an army of Inspectors to supervise the various activities of the Education Department. Therefore it is very difficult to retrench in the Education Department. The position is the same in any other department, whether it is the Industries Department or the Agriculture Department or even the Police. I know, Sir, how the expenditure in regard to the Police in our Province has mounted up from less than Rs. 2 crores in 1937-38 during Rajaji's time, to Rs. 7 crores now. Can any Home Minister or Premier or a Finance Minister think in terms of economizing in the matter of the Police just now? Can we say that we do not want these home guards on whom we are spending some lakhs of rupees? Can we say that we do not want the special armed units and there need not be any provision of jeeps for them or other equipments? The City Police and the Mufassal Police, Sir, are working under a great strain and stress, with all these labour troubles and subversive activities of the Communists. Therefore the Police Department cannot be retrenched. I know that the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee has produced a big volume."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"Has it produced a wastepaper basket also?"

* THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I have with me, Sir, a list of all the orders passed on the various proposals made by the Retrenchment and Recorganization Committee and Sri Suryanarayana Rao, if he cares, can come to me and he can certainly look into the file. It shows where the proposal has been examined and it is also stated whether we have accepted or rejected the recommendations of the Committee. In some cases they have been accepted and some have been rejected. It is not so easy, Sir, to retrench especially when all the Departments are expanding and when they are spending larger amounts of money and they are being asked to expedite all the schemes."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Sri Suryanarayana Rao was very fair to you. He said you have taken credit for a retrenchment of about Rs. 2 crores. I think, it was Dr. John who criticised."

* THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Our Hon. Premier is here, Sir, and I want to say certain things which I would have said better had he not been present here. He is very anxious, Sir, about the retrenchment. He was anxious about it, Sir, long before his Committee was appointed and long before the proposals were seen by him. I think his ill-health is due only to his worrying himself about this retrenchment. In spite of what I also said from my own point of view with a view to retrench as far as possible and economize expenditure, he has been holding conferences with certain Secretaries and Heads of Departments with a view to see that some retrenchment was effected; in spite of their definite and

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emphatic 'no' he has issued an order that there must be a 12½ per cent retrenchment in the Secretariat and it is being done. Our Finance Department has led the way and we are obeying orders, in spite of the great many difficulties. And it is being followed in the other departments."

"Sir, there is another aspect to retrenchment though nobody has mentioned it in this House. Some hon. Members in the other House, notably my hon. friends Mr. Raza Khan and Mr. Hameed Khan said: 'What is this retrenchment when there are the educated unemployed everywhere? Keep them there and try to get work out of them. Your predecessors have appointed and it is but right that you should retain them instead of throwing them in the street saying, "we do not want you now because we are going to retrench and economize, and we want to balance our budget." This is how Mr. Hameed Khan and Mr. Raza Khan have put the question. That aspect of the question also must be taken note of, Sir. I know the heartburning of the Secretariat people. Then, Sir, the hon. Dr. John said: "You must do something to solve unemployment." I know, Sir, the feelings of some of these lower division clerks and upper division clerks. Having asked them to work during the war period and up to now, to tell them overnight, perhaps at 5 p.m. or 7 p.m. 'You get away. I can get on without you' is very difficult. We must consider what will be the fate of the young men who have put in three or five years' service and who are probably age-barred for entering service anywhere else. He cannot seek any private employment either. So, Sir, retrenchment is not a practical step, even if it is, it is not desirable. Yet this Government have been trying to do their best to give effect to all the recommendations. Without meaning any disparagement to Sri Suryanarayana Rao, Sir, I want to say that quasi-official and a quasi-non-official committee would have done better when they examined all these proposals. A purely non-official committee cannot understand all the intricacies of the administration and they cannot really sympathize with the Secretaries or the Heads of Departments' point of view. They say this Deputy Superintendent of Police is unnecessary, this Deputy Collector is unnecessary and so on. It is not so very easy after all. Of course they say it from the non-official point of view, but that is not the administrative point of view. An administrator who has to take the responsibility of running the entire department in all the 25 districts where we are spending several crores of rupees on industries and agriculture will not think so. It is not desirable to ask him to cut down the strength of clerks and peons, and cut down the expenditure on contingencies, and carry out all these instructions before the 31st March. Perhaps if the Chief Secretary or if the Premier or some other Minister has presided over this committee, the recommendations would have been different. Yet I find Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar and his colleagues who worked on this committee day in and day out have brought forward these proposals, and the Government are really looking into their proposals, and trying to retrench as far as possible, and effect economy in expenditure. I need not dilate on this retrenchment any more."

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MR. PRESIDENT :—" Governments all over seem to have a curious way of doing things. Why do they appoint these committees. I have never understood why the Dhar Committee was appointed? "

* THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Sometimes it is to gain time to understand the popular point of view, and sometimes to get at all the aspects of the question. Though it may not be administrative, yet a particular aspect of the question has been presented to the Government, and the Government are viewing it from their own point of view, and taking decisions. (Interruption by Dr. V. K. John.) I have accepted several of the recommendations.

" I once again come to the revenue reserve fund. I have dealt with this revenue reserve fund in my preparatory remarks. Last year Mr. Farookhi and also Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar have chastized me for going to the reserve fund. They said that the Finance Minister in order to be popular and in order to show to the world that there is no taxation is resorting to the revenue reserve fund. I have got their speeches with me, and I do not want to waste the time of the House by reading them here. This year the Deputy Leader of the Opposition says ' why don't you raise a loan; why don't you go to the revenue reserve fund.' Sir, it is very easy to say so. For a revenue deficit if I raise a loan, I do not know who will give me a loan. Even with all the financial soundness of the Madras Government I am finding it difficult to manage sometimes. I do not know whether my hon. Colleagues know the ways and means position of the Government sometimes. We have to rush to the Reserve Bank sometimes for ways and means balances. If we raise Treasury Bills the response from the industrial public is not very bright. They are very shy and it becomes a hopeless failure. That is how we are unable to go into the market, and we are asking the Government of India to meet our capital expenditure. Perhaps, I am divulging some of the Finance Department's secrets. Yet in order to take hon. Members of this House into confidence, I have said all these things. I cannot at all take a loan for a revenue deficit. It is not administration, nor will anybody give me the money."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I again point out that it is not a revenue deficit? I would like the Hon. Minister to look into his own figures."

* THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Whatever it is, I will have to follow the Auditor-General of India in this matter as to which item should be debited to revenue account, which item should be debited to capital account and which item to the debt and loan account. This is a matter in which we are guided by the Auditor-General, and we have no say in the matter. If he says that a particular expenditure should be debited to capital expenditure, we have to do it. The Auditor-General is supreme in the matter and we have to consult him at every stage. It is under his instructions we are budgeting for all the expenditure under

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revenue and capital accounts. We have no option in the matter. The revenue reserve fund is not to be depleted in this manner. Our lean years are yet to come. Prices are already falling. Inflation is being arrested, and there is a downward tendency in price indices. I have pointed out to the other House how from the 1st January of this year the price index of nine towns in the Presidency has come down. Whether it is appreciable or not, we can claim that we have arrested inflation. Dr. Mathai when he addressed the Finance Ministers' Conference said ' I am not anxious about the present high level of prices; a steep downward tendency is also undesirable in the interests of the country; if prices do not go up we must be thankful for it. In the next three months prices will come down definitely. Of course, I can draw from the revenue reserve fund if I want to. But I am not a free master to do so. I have to do it in close co-operation with the Government of India. The reserve fund is not in fluid assets. It has been invested in the Government of India securities. If I want Rs. 4 crores or Rs. 5 crores, I have to sell those Government of India securities in the open market. The stock market will be depressed if I throw Rs. 4 crores of securities all of a sudden to meet my deficit. The share market will be depressed, and the entire shares of this Government, Bombay Government, and United Provinces Government will become depressed. This will have a very deleterious effect on the share market. So, the Reserve Bank of India and the Government of India have advised us not to withdraw money from the revenue reserve fund, because it will have very adverse national consequences. For the benefit of the House, I will read out a portion of the Government of India's circular to all Provincial Governments. The circular is dated 5th October 1948. I do not know whether this has been released to the public previously, but yet, having raised this point, it is necessary that members should know the circular of the Government of India. I need not tell the House that for my loan operations I have to go to the Government of India. For my block grant of Rs. 5 crores I have to go to the Government of India. For my share in income-tax I have to go to the Government of India. If I am not dependent upon the Government of India, I may state ' you mind your business; I am not going to follow your advice: I am going to draw from my reserve fund to meet my deficit.' But, Sir, I may say that I am not a free master. In the matter of food supply, I have to go to the Government of India. At every stage, we are depending upon them. We are now depending upon them in a larger measure than we did in 1937-39. After the War, the Provinces have to depend on the Government of India for every little help. It is an unfortunate position. It is not a dignified position for the Provinces either. The facts are there, and we have to depend on them. So, you have to take the advice of the Government of India in these matters. The Government of India say in their circular dated the 6th October 1948—

" The Government of India propose to take immediate action to secure the utmost economy possible in public expenditure and are reviewing the budgetary position with a view to producing a balanced or surplus budget for the next year. They hope that the Provincial Government will also take all possible action

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curtail expenditure so as to secure a balanced or surplus budget for the current year as well as for the next year. In this connexion the Government of India wish to stress the importance of Provincial Governments refraining from drawing on their accumulated balance or investments in Central Treasury Bills or other securities for bridging up the gap between receipts and outgoings. They also wish to make it clear that in case any Provincial Government feels that the implementation of the schemes for Prohibition and/or for the abolition of the zamindari, etc., etc.

The Government of India have stressed the importance of refraining from drawing on accumulated balances on investments in Central Treasury Bills or other securities. They definitely want us to have a surplus budget. They have also insisted that we should not draw on our revenue reserve fund. What can a Provincial Government do under these circumstances, when it is so much depending on the Central Government. Can any Finance Minister come and say 'I have a deficit of Rs. 4 crores; in spite of the Government of India's instruction I am going to draw from the reserve fund. It is not at all desirable to do so. We have to act in a co-ordinated manner in this matter. I have also seen how Finance Ministers of other Provinces have striven to create large surpluses, because the Government of India insisted that they should not draw on their reserve fund. I have their speeches with me. The lean years are yet to come. The prices are falling. The sales tax, taxes on motor vehicles and taxes under other heads of revenue will go down. But our expenditure will be at the same present level. Our deficits will be much larger when there is deflation. When prices are going down and when receipts go down, you will not be able to meet your expenditure. Then we can legitimately withdraw from the revenue reserve fund. But when prices are still high, it is not at all desirable that we should touch or go anywhere near the revenue reserve fund. As I said in the other House, if we are to levy taxes, this is the time to do so. Next year we cannot tax, and we will not be able to do it. When prices are falling, the pressure from the public will be very great, and no Finance Minister can think of imposing any fresh taxes. When Rajaji could bring forward five taxes in 1939 for introducing Prohibition in three districts, namely, Salem, Cuddapah and Chittoor, can we not also go before the public and say that we have introduced Prohibition in all the districts, that we have lost Rs. 17 crores on account of Prohibition, and that we are imposing some fresh taxes to get a revenue of Rs. 4 crores? Is it too much? When Rajaji introduced the five taxation measures, namely, sales tax, tobacco tax, petrol tax, electricity duty, and entertainments tax, there was considerable amount of criticism from the public and the press. When I went to Trichinopoly, there was a hartal to protest against the sales tax. In honour of my visit to Tiruchirappalli, the merchants in the town observed hartal! They demonstrated their protest against the sales tax in that manner in those days. The taxation measures were on the anvil of the Legislature, and Rajaji had to face very bitter criticism—perhaps more bitter criticism than that levelled against me at this time. Because they were not days of inflation. They were days of depression. Rajaji thought of levying sales tax at every point. It is not like other Provincial taxes which are single point taxes. When it

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was sought to be levied, there was considerable criticism against it, and in spite of that Rajaji knew the necessity for this tax. He knew that public opinion was against him in that matter. Yet, he could go and tell the people 'do you or do you not want complete Prohibition; next year I am going to introduce Prohibition in 10 or 15 districts more; I want this tax.' Public opinion slowly rallied towards his measures, and to-day, though we abused him in those days, because five taxes came all on a sudden with all the swiftness of a tempest, we are thankful to him for the wise statesmanship and the farsightedness he had in 1939. We are indeed grateful to him, because we are getting about Rs. 14 crores from this tax.

"Sir, the sales tax revenue for the last ten months is Rupees 10;26 crores and we can hope to have nearly 12 crores at the end of the current year. But we want double the amount to meet our loss in Prohibition. In spite of the various criticisms by hon. Members, this money is necessary in order to balance the budget. Sir, it cannot be got from the revenue reserve fund. Therefore, we have resorted to these taxation measures. Some members have criticized that the Finance Minister only says that these are temporary measures and that they are only emergency measures for 1949-50 and not permanent measures. It may be so or it may not be so. But, this is a matter which should be considered when the budgetary position is reviewed next year. If we get these taxes, we can extend our educational activities and improve our elementary education and such other things. Therefore, let not hon. Members grudge giving this four crores. After all, we are five crores of people in this Province and four crores of rupees by way of taxation comes to less than one rupee per capita. Is it too much to ask of the patriotic people of our Province to contribute to the coffers of the Government and that too because we have introduced Prohibition? We are less by seventeen crores of rupees on account of this Prohibition.

"Now, Sir, look at our capacity to tax. The Provincial Government's capacity for taxation is very limited. Some hon. Members criticized and said: 'You are taxing the poor: why do not you tax the rich?' Yes, Sir, I am anxious to tax the rich. But, we have got to depend upon the Constitution. Of course, if I tax the Leader of the Opposition, I can get a good slice from his income. Likewise, if I tax the rich people, not only the rich members in this House but also in the other House, it will give a very good income to the Government. As I said, if I tax my hon. Friend, Dr. John, on his income, it may be a very good slice, but I cannot tax him at all."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The Hon. Minister can suggest to the Centre to raise the income-tax. Then, he will catch Dr. John."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"If there is that threat, I shall resign my job."

* THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, it is really a very difficult position. The taxation provisions of the Government are not many. I know that the list of things which the

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Provincial Government can tax is very limited. Most of the items on which taxes can be imposed are *ultra vires* of the Provincial Government. If I tax an item which is outside the provisions, then, the Legal Department, the High Court, the Federal Court and everybody will be against me and say that this tax should not be imposed because it is not provided in the Government of India Act. As I said in the other house, only the small taxes can be levied by the Provincial Government; while the great nation-building activities like compulsory elementary education, drinking water-supply, veterinary hospitals and such other things are entrusted to our care, our taxation powers are very limited. Within the limited sphere of activity, this Government imposed certain taxes during the last twenty years. But, under the guidance of the Legislature, they have foregone revenues from five taxation measures during the last seventeen years. We have foregone the tolls which was one of those taxes given to the Provincial Government, because we wanted to help the rural public. Now we have taken away that taxation and we are compensating the local bodies and district boards to the extent of six to eight lakhs. Then, we have foregone the Excise revenue. We have foregone the entertainment tax. Of course, you see that we get about 97 or 98 lakhs out of this entertainment tax, but ninety per cent of this is given to the local bodies on account of the beneficent order issued by Mr. Strathie in his generosity when he was adviser. We do not grudge giving help to the local bodies. But, this tax was a provincial tax when it was levied in 1939 by Rajaji. In the year 1942-43, Mr. Strathie issued an order whereby the local bodies would get 90 per cent of the proceeds from this tax. In addition we have also to give away to the centre the tobacco tax. In spite of various representations, the Government of India are not giving proper consideration to our proposals and they are not enhancing this tax. So, we have also lost the tobacco tax also. We have to give it to the Government of India. So, we give some taxes to the local bodies, and some other taxes to the Government of India and we are left in the lurch. Likewise, if Mr. Farooki's proposal to give up racing is given effect to, we would lose another 25 or 30 lakhs."

DR. V. K. JOHN—"Not in the near future."

* THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"But I am saying, Sir, that during the last two decades, even in this very limited sphere of taxation, we have lost much revenue; we lost the excise revenue, the tobacco tax. We have foregone all this income. Otherwise, perhaps from all these five taxes, we would have got Rs. 20 crores; tolls would bring about 2 crores, excise, 17 crores, entertainment tax, even taking it as it is, 1 crore and tobacco tax about 1 crore and 50 lakhs. Added to this, we are going to lose the betting tax of about 25 to 30 lakhs. It all comes to nearly 20 crores and we have foregone all this money."

"Now, Sir, you say 'why do you not tax the rich?' Suppose I go to the exporter, I am precluded from taxing him because the

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exported articles are going to the international market and therefore, I have no power to impose any export duty. It is *ultra vires* of the Provincial Government. If I want to levy some tax on export, immediately the plea comes from the merchants and everybody. 'You cannot tax this commodity because you do not have the monopoly. This commodity is going to the international market which is a buyer's market and not a seller's market and therefore your articles will be at a great disadvantage, as compared to the articles from Brazil, Argentina, South Africa and other place.' That is the plea and therefore, I cannot go anywhere near the export trade. Then, suppose I go to the importer. He says he is already paying a large amount as customs duty. Therefore, I cannot go near him also. So, we have no right to levy any sort of tax on import or export."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"It will again fall on the poor consumer."

* THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Whatever it is, I cannot think of taxing the exporter or the importer. Even though an importer is importing one thousand motor cars and making a huge profit, still I cannot levy any import duty on him. Leaving the exporter and the importer, I can only think of the producer. But, suppose, I go to the producer. For instance, there is the Wimco factory which produces matches. I cannot tax them because it is not within my jurisdiction. The Central Government will say, 'It is an excise duty; you cannot go near it.' Likewise, there is the excise duty on sugar, coffee, tea and other things. All these revenues go to the Central Government. Sir, the Sugar Committee also made recommendations that tax on sugar must be given to the Provincial Government and that facilities must be given to the Provinces for collecting this tax. Yet the Government of India are not heeding to our representations at all. Therefore, Sir, I cannot go anywhere near taxing the sugar producers in this Province. Suppose I went to tax the district board, the municipalities and the Corporation of Madras. About the raising of the limit for profession tax, there was a big agitation and the hon. Member, Mr. F. E. James, in the Central Assembly said that there should be no inroads into that tax because it is a private tax. Now, Sir, this profession tax is limited to Rs. 25 under an amending Act of the Government of India. Therefore, under the limitation of profession tax, the district boards, the municipalities and the Corporation cannot levy more than Rs. 25 for each half year. On account of that position, brought about by the Central Government, the local bodies, the municipalities and district boards lost something and therefore this Government have to compensate for it year after year and it comes to about 12 lakhs. The Government of India did something and the burden fell on the Provincial Government. We have to give 12 lakhs of rupees. So, Sir, the profession tax cannot be increased under the limitation Act. Likewise, I cannot touch the trader, because his income is subject to income-tax which is entirely a central subject. So, I cannot touch the

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exporter, the importer, the producer, the professional man. I cannot levy any tax on lawyers like Dr. John because under the limitation tax, I cannot take more than Rs. 25, even though his income may be over a lakh of rupees per year. I have no jurisdiction to touch him. Therefore, we have to come with the minimum taxation proposals. Even then, there is the cry, 'why do you tax foodstuffs, it is going to hit the kitchen it is going to hit the women; it is going to strain the relations between the wife and husband and that divorce cases may be much more.' That is what the hon. the lady Member Mrs. Mona Hensman said. Some other members said, 'you are hitting the stomach and these taxes on foodstuffs should not be levied.'

"Then, as I said, because I cannot tax all these things, if I want to nationalize the bus transport industry, again there is the cry, 'You are nationalizing; you are throwing out the middlemen and the private owners. You cannot manage this. Well, the cow may yield milk to Mr. Anantaraman but if you take it, it will kick'—that is how Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu depicted the picture. So, Sir, we cannot tax the importer, the exporter, the professional man, the lawyer and the rich man. The only man whom we can go to is the poor man working on the land. Land tax is the only thing which is left to the Provincial Government; it may be agricultural income-tax or land revenue or any other tax pertaining to land. We have to ask only the poor man who is toiling and labouring on the land, in spite of so many disadvantages in which he is placed like failure of the monsoon, etc. I say, Sir, except the sales tax, all other tax will necessarily fall on the poor agriculturist and therefore, there is no use saying that we are hitting only the poor man and hitting the stomach of the Harijans and things like that.

"Then, Sir, coming to the taxation proposals proper, a little explanation is necessary. Much has been said against those items which I have enumerated. Sir, I must confess that I have committed a tactical blunder in enumerating these articles which are to be taxed in my Budget speech. (Laughter.) I can show the deficit and tell hon. Member that Government will meet it. I could have simply said that there is a deficit of so much and that Government would try to make it. That is how the Bengal Finance Minister has said. He has a deficit but he has not said how he is going to meet it. Perhaps, he will bring some taxation proposals in the July session."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"He will do it next year."

* THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, I could have told the House that there is a deficit of Rs. 4 crores and that I am going to bring in taxation measures in the course of the year. That is what also the Orissa Finance Minister has said. He said, 'I have some deficit; I have some taxation proposals under consideration and the Government will bring them in the course of the year.' But, he has not told the House what those taxation

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proposals are. But, Sir, I wanted to take the House into full confidence and said that these are my taxation proposals. Of course some of these proposals will be taken up by the Select Committee and they will examine various sections of opinion and take a decision on the matter in conjunction with the Government and the heads of the departments. But, Sir, because I enumerated some of those taxation proposals—here I think I have committed a tactical mistake—because I enumerated them, I received all these criticisms. It is a tactical blunder which I committed and no future Finance Minister of the Madras Government should repeat that mistake.

"Sir, under the Madras Sales Tax Act all these articles are being taxed already. Hon. Members, especially Mrs. Hensman, think that chillies, coconut, coffee, rubber, potatoes, pepper, etc., are going to be taxed now for the first time. In fact, they have been paying the tax on these articles ever since 1939 when the Act was first introduced. Therefore, though these articles are not mentioned in the General Sales Tax Act, yet we are paying these taxes. But, what I propose to do is to withdraw the exemption allowed on the first sale in respect of these articles. This is what I have said in the speech: 'They have therefore decided that for the time being, the exemption from the General Sales Tax now allowed on the first sale of agricultural products should be withdrawn in respect of the following commercial crops.' Sir, I have deliberately used the words 'exemption would be withdrawn on commercial crops'; but yet hon. Members think that chillies and other things are going to be taxed for the first time. As a matter of fact, on chillies they are paying the tax at four stages and in this connexion, I may also point out that there was also a threat of Satyagraha in the other House saying that some time ago there was the Salt Satyagraha and hereafter we shall have Chilli Satyagraha and so on."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"What Satyagraha?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Chilli Satyagraha."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Chilli or silly?" (Laughter.)

* THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It will ultimately become silly, Sir. Under the Sales Tax Act, in the definition of 'turnover' you will see that they have excluded the first sale of agricultural and horticultural produce. The definition of 'turnover' is given as follows: "'turnover' means the aggregate amount for which goods are either bought by or sold by a dealer, whether for cash or for deferred payment or other valuable consideration provided that the proceeds of the sale by a person of agricultural or horticultural produce grown by himself or grown on any land in which he has an interest whether as owner, usufructuary mortgagee, tenant or otherwise, shall be excluded from his turnover." So, Sir, according to the definition, the first sale of agricultural or horticultural produce is exempted from the tax. I am not taxing millets, cereals or pulses, but I have only chosen to take in some of the money crops. If, on the other hand

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anybody feels that a particular item is not a money crop but that it is a food crop, it is open to the Select Committee to exempt such articles. Likewise, they can do in the case of varieties of plantains which are intended for fruits. But, Sir, when our province is deficit in food and when there is even a clamour in this House that Government should take steps to reduce the acreage under commercial crops, why should they not ask for some more money by way of a small tax in respect of these commercial crops? Sir, I have got the figures prepared by the Agricultural department showing how much acreage is under agricultural crop and how much under commercial crop. It will be seen that the acreage under agricultural crops is growing year by year. So, is the case with commercial crops. Again those who grow commercial crops are paying the usual land revenue tax only and nothing extra. While a producer of paddy gets Rs. 200 per year, a commercial crop grower gets from Rs. 600 to Rs. 700 per year. So, is it not right that Government should ask him to give something extra to the Government? It was all right when prices were not high and when agriculture was not paying, but to-day when money crops are paying, what is wrong in asking the commercial crop grower to give me Rs. 5 or Rs. 6 more. Even if it is passed on to the agriculturist, it will not be more than Rs. 6 or Rs. 7-8-0. Here, Sir, I may perhaps use a little strong expression. For the sin of growing money crops and especially when the province is in deficit, should I not ask him to give me Rs. 6 or Rs. 7 in addition to what he has been paying previously? If you take jute, coffee, tea, etc., these plantations are at present paying only 12 annas and 8 annas for growing these on the tops of our hills. Now, is it not right that I should go to a coffee planter and say your coffee also will not have this exemption which you have been enjoying previously and you will have to pay me something more than what you have been paying till now on Rs. 100 worth of coffee you sell. The question whether it will be collected from the producer or from the purchaser will have to be examined by the Select Committee when they go into greater details. But, our intention was that the first purchaser should be made to pay the tax and he has also the option to pass it on to the producer. It is true that when the producer gains something, he has to pay the tax, but when he purchases he has to pay the purchase tax and in future he may pass it on to the agriculturist. Supposing he buys one hundred rupee worth of plantains, it is open to him to say, I have to pay a tax of Rs. 1-9-0 or so and so I will give you Rs. 100 minus Rs. 1-9-0. If a producer of paddy in a similar acreage gets Rs. 50 or Rs. 60 and a plantain grower gets Rs. 100, and I ask the latter to pay Rs. 1-9-0 as tax, is it too much? So, Sir, let me not be misunderstood. Likewise, Sir, in the case of coconuts, exemption will be withdrawn in regard to first sale and the first purchaser will have to bear that. There are also certain administrative difficulties. For instance, in the case of small villagers situated in the remotest parts of the Presidency, all the purchasers have to maintain accounts—not the agriculturists, because they cannot maintain any account at all and in their case it is only enough if

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they tell us to whom they have sold the articles. After all this tax is not going to increase the cost of living or help inflation. So, Sir, the hon. Member was only trying to draw the picture too much and raised a bogey which was not warranted.

"I may say, Sir, that even potato does not really affect the poor man and it is not the poor man's food and the tiller of the soil does not take potato either, but it is only the higher middle classes and the rich people that take potato. So, even if it is passed on to the consumer—I expect not to the producer or the agriculturist—I do not think the paddy grower will be hit hard or the poor man and I need not dilate on that.

"Now, with regard to the surcharge on electricity and the surcharge on house tax in municipalities—there is also the surcharge on bus fares—leaving alone the surcharge on bus fares, the surcharge on electricity and house tax will not fall on the poor and even if it falls on anybody it will fall only on urban people and not on rural people. After all the urban population is less than 10 per cent and so 90 per cent of the people will not be affected by this surcharge. Only 91 municipalities and 300 major panchayats will be affected by this surcharge. We are levying this surcharge on house-tax only for provincial purposes, that is, for purposes of education, for grants we are paying them year after year and for other purposes. If we are paying for instance, a grant of Rs. 10 to the Tanjore municipality and ask that municipality to pay us Rs. 2 in return for being utilized for compulsory education, drainage and other things, I do not think it will be too much. As I said, it will fall only on the 300 major panchayats, 91 municipalities and the City Corporation and the rest of the 95 per cent of the people will not at all be affected by the surcharge.

"Then, again, Sir, even in regard to the surcharge on electricity, how many are going to be affected? I do not think a large number will be affected. Of course, the poor man does not use electricity but it is only the rich man that uses it either for industries, for domestic consumption and even for agricultural purposes. It is not the actual tiller of the soil that uses the electric pump and pays for the electricity. Even if a poor man uses an electric pump and uses electricity for agricultural purposes, and spends about Rs. 10 or Rs. 15 per month on it, I consider that a small surcharge will not be much for him. However, I may say that in consultation with the Chief Engineer for Electricity, it is proposed to revise the form of surcharge. We have got that programme in view and when it is considered and we shall see how best we can get some more money from this electricity without causing much hardship either to the industrialists or the agriculturists.

"Sir, criticism was also levelled against the Capital Gains Act by some hon. Members, it will defer all sales, it will stop all transfers of property and that it will deceive the Registration department. I agree there are certain administrative difficulties, but I shall see what can be done in the matter and I do not wish to say anything more about it at present . . ."

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MR. PRESIDENT:—"Is it available to the Provincial Government? I think there was some doubt expressed about it."

* THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We are examining it and in due course we will also consult the Legal Department and the Advocate-General and see whether we can levy that tax at all or if leviable, how to levy it. These are matters of detail."

"Now, Sir, with regard to the bus fares also, where a passenger is paying a rupee or Re. 1-8-0 for travelling long distances, say from Coimbatore to Ooty, a surcharge of 12½ per cent will not be felt very much."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I would like to clear one point about the Capital Gains Act. Some people were asking me whether it will have retrospective effect in the sense that it will affect all sales effected from 1938?"

* THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It was never intended to be retrospective. Perhaps the wording in my speech was a little vague which led to such a construction. It was not really intended."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"That is to say it will take effect only from the date of the Act."

* THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Just so; but perhaps effect may be given from the date of this amendment."

"Then in regard to bus fares, we are considering various schemes for improving the urban service. For instance, we know that people who travel every day from Mylapore to High Court take to these buses both in the morning and in the evening almost every day in the week and certainly if they are asked to pay a surcharge of 12½ per cent it will hit them hard and the cost of living index also may go up. No doubt, it is a matter for consideration whether all urban passengers cannot be exempted and only long-distance passengers are made to pay this surcharge. In the case of a man going from Nellore to Guntur or Nellore to Ongole paying Re. 1-8-0 as bus fare, a small surcharge may not fall heavily on him. That is a matter which has to be examined and we will go into it very closely. After all who is anxious to hit the poor and we shall see that the surcharge does not sit heavily on bus fares."

"Then, Sir, in regard to the Provincial tax on coffee hotels, boarding houses and cinemas. When there is the housing difficulty, especially when coffee hotels, boarding houses and cinemas have increased after the introduction of prohibition and when there is provision under the Government of India Act, can we not try to get some little additional revenue from these sources?"

"I think, Sir, I have covered all the taxation measures. Sir, hon. Members need not be under any misapprehension that all these taxes will be taken up immediately. Again, as I said, even the four crores deficit may not be there; after all it may only be 3 or

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3½ crores and whatever it may be we must get some additional taxation so that we do not draw upon the Revenue Reserve Fund. The assurance we gave to the Central Government, namely, that we would try to add to the Revenue Reserve Fund, will be good if we can do it because, it may be useful to us in lean years when we are hard up."

"So, Sir, hon. Member need not be labouring under any misapprehension with regard to these taxation proposals. In spite of my prefatory remarks, I am indeed thankful to hon. Members for the sincerity with which they looked at this Budget. After all they are also anxious that they must impress upon the Government the need for economy and all that. I am really thankful for all the various suggestions made by them. As usual, Sir, all the speeches they have made will be available for all the Ministers and for the departments also and so, hon. Members need not think that their speeches are made in the wilderness. They are available to all the departments of the Secretariat and they will examine the speeches in the various sections of the departments concerned."

"Sir, all the speeches are examined and all the proposals are scrutinized by the various sections of the departments and whatever steps are needed they are put up to the Ministers for orders and orders are taken on them. If I do not answer all the points raised by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition or any other member, they need not think that I have paid a cursory attention to their speeches. The Hon. Leader of the Opposition raised one specific point."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I am surprised the Hon. Minister did not make a catalogue of points which Dr. John said he would not answer."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"He has not answered any of these points."

* THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, the normal expenditure in 1946-47 exceeded that in 1945-46 by 26 crores and 31 lakhs in the first Congress Ministry. The Hon. Leader of the Opposition drew pointed attention to this matter and asked why in that particular year a sum of 26 crores and 31 lakhs of rupees was spent over the previous year. This was mainly due to the following reasons: Four crores of rupees were contributed from General Revenues to the Village Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift Fund. Fifteen crores and ninety-six lakhs of rupees were spent on larger imports of food grains and grant of bonus to ryots, etc. Naturally, the first Congress Ministry was very anxious in those precarious months of 1946-47 to prevent famine, as otherwise they would have been held responsible if there had been any death for want of food, and they took all possible steps to see that they get larger imports from outside and from the Government of India. Moreover, at that time, the ryots were unwilling to release their stocks of foodgrains and Government had to come forward to grant bonus to them. After all, it is necessary to save the life

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of human beings even in the remotest parts of our province without considering the expenditure involved in it. Then, there was an increase of one crore and eighty-seven lakhs under General Administration. There was an increase of one crore and thirty lakhs under Education. Then, there was an increase of one crore and eight lakhs under Police. Then, there was an increase of one crore and six lakhs under Civil Works. Then, there was an increase of sixty-eight lakhs under Medical and Public Health. Then, there was an increase of fifty-seven lakhs under Agriculture and Industries. Then, there was a minus of twenty-one lakhs under other heads. Thus the total extra expenditure incurred in 1946-47 is 26 crores and 31 lakhs of rupees. This is my answer to the point raised by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition. He need not think that the first Congress Ministry went away with these 26 crores and 31 lakhs of rupees in their pockets. As a responsible Ministry they had to incur all this extra expenditure in 1946-47.

"Sir, I am indeed thankful to you for the indulgence shown to the Members of the Treasury Benches. In spite of the unpopular taxation measures, everybody was in good humour with the Ministers. In spite of his various criticisms, Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu also kept up his sweet temper and everything went on happily. I thank you on behalf of the Government."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"We thank you for the sincerity of your speech."

Mr. PRESIDENT :—"I suppose, the whole House thanks the various Ministers especially the Finance Minister for the very lucid speech that he has given us. He explained all the points. I think the House is really glad to note his view point on the Budget. I repeat that the House owes some thanks to all the Members of the Treasury Benches though they propose to tax us. Anyway, we do thank them for this that we have spent our time in a pleasant way during the last four days though it was very arduous to the Finance Minister."

"The House will now adjourn and meet at 3 p.m. on Saturday the 19th instant."

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APPENDIX I.

ide answer to starred question No. 242 asked by Sri Suryanarayana Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 9th March 1949, page 445 supra.]

(a) In spite of the best intention of the president of district boards and their engineers, the Government observed that the district boards were not able to maintain their roads to the requisite standards mainly due to the inelasticity of their revenues and the necessity for incurring increasing expenditure on public health, education, etc. It was also observed that the system under which parts of arterial roads were maintained and developed by local bodies was inherently defective and that the transfer of the roads to Government would facilitate the execution of the Post-War Road Development plan, which on account of its magnitude and importance called for a centralised administration of roads. The Government therefore decided to transfer main roads which were of inter-district or provincial importance from the control of the local bodies and to place them under a new Highways department. About 10,000 miles of roads were taken over from local bodies by the Government from 1st April 1946. Including about 2,600 miles taken over from local bodies for maintenance according to military requirements and 1,400 miles which the Public Works department maintained previously, the Highways department which was constituted on 1st April 1946 took charge of about 14,000 miles of roads in all.

(b) The department was reorganized with effect from 1st February 1947 and the strength of the staff curtailed. The table below shows the personnel of the department on 1st April 1946, the date of its formation and on 1st February 1947 the date on which it was reorganized :—

Category of posts.	Strength on 1st April 1946.	Strength on 1st February 1947.
Chief Engineer	1	1
Superintending Engineers ..	6	5 plus 1 (5 territorial and 1 Special Bridges Circle).
Divisional Engineers including one post of Deputy Chief Engineer	37	31
Assistant Engineers	158	107
	(including 35 posts for District Board works).	

[9th March 1949]

Category of posts.	Strength on 1st April 1946.	Strength on 1st February 1947.
Supervisors	522 (including 197 posts for District Board works).	383

Besides the staff mentioned above, the employment of additional staff is being sanctioned from time to time for the execution of special works and to cope with the general increase of work in the department. The number of divisions sanctioned in addition to these mentioned above is 13.

The District Board Engineering staff forms the nucleus of the Highways department. The staff in the Highways department is made up of both Public Works and District Board Engineering staff. Persons who held permanent appointments in District Board Engineering Service and Local Fund Engineering Service were absorbed in a permanent capacity in the Highways department in similar posts. Public Works Department Superintending Engineers, Executive Engineers, Assistant Engineers and Supervisors working in Roads Circles, Divisions, subdivisions and sections in the Communications Branch whether permanent, probationers or approved probationers were taken over only in an officiating capacity. The District Board and Public Works Department personnel were taken over to the Highways department with reference to the principle mentioned above and not in any particular proportion.

(c) & (d) Statutory rules governing the conditions of service in the Highways department have not yet been framed. It is proposed to issue rules on the lines of the special rules for the Madras Engineering Service. Pending issue of rules, appointments to the posts of Divisional Engineers and Assistant Engineers are made on the analogy of the rules relating to the District Board Engineering Service and the Madras Engineering Service only temporarily, i.e., without conferring on the appointees any right for probation, seniority or future appointments.

(e) The matter is under consideration. It is proposed to apply the rule relating to communal representation as in the case of the Public Works department with certain modifications.

(f) Yes.

(g) No posts of Assistant Engineers and Divisional Engineers were filled up regularly since 1st January 1947. The number of posts of Divisional Engineers and Assistant Engineers filled up temporarily is 7 and 38, respectively.

(h) No Assistant Engineer was promoted as Divisional Engineer in the normal course, i.e., on a regular basis. The table

[9th March 1949]

below shows the names of Assistant Engineers promoted as Divisional Engineers on a temporary basis, the rank of each in the list of Assistant Engineers, their length of service and the salary he was drawing on 1st January 1947:—

Name of Assistant Engineer promoted as Divisional Engineers	Rank as Assistant Engineer.	Length of service on 1st January 1947.	Pay on 1st January 1947.
(1)	(2)	(3) YRS.	(4) RS.
Sri O. Sivasankara Mudaliyar.	40	8	290
„ P. Rangaraja Ayyangar ..	24	8	320
„ G. B. Sankaram ..	18	8	350 plus 50 (since reverted).
„ C. Krishna Reddi	46	8	260
„ M. Balasubramaniam ..	44	8	260
„ M. Ramaoandra Rao	19	8	320
„ S. Kalyanarama Ayyar	28	8	290

(i) No.

(j) & (k) Yes. The rule of communal rotation was applicable to the Local Fund Assistant Engineers Service. The service was provincialized with effect from 1st January 1939 and Assistant Engineers then in service of the local bodies were admitted to the service and their seniority fixed based on the period of service rendered by them up to 31st December 1938. Further selection was made with reference to the communal rule. The rule of communal proportion was applicable to one half of the number of candidates selected for appointment as District Board Engineers and the selection was made by the Madras Public Service Commission. No decision has yet been arrived at regarding the application of the communal rule to the selection of Divisional Engineers. Pending issue of rules, the appointments are made temporarily on the analogy of the District Board Engineering Service Rules.

(l) Yes. The scales of pay of Local Fund Assistant Engineers, District Board Engineers, Assistant Engineers (Highways) and Divisional Engineers (Highways) are given below:—

Local Fund Assistant Engineers—Rs. 150—20/2—250—
E.B. 25/2—350.

Assistant Engineers (Highways)—Rs. 260—30/2—380—40/2—
—500.

District Board Engineers—

I Grade—Rs. 650—50/2—850.

II Grade—Rs. 250—50/2—600.

Divisional Engineers (Highways)—Rs. 500—50/2—850.

(m) Yes.

[9th March 1949]

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 29 asked by Sri A. Govindacharyulu at the meeting of the Legislative Council, held on the 9th March 1949 on page 456 supra.]

Number and name of district.	Number of child welfare centres maintained.	
	Rural.	Urban.
1 Anantapur	5	2
2 Chingleput	16	2
3 Health Unit (Government) ..	7	
4 Coimbatore	12	
5 Chittoor	4	
6 Cuddapah	3	
7 Godavari (East)	6	5
8 Godavari (West)	13	4
9 Guntur	6	2
10 Krishna	8	7
11 Kurnool	1	2
12 Mathurai	7	7
13 The Nilgiris	1	5
14 North Arcot	7	8
15 Ramnad	3	5
16 Salem	19	6
17 South Arcot	6	6
18 Malabar	4	9
19 South Kanara	18	5
20 Tanjore	18	6
21 Tirunelveli	10	3
22 Tiruchirappalli	6	4
23 Vizagapatnam	1	6
24 Nellore	2	..
25 Madras	..	24
26 Bellary	..	3
Total ..	176	142

These are figures according to the latest Annual Report of the

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Saturday, the 19th March 1949.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMA-KRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

1.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Minimum and maximum mileage done by the State buses in the City.

* 249-A Q^a.—DR. V. K. JOHN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) what total minimum mileage has been done so far by any one bus out of the 320 buses operated by the Government in this City;

(b) what total maximum mileage has been done so far by any one bus out of the same 320 buses; and

(c) what total average mileage has been done so far by the same 320 buses?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“(a) 2,803.7 miles.

“(b) 75,346.4 miles.

“(c) Average total mileage done by the 321 buses in the establishment is 35,000 miles.”

DR. V. K. JOHN:—“After doing 35,000 miles, will the cost of the ordinary bus be more than Rs. 1,000?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Notice, Sir.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know why the Hon. Minister mentions 321 buses in commission while the number given in the question is 320?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“The entire fleet was actually 321.”

DR. V. K. JOHN:—“On the figures given by the Hon. Minister, is it not necessary to write off at least 75 per cent of the value of the buses as depreciation?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“This is a matter which we took up with the Accountant-General and he would not agree to any modification of the rules he has made with regard to depreciation, etc.”

DR. V. K. JOHN:—“What will be the value if these 321 buses are sold in the market to-day?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“It is a hypothetical question which I am not able to answer.”

[19th March 1949]

Grant of additional pensions to certain retired Government servants.

* 250 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have granted additional pensions or allowances to retired Government servants who draw pensions of less than one hundred rupees per mensem; and

(b) if so, to what extent?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“(a) Yes.

“(b) The rates of temporary increase in pensions are as follows:—

Pensions not exceeding Rs. 20 per mensem—Rs. 4 per mensem.

Pensions exceeding Rs. 20 but not exceeding Rs. 60 per mensem—Rs. 5 per mensem.

Pensions exceeding Rs. 60 but not exceeding Rs. 100 per mensem—Rs. 6 per mensem.

Persons in receipt of pensions exceeding Rs. 100 but not exceeding Rs. 106 per mensem are allowed such increase as will bring the total pension to Rs. 106 per mensem.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know if the allowance of these pensioners was increased when the dearness allowance of all Government servants was increased?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“No, Sir.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know if pension is not considered as deferred salary and, if so, when the salaried servants got increased allowance, why were the allowances of pensioners also not increased *pro rata*?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“There is an old theory that all pensions are deferred payments and we will have to take any new theories also into consideration.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know whether the Government have enunciated any new theory other than that which has been accepted till now that pension is deferred salary?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“I do not consider that all pensions are accrued salaries. Pension is a pension. That is all.”

DR. V. K. JOHN:—“Are the Government aware of the great distress that the low-paid pensioners are subjected to to-day on account of the rise in the cost of living?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“While we sympathize with the pensioners and also with all those numerous people who are not pensioners, there is nothing which we can do, especially when the hon. Members do not agree to taxation proposals.”

DR. V. K. JOHN:—“Will the Government consider the question of revision of pensions, particularly low pension?”

[19th March 1949]

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“No, Sir. Nothing can be done now.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“In view of the increased cost of living, will the Government consider the desirability of increasing the allowance of at least those pensioners who are drawing very small amounts?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“There is no such proposal before the Government just at present.”

DR. V. K. JOHN:—“Is the Government's refusal to consider the revision of pensions due to the fact that the pensioners cannot go on strike?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“No, not because they cannot go on strike, but because it means additional burden on slender finances of the Government.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know if the Government have received representations from pensioners requesting for increased allowances in view of the increased cost of living?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“I have seen certain petitions from pensioners making request to the Government that their pensions may be increased.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know how the Government have dealt with or propose to deal with those petitions?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“I have already dealt with them, regretting our inability to do anything.”

DR. V. K. JOHN:—“Are they put into the waste-paper basket?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Occasionally also.”
(Laughter.)

Revision of the pay of Local Board employees.

* 251 Q.—SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the scales of pay of all the local board employees were revised, and if so, when and why; and

(b) whether the revised scales of pay were given effect to in regard to all categories of services in district boards and if not, what the categories are that were not given the benefits of the revised scales and why?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—“(a) The Cabinet Salaries Committee which dealt with the question of the revision of pay of Government servants recommended the revision of the scales of pay of the servants of local boards also. The scales of pay of local board employees were therefore revised in 1947.

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Eighteen district boards were directed to give effect to the revised scales of pay to their employees from 1st January 1947 and the remaining six district boards whose financial position was less satisfactory, from 1st October 1947. Teachers under all district boards were given the revised scales of pay from 1st January 1947.

In the case of 'B' class medical practitioners of Indian medicine the scale of pay was subsequently revised for a second time and that scale was given effect to from 1st November 1947. The date from which the revised scale has been brought into effect has recently been changed from 1st November 1947 to 1st April 1948. The revised scales of pay have been introduced from 1st April 1948 in respect of the employees of those panchayat boards as were found to be able to meet the additional cost involved. The Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards has instructed the other panchayat boards to improve their financial position and to send proposals to him for permission to adopt the revised scales of pay.

"(b) All categories of services under district boards have been given the revised scales of pay."

SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO :—"What about the Engineers in the municipalities? I think there is a difference between the pay of the Highway's Engineers and that of the Local Boards Engineers."

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"That is a matter concerning the Highways Department."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"What is the lowest pay paid to a full-time employee of any local authority?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"The lowest pay paid is to a menial which is Rs. 16 per mensem."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Do the Government think that Rs. 16 per mensem is adequate remuneration paid to an employee?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"It is on a par with what is being paid by Government."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Do the Government think that sixteen rupees with allowances, if any, is sufficient remuneration to any person employed either by the Government or by the local body? They must set an example to others."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"It is not a question whether it will be sufficient or not. It depends upon the capacity of the management that is paying it—in the case of the Provincial Government, the Provincial Government and, in the case of the district board, municipalities, panchayat, etc., the authority concerned."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Is that amount deemed to be sufficient for these employees to maintain themselves, for their food, clothing and shelter?"

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THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"That is why they are given dearness allowance and the matter is also under consideration, and as and when the local bodies are financially sound, the Government will try to give them higher scales."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Do the Government realize that inadequacy of pay leads to corruption on the part of the officials or employees?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"That is not the only factor for corruption. Even higher officers are corrupt sometimes."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"How long will it be under the consideration of the Government?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"We are considering and we are trying our level best to see that these people are paid."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Will there be any finality to this consideration?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"There will be no finality, so long as the financial position of local bodies is not sound."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"May I know whether these increased scales of salaries are still in force in all the district boards?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"They are, Sir."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"May I know whether the rates of dearness allowance given to these employees are the same as those given to Government servants?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"Yes, Sir, Rs. 18."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"In respect of certain panchayat boards, the Hon. Minister said they were not in a position to pay the increased scales of salaries and dearness allowance. May I know what steps the Government are taking to see that those employees also get the benefit of increased scales?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"I have already said that we are trying our level best to see that in almost all the major panchayats, when their financial position has improved, those employees are given increased scales of pay and allowance."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"Have the Government at any time considered the desirability of giving subsidies to the poor local bodies and poor panchayat boards in order that the employees of those boards may also receive the benefits of increased scales of salaries and allowances?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"Now and then the Government also are giving some subsidies, for instance, in the case of elementary school teachers and other menial servants also."

[19th March 1949]

Production of power alcohol.

3-15 * 252 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon.
p.m. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) what progress, if any, has been made about the production of power alcohol in the Province;

(b) whether the setting up of plants for the manufacture of power alcohol is subject to the approval of the Government of India;

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative what is the target of production aimed at by the Government of India;

(d) what portion of the target fixed is to be manufactured in this Province;

(e) the names of the sugar factories chosen and the quantity of power alcohol they can manufacture; and

(f) whether applications were called for before the choice of factories was made?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“(a) the Government of India have approved the establishment of three distilleries at Vuyyuru, Vizagapatnam and Nellikuppam. The establishment of another factory at Hospet is under correspondence with the Government of India.

“(b) Yes.

“(c) 20 Million gallons per annum.

“(d) About 14½ lakhs gallons.

“(e) (i) the Vizagapatnam Commercial Corporation, Ltd., Vizagapatnam—4 lakhs gallons;

(ii) the K.C.P. Ltd., Vuyyuru—4 lakhs gallons; and

(iii) Messrs. Parry & Co., Nellikuppam—4 lakhs gallons.

“(f) Yes.”

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, whether the case of Tirunelveli has been considered for this purpose in view of the fact that the first sugar factory in the Province was established in that place?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“It is not the question of an ancient factory having been established in a particular place or not. The whole question has to be viewed from the point of view of the availability of molasses for the manufacture of power alcohol. So, the places chosen have got such facilities and also raw materials for the purpose.”

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, whether the case of Tirunelveli has been considered at all and after consideration it has been found unfit for the purpose?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I cannot say that off-hand whether it has been considered or not. But, as I have said, in reply to clause (f) of the question, applications

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were called for before the choice of factories was made. I am sure that if people from this place had applied, their applications must have been considered also.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Hospet factory was one of the applicants?”

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

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government have included this factory also for the manufacture of power alcohol?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Yes, Sir. Therefore, what I said in my reply was that the Government of India felt that a capacity of at least 4 lakhs of gallons was necessary. I believe, from the information I have got with me, it was felt that the Hospet factory could only get 2½ lakhs of gallons and so correspondence has been going on with the Government of India in regard to the Hospet factory.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know, Sir, what facilities this Government have promised to the sugar factories to encourage them to set up power alcohol plants?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I have just now said that the three places that have now been permitted to manufacture power alcohol have got their own distilleries. Perhaps, only just a little adjustment in the existing plants is required to produce power alcohol and, there may not also be much additional cost involved in this, because I believe, most of the firms and companies are able to look after themselves so far as the plants are concerned.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know if the factories that applied for permission to set up plants for the manufacture of power alcohol have requested the Government to give an undertaking that they would purchase all the power alcohol produced by them at a rate to be decided later based on the cost accounting?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I cannot give the details off-hand, but, I think, there was some thing to that effect, but I cannot confirm. If the hon. Member wants specific information about those details, I would like to have notice.”

Candidates for studies overseas

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

(a) when the system of sending young men and women for studies overseas was introduced;

(b) who the authority competent to choose the candidates is;

(c) who sponsors their stay abroad and meets their expenditure;

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(d) whether, in choosing candidates, preference is given to those already in service;

(e) who the candidates chosen are since the system was brought into existence (yearwar), the departments to which they belong and the academic qualifications and experience they possess;

(f) whether any or all already sent have returned;

(g) what the posts held by these overseas' returned candidates are;

(h) whether in making selection needs of different departments and the particular branches in which specialisation is necessary are taken into account;

(i) whether it is a fact that the candidates chosen for training abroad in 1946 have not been able to proceed;

(j) whether the pending lists are liable to be altered year after year and if so, on what grounds;

(k) what steps the Government have taken to ensure that the candidates chosen obtain the necessary facilities; and

(l) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table of the House all particulars relating to the system of technical training abroad?

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

" (a) 1945-46.

" (b) The selections was first made by a Committee specially appointed for the purpose. Its recommendations were scrutinised by the Government and names arranged in the order of preference sent up to the Government of India. The Government of India made the final selection.

" (c) The scholars are sponsored by this Government. The expenditure is shared equally by this Government and the Government of India.

" (d) No.

" (e) A statement* is placed on the table of the House.

" (f) Some have returned.

" (g) In the Education Department as Instructors in Engineering Colleges, in the Public Works Department as Assistant Engineers and in the Development Department as works Superintendents or Heads of Polytechnics.

" (h) Yes.

" (i) No. Only two candidates have not proceeded abroad. Their scholarships have been cancelled. The information as given is not up to date. It is with reference to the date on which the answer is given.

" (j) No.

" (k) The Government of India have appointed Educational Liaison Officers abroad who have been entrusted with the work of securing necessary facilities.

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" (l) The information already given covers the important aspects of the training scheme. Information is however given in the statement placed on the table of the House about the specialities for which candidates from this Province have been sent. The member is also referred for further particulars to the pamphlet issued by the Government of India entitled, 'Information for students desiring to proceed overseas for advance studies in 1947-48', a copy of which has been placed in the Legislature Library."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, if all the candidates who returned after overseas training, have been absorbed either by the Government or by private bodies? "

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

" I know there have been just a few cases in which they could not be absorbed and so their bonds had therefore to be cancelled."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, if those particular candidates were sent to undergo training in particular subjects without the Government satisfying themselves that when they returned they would be absorbed? "

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

" Sir, in the case of a department like Education where they can assess the needs and requirements of the department, they could be absorbed, but in such departments as the Industries department, certain candidates were sent out in the hope that when they came back, they would be able to help the industries which might come into existence or such people might make the existing industries more efficient. But, those industries are not under the Government and in some cases, such people were not able to be absorbed by those concerns and so they could not be utilized properly."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether in the case of the candidates who were sponsored and money was spent in sponsoring them, this Government took into account the needs of the Province and chose such subjects for their training so that when the candidates returned, they could be absorbed either in the industries or in any other department? "

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

" I entirely agree with the hon. Member and it is so with regard to the Government departments like the Education Department and the Public Works Department. But, in the case of industries, certain people were sent with the idea that when they return they might be helpful either to the existing industries or in the starting of new industries and in such cases possibly a few persons were not able to be absorbed."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, are not this Government aware that even under the old system of Government of India scholarships, students were sent abroad, but many of them did not secure any employment after they returned and had to take up other jobs? "

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

"I would like to disabuse the hon. Member's mind. I do not think it is correct to say, many men did not secure employment. But, those who were specially sent for training in Education at the cost of the Government were absorbed; those sent for our own industries were absorbed, but such of those who were sent with the idea of helping industrial development could not be absorbed. Even then, efforts were also made whether some of them could be employed in the Education Department if found suitable and of course, such people who could not be absorbed will not be many."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether the industrialists were consulted before the subjects for training were fixed about industrial development? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
"I would like to have notice of the question, Sir."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I request that in future when sponsoring candidates, the Government would kindly take note of the needs of the Province before sending out candidates instead of allowing them to remain unemployed soon after their return? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
"Yes, Sir, in future only such of those that could be absorbed either in Government departments or related departments will be sent."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—
"Is it not a fact that soon after the candidates return from overseas after a training for two or three years, they are appointed to the same posts in which they were occupying previous to their going abroad, on the basis of the degree which they obtained in India? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
"The idea is that our departments should become more efficient and so these people are sent for getting training so that they might make the department and instruction in educational institutions more efficient."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know whether it is a fact that these persons were not given sufficiently high posts commensurate with the experience and education they obtain in foreign countries? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
"There is no guarantee except to give gazetted posts, and these have been provided."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Are the Government aware that even in regard to gazetted posts, their initial salary is

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different in different departments. For example, in the case of the Assistant Engineer of the Electricity Department and the Instructor in Electricity in the Engineering Colleges? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
"I would like to have notice, Sir."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government of Madras select the candidates from among the applicants and send up a list to the Government of India? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
"A special Committee has been appointed consisting of the Chairman of the Public Service Commission, the Director of Public Instruction and another very senior civilian. They go into the matter and make their recommendation and the Government send up their recommendation to the Government of India, who make the final selection."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Is the selection entirely made on merit or on communal considerations? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
"It is mostly on the basis of merit, but in certain cases like the Harijans and others who come very near the other candidates, certain preference is given on communal considerations."

Teachers undergoing training in basic education.

* 254 Q.—SRI P. VIRABHADRASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) how many teachers are undergoing training in basic education to work as teachers in the basic teachers' training schools which the Government propose to open in the next school year;

(b) what are the places where these teachers are undergoing training;

(c) how many basic teachers' training schools, the Government propose to open in the next school year; and

(d) how many basic schools are functioning this year in each district and the strength of the schools in each district?

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

(a) 19 trained graduates and 61 secondary grade teachers.

(b) (1) Hindustani Tahmi Sangh, Wardha.

(2) Gandhi Basic Training School, Perianaickenpalayam, Coimbatore district.

(3) Government Basic Training School, Pentapadu.

(d) 17 new basic training schools are proposed to be opened by Government in the next school year.

A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Printed as Appendix II on page 579 infra.

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K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know, Sir, whether all those who were given training in basic education have been absorbed? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" I believe, Sir."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Is it not a fact that some of those who got training in the first batch at Wardha have not been absorbed and that they are doing the same work as before? "

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

"It may be that some private candidates who went to Wardha might not have been absorbed—that it is a different matter—but after this Government came to power, all those sent by the Government to Wardha have been absorbed."

SRI C. VIRABHADRA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, the places where these 17 new Basic Training Schools are going to be opened? "

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

"The matter will be considered later on after the Budget is passed."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, at the rate at which these teachers are trained, will it take over a generation to introduce basic education in the Province? "

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

"It is expected that in the course of five years all the training schools will be converted into Basic Training Schools."

Bills for which the Governor-General has refused assent.

* 255 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) what Bills passed by both the Madras Legislative Assembly and the Council since 30th April 1946 were sent up to the Governor-General for his assent but refused and hence have not become law; and

(b) if so, the grounds for refusal or withholding of such assent?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (a) Only in the case of one Bill, namely, the Madras Trade Disputes Adjudication (Temporary Provision) Bill, 1946, passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 9th September 1946 and by the Council on the 12th September 1946 did His Excellency the Governor-General withhold his assent.

"(b) The reason for withholding the assent was stated to be that in view of the division of functions made not only in the Trade Disputes Act, 1929, but also in Rule 81-A of the Defence of India Rules as continued in force by the Emergency Provisions (Continuance) Ordinance, 1946 (Ordinance

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XX of 1946), the Bill was open to objection as encroaching on the Central field. It was also pointed out that since rules 81-A of the Defence of India Rules has been continued in force by the above Ordinance, the immediate reasons which led to the promotion of the Bill had ceased to apply."

SRI MOTHEY NARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Zamindari Abolition Bill has received the assent of the Governor-General? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" It does not arise out of this question."

Purchase of bull-dozers and tractors.

* 256 Q.—SRI K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR (on behalf of Sri R. Ramakrishna Nayudu): Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) what the estimated number of bull-dozers and tractors for purchase under the five-year plan is;

(b) how many have been acquired so far; and

(c) what the plans are of the Government to reclaim the several lakhs of acres of old fallow lands?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (a) The five-year plan for food production in this Province from 1947-48 to 1951-52 contemplates the purchase of 300 tractors with attachments and implements (100 in 1947-48 and 200 in 1948-49).

"(b) In March 1948, the Government sanctioned the purchase of 100 tractors. Fifty-five units out of this hundred have so far been actually acquired by the Agricultural department. Proposals for the purchase of the remaining 45 units are under the consideration of the Government. The question of purchasing an additional 100 tractors during 1949-50 is also under the consideration of the Government.

"(c) The question of formulating a regular plan for reclamation of waste and fallow lands is now under consideration. As a preliminary measure, an enquiry is being undertaken by the Agricultural department to ascertain the extents of old fallow lands, which the owners would like to reclaim with the aid of the departmental tractor. A six-year scheme for reclamation of 400,000 acres of waste lands at an estimated cost of about Rs. 10 crores is also under consideration."

SRI K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR :—" Sir, does the purchase of these tractors come under the Grow More Food Scheme for which block grants have been granted by the Government of India? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" In some cases, it may do come."

SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Sir, are these tractors giving satisfactory work? "

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Yes, Sir, they are doing satisfactory work. As a matter of fact, there are demands for tractors from several people, but we are not able to cope up with the applications we have been receiving."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether all these tractors are in commission or some of them are kept idle? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" All those tractors that were purchased new are in commission."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Are there any old tractors which have been purchased and not in use? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Some of the tractors purchased some time ago and distributed to the ryots are not being used as they are under repair and for want of spare parts they could not be put to use."

SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Has any arrangement been made to see that they are kept in proper working order? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" There is an idea to open two workshops in two parts of the Province. But, at present when the tractors go out of order, the companies who supplied the tractors send their engineers and repair them."

SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" When tractors go out of order, is it desirable to pay the staff and continue them in service? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The staff will have to be paid."

SRI K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR :—" Is there any training school to train the drivers to work the tractors? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" There are no such training schools at present."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether a time-limit is placed beyond which a ryot cannot use a tractor for his purpose? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Of course a time-limit is placed, but when a tractor is taken on hire, the request for continuing it is insistent. But, we are trying to distribute them as equitably as possible."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether in one or two places, the tractors have been kept for nearly one and a half years or even two years and will the Hon. Minister find out how many tractors have been distributed and how many ryots are making use of them? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" One or two instances have come to notice, that the ryots who have taken the tractors on hire have been keeping them for such a inordinate length of time and steps are taken to take them away from them and give them to others who require them."

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House-building schemes for the Madras City.

* 257 Q.—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Firka Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether schemes for building houses in Madras City have been drawn up by (i) Public Works Department or Housing Department, (ii) Co-operative Societies and (iii) City Improvement Trust;

(b) whether the Government have considered the desirability of co-ordinating the schemes of the various authorities, and if so, what steps have been taken by the Government in that direction; and

(c) whether the Government have issued any, and what, orders restricting construction of buildings by private builders in respect of (i) luxurious types of buildings and (ii) cinemas and entertainment houses?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI (on behalf of the Minister for Firka Development) :—" (a) The Public Works Department have not prepared so far any housing scheme for the public. The Madras City Co-operative House Construction Society and the City Improvement Trust have drawn up housing Schemes. A statement^a showing the details of these schemes and the present stage of their progress is laid on the table of the House.

" (b) Yes, Sir, it is proposed to formulate a co-ordinated plan in which the various schemes could be integrated.

" (c) The Government have ordered that no building materials, such as iron and steel and cement shall be released for elaborate and luxurious types of constructions and non-essential structures, such as cinemas, dance-halls, studios, amusement concerns, etc., and have also laid down certain austerity standards for allotting building materials for essential structures."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Is it not a fact that there are many cinema houses now under construction in the Madras City? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" There may be some cinema houses under construction but the rules laid down by the Government have been followed."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know what does the Hon. Minister mean by the 'luxurious type of construction' and what the austerity standards laid down by the Government

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" (1) No building materials, such as iron and steel and cement shall be released for elaborate and luxurious types of constructions and non-essential structures, such as cinemas, dance-halls, studios, amusement concerns, etc. (2) In order to regulate supplies for essential structures, the austerity standards mentioned in the annexure shall be adopted by the departments concerned while allotting and utilizing the building materials."

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ANNEXURE.

(1) The Public Works Department shall adopt the following austerity standards in the scale of accommodation, in the type of construction and in the design of structural plan for Government and municipal employees:—

(a) To save steel, unreinforced cement concrete roofing duly tested for crushing strength should be used in the case of residential quarters, if found satisfactory on experiment.

(b) The scale of accommodation in Government quarters for officers should be reduced to the minimum requirements.

(2) The following maxima for quotas of cement and steel is prescribed for private building works:—

Particulars of buildings.	Quotas of cement allowed.	Quotas of steel allowed.	Remarks.
Re-inforced concrete—			
Single storied ..	20 bags for 100 sq. ft.	2.5 lb. per sq. ft.	Subject to a maximum of 8 tons of steel.
Double storied ..	75 bags per 100 sq. ft.	5 lb. per sq. ft.	..
Madras terrace—			
Single storied ..	1½ bags per 100 sq. ft.	0.5 lb. per sq. ft.	These exclude estimates for beams and stairs.
Double storied ..	3 bags per 100 sq. ft.	1 lb. per sq. ft.	
Plastering and Floring—			
Single storied ..	1 bag for 100 sq. ft.	..	..
Double storied ..	1½ bags for 100 sq. ft.	..	..

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"The Government have not defined the term 'luxurious type of construction'. May I ask, whether it is a relative term varying with the capacity and needs of the people concerned?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"It should be understood only as a comparative term."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"May I know, whether the Government are satisfied that in the case of buildings that are under construction or just completed, these austerity standards have been enforced?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"I presume that the austerity standards have been followed."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"In view of the fact that Government admit that it is not a relative term, may I know whether they have realized that it is impossible to enforce these rules?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"It can only be enforced comparatively. When two buildings are completed, one for housing people and the other for the construction of cinemas, naturally preference will be given to the former."

SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—"Sir, are not the Ministers encouraging construction of cinema theatres by laying their foundation-stones?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"Laying foundation-stones does not mean that we are encouraging the construction of cinema houses."

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DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Have Government any plan for the construction of quarters for their employees?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"I do not think at present there is any plan for the construction of houses for them."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Will the Government consider the question of building houses for their employees?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"We will consider the matter."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"What the local bodies do in this matter?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"Local bodies are also trying to construct houses for their employees."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"May I know what assistance the Government are giving to local bodies for the construction of houses for their employees?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"Some financial grants are given to them and they are building quarters for their menial staff and also for other employees. Government are supplying them with building materials for this purpose."

Proposal to declare Friday as holiday.

* 258 Q.—SRI MOTHEY NARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether representations have been made to the Government to declare Friday as holiday and a day of service in memory of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation;

(b) whether a similar opinion has been expressed by eminent public men and responsible leaders; and

(c) whether in view of Friday being a holiday both for Muhammadans and Hindus the Government will consider the desirability of declaring Friday as a public holiday and a day of service?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Premier) :—" (a) No representations have been received by this Government.

" (b) The Government have no information.

" (c) The Government consider that there is no need for such a change."

SRI MOTHEY NARAYANA RAO :—"Is it not a fact that one Mr. Potti Sreeramulu has written about this matter to the Government and in fact offered satyagraha before the Premier's house?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—"I do not know whether any satyagraha was offered before the Premier's house. But if it had been offered, such action as was necessary would have been taken."

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know whether it is a fact that Government have issued instruction that 30th of every month should be observed as a holiday and if it is not a fact, will the Government declare at least that day as a holiday? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ That is a different matter. I think that day is intended for the Harijan Uplift. The question now before the House is whether Government will declare Friday as holiday. ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ Sir, I have already said that no such request was received by the Government. ”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ In view of the question put by my hon. Friend Mr. M. Narayana Rao that somebody offered *satyagraha* to compel Government to do a particular act, will the Government declare that it is not their policy not to be cowed down by such *satyagraha*? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ They have amply demonstrated it some time ago. ”

Districts in which Government business is transacted in the regional language.

* 259 Q.—**SRI MOTHEY NARAYANA RAO :** Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the districts in which Government business is being transacted in the regional language;

(b) whether the result of the experiment is satisfactory;

(c) whether it is proposed to extend the same to the other districts; and

(d) if so, what the districts are?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Premier):—“ (a) to (d) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to starred question No. 158 on this subject on the floor of the House on 18th January 1949. The reports of the Collectors of Tiruchirappalli and East Godavari and the Heads of Departments have been received and the matter is under the consideration of the Government. ”

Overloading in motor buses in the mufassal.

* 260 Q.—**SRI MOTHEY NARAYANA RAO :** Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that overloading in motor buses in the mufassal has become a common feature; and

(b) whether permits for running buses are proposed to be increased?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ (a) It is not uncommon.

(b) Any increase in the number of permits is to be made by the Central Road Traffic Board and the Regional Transport

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Authorities with reference to the traffic needs of the respective areas. The Transport Commissioner had banned the issue of new permits owing to shortage of petrol and charcoal but has since removed the ban in most of the districts. He is considering the question of removing it in the remaining districts also. ”

SRI MOTHEY NARAYANA RAO :—“ Is it not a fact, Sir, that passengers are made to go out of the town limits to get into the bus? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ We are not officially aware of any such thing. ”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Are the Government aware that bus services in districts have deteriorated considerably in recent years? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ Because new permits are not issued, perhaps there is little deterioration but it is not considerable deterioration. ”

SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO :—“ May I know what the Government propose to do to stop overloading and extra collection of rates? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ Of course we have received complaints of such a nature but I do not know the prevalence of such things. ”

SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO :—“ Sir, such things are going on in the Vizagapatnam district. Will the Government take necessary action to stop such things? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ The Transport Commissioner has removed the ban on new routes being opened in the Vizagapatnam district also. I am sure he will be receiving applications for new routes in that district also. ”

SRI MOTHEY NARAYANA RAO :—“ Overloading has become a common feature, what is the use of making it an offence? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ Sir, if we do not make it an offence, it will be on the increase. Because theft is prevailing in a particular place, we cannot say that theft is not an offence. ”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know what steps the Government have taken to prevent overloading. Have they issued any special instructions to their officers to make surprise checks and thus prevent overloading? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ There is no paucity of instructions issued in regard to this matter. But there are certain inevitable factors which lead to overloading and sometimes it becomes necessary for the bus men to take more passengers than are allowed. ”

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ In view of the fact that the number of extra passengers equal to the number of passengers allowed, may I point out that in certain cases tickets are not issued to the overloaded passengers and therefore if and when the Government impose surcharge on bus fares, they will be a losers in respect of those overloaded passengers? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ If there is a deliberate attempt on the part of a private operator to cheat the Government if and when the surcharge is levied, we shall see that the licence of the bus is cancelled.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Since overloading has become a normal feature, will the Government at least see that there is no suffocation to the passengers inside the bus? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ The hon. Member's presumption is not correct. It is not as though we have not given enough directions to see that there is no overloading. The Police do prosecute persons who take more passengers. Sir, in some cases passengers themselves entreat the bus conductor and driver to take them to their destination by saying that they want to go to Taluk Headquarters Office or some such thing on some urgent business.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I suggest to the Hon. Minister to go into the neighbouring district of Chingleput in cognito and travel by bus to see whether overloading is not a normal feature which is connived at by officials even though they see it? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ The Minister in charge of Transport need not play the part of a police constable.”

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Does the consent to commit an offence remove the act concerned from the category of offences? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ The hon. Member can put that question to the Minister in charge of Law.”

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ On account of such connivance by the Police, will there not be discrimination between one conductor and another in the matter of taking action against overloading? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ Who said that there is such connivance by the Police? ”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Sir, is it wrong for a popular Minister to do Police duty to find out a grievance that exists and redress it? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ I do not propose to do it.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Is there overcrowding in the Madras City? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ It is not a bus.”

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SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI :—“ May I know whether Government are aware that Police constables go about in buses without paying fares? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ We have issued instructions that they can travel in buses only paying fares.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Sir, my previous question referred to the buses in Madras City.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ Not to my knowledge.”

SRI MOTHEY NARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know why more passengers should not be allowed in the mufassal buses than the actual seating capacity allows? Why not allow standing passengers? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ The very construction of the body of mufassal buses is different from that of the City buses. Wherever possible we have allowed some standing passengers also in the mufassal buses.”

SRI MOTHEY NARAYANA RAO :—“ Will it not be possible to allow it in the buses in the mufassal? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ Wherever it is possible it is being allowed.”

SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI :—“ May I know why it is not possible? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ As I said, in the type of buses running in the mufassal, there is no room for standing passengers.”

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—“ Are Government aware in the district of East Godavari, in some routes, conductors are showing overloading of passengers as luggage, and Police officers and transport authorities do not take cognizance of the offence. Will Government inquire into the matter and take proper action to stop overcrowding, and they can see it from the trip sheets? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member is making a speech.”

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—“ In the trip sheets they are showing the excess passengers as luggage. Will Government cause an inquiry? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ Put it in the form of a question. Your question is, are Government aware that in East Godavari district people are called luggage? ” (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ I do not know.”

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—“ Will Government investigate into the matter after perusing the trip sheets? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ I do not think the trip sheets will give the clue whether a person is taken in as luggage.”

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SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" I ask Government to inquire into it . . . "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I may tell hon. Member that this is not the method of bringing facts to the notice of Government. There is a different method to do this, as you may write to the Minister about it."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Sir, I give this information to Government and ask them to inquire into it . . . "

(The hon. Member kept standing in his seat.)

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The question hour is not for making speeches or for giving information to Government. It is for eliciting information from them."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Sir, I am only saying . . . "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The first rule to be observed is that when I am speaking you should not be standing in your seat and you should not interrupt me. This is a fundamental rule which all hon. Members including the Hon. Ministers should remember."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Are Government going to institute an enquiry and take action . . . ?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—" That question does not arise out of the present question."

SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Will Government be pleased to issue an order that all last buses should pick up all passengers so that nobody is left over on the roadside?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" There is some force in what the hon. Member has said. Perhaps it is not desirable to alter the rule in that respect."

SRI MOTHEY NARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, when people are willing to put up with a slight inconvenience, why not Government allow it?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" We have seen what it is in trains and tram cars; it is not good to do it in buses. More especially when people travel long distances in buses, it is not desirable to allow taking in of cent per cent more passengers."

SRI MOTHEY NARAYANA RAO :—" Why not allow some latitude in this?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Wherever standing capacity allows it may be considered."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Is not overcrowding a danger, as the bus is likely to get upset by overcrowding?"

[10th March 1949]

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" By a little overcrowding, if there are three or four more passengers, I do not think the bus will capsize; it will be only inconvenient to other passengers."

Rate of tax on properties in Madras City.

* 261 Q.—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) what the present rate of tax on properties in Madras City is;

(b) what the maximum rate of tax permissible is;

(c) whether the Government have received any representation from the Commissioner of the Corporation of Madras for raising the rate of tax; and

(d) if so, whether the Government have under consideration any proposal to amend the City Municipal Act to enable the Corporation to raise the maximum rate of property tax?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" (a) The rates at which property-tax is levied at present in the City of Madras are as below :—

Property, the annual value of which is Rs. 1,000 or less—
16½ per cent.

Property, the annual value of which is more than Rs. 1,000 but below Rs. 2,500—19 per cent.

Property, the annual value of which is Rs. 2,500 and above—
20 per cent.

"(b) Twenty per cent of the annual value.

"(c) & (d) No."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Are Government aware that the Corporation of Madras has decided a few days ago to increase the rate of house tax?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" It has not been brought to the notice of Government."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Is it not necessary that the Corporation should obtain the permission of Government before they actually bring to force any increase in tax?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I suppose the hon. Member can look to the Act."

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" The Act provides a certain latitude, a minimum and maximum is fixed, within which the Corporation has a right to levy tax. If it is against the Act, then Government will interfere."

[19th March 1949]

Scheme for the reclamation of land.

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

- (a) whether the Government have under consideration any large scale scheme for the reclamation of land and its cultivation;
- (b) whether the land to be reclaimed is dry or water-logged;
- (c) where the land to be reclaimed is situated;
- (d) what the agency proposed for reclamation and cultivation is; and

(e) whether the Government propose to publish the details of the scheme and invite public opinion before finalising it?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“(a) Yes.

“(b) The waste land to be reclaimed is mostly dry.

“(c) The following districts have been tentatively suggested for reclamation work:—

	ACS.
Nellore district	1,00,000
Anantapur district	1,00,000
Ramnad and Tirunelveli districts	2,00,000
Total	4,00,000

“(d) A separate land reclamation staff is proposed to be appointed under the scheme.

“(e) The Government do not propose to publish details of the scheme at present. The scheme is still under the consideration of Government.”

SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO:—“Is it not better if Government choose a deficit district for cultivation, like Vizagapatnam than Nellore?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“This is a scheme of reclamation of land. The scheme that is contemplated is a large scale one. Where lands are available on a large scale, it will be taken up. The whole scheme is still under consideration, and Government do not propose to publish details.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know why Government do not consider it necessary to publish the details, as by publishing the details they may get to know public opinion, and that information may help them to formulate better schemes.”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“We have enough information now to go on.”

SRI K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR:—“May I know whether the Government have taken the opinion of technical people like officers of the Agriculture Department?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“The Director of Agriculture has sufficient experience in the matter.”

[19th March 1949]

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“Is the Director of Agriculture a technical man?”

THE HON. H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“He has got technical assistants in his office.” (Laughter.)

SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO:—“Have they been consulted?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Yes, they have been consulted.”

SRI MOTHEY NARAYANA RAO:—“Is it not necessary that heads of departments should be technical experts?”

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

SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—“Sir, there are some more lagoons along the Cuddapah-Kurnool Canal, similar to the one that is being reclaimed now. Will Government be pleased to take that up also for reclamation?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Government are aware that there are vast stretches of land in the province which ought to be reclaimed and which can be reclaimed. But it is a question of finance, and where we should take it up now is being examined. The suggestions are tentative now.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I inquire whether the system of co-operative farming as the method to be employed in this scheme will be considered. Will Government examine it before they come to a final decision in the matter of agency also?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“That is one of the aspects of the question that is being considered.”

Assistant Inspectors of Labour.

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

(a) the number of Assistant Inspectors of Labour appointed for working the Shop Assistants Act and the Non-power Factories Act;

(b) whether these appointments are governed by service rules and, if so, what they are;

(c) whether the appointments already made are treated as temporary;

(d) whether it is proposed to ask the Public Service Commission to recruit these Assistant Inspectors of Labour;

(e) whether those already appointed temporarily will also be asked to appear before the Public Service Commission; and

[19th March 1949]

(f) what percentage of those posts was allotted to those already in service, either Government or local Board, and whether the same percentage of posts is reserved for recruitment by the Commissioner?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“(a) 184.

“(b) & (c) The posts are governed by the *Ad hoc* rules issued with G.O. No. 5298, Development, dated 26th October 1948, and published at page 1075 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 9th November 1948. The appointments so far made are under the emergency provisions.

“(d) The Commission has already advertised the posts to be filled by direct recruitment.

“(e) Yes, Sir, those who are not appointed by transfer from any other service will be required to appear before the Commission.

“(f) Fifty per cent of the posts are reserved to be filled by transfer and 50 per cent by direct recruitment. Of the direct recruits one in every five will be from employees of local bodies. Candidates for appointment to the vacancies reserved for direct recruits will be selected by the Commission.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“Sir, while in respect of inspectors already appointed from local bodies and other services they were not required to appear before the Public Service Commission, why in the percentage reserved for direct recruitment to be filled from local bodies, those candidates are now asked to appear before the Public Service Commission?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“I do not think the first portion of the presumption of the hon. Member is correct.”

Quantity of Khaddar produced in 1947 and 1948.

* 264 Q.—DR. V. K. JOHN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Firka Development be pleased to state—

(a) what quantity of khaddar was produced in the Province in the years 1947 and 1948;

(b) what expenses the Government have been put to, in connexion with the production of khaddar in the years 1947 and 1948;

(c) what is the comparative cost of khaddar and mill and handloom products; and

(d) what quantity of khaddar products is now in stock unsold?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI (on behalf of the Hon. Minister for Firka Development) :—“(a) The figures relating to the quantity of khadi produced in the seven Government Intensive Khadi centres alone are available. Four lakhs sixty-six thousand nine hundred and sixty yards were produced in 1947 and six lakhs seventy-seven thousand and twelve yards in 1948.

[19th March 1949]

(b) The following statement shows the gross expenditure incurred by the Government and receipts by sale of khadi, cotton and implements and also the value of stocks left on hand at the end of each year :—

	1947.	1948.
	RS.	RS.
Gross expenditure	13,27,645	13,51,454
Receipts	5,64,333	6,61,937
Value of closing stocks	5,73,280	9,12,909

It may be mentioned that the Government of India have made a grant of the entire net expenditure on the scheme in the year 1947-48 and have promised a 50 per cent grant for the year 1948-49. The grant due is Rs. 8,24,947 for 1947-48 and Rs. 2,29,204 for 1948-49.

“(c) The question is very general. Cost can be compared only with reference to the texture, width, colour and sometimes the design of the cloth. The prices of handloom and mill cloth have been fluctuating considerably whereas the price of khadi has been constant. Comparison of prices of khadi and of handloom and mill cloth is not therefore possible.

“(d) On 31st January 1949, the stock of khadi cloth held in the seven intensive khadi centres was 583,456 yards. It is proposed to meet cloth requirements of all Government Departments to the extent possible in khadi only. The indents from Government Departments are now being received and gradually complied with and it is expected that when their indents for the full year's requirements are complied with, the balance of stock will be reduced very considerably. It is also proposed to have a sales depot at Madras for the disposal of popular varieties of khadi.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“Is it the intention of Government to compel Government employees to wear khaddar?”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—“It is not compulsory. Whenever the Government want to buy cloth, they give preference to khadi.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“What do the Government gain by spending so many lakhs of rupees in encouraging khaddar production?”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—“I may tell the hon. Member that in every independent country nascent industries and cottage industries are encouraged by extensive bounties and grants. It is not an abnormal thing and it is the duty of a popular Government to encourage such industries.”

[19th March 1949]

II.—SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1948-49.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, I present the Demands for Grants for further expenditure and detailed Supplementary Estimates thereof for the year 1948-49. Copies of the Demands have been laid on the table of the House.

"This is the first and final batch of Demands for Grants for further expenditure in this year. Owing to the pressure of Legislative business, it was not found practicable to arrange for a simultaneous session of both the Houses of the Legislature for presenting any part of this Supplementary Statement of Expenditure earlier in this year, though it was done last year.

"As explained in the introductory memorandum to the Supplementary Statement of Demands for Grants, the present statement includes some demands on account of insufficiency of the original grants concerned for expenditure on standing sanctions based on existing orders and commitments and also some demands for expenditure on 'new services' sanctioned in the current year and for which there is no provision in the Budget for 1948-49.

"There are 31 demands pertaining to the Revenue Account involving a total sum of Rs. 8,06,800 under 'Charged' expenditure and Rs. 4,91,29,600 under 'Voted' expenditure. Under Capital Account there are seven demands involving a total sum of Rs. 71,13,800 under 'Voted' expenditure alone. Under Disbursements of Loans and Advances, there are two demands involving a total sum of Rs. 4,93,76,900 under 'Voted' expenditure. The supplementary demands for voted expenditure are for only token sums in respect of nine grants in the Revenue Account and five grants under Capital Account and these are in respect of 'new services' sanctioned during the course of the year, the expenditure on which has been or will be met from the savings in the Grants already voted by the Legislature. The details of these new schemes are given in the explanatory notes under each Grant. The total of the supplementary demands for votable expenditure in the Revenue Account is much smaller this year as compared with last year, the figures being Rs. 4.94 crores in this year against Rs. 7.57 crores last year.

"The additional appropriation required under Charged expenditure is mainly in respect of payments made or to be made in accordance with the decrees of courts, adjustment of interest charges and the expenditure pertaining to the High Court. The amount involved is also comparatively small. These items have been included in the Supplementary Estimate because no re-appropriation is permissible from savings under voted heads to meet 'Charged' expenditure.

[19th March 1949] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

"As regards the Supplementary Demands for voted expenditure in the Revenue Account, large items are the following:—

'XXXI. Miscellaneous (Rs. 175.45 lakhs).—This is mainly in respect of the net outlay on Provincial Schemes of State Trading transferred to the Revenue Account (Rs. 135 lakhs) and payments to the Central Government on account of technical and vocational training schemes for ex-servicemen (Rs. 30 lakhs). The larger net outlay on Provincial Schemes of State Trading is explained in the note under Grant XXXIX and it will be seen that it is required mainly to meet the adjustments in 1948-49 of the cost of chemical manure supplied by the Government of India in 1947-48. The details of the technical and vocational training for ex-servicemen are given in item (iv) on pages 51-52 of the Detailed Supplementary Estimates. Generally speaking the entire expenditure has been incurred initially by the Government of India since 1945-46 and this Government's share (generally 40 per cent) is to be adjusted only in the accounts of the current year.

'XV. Education (Rs. 71.34 lakhs).—This is chiefly in respect of the teaching grants to non-Government primary schools consequent on the payment of dearness allowance at increased rate to the teachers with effect from 1st January 1948, the opening of new schools or standards resulting in the employment of additional teachers, the provision of increments for trained teachers and also the introduction of the system of monthly payment of grant. The constitution of a Senior Division under the National Cadet Corps Act of 1948 in order to give military training to the male students in colleges is also one important item included in this Demand. I have given further details of this scheme already in my budget speech.

'XXVII. Electricity (Rs. 41.75 lakhs).—This represents mainly the increased expenditure on the maintenance of our electricity systems consequent on the provincialisation of the work charged establishment, payment of enhanced rates of dearness allowance, increase in the price of seaborne coal and the increased provision for depreciation in the Madras Electricity System.

'XIV. Police (Rs. 31.42 lakhs).—The increased expenditure has occurred under clothing, armed and equipment and travelling allowance consequent on the movement of armed reserves to disturbed localities including the Hyderabad border. In my Budget Speech, I have referred to our mounting police expenditure and the impracticability of reducing it to any considerable extent, so long as the Communist and other troubles continue.

'XIII. Jails (Rs. 28.17 lakhs).—The increased expenditure under Jails is also due to the unsettled conditions which we had in the Hyderabad border and elsewhere. The confinement of Razakars, Communists, and members of the Rashtriya Seva Sangh together with the rise in the cost of dietary articles has resulted in expenditure being incurred much in excess of the budget appropriation.

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [19th March 1949]

'X. *Legislative Bodies* (Rs. 18.28 lakhs).—The chief item is the expenditure on the preparation of new electoral rolls on the basis of adult franchise.'

"Other items of supplementary demands will be found explained in the Detailed Supplementary Estimates.

"It should be remembered that savings available under one Grant cannot be reappropriated to meet the additional expenditure under another Grant and that in fact, large savings to the extent of over Rs. 3 crores are expected under Grants in respect of which no supplementary demands or demands for token sums only are now moved.

"The total for all Grants in the Revenue Account according to the Budget Estimate, 1948-49 is about Rs. 58 crores while the expenditure now anticipated is about Rs. 60 crores, i.e., Rs. 2 crores more. As against this, capital expenditure is expected to be less by about Rs. 2 crores. As regards disbursement of loans and advances, the Budget figure is Rs. 5.02 crores, while the present estimate including the supplementary demands is Rs. 9.96 crores, the increase being chiefly on account of loans sanctioned under the New Well Subsidy Scheme and loans granted to the Madras Provincial Handloom Weavers' Society and to the Co-operative Central Banks.

"The Budget Memorandum for 1949-50 explains the variation between the Budget and the Revised Estimate for 1948-49 under the individual demands. The final appropriation and the present Supplementary Demands for Grants take into account factors which have come to notice after the Revised Estimate for 1948-49 was fixed in January last and new sanctions.

"I hope that these general observations of mine together with the Explanatory Note under each Grant will make the position clear to the House."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"This Supplementary Statement of Expenditure will be taken up for discussion on the 24th afternoon.

"I may inform the hon. Mrs. Hensman that the date, as also that it shall be in the afternoon, has been fixed by His Excellency the Governor and that we cannot change it."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"The House can meet at 2-30 p.m."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 2-30 p.m. on Thursday, 24th March 1949.

III.—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

G.O. No. 156, Finance, dated 16th February 1949, relating to Appropriation Accounts, 1945-46—Schedule of excess grants as authenticated by His Excellency the Governor.

March 1949]

APPENDIX I.

answer to starred question No. 253 asked by Sri R. Soryanarayana Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 19th March 1949, pages 551-552 supra.]

Serial number and names of candidates.	Qualifications.	Subject of study.
(1)	(2)	(3)
Sponsoring Department—Education.		
Mr. James C. V. Chinnappa ..	B.E. (Mech.), I class.	Mechanical Engineering, Heat and Hydraulic Engineering.
Mr. H. O. Nulraj Joseph ..	B.E. (Mech.), I class with Hons.	Industrial and Administration Engineering.
Mr. Edward Rajaratnam ..	B.E. (Mech.), I class Hons—first rank.	Naval Architecture.
Mr. L. G. Narayanaswami ..	B.E. (Elec.), I class with Hons., first rank.	Electrical Engineering.
Mr. G. S. Ramaswamy ..	B.E. (Civil), I class with Hons.	Civil Engineering—Structural Engineering.
Mr. C. G. Swaminathan ..	Do.	Highways Engineering.
Mr. G. Subramaniam ..	B.E. (Civil), Hons.	Electrical Engineering—Radio Communication.
Mr. N. V. Kudva ..	B.E. (Elec.), Hons.	Electrical Engineering—Wireless Communication.
Mr. K. S. Hegde ..	B.E. (Elec.)	Do.
Mr. S. Paramanandan ..	B.E. (Mech.), I class.	Marine Engineering.
M. M. Vasudevan ..	B.E. (Elec.), Hons.	Aeronautical Engineering.
Mr. C. K. Chandran ..	B.E. (Elec.)	Electrical Engineering—Machinery and Design.
Sponsoring Department—Development.		
Mr. S. R. A. Gesudraz ..	B.E. (Mech.), II class.	Automobile Engineering.
Mr. B. Mohamed Ibrahim ..	B.E. (Elec.), II class.	Electrical Engineering.
Mr. P. D. Kumaresan ..	B.E. (Mech.)	Mechanical Engineering.
Mr. J. L. Pavamani ..	B.Sc.	Ceramics.
Mr. S. Balaraman ..	B.E. (Mech.), Hons.	Mechanical Engineering—Design and Manufacture of Tools.
Mr. G. Viswanatha Rao ..	B.Sc. Engg. (Mech. and Elec.), I class, first rank.	Agricultural Engineering.
Mr. D. V. Narasimham ..	B.Sc. Engg. (Mech. and Elec.)	Marine Engineering.
Mr. C. Narasimhachari ..	B.Sc. (Hons.), I class, 1st rank, M.Sc., D.Sc.	Food Technology.
Mr. V. Jagannathan ..	B.Sc. (Hons.), I class, first rank.	Applied Chemistry—Commercial Solvents.
Mr. A. P. Mahadevan ..	B.Sc. (Hons.), I class; B.Sc. (Tech.), first rank.	Dyes and Tinctorial Chemistry.
Mr. V. R. Srinivasan ..	B.Sc. (Hons.), I class; M.Sc.	Artificial Silk and Nylon.
Mr. S. Ramakrishna ..	B.Sc. I class; M.Sc., I class.	Applied Physics—Sound Technology.
Mr. V. Balaji ..	B.Sc. (Hons.), I class; M.Sc.	Applied Chemistry—Commercial Solvents.
Mr. C. Ranganatha Reddi ..	B.Sc. (Hons.), I class, first rank; M.Sc., I class, first rank.	Chemical Engineering.

[19th March 1949]

Serial number and names of candidates.	Qualifications.	Subject of study.
(1)	(2)	(3)
1945-6—cont.		
<i>Sponsoring Department—Development—cont.</i>		
27 Mr. P. Chalapathi Rao ..	B.Sc., II class; M.Sc., (Tech.), I class.	Oil Technology.
28 Mr. R. G. Narayana-murthi ..	B.E. (Elec.), Hons., third rank.	Ground Engineering.
29 Mr. R. Ramenadham ..	B.Sc. (Hons.), II class; M.Sc., I class.	Radio Engineering—Electronics.
30 Mr. G. Ramakrishnan ..	B.E. (Mech.), I class with Hons.	Mechanical Engineering—Machine Tools.
31 Mr. M. Prabhajanamurthi ..	M.Sc., I class, second rank.	Electro-Chemistry.
32 Mr. T. R. Govinda-chari ..	B.Sc., I class; M.Sc.	Manufacture of Dyes and Tinctorial Chemistry.
33 Mr. V. S. S. Gopalan ..	B.Sc. (Hons.), I class, first rank.	Manufacture of Fertilizers.
34 Mr. V. M. I. Nambissan ..	B.Sc. (Hons.), I class.	Electrical Engineering—Electro-plating.

Sponsoring Department—Public Works.

35 Mr. Mohmad Abdul Samad ..	B.E. (Civil), II class.	Highways Engineering—Roads and Bridges.
36 Mr. J. A. Murray ..	B.E. (Civil), I class.	Civil Engineering.
37 Mr. T. K. George ..	B.E. (Civil)	Sanitary Engineering.
38 Mr. G. F. D. Gonsalves ..	B.E. (Civil)	Highways Engineering.
39 Mr. K. Remesh Rao ..	B.E. (Civil), I class with Hons.	River Conservancy Flood Control.
40 Mr. T. P. Shenoy ..	Do.	Soil Mechanics.
41 Mr. K. Balasubramanyam ..	Do.	Sanitary Engineering.
42 Mr. P. Premasagar ..	B.E. (Civil), Hons.	Highways Engineering.
43 Mr. P. Sivalingam ..	B.E. (Civil), I class with Hons.	Dam Construction.

1946-7—

Sponsoring Department—Education.

1 Mr. N. Siddhewara Setty ..	B.E. (Mech.), Hons.	Heat and Hydraulic Engineering.
2 Mr. S. Ramalingam ..	B.E. (Mech.), I class with Hons.	Industrial and Administrative Engineering.
3 Mr. M. Muthukrishnudu ..	B.E. (Elec.), I class	Generation, Transmission and Utilization of Electric Powers.
4 Mr. L. R. Saptarish ..	B.E. (Elec.), I class with Hons.	Electrical Measurements (cancelled).
5 Mr. K. Krishnamachari ..	B.E. (Civil), I class with Hons., first rank.	Structural Engineering.
6 Mr. D. Konehady ..	B.E. (Civil), I class.	Public Health Engineering.

Sponsoring Department—Development.

7 Mr. R. Krishnamurthy ..	B.E. (Mech.) Hons.	Design and Manufacture of Centrifugal Pumps.
8 Mr. S. Murugesan ..	Do.	Manufacture, Installation and Testing of Boilers.
9 Mr. Sethi Balasundar ..	B.E. (Mech.)	Manufacture of Agricultural Implements.
10 Mr. T. K. Sivasankaran ..	B.Sc. I class, first rank.	Manufacture of Electric Lamps and Accessories.
11 Mr. M. Rajasekhara Sarma ..	B.E. (Elec.), I class with Hons.	Manufacture of Batteries and Dry Cells.
12 Mr. C. V. Subbaratnam ..	B.Sc. (Hons.), I class, second rank.	Wood and Lignite Distillation.
13 Mr. M. Narasimha Rao ..	M.Sc., I class	Manufacture of Paints.
14 Mr. H. Venkatakrishna Udupa ..	B.A. I class, first rank; B.Sc. (Hons.), II class, third rank.	Electro-Chemistry with Special reference to Acids.
15 Mr. M. V. Rama Rao ..	B.E. (Mech.)	Ground Engineering.
16 Mr. K. N. Gopinath Menon ..	B.E. (Mech.), I class	Marine Engineering and Design of Ship and Power Boats.

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Serial number and names of candidates.	Qualifications.	Subjects of study.
(1)	(2)	(3)
46-7—cont.		
<i>Sponsoring Department—Development—cont.</i>		
7 Mr. N. V. Subba Rao ..	B.Sc. (Hons.) I class	Chemistry of Insecticides and Fungicides.
8 Mr. T. Rajagopal Rao ..	B.Sc. II class; M.Sc. (Tech.), II class.	Leather Chemistry and Treatment of Leather.
9 Mr. G. D. Srinivasan ..	B.Sc., I class	Plastics.
10 Miss R. J. Irani ..	B.Sc. (Hons.), II class; M.Sc.	Manufacture of drugs and pharmaceutical.
21 Mr. F. G. T. Menama ..	B.A., I class; M.Sc.	Oil Technology and Hydrogenation.
22 Mr. M. I. Mathews ..	B.Sc. (Tech.); B.Sc., I class.	Fuel Technology and design of furnaces.
23 Mr. V. Ramakrishna ..	B.Sc. (Hons.), I class, first rank.	Sound Technology, Acoustics and Recording.
24 Mr. C. Dakshinamurthy ..	B.Sc., II class; M.Sc., I class, D.Sc.	Soil Physics.
25 Mr. B. Krishnaswamy ..	B.Sc. (Hons.), I class, first rank.	Manufacture of micanite.
26 Mr. D. S. Jagannadha Rao ..	B.Sc. (Tech.), first rank	Ceramics.
27 Mr. T. V. Sukumaran ..	L.P.T.	Lithography and Printing Technology (cancelled).
28 Mr. M. Giriraj ..	B.Sc., I class	Canning and Food Preservation.
29 Mr. K. T. Achaya ..	B.Sc. (Hons.), II class; M.Sc.	Oil Technology and Hydrogenation.
30 Mr. R. Ramamoorthi Reddy ..	B.Sc., I class; M.Sc., I class, first rank.	Canning and Food Preservation.
31 Mr. P. Prabhakara Reddy ..	B.Sc. (Hons.), I class, second rank; M.Sc., first rank.	Plastics.
32 Mr. S. C. Rajagopala ..	B.Sc., II class; M.Sc.	Chemical Engineering.
33 Mr. R. Padmanabhan ..	B.E. (Elec.), Hons.	Electrical Engineering, manufacture of small fans, motors, etc.

Sponsoring Department—Public Works.

34 Mr. V. Ganesan ..	B.E. (Elec.), Hons.	Electrical Engineering.
35 Mr. T. L. N. Prasad ..	B.E. (Elec.), I class with Hons.	Do.
36 Mr. Mahmood Hussain ..	B.E. (Civil), II class	Hydrology in relations to tube and bore wells.
37 Mr. V. Venkatasubramanian ..	B.A. (Hons.), II class; B.E. (Civil), I class.	Soil Mechanics of the earthen and composite dam.
38 Md. Mia Khan ..	B.E. (Civil), II class	Sanitary Engineering.
39 Md. B. Sheikh Umar ..	Do.	Reinforced Concrete and prestressed structures.
40 Mr. S. Panchanathan ..	Do.	Soil Mechanics with special reference to foundation.
41 Mr. S. N. Jayanthi ..	B.E. (Civil), I class with Hons.	Public Health and Medical Buildings and Architecture (cancelled).
42 Mr. A. Purushothama Rao ..	B.E. (Mech.), I class with Hons.	Plant and Plant operation.
43 Mr. R. Thillainayagam ..	B.E. (Civil), II class	Highway Engineering.

1947-8—

Sponsoring Department—Education.

1 Mr. L. Venkatesan ..	B.E. (Civil), I class with Hons.	Civil Engineering—Design.
2 Mr. T. Venkatarama Reddy ..	B.E. (Civil), Hons.	Civil Engineering—Surveying.
3 Mr. A. Madanagopal Menon ..	B.E. (Elec.), I class with Hons.	Electrical Engineering—Generation, Transmission and Utilization.
4 Mr. K. M. A. Md. Sulaiman ..	B.E. (Elec.), I class	Do.

[19th March 1949]

Serial number and names of candidates.

Qualifications.

Subjects of study.

(1)

(2)

(3)

1947-8—cont

Sponsoring Department—Education—cont.

5 Mr. J. S. Char	B.Sc. (Hons.), I class; B.E. (Elec.), I class with Hons.	Electrical Engineering—Generation, Transmission and Utilization (cancelled).
6 Mr. R. P. Arthur	B.E. (Mech.), I class, fourth rank.	Mechanical Engineering—Heat and Hydraulic Engineering.
7 Miss C. D. Kanthimathi	B.A. (Hons.), I class, second rank.	Nursery Education.
8 Mr. C. Ganesamurthi	B.A. (Hons.), II class, B.T.	Teacher's Training (cancelled).
9 Mr. H. S. S. Lawrence	B.A. (Hons.), I class, first rank.	Educational Administration with Specialization in various aspects.

Sponsoring Department—Development.

10 Mr. C. Srinivasan	B.Sc. (Hons.), I class, second rank.	Cinematography—Sound Recording.
11 Mr. Y. Sreeramulu	B.Sc., I class, second rank; M.Sc., I class, second rank.	Applied Physics—Electronics (cancelled).
12 Mr. V. S. Ramachandran	B.E. (Mech.), I class	Fertilizers—Chemical Plant Maintenance (cancelled).
13 Mr. M. Devidas Menon	B.Sc. (Hons.), I class, first rank.	Fisheries.
14 Mr. K. Venkateswarlu	B.Sc. (Hons.), II class; M.Sc.; D.Sc.	Geophysics.
15 Mr. C. Venkatesan	B.Sc. (Hons.), I class	Industrial and Applied Chemistry.
16 Mr. D. Venkateswara Rao	B.Sc. (Hons.), I class, second rank; M.Sc., first rank.	Meteorology (cancelled).
17 Mr. Muhammad Ali Khan Ghorl.	B.Sc. (Hons.); B.Sc. (Tech.).	Leather Technology.
18 Mr. D. Venkateswarlu	B.Sc. (Hons.), I class; M.Sc. (Tech.), I class.	Chemical Engineering.

Sponsoring Department—Public Works.

19 Mr. E. C. G. Chandrasekaran	B.E. (Highways), I class with Hons., third rank.	Civil Engineering—Highways—Construction—Low cost roads.
20 Mr. S. H. Mahadevan	B.E. (Highways), I class with Hons., fourth rank.	Civil Engineering—Highways—Bridging.
21 Mr. T. V. Balakrishnan	B.E. (Elec.), I class with Hons.	Electrical Engineering—Switches and accessories.

GOVERNMENT SERVANTS.

Sponsoring Department—Education.

1 Mr. S. M. Krishnan	B.Sc., II class; B.Sc. (Hons.), I class, first rank; B.T.	Forestry.
2 Mr. Jesudasan Walter	B.E. (Civil), second class.	Civil Engineering—Irrigation structures.

Sponsoring Department—Public Works.

3 Mr. O. L. N. Reddy	B.A.; B.Sc. (Mech. and Elec.), II class.	Electrical Engineering—Electric Traction.
4 Mr. M. V. Suryaprakasam		Sanitary Engineering—Sewage treatment and disposal.
5 Mr. S. Sankaralingam	B.E. (Civil), sixth rank.	Civil Engineering—Irrigation.

19th March 1949]

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 254 asked by Sri P. Virabhadraswami at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 19th March 1949, page 555 supra.]

Serial number and name of the district.	Number of basic schools.	Strength.
1 Vizagapatnam North	2	439
2 Vizagapatnam South	2	181
3 West Godavari	4	371
4 East Godavari	1	140
5 Krishna	3	356
6 Guntur South	4	549
7 Kurnool	1	256
8 Bellary	2	152
9 Anantapur	2	158
10 Cuddapah	3	212
11 Chittoor	3	444
12 Madras	1	65
13 Chingleput	1	131
14 South Arcot	13	1,070
15 Tanjore	2	91
16 Tiruchirappalli	1	88
17 Coimbatore	17	2,899
18 Salem	1	62
19 Mathurai	2	180
20 Ramnad	1	105
21 Tirunelveli East	1	86
22 South Malabar	2	121
23 South Kanara	1	20
Total	70	8,171

Details for the recently converted thirteen basic schools.

Serial number and name of the district.	Number of schools.	Strength.
1 Vizagapatnam South	1	Not available.
2 Krishna	1	Do.
3 South Arcot	8	Do.
4 Tanjore	1	Do.
5 Mathurai	1	Do.
6 Tirunelveli	1	Do.

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 257 asked by Sri S. B. Adityan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 19th March 1949; page 559 supra.]

Details of the scheme.

(1)

I. Scheme of the Madras City Co-operative House Construction Society.

The society undertakes the acquisition of house-sites and the construction of dwelling houses for its members with its own share capital and loans obtained from Government. The houses so constructed will be allotted to the members on the hire purchase system. The society purchased by private negotiation about 131 acres in Adyar, opposite to the Theosophical gardens. In addition to this it has applied for the acquisition of an adjoining site of 89 acres in Adyar, 75 acres in Mylapore and 21 acres in Ayanavaram. Three classes of houses are proposed to be constructed by the society according to type-designs. 'A' class houses on a plot of six grounds costing about Rs. 21,000 each, 'B' class houses on a plot of four grounds costing about Rs. 19,000 each and 'C' class houses on a plot of two grounds costing about Rs. 12,000. The society is constructing 'A', 'B' and 'C' class houses in Adyar and intends constructing only 'C' class houses in Ayanavaram.

Present stage.

(2)

Building operations have made much headway in Adyar and about 342 houses of all classes are expected to be completed in about six months. Arrangements are in progress to secure necessary amenities such as water-supply, drainage, lighting and roads. The Corporation has started the drainage works. As regards the other sites acquisition proceedings are almost completed in the case of the lands in Ayanavaram, and are pending in respect of the additional site in Adyar and Mylapore.

II. Schemes of the Madras City Improvement Trust.

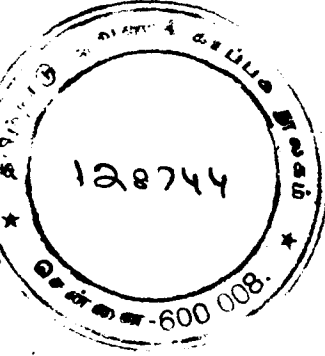
The City Improvement Trust have drawn up the following nine schemes and the stages of these scheme are shown against each:—

- (1) The Cox Cheri Improvement Scheme (a slum clearance and re-housing scheme). The scheme has been sanctioned by Government. Foundation stone has been laid on the 24th February 1949 for one block of 24 dwelling units.

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- (2) The Sylvan Lodge Scheme (a street scheme) provides for 45 sites for middle and lower middle classes. The scheme has been sanctioned by Government.
- (3) The Mansion Improvement Scheme (a street scheme) provides for 42 sites for middle and lower middle classes. Not yet sanctioned by Government.
- (4) The Mandavalli Improvement Scheme (a street scheme) provides for 279 sites for middle and lower middle classes. Views of the Corporation are awaited.
- (5) The San Thomé Beach Improvement Scheme (a slum clearance, re-housing and street scheme) provides for 140 sites for middle and lower middle classes and 388 dwelling units for poorer classes.
- (6) The Karneeswarar Pagoda Area Improvement Scheme (a re-housing and street scheme) provides for 7 sites for middle and lower middle classes and 340 dwelling units for poorer classes.
- (7) Mowbrays Road Area Improvement Scheme (a slum clearance, re-housing and street scheme) provides for 121 sites for middle and lower middle classes and 152 dwelling units for poorer classes.
- (8) The Mambalam (South) Area Improvement Scheme (a slum clearance, re-housing and street scheme) provides for 39 sites for middle and lower middle classes and 1,000 dwelling units for poorer classes.
- (9) Mambalam Tank Bund Improvement Schemes (a slum clearance, re-housing and street scheme) provides for 46 sites for middle and lower middle classes and 192 dwelling units for lower middle classes.
- The schemes have been notified under section 47 of the Madras City Improvement Trust Act and service of notices under section 49 of the Act has been completed.



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