MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

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

Volume XI (Nos. 1-11).

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Saturday, the 13th March 1948.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Police firing at Emmiganur.

* 147 *Q.*—SRI S. NAGAPPA (on behalf of Sri K. Shanmugam): Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that obstruction was caused by the Savarnas while the Harijans of Emmiganur in Bellary district on 21st October 1947 were carrying out Panchakalasam procession and that in that connexion, the Police resorted to firing; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken against the Savarnas?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"(*a*) On 23rd October 1947 the Harijans of Emmiganur took out a procession. The Caste Hindus obstructed it and committed rioting. The Police were compelled to open fire to disperse the rioters.

"(*b*) The Police have filed a charge-sheet against 77 Savarnas of Emmiganur under sections 147, 148, 149, 332 and 323, Indian Penal Code, in the Court of the Additional First-class Magistrate, Bellary."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I wish to know from the Hon. Minister whether the matter is pending before the courts."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Yes, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"As the matter is pending before the court, I will not allow further questions on this. It will be *sub-judice*."

Removal of National Flag.

* 148 *Q.*—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN (on behalf of Sri A. Vedaratnam Pillai): Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the National Flag was removed from the Local Fund Dispensary compound in Enangudi village, Nannilam taluk, Tanjore district, at about 10 p.m. on 29th September 1947; and

(*b*) whether the Police were informed about the miscreants and still no action has been taken in the matter?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"(*a*) Yes.

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, what is the area to which this station will be in a position to supply electricity? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" This station would cover most of the Nellore district, Sir."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, cannot we say that the Government policy is just as the dog in the manger policy? They either do not do it themselves or allow others to do it. Is it a proper policy, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" It is not a question of our not doing things, Sir. We are doing, and so we are not allowing others to take up the work."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" What is the capacity of this station, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" We are installing under this scheme one 33 kilowatt line at Kavali and another 33 kilowatt line sub-station at Kavali, one 66 Kilowatt thermal line to Naidupet and another 66 kilowatt at Gudur. We are arranging to increase the supply of power in Gudur and Nellore. I would like to have notice to answer what would be the ultimate capacity of this scheme."

MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Will the Government, Sir, see that the energy supplied by this station is also made available to the agriculturists in the dry taluks where irrigation is done by wells? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Yes, Sir. That is also the main idea underlying this scheme."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, arising out of the answer that the Government are not going to consider applications from private companies, may I ask, Sir, whether they will at least consider applications from private companies who are prepared to allot 51 per cent of the share to Government? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" No, Sir, Government have no such idea at present."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" May I know, Sir whether the Government are going to have one station or several stations in Nellore? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Government will have one power station at Nellore, Sir."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIAR:—" May I know, Sir, whether this work is undertaken on Capital account or Revenue account? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" It is undertaken on Capital account, Sir."

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SRI V. RAGAVAYYA:—" May I know, Sir, whether the flat rate that obtains throughout the Province would apply here also or will it be charged at a higher rate than in other areas? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I do not see, Sir, why a particularly higher rate should be charged for supply from this station. But I would like to have notice to answer specifically what would be the rate."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" Sir, is there no possibility of a hydro-electric power station in Nellore district or in the neighbourhood? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Not at present, Sir. Perhaps when the Kistna-Pennar project is taken up, there may be a possibility."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government are prepared to supply power at concessional rates to the agriculturists, if they should use it for agricultural purposes only? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Yes, Sir. We have been giving them at concessional rates."

Heavy traffic over the Albert Victor Bridge, Madura.

* 151 *Q.*—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the traffic over the Albert Victor Bridge across the river Vaigai in the City of Madura is getting heavier year by year; and

(*b*) if so, what steps the Government have taken to relieve the congestion of the traffic?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" (*a*) It has been reported that traffic on this bridge is congested and heavy.

" (*b*) The bridge is on National Highway No. 7, i.e., Benares-Cape Comorin Road. The Government of India who are concerned in the matter have got a scheme for the construction of a new bridge at a different site and for the re-alignment of the National Highway over this new bridge. The proposals are separately under consideration."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" May I ask, Sir, when the proposal to construct a new bridge will be finalized? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The matter is under discussion with the Government of India. We do hope to take up the work very soon, Sir."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" May I ask, Sir, whether, in the meantime, the Government will consider the desirability of constructing two side walks on the existing bridge itself? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I shall consider the suggestion of the hon. Member, Sir."

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"(*d*) It is proposed to enact necessary legislation. The Motor Vehicles (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1948, published in an extraordinary issue of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 30th January 1948, provides for validation of oll orders issued by the Provincial Government, the Provincial Road Transport Authority or a Regional Transport Authority on or after 2nd September 1946, directing that no permits should be granted or renewed under the Motor Vehicles Act, except for temporary periods, and of all temporary permits issued in pursuance of such orders."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Before I allow supplementary questions on this, I wish to remind the House we are going to take up this Motor Vehicles Demand to-day."

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU:—"May I know whether the Government are intending to take over the Periyakulam-Kodaikanal route also?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The intention of the Government in the first place is to take over the Madura-Kodaikanal route, via Kodaikanal Road."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTI:—"May I know whether in purchasing the transport vehicles, the Government intend to call for tenders or whether they are going to purchase them in the open market?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I should like to have notice."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Is it true, Sir, that when the Government called for tenders for body building purposes, they imposed a restriction that those who supply chassis should do body building also and on account of this new imposition, only two companies were given facilities of applying for tenders and the Government had no other go but to accept their tenders? The one tender was for Rs. 6,000 by the General Motors and the other was Rs. 8,000 by Messrs. Simpson & Co. The Government finally accepted the Rs. 8,000 tender which is Rs. 2,000 higher than the other. If so, why the Government accepted the higher tender, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member need not say that Rs. 8,000 is higher than Rs. 6,000. Everybody knows the fact."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I should like to have notice."

SRI K. P. KAMAKSHI CHETTIYAR:—"In view of the fact that the transport authorities are saying that they have not received any written instructions from the Hon. the Minister with regard to nationalization of the Madura-Kodaikanal route, will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to issue immediate instructions in view of the repeated promises which he has made on the floor of this House in that regard?"

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THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"No need to issue instructions hereafter because instructions have already been issued. The Nationalization Officer has already visited Madura and Kodaikanal to make arrangements and the arrangements are already on hand."

SRI P. R. KANDASWAMI GOUNDER:—"In view of the answer of the Hon. Minister to clause (c) of the question, may I know whether the Salem-Shevaroi Hills Ghat Road bus service will be taken over by the Government?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"After the completion of the nationalization for the City of Madras which we hope will take place by the end of March, this question will be taken up some time in April."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"In view of the attempt of the Government to nationalize the motor transport services in urban and rural areas, will the Government consider the desirability of having all the roads either tarred or cemented in the interests of public health?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"It is rather a large proposition. I think the question should be properly addressed to the Hon. the Minister for Public Works."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know from the Government, until nationalization is completed in the mufassal, why they should not grant permits to co-operative societies which have been formed by the workers, namely, the drivers and the conductors?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Till the nationalization is completed, if competent bodies of persons on co-operative lines are prepared to take up each bus route, their applications will be favourably considered."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Since the Government have decided to nationalize the transport services completely, will the Government take up the question of abolishing rickshaws in order to complete their scheme of nationalization of transport?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"So far we have taken up the question of nationalization of transport in the Madras City. When the scheme of nationalization becomes complete throughout the whole Province, automatically, rickshaws, I believe, will go out of service throughout the whole Province."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask the Government, Sir, whether out of 160 buses now received, a certain number will be spared for purposes of emergency? I am asking this question because Government buses often break down on the way and passengers are being held up."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Yes, Sir. A certain number of buses will be kept as reserve for meeting emergencies."

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N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, the Hon. Minister mentioned that ten districts have been included in the first year of this programme of nationalization. If so, may I know from the Hon. the Minister whether North Arcot and Tanjore districts are included in the first year programme?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I am afraid, the hon. Gentleman has not followed my earlier answer. The scheme for the mufassal has not yet begun. It is likely to be taken only in April."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Sir, recently Government authorized a workshop to build bodies for motor vehicles. If so, may I ask the Government how much did it cost them for building each body?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Notice, Sir."

SRI ALLURI SATHYANARAYANARAJU:—"Will the Government consider the advisability of lessening the period of five years to two years to complete the process of nationalization, in view of the great demand by the public?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Sir, the Government are faced with conflicting views and interests in this matter. On the one side there is the demand from the public for urgent nationalization. On the other hand, there is the interest of motor-bus private operators to be considered. There is also the practical difficulty of working out an administrative machinery and also obtaining the necessary number of buses and other vehicles for the purpose of putting them on the roads. All these factors have to be taken into consideration and, therefore, the Government have decided upon a policy of nationalizing in a period of five years."

SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"Is it a fact that the District Road Traffic Board is not authorized to give permits to lorries while the Regional Transport Officer is allowed to give temporary permits? If so, what is the purpose of the District Road Traffic Board?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I do not grant the premises of the hon. Member. Under the present rules, the Regional Transport Officer can give temporary permits subject to confirmation by the Road Traffic Board. The general position is that owing to the scarcity of petrol and charcoal permits are not granted for new routes."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know what is the general policy in buying these chassis? Are the Government going to call for tenders or are they going to purchase them in the open market?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS—"Notice, Sir."

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SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Is it true that the Government pay nine to ten lakhs of rupees as commission to the bus vendors of this Province for three hundred buses?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Three hundred buses have not been purchased as yet."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTY:—"May I ask the Government whether any definite instructions have been issued to the Regional Transport Authority in the matter of issue of permits and, if so, are the Government aware of the fact that several such permits have been issued not in conformity with the principles which the Hon. Minister has laid down?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Owing to the recent S.R.V.S. judgment, the Government are not in a position to issue instructions to the Regional Transport Authority before the new Bill becomes law. After the Bill becomes law, instructions will be issued."

SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN:—"Is it not desirable to nationalize all the routes throughout the Madura district so as to avoid competition between the various bus services?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"This is a question which relates not only to the Madura district but all the twenty-four districts in this Province."

SRI P. KAKKAN:—"Is it a fact that the Government are going to nationalize only the monopoly bus lines and not others?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"It is rather too soon to say. The scheme will be framed only in April."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I ask the Government why they do not manufacture these buses themselves and if they cannot, why they are not purchasing the buses direct from the manufacturers instead of through the agents?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I do not think, the buses can be manufactured here; only the vehicles can be manufactured. There are what are called distributors and dealers. The question of purchase depends on the question whether immediately for the purpose on hand, the vehicles are available with the dealer or the distributor. As far as possible, the Government will take steps to purchase the vehicles direct from the distributor and not from the dealer so as to avoid the additional commission."

MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Government arrange to reserve a few seats for women in buses as is being done in trams in Calcutta and also to make an inscription that the seats are reserved for women on the back of those particular seats?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"There is a Tamil proverb which says 'ஆசனமும் கொடுத்து ஆதரிப்பார்.' Similarly, I expect every gentleman to rise up and offer his seat to the lady who is standing."

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SRI PILLALAMRRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Is it a fact that the last tender received for body-building is only Rs. 40,000?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Notice, Sir."

MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask the Government, Sir, that whenever the Government take over the permits from these private operators, will the Government give an assurance that the employees of those bus services will be absorbed in the Government transport?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I can speak for the buses taken now and not for the future. So far as the Madras City is concerned, the Government have undertaken to absorb as many employees of private buses as possible in the Government transport services."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"May I ask the Government whether proper arrangements for workshop are being made before the service in a particular line or area is nationalized?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I take it so."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, what facilities are there for the mufassal bus transport services till the nationalization takes place?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The existing facilities, Sir."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Arising out of the answer that nationalization will be completed in five years, what guarantee is there that the present Government will continue in office for the next five years?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"There is no guarantee that the hon. Member Mr. Salam will be in the next Assembly to put this question again."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"May I ask the Hon. the Speaker whether he is justified in allowing so many supplementary questions now on this subject in view of the fact that we are going to take up the relevant Demand this evening."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have allotted only two hours. I am very much doubtful whether all hon. Members will be able to take part in the debate. That is why I have allowed so many supplementary questions on this."

SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"In view of the fact that the permits cannot be granted by the District Road Traffic Boards and that they are prohibited from granting even temporary permits and that such temporary permits for lorries are now being granted by the Regional Transport Officer is it not desirable to scrap all these District Road Traffic Boards?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The question seems to be very extreme in form."

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Central Co-operative Bank, Chicacole.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member Sri G. Kumaraswami is not in his place. I have a letter authorizing Sri Rajaram Nayudu to put the question." 11-a.1

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Sir, you have been pleased to rule that in such cases a letter of authorization is necessary. May I submit that in view of the respectability of hon. Members weight may be attached to their spoken word? Will it be out of place or will it be too much if I request you, Mr. Speaker, to give as much weight to the spoken word as to the written one?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member, Mr. Raghavayya, knows that I have great respect for hon. Members and I never ask them to produce letters in such cases. Have I ever asked any hon. Member to produce a letter in such cases? I have not. Sometime back, when Mr. P. Venkateswarlu wanted to put a question on behalf of Mr. Anandan Nambiar, one hon. Member asked whether he had got a letter of authorization. I told him that the hon. Member was a gentleman that I did not want to see the letter. I think the hon. Member, Mr. Raghavayya, will remember that."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"On a point of information, Mr. Speaker. Suppose an hon. Member puts a question and afterwards he does not want an answer to it and evades attending the Assembly . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The answer will be printed in the proceedings."

* 154 *Q.*—SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU (on behalf of Sri G. Kumaraswami): Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the Central Co-operative Bank at Chicacole was started and under what conditions;

(*b*) how it has been working all these years and the improvements it has made since its inception; and

(*c*) how it is working at present?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"(*a*) The Chicacole Co-operative Central Bank was started on 31st December 1936, after the bifurcation of the old Ganjam district. With the territorial redistribution of the Ganjam district between the Madras and Orissa Provinces, the need for a separate financing bank to serve the societies in that portion of the Ganjam district which was added to Madras, was felt and the Bank was formed.

"(*b*) & (*c*) A statement[a] showing the financial particulars of the Bank during the last seven years is placed on the table of the House. The progress of the Bank during the first six years of its existence was not appreciable. This was due to

[a] Printed as Appendix on page 83 infra.

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the fact that many of the older societies were moribund and did not borrow from the Central Bank. The position of the Bank as on the 30th June 1947 shows a definite improvement. There is an increase in the paid-up share capital, deposits received and loans issued. The percentage of overdues has also been reduced materially. The reserves of the Bank exceeded the estimated bad and doubtful debts and it worked a net profiit of Rs. 14,000 during 1946-47. In November 1946 the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, in consultation with the Directors of the Bank, prepared a three-year plan for the rehabilitation and expansion of the Bank. The Government have approved the plan and have sanctioned the necessary staff for the purpose."

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU:—"Sir, according to the statement placed on the table of the House, can it be taken for granted that there is marked improvement in the Central Bank, Chicacole?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"I think so, Sir."

Death of a baby bitten by a dog at Tiruvannamalai Hospital.

* 155 *Q.*—SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO (on behalf of Sri N. Annamalai Pillai): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the fact that a newborn baby was bitten by a dog and done to death in the Government Hospital, Maternity ward, at Tiruvannamalai in 1946;

(*b*) whether the previous Health Minister, Mrs. Rukmani Lakshmipathy personally enquired into the matter; and

(*c*) if so, what action was taken by the Government?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"(*a*) A newborn fœtus was taken away by a stray dog in the Government Hospital, Tiruvannamalai.

"(*b*) & (*c*) It does not appear that the previous Health Minister had personally enquired into the matter. The Government have investigated into the matter and necessary action has been taken by the Surgeon-General against the staff concerned."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, may I know what serious steps have the Government taken to take into custody Mr. Annamalai Pillai's mad dog and to have proper control for the further prevention of such crimes?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not Mr. Annamalai Pillai's dog." (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"It was not a live child that was born. It was a dead and decomposed fœtus. The

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midwife who was on probation has had her probation terminated. The thoti has been fined. The lady doctor who was there has been transferred and further explanation has been called for from her."

Malaria in Pattikonda taluk.

* 156 *Q.*—SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI (on behalf of Sri N. Venkatasubbayya): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representations have been received by the Government in December 1947, regarding the prevalence of malaria in an acute and endemic form in certain villages of Pattikonda taluk, and, if so, from whom were the representations received;

(*b*) what are the villages affected and what is the gist of the representations; and

(*c*) what action the Government have taken thereon to prevent malaria and rehabilitate rural life there?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"(*a*) Yes. A copy of the petition addressed to the District Health Officer, Kurnool, by the Secretary, Town Congress Committee and some other people of Pattikonda taluk and a copy of another representation from Sri N. Venkatasubbayya, B.A., M.L.A., Nandyal, have been received by Government.

"(*b*) The villages affected are—

(1) Chennampallee,
(2) Vemugode,
(3) Kappatralla,
(4) Mandagiri,
(5) Biluppala,
(6) Banavanur,
(7) B. Agraharam and
(8) Chinnahunti.

"The gist of the representations is that malaria is prevalent in certain villages of Pattikonda taluk, that there is no medical aid in the villages, that there is depopulation in the villages, that agricultural operations and food production are affected adversely and that quinine may be supplied and two more hospitals installed.

"(*c*) Sufficient quantity of quinine has been supplied to the Health Inspector, Pattikonda, for distribution in the affected villages. Other agents have also been supplied with quinine for free distribution to patients. The question of providing additional hospital facilities for the people in the taluk is under consideration of the Surgeon-General."

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know whether the Government are considering the desirability of enhancing the quota of quinine especially to Kurnool district in view of the highly malarial nature of the place? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Whatever quantity the District Health Officer indents for, is supplied."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Sir, have there not been numerous complaints from the Members of the Legislature and the public that the quantity of quinine supplied especially to the Pattikonda and Dhone taluks is not adequate? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" I shall enquire into the matter, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Sir, will the Government issue orders to the Health Officers concerned to see that these taluks which are highly malarial are given preference over other taluks? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" I have already said that whatever quantity is required is being supplied. There is no dearth of quinine, quinine products and quinine substitutes."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTI:—" Apart from the curative measures taken for the purpose, may I know what preventive measures are being taken by the Government in that area, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The Director of Public Health has submitted a comprehensive scheme of anti-malarial work for the district, but the district board is not in a position to bear its share of the cost and the scheme has been deferred."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—" In view of the fact that malaria is prevalent in these taluks, will the Government consider the necessity of doing preventive work in those taluks, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Anti-malarial schemes are at work in twenty places and several more schemes are awaiting the sanction of the Government. The question of introducing anti-malarial operations in Kurnool district has been deferred."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know whether the Government have any proposals for tackling malaria on the lines laid down in the Bhore Committee Report? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Anti-malarial work carried on at present has been found very successful. It is being extended."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, since more people are dying of malaria than by drink, would it not be better if the Government spent more money on anti-malarial operations instead of losing money on prohibition? "

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MR. SPEAKER:—" The opinion of the Government is necessary for this."

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" It is not a matter for me to express an opinion at present."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" In view of the fact that Kurnool District Board is not able to take up the scheme, will the Government themselves take up the anti-malarial scheme in the interests of the people of these taluks and save them from further trouble? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The Government are not in a position to undertake the full liability for anti-malarial operations in all places where it is required. Wherever the district board is in a position to bear part of the expenditure, the Government undertake the schemes."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister, if this particular district board is not able to contribute its share, does he propose to keep this matter in abeyance? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" In certain places, the entire expenditure is being met from provincial funds. This question will be further examined."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I know, simply because the district board concerned is not in a position to finance anti-malarial operations, the people are to be allowed to die of malaria? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Malaria is prevalent all over the Province, in every district. Anti-malarial operations can be extended only gradually. We cannot all at once undertake anti-malarial operations all over the Province."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, whether it is not the duty of the Government to reduce mortality as much as possible by eradicating malaria and whether it is necessary that the people or the district board should finance anti-malarial operations? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Yes, Sir, it is the duty of the Government. That is why they are having anti-malarial operations in so many places."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister for Local Administration why this district board is not in a position to spend money on anti-malarial operations? "

(No answer.)

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" If the district board is not in a position to find the money and if the Government also are not prepared to take up the work, may I ask who would take care of these people in this matter? "

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SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" Sir, I see a number of hon. Members of the Muslim League sitting on the Independent Benches. May I know if you, Sir, have been intimated of any change of seats and whether it is a permanent or a temporary phase? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Nine hon. Members of the Muslim League have written to me that they might be allotted separate seats. They handed over a letter to me yesterday at 5 p.m. I want to consider the question. To-morrow is Sunday. On Monday I shall, I hope, be able to allot them separate seats."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I wish to raise the question, Sir, whether the Hon. President of the Upper House can follow his own procedure, when you follow another procedure. Should there not be uniform procedure in both the Houses which are housed under the same roof? I wish to raise this question."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member has apologised. It is not now open to him to refer to this matter again. As far as I am concerned, I am following the House of Commons' procedure. The matter is closed now. I have nothing to add with regard to the procedure."

III.—VOTING ON DEMAND FOR GRANTS—*cont.*

DEMAND II—PROVINCIAL EXCISE.

* THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

' that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 59,57,000 under Demand II—Provincial Excise'.

In moving this Demand, I wish to point out that I believe that this is the last occasion on which any Demand on Provincial Excise will be moved. We hope that in the budget for 1948-49 there will be no item under Provincial Excise. For the last 27 or 28 years ever since the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms were implemented, various attempts at reforms have been made under Provincial Excise. The time has now come when we have to take the final step in abolishing the drink evil throughout the length and breadth of the Province. From October 1948 there will be no such Department as the Excise Department anywhere in the Province. The Policy of Prohibition so far as the Government of Madras is concerned, has been fairly well established. In the budget speech of the Hon. Finance Minister and during the course of the general discussion on the budget, it was prominently mentioned from all sides of the House that the policy of total Prohibition will be implemented from October 1948. I believe there is no need on my part to go into the merits and the soundness of Prohibition as a general policy. I believe it is acknowledged on all hands even by hon. Members like Mr. Natesan, and there can

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be no question, that the policy of Prohibition followed by this Government is a beneficial policy for large masses of people of our Province . . . "

SRI P. NATESAN:—" I agree with the Hon. Minister."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" I am glad that my hon. Friend agrees with me on this point though not always. I shall presently come to certain points on which he may not agree. The question has been raised that the Government have been deriving a sum of Rs. 17 crores from Excise Revenue and they should not give up this revenue in view of increasing demands for various nation-building activities in our Province. There have been urgent and insistent demands which have been put forward for improvement of public health, the economic conditions of the people of education and various schemes of nation-building activities in our Province. Just this morning questions were asked regarding Public Health and spread of malaria. Very large funds are required for combating the incidence and evil of malaria in our province. It is stated that only a small provision has been made for various ameliorative activities in our province. Therefore the question has been raised, by some hon. Members, as to the soundness of the policy of the Madras Government in implementing total Prohibition when as a matter of fact money is required for various beneficial schemes in the province. It is an established principle that the end cannot justify the means. In an article which was written by Mahatma Gandhi in the *Harijan* about October last year, he definitely pointed out that the income derived from the drink evil is a tainted source of revenue. No system of education nor any improvement of the nation-building activities should be allowed to draw financial resources from this source of revenue. I submit that this position stands vindicated to-day. Because money is required for various purposes, it is no reason why we should perpetuate the misery of millions of the poor sections of our population. As a matter of policy and as a matter of principle there is no question that the income from drink is tainted revenue and that we should find out other sources of revenue for carrying out the nation-building activities of not only this Government but also of the entire people of our province. I therefore submit that the soundness and the necessity of the scheme for total Prohibition has been well established and acknowledged by all reasonable persons. Some persons still adhere to the old view. We should march forward with our policy of Prohibition throughout the length and breadth of not only our Province but also of our whole country. I am happy to see that Madras has given a lead to the whole country. Every day I see from the papers that various other provinces are endeavouring to follow our example. Schemes to implement Prohibition in various parts of our country have been put forward by Mysore, Bombay and other provinces. Therefore in about 10 years throughout the length and breadth of our vast continent, there will be no drink, opium or ganja shop from the Himalayas to the Cape Comorin. But let us not look too much ahead. As the Government of Madras are

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wedded to the policy of Prohibition we are making arrangements to implement, the policy fully from 2nd October 1948, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, in whose life, the advancement of the people of this country, and the abolition of the drink evil held a prominent and foremost place. I do not deny and I do not wish to belittle the gigantic difficulties in implementing the policy of Prohibition.

" The policy of Prohibition has got two aspects, one the negative aspect of implementing and enforcing Prohibition and the other, the positive aspect of amelioration of the drink addicts among the lower classes of people in our province. So far as the question of enforcement is concerned, an Act has been passed prohibiting the manufacture, possession and drinking of liquor. But the Government cannot rest with the passing of laws. They have to see that the officials enforce the law of Prohibition and stop the manufacture, or possession or drinking of toddy by any section of our people . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I find that there is much talking in the House. I am not able to follow what the Hon. Minister says."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" Apparently hon. Members have taken it for granted that Prohibition is a settled policy and that nothing can stop it. I therefore think that I need not elaborate my points. So far as the question of enforcement is concerned, I want to say that we want universal co-operation on a wide scale from all classes and sections of the people of our Province, in order to make enforcement an unqualified success.

" Then as regards ameliorative activities, here again there are various schemes which have been attempted and carried out by the Government of Madras. In the first place, as far as the drink addicts are concerned, we are providing them with alternative attractions, by way of social and recreational facilities, so as to draw the men away from the drinking habit and enable them to take interest in beneficial recreations. Apart from these social and recreational facilities, we are endeavouring to promote thrift among these people from whom we have been getting Rs. 16 or Rs. 17 crores. They are about 5 millions of people and they are from the poorest sections. If we can help these people to save Rs. 17 crores, there is no question of the necessity of proving the soundness of thrift scheme. We are trying to promote thrift by supplying hundi boxes to enable them to have some sort of reserves with them.

" There is another line of activity that has been pursued by the ameliorative side of the Government departments in the matter of Prohibition and that is the question of finding alternative employment for toddy-tappers. On account of the introduction of Prohibition, about 80,000 tappers have been thrown out of employment. In the year 1947 when Prohibition was introduced in the districts of South Kanara and Malabar, nearly 31,000 tappers were thrown out of employment. In the districts of North Arcot,

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Chittoor, Salem and Coimbatore co-operative societies for the manufacture of palm jaggery have been started and large sums of money have been realised by the sale and purchase of jaggery through these co-operative societies. Tappers have found employment as members of these co-operative societies. By drawing palmyra juice and manufacturing jaggery from it they are able to get equivalent value on a very satisfactory basis. This method provided employment for the ex-tappers in the districts referred to by me just now. So far as Malabar and South Kanara are concerned, there are a large number of coconut trees. Societies have been started in selected places to see whether jaggery can be manufactured. This programme has been started and carried on as an experimental measure. A lot of coconut juice was used for intoxication purposes. The experiment of producing jaggery is being tried under very careful conditions. I am glad to say that I have received reports from South Kanara and Malabar that the scheme is woking successfully and that it can be extended to other parts of the districts. It will provide employment for ex-tappers.

" I would submit, Sir, that both on the positive and negative side of Prohibition various things are being carried out and if a substantial amount of success is to be attained I look to the increased co-operation of this House and from the public at large for many years to come for carrying out the policy of Prohibition when alone we can hope to achieve complete success throughout the length and breadth of this Province and which will stand to the lasting benefit and happiness of the people. 12 noon.

" I therefore move that this grant be made."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—*that under Demand II—Excise the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rupees* 59,57,000.

" I am going to allow two hours for the discussion of this Demand. So, I shall call the Hon. Minister at 2-30 p.m. to reply."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" I move—

' that the sum of Rs. 59,57,000 *under Demand II—Excise be reduced by Rs.* 100 '.

" Sir, it may seem paradoxical that I have to move a cut motion with reference to a subject in regard to which I am in agreement with the Government, but this is the Parliamentary procedure for members of the opposition to make suggestions. At the outset I should like to congratulate the Government on their decision to extend Prohibition to eight more districts, in other words to make the entire province dry on the 2nd October, that is, on the anniversary of the birth of the greatest social reformer in modern times, the late lamented Martyr, Mahatma Gandhi. There are some who are opposed to the policy of Prohibition on the ground that the Government are losing a portion of their revenue on this account. But, Sir, the anti-prohibitionists fail to realise that a people's Government cannot adhere to the bureaucratic policy of old, namely, to fleece the

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poor in order to fill the Exchequer. The opponents of Prohibition should remember that it is contrary to all canons of justice and morality to derive revenue at the expense of the vices of the poor. The anti-Prohibitionists desire that, from 10 or 15 per cent of the population who are addicted to drink, consisting mainly of the poor, the Government should derive 35 per cent of their revenues. But I ask ' is it just, is it moral, is it fair, is it reasonable on the part of the Government to fleece the poor in this manner ' in order to augment their finances? That is the main point that has to be borne in mind by my hon. Friend Mr. Natesan, who is an ardent supporter of the cause of drink . . . "

SRI P. NATESAN:—" I protest against that statement. I do not support drink as such, but I am against prohibition."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Then I shall put it the other way and say who is an anti-Prohibitionist. He has been proclaiming that Government are in need of revenue. I wish to ask him to view this question not from the point of view of the rich but from that of the poor (Interruption). Mr. Speaker, that if I am disturbed in this manner by interruptions, I will have to demand from you two or three minutes more for my speech.

" My point, Sir, is that the Government require money for the benefit of the poor. Of what avail would excise revenue be to the Government if the poor in the land were to be rendered thereby ill-clad, ill-fed, prone to commit crimes and their social and domestic life married by quarrels and unhappiness. That is the point that should be borne in mind by those who oppose the policy of prohibition. The prime concern of a people's Government is the well-bring of the people, hence it is that the Government have wisely launched upon the policy of Prohibition. It is in order to raise the standard of living for the common man, that prohibition is being pursued with such vigour.

" The Government should devise ways and means of getting their revenue not from the poor but from the rich. The poor have to be exempted from the excise revenue whether drink is deemed good or otherwise, and the Government have to forego this revenue in any case. If drink is deemed not to be an evil then the Government should withdraw their tax on liquor and make the same available to the poor at a cheap rate. Why should the poor be made to pay Rs. 3 for a bottle of arrack costing 8 annas? But if drink is an evil prohibition should be enforced. Thus in any case the Government have to forego the excise revenue. This is not a bureaucratic Government that could afford to neglect the well being of masses. This is a people's Government ' that is answerable to the masses for its acts '.

" Another argument that is usually put forward by my hon. Friend Mr. P. Natesan, and which I had heard him repeat *ad nauseum* is that the poor are starving and that the 17 crores of rupees lost as a result of prohibition could have been utilised to procure food for them and for nation-building activities. Sir, I

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submit that the very reason why prohibition has been introduced is to save the poor from starvation in these days of inflation, for it is not merely the shortage of stocks that leads to the starvation of the poor but also high prices. Prohibition helps the poor to save the money which would have been wasted on drink and thus enables them to pay the current high prices. The amount saved for the people as a result of the introduction of prohibition is not Rs. 17 crores but 70 crores. Rs. 17 crores represent merely the excise revenue lost by the Government, but the actual money spent by the people of this Province in drink is Rs. 70 crores, which is now saved for them and which is a great boon to them in these days of inflation. Had it not been for the introduction of prohibition the plight of the poor would have been worse to-day. Another argument against prohibition is that it curtails the liberties of the people. But it must be remembered that it is fundamentally a wrong notion to imagine that liberty is ' tantamount ' to freedom to indulge in vices. The true conception of freedom is freedom to act in such a manner as would tend to the good of the individual and the community at large. Freedom to drink, on the other hand, is injurious both to the individual and society. Hence, the Government are perfectly justified in restricting the freedom of the individual in regard to this matter.

" Sir, though I am in entire agreement in regard to the prohibition policy of the Government I wish to advert to certain drawbacks in the administration of the department which is entrusted with the enforcement of the scheme. There are rumours that illicit distillation is rampant in the Province. Some have even proclaimed that illicit distillation has become a profitable cottage industry. Hence it is necessary that the Government should take urgent steps to put down illicit manufacture of toddy and arrack with a strong hand. The Government should enact some suitable legislation in regard to this matter so as to enable the authorities to give deterrent punishments to those who violate the law. I understand that only Second-class Magistrates are now trying prohibition cases but they are not empowered to impose heavier punishment than six months' imprisonment. I, therefore suggest that either Second-class Magistrates should be empowered to impose heavier punishments with reference to prohibition cases or some First-class Magistrates be appointed to deal with the problem. Unless deterrent punishment is given to the law-breakers, illicit distillation cannot be stopped. Further, Sir, every village headman should be made responsible for reporting cases of illicit manufacture of liquor in the villages just as he reports cases of murder, rioting and other cognizable offences. It must also be remembered that prohibition cannot be a success unless adequate staff is provided for the purpose. There have been complaints that the staff is inadequate and that they do not have sufficient facilities for tackling with the problems. Particularly the Excise staff are suffering from many handicaps. I therefore, request the Hon. Minister to see that sufficient staff is appointed for this purpose. The Government should further associate with the

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staff a band of enthusiastic and educated young men imbued with earnestness and zeal who would undertake the work in a missionary spirit.

12-15 p.m. "I also request the Hon. Minister to see that those who are engaged in prohibition work are absolute teetotallers. Unless the persons who try to enforce prohibition set a good example themselves by refraining from drink, the evil cannot be eradicated.

"Another matter to which I wish to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister is the issue of permits. I wish and urge that the Government should exercise stringent care with reference to the issue of permits so that there may be no cause for grievance and abuse in this matter. It should also be remembered that if a large number of permits are issued that would be nullifying the very purpose of prohibition.

"I was glad to learn that the Hon. Minister is taking steps to provide the toddy tappers with employment. I understand that there is an employment bureau in this Province for providing employment for ex-service men, I urge that this bureau may be entrusted also with the task of finding employment for the toddy tappers.

"I hope the Hon. Minister will bear these points in mind and do the needful so that prohibition may be a success. With the enthusiasm that the Hon. Minister has displayed for the cause, prohibition has a hopeful future despite the jeremiads of anti-prohibitionists."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"Mr. Speaker, I support the cut motion moved by the hon. Lady Member, Begum Amiruddin. Within six months, Madras will have the distinction of first having introduced total prohibition throughout the Province and that is with effect from the 2nd October which would be the birthday of late lamented Mahatma Gandhi and the Government have done very well in fixing up that date. I am also glad we have set up a record in the matter. It is a matter which does not concern any political party or community and it is a matter in which all of us are interested equally with the Government—for the Government is as much ours as it is for members sitting on the other side. It should be said to the credit of the Government that they are prepared to lose an income of 17 to 18 crores of rupees and commit themselves to another crore of expenditure for enforcing it; the Government have taken a big step at a big cost to the exchequer. That shows how much Government is interested in prohibition and it is too late in the day for doubting Thomases and confirmed critics like my hon. Friend Mr. Natesan to rise up and say that prohibition is bad and it should not have been introduced. Such arguments we have been hearing for the last 20 years and I am sure not one Natesan but a hundred thousand Natesans cannot change the attitude of the Government. The Muslim League supports the principle, because they feel that it would do good to the people and it is naturally our duty to support the Government. I can even challenge the Hon. Minister to say whether he has introduced prohibition simply because the

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Muslim League wanted it. They are a party comprising 29 and their voice is not at all going to influence the decision of the Government. That is a good thing and in that we the Muslims cannot but support them but all the same we are not the Government and the Government have the support of a majority of the people who are Hindus. We also take them as our Government and we have to support them. Of course, in many of the Islamic countries, there is no prohibition; but simply because they are doing something wrong, it does not mean that the people of this province should follow them. It cannot be gainsaid that as it is a very good thing, and we support them and not solely on the ground that it conforms to Islamic ideals of society. I have to say in this connection that anything we say is misunderstood. If I rise up and say that there is only one God, sure as anything Mr. Natesan will call it a sign of communalism and he will say: 'That wretched Muslim says there is only one God; why do you also say there is only one God; therefore, let me say that there are two Gods'. That is the sort of argument that is used against us. In West Bengal, a demand was made that Prohibition should be introduced and in reply the Finance Minister said that could not be done for two reasons; (1) the financial resources of the province and (2) the public opinion is not yet ready for complete prohibition. He was perfectly right. In the same way because the public wants it, the Government have the daring and the courage to forego the income from Excise. It is not because of us that it has been introduced.

"There has been a reference in the House regarding illicit distillation. It is there and nobody can deny it. I appreciate the difficulties of Government. There are so many people who break the rules and it is not so easy to deal with them. I was present at Chittoor when the Prohibition Committee—whose Chairman is Mr. Nachiappa Gounder—visited the district. A number of people said that illicit distillation was very rampant there in certain areas. I am sure after studying the report of that Committee, Government will see how to carry out Prohibition successfully.

"When once you introduce Prohibition, people who are already in the trade are affected. A memorandum was received a day or two ago by members of the Legislature setting out the difficulties of toddy tappers and of other people in the trade. I concede that it will not be possible for Government to provide for all these people; it is impossible particularly at a time when unemployment is rampant. It was said at the beginning there were some schemes so as to divert the people to other employments. Government will do well to extend them a helping hand to find out other alternative employment, if not for the whole, at any rate for a number of them. With these words, I support the cut motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is that the allotment of Rs. 59,57,000 under 'Demand II—Excise' be reduced by rupees 100."

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* SRI P. NATESAN:—" Mr. Speaker, I did not intend to take part in the debate but the unfortunate reference of the hon. Members on the Muslim League side has provoked me to say a few words. It was not as if I was at any time against Prohibition; I have been asking Government: ' Can you afford to lose revenue to the tune of 18 crores at a time when you have the greatest need for it? You had better go slow because times are bad.' Every time they talk about Prohibition they cannot but invoke the name of Mahatma Gandhi. Do you need such a great personality to tell us that we must introduce Prohibition? Have we not seen propaganda all these years being carried on temperance to see that the drink habit does not go beyond a certain stage? They have been saying that Prohibition is being introduced after all for the sake of the poor but I ask: ' What is it that they have been doing for the sake of the poor? ' I have been always complaining about food shortage, shortage of housing accommodation, and insanitary dwellings. Instead of finding money for such things, in their anxiety to introduce Prohibition, the Government want to reduce the number of beds in the hospitals. The Government are allowing large number of people to live in very unhealthy localities, with meagre food, and with not enough medical facilities. Is this ' uplift ' of the masses? Congress-minded gentlemen are going about crying that they are for the poor. In the Corporation when the house-tax was about to be increased, the rich people come and say, ' You must not increase the tax. It will affect the poor.' What is the poorman's dwelling. It is a house with an assessment of probably five rupees per half-year, whereas the rich man has got houses with an assessment of five hundred rupees per half-year. In the name of the poor, the rich man is always playing the game. If I had said this in the name of the poor, they will say, Mr. Natesan has got something up his sleeves, it is not for the poor he is speaking—as if they are the only men who could talk about the poor.

" Sir, regarding the substitute for toddy, they say, ' We will give them some beverage, coffee or tea or buttermilk.' I do not know what they are going to give. The cost of buttermilk is very high. The price of coffee has gone high. What would happen? These poor people will get something called coffee. There may be some chicory powder and a little bit of coffee powder with plenty of jaggery. I say, let there be some method in all these madness.

" So much is made about the co-operation of the people. Let me tell you honestly that I am conscientiously of the opinion that these gentlemen simply play with the poor people. Some Member of the Assembly goes to some prohibition village and there he gets half a dozen Congressmen about him and a crowd is collected. They question some women and one of them probably says, ' My husband got rid of toddy-drinking habit. We are very happy.' I have always been saying, we must go slow with Prohibition. Simply because I say that, hon. Members seem to think that I am a dead drunkard and I do not want people to have the benefit of Prohibition. It is very unfair to me. Sir,

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how does it happen that we get so much money out of poor people? It is because of the Government's action in getting a big revenue by way of auctioning these toddy shops. What does the auction of toddy shops imply? It implies getting the highest price for running toddy shops. If, instead of hundred rupees for a particular shop, the auction amount goes to ten thousand rupees, to that extent the price to the poor toddy drinkers goes up. The Government have to be blamed. On the one hand the Government say ' You are getting money from the poor.' On the other hand Government themselves put up prices by way of auctioning the shops. Somebody has got to find money to contribute to the Government and it comes from the masses. The Government have been responsible to make more money out of it by enhancing the auction amounts of toddy shops and putting up the price to the small consumers. The Hon. Minister has told us that this will be the last occasion when he will come forward with this Demand. More and more advice comes from Congressmen, that illicit distillation is going on and that it must be stopped. We are losing seventeen crores from this excise revenue and are committed to an extent of one crore for enforcing Prohibition. Why is illicit distillation so rampant? It is, because, there are a large section of the people who want to drink somehow or other.

" Sir, the Hon. Minister is very eloquent when he speaks of Prohibition. He has been here for several years. He is committed to the Prohibition programme. He is an advocate and he can make out a case. I am not an advocate and I cannot make out a case against Prohibition as effectively as he does. (Interruption.) Let me give my version of the whole thing. I am not worried about the Hon. Minister but I ask whether this is going to be the last and he would not come with further Excise demands hereafter. Sir, let me remind you that this is what happened ten years ago. There was a Congress Ministry then; it introduced Prohibition; that Ministry went out of office; Prohibition policy was abandoned and who knows, this Ministry may go out and another non-Congress Ministry may come in. Government have increased the sales tax; they have increased the entertainments tax; they want to abolish betting at horse races; they want to abolish everything; and they want to look after the morals of the people. (Laughter.) 12.30 p.m.

" Then, Sir, with regard to the permit system, adverted to by Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin. The hon. Lady Member wanted great care to be observed in issuing permits. Now, what is the idea in giving permits to certain persons? If you want people not to drink, scrap the permit system altogether. The Minister may say that permits will be issued only on the production of medical certificate. I can produce half a dozen certificates. (Laughter.) Finally, Sir, let me say this: the Congress have been saying they are doing this thing and that thing in the name of the poor. Really the people are at present suffering from a sense frustration, and they are most disappointed with the present Government."

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* SRI K. A. NACHIAPPA GOUNDER:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to congratulate Government on the announcement that they will adopt total Prohibition from 2nd October 1948 in the whole Province. It is a good thing that the date synchronizes with the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, from which date our Province will actually go dry. The Prohibition Inquiry Committee made a detailed study of the question recently and I am in a position to say authoritatively what the public feel about it. My hon. Friend Mr. P. Natesan, who has been waxing eloquent so far, has been saying that Prohibition is not done in the interests of the poor. But I may tell him straightaway that the entire public except perhaps the addicts, are greatly in favour of the scheme. It was said that illicit distillation was rampant. No doubt it is going on widely in a number of districts. But I should say that in spite of that, it does not provide drink to any appreciable number of people. It is only a very few that are continuing this habit of taking illicit arrack that is available. After the introduction of Prohibition, I may say, drinking of toddy has absolutely stopped. Only drinking of illicit arrack is going on; and that is due to want of proper enforcement of the scheme by the authorities concerned. Government have got a separate staff for the enforcement of the Prohibition Act. Our inquiry shows that such a staff has not contributed to the efficiency in carrying out the provisions of the Act. They have not got much of powers to tackle the various problems. The department, attached to the Police department in some districts and in some districts they are functioning as a Prohibition Department under a separate Prohibition Officer and they are tackling only Prohibition crimes. People do not have much of confidence in them, and in cases where informants are not sufficiently protected this separate department is not able to exert their influence to prevent the committing of crimes. They will only able to detect cases in due course. Their policy of making detection in this way only creates an impression in the minds of the people that cases are increasing day by day and it gives room for a doubt, that Prohibition is not successful. But if this work is given to the Police Department, I am sure, their control would be efficient, and they will be able to prevent these offences very effectively. Even if any illicit distillation goes on they have better facilities to know the miscreants, and they will be in a position to stop it immediately. That is why, we, the Committee, have made strong recommendations that the enforcement must be taken over by the Police Department. All this need not be taken by the Superintendent of Police himself, as it obtains at present in some districts. What we want is it must be taken up by a separate force under him. But it may be said they have enough work, and so the suggestion may not work efficiently; for that, we have recommended in our report that the number of Police stations and the staff may be increased and each area may be made compact to deal with the problem effectively. Only then there will be proper control, and unless there is such control there is no good of going ahead with the programme of complete Prohibition.

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" With regard to permits, some remarks were made. Though my hon. Friend Mr. P. Natesan had made unwholesome criticism about Prohibition programme, I think, he was thinking in the right direction, when he said, that the permit system should be put an end to. In fact, it is a good suggestion. In all places where we went, we heard complaints from people declaring, ' when you issue permits to the middle and richer classes of people to drink, why not you extend the system to us also? ' So, if we give permits, at this rate, every drunkard will go on continuing to drink, and to enable permit holders to get their drink, we shall have to establish some shops here and there, and in that way Prohibition may not work successfully. So, we think, as a general policy, permits should not be given. Even on medical grounds Government must make it a point that no one else except persons not below the rank of a Civil Surgeon's cadre and that too unless he is thoroughly satisfied with the necessity for the permit, should not recommend the issue of a permit. And also, Sir, I must state that in five years' time, the permit system should go. Even in the matter of European population, if they are domiciles, they should be able to conform to our habits; but in the case of foreign envoys and consuls some consession may be shown.

" Then, Sir, we have made recommendations for the amendment of the Act in various ways, which, the people themselves want. They have subscribed to the introduction of collective fines, punitive Police and even detention of offenders."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member has got one minute more."

SRI K. A. NACHIAPPA GOUNDER:—" I want a few minutes more, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Yes, the hon. Member can have it."

SRI K. A. NACHIAPPA GOUNDER:—" Thank you, Sir; I was saying, people were in favour of even detention of offenders without trial. They volunteered these suggestions; they nave been rather enthusiastic and they even suggested death sentences for grave crimes of illicit distillation. That shows the mood and enthusiasm of the people. We have made several recommendations in this matter and I hope Government will carry them out.

" Then, Sir, officers who are enforcing the Act should be free from drink. In many places the complaint was that the officers themselves drink and encourage people to drink. That sort of thing should be stopped. Government officers themselves, whoever they may be, should set an example for the people to follow, and unless they are free from such complaints it will not be possible for them to enforce the scheme sincerely.

" With regard to the amelioration side I want to say a few words. I do not agree with the view that no amelioration is necessary. The public feel that the amelioration now carried on is a mere waste. I say the method in which it is now carried on makes them feel so. The recreation activities are good in their own way. They engage the people in physical activities in their

[Sri K. A. Nachiappa Gounder] [13th March 1948

usual hour of drink, and this helps them to have a robust constitution, which ultimately may help them to find a place in the national army. But people have been asking, 'why have a separate department for this amelioration, and why spend a lot of money?' So we have recommended the panchayats may be entrusted with this work under the control of the existing Assistant Panchayat officers and District Panchayat officers and putting them all under the Collector of the district.

"With regard to co-operative societies they may take the amelioration work, for it will be possible for them to do it without any additional cost to Government. After all only a small sum may be required for management. In that way it will be possible to carry out the amelioration programme.

"Sir, I have much to say on the subject; but I am sorry I have no time. I hope Government will print the report early. I wanted the report to be printed and circulated among the members of the House before this Demand comes up here, so that hon. Members may be in a position to speak about it. But somehow it has not been possible to do it. I request Government to print the report as early as possible and circulate it among the members of the House at least before this Assembly adjourns."

2-45 p.m. K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to further support the cut motion moved by the hon. Lady Member on behalf of the Muslim League Party. In doing so, I submit that it is too late in the day to criticize the introduction of Prohibition on the ground of loss of revenue. If the loss of revenue to the tune of a few crores is an argument against Prohibition, the crores of rupees spent on the maintenance of law and order may also be considered as unnecessary as they might otherwise be utilized for public welfare purposes. The people who are so very solicitous about the miserable condition in which the poor are living, always forget that there is increase of crime and poverty due to the prevalence of drink. In fact, Prohibition helps not only the poor but also the rich. If one evening a man goes to a hotel like Connemara to which a bar is attached, he will find even the so-called respectable people behaving worse than beasts. I had the unfortunate experience of visiting one such hotel to meet a friend of mine. He was quite unconscious and was not in a position to carry on conversation with me. That is why I said that Prohibition helps not only the poor but also the rich.

"I wish to bring to the notice of the Government that in Prohibition, enforcement has to be more cared for than introduction. In this connexion several useful suggestions were made by the hon. Members and I hope the Government will put them into practice without any avoidable delay.

"One other point which I wish to emphasize is with reference to the issue of permits. Issue of permits defeats the purpose of Prohibition to a very great extent. Persons who are not suffering from any disease but are addicted to drink may easily produce medical certificates and get permits and thus evade Prohibition

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which has been introduced for the benefit of all. As was suggested by the hon Member, Mr. Natesan, issue of permits should be altogether stopped or curtailed as for as possible.

"I wish to bring to the notice of the Government a lacuna in the Prohibition Act. When we had occasion to discuss this subject on previous occasions, I have pointed out this lacuna. According to the existing law, a person, who drinks in a Native State and returns to the Indian territory, is liable for prosecution only if he is in a drunken state. There is no point in making a distinction between drinking and being in a drunken state. If the offence is committed by an Indian, whether it is committed in the Indian territory or in a Native State or a Foreign Possession, he must be made liable for prosecution. Under the Sarda Act and certain other social legislation, action can be taken in the Indian territory if the offence is committed by an Indian even in a foreign territory. I respectfully request the Government to bring an amending Act at an early date to rectify this lacuna.

"The theory of moderate drinking and the existence of temperance associations are exploded theories which need not be taken notice of at this distance of time. Temperance associations have not been really useful and drinking has been going on in spite of their activities.

"As has been suggested by an hon. Member on the opposite side, the Government should entrust the enforcement of Prohibition in all the districts to the police as early as possible and see that those in charge of enforcement are themselves teetotallers. The officers who enforce must themselves be pure before they can be called upon to enforce purity on others.

"Enlisting of non-official co-operation should be seriously taken up by the Government. The co-operation of non-official agencies may be sought. The co-operation of the press in the land may be requisitioned for doing propaganda and making Prohibition a success. Effective speakers in the non-official ranks may be invited to deliver public lectures on the benefits of Prohibition. Leaflets and other literature on the benefits of Prohibition may be printed and circulated. In these and other ways, official agency can seek the co-operation of non-officials. With these words, I support the cut motion."

* SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to say a few words on this very important Demand. It is our pride that Prohibition is going to be introduced throughout the Province during the time when we are Members of this Assembly.

"In the Prohibition districts, there are cases of illicit distillation here and there. Lack of co-operation between the Excise department, which was hitherto looking after the business, and the Police department is responsible for this. In my district (Anantapur) where Prohibition has been introduced, whenever cases of illicit distillation are detected, the Excise department send word to the Police department. The policemen themselves send advance intimation to the offenders that they have received

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information from the Excise department and that the police will raid the place on such and such a date. That is why Prohibition must be completely handed over to the Police department.

"In Urichintala village in Tadpatri taluk, illicit liquor was being manufactured in 160 out of 215 houses. Cuddapah, Kurnool and Anantapur districts meet in a hilly place and illicit distillation is going on in the area. Special police must be stationed there to check the evil, and punitive tax may be levied on the people living in the area. Provision must be made in the Act to enable the levy of punitive tax in such areas.

"Apart from losing 17 crores of rupees due to the introduction of Prohibition, the Government are spending one crore of rupees on ameliorative work. There is a charge made that Congressmen, who were very keen on introducing Prohibition in the past, are not taking a keen interest in putting down illicit distillation. I request the Hon. Minister to entrust propaganda work completely to non-official agencies, like District Congress Committees or the Prohibition Enquiry Committee that was recently constituted. People who have worked in this direction for the past so many years must be given an opportunity to work. There are a number of associations in the districts who are doing the same kind of work. Here there is no political difference or caste difference. Muslim Leaguers, Congressmen, social workers all can join. I request the Hon. Minister for Prohibition to give financial help and other help in the form of providing vans and lorries to such associations and individuals. Prohibiton propaganda must be carried on with a zeal and cannot be carried on like war propaganda. Ameliorative work may no doubt be given to Development Department or the Firka Development Department. But propaganda must be in the hands of non-official agencies. I assure the Hon. Minister that both in my district and in other districts, there are a number of young men who have done very active work in this direction and they must be recruited as propaganda sub-inspectors or inspectors. Only through non-official propaganda can Prohibition succeed. I hope all the political parties will help such organizations and support the measure wholeheartedly."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, கலால் வேலைகளுக்காக கேட்டிருக்கும் மான்யத்தை ஆதரிக்கையில் சில வார்த்தைகளைப் பேச விரும்புகிறேன். பூர்ண மதுவிலக்கு கொண்டுவரக்கூடிய பாக்கியம் நம்முடைய சென்னை மாகாணத்திற்குக் கிடைத்ததைப்பற்றி நாம் எல்லோரும் பெருமை கொள்ளக்கூடிய விஷயம். ஆனால் நாம் எந்த நல்ல காரியத்தையும் இங்கு சட்டத்தின் மூலமாக நிறைவேற்றி விட்டவுடன் அதிகம் சந்தோஷப்படக்கூடிய நிலைமை ஏற்படுவது இல்லை. நாம் எவ்வளவோ நல்ல சட்டங்களை நிறைவேற்றியிருக்கிறோம். ஆனால் அவைகள் நாம் நினைத்த பிரகாரம் அமுலுக்கு வருவது இல்லை. அதே மாதிரி இந்த மதுவிலக்கு திட்டமும் ஆகிவிடக்கூடாது. இதுவரைக்கும் ஆண்டவன் அருளால் மதுவிலக்கு நல்ல முறையில் நடந்து வருகிறது. எனினும் நம்முடைய நோக்கத்திற்குக் கெடுதி ஏற்படக்கூடிய சூசகங்கள் தென்பட்டுக் கொண்டிருக்கின்றன. ஆகையால் சர்க்கார் மிகவும் ஜாக்கிரதையுடன் இருக்கவேண்டும். சமூகத்தில் நூற்றுக்கு தொண்ணூற்று ஒன்பது பேர்கள் நல்ல பழக்கத்துடன் இருந்து ஒருவர் தவறுதலாக

13th March 1948] [Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman]

நடந்தாலும் சமூகமே பாதிக்கப்படும் நிலைமையை பார்த்திருக்கிறோம். ஒரு துஷ்டனை ஒரு குண்டனை செய்யக்கூடிய ஓர் காரியத்தால் பாக்கியுள்ள எல்லோருமே கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். அதேமாதிரி மதுவிலக்கிலும் எல்லோரும் குடிப்பழக்கத்தை விட்டாலும் ஒன்று, இரண்டு பேர்கள் திருட்டுத்தனமாக சாராயம் காய்ச்சி, அல்லது கள்ளிறக்கி குடிப்பழக்கம் வைத்திருந்தால், அவர்களை சரியான முறையில் தடுக்கவோ, அவர்கள் மீது சரியான நடவடிக்கை எடுக்காமலோ இருந்தால் அது சமூகத்தையே அழித்துவிடும். ஆகையால் திருட்டுத்தனமாக சாராயம் காய்ச்சுவதும் கள் இறக்குவதும் குடிப்பதும் இல்லாமலிருக்க சர்க்கார் ரொம்ப ஜாக்ரதையாக பார்த்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். அதற்காக பொது மக்கள் எவ்வளவு ஒத்தாசை கொடுக்கிறார்களோ அவ்வளவு நன்றாக சர்க்கார் காரியத்தை நிறைவேற்ற முடியும். சர்க்காருக்கு இதை நிறைவேற்றுவதற்காக எவ்வளவு பொறுப்பு இருக்கிறதோ அவ்வளவு பொறுப்பு பொது மக்களுக்கும் சமூகத்திற்கும் உண்டு.

"ஆனால் இங்கு ஒரு விஷயத்தை தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ள விரும்புகிறேன். மதுவிலக்கு திட்டத்தை யார் யார் மீறுகிறார்களோ அவர்கள் எல்லோரையும் ஒரே விதமாக நடத்தவேண்டும். ஒருவர் மீறினால் ஒரு விதமான தண்டனையும் இன்னொருவர் மீறினால் இன்னொரு விதமான தண்டனையும் இருக்கும் பட்சத்தில் இந்த திட்டத்தை அமுலுக்குக் கொண்டு வருவதில் பல கஷ்டங்கள் வந்துவிடும். சர்க்கார்மீதும் கெட்ட அபிப்பிராயம் உண்டாகிவிடும். அதன்பின் இத்திட்டம் அவசியம் இல்லை என்று ஏற்பட்டுவிடும். இது சம்பந்தமாக அனுபவத்தில் ஏற்பட்ட ஒரு விஷயத்தை சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். எத்தனையோ பேர்கள் நெடுநாளாகக் குடிப் பழக்கம் இருக்கும் காரணமாக குடித்து வந்துவிடுகிறார்கள். அவர்கள் பிடிக்கப்பட்டால் ஒரு விதமான தண்டனை கொடுக்கப்பட்டது. அதைப்பற்றி ஜனங்களுக்கு ஒரு விதமான ஆட்சேபணையும் இல்லை. ஆனால் மது சரக்குகளில் வியாபாரம் செய்து கொண்டிருந்த ஒருவரிடம் வராளமான சரக்குகள் இருந்தன. அவைகளை வைத்திருந்த இடம் சோதிக்கப்பட்டு சரக்குகள் கண்டுபிடிக்கப்பட்டன. பார்த்ததில் உள்ளூர் சரக்குகளும் வெளியூர் சரக்குகளும் அவ்வியாபாரியிடத்தில் கண்டுபிடிக்கப்பட்டது பகிரங்கமானது. அவருக்கு நல்ல, பெரிய தண்டனை கிடைக்கும் என்று ஊர் பூராவும் எதிர் பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருந்தார்கள். கடைசியில் அவருக்கு என்ன தண்டனை கிடைத்தது என்று பார்க்கும்போது பொது மக்களுக்கு ஆச்சர்யமாக இருந்தது. அந்த வியாபாரிக்கு ஆயிரம் ரூபாய் அபராதமும், கோர்ட்டு கலையும் வரையும்தான் தண்டனை கிடைத்தது. ஆனால் ஒவ்வொரு வரும் பெரிய தண்டனை விதிக்கப்போகிறார்கள் என்று எதிர்பார்த்திருந்தார்கள். இதைக் கேட்டவுடன் எல்லோருக்கும் ஆச்சர்யமாக இருந்தது. இந்தமாதிரி நடந்துவந்தால் சர்க்கார் திட்டத்தை வெற்றிகரமாக நடத்த முடியாது. யாராக இருந்தாலும் சட்டத்தை மீறினால் ஒரே விதமான தண்டனை அளிக்கவேண்டும். இதைக் கண்டிப்பாக பார்த்து தகுந்த நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று மந்திரி அவர்களை கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"மதுவிலக்கை கொண்டுவந்து விட்டால் மட்டும் ஜனங்களை திருத்தி விட முடியும் என்று சொல்வதற்கு இல்லை. அதனால்தான் சர்க்கார் ஜனங்களுடைய மனதை வேறு துறைகளில் கொண்டுபோவதற்காக பல முன்னேற்ற காரியங்களை செய்து வருகிறார்கள். அவைகள் மிகவும் போற்றத்தகுந்தவை. இந்தக் காரியங்களை சர்க்கார் அதிகாரிகள் செய்து வருவதைவிட உத்யோக பற்றற்றவர்கள், பொதுநல சமூக ஊழியர்கள் சங்கம், இவர்கள் மூலம் அவைகளைச் செய்தால், இந்தக் காரியங்கள் இன்னும் அதிக நன்றாக நடக்கும். சர்க்கார் அதிகாரிகள் மூலம் செய்தால் மிகவும் குறைவான பலன் கிடைக்கும். ஏனென்றால் ஜனங்களுடைய மனது இன்னும் மாறவில்லை. ஜனங்கள் இப்பொழுதுள்ள சர்க்காரை நங்களுடைய தாக இன்னும் சரியாக உணர்ந்து கொள்ளவில்லை.

"இன்னும் முன்னேற்ற காரியங்களுக்காக நாடகம் நடத்துகிறார்கள். இது மிகவும் போற்றத்தகுந்தது. இந்த நாடகங்கள் வெறும்பொழுது போக்குக்காக இருந்தால் போதாது. அதன் மூலம் சமூகம் அதிகம்

[Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman] [13th March 1948

மாறுதலடையவேண்டும். தேசத்தையும் திருத்தியமைக்கவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. சமூகமும் தேசமும் எந்த முறையில் முன்னேறவேண்டுமென்று விரும்புகிறோமோ, அந்த முறையில் இந்த நாடகங்கள் எழுதப்பட வேண்டும், அந்த முறையில் நாடகங்கள் நடிக்கப்படவும் வேண்டும். இதனால் நாடகங்களை நாம் தயார் செய்யும்போது சமூக சமத்வம், பொருளாதார சமத்வம், தீண்டாமை விலக்கு, சுகாதார அபிவிருத்தி, தியாகம், சகோதரத்வம் இம்மாதிரியான கருத்துகள் உடையவனவாக இருக்கும்படி பார்க்கவேண்டும்.

"இன்னொரு விஷயத்தையும் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். அதாவது கள்ளுச்சாராயம் போன்ற தொழிலில் ஈடுபட்டவர்களில் பெரும்பாலார் பனை, தென்னை இவைகளில் கள்ளு இறக்கிக்கொண்டிருந்தார்கள். அவர்களுக்கெல்லாம் இப்பொழுது ஒருவாறு தொழில் கொடுக்கப்பட்டு வருகிறது. பனையில் வெல்லம் காய்ச்சுவது மிகவும் பயனுள்ள தொழில். "பனை வெல்லத்தை காய்ச்சி பெரிய அளவில் உபயோகப்படுத்துவதற்கு சர்க்கார் அதிகமான வசதி கண்டுபிடித்துத் தெரிவிக்கவேண்டும். நமக்கு வேண்டிய சர்க்கரையை பனையிலிருந்தும் தென்னையிலிருந்தும் உற்பத்தி செய்துகொள்ளலாம். கரும்பு அபிவிருத்தி செய்யவேண்டிய தவசியமில்லை. கரும்பு சாகுபடியிலிருக்கும் நிலங்களையெல்லாம் நெல்லு சாகுபடி செய்ய உபயோகிக்கவேண்டும். நெல் போன்ற உணவு தான்யங்கள் குறைவாக இருக்கிற சமயத்தில் நஞ்சை பூமியில் யாரும் கரும்பு சாகுபடி செய்யாமல் இருக்கவேண்டும். பனை வெல்லத்தை நல்ல முறையில் தயார் செய்து அதிலிருந்து சர்க்கரையை நல்ல முறையில் தயார் செய்ய வேண்டும். பனையிலிருந்து உற்பத்தி செய்த சர்க்கரையை நான் பார்த்திருக்கிறேன். வர்தாவில் கிராம கைத்தொழில் சங்கம் இருக்கிறது. அந்த சங்கத்திலிருந்து நடத்திய பொருட் காட்சியில் பனைச் சர்க்கரையை வைத்திருந்தார்கள். அந்த சர்க்கரையைப் பார்த்தால் நம் சர்க்கரைக்கும் அதற்கும் வித்யாசம் இல்லை. அவ்வளவு நன்றாக அது இருக்கிறது. அந்த மாதிரி சர்க்கரையை உற்பத்தி செய்வதற்கு அங்கங்கே மாதிரி ஸ்தாபனங்களை அமைத்து நடத்தினால் ரொம்பவும் உதவியாக இருக்கும். பனை விஷயத்தில் கொஞ்சம் அதிகம் சிரத்தை எடுத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்று மீண்டும் சர்க்காரைக் கேட்டுக்கொண்டு முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

• Sri K. ANANDAN NAMBIYAR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the question of Prohibition, I have to submit that the Government, although they are anxious to introduce total Prohibition throughout the Province, are not caring in the least about the unemployed toddy-tappers who are thrown out of employment on account of the introduction of Prohibition. There are thousands and thousands of them in every district and they are now left on the streets, without any means of earning their livelihood. I know that in the Trichinopoly district alone, many families are starving to-day, because they could not get any alternative employment. I know that in Malabar in the Chirakkal taluk, there are certain areas—and the Hon. Minister has visited those areas and has seen things for himself—where even the tapping of sweet toddy for the purpose of manufacturing jaggery is not permitted. If this system of tapping sweet toddy is permitted, perhaps the unemployment among the toddy-tappers would have been less. As this is not permitted, there are more than a lakh of unemployed toddy-tappers to-day. I want to know why the Government should not permit the tapping of sweet toddy in certain areas. They want that Prohibition should be successful, but they do not want to solve the problem of unemployment. They say that lakhs of rupees are set apart for ameliorative measures, but what are these ameliorative measures? Showing of a cinema

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in a particular place, or supplying of tea for some people in another place or as my hon. Friend Mr. Subba Rao said, giving of some money for arranging some sort of entertainments or propaganda, in certain other places and so on. Will these measures solve the problem? There is a negative side of this problem and that is, as I said just now, the problem of unemployment. The ranks among the unemployed are growing day by day. After the great war, a number of demobilised soldiers have come down and they are also swelling the ranks of the unemployed. The ex-addicts and the old toddy tappers are already there. If all these people join together, then the problem will become very grave indeed. How are the Government going to solve the problem? Is it not their duty to provide alternative employment for these people? Of course, they can say, 'We know how to solve the problem.' But then where is the money? When Prohibition is introduced in a particular district, it is the duty of the Government to see how many tappers are affected and they should find out some means whereby alternative employment could be secured for them. The situation in the mufassal is becoming more and more serious. So many political organizations are springing up and they are going and breaking their heads at the doors of the Government. The Government should not think that these organizations are instigated by certain outside agencies or that they are inspired by certain ulterior motives.

"Then, Sir, the question may be asked, what is your suggestion? I can offer many suggestions, provided the Government are sincere and are prepared to act upon them. There are a number of industries which can be nationalized in which many of these people could be absorbed. Agriculture could be improved by introducing modern methods of cultivation. Various social and economic reconstruction schemes could be undertaken in which also many of these people could be employed. The Government must have a positive plan in these matters. That is the only way out. What are the reconstruction schemes that the Government are undertaking to-day? There is nothing that I can see in the budget which can in any way be calculated to solve the problem of unemployment. Even in America and England which are highly industrialized countries, there are lakhs and lakhs of unemployed. But there is only one country in the world to-day in which there is no unemployment and that is the Soviet Russia. When I speak of the Soviet Union, you will immediately jump up and say, 'Oh, here is an agent of Moscow!'

"Sir, but the issue is that there is no unemployment there. I do not want our country to follow the footsteps of the Soviet Union but I want that in the post-war conditions, unemployment must be solved and that alone will bring our country towards a better standard of living. There are certain suggestions for the nationalization of industries. Our country is an agricultural country and agriculture must be improved and food crisis must be solved. There should be a positive line of action towards this end. They must ask money for it and people must be asked to

1-1 p.m

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take their share. I agree with the Government that drinking is an evil and Prohibition can eradicate it. I am prepared to support them. But in that, they should not create further evils. Unemployment is a very dangerous evil to the whole society and the whole society will be upset if it is not tackled. The post-war world has got a serious problem in connexion with it. Without solving it, if you embark on Prohibition, it is going to be a great danger to the country. I am not disputing the policy and the ideology behind Prohibition. But I say that alternative jobs should be given to the ex-toddy tappers."

MR. SPEAKER:—"There are two more speakers and fourteen minutes before us. I shall divide this into two and allot seven minutes for each speaker."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demand made by the Hon. Minister in charge of Prohibition. In doing so, I want to bring to his notice how Prohibition has been working in my district. My district is one of the districts that was included in the Prohibition list at the very outset. Having seen the working of it, I have come to the conclusion that it would have been better if Prohibition had been entrusted to the Police department. I say so, because the Prohibition staff, after all, is negligible and illicit distillation is taking place practically in almost all villages. For instance, if a Prohibition staff wants to raid a village, they have to seek police help. Even the Prohibition staff have not got enough conveyance at their disposal and they do not even have men at their disposal. I think most of the Members that have taken part in this discussion have already made the Hon. Minister feel that Police will be better than the existing staff.

"Now, Sir, about the ameliorative measures. The Government has been kind enough to create a department. Now, I come to understand that there is a proposal under the active consideration of the Government that this department be abolished and merged with the Co-operative department. I am sorry, Sir, I cannot subscribe to this idea, for the simple reason that this department has been doing a very good work especially in the mufassal areas. I do not know why the Hon. Minister wants to abolish this department and merge it with the Co-operative department. You know, Sir, the Co-operative department has already become very unwieldy. For instance, I have been trying to convert my co-operative labour society into a multi-purpose society for the last six and a half months but even to-day, I am sorry, I have not been able to do it. The by-laws have not been amended. They do not have a model by-law at all. The District Registrar has been writing to this society and that society and to this district and that district, for a copy of the model by-laws and he has not so far succeeded in getting it, and so my proposal has not yet been carried out. When that is the state of affairs, I do not know what the logic or the reason is for the Hon. Minister to say that the department is to be abolished."

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THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Sir, I never stated so. I only said that it is under consideration."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Consideration, Sir, is a stepping-stone to conclusion. So, if you should take into consideration that matter, I can quite well understand what will be your conclusions. Now, I say, if you have taken that under consideration, please also take my views into consideration and see that the department is retained, because it has been doing good work.

"Then, Sir, I come to medical certificates. Sir, after all, if a man is drunk, the state of drunkenness will not last for ever. It will remain only for a few hours. You know, Sir, how many doctors you have provided in the villages. Can the Prohibition staff take a drunkard the moment he is arrested to a doctor? No. They have to go in search of him up and down. In the meanwhile, the man may become sober and so the chance of a certificate being got to prove his drunkenness is lost. I beg to submit that it does not require a doctor to say whether a man is drunk or not. Can you not say, Mr. Speaker, if a man is produced before you, whether he is drunk or not? Any common man, for that matter, will be able to say so. When that is the case, if you do not trust individuals, I suggest you can set up a committee consisting of gentlemen who might certify whether a particular individual is drunk or not.

"Sir, as regards recruitment to the Prohibition staff, I am sorry to say that in spite of our repeated requests to the Hon. Minister. . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has got three minutes more."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Sir, what is the harm that I have done that I should get only seven minutes, whereas others got ten minutes."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Otherwise, I will have to reduce the time of the other hon. Member. I have divided fourteen minutes equally between the two members."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Sir, I shall only explain this particular point. In the matter of recruitment, I am sorry to say, there has been a lot of favouritism and nepotism and especially provincialism has been very much in evidence. As a result of that, the uncared for children—I do not mention who they are and I hope Government will understand because I have been already pleading for them—have not been given proper representation. Does not the Hon. Minister realize that these people also have a rightful share in the administration, in the maintenance of the Government? That is why, I say, the Government are not kind enough to extend the helping hand to the fullest extent possible.

"In case of any agrarian trouble in the villages, immediately the rich people get hold of the Prohibition staff and they make them arrest the poor people and concoct cases against them.

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Instead of detecting Prohibition cases, the Prohibition staff has been going on concocting cases. I hope the Hon. Minister will look into it."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM :—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, கலால் சம்பந்தப்பட்ட மான்யத்தை ஆதரித்து சில வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். எனக்கு முன்னால் பேசிய நண்பர்கள் சொல்லாத ஒன்றிரண்டு விஷயத்தை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களுடைய கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டுவர விரும்புகிறேன். திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவில் பதனி என்று சொல்லப்படுகிற Sweet toddy யும் palmyrah விலிருந்தும் பனை வெல்லம், கருப்பட்டி போன்ற அற்புதமான சாமான்களை பல Cottage industries கைத்தொழிலாகச் செய்கிறார்கள். திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லா திருச்செந்தூரிலிருந்து, மகாத்மா காந்தியின் காரியதரிசியால் எழுதப்பட்டு, இங்கிருந்து ஆள்களை வார்தாவுக்கு அனுப்பினேம். அவர்கள் அங்கே பல உயரிய அற்புதமான கைத்தொழில்களை செய்து காட்டினார்கள். அவ்விதம் கைத்தொழில் செய்யக்கூடிய தாலூகாகளில் இந்த மதுவிலக்கினால் அந்த கைதொழில்கள் பாதிக்கப்படக்கூடிய சில விதிகள் இருக்கின்றன என்பதை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் உணர்வார்கள். இந்தவிதமாக Sweet toddy இறக்குவதால் நமது மதுவிலக்கை அமுலில் நடத்தமுடியாதோ என்று மந்திரி அவர்கள் நினைக்கலாம். ஆனால் போலீஸ் இலாகாவை வைத்திருக்கிறோம். குற்றம் நடந்துகொண்டுதான் இருக்கிறது. அதற்காக போலீஸ் இலாகாவை கலைத்துவிடலாமா. கைத்தொழிலே நசுக்காமல் இந்த சட்டத்தை அமுல் நடத்துவது அத்யாவசியமாகும். அந்த சட்டம் இப்பொழுது எப்படி இருக்கிறது என்றால் ஒரு மனிதன் அந்த Sweet toddy ஐ இறக்கிக்கொண்டு அவன் அந்த இடத்தில் வைத்து சாப்பிடக் கூடாது என்றும், அவன் குறிப்பிட்ட இடத்திற்கு route permit வாங்கிக் கொண்டு அங்கே கொண்டுபோய் அவன் ஒரு co-oparative society ல தான் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்றும், அங்கிருந்துதான் அவன் வாங்கிச் சாப்பிடவேண்டுமென்றுமிருக்கிறது. அவன் இதை எவ்விதம் செய்ய முடியும். பெரும்பாலும் அந்த ஜில்லாவில் நவதானியம் விளையும் நஞ்சை நிலம் கிடையாது. ஜனங்கள் காலையிலிருந்து மத்யானம்வரையில் இந்த Sweet toddy ஐ சாப்பிட்டுக்கொண்டு அவர்கள் புஞ்சைக் காடுகளில் வேலை செய்கிறார்கள். இவ்விதம் சட்டத்தின்பேரால் பாதிக்கப்பட்டால் அவர்கள் பசியினால் சாப்பாடு இல்லாமல் இறந்துபோகும் நிலைமையில் இருப்பார்கள். அநேகம் ஜனங்கள் பனைமரத்திலிருந்து இறக்கிய Sweet toddy ஐ சாப்பிடுவது தவிர பகல் முழுதும் வேறு ஆகாரம் சாப்பிடுவதில்லை. அப்படி சாப்பிட்டுக்கொண்டு வேலைசெய்துவருகிறார்கள். இந்த சட்டத்தினால் அவர்கள் 5 மைலுக்கு அப்புறம் கொண்டுபோய் கொடுத்துவிட்டு அங்கே பாட்டிலில் அடைத்துவைத்து இருக்கும் Sweet toddy ஐ சாப்பிடவேண்டுமென்றால் அது நினைக்கமுடியாத காரியமாகும். இந்த மதுவிலக்கு சட்டத்தினால் எளிய ஜனங்கள் இந்த பதனியை சாப்பிடமுடியாமலிருக்கிறார்கள். இதைத்தவிர இன்னும் பதனியை காய்ச்சுவதற்கு பல கஷ்டங்கள் வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள்.

" இதைத் தவிர குலசேகரப்பட்டணத்தில் Parry & Co. இருந்தது. அங்கே ஒரு machine வைத்திருந்தார்கள். அந்த யந்திரத்தினால் sweet toddy ஐ சீனியாக convert பண்ணக்கூடியதாக இருந்தது. அதன் பின் ஜாவா, சுமத்ரா முதலிய இடங்களிலிருந்து சர்க்கரை இறக்குமதி செய்து வந்ததால் அந்த யந்திரம் செய்யக்கூடிய தொழில் நசுக்கப்பட்டது. அப்பொழுது இது சுதந்திர தேசமாக இல்லை. அந்நிய நாட்டிலிருந்து அதிகமான சரக்குகள் வந்ததால் இங்கிருந்த industries போய்விட்டது. இப்பொழுது இவ்விதமான மிஷின்களை அமெரிக்காவிலிருந்து வரவழைத்து கிராமங்களுக்குக் கொண்டுபோய் வைத்தால் இந்த sweet toddy ஐ சீனியாக்கக்கூடிய வழிகளில் அதைச் செய்வார்களானால் இன்று மதுவிலக்கினால் வேலைகளை இழந்த ஏழை ஜனங்களுக்கு வேலைகள் கிடைக்கும். பொருளாதார அபிவிருத்தியும் ஆகலாம். இதைப்பற்றி கவர்ன்மெண்டார் கவனம் எடுத்துக்கொள்வார்களென்று நினைக்கிறேன்.

13th March 1948] [Sri K. T. Kosalram]

" மற்றும் கல்லூர் சுப்ப ராவ் சொன்னமாதிரி இந்த காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் தான் இந்த மதுவிலக்கைப்பற்றி பலவருஷங்களாக மேடையில் கத்தினார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு கொஞ்சம் மரியாதை கிடைக்கும்படி நன்மைகளை செய்யவேண்டும். இதற்கு ஒரளவு காங்கிரஸ்காரர்களுக்கு அதிகாரங்களையும் கொஞ்சம் பொறுப்பையும் கொடுத்தால் அவர்களும் இதில் ஒத்துழைத்து வருவார்கள். அதற்காக ஒரு சில காங்கிரஸ்காரர்களை உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களாக என் போடக்கூடாது? உண்மை காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் தேசத்தின் அபிவிருத்தியே தங்கள் லக்ஷியம் என்றிருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு வயதாகிவிட்ட காரணத்தால் வேலையில் சேர்க்கப்படாமல் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு exemption கொடுத்து இந்த மதுவிலக்கை வெற்றிகரமாக நடத்துவதற்கு அவர்களுக்கு உத்தியோகம் கிடைக்கும்படி செய்யவேண்டும்.

" அடுத்தபடியாக tappers இருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த பனையில் வேலை செய்துகொண்டிருந்தவர்கள் வேலை இல்லாமல் ரொம்பவும் பாதிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். நாம் இப்பொழுது ஜமீந்தார்களுக்கு compensation கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறோம். அதுவும் எல்லோராலும் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளப்பட்டது. அதைப் போலவே பல ஆயிர வருஷங்களாக இந்தத் தொழிலில் ஈடுபட்டு சாப்பிட்டுக்கொண்டு வந்திருந்த இந்த tappers களுக்கு எந்த முறையிலும் compensation கொடுக்கும் நிலைமையில் இருக்கிறோம். நாம் அவர்களுக்கு compensation கொடுக்கும் நிலைமையில் இல்லாவிட்டாலும் அவர்களுக்கு அரசாங்கம் ஏதாவது செய்யவேண்டும். இன்னும் வேறு விதத்தில் அவர்களுக்கு சலுகைகள் காட்டலாம். பசுமாடு வைத்து ஜீவனம் செய்யவேண்டுமென்றால் அதற்கு பசுமாடுகள் வாங்கிக் கொடுத்தோ அல்லது பணம் கொடுத்தோ உதவ வேண்டும். விவசாயம் செய்வதாக இருந்தால் அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய ஒத்தாசை செய்யலாம். நூல் வாங்கிக் கொடுத்து நெசவு தொழிலில் ஈடுபடச்சொல்லலாம். இப்பொழுது நூல் கொஞ்சம் scarcity ஆக இருக்கிறது. சீக்கிரத்தில் அதிகமாக வந்துவிடலாம். அந்த நிலைமையில் நூல் கொடுத்து தரிகள் நடத்துவதற்கு அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய வசதி செய்து கொடுக்கலாம். இவைகளையெல்லாம் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கவனிக்க வேண்டும்.

" அடுத்தபடியாக என்னுடைய ஜில்லாவில் நடக்கவேண்டிய சில முக்யமான விஷயங்களை இன்னும் சொல்லவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. கனம் கல்லூர் சுப்ப ராவ் சொன்னமாதிரி காங்கிரஸ்காரர்களையே ஆபீசர்களாக போடவேண்டும். திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவில் மாத்திரம்தான் இந்த பனை மரங்கள் ஜாஸ்தியாக இருக்கிறது. மற்ற எந்த ஜில்லாவிலும் கிடையாது. திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவில் பனையிலிருந்து sweet toddy ஐ இறக்குவதற்கு நிர்பந்தம் இல்லாமல் செய்து கொடுக்கவேண்டும். சாதாரணமாக இந்த சௌகர்யத்தை செய்துகொடுத்தால் அவர்களுக்கு தொழில் பாதிக்கப்படாமல் பதனி சாப்பிடுவதற்கு சௌகர்யமாக இருக்கும். கருப்பட்டி செய்வதற்கும் அரசாங்கம் எல்லா சலுகைகளும் காட்டிகொடுக்க வேண்டும் என்பதை கனம் கலால் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கு தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டு நான் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

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

(After lunch —2-30 p.m.)

* THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad and happy that this measure of Prohibition has obtained the support of all sections of the House without any difference of creed or community. All of us are united in the common cause of Prohibition and all of us are united in the common task of the enforcement of Prohibition. Therefore, I am thankful to the hon. Members who expressed general approbation of the measure

of Prohibition which is intended for the uplift of the masses of the Province. I am also thankful to the hon. Members who have participated in the debate for their constructive suggestions in regard to the enforcement of Prohibition and for the amelioration of the ex-addicts and for the employment of ex-toddy tappers. As has been pointed out we are having great and tremendous difficulties in the way of the successful implementation of Prohibition. It is a measure of wide and far-reaching social reform and such a measure cannot be implemented successfully in a day or in the course of a year or two. It is a long-term measure and I may assure hon. Members that, once such a policy is implemented, the difficulties that face us and the obstructions that we have to get over will be increasingly and successfully tackled in the course of the years to come. One of my hon. Friends—Sir, I think it was Mr. Salam—said: 'Where is the guarantee that the Congress Ministry are going to continue in the years to come.' It is likely, Sir—he hinted—that another Ministry or another party will come into office and then upset the policy of Prohibition now adopted and implemented by the present Ministry. May I disabuse him of that notion, Sir? There are certain things which once done can never be undone. The Congress Government having had the courage and the vision to enforce and implement the policy of Prohibition, we may take it that it is accomplished for all time to come. No Government, let it belong to any party whatsoever, will have the courage or the foolhardiness to come before the people of the Province and enforce another measure which will go back on the policy of Prohibition, which has been adopted and implemented by the present Congress Ministry.

"I submit, Sir, that so far as the question of enforcement of the policy of Prohibition is concerned, there is of course this difficulty of illicit distillation. In this case we should retain a certain sense of proportion and a general sense of perspective in considering the question. There are 50 million people in the Province. When we take up the newspaper we see a rioting here, a murder there and a disturbance in the third place. It would appear as if the whole Province is full of murders and riotings and disturbances. So far as this question of illicit distillation is concerned I agree that there are certain places and particularly there are certain notorious places, especially in the Ceded districts, where illicit distillation is carried on, as some of my hon. Friends said, more or less as a cottage industry. If you take the population addicted to drinking in the former days and compare it with the number of people who are now carrying on drinking by illicit distillation, probably the proportion would be almost negligible. That is no reason why illicit distillation should be allowed to continue untackled and unsuppressed. The danger of illicit distillation is not so much in the number of persons who are able to manufacture illicit arrack and distribute it to others as in the effect on the morale and the general sense of the well-being resulting from the policy of Prohibition. It is, therefore, largely as a measure of policy in order to infuse courage and confidence in the minds of

the public that this Prohibition is being implemented beneficially. It is for that purpose that the question of illicit distillation will have to be tackled more effectively in the days to come.

"As regards the question of illicit distillation, I may submit, Sir, there are certain places where the terrain of the country is such as to encourage illicit distillation. Cuddapah, Kurnool and certain other areas which contain hills and valleys and forest areas are places where illicit distillation could be carried on clandestinely. It is an unfortunate thing, Sir, that in certain districts certain people are trying to make unholy money out of the trade of illicit distillation. Rich and powerful people think that they can make large illicit profits out of the illicit distillation, pandering to the weaknesses of the ex-addicts and thereby carry on illicit distillation without immediate fear of detection.

"Here again, Sir, suggestions have been made that the law as regards the offences of illicit distillation should be made more rigorous. In this matter, the Government have already under consideration certain proposals for making more rigorous the punishments for offences of illicit distillation and also to change the mode of trial of the cases for these offences. It is under the consideration of the Government whether the trial of these offences could be made summary. It is also under consideration whether the punishments should be enhanced for some offences and also whether powers of the second-class magistrates could be increased enabling them to inflict heavier punishments on the offenders who may come up before them for trial.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Subbaraman, suggested that there should be a certain amount of discrimination in awarding punishments as between man and man. So far as the Government and their policy are concerned, Sir, they can only frame laws. They can lay down the policy. But the day-to-day administration of the Act and the trial of the offenders concerned and the awarding of punishments are entirely matters for the magistracy and the judiciary. Apart from a general statement of policy that cases under Prohibition, and particularly cases of illicit distillation require deterrent punishment, if we do anything else, it would be improper interference. A general policy like that could of course be communicated with propriety to the District Magistrates concerned so that they may watch the course of administration of justice. Apart from that no instruction could be given to any magistrate or any Judge who has to take cognizance of any of the offences. But I may say this. If in any particular case there is gross inadequacy of punishment and if that case is brought to the notice of the Government, they will see that all the necessary steps are taken by way of revision or appeal in order that a proper sentence is awarded by higher authorities."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"Will the Hon. Minister make enquiries in the instance which I mentioned?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"If the hon. Member had written to me earlier I would already have taken action. For

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taking action more details are necessary with regard to the man concerned, the circumstances of the case, the punishment inflicted and the time, etc. After all, Sir, revisions and appeals cannot be made after a certain lapse of time. If all these things are mentioned and they are brought to the notice of the Government by the hon. Member, the Government will do whatever can be done. As a general policy, Sir, I can only say that the Government ought not to interfere with the discretion of the magistrates, who are the final authorities to take into consideration all the circumstances of the particular case and award the sentences which they think fit and proper in the interests of justice. The only course left open to the Government is to examine particular cases which are brought to the notice of the Government, such as inadequacy of sentence, improper discharge or improper acquittal and take the matter on revision or appeal to the higher authorities.

"Then, Sir, the question of the staff for the enforcement of Prohibition came in for consideration and comment by the various hon. Members. I agree entirely, Sir, that the staff concerned with Prohibition, whether on the Police side, or the magisterial side or on the side of the judiciary should themselves be teetotallers. Sir, the Government have not granted any liquor permit to any Police officer, with perhaps only one exception. Except that, no permit has been granted to any Police officer and no permit has been granted to any Excise official. No permit has been granted to any Special Development Officer or any magistrate or judicial officer who is concerned with the enforcement of Prohibition. Even as regards the grant of permits, Sir, the Government will look into the matter more carefully in future and see to what extent the provisions as regards the grant of liquor permits could be tightened.

I was dealing with the question of staff, Sir. As regards the staff, hon. Members are aware that there are the old officers of the Excise department now put on the work of enforcement of Prohibition and also the regular Police staff. There are the Prohibition Police officers also who have been appointed for the purpose of enforcing Prohibition. As we had a number of Excise officers on our hands it was thought desirable and necessary that some of them should be absorbed on the side of the enforcement of Prohibition. Certain hon. Members have made comments, Sir, that the Excise staff are not able to enforce the Prohibition in a proper way because they do not have the necessary powers nor the necessary equipment. (An hon. Member: 'They also drink.') Illicitly probably! So far as the employment of the Excise officers is concerned, Sir, it is only a temporary arrangement. After some of the officers are absorbed in the regular Prohibition Police they will gradually go out of the picture. I think the Government also are fairly convinced, Sir, that the enforcement of Prohibition should be in the hands of the Police. So far as Police department is concerned, there are two further points to be considered. At present the enforcement of Prohibition is done with the aid of the separate Prohibition

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Police with their own separate Police stations. It has been suggested in the report of the Prohibition Enquiry Committee that this enforcement work should not be given into the hands of any separate Police Force with Prohibition Police stations but it should be left in the hands of the ordinary Police. That is rather an important matter, Sir, which requires further and deeper consideration. After all we are in the stage of experiment. We have tried the Excise staff and with a few exceptions we have found that they do not generally come up to the mark. We are convinced that the enforcement of Prohibition should be given to the Police officers. So far as the Police officers are concerned, two questions have to be considered, whether it should be entrusted to the ordinary Police with the ordinary Police stations or whether the present system of giving the enforcement work to the Special Prohibition Police officers with Special Police stations for the purpose should be continued. This requires consideration. Here again, this policy of Prohibition is a new policy and the work of enforcement of Prohibition is a new work which is sought to be carried out. I would submit, Sir, that the Government have got in their hands the report of the Prohibition Enquiry Committee. They have constituted a Cabinet Sub-Committee to go through the report. It will again be considered by the full Cobinet and decisions arrived at. *Prima facie*, the question is, unless the Police stations and the Policemen are increased very considerably. whether the Police be in a position to devote sufficient time and attention to the work of enforcing Prohibition successfully. A Police station has to enforce every penal law in the Province. Of course they have got gradations of importance. Murder cases, dacoity cases, and cases of disturbance of the public peace, claim and demand their attention first. Therefore, the question for consideration is, unless we very considerably enlarge the staff and also increase the number of Police stations, if Prohibition is to be entrusted to the Police, will they be in a position to work it with that amount of attention and leisure that would ensure proper enforcement. It is only a tentative suggestion that I am making. A possible course might be tried, that is, the work of Prohibition may be entrusted to the general Police in certain districts. They may be given additional Police stations and also additional staff. Side by side, we may have special Prohibition Police stations and allow them to work also. After all the best way of arriving at a conclusion is not by theoretical reasoning or by logic, a word which is very familiar with my friend Mr. Nagappa. I would submit, Sir, that the correct way of arriving at a proper conclusion is not by logical reasoning or by *a priori* arguments, but only by trial and error. So both systems will be tried side by side to see which produces the most effective results for enforcing Prohibition. In the course of a few years—say, five years—when Prohibition becomes a settled policy, and when the Province becomes more or less accustomed to this policy of Prohibition. it will be possible for the ordinary Police to 'take up Prohibition throughout the Province as part of their general duty. I would leave it at that.

2-45 p.m.

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"Sir, so far as liquor permits are concerned about which my hon. Friend Mr. Natesan is particular, I would refer to the speech of the Hon. Sri C. Rajagopalachariar (ex-Premier of this Province) when the Prohibition Act was introduced in 1937:

'There is also a provision for such permits and exemptions as are found necessary from two points of view. The thing consumed itself may be such as may be exempted either for medicinal or for other reasons, or certain persons individually concerned may be exempted from the operation of this Act. There is provision for all these. Every care has been taken and will yet be taken to prevent any harassment or any inconvenience. Against the voice of the people outside who want this measure, the Government is prepared to introduce limitations, moderations, exemptions and such like.'

This has been a wise and sound policy adopted by Sri C. Rajagopalachariar. We are all convinced that drink is an evil. We are all convinced that it must be uprooted. After all Government as an administrative body, should carry with it the largest measure of general support and goodwill in the implementing of policies. There are a large number of foreigners, people who are not residents of this country and who do not belong to this country, but who remain here as sojourners or pilgrims to carry on their avocations in this Province. We will have to treat them with a certain amount of courtesy. We will have to treat them as our guests. Therefore, the policy from 1937 onwards has been to give a certain amount of latitude in the matter of giving licences and permits to these foreigners for liquor. I agree that when once Government have introduced Prohibition all over the Province, issue of these permits can be made more rigorous, and finally we can eschew it altogether. As a long-term policy, Government will agree to the implementing of complete abolition of all licences to all people, be they Europeans or non-Europeans. Therefore, as a temporary measure, just at the threshold of introducing total Prohibition, we do not want to introduce any violent or revolutionary changes in the habits of certain people. Therefore, Sir, under certain conditions and limitations certain permits have been issued. The conditions for the issue of permits are very rigorous indeed. I would read the conditions under which permits are given:

'(1) *No permit should ordinarily be issued to Indians below* 55 *and to Anglo-Indians, Parsees and Jews who are below the age of* 45.

(2) *No permit should be issued unless the application is supported by a medical certificate from a Government Medical Officer not below the rank of an Assistant Surgeon and that the medical certificate produced should mention the age of the applicant as well as the particular ailment which necessitates the taking of alcoholic drink—a general statement that the discontinuance of the alcohol would be detrimental to the party should not be considered sufficient.*

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(3) *The quantity issued should be fixed according to requirements subject to a maximum of two units at a time and* 4 *units per mensem.*'"

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. May I know from the Hon. Minister why differential age-limits are prescribed in the matter of issue of permits for different communities in this country?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Sir, that depends on the habits and modes of living of the different communities. Anglo-Indians and Parsees are accustomed to western customs and western modes of living. In their case, there is a slight relaxation. So far as Indians are concerned, we have put it at a higher age-limit, because we can restrict it ourselves. We must restrict ourselves and be generous to others."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that Europeans and Anglo-Indians live for a longer period than Indians, and so the age-limit in their case should be higher than for Indians?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The point of view from which this regulation is made is different. Anglo-Indians and Europeans are more addicted to drink from their youth onwards. Therefore, this lower limit has been prescribed for them. I also submit, Sir, that there are fifty million people in our Province. The number of permits issued to Hindus (in the sixteen districts) is 71, for Indian Christians it is 47, for Anglo-Indians it is 40, for Parsees it is 15, for Jews it is 1, and for Muslims—I know Muslim members will regret it—it is 6."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I make a special request to the Minister that absolutely under no circumstances should liquor be issued to Muslims to whichever part of the Province they belong."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Sir, Government are wedded to a policy of non-discrimination." (Laughter.)

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Sir, I endorse the request made by Mr. Anwar, because drink is 'haram' for Muslims and as such they should not be allowed to indulge in it. No Muslim is entitled to ask for a permit in this regard. Hence I request the Hon. Minister not to issue permits to Muslims."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"But the trouble is that this is a secular State and we cannot impose that restriction." (Laughter.)

(Sinna Kaziar Haji Moulvi Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur rose in his seat).

MR. SPEAKER:—"After the Hon. Minister finishes his reply, I will allow the hon. Member to put one or two questions."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I am an old man, and my memory is weak. I

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may be allowed to ask for information then and there. From the answers given by the Hon. Minister, I should like to inform the Hon. Minister, Sir, that only for saving human life liquor can be given. Unless the doctor says that life will be in danger if liquor is not given, liquor should not be supplied."

THE HON. DR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I am glad to note the hon. Member's suggestion. There are one or two things which I should like to deal in connexion with enforcement staff. My hon. Friend, Mr. Nagappa, insists in season and out of season upon the claims of Harijans. I would like to draw his attention to the proportion of Harijans employed in the Prohibition department. Sir, Government are keen and anxious to employ as many Harijans as possible in this department. I would also submit that special instructions have been given in the matter of appointing Harijans. I have not got the actual figures with me now, but in the lower ranks, such as Prohibition guards and petty officers, the percentage of Harijan personnel is far high. I would be able to give the figures if a separate question is put. I am sure Mr. Nagappa will not hesitate to do so. (Interruption by Sri S. Nagappa).

"As regards officers in the department, if Harijans with proper qualifications are forthcoming, they would be appointed. In fact, Sir, Harijans have been the worse victims and sufferers on account of drink, and some sort of justice, even though it may be belated, should be done to them. Government are anxious to employ as many Harijans as possible in the Prohibition department consistent with their efficiency and qualifications for the post.

"A question has been raised with regard to public co-operation and propaganda staff. Sir, the Government are insisting upon the necessity of public co-operation in the enforcement of Prohibition. It is for that purpose in the original Act provision is made for the constitution of taluk committees to help the Government officials in the enforcement work. Following this policy of non-official committees, district committees have been formed, and recently orders have been issued for the formation of village committees. I would submit that the matter cannot be allowed to rest at that. We are thankful to hon. Members for the further suggestions they have made, that is, that there should be a large and systematic official propaganda by people elected from non-official bodies for the enforcement of Prohibition successfully throughout the length and breadth of this Province. That matter is already under the consideration of the Government. Proposals have been made that there should be a special propaganda officer for each district and there should be subordinate propaganda officers for each taluk in all the Prohibition districts. Thereby, we will be creating a corp of non-officials who will be specially charged with the work of propaganda and who will be in a position to supervise and see how far the work is done properly. They will act as liaison officers between the

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Government on the one side and the officials on the other and between the Government on the one side and the people on the other side. Government have under their consideration the constitution of such a body for the purpose of successfully carryig out Prohibition and also to keep a general watch over the sound and proper administration of the Act in all the areas in which Prohibition is introduced.

"Now, as regards the employment of ex-tappers, Sir, the policy of the Government has been definitely fixed. In the 16 districts in which Prohibition is in force now, there are 80,000 tappers who are thrown out of employment. Out of these 80,000, 31,000 tappers are from the two districts of Malabar and South Kanara. Malabar and South Kanara are largely coconut areas. A large number of people are hereditary tappers of coconut trees both for toddy and for jaggery.

"The House may be interested to learn that in our Province 3 p.m. it is in these two districts where people tap sweet juice from the coconut trees for the purpose of preparing jaggery out of it. I understand that the coconut jaggery has got a large market in Bombay and in some southern parts of our own Province. Therefore, in order that the sweet juice may not be wasted, a sufficient number of permits have been given to coconut tappers to form themselves into co-operative societies so that they may tap this sweet juice from the coconut trees for the purpose of preparing jaggery. But, I would submit to the hon. Members for their consideration the fact that there is a real danger in the tapping of this sweet juice. There cannot be a police constable for every coconut tree to see that only sweet juice and not toddy is tapped with the use of the permit. As hon. Members are aware, these coconut trees are found in clusters in different parts of the country and especially in places like Malabar, there are large number of coconut groves. Under these circumstances, if we are to enforce the real conditions, some tangible safeguards should be provided and any abuse of this arrangement should be avoided. Therefore, we made it a sort of a condition on the co-operative societies that they should themselves police their own members and if in a society there are one hundred ex-tappers for the manufacture of jaggery and if instances are brought to the notice of Government that the licence is misused for the purpose of tapping toddy even by one member of the society, then the licence will be cancelled and the whole society will be abolished. That is the condition which we have imposed. Thus we have enforced a collective responsibility on these members and it is up to them to see that they do not abuse their privilege and it is also for the societies to see that the proper conditions are adhered to."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"In that case also, it will be dangerous if all the society members do not reveal that the stuff is fermented."

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THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The thing is that there are Government employees in the co-operative societies. There are the Co-operative Inspectors, Co-operative Deputy Registrars and Co-operative Sub-Registrars."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I want to know from the Hon. Minister how many minutes more he will take to finish his speech because I want to adjust the time for the next demand."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I will finish it in five minutes, Sir. Therefore, I submit, Sir, that there are the Government employees in the co-operative societies who will take necessary steps in the event of any misuse. One man may avoid detection for all time; several men may avoid for some time but all men cannot avoid for all time. So far as palmyrah trees are concerned, the position is different. The palmyrah sweet juice does not ferment easily and therefore the societies which are granted the permits have no chance of abusing the privilege and they manufacture jaggery out of the sweet juice. In fact, the palmyrah jaggery is much more healthful and a more wholesome article of diet and also fine white sugar can be prepared out of it. Therefore, Sir, every attempt is being made by the Government to see that the conditions are adhered to by the co-operative societies and every facility is being given to them for the manufacture of palmyrah jaggery and also for the purpose of preparing sugar out of it. All these things will be implemented by the Government to see that Prohibition is carried out successfully.

"Then, Sir, as regards Tinnevelly, there is now the problem which has been referred to by my hon. Friend, Mr. Kosalram. A large number of people in that district are taking this palmyrah sweet juice as their drink. The labourers are having their potful of palmyrah sweet juice. It is a very wholesome drink which keeps up the hunger and enables them to carry on the work without food till mid-day. The ordinary labourer takes a potful of this sweet juice and keeps on working till about noon when he gets his 'Kanjee' or rice food.

"Then, Sir, in the Salem district we are trying an experiment where, by means of a chemical agency, the fermentation of coconut sweet juice can be held up for twenty-four hours. Under the supervision of a co-operative society, the experiment is being carried on and it has been found that several ex-addicts take to this sweet juice as an alternative drink. It is said that the scheme is not successful in Salem. I submit, Sir, that in other areas, the scheme may not be satisfactorily workable. But, the purpose of the scheme should not be lost sight of. Undoubtedly, there are some difficulties in working the scheme and consistent with the general safety, everything that could be possibly done will be done. Consistent with the policy of Prohibition, every possible arrangement could be made in each village in order to collect together all the ex-tappers and form them into co-operative societies so that they may tap the sweet juice for the purpose of manufacturing jaggery. But for the work of Salem

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people, like my hon. Friend, Sri K. A. Nachiappa Gounder, the whole scheme of Prohibition could not have been worked out so successfully. Of course, conditions in Salem are far different from the conditions prevailing in other districts. Anyway, whatever arrangements could safely be followed without danger to the success of Prohibition will be followed not only in the matter of supply of sweet juice to the people who use it as their drink but also in the matter of tapping sweet juice for the manufacture of jaggery.

"Then, Sir, there is the question of amelioration. My hon. Friend, Sri K. A. Nachiappa Gounder, who is the chairman of the Prohibition Enquiry Committee, in his report has suggested that it is necessary that this work should be entrusted to the Panchayat Boards and also to the District Collectors. Anyway, the recommendation will be carefully gone into. It will take some time before these Panchayat Boards are put on a proper basis to take up the ameliorative side of the work. Also, on the ameliorative side there are many cottage industries provided for the ex-tappers. They include, mat-weaving, coir-matting and such other cottage industries. The co-operative societies will be asked to look after these cottage industries. Therefore, I am sure, hon. Members will realize that the Prohibition policy is not merely a negative programme. It is also a positive programme for the betterment of the economic and social life of the masses of the people and a programme to train them for every sort of activity which is necessary for their uplift. Therefore, Sir, every step will be taken by the Government to carry out this programme with the co-operation of this House and also the public. In the light of my statement and in the light of the discussion that took place, I request the hon. the Lady Member, Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin, to withdraw her cut motion."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I want to say something to the Hon. Minister on a matter of personal explanation. The Hon. the Minister said that he has granted permits to some Muslims. I want to clear the position. The Muslims should never purchase drink for the purpose of drinking. Under the Islamic tenets drinking is absolutely prohibited. Therefore, if the Hon. Minister has granted some permits to Muslims for the purchase of liquor, it may be because these Muslims want to purchase this liquor for medicinal purposes to save their lives."

MR. SPEAKER:—"How is it possible for the hon. Member to say that? If certain hon. Members want to give reasons for the action of a certain class of people, it is not the concern of the Chair to hear all those reasons."

SRI K. ANANDAN NAMBIYAR:—"I request the Hon. Minister to state what steps have been taken to provide alternative employment to the ex-tappers and whether they were subsequently given any jobs. The Hon. the Minister has not dealt with this point in his reply."

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for the convenience of the public. The test was efficiency and good service to the public and not whether the operator was old or new. There the position stands.

" Unfortunately, Sir, the general position as regards the bus and lorry traffic is not satisfactory. During the war years petrol was scarce and so, a large number of buses and lorries changed over to gas plants. There was then a general complaint that the price of charcoal rose up as the buses consumed a large quantity of charcoal. The poor man was put to trouble. Sir, that scarcity of charcoal and the high prices still continue. As regards petrol, the position is steadily deteriorating. In November 1947, the Government of India allowed this Province 41 lakhs of gallons of petrol for the three months November 1947 to January 1948. This included the requirement of private cars, Government services, Food Department lorries and everything including agricultural pumps. Some time in December, there was a bolt from the blue and even this quantity was reduced by nearly one-third. Fortunately it was restored later in January. For the present quarter—February to April 1948, the quota has been cut by 2 lakhs of gallons to 37 lakhs of gallons.

" Sir, while our petrol allowance has been cut down, the demand for it is rapidly increasing. More and more buses, cars and lorries are being put on the road. The public demand for more and more communications, bus routes and services. While on the one side we are faced with scarcity of petrol and charcoal, on the other side we are faced with increasing demands. Owing to the failure of the monsoon, a large number of agricultural pumps have been installed and we want more petrol for these pumps. Coffee has been harvested in South Kanara, but they have not enough number of lorries to bring it to the markets. Pathetic demands for petrol are made from all sides while the available quantity is very limited.

" Sir, in order to solve this problem to some little extent, Diesel engines were sought to be brought in. The Government placed an order for fifty Diesel engine buses. But as misfortune would have it, diesel oil also has now become an unavailable commodity. Till about May or so, even for the diesel engines bought for the Government transport services, they say that diesel oil will not be available. We are making a special application to the Government of India to give us some oil to keep the engines going. Several commercial concerns feeling the petrol difficulty have gone in for diesel engine vehicles and yet they are in a difficulty. (An hon. Members: ' Reason? ') Reason is scarcity and shortage. I remember a story, Sir. A teacher was explaining to his pupils about the various ages of civilization—the stone age, the iron age and so [illegible] and asked his pupils what the present age could be called. It seems one of the pupils replied that the present age could be called shortage. For every difficulty now shortage is the reason. In fact we are up against another difficulty. Some days ago, we saw an announcement by a Delhi Correspondent to the effect that the Government of India may not be able to give the full allotment

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for the next quarter. Though we are faced with all these difficulties, we are carrying on. We hope the times will improve and we shall be able to come to some sort of arrangement by which we shall be able to get more charcoal buses, and if petrol is available more petrol buses, and some diesel oil also to run our services.

" Sir, transport is one of the essential needs for the well-being of the community. More and more people are travelling and more and more communications are necessary between villages and towns for the movement of foodstuffs and other things. Apart from this, Sir, the railway systems have been taken over by the Government. We are considering whether, if these motor bus services also were taken over by the Government, it would be possible to run co-ordinated services for passengers and goods and eliminate uneconomic competition and unnecessary expenditure. The administration of the Motor Vehicles Act brings in large sums of revenue and increasing revenue to the Government and I hope that the House will be pleased to make the grant which I have moved."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,13,500 under Demand VI—Motor Vehicles Acts '. "

M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR—" I move, Sir,—

' that the allotment of Rs. 5,13,500 for Motor Vehicles Acts be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" In moving this cut motion, I want to place two questions for the consideration of the Government. Under the Revenue side, the administration of the Motor Vehicles Act is estimated to produce 138 lakhs. On the expenditure side, though it has been stated that the expenditure will be five lakhs, it is really one crore and sixty-five thousand, because the Government gives about ninety-five lakhs as compensation to local bodies and municipalities. Sir, the finances of the local bodies and municipalities are not satisfactory. The Government help them time and again. If it is not possible for the Government to increase the contributions made to the local bodies and municipalities under this head and if there are legal difficulties in the matter, I suggest that the Government may give contributions under other heads to the municipalities and local bodies.

" The next question I want to discuss is one of administrative difficulties. The Government are now carrying out the policy of nationalization of bus services. Under the Motor Vehicles Act, the Government are empowered to administer the registration and licensing of motor vehicles. They have also got two other functions, viz., the control of traffic and insurance of motor vehicles. For performing these functions, the Government have created some machinery—the Road Traffic Board, the Regional Transport Authority and the Central Road Traffic Board. These are the authorities which they have created to perform the functions they derive under the Motor Vehicles Act. If an independent commercial corporation runs the bus services, I do not see any difficulty

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at all. But when the Government create a machinery to run the nationalized bus services, that machinery will have some sort of power derived under the Motor Vehicles Act. If this is so, how will you reconcile the functions of the present authorities you have created under the Motor Vehicles Act—the Traffic Boards and the Regional Transport Authorities—with the new machinery you are going to have when nationalization of the bus service is completed? I want to draw the attention of the Government to the vagueness of their purpose in nationalizing the bus services. Even the Budget does not indicate what is the scope of nationalization, what is the machinery that will be created and how best nationalization will be effected. This morning the Hon. Minister indicated to a certain extent the line that Government propose to adopt to nationalize the bus services. I want to suggest to the Government that even during this session, they may place on the table of the House a statement showing how far their policy of nationalization is going to be carried out in the Budget. For these two reasons, I move my cut motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have allotted two hours for this Demand. The House will have, I think to sit till 5-15 p.m. to finish this Demand. I allow 10 minutes for each hon. Member."

(At this stage Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin took the Chair.)

3-30 p.m.

* SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Madam, in seconding this cut motion, I should like to say a few words. Though this happens to be a subject about which much cannot be said, still there are important points which should be mentioned on the floor of this House so that proper justice may be meted out to all the persons who wish to run bus services. The Government also should deeply consider the issue of the nationalization of the bus service first safeguarding its own interest.

"I should like to deal with two issues. One is the administration run by the Government and the next is how far it is advisable to nationalize the transport services . . ."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"'Nationalization' does not come within the scope of this Demand. That comes under Demand XXXVII."

THE CHAIRMAN (Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin):—"The present Demand deals with the Motor Vehicles Act and not with nationalization."

* SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Madam, it is very difficult to separate one from the other. They are interdependent. A slight margin may be allowed. It does not matter if I speak about nationalization now as I will not speak about it then."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Madam, this morning when an interpellation on nationalization did arise in this Assembly and discussion was going on, the Hon. Speaker ruled that those who would like to ask questions on that matter may raise the same in to-day's debate. He has ruled also that 'nationalization' can be discussed in the course of this Demand."

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THE CHAIRMAN (Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin):—"In view of what the Hon. Speaker had stated to-day and in view of it being very difficult to demarcate between nationalization and Motor Vehicles Act, I think the Hon. Minister will bear with hon. Members if they dealt with nationalization also."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I bow to your ruling."

* SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I request you, Madam, to note the time taken by these interruptions.

"Nationalization seems to be a very good idea. But it is a very dangerous proposal. You cannot carry on speculative business. Nationalization of motor transport is a business of speculation. What is the object of nationalisation? Suppose you open a shop in your own house, are you going to increase the wealth of the house? Suppose you are opening a shop in your own street, are you going to increase the wealth of your street thereby? Suppose you open a shop in the City, are you going to increase the national wealth of that City? Nationalization should be of such a nature that you would be able to bring money from outside to your Province. That should be the chief aim of nationalization. I request the Hon. Minister to consider these aspects of the case and to first nationalize himself before nationalizing industries. Let us first see whether this is the best business which you want to take up. I tell this House that several motor-bus owners have become insolvents and are paupers. Some owners made some fortunes during the war. Now there is no war. Bus-owners are not getting any profit now; in future it will be still less. When you have medicine you should treat those men who are sick. There is no use of giving medicine to healthy persons. Please find out whether money can be got by nationalizing some other industry, before you take up the nationalization of motor transport. I will tell you that weaving and spinning mills require no care. Simply place a man there. Let him supervise the business. You will get crores of rupees in no time.

"What about aviation? Men from other Provinces come and exploit you and your money. You may say we are all Indians. This high-sounding philosophy would not do. The fight now is inter-district, inter-provincial and international also. Nationalization, like charity, must begin at home. Are there not differences among ourselves? Why should there be any demand for linguistic provinces? Our Andhra friends feel that they have been deprived of their benefits. So, they say, we shall have a separate province. We cannot say that they are not interested in this matter without any reason. As human beings they have human qualities. It is our duty to attend to the welfare of the people and to safeguard the interest of this province before we attend to other matters. First of all nationalize aviation. What about the cement factories?"

THE CHAIRMAN (Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin):—Airways and aviation are Central subjects."

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SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" There is nothing impossible in this world. We can do so with the approval of Central Government. We can manufacture any articles if we have capital."

THE CHAIRMAN (Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin):—" ' Aviation ' and ' cement ' do not come under this Demand."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" What about cement factories? We have easier means of earning money. Why should you nationalize this transport business? It is more or less *narahal*. It is a dirty matter. You have to take risks in this business. You cannot be in a position to know how many 2 annas, 3 or 4 annas of the fares collected from several passengers who go from Kodaikanal Road to Kodaikanal, go into the pockets of the conductors and drivers. You have got the mills. You post one man in a mill. Every year you will get several lakhs. Not to mention mills alone, there are several other enterprises which are in our province. What about Vanaspathi plants? Have we no money, no capital? Are we incapable of doing business? In every respect we are equal, if not better than any persons in any part of India. Please consider over these things and take up only those businesses which will definitely pay you. Motor transport is a doubtful business. We may be here or not after 4 or 5 years. Then you will remember that on such a date Sinna Kaziar from Madura said like this. It will be too late to repent then . . . "

THE CHAIRMAN (Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin):—" The hon. Member has two minutes more."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" There is something wrong with this clock. Let me have at least 5 minutes more. Our Hon. Minister spoke about the system of administration. I am not speaking about the system of administration of this province alone. I am speaking of India and the whole world. They were encouraging capitalists during war-time. Those who had no virtues were granted licences."

THE CHAIRMAN (Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin):—" That was the case during the Advisors' regime. The hon. Member should not mix up things. He should deal with the acts of the present Government."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Our people's Government had the magnanimity to reduce the number of buses to be owned by a person, to three. To buy three buses, it requires at least Rs. 40,000. How can the poor man do this business? It would not do. Be fair to everybody. After thinking over the matter well, say you are adopting a policy which is fair to all. The Hon. Minister said that there were many applications. Only the other day when I put a question, the Hon. Minister said that he would consider each application on its merits and will grant licences to efficient persons. This is a very nice way of answering interpellations. This is known to everybody in

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the world. A gentleman floated a company, invested Rs. 5 lakhs and purchased 35 buses. When he applied for licence for routes in Ramnad district, it was not granted. The Government seemed to have thought ' Let him go to dogs, let him throw the buses into the Atlantic Ocean. He is a well-to-do man.'

" Instead of nationalizing motor-transport, I would suggest another way. Please see that the proprietors do not sell their buses to others without your permission. Exchange of ownership is under your control. Buses which were worth Rs. 5,000 some time ago, were sold for Rs. 20,000, because the route is valuable. Who takes the money? The previous bus-owner. Suppose I run two buses from Madura to Paramakudi. They are worth only Rs. 10,000. Some other person purchases them and pays Rs. 50,000. Why? Because of the route. Please put a ban at least and see that such transactions do not take place between two parties. Such transactions can take place only with your knowledge. For God's sake drop the nationalization of motor service."

THE CHAIRMAN:—" The question is—

' that the allotment of Rs. 5,13,500 under Demand VI—Motor Vehicle Acts be reduced by Rs. 100 '. "

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" Madam, it is the simplicity, innocence and even the gullibility of the Hon. Minister for Motor Transport that has prompted me to point out to him certain defects —very serious defects—in the department which probably his subordinates could not have brought to his notice for various reasons. I hope the Hon. Minister will not be angry with me when I say that the administration of this department is more like the Brahman's agriculture or to quote a better example, Bharatha's administration.

" King Bharatha asked his ryots as to how they proposed to pay the rents due to him. They replied that they would pay him the produce that was available above the surface level of the lands on which they sowed their seeds. The King agreeing to this let out the lands to them. The tenants sowed potatoes and other kinds of seeds from which nothing could be expected above the surface but only under the earth. After the harvest was over when the king demanded of them the produce that was due to him they pointed to him the dried plants that were available on the surface. From this I submit that the ryots were cleverer than the king. . . Likewise, I would point out that the Madras Government in their nationalization of motor buses have gone a bit wrong. Soon after they took up the nationalization scheme of motor buses, they tried to purchase 50 Diesel buses of Italian make from a man in Bangalore at the rate of Rs. 50,000 each, whereas the original price of this class of bus was Rs. 35,000 each inclusive of customs duty and all other expenses. Thus, the cost of 50 buses at the rate of Rs. 50,000 comes to 25 lakhs of rupees; whereas the Madras Government was offered buses by Messrs. Simpson & Co. at the rate of Rs. 17,000 per bus. While the Diesel buses ply at the rate of 11 miles per hour, the petrol bus offered by Messrs. Simpson in

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Madras ply at the rate of 17 miles an hour. While such is the case how can any superiority be claimed for the Diesel buses which the Madras Government purchased? While one of the Madras firms, viz., Simpsons offered petrol buses at the rate of Rs. 17,000 per bus including Rs. 8,000 for body building, I fail to see why the Government should have negotiated with an obscure Bangalore firm to take Diesel buses at the rate of Rs. 50,000 each. The tragedy of the whole thing is this: that even before calling for tenders and they were published, the Government were in such haste as to carry on negotiations with this Bangalore firm which I believe is no more but wound up. This firm was situated in an obscure lane pretending to do a business of a very high magnitude. I wonder what is the magnitude of the business of this firm, and why this Government should have chosen this firm which never did any business in motor parts but which was doing some cinema business. I shall give the name of this firm. It was Indo-British General Exchange. Some 20 lakhs of rupees were given straightaway to this firm as advance and it was agreed that they should supply all the 50 buses in good time. But they could not supply them. I am saying all this on good authority. But fortunately the Hon. Prime Minister was good enough to intervene and cancel the order. But for the intervention of the Hon. Premier, this Government would have incurred a terrible loss on this transaction.

"Regarding body building while Messrs. Simpson & Co. and the General Motors offered to build bodies at the rate of Rs. 8,000 and Rs. 6,000 respectively, it is somewhat unaccountable as to why this Government should have imposed restriction on these companies that, if they undertook to build the bodies, they should themselves be able to purchase the chassis. Chassis is a thing on the import of which Government has imposed control, so much so these companies probably found it difficult to comply with the condition imposed by this Government on them and they gave up the work.

"Another thing which I wish to point out is that Government could have directly negotiated with the manufacturer instead of through an Agent, because if they go through an Agent 25 per cent of the sale price goes to the Agent as commission, and only 75 per cent goes to the original manufacturer. Now by this Government having transacted this business through an Agent at Bangalore they have incurred a loss to the tune of Rs. 10 lakhs. According to a recent order which this Government have passed they could have easily fixed the purchase price at a certain limit beyond which the selling agents should not go. Here too they have failed.

"Another thing which I wish to touch upon is this: that Government should have the foresight to consider the various implications, financial and otherwise, before they launched upon this scheme of nationalization. They should have certainly thought of starting a workshop. Recently a body which was built in a workshop for a motor bus came to 2/3rds of the tendered price of Messrs. Simpson or General Motors. So what this Government

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have done is a sheer waste of public money mis-spent by a Government which does not care to know the details of the scheme. I am told that luckily an Administrative Officer for Motor Transport has been brought down, who I am told will cover this Government with glory and see to it that further losses are avoided. Still I am pained to remark that the management of this business by the present Ministry has been very shabby. It is high time that Government wake up in this matter and do the right thing.

"I wish also to refer to this: I am told that those who have registered their vehicles prior to 1st September 1947 will not be given petrol. These poor owners of buses because they happened to purchase their buses long before, are they to suffer and keep their buses idle for want of petrol?

"In conclusion I wish to say that bus parts are not available easily. Government ought, I think, to help all the people who are engaged in this Motor Transport business. I appeal to the Government to be more generous in giving facilities to these people."

* Sri PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I rise to support the cut motion moved from League Benches. Just in the morning you might have heard from the Hon. Minister for Transport his ideas regarding the nationalization of transport. He himself came forward saying that there were conflicting interests on this question. One is the private concern and the other is the public. When the Hon. Minister said this, I thought he would go along with the public and side the public interests. But that is not the case. We know from the beginning that the policy pursued by the party to which the Hon. Minister belongs as well as by the entire Cabinet is nothing but a capitalistic policy or to put it more accurately the policy of big business in the best interests of owners of private transport buses. Even under this Demand the same policy is being reflected when he says there is conflicting interest between the public as well as private concerns. We know what sort of private concerns they are who are owning 20 buses and 50 buses having permits over certain routes and having monopolies of transport. That class is on one side. On the other side there is the poor public and the working classes who are suffering at the hands of the private capitalists. Between those two, is there any choice to be made by the Government? The Hon. Minister has said, as referred to before, that there is conflicting interest. Well, the best course is to adopt a bold policy of nationalization. Of course the Government have adopted a definite policy towards complete prohibition and I have got nothing to say about it. But what about this transport? He says that the scheme will be completed within five years. So on this question of nationalization of motor bus business, he is always halting. The question of nationalization seems to have been reduced to this: the issuing and cancelling of permits. That seems to be the meaning of nationalization to the Hon. Minister! If the Government are serious about this question, they would have taken over all the routes. I think in that manner they can immediately nationalize without waiting for five years.

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This could be done without any delay. Of course we can bring our own resolution, if necessary, easily pass a legislation without much opposition or with very little opposition but that procedure was not adopted by this Government.

4 p.m. "What the Government should have seriously done they have not done. Even now some private individuals are running their buses. If the Government are to proceed for five years on these lines even after 50 years they will not be able to achieve success of the scheme. I would like to point out that if Government are very serious of doing away with all private concerns and if really the Hon. Minister has at his heart the interests of the public at large, he must take over, not only all the bus routes, but all the buses that are plying on these routes.

"Not only that, Madam, there is also the question of body builders of transport buses. In the morning during question hour when I asked the Hon. Minister what amount the Government spent on the construction of a body in its workshop, the Hon. Minister wanted notice. I know what he means by asking notice. It only means evading the reply. I think, Madam, by this time the Hon. Minister ought to have known how much it would cost the Government for the construction of a body. But, he wanted notice. I do not know what reply he is going to give to that question now. At least I will give him the information. For constructing a body in the Government workshop it cost the Government Rs. 4,000, whereas, till yesterday the Government paid at the rate of Rs. 8,000 towards the construction of a body in other workshops. This shows, Madam, that in spite of so much of mismanagement in the Government workshop, we can still build at the rate of Rs. 4,000 and thus save Rs. 4,000 on each bus. But, since the work has been given to private concerns, the Government have been robbed of a lot of money because of the policy pursued by the Hon. Minister.

"Then, Madam, in addition to starting their own workshops, Government should take over all the workshops in Madras and unless they take over all the workshops in the City how can the Government attend to the repairs of all the buses. Even if all the workshops are taken over by the Government, I fear it may not be possible to repair all the Government buses running on the different routes.

"Madam, let us see how even after the Government has taken over the whole of the transport in the City, the people are going to be benefited. Previously, private owners used to charge about 6 pies or one anna per mile and now even after the introduction of Government buses, we see the same rates are prevailing and the public have not gained even a pie on account of this taking over.

"Again, if you take the question of workers, have the wages of workers improved as a result of taking over the buses by the Government? Have they implemented the Adjudicator's Award? Have they considered the housing problem of the workers? All

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these things have not been cared for. The working classes feel they are after all still under capitalist management and not under the management of a popular Government. I would like to point out, Madam, that the question of workers has not been attended to in spite of Government having taken control over the transport.

"Madam, in this connexion, I would just like to refer to an incident that happened a few days ago when a police constable is alleged to have beaten a conductor in one of the Government buses. It is a dangerous thing. I brought this matter to the notice of the House and till now no reply has been given. Nobody knows what action has been taken by the Government against this policeman. It is a reflection on the administration of the Government.

"Even now, Madam, the conditions prevailing so far as the mufassal transport is concerned, are not very satisfactory. There is no regular bus service and the rates are charged by the private owners at their own will and pleasure even though the Government have fixed 6 pies per mile. There is a lot of congestion even now in mufassal buses. To-day if there is need for nationalization of transport, it is more in the mufassal than anywhere else. Thanks to the Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas, people should wait for five years more for this nationalization. In the meantime, all those to whom permits have been issued by the Hon. Minister will exploit the people and become richer. Perhaps that is the reason why the Hon. Minister for Transport has fixed the period of five years, or else I do not know the reason why he should wait for a period of five years for nationalization of transport. He says, no buses are available. In this connexion, Madam, I have given him a plan. Let him take over all the buses plying in the different routes and he will then see how our people in the country-side are saved from these private bus owners.

"Whenever we raise the question of salaries of Government servants or the peons, Government bring in the question of finance, Now, there is this source for the Cabinet by which they can get finance. Even the Hon. Minister for Transport has agreed that the Government hope to gain about one crore on account of the nationalization of transport. If nationalization is to go the whole hog, I am sure, it is not merely one crore but the Government can get from 10 to 15 crores. Therefore, Madam, it is the duty of the Government in the best interests of the Government themselves to see that the whole of the transport is nationalized without any further delay.

"One more point, Madam, before I finish. The Hon. Minister said that he was unable to absorb all the toddy tappers and that he had to solve the unemployment problem created by the policy of Prohibition and being the Minister in charge of both the departments, it is his responsibility to solve this problem. In reply to the question raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Nambiyar, the Hon. Minister said that co-operative societies are being started which might absorb them. I do not know how many people these

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co-operative societies can absorb. So, Madam, still the main problem of unemployment is there and if he should pursue the same policy, I am afraid he can never solve the problem and there is no use saying that the Communists are taking advantage of the situation and are fishing in troubled waters. I may tell him that the Communists do not fish but they will swim in troubled waters and save these people. With these few words, Madam, I support the cut motion."

* SRI K. P. KAMAKSHI CHETTIAR :—" கனம் உதவி சபாநாயகி அவர்களே, இந்த மான்யத்தை நான் ஆதரிக்கும் சமயத்தில் மோட்டார் போக்குவரத்தை தேசீயமாக்கும் திட்டத்தில் செய்யவேண்டிய சில மாறுதல்களை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களின் கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டுவர விரும்புகிறேன். இப்படிப்பட்ட விஷயங்களில் குறிப்பாக அதிகாரிகளுடைய உதவிமட்டுமின்றி பொதுஜன ஊழியர்களுடைய யோசனைகளையும் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கேட்டுநடந்தால் இந்த திட்டம் மிகவும் சிறப்பாக நடைபெறுவதுடன் இந்த மாகாணத்தின் மந்திரிகளுக்கு ஒரு பெரிய கௌரவமும் ஏற்படும் என்றும், நாட்டிலேயே சென்னைதான் முன்னணியில் நின்று வழிகாட்டின பெயர் ஏற்படும் என்றும் தைர்யமாக இந்த இடத்திலிருந்து கூறுகிறேன். பல வருஷங்களாக ஜனங்களின் கஷ்டங்கள் போக்குவரத்து வசதிகளின்றி அதிகரித்து வந்தன. இந்த மாகாணத்தில் தேசீயமாக்கும் தொழில் ஏதாவது ஒன்று இருக்குமானால் அது மோட்டார் போக்குவரத்துதான் என்பதை மிகவும் தைரியமாக சொல்லிவிடலாம். ஏனென்றால் ஒரு நாட்டின் செல்வம் வளரவேண்டுமென்றாலும், சர்க்காரின் வருமானம் அதிகரிக்கவேண்டுமென்றாலும் மோட்டார் போக்குவரத்தை தேசீயமாக்க வேண்டியதுதான். இப்பொழுது ஜனங்களின் கஷ்டம் அதிகரித்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறது. இருபது மைல் தூரம் உள்ள ஒரு ஊருக்கு போய்வர வேண்டுமென்றால் 2, 3 நாட்களாகின்றன. இவைகள் நாம் அடைந்த அனுபவத்தின் உண்மைகள். இவற்றை போக்குவதற்கு இந்த திட்டத்தை உடனடியாக நிறைவேற்றவேண்டுமென்று நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" ஐந்து வருஷ திட்டம் என்று இதற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். இது மிகவும் அதிகம் என்று நான் அபிப்பிராயப்படுகிறேன். நமது சென்னை நகரில் இந்த திட்டத்தை இரண்டு வருஷத்திற்கு முன்னதாகவே ஆரம்பிக்கவேண்டுமென்றிருந்தது. அது உருவாகி இன்னும் பூர்த்தியாகவில்லை. அடுத்தபடியாக எங்கள் கொடைக்கானல் தாலூகா போக்குவரத்தை எடுத்துக் கொள்வதாக சுமார் இரண்டு வருஷங்களாகவே, அதாவது நமது மந்திரி சபை ஏற்பட்ட நாளிலிருந்து, வாக்குறுதி கொடுத்து வந்தார்கள். இந்த சபையில் மட்டுமல்ல எல்லா இடங்களிலும் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களும் நமது சர்க்காரும் வாக்குறுதி கொடுத்து வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த ஏப்ரல் மாதம் முதல் தேதி முதற்கொண்டு எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப்போவதாக கடைசியில் கூறுகிறார்கள். இன்னும் நாட்கள் 15 தான் இருக்கின்றன. அதற்குள் அந்த திட்டம் நடைபெறவேண்டும். பதினைந்து நாட்களில் பஸ்களை தயார் பண்ணவேண்டும். எங்களுடைய கொடைக்கானல் தாலூகாவில் அந்த திட்டத்தை நிறைவேற்றுவதற்கு எந்த விதமான ஏற்பாடும் இதுவரையில் செய்யப்படவில்லை என்பதை நான் வருத்தத்துடன் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். கொடைக்கானல் season-ம் ஆரம்பித்து 15 நாட்களாகிவிட்டன. இன்னும் இந்த திட்டத்தை ஆரம்பிக்க 15 நாட்கள்தான் இருக்கின்றன. இந்த 15 நாட்களுக்குள் மலைபிராந்தியத்திற்கு ஏற்றவாறு பஸ் பாடிகளை அமைக்கவேண்டும். முக்கியமாக மழையும், குளிரும், காற்றும் இருக்கக்கூடிய காலத்திற்குத் தகுந்தபடி பஸ்களை அமைக்கவேண்டும் என்பதை நன்றாக உணர வேண்டும். இவைகளை யோசித்து அதற்கு வேண்டிய ஏற்பாடுகள் செய்யவேண்டும். குறைந்தது அந்த ஏற்பாடுகள் செய்ய ஒரு மாதமாகும். ஆகையால் இந்த திட்டம் ஏப்ரல் முதல் தேதிக்குள் எப்படி நிறைவேறப்போகிறது என்பது எனக்குத் தெரியவில்லை. நேற்றைய தினம் இது சம்பந்தப்பட்ட அதிகாரிகளைக் கேட்டபோது கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் தங்களுக்கு முடிவான உத்தரவை

13th March 1948] [Sri K. P. Kamakshi Chettiar]

இன்னும் கொடுக்கவில்லை என்று சொன்னார்கள். அவர்களும் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களிடமிருந்து ஒரு முடிவான உத்திரவை எதிர்ப் பார்த்துக்கொண்டு இருக்கிறார்களென்றும் சொன்னார்கள் அவர்களுக்கு சீக்கிரம் உத்திரவை அனுப்ப வேண்டுமென்று மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கு ஞாபகப்படுத்துகிறேன். இன்று காலை சட்டசபையில் கேட்ட கேள்விக்கு கனம் மந்திரி பதில் சொன்னார், பெரியகுளம், கொடைக்கானல், பஸ் சர்வீசை தற்சமயம் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப்போவது இல்லை என்று. அது எங்களுக்கு அதிருப்தியைக் கொடுக்கிறது. கொடைக்கானல்-மதுரை பஸ் சர்வீசை மட்டும் எடுத்துக்கொண்டு மற்ற சர்வீசை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளாமல் இருப்பது சரியல்ல. 10 வருஷங்களாக இந்த சர்வீசால் மாகாணத்தில் மக்கள் அளவற்ற கஷ்டங்கள் அடைந்திருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த கஷ்டங்கள் தீரவேண்டுமென்று குறைகளைச் சொல்லி வந்தார்கள். குறிப்பிட்ட பாதைகளைமட்டும் எடுத்துக்கொண்டு ஒன்றிரண்டு பாதைகளை விட்டுவிட்டால் தோல்விதான் ஏற்படும். இந்த விஷயங்களில் நெருங்கிய தொடர்புள்ள எங்களைப்போலுள்ள அந்த ஜில்லா வாசிகளின் யோசனைகளைக் கேட்டு சர்க்கார் வேலைகளைச் செய்தால் பொது ஜனங்களும் ஒத்துழைப்பதற்குத் தயாராக இருப்பார்கள். இந்த திட்டத்தை சரியான முறையில் நடத்தவேண்டுமென்றால் எங்களுடைய யோசனைகளைக் கேட்கவேண்டும். கொடைக்கானல் Ghat road திட்டத்தில் பெரியகுளம் Route-யும் சேர்க்கவேண்டும் இல்லாவிட்டால் அரை ஹிணறு தாண்டுவதைப்போல்தான் முடியும் என்பதை நான் சொல்லப் பிரியப்படுகிறேன்.

" அடுத்தபடியாக கொடைக்கானல் Ghat road திட்டம் முழுவதையும் மதுரை ஜில்லா முழுவதையும் உடனடியாக எடுத்து நடத்தவேண்டும். ஏனென்றால் இந்த திட்டம் சரியாக நடைபெறவேண்டுமென்றால் முதலில் Ghat area வில்தான் ஆரம்பிக்கவேண்டும். இதைச் செய்துவிட்டு மதுரை, கோயமுத்தூர் ஜில்லாக்களில் இந்த திட்டத்தை ஆரம்பித்து நடத்தினால் எல்லாம் நன்றாக நடைபெற்று வர சௌகரியப்படும். இன்னும் மற்றதையும் தொடர்ந்து நடத்துவதற்கு உதவியாக இருக்கும்.

" மற்றொரு விஷயம். சென்ற பத்து வருஷங்களாக அப்பொழுது இருந்த அட்வைசரி அரசாங்கத்தின் ஆதரவால் பல நூற்றுக்கணக்கான பஸ் Route-கள் பெரிய கம்பெனிகளுக்கு கொடுக்கப்பட்டு வந்தன. அவர்களுக்கே சர்க்காரும் சலுகைகள் காட்டி வந்தார்கள். 20 பஸ்கள் வைத்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறவர்களுக்கே சலுகை கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று அப்பொழுது இருந்த Adviser's ஆட்சியில் செய்து வந்தார்கள். அந்த மாதிரி கொடுத்து வந்ததால் ஜனங்களுக்கு கஷ்டங்கள் ஏற்பட்டனவே தவிர நன்மை கிடைக்கவில்லை. ஒன்றிரண்டு பஸ் கம்பெனிகளைத் தவிர மற்ற சர்வீஸ்காரர்கள் எல்லாம் ஊழல்களுடன் நிர்வாகத்தை நடத்தி வந்ததால் ஜனங்கள் கஷ்டத்தை அடைய நேரிட்டது. அந்த மாதிரி இன்னும் கொடுத்து வந்தால் சிறு பஸ் சொந்தக்காரர்களுக்கு கஷ்டமான நிலைமை ஏற்படும். அந்த மாதிரி இல்லாமல் சிறிய பஸ் சொந்தக்காரர்களுக்கும் சலுகை காட்ட வேண்டும். அவர்களுக்கு சர்க்கார் உதவி கொடுக்கவேண்டும்.

" சர்க்கார் ஏற்படுத்தியுள்ள இத்திட்டத்தில் இப்பொழுதுள்ள பஸ் கம்பெனிகள் குறிப்பிட்ட அளவு அதாவது 14% பங்கு எடுத்துக்கொள்ளலாமாம். அத்துடன் மேற்படி கம்பெனிகளுக்கு நஷ்ட ஈடும் கொடுக்கப்போவதாக தெரிகிறது. அவர்களுக்கு நஷ்ட ஈடு எதற்காக கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்பது எனக்குத் தெரியவில்லை. 1946-ம்வருஷத்திற்கு பிறகு Permit-கள் கொடுத்த கம்பெனிகளுக்குத்தான் நஷ்ட ஈடு கொடுக்கவேண்டுமேயல்லாது பத்து வருஷமாக பஸ்கள் வைத்து நடத்துகிற பெரிய கம்பெனிகளுக்கு நஷ்ட ஈடு கொடுக்கக்கூடாது. ஏனென்றால் அவர்கள் ஜனங்களுக்கு எவ்வளவோ கஷ்டத்தையும் நஷ்டத்தையும் கொடுத்ததுடன் லட்சக்கணக்காக சம்பாதித்து விட்டார்கள். அதனால் அவர்களுக்கு நஷ்ட ஈடு கொடுக்கக்கூடாது.

" இன்னும் ஒரே ஒரு விஷயத்தைப்பற்றி குறிப்பிட விரும்புகிறேன். இந்த போக்குவரத்து திட்டம் சிறந்த முறையில் நடைபெறவேண்டுமென்றால் ரோடுகள் நல்ல நிலைமையில் இருக்கவேண்டும். அதற்காக கனம்

[Sri K. P. Kamakshi Chettiar] [13th March 1948

மந்திரி அவர்கள் சம்பந்தப்பட்ட இலாகாவில் தெரிவித்து போக்குவரத்து சுலபமாகவும் நன்முகவும் நடைபெறுவதற்கு ரோடுகளை நல்ல நிலைமையில் வைக்கவேண்டுமென்றும் அதை உடனடியாகச் செய்ய முயற்சி எடுக்க
4-15 p.m. வேண்டுமென்றும் சொல்லவேண்டும். ரோடு வசதி நன்முக இல்லாவிட்டால் போக்குவரத்து திட்டம் சரியாக நடைபெறாது. ரோடுகள் நல்ல நிலைமையில் இருந்தால் மிகவும் உதவியாக இருக்கும். அதற்கு வேண்டிய ஏற்பாடுகளை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சம்பந்தப்பட்ட இலாகாவின் உதவியுடன் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு என்னுடைய வார்த்தைகளை முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"One submission, Madam. I find that the Hon. Minister for Transport seems almost exhausted as he has shifted from liquor to transport. I move for closure."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Regarding the motion, I may say that I have overcome liquor traffic and I am now implementing traffic and I am elated rather than exhausted."

CHAIRMAN (Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin):—"The closure motion not having been seconded, it falls to the ground."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It was properly seconded."

CHAIRMAN (Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin):—"But I did not notice it."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Madam, hon. Members of the House are aware of a news item that appeared in the papers that the Corporation are going to run the tramways in Madras City. I think the information is correct and if it is so, I cannot understand the policy of Government when they say that they want to nationalize transport. Do buses only constitute transport and are not tramways a matter for nationalization? If you do not take it up, do you not visualise competition between yourselves and the Corporation? Will not questions arise as to what routes the buses should take. The Mail has written an editorial regarding the matter and that must serve as an eye-opener to Government in this matter. They should take it up also otherwise they will have to face complications and trouble by way of competition from the tramways in future.

"We have got the authority of the High Court of this Province about the manner in which the Transport Department is working. During the short time at my disposal it is not necessary to repeat it and it is also too well known. For the speeches in connection with the demands for grant only six or seven minutes are allowed to speakers with the result that members are only able to touch a point or two; let not, therefore, Hon. Ministers get away with the impression that these are the only few matters of complaint against their Departments; we can speak for hours with facts and figures and with proof but with things as they are, we are obliged to speak on one or two points. The High Court went into the legal aspect of the question and they said to Government 'Do not

13th March 1948] [Mohamed Abdul Salam Sahib Bahadur]

do that' but what did the Government do? They never heeded it but said that they would circumvent it even though it was wrong and pass a law. The way in which Road Traffic Boards and the Central Board are functioning is nothing but confusion and there is a lot of corruption. There are Inspectors who inspect the mechanical side of the buses and I am prepared to prove, if only the Hon. Minister gives me the opportunity to do so, that corruption exists there. I hope that the Hon. Minister will in future instead of flouting the decisions of law courts abide by them; the Hon. Minister must have great respect for law courts as he has been a very great lawyer. I hope that he will accept their findings and rectify matters.

"The Department is a vast and growing Department and it is likely they will be appointing various persons. I know that there is what is called the Cabinet Sub-Committee dealing with this matter. We are paying the Members of the Services Commission and you know the work of the Commission and it is really a matter for pity that Government are not availing themselves of the services of the Services Commission regarding appointment. I have seen in the papers that they are going to appoint some Deputy Controllers in the gazetted rank and I do not know why they do not approach the Commission who are the persons qualified to do it. By doing it, Government can avoid the trouble of interviews, the influence of the members on the Ministers, one Minister trying to influence the other Minister, the Premier trying to influence the Minister and so on and I really pity these Ministers who are about to appoint those people because they are harassed in such a way. I suggest, therefore, that they will do well to send these matters to the Services Commission whose job it is to select people. Regarding appointments to the lower rungs, I understand they have appointed some people and they will be appointing some more. Instead of leaving appointment of drivers, mechanics and others in the hands of an I.C.S. officer, who are relics of the past as some hon. Member put it, I suggest that such appointments may be dealt with by a Committee on which some members of this House might also be associated.

"It was a revelation this morning to me when I heard the Minister standing up and saying that the Government had no policy in regard to purchase of lorries and buses; I asked him by means of a direct question: Are you going to buy in the open market by calling for tenders; and he said; 'I do not have any policy.' I am sorry they have no policy regarding the purchase of lorries and buses."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Regarding the method of purchase."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is very strange; you have already paid for so many buses ordered for so many and I do not know how from a particular street in Bangalore, to use the words of Mr. Raghavayya, you bought these buses. If

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you had a policy, you would have avoided criticisms and you could have stood up and said; 'This is my policy and this is how I proceeded and this is how the purchase came to be made.'. Why not call for tenders; it does not matter much if you spend a few more rupees if you think it is more economical. Government should not only be correct in how they proceed about their business but also should always do the correct thing. Ceasar's wife should not only be chaste but she should be above suspicion. Why do you give scope for criticisms when you can avoid them by simply following a policy of calling for tenders.

"I have a few words to say about the way in which distribution of petrol is done. A certain date has been fixed and I do not know what the reasons are for fixing that date. I want the Hon. Minister to say that he has not given petrol to anybody after that date. There is a lot of confusion. He says 'buses'; if the man is influential, he will say: 'This is a big bus; so, he will get petrol'. If another hon. Member is very influential, he will say: 'The colour of the bus is red and therefore, the red bus is given petrol'. Then there is the question of military vehicles. There are a number of types of military vehicles. The rules create a lot of confusion in the matter of distribution of petrol and there must be a system. There are one or two I.C.S. officers and others who have risen from the lower ranks and they are confusing the matters and it is not done efficiently and properly and the rules should be so revised that in future proper persons will get petrol without difficulty."

SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL:—"கனம் சபை தலைவி அவர்களே, மோட்டார் டிபார்ட்மெண்டை ஆதரித்து ஒன்றிரண்டு வார்த்தைகள் பேச முன்வந்தேன். நாட்டில் போக்குவரத்து சாதனம் நாளுக்கு நாள் அதிகரித்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. பட்டணவாசங்களில் மாத்திரமல்ல. கிராமாந்திரங்களில் கூட போக்குவரத்து துரிதமாக இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று ஜனங்கள் இப்பொழுது பிரியப்படுகிறார்கள். எந்தெந்த இடங்களிலெல்லாம் சுமாராக ரோடுகள் போடப்பட்டிருக்கிறதோ அந்தந்த இடங்களிலெல்லாம்கூட மோட்டார் சர்வீஸ்கள் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று பிரியப்படுகிறார்கள். ஆனால் நம் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் மோட்டார் சர்வீஸை தேசீயமாக்க திட்டம் போட்டிருப்பது விரும்பத்தக்கது. இருந்தாலும் ஒன்று மாத்திரம் எனக்கு சந்தேகம் தோனறுகிறது. இப்பொழுது எங்கு பார்த்தாலும் strike என்ற நோய் பிரபலமாக நடந்து கொண்டு வருகிறது. மோட்டார் சர்வீஸை நடத்துகிற டி.வி.எஸ். கம்பெனிக்காரர்கள் பல ரோடுகளில் மோட்டார் சர்வீஸ் நடத்துகிறார்கள். அவர்கள் இந்த சர்வீஸிலுள்ளவர்களுக்கு எவ்வளவு நல்ல முறையில் சம்பளங்கள் கொடுக்க முடியுமோ அந்த முறையில் அவர்கள் கொடுத்துவருகிறார்கள் என்பது எல்லோரும் அறிந்த விஷயம். அப்படியிருந்தும் சமீபத்தில் அவர்கள் கம்பெனியில் strike நடந்து ஜனங்களுக்கு மிகவும் துன்பத்தைக் கொடுத்து கம்பெனிக்கும் கஷ்டத்தையும் நஷ்டத்தையும் உண்டுபண்ணியிருப்பது நாம் எல்லோரும் அறிந்த விஷயம். இம்மாதிரி இருக்கும் தருணத்தை உத்தேசித்து சர்க்காரால் நடத்தப்படும் City மோட்டார் பஸ்கள் மூன்று மணி நேரம் வேலை நிறுத்தம் செய்தது நாம் எல்லோரும் அறிந்த விஷயம். அதாவது ஒரு கான்ஸ்டேபிளை எற்றிக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டதற்கு கண்டக்டர் ஏற்ற மறுத்ததற்காக அந்த கண்டக்டரை ரொம்பவும் அடித்து தொந்திரவு பண்ணினதாலும் அதன் மூலம் எல்லா சர்வீஸ்களும் நிறுத்தப்பட்டு இருந்தது என்று சொல்லப்பட்டது. இந்த மாதிரியான

18th March 1948] [Srimathi V. Lakshmi Ammal]

சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் தேசீய மயமாக்கிவிட்டால் பூரு மாகாணத்திலும் அடிக்கடி எக்காரணத்தைக் கொண்டாவது சர்வீசில் அடிக்கடி strike ஏற்பட்டு ஜனங்களுக்கு முக்கியமான சந்தர்ப்பங்களில் போக்குவரத்திற்கு தடை ஏற்படும் என்று நான் அஞ்சுகிறேன். எனவே நண்பர் காமராஜ் செட்டியார் சொன்ன மாதிரி கிராமாந்திரங்களில் அங்கங்கே சின்னச்சின்ன இரண்டொரு பஸ்கள் அல்லது மூன்று பஸ்கள் வைத்துக்கொண்டு தங்களுடைய காலட்சேபத்தை நடத்தவேண்டுமென்பதற்காக வைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறவர்களுக்கு கட்டாயமாக permit கொடுக்கவேண்டும் என்பதே என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயம். அதற்காக ஜில்லாக்களில் போர்டுகள் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. சில ரூட்டுகள் அதிகாரிகளால் தனிப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு கொடுக்கப்படவேண்டும். எத்தனையோ தனிப்பட்டவர்கள் கஷ்டப்பட்டு கடன் வாங்கியாவது சர்வீசை அந்த ரூட்டுகளில் நடத்தவேண்டுமென்று நினைத்துப்போனால்கூட permit கிடைப்பது கஷ்டமாக இருக்கிறது என்பதை நான் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அப்பேர்ப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு கிராமாந்திரங்களில் ரூட்டுகள் கொடுத்து அவர்களுக்கு permits கொடுக்கவேண்டும். எந்தெந்த மாதிரியாக வண்டிகளை அமைக்கவேண்டும் என்றும் இப்பொழுது மதராஸ் சர்க்காரால் ஓட்டப்படும் வண்டிகள் எந்த மாதிரியாக அமைக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறதோ அந்த மாதிரியமைத்து ஜனங்களுக்கு சௌகரியமான முறையில் அவைகளை ஓட்டவேண்டுமென்பதற்கு ஒரு விதி ஏற்படுத்தி வைக்கவேண்டும். அப்படி விதி செய்து ஒன்றிரண்டு பஸ்கள் வைத்து நடத்துகிறவர்களுக்கு நிச்சயமாக permit கொடுக்கவேண்டும்.

"அதையும் தவிர ஜில்லா போர்டும் எங்கெங்கே சர்க்கார் எடுத்துக் கொள்ளப்போகிறார்களோ அங்கங்கே உள்ள முனிசிபாலிட்டிகளுக்கோ, பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டுகளுக்கோ, ஜில்லா போர்டுகளுக்கோ share-கள் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். எனென்றால், முனிசிபாலிட்டிகளுக்கும், பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டுகளுக்கும், ஜில்லா போர்டுகளுக்கும் அவரவர்கள் கிராமங்களில் செய்யவேண்டிய வேலைகள் பொறுப்பு ஜாஸ்தியாக இருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் அவர்களுக்கு கொஞ்சம் shares கொடுத்து அதில் அவர்களுக்கு கொஞ்சம் லாபம் கிடைத்தால் அதைக்கொண்டு அவர்கள் கிராமாந்திரங்களில் நல்ல காரியங்களைச் செய்யமுடியும்.

"அடுத்தபடியாக பெட்ரோல் விஷயத்தைப்பற்றி இரண்டொரு வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல பிரியப்படுகிறேன். கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் மூன்று மாதத்திற்கு நம் மாகாணத்திற்கு 41 லட்சம் காலன் பெட்ரோல் இந்தியா கவர்ன்மெண்டாரால் சப்ளை செய்யப்படுவதாக தெரிவித்தார். அவ்வளவு பெட்ரோல் இருந்தும் முக்கியமான உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களுக்கும் கிராமங்களி இருள்ள பொதுமக்களுக்கும் முக்கியமான சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் பெட்ரோல் கிடைக் 4-30 காமல் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். டாக்டர்களுக்கு முக்கியமாய் சரியானபடி கொடு p.m. க்கவேண்டும்.

நான் முக்கியமாக தெரிவித்துக்கொள்வது என்னவென்றால் கிராமங்களிலுள்ளவர்களுக்கும் அங்கே உள்ள முக்கியமான உத்யோகஸ்தர்களுக்கும் பெட்ரோல் கூபன் அதிகமாக கொடுக்கப்படவேண்டும். டாக்டர்களுக்கும் சில சமயங்களில் அதிகம் பெட்ரோல் வேண்டுமென்றால் ரொம்பவும் கஷ்டத்துடன் ஒன்றி ரண்டு கூபன்கள்தான் கொடுக்கப்படுகிறது. அம்மாதிரி இல்லாமல் அவர்களுடைய அவசியத்தை தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டு சரியான முறையில் பெட்ரோல் கூபன் வழங்கப்படவேண்டுமென்பதை நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். பெட்ரோல் கூபன் சரியான முறையில் வழங்கப்படவில்லை என்பது நாம் எல்லோரும் அறிந்த விஷயம். சில பேர்களுக்கு அதிகமாகவும் சில பேர்களுக்கு additional-ஆக கொடுபடாமலும் இருக்கிறது. அநேகம் இடங்களில் திருட்டுத்தனமாக பெட்ரோலை வாங்கிக்கொண்டு வந்து அநேகம் பேர்கள் கார்களை ஓட்டுகிறார்கள். திருட்டுத்தனமாக அதிக விலைக்கு வெளாமாய் பெட்ரோல் கிடைக்கிறது. உதாரணமாக இந்த City-யில்கூட taxi வைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். ஒரு இடத்திற்கு taxi அவர்களுக்கு Mileage என்று போடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஒரு இடத்திற்கு taxi வேண்டுமென்றால் ரூ. 5 வேண்டும் அல்லது ரூ. 8 வேண்டுமென்று கேட்கிறார்கள். Mileage பிரகாரம் கொடுக்கிறேன் என்றால் நாங்கள் அந்த மாதிரி போஷல்சட்டது; நாங்கள் திருட்டுத்தனமாக பெட்ரோலை

[Srimathi V. Lakshmi Ammal] [13th March 1948

ஐம்தி ரூபாய் கொடுத்து வாங்குகிறோம் Mileage பிரகாரம் car விட முடியாது என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஆகையால் இப்படி ஏராளமாக பெட்ரோல் எந்த விதமாக போகிறது என்பதை தெரிந்து கொள்ளவேண்டும். இதனால் முக்கியமானவர்களுக்கு கொடுக்கப்படாம லிருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் taxi வைத்துக்கொண்டிருகிறவாகளுக்கு கொஞ சம் கூடுதலாகத்தான் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். இதைச்சார்யால முறையால அமைத்து இந்த taxi காரர்கள் Mileage படிதான் ஓடப்படவேண்டுமென்ப தையும் கவனிக்கவேண்டுமென்பதாக கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

(At this stage the Hon. the Speaker occupied the chair.)

" இதைத்தவிர லாரிகளும் பஸ்களும் கிராமாந்திரங்களில் அநேகமாக charcoal போட்டுதான் ஓட்டிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். பெட்ரோலில ஓடவில்லை. கிராமாந்திரங்களில காரில் ஓடாத லாரிகளுக்கும் பஸ்களுக்கும பல இடங்களில் வேணடிய பெட்ரோல கொடுத்து சௌகர்யம் செயயவ இல்லை. சரியான முறையில car வைததுக்கொணடிருக்கறவாகளுக்கு பெட் ரோல் விநியோகம் செய்யவேண்டுமென்பதாக கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

SRI K. ANANDAN NAMBIAR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, in rising to speak on this cut motion I request the Hon. Minister to consider the question of railway and road co-ordination instead of allowing the buses to ply adjacent to railway and thus competing with them. I can see the T.V.S. buses running all along by the side of the railway from Madura to Trichinopoly. If there is co-ordination between the two, the burden on the road would be greatly reduced. Now that the Central Government have taken over the railways into their hands, the Provincial Government can discuss the subject with them and see that the road transport feeds the railways instead of competing with them.

" Then the next point I wish to state for the consideration of the Hon. Minister is this: criticism has been levelled against nationalization of buses on the plea that private owners of buses are penalized; for by taking away buses from them they are being deprived of their means of livelihood. My predecessor, Srimathi Lakshmi Ammal, said that some consideration should be given to the case of private owners of buses. I say, Sir, consideration of interests of private owners is no concern of ours. But we should consider the interests of the people as a whole. Nationalization of the entire motor transport should be taken up. Mr. Salam said nationalization confuses the issue; for there is the question of taking over of the tramways in the City and so on. Sir, there is no room for confusing the issue. Nationalization of motor transport is a separate subject. The taking over of the tramways is a separate subject. So, why confuse the issue. Then, Sir, Government are not taking up nationalization in right line. Because they have taken it up here in the City of Madras and in one or two mufassal towns only. It does not require much time to take over the entire system. Another point is Government are trying to give some shares to private owners of buses, and they say it will take from five to ten years for nationalization of the bus service."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" We are giving a certain percentage of shares to the railways, a certain percentage to the local bodies and about 15 per cent to private owners."

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SRI K. ANANDAN NAMBIYAR:—" I say even that is not correct. When the State is to take over the service, there is no point in giving some share to some private owners. I do not think there will be any hardship to them. For during the war they have earned much, and so even compensation need not be paid. Perhaps, if necessary, in the case of poor owners of buses, as suggested by Srimathi Lakshmi Ammal, let them be paid something as compensation when the State takes over the bus, lorry and motor traffic. Perhaps Government may say ' we are not earning much. ' If it is run on efficient lines, they will earn more. We who belong to the Communists Party, will certainly support any nationalization scheme and we will go to any extent. But, at the same time, we say Government should not encourage private owners by way of giving them shares. Because the zamindars, who will get compensation money shortly, will approach the Hon. Minister and ask for some shares saying, ' you know, Sir, we have lost our land, we have now on means of livelihood, so please give us some shares in the transport scheme. ' So, Sir, for all these reasons, I support the cut motion."

* MR. W. J. FERNANDEZ:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall be brief. I wish to press on the attention of the Hon. Minister a point which is of very considerable importance to bus owners in the Province. I understand, subject to correction, that there is no provision for an appeal from the finding of Central Road Traffic Board. It seems the orders passed by the Central Road Traffic Board are final. I took a particular case to the notice of the Hon. Minister some time back. It was a case where a patent injustice had been done; but I was told by him that the Central Road Traffic Board was the final authority, and so Government could not interfere. If that is so, I request the Hon. Minister to bring to this House a suitable amending Bill in this behalf very soon."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" The Bill before us here provides for that."

MR. W. J. FERNANDEZ:—" I am glad to hear it. For, the final voice should always rest with the Government, because it is only then the aggrieved party will have the satisfaction of going to Government, where every one hopes that justice will be done."

* SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, the House had full information about utilizing the bus service for the benefit of the people. But a mere pronouncement of nationalization is not going to give benefit. In fact, benefit to the people had been retarded already sufficiently, and to adopt a programme of five years means there will be difficulty for another five years. Already in mufassal areas, we find buses rattling too much and stopping on the roads very frequently and the hour of reaching the destination is delayed by more than 20 to 24 hours. Under these circumstances, in the name of nationalization, if transport buses are being kept in this state of affairs for the next so many years, it means the condition of service will go from bad to

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worse. The Hon. Minister on the floor of the House this morning stated in reply to an interpellation of mine that the existing facilities of transport will be maintained till nationalization takes place. Sir, no new permit is to be granted, and the existing permits will be extended only for a few months, and so no new buses will be purchased by the bus owners. May I know what is the policy of the Government in respect of replacement permits to existing buses? The existing buses are now in a very deplorable condition. They have not been given permits for replacement for the last five or six years. In my own constituency, there are instances where bus-owners have not been given permits for replacement permits from 1943 onwards. Very recently, there was some difficulty in respect of getting permit for the service running from Morappur to Dharmapuri, a distance of 19 miles.

4-45 p.m. "That affair seems to have been bungled in the local Road Traffic Board and it came up to the Central Road Traffic Board and an old bus has been put in the said route and a new permit-holder was allowed to run it. Instead of creating these difficulties in the mufassal areas, I request the Government to gauge the situation and see that by either amending the Act or framing an additional rule the rattling buses are replaced.

"For nationalization of transport, Madras City has been taken up first and a certain number of State buses are running. I am not a frequent traveller in the City buses. But to the extent I have travelled in them, I may say this. They are not decent, they stop on the roads frequently, and they have begun rattling within a very short time. They must be properly cleaned and neatly kept. I am afraid, and this is only a presumption based on the practice followed in many of the buses, that the funds are also misappropriated. Better supervision must be ensured."

"With these words, I support the demand."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the first place, I should like to submit that though the demand I moved related to Motor Vehicles Acts, the whole discussion turned upon the question of nationalization. I submitted to the Deputy Speaker during your absence that the actual demand under discussion was concerned with the Motor Vehicles Acts and not with the nationalization scheme. There is a separate demand for grant for nationalization coming later on. It was pointed out that nationalization was intimately connected with the administration of Motor Vehicles Acts and therefore discussion on nationalization also proceeded side by side.

"I would submit that in the matter of nationalization and administration of motor transport, a long-range view will have to be taken. Perhaps it is natural that criticisms of a general character are made with reference to particular instances or things happening on a particular day. If a certain gentleman goes to a bus stand on a particular day and does not find a bus, he says: 'The whole bus service in the Province is rotten to the core.' If

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another gentleman gets into a bus and if it is rattling, he says: 'What is all this? The Government do nothing. They are putting rattling buses on the road.' If some bus-owner or official does not get petrol, he says: 'This petrol allotment is wrong; the whole system is rotten.' It reminds me of a story, which was alluded to by the Hon. Finance Minister on another occasion, in which six blind men went to see an elephant. Each one touching one particular part of its body, compared it to something else and the combined picture they drew was anything but the elephant. I would submit that nationalization of motor transport service is a large question confined to not one or two districts but all the twenty-four districts in the Province and the City of Madras. Nationalization is just in its infancy; it is a crying infant hardly a year old. Therefore, I would submit that the exercise of the right of rigorous criticism by several hon. Members is due to an absence of proper perspective in the matter. When we start a nationalization scheme, the trouble is that we are not able to start *ab initio*. It is not as if we can wipe out everything existing and put in all new things. For example, railways have been taken over by the State. The Government could not do away with all the old rotten carriages and put in new carriages all at once. The thing can be done only gradually. Hon. Members will be aware of the proverb: 'Rome was not built in a day.'

"My hon. Friends, Mr. Anandan Nambiar and Mr. Venkateswarlu . . . I am sorry Mr. Venkateswarlu is not present here . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"He told me that he had got some business."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"There is Mr. Anandan Nambiyar who will convey my reply to Mr. Venkateswarlu. The criticism of both these hon. Members is quite in line with the general policy and propaganda of the Communist Party. They promise a new heaven and a new earth just round the corner. They lose nothing by making large and wide promises. My hon. Friend Mr. Venkateswarlu asked: 'Why not nationalize the whole transport service in the Province within one year?' I find from the criticism made by Mr. Raghavayya . . . I am sorry he is not present. I am afraid that it is hardly fair on his part to be absent even after attention has been drawn repeatedly that, whenever Members make serious criticism, they should be present to hear the reply. It is a serious act of disrespect to this Assembly, if I may say so, with your permission.

"I have to protest against the language used by Mr. Salam. This morning he said in this Assembly that to his question asking for the policy of the Government in buying vehicles, the Minister replied that the Government had no policy. He is an younger man and his memory should be fresh. For a practising lawyer, accuracy of statement is one of the fundamental things necessary for success. I referred to the official proceedings and the answer to the question was 'Notice'. The question related

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to some other aspect. Supplementarily, the policy of the Government in buying vehicles was asked for and quite legitimately the reply was given 'Notice'. 'Notice' does not mean absence of policy. I do not know what dictionary my learned Friend has been using or whether he has used any dictionary at all. I submit that notice means something far different from absence of policy. The statement of the hon. Member in this House was made without proper verification or scrutiny."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of personal explanation. Even after taking up the entire bus service in the Madras City, if the Hon. Minister wants notice we have yet to see whether he has a policy or not."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"There is no use in my Friend trying to sidetrack the issue. He made a statement on the floor of this Assembly that the Minister said that the Government had no policy in buying vehicles. That is not correct. According to the official proceedings, the reply given was 'Notice'. There is no use in trying to divert the matter to an altogether different issue. The statement was an inaccurate statement irresponsibly made.

"One other point was raised by Mr. Salam and that is the supposed interference of the Government with the proceedings of the Central Road Traffic Board with reference to the S.R.V.S. case. He being a lawyer, I expect from him a better appreciation of the position. The Motor Vehicles Act is an Act passed by the Central Legislature, and model regulations under that Act were furnished by the Government of India. On the basis of the model regulations, Madras Government framed certain rules. One of them is rule 150. Under that rule, the Government can give instructions or directions to any of the subordinate authorities and they will be binding on such authorities. Purporting to act under that rule 150 only, those instructions were issued. In passing I may say that the Government Order containing the instructions was issued in 1946 long before I took up the portfolio. The legality of issuing the instructions had been accepted by the highest legal officers of the Crown. Subsequently, the question went up before the Madras High Court as to whether the instructions issued by the Government were valid and sustainable in law. On an examination of the whole structure of the Act, the High Court arrived at the conclusion that this rule was beyond the rule-making power vested in the Government under the statutory provisions. I submit that a single Judge of the High Court came to a contrary conclusion. He found that rule 150 was a perfectly valid rule and that the Government were well within their power in acting under it. Such differences of opinion on points of law must be a familiar experience to any member of the bar practising in any of the courts in South India. I submit it has happened a number of times that full bench judgments of the High Court have been reversed by the Privy Council. I know that recently in a case which was in force for a series of years there was a full

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bench judgment of the High Court that under section 21? of the Evidence Act confessional statements of accused persons could be admitted. On the basis of those statements, a number of accused have been sentenced to be hanged. Recently, a Privy Council judgment declared that confessional statements of the accused should not be admitted except with reference to recovery of articles. Several persons are still in jail though the findings of the Privy Council reversed the full bench judgment of the High Court. We are all human beings, and there may be possible differences of opinion on the interpretation of rules and regulations. I submit that it is wrong for the hon. Member to suggest that the Government do not respect or obey the directions of the High Court. My Friend, Mr. Fernandez, spoke of a case where, he thought, an unjust order was passed by the Central Road Traffic Board. He brought it to the notice of the Government. Under the High Court judgment, we have no power unless the defect is remedied by a new Act of the Legislature. Whether there should be nationalization or not, whether there should be an appeal to the Government against the orders of the Central Road Traffic Board or not, whether revisional powers should be vested in the Government or not are matters of policy with which courts of justice have absolutely nothing to do. When the High Court has declared that rule 150 is not a valid rule, and the Government feel that the power to issue instructions is necessary for them, the only course open to them is to convert the rule into a section of the Act. That is what is being done. The whole matter is before the Assembly and the Council and the hon. Members of these Houses will have to go into the question whether in the circumstances of the matter it is necessary to vest the Government with powers of revision and appeal and allow the Bill to become law. There is absolutely no question of the Government disrespecting the judgments of the High Court. On the other hand, the Government yield to nobody else in maintaining the integrity and independence of the judiciary from the High Court to the lowest Third-class Magistrates' Courts. In the years past, courts of justice have been the bulwarks of justice and individual freedom, and they will continue to be the bulwarks of justice and individual freedom in our country.

"Now, Sir, as regards petrol rationing, there have been individual complaints. There are bound to be individual complaints till the very end of times. But when the supply of petrol is very limited and when our petrol position is deteriorating from time to time, we have to be more careful, strict and stringent in our supply of petrol to individuals, bus-owners and lorry-owners and have to revise and reduce our petrol ration from time to time. 5 p.m.
But in so far as it was possible, we have taken care to see that all these people are supplied with petrol on a standard basis and that large individual variations do not take place, although individual variations are bound to take place in any scheme of things. Shortly after I took charge of this portfolio, I scrutinized the figures for some of the districts and found that there were great

differences in the supply of petrol from district to district and between vehicles and vehicles. Then we made a rule, that if they are buses, a certain quantity should be allowed, if they are lorries engaged in essential transport such as food or fuel, a certain allowance should be made, and if they are private cars, a certain less allowance should be made according to the requirements of each case and thus, in that way, we have standardized these different variations and reduced them to the barest possible minimum. Essential service vehicles, military vehicles and lorries engaged in the transport of essential articles—all these were standardized and given a greater or lesser quantity according to the classifications."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Mr. Speaker, may I know why a particular date was fixed and ex-military vehicles such as jeeps and lorries which were registered before that date were supplied with petrol and permits issued?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Here again, Sir, I am afraid that the hon. Member is under a little misapprehension. So far as allotment to controlled vehicles is concerned, they are made by the Government. Therefore the Government know the number of controlled vehicles that are running in the Province, that is to say, they know that so many buses and so many lorries and so many other vehicles are on service throughout the Province and they also know the overall position of petrol in the Province, and so they regulate the supply according to the demand. But so far as ex-military vehicles are concerned, formerly these private owners simply used to take these vehicles to the military petrol dump, show them there and ask, 'give us petrol' and thus they were able to obtain any quantity of petrol they wanted, because the military authorities did not know any of these rules. Since then, Sir, this position was examined in the light of the recent orders of the Government of India. So far as ex-military vehicles are concerned, the position to-day is that there is absolutely no obligation on the part of the Provincial Government to supply any petrol whatsoever. The only obligation on our part is that we should supply petrol in respect of such vehicles to take them from the Disposal camp to the purchaser's place. Those are the latest orders given to us by the Government of India and that is our position to-day. But many of these ex-military vehicles are already on the road and many of them are also engaged on some public service, and therefore we considered this question and decided that it would not be fair to deny them petrol altogether. But in their case, we reduced the quantity of petrol considerably. A Press Communiqué to this effect was also issued somewhere about September or October 1947, stating that ex-military vehicles that were in service prior to 1st August 1947 would alone be given petrol and that those that came into service after that date would not be given any petrol. That is the position, Sir. Notices were also issued to the public that people

who purchased military vehicles after that date will not be given petrol. If, therefore, any persons were so anxious and wanted to make quick money by the purchase or sale of these lorries or jeeps or other ex-military vehicles, they will have to go without petrol. We can only sympathize with them, but we are unable to help them in any manner. Sir, it is in view of the difficult petrol position in the Province that we had to resort to these measures.

"Now, Sir, with regard to the question of giving permits for fresh routes, the same consideration, namely, want of adequate supply of petrol applies here also. As I said, Sir, there is an increasing demand for more routes; there is an increasing demand for more buses; there is an increasing number of old operators pressing the Government with fresh applications. There is an increasing demand for the supply of petrol. At the same time, there is an increasing clamour for more conveniences in buses from the travelling public. All these divergent demands and all these conflicting claims have got to be reconciled, co-ordinated and harmonised in the light of our overall position of the number of buses on the road and the quantity of petrol that we have in the Province. We are, as I have said, only maintaining the existing routes. Of course, in certain areas where there is more heavy traffic and where things are more urgent, we have given certain new routes, but they are rather an exception than the general rule. So we are not able to allow enough petrol even to the existing services on account of our difficult petrol position. Until our petrol position improves, until the charcoal position improves and until we are able to produce more gas-plants and re-introduce these gas-plant vehicles on the road, until we are able to import more diesel oil engines and put them on the road—until then, all these difficulties are bound to continue and our transport position will not, in any way, improve materially. The only thing that we can do is to make the best of the existing circumstances and distribute our existing available supply of petrol as fairly and as equitably as possible to the public and to the existing services.

"Now, Sir, let me come to certain criticisms that were made as regards body-building. I submit, Sir, that here again my hon. Friend, Mr. Raghavayya has made the same criticisms which he had made before and to which I had already replied at length in the course of my reply when I introduced the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, sometime ago. I find that he is now absent. As a protest against his absence I will not reply to any of the criticisms that he has made on the floor of this Assembly. But I would only submit that so far as his criticism with reference to body-building is concerned, they are as flimsy and as fallacious as one could imagine and his whole line of argument was as inconsistent as ever. On a former occasion he asked, 'why do you give the contract to a Bombay firm when you can get them done here itself?' To-day he turns the other way round and asks, 'why do you go in for all these buses locally, when body-building is cheaper in Bombay?' Therefore he is inconsistent in his own

argument. So far as this question of body-building is concerned, the Government have considered all aspects of the matter. We advertised it in all newspapers and invited tenders. As a result of those advertisements, tenders were received from two firms, one from Bombay and the other from Madras. We examined both of them and after considering all the aspects of the matter, we entered into the arrangements we did.

"Sir, one can easily realize that the cost of body-building depends upon various factors, such as the value of the materials used, the type of vehicles built, the quality of workmanship and the design and so on. Therefore cheapness is not the only criterion. All other factors have got to be taken into consideration. As for the bodies built by the Bombay firm, they have got a certain process or mould by means of which they are able to turn out more bodies at a cheaper rate and at a much quicker time, than the Madras firm. So far as the Madras firm is concerned, they do not have such a mechanical process, but they follow their own individual process and the material used by them is aluminium instead of wood. Aluminium, as you know, Sir, is more costly than wood and hence these buses are more costly; at the same time they are more durable. But they produce more noise, and much of the rattling noise that we very often hear in some of these Government buses and which is complained of by some hon. Members on the floor of this House, is due to the aluminium plates used in these buses. Here again, the quality of the workmanship and materials used, is also different. Suppose, Sir, you buy a certain article in the Moore Market and the same article you buy from the Spencers, don't you see the difference in price? Don't you also notice the difference in quality? Similarly here also, the qualities are different and hence the prices are different.

"Sir, we have arranged to bring here on Tuesday, the 16th instant at about 4-30 p.m. all the different types of Government transport vehicles that are in service in the City—buses built by Messrs. Simpson & Co., buses built by the Bombay firm and the buses turned out at our own workshop and also the diesel oil engine buses. All these four types of buses will be put up for exhibition and will be available for inspection by hon. Members of the House, and I would invite them to have a joy-ride, so that they can test for themselves the quality of the materials used and the running of the buses.

"Sir, this is a new commercial venture upon which the Government have entered and they are doing everything possible to make it a success. We want a number of buses as quickly as possible. If we give the contract to one firm, they will not be able to build more than 20 buses in a month. My hon. Friend, Mr. Venkateswarlu wants us to nationalize the bus transport of the whole province within one year while we are not able to put in even our fixed quota of 300 buses for Madras within a year. So far we have been able to put only 160 buses on the road and we are still short of about 140 buses. Our programme is to have 300 buses before the end of this year. There are various practical difficulties

in the matter of securing buses. It is very easy for hon. Members on the floor of the House to say, 'Nationalize the bus transport of the entire province within one year.' Where are we to go for the required number of buses? We cannot simply go and buy any kind of vehicles from all and sundry owners, nor is it possible to deal with each and every individual owner direct. We have got to fix a certain standard and fix the prices of the buses. We have got to allow for some depreciation at the end of each year, which will be about 40 per cent. We have therefore to frame certain rules and regulations in the matter of the purchase of these buses and also lay down certain specifications and standards which these buses should satisfy. These are the various practical difficulties in the nationalization of bus transport. If we want to build the bodies in our own workshops, we will have to expand our existing workshops and we have got to get the necessary trained personnel. We have got also to set up the necessary administrative machinery for working out the scheme. All these require time and a lot of initial planning and outlay. We have now made a beginning to build bodies in our own workshops. My hon. Friend, from Kodaikanal wants that the Madura-Kodaikanal ghat service should be taken up from the 1st of April next. We have put up a programme for that and we are giving necessary directions to our officers in the matter. The hon. Member from Coimbatore wants that we should take up the Coimbatore-Ootacamund ghat service also. We have laid down a programme for taking up this service also. To put up more workshops, to find out the various subsidiary things necessary for the purpose, to put up various halting places and sheds for these buses, to find out the necessary personnel to run these buses, and in fact to implement the whole scheme, requires time. But we are doing all these things as quickly as possible and as urgently as possible, consistent with efficiency and economy. Therefore, in the light of these factors, I would give an assurance to the House through you, Sir, that so far as our nationalization programme is concerned, the Government will do everything possible to put through the scheme in the quickest and the most efficient manner possible.

"Sir, why are we going to build bodies ourselves? Are we interested in paying big sums to these private firms? It is because we think we can economise body-building by starting workshops ourselves, that we are launching upon this plan. But starting big workshops cannot be done overnight. As I said, it requires so many things. It takes months for putting up the necessary buildings and plants. We have to find the necessary trained personnel. Subject to all these conditions, we are doing our best to carry on with the scheme as rapidly as possible.

"Sir, applications have been received for permits from co-operative societies. So far as I know, the delay has not been on the part of the Road Traffic Authorities. The delay is probably due to the Co-operative department, because they are the people who have to deal with these applications, frame certain rules, regulations and by-laws and see that these applications conform

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to those rules and regulations. The Government have passed a Government Order that the Road Transport Authorities should consider favourably the issue of permits to co-operative societies and particularly to organizations in which bus workers themselves are enrolled as members."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" What about Harijans? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" They are a special class, Sir, by themselves. But here in this matter, we are concerned only with bus operators and workers who are shareholders in co-operative societies. The Government have already issued a Government Order somewhere about August 1946 that all facilities should be given to them. As I have said just now, at the present moment, the Government are not in a position to give any instructions or directions to the Road Traffic Authorities in any matter. From the date of the judgment of the High Court in the S.R.V.S. case, we have stopped giving any directions to the Provincial Road Traffic Board and we have simply turned down all appeals made to us by bus operators against the decision of that Authority. It is only after the Bill which is now before the Select Committee has passed through both the Houses of the Legislature, that the Government will be vested with the necessary powers and be in a position to give directions in the matter of transport to the authorities concerned. But I may, however submit, Sir, in this connection that giving of general instructions to the Transport Authorities by the Government or revision of orders passed by the Transport Board are perfectly within the scope of the Provincial Government and our proposed amendments on this subject are entirely in consonance with the procedure that is being obtained in Britain and laid down in the latest Acts of the British Parliament. I may also submit, Sir, for the information of the House, that about the end of last year, one of the biggest nationalization of transport schemes in the world was undertaken by the British Government and the British Parliament passed an Act giving effect to this, and this Act contains these two provisions which are exactly similar to the provisions which we have in our Act, namely, the provision for revision of the decisions of the Transport Authorities by the Government on appeal, and also provision for issuing general directions to these authorities. Therefore, Sir, the question whether new permits will be given to particular routes, or sanction will be given for additional buses to run on the same routes—all these questions will have to be decided only in the light of the overall position of petrol that is available in the Provincee and only after the Government have taken powers under the new Amended Act to give general instructions to transport authorities in the matter.

" Sir, various other suggestions have been made and various criticisms offered. All these will be duly considered and whatever is necessary will be done by the Government. I would only request the co-operation, the sympathetic co-operation of all in this new venture of ours.

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" Sir, we are entering upon a new and untrodden path. The path of nationalization is new to the Madras Government though it has already been undertaken by Travancore and Hyderabad. So far as Madras is concerned, this is the first nationalization scheme that we are venturing upon and we are doing it for the benefit of the common man, so that the transport services would be useful to the community at large by discharging their duties efficiently and satisfactorily. I would therefore request, Sir, the mover of the cut motion to withdraw the same and that the grant be made." 5-1 P.M

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" On a point for clarification, Sir. If the Government are serious about the nationalization of the transport service, may I know, Sir, why they have not taken up the Tramways and why they have given it to the Corporation? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" So far as the Tramways are concerned, Sir, their licence would expire by about 1952 or 1954. Sometime back there were some negotiations between the Tramway Company and the Provincial Government to take over the Tramways. But the company demanded a very high price which the Government were not willing to pay and so the bargain was dropped. I understand that later on there was some negotiation between the Corporation and the Tramway Company. The Government have no voice in the matter. It may be that the Corporation might come to the Government for a loan or for any other purpose. So far as the Tramway Company is concerned there is no conflict between the nationalization programme of the Government and the Tramways. For the last twenty-five years the Tramways and the bus service were running side by side without any conflict. Madras has a large population of over 13½ lakhs. The running of about 100 trams is not going to make any great difference. By about 1952 or 1954 their licence will come up for renewal and then the Government will be in a position to consider the question, namely, whether the Tramway Company should be continued or should be wiped out."

SRI K. ANANDAN NAMBIAR:—" We have seen, Sir, that the Hon. Minister has just said that it would not be possible to take over all the buses that are now plying because of the reason that they could not be bought. Why can't the Government fix a particular rate which they are going to pay anyhow during the course of the next five years? Why can't they do it now and take over the buses and nationalize them without waiting for new chassis and new allotments? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" Sir, I am afraid the ideology of our Communist friends is different from our ideologies. My hon. Friend, Sir, is very anxious to grab all that comes in his way and take over the buses. But, Sir, we have got our responsibilities. We have to see whether these buses are roadworthy and worthy of longer service. Secondly, we have already fixed the scale of compensation to be paid to these operators but they are not willing to accept the fixation of prices. We do not want

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to exercise our authority in compelling the private operators to part with their buses. They may get a higher price for their vehicles in some other province or they may take the buses to some other routes. They can by all means do so. We only want to respect the individual rights of the bus-owners. The unworthy condition of most of buses on the road is also another factor from not taking the buses for our nationalization scheme. That is why we are putting on the road buses which will command the admiration of the public and serve comfortably and conveniently the needs of the travelling public."

M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" In view of the assurance given by the Hon. Minister, Sir, though they are not entirely satisfactory, I beg to withdraw my cut motion."

The cut motion was by leave of the House withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is

' that under Demand VI—Motor Vehicles Act, the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,13,500 '."

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

MR. SPEAKER:—" I adjourn the House to meet on Monday, the 15th March 1948 at 11 a.m."

The House adjourned.

APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 154, asked by Sri K. Rajaram Nayudu (on behalf of Sri G. Kumaraswami) at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 13th March 1948, page 13 supra.]

THE CHICACOLE CO-OPERATIVE CENTRAL BANK, LIMITED.

PROGRESS STATEMENT.

Year.	Paid-up share capital.	Deposits received from individuals.	Loans issued.	Percentage of overdues to demand.		Bad and doubtful debts.	Reserve Fund and bad debts reserve.
				Principal.	Interest.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	PER CENT.	PER CENT.	Rs.	Rs.
1936–37 ..	71,749	24,000	23,602	79·00	26·20	95,976	39,117
1937–38 ..	71,896	1,93,636	1,14,500	72·70	27·05	74,864	40,740
1938–39 ..	74,859	1,97,918	1,20,924	76·63	40·67	73,589	41,732
1939–40 ..	77,440	2,35,772	1,91,048	59·80	30·14	70,848	45,732
1940–41 ..	78,576	2,63,618	1,54,730	51·88	42·04	48,810	46,238
1941–42 ..	81,806	3,02,271	3,02,277	47·30	50·03	48,732	47,247
1942–43 ..	87,361	5,82,655	5,07,486	37·73	47·47	47,860	49,138
1946–47 ..	1,99,842	19,40,673	37,70,027	11·12	15·92	47,220	51,825

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, the 15th March 1948.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Shoranur-Nilambur Railway.

[* 157 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member Mr. Seethi Sahib is not in his place. The answer will be printed in the proceedings."]

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the reply given on behalf of the Central Government in the Dominion Assembly on 6th February 1948 that no reply was received from the Madras Government to their reference regarding the restoration of the Shoranur-Nilambur Railway and the extension of the line from Nilambur;

(*b*) whether any reply has been sent by the Madras Government since then;

(*c*) what the reply is;

(*d*) if the reply to (*b*) is in the negative, the date on which the reference was received; and

(*e*) the reasons for the delay in sending the reply?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) No. The proceedings of the Dominion Assembly Debates are not yet available.

" (*b*) & (*c*) Originally this Government did not include the restoration of the Shoranur-Nilambur line in the Post-war Scheme as the army authorities had to be consulted in regard to the usefulness of the line from a strategic point of view. The army authorities who were addressed in the matter subsequently stated that they did not require the line. However, in June 1947, in reply to the Railway Board's letter of 6th December 1946, enquiring whether this Government desired to amend the Railway Board's tentative programme of July 1945, owing to subsequent developments, this Government forwarded their revised recommendations to the Government of India (Railway Board). So far as the restoration of the Shoranur-Nilambur Railway is concerned, which the Government of India specifically mentioned, this Government have intimated to the Railway Board, that the restoration of this line was previously dropped shortly after the

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Conference of 1st November 1944, but that subsequent developments have necessitated a reconsideration and that the question will, therefore, form the subject of a separate reference. As regards the extension of the railway from Nilambur, the Government of India (Railway Board) have not so far addressed this Government in regard to the proposed extension and there has, therefore, been no necessity for this Government to send a reply to the Government of India. It is, however, considered that there is no necessity for the extension, as the area is served by good motorable roads.

" (*d*) & (*e*) The questions do not arise in view of the answer to clauses (*b*) and (*c*)."

Representation regarding the formation of panchayat boards.

* 158 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU (on behalf of Sri K. Anandan Nambiar): Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether the Government have received representations for the formation of panchayat boards for the villages of Ponmalaipatti (Golden Rock, Trichinopoly) and Kottapatti villages, and if so, what action has been taken?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" No such representation was received by Government. It is however found that a panchayat board by name " Golden Rock " was constituted for the two villages of Kottapatti and Ponmalaipatti by the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards in February 1948."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" May I know, Sir, at what stage the long-expected Village Panchayat Bill is? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" It has nothing to do with the question, Sir."

Purchase and resale of certain articles by the co-operative wholesale stores.

* 159 Q.—SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTI (on behalf of Sri V. Raghavayya) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that in some co-operative wholesale stores, lorries, jeeps, timber and military stores are purchased on priority basis ostensibly for the co-operative stores, but actually utilized by some directors or resold at profit—

(1) in case of resale of the above assets, whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that the profits are utilized by directors for their personal use and not credited to the accounts of the stores;

(2) in such cases, whether the Government have conducted enquiries about the directors' transactions and about the departmental officers involved, and if so, with what results; and

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(3) whether the Government will place on the table of the House particulars regarding the above instances brought to their notice?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" Lorries, jeeps and military stores are purchased by Co-operative Wholesale Stores on priority basis. There are no cases of purchase of timber by them as far as this department is aware. The lorries and jeeps are used for the work of the institutions and during the course of the discharge of their official duties the directors are using them.

(1) No case of resale and utilization of profits by the directors has been brought to the notice of the department.

(2) & (3) These do not arise in view of the answer to (1) above."

Ejection of ryots from their homesteads in some estates.

[* 160 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar is not in his place. The answer will be printed in the proceedings."]

SRI P. VENKATARAMA AYYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government are aware that in some estates the zamindars and inamdars with a view to forestall and thwart the proposed zamindari abolition legislation, are taking urgent steps to eject ryots from their homesteads on the village common thus making it impossible for them to remain in the villages and cultivate their lands?

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" In November 1947, the Government received a representation from the residents of Jambakambalpuram village, Papanasam taluk, Tanjore district, stating that the inamdar was executing decrees of civil courts against them with a view to eject them from their homesteads. The whole matter was covered by proceedings pending in courts and the Government considered that it was not proper for them to interfere in the matter. The Government have not received such complaints from any other place."

Cadre of men and women Civil Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons.

* 161 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any disparity in the cadre of men and women Civil Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons in Government service;

(*b*) if the answer is in the affirmative, the reasons therefor; and

(*c*) the nature of disparity?

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) & (*c*) The disparity is due to the limited number of posts open to women in the department. The number of posts is limited because there are certain types of posts which can be held only by men. Women doctors are at present employed in maternity institutions and in the maternity departments of the general hospitals in the mufassal and also in some of the specialist institutions. The comparative figures for men and women doctors in the cadre of civil surgeons and civil Assistant surgeons, grade I are :—

Civil Surgeons—	
Permanent	**71 men and 5 women.**
Temporary	**14 men and 2 women.**
Civil Assistant Surgeons—	
Class I—	
Permanent	**206 men and 23 women.**
Temporary	**139 men and 26 women.**

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that this disparity is inequitable and inconsistent with the time spirit? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" There is a proposal, Sir, separately under consideration by the Government regarding the question of giving more posts for women in the teaching department."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know, Sir, on what grounds certain posts are considered unsuitable for women? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Men doctors have to examine men patients and do post-mortem examination, etc. And certain administrative posts require touring. So, Sir, it is held that certain posts are more suitable for men than women."

SRI P. NATESAN :—" May I know, Sir, why when there is so much reluctance on the part of the Government to take women as Assistant Surgeons, the Government keep on taking in more and more girl students in the Medical colleges? "

THE HON. SRI A B. SHETTY :—" I have said, Sir, that the question is under examination."

SRI P. NATESAN :—" May I know, Sir, what is the need for examination? I find that there are only 7 women in the grade of civil surgeons. What is happening to all the girl students who are passed out of the Medical Colleges? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Many of them have set up private practice."

SRI P. NATESAN :—" Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, Sir, may I know whether these women surgeons are available in the mufassal parts and if so, could we say that women's relief is given by these medical practitioners outside the Madras City? "

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" There are women practitioners practising outside the Madras City, Sir."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" With reference to the answer given by the Hon. Minister that certain posts are unsuitable for women and that women are not competent to examine men, I wish to know how it is that men appropriate to themselves the right to encroach upon women's sphere and work in the Maternity Hospitals, especially in the Women and Children Hospital at Egmore? I wish to know why men should be there instead of women? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Women are not considered as good surgeons as men are."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTI :—" Do women surgeons perform surgical operations on women and also on men successfully? "

THE HON SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" They perform operations mostly on women."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, with reference to the contention made by the Hon. Minister that men are better surgeons than women, I wish to know from him, whether women are not discharging their duties most efficiently not merely in Government hospitals such as the Gosha Hospital but also in Missionary Hospitals like the Rainy Hospital and the Kalyani Hospital which are always overcrowded. Do all the patients die there and have not women proved themselves to be efficient surgeons in those hospitals. I wish to know why men should appropriate to themselves maternity work which is women's sphere."

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" It is not a question on which I can give an opinion as I am not in possession of information regarding the work of the women in the Missionary Hospitals. So far as major operations are concerned, they are done better by men."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" My point is about maternity work."

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Even regarding maternity work, sometimes major operations such as hysterectomy have to be done and few, if any, women doctors are capable of performing such major operations."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Government will revise their idea with regard to the suitability or unsuitability of women for certain posts in the Medical Service? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The hon. lady Member who has put the question and some other lady Members of the House have come and represented to me on this matter and this question will be examined further."

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SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Government Maternity Hospital, Egmore, even though it is manned by men doctors is as popular, if not more popular, than the maternity hospitals solely manned by lady doctors? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Certainly, Sir. It is one of the largest and best hospitals in this part of the world."

SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI :—" In reply to a question put by Mr. Rajamannar Chetti the Hon. Minister said, Sir, that women were allowed to operate on women alone. If so, may I know, Sir, why men should be allowed to operate on women? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I have already said, Sir, that so far as surgical work is concerned men seem to be better fitted for it than women."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY :—" Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister, whatever might be the decision come to by the Government in the matter of operations, will the Government assure the public that the lives of human beings will not in any way be endangered? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Certainly not, Sir. Every care will be taken to see that life is not endangered."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Will the Government consider the desirability of having parity between men doctors and women doctors in Government service? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" It is not a question of parity. The question is being examined to see whether more appointments could be thrown open to women."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" With reference to the reply given by the Hon. Minister that seven posts are held by women as civil surgeons, I wish to know how many of these posts are temporary and how many permanent? "

THE HON. SRI A. B SHETTY :—" There are about 10 posts which women are holding in . . ."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" I wish to know, Sir, how many women are holding permanent posts. The Hon. Minister is aware that some of the posts which some women are holding are really men's posts. I should like to know how many of the posts are exclusively for women."

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Five posts are permanently held by women as civil surgeons and 23 posts as civil assistant surgeons, in the first grade."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that the existence of the two separate cadres, one for men and another for women is blocking the promotion of many senior women on this account many junior men are stealing a march over competent women doctors of considerable experience? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" That is exactly the reason why the question is being examined, Sir."

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" May I have an assurance from the Hon. Minister, Sir, that he will take urgent steps to abolish these two cadres and have only one uniform cadre irrespective of sex and based solely on merit? May I have the assurance that the Hon. Minister will be guided by merit and merit alone and not by sex prejudice? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" This question will be sympathetically considered, Sir. I have every sympathy for women's claims."

Water scarcity in Pattikonda town.

* 162 *Q.*—SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI (on behalf of Sri N. Venkata Subbayya) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that acute water scarcity prevails in Pattikonda town (Kurnool district);

(*b*) whether any representations have been received in the past one and a half years requesting the execution of suitable protected water-supply scheme, and if so, from whom have the representations come;

(*c*) whether there is a proposal to supply water from Handri River, and if so, whether it has been investigated and what are the details of the scheme;

(*d*) whether the District Board has agreed to give any grant and, if so, how much;

(*e*) whether the Panchayat Board, Pattikonda, and the people have agreed to contribute a sum of Rs. 50,000 for the scheme; and

(*f*) when the Government would take up the scheme for execution?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) The present water-supply is reported to be inadequate.

" (*b*) Representations were received from the Panchayat Board, Pattikonda and also from the hon. Member.

" (*c*) There is a proposal to supply water to the village from the river Handri which is about 3 miles from Pattikonda. The scheme is under investigation. The approximate cost of a scheme to serve a population of 7,500 at five gallons per head per day will be Rs. 1,05,000 to instal, Rs. 1,800 a year to maintain and Rs. 1,500 to investigate.

" (*d*) The District Board, Kurnool, has resolved to contribute Rs. 50,000 from its Railway-cess Fund.

" (*e*) The Panchayat Board has stated that it will not be difficult for it to meet one-fourth of the cost of the scheme with the help of contributions from the public.

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" (*f*) The proposals are under scrutiny by the Collector and after final proposals are received from the Collector, through the Board of Revenue the question of sanctioning the scheme will be considered."

11-15 a.m. SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government will consider the desirability of expediting the matter as the people of Pattikonda have been suffering a lot due to scarcity of water? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir. A reminder will be sent to the Collector."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" May I ask, Sir, when the Government will be in a position to execute this particular scheme? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, as soon as final proposals come to the Government, it will be taken up."

SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware, Sir, that not only Pattikonda, but also hundreds of villages in Rayalaseema are going on without even drinking water? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, from the Hon. Minister whether he is aware that wherever there is the name ' Konda '—e.g., Uravakonda, Penukonda and Pattikonda—there is water scarcity, and may I also know why priority is not given to those places to supply drinking water in the Government scheme? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I have no particular information about places called ' Kondas,' Sir. But I know, as a matter of fact, that most of the villages in Rayalaseema are suffering owing to want of water facilities. Collectors have been asked to give special attention to the needs of Rayalaseema districts."

SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI :—" Has the Hon. Minister, Sir, received any petitions from the villagers of Anantapur district to supply them with drinking water, and, if so, what action have the Government taken? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir; a petition has been received and it will be duly considered."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" In view of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, Sir, that most of the villages in Rayalaseema have been suffering from want of water, may I ask what priority—or what facilities—have the Government been kind enough to assign to these villages? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, instructions have been issued to Collectors to pay special attention to the needs of Rayalaseema villages, and additional amounts also are being provided whenever applied for."

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SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" Sir, in this particular case, i.e., Pattikonda town, may I ask whether the Government will be in a position to complete the execution of this scheme within one or two years? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" We shall try, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, in view of the fact that Pattikonda taluk has been suffering on account of malaria, want of drinking water-supply and so many other difficulties, may I ask the Hon. Minister for Public Health whether his department will give its very immediate attention to satisfying the needs of this unfortunate area? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, I have already said that as soon as the proposals are received, the Government will take action."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" Sir, instead of awaiting the proposals, will the Government themselves call for the proposals? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, the hon. Member has apparently not heard my answer given earlier. I have already said that a reminder will be sent to the Collector to expedite the submission of the proposals."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Questions are over."

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

II.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—*cont.*

DEMAND :—LAND REVENUE.

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

' that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 29,11,300 *under Demand No. I. Land Revenue.'*

The fact that leaders of various groups in this Assembly have deemed it necessary to shove down the Land Revenue Demand in the order of demands shows . . . "

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR :—" That is not true, Sir. That was done at the request of the Hon. Minister for Land Revenue."

* THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" No, I wanted the postponement only from Saturday to Monday. Formerly land revenue demand was demand No. I. This year so many other demands have been given priority. That shows that apart from demands have been given priority, the House is more anxious to discuss the demands for expenditure than demands for taxation. Nonetheless, land revenue and the land policy of the Government form one of the important pedastals on which the Government itself stands even to-day. (Interruption.) Of course I will include it in my reply. We have now new progressive socialists here. (Laughter.) We wish to understand their new policy. I am prepared to answer them when they speak. Now, I would like to state that the land

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revenue policy of the Government has been before the House in all its aspects. The main item is about the abolition of the zamindaries. It will come to a culmination before this Budget session is over. With reference to the ryotwari area in this Province, which is about 28,000,000 acres in extent, I must confess that during all these years, in spite of the recommendations of the Joint Select Committee in the year 1919, the Government did not bring forward any Land Code or Act. The Government are at present contemplating it, and I have said on the floor of this House more than once that the codification of the Land Revenue Law will be undertaken in the very near future. A Special Officer is working on this, and I do hope that we will get the proposals examined by a non-official committee, sitting only at Madras publish them for public criticism, and then introduce the code in the Legislature probably in the next session or so.

"There is a third aspect to this question, namely, the relation between the pattadar and the tenant. There is no legislation at present in the Province about this matter too. The Government appointed some time ago a Special Officer (Sri N. Ragavendra Rao) to go into this matter. That gentleman has prepared two reports and both the reports are printed. One is with reference to the tenancy in Malabar and the other is with reference to the tenancy in ryotwari areas of the Madras Government. These reports are being closely examined. I do hope to issue them at a very early date. We will have to undertake legislation on the basis of the recommendations of the Special Officer and if necessary take some more advance steps also in that line. I do not like to take much of the time of the House, because I think this is a three hour demand. I shall be very glad to answer the criticisms of hon. Members after the Debate is over."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I allow three hours for this demand."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, the other day I requested you to ask the Government to let us have an idea of their policy with reference to the criticisms that we have already made so that we may be in a better position to speak on the Demand now. We want to know what the Government propose to do."

* THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Sir, this is a question of a grant to a particular Demand. I have already spoken about the main items of our policy, namely, the abolition of the zamindaris, the codification of the land revenue law, and the definition of the relations between the tenant and the landholder. These three are the main items that are facing not only this Government but also the people in the country. I have already said that the Special Officer Mr. Ragavendra Rao, has submitted two reports to Government. These reports are printed and are ready to be issued. There was a little delay on account of the examination of the proposals which we had to do in our departments. I will be very glad, Sir, to clarify any points raised by hon. Members if you will allow me some time at the end of the debate."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum of Rs. 29,11,300 under Demand I—Land Revenue.'"

SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இந்த நாட்டில் . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—"முதலில் நீங்கள் வெட்டு பிரேரேபணையை படித்து விடுங்கள்."

SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—"தொழிலாளர்களுக்கும் முதலாளிகளுக்கும் கூலி சம்மந்தமான சட்டத்தை இயற்றும் விஷயமாகவும் மனைக் கட்டுகளை கட்டிக் கொடுக்கும் விஷயமாகவும் விவாதிக்க இந்த வெட்டு பிரேரேபணையைக் கொண்டு வந்திருக்கிறேன்.

"குடியிருப்பு.—குடியிருப்பு ஹரி ஜனங்கள் போன்றவர்களுக்கு சொந்தமாய் இருந்தால் மிராசுதார்களுக்கு வேலை செய்யமாட்டார்களென்று அவர்களது மனைகளை மிராசுதார்கள் வலிய பிடுங்கிக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். குடியிருப்பு சொந்தமாயிருந்தால் அதிகம் கூலி கொடுப்பவர்களுக்கு வேலை செய்யப்போவான், தாம் கொடுக்கும் குறைந்த கூலியை வாங்கிக் கொண்டு வேலை செய்ய மாட்டான் என்றே குடியிருப்பை அவன் சொந்தமாக அனுபவிக்க விடுவதில்லை. கொடுக்கும் குறைந்த கூலிக்கு இவன் வேலை செய்யவேண்டும், வேலை செய்யாவிட்டால் உடனே வீட்டில் நுழைந்து சட்டி பானைகளையும் சமான்களையும் வெளியே எடுத்துப்போடுவது மிராசுதார்கள் வழக்கம். அதற்காகவே இவன் பயந்து வேலை செய்து கொண்டு இருப்பான். இந்த குடியிருப்பை மிராசுதார்கள் விலைக்கு வாங்கியதுமில்லை, சர்க்காரிடமிருந்து அடமானம் பெற்றதுமில்லை, இந்த மிராசுதார்கள் தங்களுக்குள் பாகம் பிரித்து கொள்ளும்போது தங்கள் ஷெ பத்திரத்தில் இராமன் வசிக்கும் மனைக்கட்டு அண்ணனுக்கு என்றும் லெட்சுமணன் வசிக்கும் மனைக்கட்டு தம்பியது என்றும் எழுதிக்கொள்வார்கள். இது போன்றவைகளைத் தவிர மிராசுதார்களிடம் வேறு ரிகார்டுகள் இல்லை. அல்லது ஹரி ஜனங்களுக்கு ரிகார்டு வகையில் பலம் இருந்தால் ஆள்களை அழைத்துக் கொண்டு போய் அந்த வீட்டைப் பிரித்து அவனுக்கு ஹிம்சை செய்து தன் பெயருக்கு எழுதி வாங்கிக் கொள்வார்கள். குடியிருப்பு தனக்கு சொந்தமில்லாமையால் பயிர் தொழிலாளர்கள் என்றும் அடிமைகளாக வாழ நேரிடுகிறது. இவர்கள் வீடு மிகவும் சிறியதாய் இருக்கும். நாளடைவில் இவர்கள் அபிவிருத்தியடைந்த பிறகு இவர்களுக்கு வேறு குடியிருப்பு வேண்டியது அவசியம். குடியிருப்பு வசதியைக் கருதி சர்க்கார் புறம்போக்கு நிலங்களில் தற்போது வீடுகள் கட்டியுள்ளார்கள். காலத்திற்கும் களம் போட்டு அறியாததும் பொது ஜனங்களுக்கும் பயன்படாததாயும் இருந்த ஒரு இடத்தில் பயிர் தொழிலாளர்கள் வீடு கட்டினால் உடனே அதை பொது நல இடம் என்று சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் கோர்ட்டுக்கோ அல்லது முதல் தர மாஜிஸ்ட்டிரேட்டு கோர்ட்டுக்கோ மிராசுதார்கள் மனுப்போட்டு விடுகிறார்கள். மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட்டுகளும் மிராசுதார்களுக்கு ஷெ சாதகமான eviction நோட்டீஸ் கொடுத்துவிடுகிறார்கள். உதாரணமாக விருத்தாசலம் தாலூகா சாத்தப்பாடி சேரி யோரத்தில் 5 எக்கர் நிலங்கள் தரிசாக கிடந்தன. அதில் ஹரிஜனங்கள் வீடு கட்டியுள்ளார்கள். எத்தனை ஆயிரம் எக்கர் மகசூலையும் ஒரு எக்கர் விஸ்தீரணம் உள்ள களத்தில் பயன் படுத்திக்கொள்ளலாம். ஆனால் அங்குள்ள ஒரு மிராசுதார் அது களம் என ஆட்சேபிக்கிறார். அது களமே இல்லை. சிதம்பரம் தாலூகா வட்டத்தூர் கிராமத்தில் இதற்கு முன்பு களமே போட்டு டியாத இடத்தில் ஹரிஜனங்கள் வீடு கட்டிவிட்டார்கள். அந்த ஸ்தலத்தை டிபுடி தாசில்தார் நேரில் பார்த்து இது களம் அல்லவென்றும் முடிவு செய்தார். ஆனால் மிராசுதார்கள் அது களம் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். வன்னியூர்கருகில் நிலத்தை வெட்டி சாகுபடி செய்திருக்கிறார்கள் மிராசுதார்கள். சுமார் 40 எக்கர் விஸ்தீரணம். கேள்வி முறை இல்லை. ஆனால் ஹரிஜனங்கள் வீடு கட்டினால் அது களம் என்று பூரி பண்ணுகிறார்கள். மிராசுதார்கள் எத்தனை எக்கரை வளைத்துக் கொண்டாலும் ஆட்சேபணையில்லை. தொழிலாளி குடியிருக்க குடிசை கட்டினால் அது

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உடனே ஆட்சேபிக்கப்படுகிறது. அதிகாரிகளும் மிராசுதார்கள் மனே பாவமே கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். கனம் ரிவினியூ மந்திரி அவர்கள் சென்ற 8-ம் தேதி சிதம்பரத்திற்கு விஜயம் செய்தபோது நான் சந்தித்திருந்தால் மேற்படி இடங்களை காட்டியிருப்பேன். அதிகாரிகள் மிராசுதார்கள் மீனே பாவம் கொண்டிருந்தபடியால் மந்திரி அவர்கள் என்னைப்பார்க்க விரும் பியும் எனக்கு தெரிவிக்காமல் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கும் தவறான செய்தியை அறிவித்துவிட்டார்கள். 100 திக்கற்ற மனிதர்களைக் காப்பாற்ற 60 வசதி யுடைய மனிதர்களை கைவிடலாம். அது போல் 100 தொழிலாளி வீடு கட்டிக்கொண்டு சதா காலமும் வாழ்வதற்கு 2 மிராசுதார்கள் தங்கள் நிலத்திலேயே களம் போடவேண்டும் என சொல்லலாம். ஏழைகள் பணம் சிலவு செய்து கட்டிய வீட்டை பிரிக்கவொட்டாமல் தடுக்கவேண்டும். மிராசுதார்களுக்கு களம் இல்லையானால் சொந்தத்திலோ அல்லது சர்க்கார் முயற்சியிலோ களம் கிடைக்கும்படி செய்யலாம், ஆகவே கட்டின வீட்டை பிரிக்கக்கூடாது.

"அடுத்தபடியாக சம்பள விஷயம். 'சும்மா இருக்கிற சங்கை ஊதிக் கெடுத்தானும் ஆண்டி' என்பதுபோல விவசாயத் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு சம்பள நிர்ணயம் செய்யப்படுமென்று டொமினியன் சர்க்கார் தொழில் மந்திரி அறிக்கையிட்டதால் மக்களுக்குள் குழப்பமுண்டாகிவிட்டது. ஹரிஜன தொழிலாளிகளுக்கு போதுமானபடி கையில் இருப்பு மிஞ்சுமானால் மிராசு தார்கள் சொல்லுகிறபடி கேட்கமாட்டார்கள் என்பதற்காக அவர்களுக்குக் குறைந்த கூலியைக் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். தஞ்சாவூர் ஜில்லா கலெக்டர் அவர்கள் பண்ணையாள், பெண் ஆளுக்குமாக சேர்ந்து வருஷத்தில் 60 கலம் கொடுக்க லாம் என்று முடிவு செய்தார்கள். ஒரு ஆண் கூலிக்கு 2 படி நெல் லும், பெண் கூலிக்கு 1½ படி நெல்லுமாக முடிவு செய்தார்கள். அந்த தீர்மானத்தையே சிதம்பரம் தாலூகா உணவு கமிட்டியிலும் தீர்மானித் தார்கள். மிராசுதார் சங்கமும் அதை ஏற்றுக்கொண்டது. அறுவடைக்கு முன்னர் மார்கழியில் அறுப்பு கெடாத வண்ணம் மிராசுதார் சங்கம் கூடி நடவு காலத்தில் எவ்விதமாக கூலி கொடுக்க ஒப்புக்கொண்டார்களோ அவ்விதமே அறுப்புக்காலத்திலும் கொடுப்பதாக தெரிவித்துக்கொண்ட தின் பேரில் நாங்கள் தொழிலாளிகளுக்கும் சொல்லி தகராறுகள் இல்லா மல் அறுவடை செய்யும்படி சொன்னோம். அப்படியே அறுவடையும் நடந் தது. ஆனால் மிராசுதார்கள் சங்க நிர்வாகஸ்தர்களும் கூட இப்பொழுது கூலி கொடுக்க முடியாது என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். உதாரணமாக ஆடூர், முகையூர், கீழ்நத்தம், முதலான இடங்களில் மிராசுதார் தொழிலாளி தகராறு தீர்த்து வைக்கும்படி நானும் எனது நண்பர் விவசாய சங்க கன் வீனர் ஜயராமய்யர் அவர்களும் டிடபுடி கலெக்டர் அவர்களிடமும் தாசில் தார் அவர்களிடமும் சொல்லியும் பயன்படவில்லை. ஆடூரில் 1,000 காணி மிராசுதார் ரத்னசபாபதி பிள்ளையவர்கள் இருக்கிறார். எல்லா மிராசுதார்கள் சரியான ஒப்பந்தப்படி கூலி கொடுத்தும் பெரிய மிராசுதார் கள் கொடுக்க மறுக்கிறார்கள். இவர்தான் கலகங்களுக்கு காரணஸ்தர். இதனால் பெரிய மிராசுதார்கள் இருப்பதால் தொழிலாளிகளுக்கு கஷ்டம் ஏற்படுமானால் அந்த பெரிய மிராசுதார்களின் நிலங்களைப்பிடுங்கி (ஜமீந் தார், இனாம்தார் நிலங்களை பிடுங்குவதுபோல்) உழுபவருக்கு கொடுப்பதில் பிழை ஒன்று மிருக்கமுடியாது. ஆதலால் கூலி நிர்ணயம் பற்றி உடனே சட்டம் செய்யவேண்டும்.

"அடுத்தபடியாக பண்ணையாட்கள் கடன் மேலே சொன்ன ஆட்களின் மூதாதையர் பட்ட கடன்களுக்காக. இவர்களுக்காக ஒரு உரிமையும் இல்லா மல் என்றுமே இவர்களை மிராசுதாருக்கு அடிமையாய் வைத்துக் கொண்டு இருக்கிறார்கள். பண்ணையாட்களின் மூதாதையர்களும் நிஜமாக கடன் பட்டது தானு என்றால் அதுவும் இல்லை. மிராசுதார்கள் இனம் முதலியது கொடுத் தவைகளை கணக்கு எழுதிவாங்கி வைத்துக்கொண்டு இவ்விதம் செய்கிறார் கள். ஆகையால் இவர்கள்மீது எற்பட்டிருக்கும் கடன்களை ரத்து செய்து விடவேண்டும். அப்படி செய்தாலொழிய பண்ணையாட்களின் நிலைமை உயர வழி கிடையாது.

"இன்னும் அவர்கள் பயிரிடும் நிலங்களில் யாரும் வியாபிக்கக்கூடாது. தற்போது ராணுவத்தினருக்கும் தியாகிகளுக்கும் நிலம் கொடுப்பதுபற்றி

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சர்க்கார் ஒரு அறிக்கை வெளியிட்டபிறகு நீண்டகாலமாக ஹரிஜனங்கள் கஷ்டப்பட்டு பயிரிட்டுக் கொண்டு இருக்கும் நிலங்களை காங்கிரஸ் தியாகிகள் அபகரிக்க முயலுகிறார்கள். விருத்தாசலம் தாலூகா கொடிக்களம் கிராமத் தில் ஹரிஜனங்கள் முதலிய ஏழைகள் கூட்டாக 52 எக்கர் நிலங்களைப் பயி ரிட்டுவருகிறார்கள். 20 வருஷகாலமாக சுமார் 120 வீட்டுக்காரர்கள் 52 எக்கரை பயிரிடுகிறார்கள். இவர்களைக் கெடுத்து காங்கிரஸ் தியாகிகள் அந்த நிலங்களைப் பெற முயல்கிறார்கள். சர்க்கார் இது விஷயத்திலும் ஹரிஜன விஷயத்திலும் யாரும் பாதகம் செய்யக்கூடாது என்றும் அதை அவர் களுக்கே கொடுக்கவேண்டுமெனவும் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இதற்காக நான் இந்த வெட்டு பிரேரேபனையைக் கொண்டு வந்திருக்கிறேன். ஹரி ஜனங்கள் குடியிருக்கும் மனைக்கட்டுகளை அவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். அதிக கூலி கொடுக்கவேண்டும். குடியிருப்பை சொந்தமாக்கவேண்டும். இவைகளுக்கு சர்க்கார் சட்டம் போடவேண்டும், நாட்டில் ரகளையும் புரட்சி யும் நடக்கும்போல் இருக்கிறது. மிராசுதார்களுக்கும் ஏழை தொழிலாளர் களுக்கும் பெரிய கலகம் நடக்கும்போல் இருக்கிறது. இதில் சர்க்கார் உட னே தலையிட்டு ஒரு முடிவுக்கு வரவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறே ன். இவைகளுக்கெல்லாம் சட்டம் போட வேண்டுமென்று கனம் ரெவின்யூ மந்திரி அவர்களைக் கேட்டுக்கொண்டு என்னுடைய வெட்டு பிரேரேபனை யை ஒப்புக்கொள்ளும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI :—"May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. the Minister has understood every word of what the hon. Member just now spoke." 11-30 a.m.

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—"I can follow the speech though I cannot follow every word of what the hon. Member has said. My Hon. Colleague, Mr. Bhaktavatsalam, has taken a precis of what the hon. Member has said."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in seconding the cut motion moved by my hon. friend, I should like to point out some of the defects in the administration of land revenue and also I should like to make some criticism on the policies of the Government. The Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue has been giving us pious hopes since a pretty long time. It has taken nearly one year for him to bring forward his so-called Zamindari Abolition Bill on the floor of this House. Even now, the Bill is only in the Select Committee stage. Just now he has promised that as soon as the Budget Session is over, we will be in a position to discuss that Bill. But, Mr. Speaker, the Indian peasantry are to-day faced with the most important problem and that is the problem of their very existence because, 150 or 200 years of British rule in this country has not solved that problem on account of the system of absentee landlordism which they have created. The question of absentee landlordism, problems connected with land and the question of zamindaris and also the question of the relationship between the tenant and the tiller have to be solved. Lastly, Sir, there is the problem of the agricultural labourer. We thought, Sir, that at least the Congress Government would be able to solve this problem but the Government have been in office for two years and they have not done anything to solve that problem. I do not mind whoever is the Minister who is sitting on the Treasury Bench but it is the Congress Ministry that is functioning to-day. Whether it is Mr. Karanth or Mr. Kala Venkata Rao who is in

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charge of the portfolio the Congress Ministry failed to solve this problem. Therefore, I can assert that the Congress Ministry has failed to solve the problems facing us.

" Then, Sir, coming to the Zamindari Bill, what is it we find in the Bill? It does not aim at solving the land problem. It only transforms zamindars into big landlords and capitalists and agricultural labourer is not in the picture. Sir, there is the question of waste lands. I ask, what is the policy of this popular Government in regard to these waste lands. Particularly this year, I can say that in many cases, the agricultural labourers are being ejected from these waste lands which were given to them under the ' Grow More Food ' Scheme or otherwise. I can give instances after instances to show how the Madras Government have ejected these agricultural labourers from these waste lands and how they have raised their rents nearly by 300 or 400 per cent. Mr. Speaker, I wish to give some instances for the information of the House. In Rajahmundry in East Godavari district, there is a village called Govukam."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" There is no village like Govukam in Rajahmundry. Probably the hon. Member means Gopavaram."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" Yes, Gopavaram. I stand corrected. There is the village called Gopavaram and in that village, there are about forty agricultural labourers cultivating about 125 acres. The kist on that land is now doubled."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" I would like to know from the hon. Member whether it is puntha land or kuntha land."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" It is kuntha land, Sir. The kist of that land is raised from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100. In another place, one Pathi Venkanna Zattu is cultivating about 22 acres of land. The rent of the land has been raised from Rs. 70 to Rs. 600. Another instance is one Bathina Yakub Chandrayya cultivating three acres of land. His rent has been raised from Rs. 40 to Rs. 300. Again, there is one Gullivenkayya cultivating 1·67 acres. The rent of the land has been raised from Rs. 20 to Rs. 141 and then, there is one Kate Papiah cultivating about four acres of land. The rent on that land has been raised from Rs. 70 to Rs. 200. All these lands are owned by agricultural labourers. These agricultural labourers are treated in this way and are made to suffer due to the policy of the Congress Government.

" Sir, another instance, I can bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister is this. The raising of the rent is encouraged by the Government themselves."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" I can just answer the hon. Member by telling him that with reference to unauthorized occupation of land, for each year, the rent is raised in

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progression. If it is first year, it will have a certain rent; if it is second year, it will be twice the rent and so on. There is no difference in policy between the Advisers' Government and the Congress Government with regard to this. It is the process of law."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" The Hon Minister gave exactly the reason which I expected from him that there is no difference in policy between the Advisers' Government and the Congress Government and that it is the process of law If everything should be left to the process of law, I do not find any necessity for the Hon. the Minister sitting here and he can leave it to the Revenue Secretary to do everything and he will do it much better. Therefore, what we want is a change of law and a change of policy."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" And occupy everybody's land! "

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" I do not mind interruptions. They did not occupy anybody's lands. But, what I want to submit is that by saying that it is a process of law, he is misleading the people. The fact is that these agricultural labourers occupy these waste lands. They are kuntha lands and they are given to them under the ' Grow More Food ' Scheme."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" Waste land is not kuntha land; it is entirely different. Waste land is a communal property and it belongs to the whole village. Let not the hon. Member confuse between these two things."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" Anyhow, these lands are given to them under the ' Grow More Food ' Scheme. It does not mean that Government themselves can go on raising the rent because there is the provision of the law. A popular Government like the Congress Government and particularly under a Minister who says that he is having the interests of the agricultural labourers at heart, should not go on increasing the rent from Rs. 40 to Rs. 200. There is no justification, Mr. Speaker, to increase the rent to such an extent, particularly for these poor agricultural labourers. Previous Governments have made mistakes. I am not sorry for that but I am sorry to see this popular Government with some old piece of legislation going on increasing the rent on these waste lands."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" That means, that you can unauthorizedly occupy anybody's land."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" They are not occupying unauthorizedly, Sir. These lands were given to them under the ' Grow More Food ' campaign. It is misleading to say that they have occupied these lands unauthorizedly. The rents of the lands have been increased by three hundred per cent.

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" Sir, another thing I want to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister is this. In Nellore district, in Kovvur taluk, I want to show how these agricultural labourers are being treated. There are some big landlords in the Nellore district owning about 400 or 500 acres. The position of the agricultural labourers working under them is very bad. They are even prevented from giving expression to their views. In this connection, I want to bring to your notice one instance. In Nellore district, Atmakur taluk, there is one big landlord in a place called Pullaneelapalayam In July 1946, in connexion with canal works, one poor agricultural labourer was killed and no action was taken against that landlord."

MR. SPEAKER :—" That comes under the Police demand; the hon. Member should not mix one with the other."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" I am only giving an instance, Sir, to show how the agricultural labourers are treated by the big landlords; this is because there is no piece of legislation providing deterrent punishment to those landlords who ill-treat their agricultural labourers.

11-45 a.m. " I can understand his difficulty, Sir, if he says that on account of the present position of the law he could not do it. But let him change the law immediately and bring in an ordinance as was done in the case of the suppression of disturbances. Instead of doing that, he simply says, ' There is the law. I cannot do anything.' Sir, I cannot accept the position.

" Sir, regarding the Zamindari Bill, even though it has been said that much good is going to come out of it, I am afraid everyone of us is going to be mortgaged to the zamindars in the payment of compensation to them. And then, how many changes there are going to be in the Bill, nobody knows.

" Sir, the majority of the peasantry are living under the ryotwari system. I do not know how the Government is going to solve the problem of the sub-tenants and the under-tenants. Even though the Congress came into power twice, no thought has been bestowed on the matter. Very recently a commitee has been appointed and it is said that the report is ' about ' to be issued. We don't know when this ' about ' will be and what the report will contain. But with the Cabinet as it is constituted at present, I have not much hope that anything will be done for the under-tenant and the agricultural labourer. They are being rack-rented, everybody agrees, but there is no definite policy till now."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member has one minute more."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" Sir, during 1939, the Congress Ministry gave a remission of land tax which was recommended by the Marjoribanks Committee. The present Minister for Revenue when he was not a Minister pleaded with the then Minister Mr. Karanth that the same remission

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should be given again. Evidently due to oversight, he has forgotten this in this budget. I suggest that his own request may be implemented now."

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MR. SPEAKER :—" The question is

' that the allotment for Rs. 29,11,300 *under Demand 1—Land Revenue be reduced by Rs.* 100."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI :—" Mr. Speaker, I have great pleasure in supporting the demand under the head of Land Revenue for Rs. 29,11,300. In doing so, I wish to point out certain things which are in vogue in other countries. The agriculturist should not be asked to pay a land tax simply because he owns land to a particular extent. Just as in other countries, the agriculturist should be asked to pay an agricultural income tax and not an agricultural land tax. In several places for want of irrigation and other facilities the lands are not cultivated properly, but as a sort of mamul the village officers report that cultivation is good and the produce is good and the landowners are asked to pay land tax as usual. This should not be the policy of the Congress Government. Time and again in several assemblies they have declared to the world that they want to tax the people according to their income. This is an agricultural country where more than 80 per cent of the people are engaged in agriculture and we want to convert this into an industrial country. The Government should depend mainly upon industrial taxation and not upon land taxation. Therefore the Government should evolve a policy by which the tax should be levied on the income from the land and not merely on the extent of the land that a man owns.

" Secondly, Sir, the Revenue Department is the most important department in the administration of the country. When I spoke about the Police Department I said that if the Police and the Revenue Departments conducted their affairs satisfactorily, the whole country will think that it has got Swaraj. Sir, no department is as slow as the Revenue Department. In 1946 in Salem district in a particular village there was a complaint against a Revenue Inspector that he took bribes from several people. An enquiry was instituted. A number of witnesses have deposed. They said that they saw the money being paid and it was proved beyond doubt . . . "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" Sir, I think this comes under Demand XI—District Administration."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI :—" Sir, when the expenditure on the revenue subordinates comes under this demand, I think I am entitled to refer to the incident."

MR. SPEAKER :—" It comes under District Administration."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI :—" The salary of the karnams and others comes here."

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MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member is confusing the issue. He may speak on the land question on this demand."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI :—" Regarding the land revenue policy, I wish to confine myself to the remark that the policy should be changed as I have indicated.

" Sir, for the purposes of irrigation there are several tanks and canals, but their repairs are never attended to and there are not enough facilities for irrigation. I do not think it will be said that it should not be mentioned here because it comes under the irrigation demand. Because irrigation also is closely connected with land revenue, I wish to say a few words regarding irrigation also."

MR. SPEAKER :—" There is a separate Demand for Irrigation."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI :—" I thank you for the correction, Sir. I shall confine my remarks to land revenue alone. I think, Sir, that this expenditure on land revenue is the expenditure incurred for the collection of land revenue, on the payment of revenue subordinates."

MR. SPEAKER :—" No, that comes under District Administration. The hon. Member Mr. Kandaswami Pillai should know that there is a separate demand for Disrtict Administration, a separate Demand for Irrigation and a separate Demand for Land Revenue."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI :—" Then I shall say a few words regarding land revenue assessment and the surveyors. The salary of the karnams and the surveyors comes under this head. The karnam also is a revenue subordinate, though he is the lowest subordinate."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Again the hon. Member is committing the same mistake. These salaries come under District Administration. Here we are concerned only with Land Revenue."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI :—" The expenditure on land revenue will be incurred for the purpose of the collection of land revenue. Therefore, Sir, I think I am entitled to talk about the people who are connected with the collection of land revenue."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member is not entitled to do that."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI :—" Then my only suggestion on the land revenue policy is that it should be changed as I have stated before.

" Then Sir, there are wet lands, dry lands and *tharisu* lands which are not used for any purpose, not even in forest areas. There are several acres of waste lands which can be brought under cultivation by the Government themselves taking up the cultivation work. These lands may be handed over to the Agricultural Department to cultivate them by using up-to-date implements so that

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food production may be increased. According to the present policy of the Government I do not think the waste lands are cared for by the Government. I think the Hon. Minister will throw some light on the matter in his reply."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. Speaker, I am sorry that only ten minutes are given . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Not only for the hon. Member but to all hon. Members."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" If in these ten minutes we are not able to raise more than one or two points, let not this House and the Government feel that we have only these few remarks to make. If enough time is given, I am prepared to speak for six or seven hours to explain the confusion created by the Revenue Minister in the matter of the land legislation and the zamindari abolition. There were profuse promises but very little achievements. Almost every week and every month, Hon. Ministers go about promising to bring land legislation, codification of land laws, abolition of zamindaris and do everything in 150 days when these things have been existing for 150 years. If any maxim is necessary for them, I would tell them this : ' Talk less and do more.' The Hon. the Revenue Minister should realize that it is better to talk less and do more than go about making elaborate promises about things which it is not possible to do in a few months and which require a lot of research work. Sir, only posterity and the future elections will judge how much confusion the Hon. the Revenue Minister has created in the collection of kist and in the land tenures. By his hasty legislation, the only result has been no reduction of kist and no relief to ryots. He promised to effect the reduction of rent in three or four months. He was not able to do it. The zamindars have now been empowered to collect more and credit the excess to the next year's dues. There is no relief at all.

" Sir, the Hon. Minister made elaborate promises regarding the codification of land laws. A special officer was appointed, but the report is not forthcoming. We do not know what he has recommended. When the hon. Members asked the Government for an explanation of their policy before they came forward with a demand for grant, the Hon. Minister was blinking. There was no answer. He has only a few catchwords for playing to the gallery such as abolition of zamindaries and so on. Sir, catchwords and half-baked ideas can never give relief to the people. We must have well-conceived ideas, a good plan, a thorough investigation and so on."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" May I have some of those ideas from the hon. Member belonging to the new Progressive Party?"

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, we have seen the result of the catchwords and playing to the

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gallery. There has been hasty legislation and the ryots have not got any relief at all. For instance, in the Prevention of Alienation Act, there were certain provisions in the Bill as introduced in the House, but in the Select Committee Ministers voted against each other and those provisions were taken away. Sir, I do not know where we stand. We are asked to give our assent to certain Bills but we do not know what will happen to them in the Select Committee and what provisions will be given up. The fact that a provision was changed in the Select Committee in the Prevention of Alienation Act shows that they do not care for what we say on the Bill here and that what matters is the select committee stage where Ministers vote against each other and where real things happen.

" Sir, there is no clear policy for the Government. The Hon. Revenue Minister asked for my constructive suggestions. In the short time of ten minutes at my disposal, it is not possible to give them. I shall only say he is creating a lot of confusion, as future historians on a study of the facts, will record.

12 noon. " Sir, the Hon. Minister said that he would give effect to the Rent Reduction Bill in a few days. He was not able to do so. About the zamindari legislation, he is issuing statements after statements. With a big majority it is possible for him to go ahead with the Bills. But let him go and see in the zamindari areas how the ryots are suffering. My complaint against him is this; you have created confusion. There has been no real relief to the ryots. It is not proper for you to go forward without knowing the correct position. The Hon. Minister may be alright. But he does not know where he stands with regard to the Cabinet. The history of this legislation will clearly show that he is changing from minute to minute and from hour to hour. He is trying to play to the gallery. He wants to do away with the present system which has been in existence for a long time. There is no deliberation. There is no basis. There is no policy. There is no amount shown in the budget. He has not come forward with any specific amount to be used for implementing this Bill. What is the amount that is involved? I ask him this question now. I hope this evening he will be able to say how much money he is going to pay and how much money he is going to get. Is he going to give paper money to the zamindars? I request him to answer this question. I can put 100 such questions. This House has wasted its time in passing three Bills . . ."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" How can we proceed without passing these Bills? "

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" The House was asked to pass these Bills in a preliminary stage. No attention was paid to all the details of the Bills. The Hon. Minister asked for some provision to give training to some officers. What happened to these officers? These officers are not doing the duty for which they were trained. The zamindars do not want them. The Hon. Minister does not want them. One officer

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is trained at the cost of the Government and of the people. Then he is not appointed to that special post. He is posted for general duty. I know the name of the officer but there is a ruling from the Chair that hon. Members should not refer to individual officers. It is a fact. Special officers are trained at the cost of the Government. They are sent to some other place. The Government were not able to put him on the special duty for which he was trained."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" The Government have been anxious to pass these Bills, so that the position of the ryots may be improved."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" The Hon. Minister can take necessary steps without much talking. The legislation that has been passed, is not proper. You will get into trouble if you proceed in the wake of this legislation. It is better to be practical. I know the Hon. Minister is anxious to do real good and to help the people. I ask him not to be anxious to be popular. You, Sir, have ruled out any reference to District Administration. So, I am not speaking about it. Deputy Collectors work under the Collectors. The less said about this matter, the better. Land revenue is collected by the officers in the districts.

" The Non-Gazetted Officers are not satisfied with what the Government have done regarding them . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Does this point come under this Demand? "

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I know that this Government, especially our Hon. Revenue Minister is very anxious to help the ryots. I know that the work he has taken up, the abolition of the zamindaris, is a very laudable one and it will go down in history. He has taken up this most important work in the whole of India, which has been pending for a long time. Perhaps we are giving a lead to other Provinces in India. I know that other Provinces will copy our example. My only suggestion is this. Do not go too much forward. They should have clear-cut ideas. They should not brush aside the wishes of the Opposition.

" Before I finish my speech I wish to refer to the remark that was made the other day in the Indian Parliament by the Hon. Mr. John Mathai which was published in the ' Madras Mail '. He said that many Bills that have been passed in the Assembly would not have been passed if freedom to vote is given to the members of the party in power. Let us see that such a remark is not made applicable to us. Let us have some clear-cut ideas about the zamindari legislation."

SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU :—" అధ్యక్షా, రెవిన్యూ శాఖ పాలనమును గురించి కావలసినంత చర్చ జరిగినది. రెవిన్యూ శాఖామాత్యులు ఆడిగిన మొత్తము (demand) హృదయ పూర్వకంగా బలపరుస్తూ నేను కొన్ని సలహాలను వారికి ఇవ్వదలచుకొన్నాను.

[Sri Alluri Satyanarayana Raju] [15th March 1948

"ముఖ్యంగా రెవిన్యూ పరిపాలనామే జిల్లాలలో రైతాంగమంతాకూడా ప్రభుత్వ పరిపాలనా విధాన చిహ్నమని అనుకొంటారని అందరికీ తెలిసిన విషయమే. ఈనాడు ప్రభుత్వ పరిపాలనా విధానమేమో రెవిన్యూ శాఖామాత్యులు ఈ జరుగుచున్న సంవత్సరంలో ఈ శాసన సభలో ప్రవేశపెట్టిన విప్లవాత్మక సంస్కరణలే నిరూపించుచున్నవి ఈ విషయములన్నీ తెలిసినటువంటి అబ్దుల్ సలాంగారే రెవిన్యూ శాఖామాత్యులకు ఒక policy లేదని విమర్శించడం చూస్తే చాలా ఆశ్చర్యం కలిగుతోంది. ఎందుచేతనంటే మన రెవిన్యూ శాఖామాత్యులు తలపెట్టిన భూమి శిస్తు సంస్కరణలు భారత దేశములోని ఇతర రాష్ట్రములకు ఆదర్శదాయకములుగా వున్నవని వారి ఉపన్యాసము చివరి భాగములో అబ్దుల్ సలాంగారు అంటూ మొదటి భాగములో రెవిన్యూ శాఖామాత్యులకు ఒక పాలసీ (policy) లేదని ఒక దృక్పథం లేదని ఒక కార్యక్రమం లేదని శలవిచ్చారు. ఈ రెండు విరుద్ధ భావాలకు ఏమి సంబంధ వాక్యమో నాకు బోధపడుట లేదు. Progressive party కి చెందిన అబ్దుల్ సలాంగారి 'ముందుకు పోయే విధానము' (progressive policy) ఏమో స్పష్టంగా తెలుసుకోవడం చాలా కష్ట సాధ్యంగా ఉన్నది ఇటువంటి పరస్పర వైరుధ్య భావాలను కలిగినటువంటి విమర్శలను రెవిన్యూ శాఖామాత్యులు లక్ష్యపెట్టరని, లక్ష్యపెట్టకూడదని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. ఒక్క నిర్మాణాత్మకమైన విమర్శలకు (constructive criticism) వారు చెవి ఒగ్గుతారని వాటిని పరిశీలించి అవసరమగు సవరణలను చేస్తారని ఆశిస్తూ కొన్ని సూచనలను చేయదలచుకొన్నాను.

"రెవిన్యూ పరిపాలనా విధానంలో ముందు చేయవలసిన సంస్కరణ జమీందారీలను రద్దుచేయుట. ఈ జమీందారీల రద్దులో సంపూర్ణంగా ఈనాముల నన్నింటిని రద్దుచేయుట అత్యవసరము. ఈ విధంగా జమీందారీ ఈనాందారీ విధానాలను రద్దుచేసి రాష్ట్రికుంతకు ఒకే విధమైనటువంటి శిస్తువసూలీ పన్ను విధానాన్ని తెంటనే అమలుచేయాలి. ఈ విధంగా చేసిన తరువాత రైతుకు పట్టాదారుకు ముండవలసిన సంబంధ బాంధవ్యాలను, కట్టుబడి, పన్ను విషయాలు మొదలైనవాటిని నిర్ణయించాలి. ఈ విధమైనటువంటి శాసనాన్ని ఒకదానిని సాధ్యమైనంత త్వరలో ఈ శాసన సభలో ప్రవేశ పెట్ట దలచినట్లుగా రెవిన్యూ శాఖామాత్యులు చెప్పినారు. ఇది చాలా అభినందింపవలసిన యటువంటి విషయము.

"ఈ రోజున 5 ఎకరము భూమి వున్నటువంటి రైతు ఆరువేల (6,000) ఎకరములు కలిగినటువంటి రైతు ఒకేవిధమైనట్టి విధంగా ఎకరానికి రూ 1 ఓ లు పన్నును చెల్లించుచున్నాడు. ఇటువంటి పన్ను విధానాన్ని రద్దుచేయాలి. చిన్న రైతులమీద పన్ను భారాన్ని తగ్గించడం అత్యవసరం. లేనిచో చిన్న రైతులకు వ్యవసాయంమీద విముఖత కల్గుతుంది. కాబట్టి వాణిజ్యమువైన రాబడినిబట్టి పన్నును విధించే పద్ధతినే అనుసరించడం మంచిది. దీనివల్ల ప్రభుత్వంవారికి హెచ్చు ఆదాయం కూడా వస్తుంది. చిన్న రైతుకు పన్నుభారం తగ్గుతుంది.

"ఈనాడు ప్రభుత్వ పరిపాలనా విధాన మేమో ప్రజలకు తెలుసును. కాని రెవిన్యూ శాఖామాత్యులకు ఒక policy లేదని, అయోమయంగా రైతాంగం అంగారు (confusion) పడుతున్నారని అబ్దుల్ సలామ్ బోటివారు అన్నంత మాత్రం చేత ప్రయోజనం లేదు. వారి అభిప్రాయాలను ఎంతవరకూ పాటించాలో ప్రజలకు బాగుగా తెలుసును.

"అంతేకాకుండా Communist party సభ్యులు శ్రీ వెంకటేశ్వర్లుగారు విన్నవిచారుగా రెవిన్యూ శాఖామాత్యులు తలపెట్టిన జమీందారీ రద్దు విధానమును సంపూర్ణంగా బలపరచి వారిని ప్రశంసించారు. కాని ఈనాడు వారు రెవిన్యూ మంత్రిగారి కార్యక్రమాన్ని అతి తీవ్రంగా విమర్శిస్తున్నారంటే కారణం వారి పార్టీ దృక్పథానికి వేరు కాదని తెలుపుతాను. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఇటువంటి విమర్శలను పాటించవలసినదని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను

"ఇంక రెవిన్యూ శాఖామాత్యులకు కొన్ని సలహాలను చేయదలచుకొన్నాను.

"ఈనాడు రైత్వారీ గ్రామాలలో మామూలు పల్లం ఈనాములని కొన్ని ఉన్నాయి. పక్కాన ఉండే రైత్వారీ భూములకు ఎకరానికి రూ 10 ల పన్ను ఉంటే ఈనాము భూములకు ఎకరానికి రూ 0-4-0 లు నుంచి రూ 2 ల వరకు మాత్రమే పన్ను ఉంటుంది. ఇటువంటి లేదాలు అనవసరము, కాబట్టి రైత్వారీ, మామూలు పల్లం అనే లేదాలు లేకుండా అన్ని భూములకు సమానమైన జీరాయితీ రేటును నిర్ణయించినట్లయితే ప్రభుత్వంవారికి అనేక లక్షల రూపాయల ఆదాయం వస్తుంది. ఈ విషయం ఆర్థిక శాఖామాత్యులు budget ను ఈ శాసన సభలో ప్రవేశపెట్టిన సందర్భంలో కూడా చెప్పినాను. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వంవారు నా సలహాను పరిశీలిస్తారని విశ్వసిస్తున్నాను

"ఈ నాడు సామాన్య ప్రజానీకము, రైతాంగము ప్రభుత్వ కార్యాలయాలకు దరఖాస్తులను పంపుకోటానికి పడుచున్న కష్టాలను గురించి మనవి చేస్తాను. ప్రజా సామాన్యానికి ఇంగ్లీషు రాదు. కాపున వారి మాతృభాష ఆయినటువంటి తెలుగులోనో, తమిళంలోనో, మళయాళంలోనో, కన్నడ భాషలోనో దరఖాస్తులు పెట్టుకుంటే ఈనాటికీ కూడా ప్రభుత్వోద్యోగులు ఆ దరఖాస్తులకు ఇంగ్లీషులో వ్రాసిన దరఖాస్తు కిచ్చే గౌరవం ఇవ్వటం లేదు. ఇది చాలా శోచనీయమైనటువంటి విషయము. రైతు తాను నేర్చిన తనకు తెలిసిన భాషలో దరఖాస్తు పెట్టుకోవడం సహజం. ఇది ఆతనికి చాలా తేలిక అయినటువంటి పని. కాని రెవిన్యూశాఖవారు దేశ భాషలలో వ్రాసి పంపుకొన్న అర్జీలను గౌరవించకపోవడం చాలా విచారకరము. ఇంగ్లీషు భాషలో దరఖాస్తులు పెట్టుకోడానికి రైతులు ఇంగ్లీషు వచ్చినవారి వద్దకు వెళ్లి వ్రాయించుకోవడం చాలా కష్టము. ఇందువలన వారికి డబ్బు ఖర్చవుతుంది. ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఈ విషయంలో జిల్లా అధికారులకు ప్రత్యేక ఉత్తరువులు ఇవ్వవలసినదని కోరుచున్నాను.

"ఇప్పుడు రెవిన్యూ డిపార్టుమెంటులో ఉంటున్న red-tapism ను గురించి కొంచెము చెబుతాను. రెవిన్యూ శాఖామాత్యులకు ఏదైనా ఒక ఆర్జీ ఇస్తే అది వారి దగ్గరనుంచి రెవిన్యూ డిపార్టుమెంటు సెక్రటరీగారి దగ్గరకు, అక్కడనుంచి Deputy Secretary గారి దగ్గరకు, వారిదగ్గరినుంచి Assistant Secretary గారి దగ్గరకు, అక్కడనుంచి రెవిన్యూ బోర్డుకు, రెవిన్యూ బోర్డునుంచి జిల్లా కలెక్టరుకు, జిల్లా కలెక్టరు దగ్గరనుంచి Personal Assistant గారి దగ్గరకు, అక్కడనుంచి Revenue Divisional Officer గారి దగ్గరకు, వారి దగ్గరనుంచి Tahsildar గారికి, వారి వద్దనుంచి Revenue Inspector గారి దగ్గరకు, Revenue Inspector దగ్గరనుంచి గ్రామ కరణంగారి దగ్గరకూ, అనగా, ఏ గ్రామ కరణంగారిమీద complaint చేస్తామో ఆ గ్రామకరణం గారివద్దకే ఈ ఆర్జీ పంపబడుతోంది దీనివల్ల రైతాంగానికి ఉపకారం జరుగటం లేదు సరిగదా, సమాధానం రావడానికి 6 నెలలు, 10 నెలలు, 1 సంవత్సరం, ఇంకా కొన్ని విషయాలలో ఎక్కువ కాలం పడుతోంది. ఇటువంటి పరిస్థితులవల్ల రైతాంగానికి చాలా బాధ, ఇబ్బందులు కలుగుతున్నాయని, కాబట్టి ఈ విషయంలో రెవిన్యూ శాఖామాత్యులు తగినంత శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొనవలసినదని వారికి సలహా ఇస్తున్నాను.

15th March 1948] [Sri Alluri Satyanarayana Raju]

[Sri Alluri Satyanarayana Raju] [15th March 1948

"ఇంక జమీందారీ రద్దు బిల్లును గురించి మనవిచేస్తాను. ప్రజలు ఈ బిల్లు త్వరలో ఈ శాసన సభలో ప్రవేశ పెట్టబడుతుందని, రైతాంగానికి మన్ననా కారము తగ్గిస్తారని ఎంతో ఆశపెట్టుకొని ఉన్నారు. ఈ బిల్లును Select Committee కి పంపిన సంగతి అందరకూ తెలిసినటువంటిదే. Select Committee లో ఈ బిల్లును చర్చించడం అధ్యక్షులు ఇచ్చిన ruling వల్ల పొడిగించారని (postpone) తెలుస్తోంది. ఇది చాలా ఆక్రమమైనటువంటి విషయము.

"నేను విభిన్నమైన రహస్యములను బయలుపరచటంలేదు. ఈ విషయమై నేను రెవిన్యూ శాఖామాత్యులను అడిగినాను కాని వారేమీ చెప్పలేదు. దీని విషయమై పత్రికలలో వార్తలుకూడా చూచినాను. ఈ విధంగా జమీందారీ బిల్లును చర్చించుట postpone చేయడం ప్రజాభిప్రాయానికి, శాసన సభాసభ్యుల అభిప్రాయానికి, రెవిన్యూ శాఖామాత్యుల కోరికకు వ్యతిరేకం. ఇది చాలా ఆక్రమమని ప్రజాభీష్టానికి విరుద్ధమని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను

"ఈ కను జమీందారులకు ఇచ్చే compensation ఎంత తగ్గించడానికి అవకాశ ముంటుందో అంతవరకు తగ్గించి కనీసపు మొత్తమును ఇచ్చినట్లైతే రైతాంగం చాలా సంతోషిస్తారని నేను రెవిన్యూ మంత్రిగారికి మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

"ఇంత కొద్ది కాలంలో రెవిన్యూ పరిపాలకను గురించి చెప్పడం చాలా కష్టము. అయినప్పటికి కొన్ని సలహాలు యివ్వదలచినాను.

"ఆడవులను కొట్టటానికి, ఆ భూములను survey settlement చేయటానికి చాలాకాలము పడుతుంది. ఈ విధంగా ఆలస్యము జరుగకుండా ఏ ఏ ప్రదేశాలు వ్యవసాయంచేయడానికి అనుకూలంగాఉంటాయో చూచి ఆ ప్రదేశాలను బాగుచేయించి సాగు చేయటానికి వెంటనే వీలు కల్పించినట్లైతే మనము ఎదుర్కొనిన కామాన్ని నివారింపగలమని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను.

"రాజకీయ బాధితులకు భూములను యివ్వడం విషయంలో రెవిన్యూ శాఖామాత్యులు చాలా శ్రద్ధగాను, పట్టుదలతోను పనిచేస్తున్నారనే విషయం నాకు తెలిసినటువంటిదే. ఈ సందర్భంలో ఎవరు రాజకీయ బాధితులలో హెచ్చుకారో నిర్ధారణ చేయడం చాలా ముఖ్యం. దేశ స్వాతంత్ర్యంకోసము ఏ ప్రభుత్వంలో హెచ్చుపాలైనారో గాపారీ నటువంటి అల్లూరి సీతారామరాజు అనుచరులు మొదలైనటువంటివారిని రాజకీయ బాధితులుగా ఈ ప్రభుత్వంవారు, ఈ శాసన సభానాయకులు యించకపోవడం చాలా విచారకరమైనటువంటి విషయము. ఏ రెండు నెలలో, మూడు నెలలో జైలుకు వెళ్ళి పుల్ల్వల దండలు వేసుకొన్నవారిని రాజకీయ బాధితులుగా యించి, దేశ స్వాతంత్ర్యంకోసము తమ సర్వస్వాన్ని త్యాగముచేసినటువంటివారిని రాజకీయ బాధితులు కారని శాసన సభానాయకుల అనడం యిటువంటి త్యాగమూర్తులను అవమానించుటయే నని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. వీరికి ఎంతో కొద్దిగా డబ్బో, భూమో యివ్వవలసినదని నా మతం కాదు. ఇటువంటివారిని రాజకీయ బాధితులు కారనడంవల్ల మనదేశ స్వాతంత్ర్యం కోసం సామ్రాజ్యవాదులతో పోరాడిన త్యాగధనులను, తమ సర్వస్వాన్ని దేశానికల్పించిన వారిని అవమానించుచున్నారని మరల మరల చెప్పుచున్నాను. కాబట్టి ఇటువంటి పాలసీని వెంటనే ప్రభుత్వమువారు మార్చుకొని నిజమైనటువంటి రాజకీయ బాధితులకు భూములనిచ్చి వారిని గౌరవించవలసినదిగా మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

"ఇంతేకాకుండా అధిక ఆహారోత్పత్తికిగాను (Grow More Food) భూములను ఇచ్చేటప్పుడు వాటిని పెద్ద భూస్వాములకు మాత్రము యివ్వరాదు. ఇటువంటి భూములను

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agricultural labourers కు, మరియుంటుంటు మాత్రమే యిచ్చినట్లైతే వారు కష్టపడి ఈ భూములను సంగుచేసి అధికాహారోత్పత్తి చేయగలరని మనవిచేస్తూ విరమిస్తున్నాను."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not have much to speak on this Demand, because the House has had ample opportunities in the course of this year and in the course of last year to discuss the policy regarding the Zamindari system in this Presidency. The Hon. the Revenue Minister has been kind enough to give us an opportunity to discuss the three Bills on this subject. The Zamindari Abolition Bill is before the Select Committee now and the zamindars have themselves agreed that the zamindaris should go. The only question is what are the proposals before us by which we can help the Government in passing such a legislation. I really appreciate the decision of the Hon. the Revenue Minister in inviting the representatives of the various interests concerned so that they may tender evidence before the Select Committee. I think the Hon. the Revenue Minister is following the precedent set up by the Hon. the Finance Minister on a previous occasion. There are so many things connected with this subject of which many of us may not be aware. Therefore the Government have done the right thing in having invited all the parties affected by the legislation such as the zamindars, the tenants and so forth to give evidence before them. 12-15 p.m.

"One thing to which I should like to draw the attention of the Hon. the Revenue Minister is this: there seems to be a certain amount of feeling in the country that as soon as the two Zamindari Bills are passed into law, land revenue collection is going to be stopped. Our information is that in most of the zamindari areas tenants refuse to pay their rents in the belief that very soon all the zamindaris are going to be taken over by the Government. I daresay that the Hon. the Minister for Revenue who is supposed to have all available information will give us an idea of the situation with regard to collection of land revenue.

"With regard to the second Bill, i.e., Land Alienation Bill, it was expected that as soon as this Bill was passed there would not be many alienations. The Act has been before the public for some months and I wish to know whether any cases of alienation have been brought to the notice of Government and, if so, what steps have been taken by Government.

"The third and the most important Bill is with regard to reduction of rent. While discussing this Bill the Hon. the Minister for Revenue said that he had appointed the necessary officials and staff to go about in all the zamindaris and make a survey of all the lands in which a comparatively higher rate of rent is prevailing than that prevailing in the ryotwari areas. The Hon. Minister will please enlighten us as to how far the Government have progressed in the survey of lands and also in the survey of rent reduction, because the third Bill is interdependent on the reduction of rent in these areas.

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" With regard to the Zamindari Abolition Bill we shall have ample time to discuss it in all its details when the Bill comes up before the House.

" One other point which I wish to refer to is this: the zamindaris are being abolished not only in this Province, but throughout the whole of India. It is a step in the right direction as it ultimately goes to benefit the tiller of the soil. Even though it may affect to some extent the vested interests, the zamindars, in the general interests of the public and also in the interests of the poor, should sacrifice. But at the same time I would point that these zamindars should not be hard hit because they have contributed to so many charities and done several ameliorative works. The Hon. the Revenue Minister has rightly stated that the Bill is before the Select Committee and it will come out very soon and copies of these Bills will be placed in the hands of Members in good time so that they may have an opportunity of studying the Bill in detail.

" There is one other matter to which I should like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister for Revenue, viz., collective farming. In our Province, as hon. Members are aware, from generation to generation lands have been fragmented. Experts in agriculture feel that this sort of fragmentation will not be conducive to the better and more rapid production of produce from such lands. I wish to know what the Government propose to do with regard to stopping of fragmentation. Side by side with this arises the policy or programme in regard to collective farming. Collective farming has its own features and helps increased production. During the past four years we have been faced with the tremendous problem of food shortage. Government should have had a more planned and organized policy with regard to more production. It is really good that an Agrarian Committee has been appointed not only for our Province but for the whole of India. It is also noteworthy that our Premier is a Member of that Committee and I dare say that that Committee will take into their consideration not only the conditions prevailing in each Province but in India as a whole and arrive at a satisfactory conclusion. In this connexion I should like to refer to one other matter and then conclude my speech. For the first time—I am not making this statement with any idea of casting aspersions on anybody—when the Zamindari Abolition Bill was introduced in this Assembly the hon. Mr. Prakasam, made a certain statement with regard to the appointment of our Premier as a Member of the Agrarian Committee. Of course at that time as it was almost the fag end of the session, we could not afford an opportunity to the hon. Mr. Prakasam to clarify the matter. Now I take it that we have a right to ask the Hon. Minister for Revenue to clarify that matter. The hon. Mr. Prakasam speaking on the debate at that time said that our Premier was going to be a Member of the Agrarian Committee. The Hon. Revenue Minister said that the Central Government asked the Hon. Revenue Minister to name a gentleman to be a member of the Committee for this Province, and that he wrote a letter suggesting the name of our

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Hon. Premier. I was really wondering at that time whether the Hon. Revenue Minister could suggest the name of the Premier who had got much more work to do here than any other Minister. Still the Hon. Revenue Minister wrote a letter, without even consulting the Hon. Premier, saying that he (the Premier) would be a member. Even in our Select Committees whenever we want to suggest the names of gentlemen to become members we consult them beforehand whether they are willing to serve on the Committee. Here is an Agrarian Committee appointed for the whole of India—I mean Indian Union—and the Members have to go on tour to various parts of India, go into the records and then submit their report. While such is the case, it is really surprising that the name of the Hon. Premier should have been suggested even without consulting him. I wish the Hon. Minister for Revenue gives a reply on this matter. I do not think there is anything wrong in our Premier serving on the Agrarian Committee. The only objection is whether he will be able to serve on that Committee consistently with his more onerous duties here. The Hon. the Revenue Minister will kindly clarify this point."

* Sri V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY :—" I rise to support the motion for the grant of Rs. 29,11,300 under Land Revenue. While doing so, I feel it my duty to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Revenue Minister the appalling indifference to the Harijans in the matter of assignment of lands. In the Draft Constitution for India it has been clearly stated that we are going to have a Socialistic State in this land. Even Mahatma Gandhi, the great benefactor of the Harijan community has told in unequivocal terms that the tiller of the soil should be the owner of the land. In our Province we see greater trouble than before wherever we go. Wherever we turn there is rub between the landlord and the tenant and between the tenant and the agricultural labourer. Some of us who have gone round the districts find it very hard to face the electorate because there is no permanent tenure for the habitation of the landless labourers."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" Is it tenancy or tenure? "

* SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY :—" I am referring to assignment of lands. Of course, the Hon. the Revenue Minister says that he is always sympathetic. But what has happened with regard to ' Grow More Food campaign '. When ' Grow More Food campaign was begun, lands were assigned to people who were owning 100 and 200 acres and some lands were also given to Harijans. Now due to the critical situation in the production of paddy and other commodities, I know as a matter of fact Government wish to continue the leasing of lands to these people. I do not know when this leasing is going to end and permanent arrangements made with the tenants.

" Now, Sir, the Revenue officials have not received definite instructions from the Government as to what is to be the future of those lands that have been assigned, either it is for house-sites

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or for cultivation. I say that justice has not been done to the Harijans in regard to this matter. I know as a matter of fact that in some places the District Collectors have been particularly apathetic to these Harijans and have evicted them even from poramboke lands.

12-30 p.m. " They have been there for years together. I know, as a matter of fact, the janmis of Malabar are doing it and there are also big landlords who are doing it in this province. But, I do not think Government themselves should evict these poor people from their habitation in the various districts. I can tell you that in Pallavaram which is very near Madras, the Harijans have been asked to vacate.

" Coming to the question of grant of lands to political sufferers, I know the Government issued a Communiqué some time back saying that political sufferers will be given some lands and later on they modified their opinion and said that political sufferers should not apply for lands in municipal areas. Of course, Sir, every one admits that municipalities have valuable lands which should not be given to political sufferers. In this the Government have not done very well. In the first place the political sufferers did not apply for lands. The Government was generous to suggest such grants. Apart from that, Sir, Europeans who have been in this country for a long time are now leaving the country in driblets, but they had a lot of domestic servants both in Madras and in other districts and now these people have been left without any living. Owing to a different line of work they were pursuing before, they cannot now immediately go to the land and cultivate, though they are anxious to take to cultivation. As we all know, since most of the land has already been taken away these people are stranded. I wish, Sir, Government look into the grievances of these people and do something.

" Even in the matter of survey, Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government that wherever there is a Government path, surrounded on all sides by patta lands, the owners of those lands gradually take the land meant for the path leaving the Harijans at bay. I may here give you an instance. I refer to the path that leads from Mohanur to the Cauvery river. That path has been used for centuries by Harijans and it has been done away with by the neighbouring pattadars and now there is no way at all for them. The matter was brought to the notice of the District Collector and the District Labour Officer and the District Health Officer with no result. I would therefore like the Government to come forward with a definite scheme regarding assignments of lands and other things.

" We know, Sir, that the Government set up a Harijan Welfare Committee and their report is now before the Cabinet. I understand that the Committee have recommended that 55 lakhs of acres have to be set aside for house-sites for Harijans and unless the Government make a clear indication as to the mode in which these lands will be given or they would be acquired from patta holders, nothing will be done to help these people. I think it is high time that Government came to the rescue of the Harijans before the report of the Committee is considered by the Government.

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" There is another thing to which I wish to refer. The Government have set an Aboriginals Enquiry Committee. These aborigines have no houses of their own and they are accustomed to what they call shifting cultivation. Now that the question of soil conservation and erosion has been taken up by the Forest Department, I think the Government will do well to do something for these people. The Report of the Committee has not yet seen the light of day and we do not know what has happened to it. I am told that reference has been made to the aborigines living very near Tadagam, and the Hon. the Premier knows the difficulties under which these people are living. If no lands are granted to these people, they will go out of existence.

" Sir, in the matter of fishery rentals, that is leasing of tanks and other things, which has been in the hands of Harijans for decades together, now with a view to increase the amount of rental, it has become the practice to bring them to auction at which the caste-men take the leases. As a result of this, the fishing of the tanks is not given to the Harijans of the village but to Harijans of neighbouring villages and thereby clashes occur between the local Harijans and the Harijans coming from other neighbouring villages. So, Sir, I do not think that Government should consider the question of getting excess rental, but they should get these fishing leases to the Harijans living in the villages and who have been taking these leases for the last several decades.

" There is also another thing, Sir. There are Harijans living very near streams. Here I may instance Varanjeri and Emmanur, which are villages situated very near streams and though petitions have been made to the Collector concerned several times for assignment of lands for habitation till now no attention has been paid to them. As a matter of fact, I understand that one of the Harijans of Varanjeri even resorted to a fast in the month of January last. The people in these two villages which I have mentioned are hard-pressed for land for habitation and I wish Government gave some places for them to live in."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting this cut motion I wish to state that it is a pity that instead of overhauling the entire land revenue system and undertaking a comprehensive land revenue reform, the Government have come forward with piecemeal legislation in the shape of the abolition of the Zamindari Bill. Sir, the result of this will be that the ryotwari areas which constitute about two-thirds of this Province will be neglected. The land revenue system in this Province which is regressive in character has been the target of severe criticism in the past and it is necessary to take early steps to rectify it. Ryots who own lands smaller in size than economic holdings should be exempted from land revenue collections. (The Hon. Sri Kala Venkata Rao : You mean pattadars?) Yes, I am referring to

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the pattadars in ryotwari areas. They should be exempted from the payment of land revenue if they own uneconomic holdings and there should be a graded system of land tax. The Hon. Minister might state that this reform would involve the Government in a loss of revenue to the extent of about two crores of rupees. But, Sir, as has been pointed out by Dr. B. V. Narayanaswami Nayudu in his report on rural indebtedness, this loss can be off-set by a scheme for the consolidation of small holdings. After all the loss which the Government will incur in regard to this will be only temporary and not permanent.

" Sir, with reference to the zamindari legislation, I am really sorry to find that the Hon. Minister has clubbed together two things which have as little in common with each other as chalk and cheese, namely, the inams and the zamindaris. As the Hon. Minister is aware with reference to the zamindaris, there has been considerable investigation, and volumes have been written on the subject, but with regard to inams there has been no enquiry and the Government have very little information about them. Sir, there are two types of inams as the Hon. Minister is aware. The Estates Land Act of 1908 included only such inams in which the ' Melwaram ' alone had been granted. But another type of inams were included by the amendment of the Bobbili Ministry in 1936 wherein the inamdars had proprietary rights. It is iniquitous to include both these types of inams in the Zamindari Abolition Bill and apply the same yard-stick to the poor inamdars with proprietary rights as to the rich zamindars."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" The hon. Member perhaps means that kudivaram right is claimed by the inamdar."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" My point is that the owners of inams, particularly of small inams possessed of kudivaram right should not be clubbed together with the rich zamindars. Therefore, Sir, my request to the Hon. Revenue Minister is to do all that he can in the Select Committee to see that inams are excluded from the purview of the present Bill. The Government can bring forward separate legislation with reference to inams. I make this request particularly, in view of the fact that the above-mentioned legislation will seriously jeopardize the interests of a number of women including widows. Sir, the Acts of the Government should not be based on doctrinaire principles, but on principles of justice. The Government should so adjust their legislative measures as would tend to human benefit and not be carried away by shibboleths, slogans, technicalities and theories. Therefore, in the interests of the owners of small holdings, in the interests of the poor widows I request the Government to exclude inams from the operation of the Zamindari Abolition Bill which is now before the Select Committee.

" Sir, another request which I wish to make to the Hon. Revenue Minister is to see that religious and charitable inams are also excluded from the purview of the abovementioned Bill, because as the Hon. Minister is aware, the measure will affect not merely

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Hindu inams, but also inams granted to Muslim and Christian charitable institutions. The inclusion of religious and charitable inams in the abovementioned Bill will deeply wound the religious feelings of all sections and grades of the people and will be tantamount to interference with the religious rights of the minorities. This, I may point out would be contrary to the declared policy of the Government that the religious rights of the minorities would be protected. Therefore, Sir, I appeal to the Hon. Minister to exclude religious and charitable inams also from the purview of the impending legislation. Sir, it is paradoxical that while on the one hand, the Government are liquidating inams, on the other hand, they are creating new inams by the grant of land to political sufferers. As such the Government are not consistent in their policy. Why should they dispossess the poor inamdars who had received gifts of lands in the days of yore and at the same time create new inamdars themselves by making gifts of land to their party-men. The meaning of the word inam is gift, and the Government are now themselves making such gifts to certain people. I shoud like to know how the Government reconcile their two sets of acts and whether the political sufferers who are receiving gifts of land from the Government will be secure in their position or they too in course of time will be ousted from their holdings as is the case with the inamdars of old.

" Sir, I wish to enquire from the Hon. Revenue Minister what decision has been arrived at by the Government with reference to the Board of Revenue. The question of the abolition or the retention of this Board has been pending with the Government for a very long time and they should come to a decision soon. I am of opinion that instead of having the Board of Revenue, it would be better to have Divisional Commissioners, as is the case in the province of Bengal and other provinces, for that would enable these officers to have greater contact with the work of Collectors. The Members of the Board of Revenue are not touring the districts now in the manner they should. Perhaps this is due to the fact that most of the touring is done by the Hon. Ministers. I feel that it would be conducive to better administration of the districts if those who could keep a check on the Collectors toured the districts and had their headquarters somewhere near. I think a trial may be given in this Province to the system of Divisional Commissioners.

" Sir, another point, to which I wish to advert, is the question of the grant of land to the landless. I wish to know whether Government have evolved any policy with reference to this. Many of those who are landless now possessed lands before but who on account of adverse circumstances, have been deprived of the same, having mortgaged or sold them to Mahajans. Particularly in the Ceded Districts, I understand, whenever there has been a famine, poor people have sold their lands to Sowcars and Mahajans, who are now the landlords. The class of people who are in dire need of Government assistance in this regard are the Harijans. I wish the Government to declare their policy with reference to the grant of lands to these landless people. As has been rightly pointed out

12-45 p.m.

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by Mr. Muniswami Pillay, the problem of a section of the Harijans has become worse of late by reason of the fact that European officials have left India, and the domestic servants who served under them have been thrown out of employment. The Government should therefore evolve some policy with reference to the unemployment problem as well and give lands to the unemployed who are willing to cultivate the same.

" I wish to know from the Hon. Minister whether he has considered the question of revising the policy of the Government with reference to the construction of wells. In the past they have been granting some subsidies for this purpose."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" Sir, that I have already answered that point when dealing with District Administration."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" Sir, I am mentioning another point. As the Hon. Minister is aware there is a lot of complaint that the subsidies which are granted for the construction of wells are not properly utilized. But very often, these complaints are not justified because the poor ryots have their own handicaps and difficulties; they do not have the necessary materials; nor are they possessed of technical skill. Therefore, my suggestion is that the Government should take up the work of well construction themselves, which would obviate all these difficulties."

SRI K. RAGHAVAN :—" Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the Demand. While doing so, I wish to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister for Revenue the urgency to bring in a legislation for the abolition of landlordism in Malabar. Sir, it is our adopted policy that the tiller of the soil should be the owner of the land. At present, the cultivating tenant is being exploited by a series of intermediaries. There should be no intermediaries between the actual cultivation and the tenant. Sir, those who do not directly cultivate, should be eliminated from the soil.

" Sir, the cultivating tenants themselves are of different types. There are cultivating tenants who possess two hundred to three hundred acres of land. They cultivate with the aid of permanent coolies working under them. They should not possess more than five acres of land. Excess land should be taken away from him by the Government. I know, Sir, there are certain difficulties if lands are made into fragments. These can be easily solved by Co-operative farming.

" Sir, the land tenure system in Malabar is a peculiar one. I hope the Hon. Minister had gone into the question in detail. It will do more harm than good if a legislation is introduced in this Assembly without knowing full details. I request the Hon. Minister for Revenue to take into confidence all the Malayalee M.L.As. and give them an opportunity to discuss the legislation before it is introduced in this Assembly. There is a great hue and cry among the Malayalees that legislation should be brought forward on the lines of the recommendations of the Sub-Committee

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of the Kerala Provincial Congress Committee. The Sub-Committee of the Kerala Provincial Congress Committee has gone into the question of land tenure system in Malabar in detail and the Committee has adopted a report. It is welcomed by all democratic organizations in Malabar including the Communist Party."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" Sir, the Communist acceptance is the only danger."

SRI K. RAGHAVAN :—" Sir, Leaguers though they have not accepted it, have not disapproved it. Therefore I request the Hon. Minister for Revenue to bring in a legislation for the abolition of landlordism in Malabar on the lines of the recommendations of the Sub-Committee of the Kerala Provincial Congress Committee. I sincerely hope the Hon. Minister will take this suggestion seriously and do the needful in the matter. With these few words, I support the Demand."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Demand hitherto used to be the first Demand and personally I should have liked it to be the first Demand. Whether it is the first Demand or whether it comes late in the Budget debate, the prosperity of the villager should be the concern of the Government and the people of the country. It is in that light, that we attach an importance to the administration of the Revenue Department. Whenever the Hon. Minister comes forward with this Demand, we always feel that it is an occasion to take stock of the administration of this Department, and we cannot pass this occasion without referring to the recent legislative measures passed through this House. The Hon. Minister has got through this House a legislation with regard to the reduction of rent and the Zamindari Abolition Bill is before the House. One happy feature about this Bill is that the zamindars and most of the inamdars have agreed to this legislation. Perhaps, the agitation is more on the part of inamdars rather than on the part of landholders. Zamindars have shown a great willingness to fall in line with the measures proposed by the Government and only they look forward for equitable compensation, if not adequate compensation. I am concerned with the existence of happy relations between the tenant on the one hand and the prosperity of the tiller of the soil on the other. Between the time of the passage of the Rent Reduction Bill up to now, it is a well-known fact that there has been a standstill arrangement and we are really glad the Hon. Minister has come forward with an elaborate press communiqué. I can only wish him the best of luck with regard to the success that should follow after the press communiqué. My own view is that the administration has fallen into decay. The frequent transfers of Tahsildars and Deputy Collectors, as we see in the papers—I am speaking subject to correction. . ."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" Sir, the transfers of Tahsildars do not appear in the papers."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :—" Sir, I am told, that the transfer of Tahsildars do not appear in

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the papers. It must be said to the credit of the European I.C.S. people that they allowed them to stay for years and take a real living interest in the welfare of the villagers before they were transferred to other stations. But now before they know even the names of villages or have acquainted themselves with the conditions of villages, they are transferred. The spirit and intentions of the press communiqué will not be carried out if there are such frequent transfers. I feel that it is very necessary that the subordinate officers of the department who tour intensively should carry out the objects of the Government in this press communiqué. As it is, they have far too much worries about other matters of administration rather than of the Revenue Department. They feel, it is a hopeless task. Their services could be very useful if they go round the villages. If they do it, they would obviate the policemen going round. I very much like that the police people should not be sent round for this purpose. It is certainly necessary that the Revenue officials should take interest in the matter.

" Sir, I mentioned the question of rent because the Hon. Revenue Minister has stated several times that this is a temporary measure and the Zamindari Abolition Bill will come into force very shortly. I wish the Hon. Revenue Minister takes this House into confidence and tells us in detail the programme, and not only that but also what he will do after the Bill is passed. There is a very legitimate apprehension on the part of many—I have met many retired officials of this Government and they tell me so—that what is contemplated by the Government with regard to the time-limit is impossible. My suggestion is that the Government should devise a better procedure to simplify the whole thing. They should not say that it will take five years to complete this survey. We have been told it will take five years. If they want to have an elaborate survey in the manner they would like to have, it may not be five years but it will take fifteen to twenty years. I do not know what will happen before that. I should say that during the normal life of this House —three more years—we should have been able to see the end of this business. I entreat the Revenue Minister to think of an easier process. I do hope that he will not brush aside this suggestion by saying that it will be explained in the Select Committee. He should certainly take this House into confidence and tell us the policy with regard to the taking over of the estates, payment of compensation and how quickly he will achieve the objects mentioned in the Bill. I say it in the interests of the tenants at large in the zamindari areas, more than in the interests of the zamindars.

" Sir, regarding appointment of special officers under the Rent Reduction Bill, I am not sure, if they are intended for administering the Act or the same set of officers are expected to deal with matters that will arise after the abolition of the zamindaris. I learn that it is not so. Perhaps, the Hon. Minister is thinking of setting up an elaborate machinery for that purpose. I am very glad that he will have a large number of officers to cope with the situation.

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" Sir, when we are discussing the question of Revenue Demand, we are discussing also the prosperity of the villager and the growing of more food. I shall not take this House through discussion about the Grow More Food Campaign, except to say that whatever instructions are issued, Government should not retard the growing of more food. Everything should be done to conduce to the growing of more food. With your permission, I wish to refer to the deplorable state of *maramath* in the various zamin areas. Maramath during the last two or three years is at a complete standstill and minor irrigation channels are out of use. I do not think either the zamindars or the ryots are going to do that. Even before the time the Government are going to take up the estates and pay compensation to them, they should bring into being a separate organization to attend to the maramath of various kinds and afford facilities to the people. Otherwise, I predict, less and less food will be grown in the country.

" Sir, another matter I wish to refer to and that is regarding the levy of agricultural income-tax. In certain provinces of this country, agricultural income-tax has been levied. I am not against it, but what I want to bring home to this House is that the sentiments of the villager to his land must be kept up. Hereafter, the owner of the land is more and more the ordinary peasant-proprietor, the small holder and we need not be worried about a feeling that he will be a big zamindar or mirasdar owning thousands of acres. The land is valuable in relation to the taxation paid, and if you make him pay agricultural income-tax, I do not think the land is going to be as valuable and you cannot satisfy the sentiments of the people. Some sort of taxes should be continued. If taxation is heavy, it may be reduced and relief given. But the sentiment about the ownership of the land should continue and at least to give attachment to the land which our people so much desire, this system should be continued. I emphatically say that the time has not come for agricultural income-tax. It would be wholly unpopular and unnecessary. If at all, there is one industry which has to be encouraged so that the country may prosper, it is the agricultural industry and I do hope the Government will not copy the example of other provinces.

" I feel that the relationship between the tenant and the landlord in the Mirasi areas is deteriorating. I do hope that the Government will take note of it and do propaganda to counteract this sort of propaganda. I should say that the Government through the Revenue Department should take to useful propaganda towards this end. After all, one Revenue Minister could not be expected to travel the length and breadth of this country. It is very necessary that the Revenue officials should carry the message of the Revenue Minister in matters relating to the relationship between the tenant and the landlord and bring home to both sides that it is in the interests of the country that they should be at peace with each

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and any grievances they might have, should be put up to Government in a peaceful manner rather than settling it off-hand between themselves which would retard the progress of cultivation in the country.

1 p.m. " Mr. Speaker, let me also on this occasion express my frank views on the question of the Board of Revenue. It is not to-day I am saying it : I am saying it for the last seventeen years that the Board of Revenue is a very useful institution and should be continued. To-day I hold the same view even now after every European has left the country. My own experience of Divisional Commissioners in other parts of the country is that they will become super-numerary Collectors of districts and they will not be as useful as a collective body like the Board of Revenue who have the benefit of collective discussion and collective responsibility with a status to supervise the work of Collectors. I hope the Hon. Ministers occupying the treasury benches for the last two years would certainly acknowledge the expert advice that they have been receiving from them and how they have come to their rescue in matters concerning the administration of various ordinances, controls and rules. I hope that this very useful body between them and the various district officials will be continued, strengthened and improved if necessary but not abolished.

" Reference has been made to charitable inams and the plea has been put forward on their behalf that they should be excluded. I am afraid that it is a wrong way of pleading for them. If they are excluded now, the time will not be far off when they would be abolished without compensation. The charitable institutions will be lucky if they are to be included and paid compensation straightaway.

" Let me once again refer to the attachment of people to land though it does not belong to the Provincial sphere but to the Central sphere. We are being told of the coming of the Death Duties Bill in the Central Legislature. Let it be remembered and I wish to urge it upon the attention of Government that it will be a very pernicious idea. It may be to-day it has reference to businessmen."

MR. SPEAKER :—" This Assembly has nothing to do with it."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :—" I shall prove to you, Sir, how this Assembly will be concerned with the principle of the Bill. My point is that the attachment of the people to land is so great that nothing should be done to tamper with it. Economists are telling that there should be no fragmentation of lands but once that principle is accepted, it will work against it. I do hope that the Government will see that the principle of the Bill is opposed. I assure friends sitting on the treasury benches that if they do not oppose it, they will have no option but to continue it in other forms. If they really wish to serve the people, I request them to make a representation to the Government of India to give it up. The Government represents the large population of this country; the imposition of those duties will go against the principles of the Hindu law as also the provisions of the Muslim law of inheritence."

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MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member has one more minute."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :—" I wish to impress upon the Hon. Minister that more and more food should be grown; the relationship between the common man and the owner of the land is not merely a question of the concern of the Government but the concern of everybody. The best relationship between them and the people owning the land should be restored as early as possible."

* SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" Mr. Speaker, it is my painful duty to point out that the Government has not done anything to tackle the land revenue system of the province; they have not taken any initiative with reference to any progressive measure with this end in view. Of course they can cite the Bill for the abolition of zamindaris saying that it is a very revolutionary measure. Of course, ten years ago, it might have been called a revolutionary measure. But to-day when state after state is disappearing from the map of India, is the abolition of zamindaris and inams after all so revolutionary? Do we not see that the merger of States being accomplished by one stroke by that great son of India, Sardar Vallabhai Patel. He simply calls the ruler, tells him how it would be beneficial to have his state merged into the Union and what difficulties the states would be spared, and by way of mere two signatures the whole merger is accomplished. Regarding the Zamindari Abolition Bill, one year has been taken by the Hon. Minister for Revenue but nothing has been done. Still we do not know what will be the fate of the Bill. The Hon. Minister may say it is in the Select Committee but when it will come and in what shape it will emerge from the Select Committee and whether zamin ryots will get any benefit from that measure are all things we do not know and God alone knows. We, the South Indian ryots have made representations to the effect that we are not benefited by the measure because they have not introduced the 1802 rates but only the ryotwari rate. Many a time we have raised our voice but our cry has been a cry in the wilderness and it has not been heeded by the Hon. Revenue Minister. Even in the matter of the composition of the Select Committee, I have already referred to the fact that there are no zamin ryots there to represent the difficulties and grievances of zamin ryots. The Bill, moreover, is helping inamdars as one-third of the inams have been left out, calling them under some name, minor inams and other things. In such circumstances, how can any one expect to satisfy the entire ryots of the Tamilnad. The Hon. Revenue Minister, being an Andhra says that the provision regarding ryotwari rates is very beneficial. It may be so far as Andhra is concerned. But what about Tamilnad. We the ryots of the Tamilnad area are not at all benefited and they have been saying that they would be benefited if the 1802 rates are introduced.

" One important thing I wish to tell about the agrarian problem is that the entire land system should be abolished and the lands should be equally distributed among the cultivators. I do not know whether I can expect that from the present Ministry."

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THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" You do not expect."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" I want to do it; if you do not, I will do it; in the same House, one day we are going to bring in the abolition of the land revenue system and the distribution of lands equally among the cultivators."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" You do not know what each cultivator will get after the distribution."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" There is no use asking me that question. The Hon. Minister must study the question as to how many cultivators are there and what is the extent of land available and how much it will come to. It is no good putting questions to a poor speaker. Not being on the treasury benches, we have not facts and figures which you on that side possess. There is no use of putting such questions to us who are members who have to put questions.

" My suggestion is that the agricultural income-tax should be introduced at an early date. Mr. Karanth the then Revenue Minister prepared a Bill regarding agricultural income-tax. But now I do not know where it is, whether it is in cold storage or in the waste paper basket. I know I cannot expect this Ministry to equally distribute the land among the cultivators—but at least I can expect from them to bring a Bill for the imposition of agricultural income-tax, replacing the present revenue system. I suggest that a minimum either in respect of money or in respect of the holding might be fixed. No tax should be levied in respect of persons having say a minimum income or Rs. 500 or possessing five acres of land. Formerly the taxable limit of income-tax was Rs. 2,000 but now on account of our new Finance Minister of India, it has been reduced to Rs. 1,500. In a like manner, why not a minimum be fixed by the Finance Minister of Madras in respect of the ryots who are suffering for a very long time. The present system of land tenure is very unfair. Even a person getting an income of Rs. 50 per annum from his one acre land has to pay a tax on the same rate as a person owning 500 acres or more does. In the matter of income-tax the person getting Rs. 1,499 need not pay anything to Government but so far as land tax is concerned he is compelled to pay something even if his income is below Rs. 50. Is it a punishment because a man is born a cultivator and not a shop-keeper. That system is very bad and it must be abolished. I wish the Land Revenue Minister brings a Bill changing the entire land revenue system and replacing it by agricultural income-tax, fixing a minimum based either on income or on the extent of lands held.

1-15 p.m. " Sir, another point I want to mention in this connection. And that is by way of reply to what Sir Kumararaja has said. He wanted the retention of the Revenue Board. We feel that it is a mere waste of public funds. The Kumararaja said ' now that Englishmen have gone, the Board Members are all Indians, why do you want to abolish the Board of Revenue, why not retain it? ' I want to

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tell him, Sir, this. We have no grievance against Englishmen, we had grievance only against the English Government; in fact there have been several good Englishmen who have served here. So it is not a question of replacement of Englishmen by Indians. Our idea is to do good to the common man; by abolishing the Board of Revenue there will be a substantial saving in our revenue. Even the Indian I.C.S. Officers are maintaining the same old red tapism, and not only that, even the popular leaders, who have suffered for the cause of the country, when they sit on the Treasury Bench, become slaves to red tapism and official routine. So there is no use in retaining the Board of Revenue.

" Sir, Sir Kumararaja said that death duties should not be levied. Though, you have pointed out that it is not within the cognisance of this House and it pertains to the Central Assembly since you have allowed him to say something, I want to say something on it. Our idea is that we want to do several things for the common man. Now when we have attained Swaraj it is up to us to do so many things for the common man. All that requires money. By the introduction of Prohibition, Government are incurring a loss of so many crores of rupees of income. One source of finding revenue is by the levy of death duties. I want this Ministry to bring forward a resolution and get it passed here recommending to the Central Government to introduce death duties and to give this province a portion of the income from death duties. Thank you, Sir."

* M. S. ATAULLAH SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the cut motion. Sir, the monotonous consistency with which revenue administration in this province is worked out demonstrates with alarming clarity, how close we are heading towards decay and confusion. A few months back the Hon. Revenue Minister brought a Bill for the abolition of the zamindaris. He mixed with that inams also. As was pointed out on the floor of the House, several of us were against the policy of mixing inams with zamindaris. Having done so, it has been pointed out to him that the method of payment of compensation to the zamindars must be quite different from that of inamdars. But he has brought the Rent Reduction Bill. When we consider the provisions of that Bill we see there is no uniformity in the levy of assessment on land. I hope the Hon. Revenue Minister will consider this point and remove all disparities in the assessment and see that we have a uniform system of assessment. (The Hon. Sri Kala Venkata Rao. The Rent reduction Bill has already been passed into law.) Here, I want to say that there is more tax on some zamindari land than it obtains in the neighbouring ryotwari land. I hope the Hon. Revenue Minister will make it a point to see that there is uniformity throughout. (The Hon. Sri Kala Venkata Rao : I said the principles of assessment for zamindari land will be on the same principles as in the neighbouring ryotwari lands In the ryotwari land there is no uniformity of assessment; wher such is the case, how can you expect uniformity here also.) I want to see there is uniformity of assessment. Mr. R. V. Swaminathan said there should be resettlement and equal distribution o

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land. I have to say, I may agree with him in some respects. To ensure equal distribution of land, when the Zamindari Bill comes to force it should be seen that lands of more than a particular number of acres should not be allowed to be owned by a man, even though he may have the means to cultivate more lands himself. Resettlement is a thing which this Government has got to take very seriously for the purpose of levying uniform assessment for *nanja* and *punja* lands. When things are settled in that way I hope the Hon. Revenue Minister will take steps to do justice to all petty landholders. With these words, I close my speech."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM :—" கனம் சபா நாயகர் அவர்களே, இந்த ரெவினியூ டிமாண்டில் ஸ்ரீமான் சகஜானந்தம் கொடுத்த cut motion ஐ ஆதரித்து இந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் ரெவின்யூமந்திரி அவர்களுடைய கவனத்திற்கு முக்யமாக இரண்டொரு விஷயங்களை கொண்டுவருதவதற்கு பேசுகிறேன். இந்த மாகாணத்தில் எல்லா ஜில்லாக்களிலும் இல்லாத ஒரு புதிய வரி இந்த திருநெல்வேலி, இராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லாக்களில் இருக்கிறது. அது சபையிலுள்ளவர்களுக்கு தெரிந்திருக்கமுடியாது. அதாவது நிலத்திற்கும் அதிலுள்ள பனை மரத்திற்கும் இரண்டு விதமான வரி வசூலிக்கப்பட்டு வருகிறது. இந்த மாகாணத்தில் திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லா, இராமனாதபுரம் ஜில்லா, ஸ்ரீவில்லிபுத்தூர், சாத்தூர் தாலூக்காக்களில்தான் இந்த மாதிரி தீர்வை வசூலிக்கப்படுகிறது. எனென்றால் 1920-ம் வருஷத்தில் Settlement நடந்தகாலத்தில் அப்பொழுது இருந்த Settlement ஆபீசர்கள் ஒரு ஏக்கர் நிலத்தில் நூறு பனை மரங்களிருந்தால் அந்த நூறு பனை மரங்களுக்கும், நிலத்திற்கும் ஆக இரண்டு தீர்வை கொடுக்கப் படவேண்டுமென்று தீர்மானித்தார்கள். அந்த Settlement-க்கு பிறகு இப்பொழுது போய் பார்த்தால் 4, 5, பனைமரம்தான் இருக்கும். ஆனால் நூறு பனை மரங்களுக்கும் வரி செலுத்திக்கொண்டு இருக்கிறார்கள். மாதத்திற்கு ஒரு அணா வீதம் வரி செலுத்தி வருகிறார்கள். இந்த வரியை எடுத்துவிடவேண்டுமென்று பல வருஷமாக ஜில்லா மகாநாடுகளில் தீர்மானங்கள் போட்டு நிறை வேற்றியிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் அவைகள் வெறும் பேச்சில்தான் இருக்கிறது. நான் இச்சபை அங்கத்தினராக வந்த பிற்பாடு ஸ்ரீ பிரகாசம் மந்திரி சபை இருக்கும்போது கனம் ரெவினியூ மந்திரியாக இருந்த கரந்தினிடம் பல முறை சொன்னேன். அவர்களும் அதை கவனிக்கிறேன் என்று சொன்னார். இந்த வருஷத்தில் abolish பண்ணி விடுகிறோம் என்று சொன்னார்கள். இதுவரையில் இருந்தது அநியாயம் தான். வெகு சீக்கிரத்தில் ரத்து செய்து விடுகிறோம் என்றும் சொன்னார்கள். அதற்குப் பிறகும் நமது கனம் ரெவினியூ மந்திரி அவர்களிடம் கூட சொன்னேன். இந்த மாதிரி வரி திருநெல்வேலியில்தான் இருக்கிறது என்றும் அதை வெகு சீக்கிரத்தில் abolish பண்ணிவிடும்படியும் செய்கிறேன் என்றும் அங்குள்ள ஒரு கூட்டத்தில் பேசும்போது சொன்னார். அதே மாதிரி நமது Finance Minister கோபால ரெட்டி அவர்களும் இதை abolish பண்ணி விடுகிறோம் என்றும் அதற்கு ஒன்றும் அதிக நஷ்டம் வராது என்றும் இதனால ஒரு இடுக்கும் இல்லை என்றும் அதை abolish பண்ணுவதற்கு பைசாக்கு ஆட்சேபனை இல்லை என்றும் சொன்னார். ஆகையால் இன்று அந்த வரியை ரத்து செய்து விட வேண்டுமென்று கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களை கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இதை வஜா செய்வதற்கு பல தலைவர்கள் பல மகாநாடுகளில் பேசி தீர்மானங்களை நிறைவேற்றியிருக்கிறார்கள் இந்த அரசாங்கம் இந்த வரியை வஜா செய்யாவிட்டாலும் ரத்து செய்யாவிட்டாலும் வரி கொடா இயக்கத்தை ஆரம்பிப்போம் என்று தலைவர்கள் பலர் பேசி இருக்கிறார்கள். தங்களுடைய தலைமையிலேயே வரிகொடா இயக்கம் நடத்துவோம் என்றும் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால் இது ஒரு சமிக முக்கியமான பிரச்னையாக இருக்கிறது என்பதை நான் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். உடனே இதை ரத்து பண்ணி விடுவார்களென்றும் நம்புகிறேன்.

" அடுத்தப்படியாக இப்பொழுது வரி வஜா என்பதற்காக ரூபாய் 50 லட்சம் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அது போதாது. மந்திரி அவர்கள் மதுரை

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இராமனாதபுரம், திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாக்களில் சுற்றுப்பிரயாணம் செய்தார்கள் அவர்களோடு நானும் தொடர்ந்து சென்றேன். திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவில் பல இடங்களை அவர்கள் பார்த்தார்கள் சுமார் 50 சதம் நிலங்களெல்லாம் தண்ணீர் இல்லாமல் தீய்ந்து போய்விட்டது. கடைசியாக பாபநாசம் அணைக்கட்டிலிருந்து electricity க்காக வைத்திருந்த தண்ணீரை விட்டதினால் ஓரளவு விளைவு இருந்தது."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" The difficulty is much of that area is zamindari area, and so we can't do anything now. Criticism of that kind does not relate to the present demand."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" ஜமீந்தார்களுடைய நிலமாக இருக்கிறது என்று சொன்னார்கள். அதை ஒப்புக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அதற்காகத்தான் ஜமீந்தாரி ' பில்லை ' வெகு சீக்கிரமாக கொண்டுவரவேண்டுமென்கிறேன். கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களும் அதை வெகு சீக்கிரம் கொண்டுவந்துவிடவேண்டுமென்று துடித்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார். ஆனால் ஜமீந்தார்கள் இல்லாத இடங்களில் அப்படி இருக்கிறது என்று சொல்லுகிறேன். வளர்ந்த பயிர்களுக்கு தண்ணீர் கிடையாது. இன்னும் மூன்று மாத தண்ணீர் பாய்ந்திருந்தால் பயிர் நன்றாக நெல்விளைந்து இருக்கும். தண்ணீர் இல்லாத நிலைமையில் பயிர் அழிந்துபோய்விட்டது என்று அவருக்கு தெரிந்திருக்க முடியாது. திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவில் பேர்பாதி தீய்ந்துபோய்விட்டது. அவைகளுக்கெல்லாம் வஜா செய்வதாக இருந்தால் ஒதுக்கிவைத்தபணம் போதாது. ஒதுக்கிவைத்த பணத்திற்குதான் அதிகாரிகள் கணக்குப் போட்டுவருகிறார்கள். ஆகையால் அதிகம இதைச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" இதைத்தவிர இன்னொரு பெரிய விஷயம் இருக்கிறது. அதாவது ஒருபோகம் நஞ்சை நிலங்களில் ஒருபோகம் சாகுபடியான பிறகு தண்ணீர் இருந்து மறு சாகுபடிசெய்தால் அதற்கு அங்குள்ள கர்ணம், முன்சீப் இவர்கள் எல்லாம்—அவர்களுக்கு ஏதாவது காணிக்கைகள் செய்யாவிட்டால்—நிலசுவாந்தர்களுக்கு தண்டதீர்வை போடவேண்டுமென்று எழுதி விடுகிறார்கள். அப்படி 20 times. 30 times. சில சமயங்களில் 60 times தண்டத்தீர்வை போடுவதற்கு சிபார்சு செய்கிறார்கள். அதன்படி ஒரு ரூபாய் தீர்வை இருந்தால் ரூ. 60 தண்ட தீர்வை விதிக்கிறார்கள்."

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

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" Mr. Speaker Sir, முன்னால் பேசியதில் தண்டத்தீர்வையைப்பற்றி பேசினேன். அந்தமாதிரி தண்டதீர்வையைப்பற்றி பேசினேன். அந்தமாதிரி தண்டதீர்வையைப்பற்றி வஜா செய்வதற்கு, அரசாங்கத்தின் சர்க்குலர்படி, ஜமாபந்தி ஆபீசர்களிடம் போய் குறைத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்றிருக்கிறது. தண்ட தண்ணீர் தீர்வை விதிப்பதால் விவசாயிகள் விவசாயத்தை முன்னுக்குக் கொண்டுவரவிடாமல் தடுப்பதற்கு ஹேதுவாக இருக்கிறது. நாம் இப்பொழுது " Grow more food campaign ஐ " எங்குபார்த்தாலும் ஆரம்பித்து விவசாயத்தை விருத்திசெய்யவேண்டும். உற்பத்தியை பெருக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறோம். ஆகையால் இந்த தண்ட தீர்வை விதிப்பதனால் விவசாயிகள் விவசாயம் செய்வதற்கு தடங்கல் ஏற்படுகிறது. அது கேவலமாக இருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் தண்டத் தீர்வை விதிப்பதை அரவே எடுத்துவிட வேண்டுமென்று ரெவினியூ போர்டுக்கு எழுதவேண்டும் என்று கனம் ரெவினியூ மந்திரி அவர்களை கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" இதைத்தவிர இந்த ஹரிஜன கைதொழிலாளர்கள் அங்கங்கே பிரதேசங்களில் நூற்றுக்கணக்கான வருஷங்களாக குடியிருந்து வருகிறார்கள். அந்த நிலங்களில் குடியிருந்துவரும் ஹரிஜனங்களை அந்த மனைகளிலிருந்து

[Sri K. T. Kosalram] [15th March 1948

காலிசெய்துவிடவேண்டுமென்று நிலசுவாந்தார்கள் வற்புறுத்துகிறார்கள். இப்பொழுது அவர்களை 24 மணி நேரத்தில் காலிசெய்துவிடும்படிகூட சொல்லுவதற்கு சட்டம் இருக்கிறது. அந்தபடி இல்லாமல் இன்னொரு சட்டம் கொண்டு வரவேண்டும். எந்த நிலத்தில் எவன் குடி இருக்கிறானோ அந்த நிலம் அவனுக்குத்தான் சொந்தம் என்று ஒரு சட்டம் கொண்டுவரவேண்டும். இந்தமாதிரி ஒரு சட்டம் கொண்டுவருவதற்கு நாளானாலும் ஒரு executive order ஐ கலெக்டர்களுக்குப் போட்டு அவர்களை evict பண்ணச்சொல்லக் கூடாது என்று சொல்லவேண்டும். இப்பொழுது ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு பந்தோபஸ்து இல்லை. அவர்களுக்கு உதவிசெய்யவேண்டும். அதற்கு உடனடியாக கலெக்டர்களுக்கு உத்திரவு அனுப்பவேண்டும்.

" இதைத்தவிர காந்திஜியின் கொள்கையை பின்பற்றுகிறோம் என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டு வந்திருக்கிறோம். காந்திஜியின் கொள்கையாகிய ' The tiller of the soil must be the owner of the land ' என்பதை எல்லோரும் அனுசரிக்கவேண்டும். உண்மையாகவே காந்திஜியை பின்பற்றுவதாக இருந்தால் இதற்குறிய சட்டத்தை நிறைவேற்றி உழுபவனுக்குத்தான் நிலம் சொந்தம் என்று அமைக்கவேண்டும். அதை சட்டபூர்வமாக கொண்டுவர கடமைப்பட்டிருக்கிறோம். வெகுசீக்கிரத்தில் கனம் ரெவினியூ மந்திரி அவர்கள் இந்த சட்டத்தைகொண்டுவருவார்கள் என்று நம்புகிறேன்.

" அடுத்தபடியாக Communist நண்பர்களைப்பற்றி கொஞ்சம் சொல்ல வேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. நானும் கனம் ரெவினியூ மந்திரி அவர்களும் ஒரே கூட்டத்தில் பேசும்போது Communist நண்பர்கள் கனம் காளா வெங்கிட்டராவை தூக்கிவைத்து பிரமாதமாக பேசினார்கள். பிற்பட்டு அதே Communist கள் இரண்டு மாதங்களுக்குபின் அதே கனம் காளா வெங்கிட்டராவை திட்டுகிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு எந்தவிதமான கொள்கையும் கிடையாது. அவர்களுக்கு மாஸ்கோவிலிருந்து என்ன உத்திரவுவருகிறதோ அதைத்தான் நிறைவேற்றுகிறார்கள். ஆகையால் வெகு சீக்கிரத்தில் அவர்கள் சட்டசபை அங்கத்தினர்களாக வந்து எந்த சட்டத்தைக்கொண்டு வரவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறார்களோ அதே சட்டத்தை நாம் இப்பொழுது கொண்டுவரவேண்டும் என்பதை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கு தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டு நான் இத்துடன் நிறுத்திக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the cut motion moved by Swami Sahajananda. In doing so, I would like to say that agriculture is the prime occupation of the people of this Province and they depend upon land for their livelihood. When we see the pitiable condition of the poor people of this province and how they are wallowing in poverty and dirt, it must become the prime concern of this Government to see that these people are taken away from the lands and given occupation in some other avocations. In this connexion I would like to impress upon the Hon. Revenue Minister that he must industrialize the province to such an extent as to absorb the vast masses of people who are not able to earn enough from the lands. For the sake of the poor and suffering masses, the Government must adopt a vigorous policy of industrialization so that they may be given better work and more wages. On the one hand we have vast acres of uncultivated land and on the other we have vast masses of people without lands. This is a peculiar situation in the province. Though several Bills have been introduced in this House, I am really surprised that the Government have not brought forward any Bill for assigning lands to the poor landless people and for taking away the ownership from those people who are simply holding on to the lands without cultivating them.

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" The question of reclamation is still in the air. Vast acres of reclaimable lands are there. Because the Government have not reclaimed them and made them useful, they remain uncultivated.

" I have got to bring to the notice of the Hon. Revenue Minister that his predecessor in office has actually made a promise on the floor of this House that he would bring legislation to stop disintegration of holdings and fragmentation of land. As long as this process is in active operation, we cannot think of any collective or large-scale farming in the province. I should say that fragmentation of land lays the axe at the very root of production. While production is the crying need of the hour, while we say that we must produce more to check inflation and help the suffering masses, the Government are not taking any interest in this question. Different laws of inheritance are in vogue in this province which assist the fragmentation of land and the disintegration of holdings. The Government must bring in a Bill to codify those laws as early as possible.

" With regard to the Board of Revenue, I would not go to the extent of saying, as my hon. Friend Mr. R. V. Swaminathan did, that it should be abolished. The Board has been there for the last so many decades and it has been rendering a very useful service to the people and the Government of this province. In this connexion I wish to refer to a very important matter and that is about the Board's Standing Orders. It is almost a tangled wood and I am sure that even the Hon. Revenue Minister may not be able to understand what is in that confusion called the Board's Standing Orders. I would urge upon him to codify and reprint the orders in such a manner that even ignorant ryots may understand them. In the absence of such a publication, people do not know what they should or should not do, and the officials are having their own way. So I urge for an early codification and reprint of the Board's Standing Orders.

" While I am on this subject, I cannot help referring to the Zamindari Abolition Bill which is before this House. I cannot refute the statement that proper enquiries have been made with regard to zamindaris. I put it to the Hon. Revenue Minister whether he has made any enquiries with regard to inams. In introducing the Bill, the Hon. Revenue Minister admitted on the floor of this House that there are inams and inams. We have not seen any report prepared by the Government with regard to the conditions existing in inams. Before the Bill is passed into law I wish that the Government set up a committee to enquire into the conditions existing in inams. As has been pointed out by several hon. members, there are inamdars who own only 10 acres of land. I am not pleading for zamindars, I am not pleading for inamdars. I only want that members of the Legislature should be in possession of all facts so that they may know whether justice and equity are meted out to the inamdars, before they are asked to vote for the legislation. The Hon. Minister for Food said the other day that mathematics is all-important. Only on the basis of mathematics, facts and statistics we can

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do anything. What is the mathematics, what are the statistics and data on the basis of which you are going to legislate? As has been pointed out by the previous speakers, there are religious or charitable inams which were given as gifts by past kings and past Governments, and gifts are going to be given by the present Government to their partymen. Before we go into the question of doing justice to the ryots in inam and zamindari lands, I request that proper data be placed before the members of the Legislature.

2-45 p.m. "Even on this question of assignment of lands, I am constrained to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Revenue Minister that party politics is playing a great part. Sir, it has already been said by several Ministers that this is a Government which is interested in the welfare of all the people, irrespective of caste, creed or colour and if it wants to implement that great ideal, I would only urge upon the Hon. the Revenue Minister to see that on this question of assignment of lands, party politics is not allowed to play any part, because we have seen that partymen have very often worked for their own personal gains and not for the interests of the party or the community. I may even go to the extent of saying that particular communities and sub-communities are being singled out for special attention, which means singled out for special punishment. With these words, I support the cut motion."

* SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, three things are extremely hard. One is steel, the other diamond and the third, the hardest and most important of all, to know oneself and one's own mind. I am sorry to say, Sir, that viewed with this background, the two reforms which the Hon. Revenue Minister has introduced, namely the Zamindari Abolition Bill and the Rent Reduction Bill which were intended to benefit the ryots had only resulted in creating more confusion and greater hardships. At the time when the Rent Reduction Bill was introduced, it was stated that the object of the Government was to give immediate relief to the ryots. Instead of that it has created only confusion and as I said the other day, in connexion with that Bill, it has given rise to greater troubles and misunderstandings between the Zamindari and the tenant.

"Sir, it is of course necessary that reforms should be introduced by the Government, but the reforms of this nature must be considered fully and in all their bearings, and the reactions and repercussions that they will produce among the people concerned, should also be fully understood. At the time of the discussion of the Rent Reduction Bill, I stated that the Government need not move a Bill for reducing rent and that they have ample power to issue a gazette notification to the effect that the tenants need pay rents due to the zamindar only after deducting 25 per cent of the existing rent subject to fixation of rent later on. The Government did not pay heed to that then though after confusion at a later stage they thought fit to come to a temporary compromise with the zamindars to the same effect. If that notification had been made then, there would have been no necessity for that Act

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at all and the Government need not have appointed these special officers and assistant special officers to gather statistics of the rate of rent, etc., and a lot of money spent on these officers would have been saved now. There is, as a matter of fact, what is known as the regional rate of rent in the ryotwari area which rate of rent might have been adopted in the neighbouring zamindari areas, and if things had been allowed to take their own course in regard to zamindari abolition and settlement of the rents in the zamindari areas it could have been brought down after survey to the level of the rates prevailing in the neighbouring ryotwari areas. The only result of the passing of Rent Reduction Act is, as I have said, that it has fostered greater troubles and created greater confusion between the zamindar and his tenants, and the relation between them has so much deteriorated, that it would take several years to arrive at a settlement. The collection of peishkush has to be postponed. The burden on the ryots need not be increasing for payment at a later stage. Added to this, we have now got the Zamindari Abolition before the Select Committee. I am sure, Sir, the Zamindari Abolition Bill is not going to come into force within a period of five or six years. (Interruption.) I am quite definite, Sir, with all the assurance of the Hon. Revenue Minister and the way he is proceeding he could not do any service to the country or to this Province. He has distinctly done a disservice to them by taking sides in the Zamindari Abolition Bill. Taking sides is not 'reform' and ultimately the result will be dangerous and mislead the ryots."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Unless I go out of office, this Bill will come immediately, in spite of my hon. Friend's vigorous protest."

* SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"I know, Sir, the Hon. Revenue Minister is very sincere and very honest, but he has not realised the amount of work that is involved in giving effect to the abolition. His performance is wrong. He has taken sides. That is my charge. I told the House at the time of the introduction of the Rent Reduction Bill what practical difficulties the Government are going to face in enforcing the Act. Now what do we see? What are the rent reduction officers and their assistants doing? They have simply sent a Memorandum to the various zamindars and mittadars asking them to send a statement of the various rates of rent prevailing in the different kinds of lands in their estates. In fact, these officers do not know anything about the rents that are prevailing for the various kinds of lands in the estates. They do not even take the trouble of addressing the zamindars by name. They simply send memos to their residences. There are as many rates of rents as there are varieties of lands in the estates. Too many difficulties have cropped up now. I submit, Sir, that the Rent Reduction Act of 1947 was not at all a necessity nor was it a blessing to the tenants. The tenants were not protected by that Act, and all the safeguards made therein in respect of the payment of rent, in respect of staying proceedings in Courts

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and in respect of sale of holdings—all these safeguards had not really conferred any benefit on the tenants. The Act had done nothing more than fostering troubles and embittering the relations between the zamindars and tenants. That is the practical result of the Act. Perhaps it may be different in the north, but I know, as a matter of fact, even in certain estates in the north also, the maintenance holders are not receiving their maintenance because the Zamidars are not able to collect rents from their tenants and pay them. Many of them who were respectable people before are now approaching for small sums like Rs. 10, 20 or 50 in order to eke out their livelihood. The great zamindars of Vizianagram and Kumaramangalam are not all in this Province. All are suffering and this Act has terribly disturbed their relations with the tenants and now both the zamindars and tenants are suffering and the zamindars are at a greater disadvantage after the passing of this Act, and they too are not able to get on.

"Now, Sir, the Zamindari Abolition Bill is before the Select Committee. Various stories are being told about the differences there. Even in respect of taking evidence, we are told that witnesses are interfered with. It appears that the representatives of the Zamindars are not given a proper hearing and that the zamindars in the Select Committee are not given the same amount of freedom as others."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has got one minute more."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"I submit, Sir, that the results that this Act will bring about will be nothing more than confusion, as the other Act. In connexion with the introduction of the Bill the other day, the Hon. Revenue Minister said that the Zamindars would be given a sort of remission in regard to peishkush, as the rents were going to be reduced in the Zamindari areas. But no remission has been provided for. No provision has also been made for carrying out a survey of these estates, but only some survey training schools have been started for training surveyors and no actual survey has yet been undertaken in any of the estates. I submit, Sir, that the whole affair is going on like farce. If the Hon. Minister for Revenue is really serious and wants to get on with this reform—I know he is very sincere and I have great respect for his honesty of purpose—I submit, Sir, that he should start anew, being impartial himself, and see that the zamindars are dealt with properly and equitably. Unfortunately he has taken a view which is unsound and there is a great suspicion lurking in the minds of many people that this legislation will not after all be placed on the Statute Book and given effect to for some years to come. That is why I say that if he is really serious and sincere and if he really wants to serve the people of this Province by means of this reform, he should hand over this legislation to an impartial tribunal to be dealt with by them. That will be the best service that he will be doing to this Province."

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SRI M. P. PERIYASWAMI:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, பல ஆயிர வருஷங்களாக புரம்போக்காக இருந்த நிலங்களில், ஹரிஜனங்கள் குடிசை கட்டி வசிக்கப்பட்டு வந்து, திடீரென்று அந்த நிலங்களில் குடியிருக்கக் கூடாது என்று ஆட்சேபணை செய்து கவர்ன்மெண்டு அதிகாரிகளும் நிலசுவான்தார்களும் குடிசைகளை பிரித்துவிடுகிறார்கள். அதை கவர்ன்மெண்டார் ரொம்பவும் கவனித்து நிலங்களை அவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்க வேண்டும்.

"புரம்போக்கில் வீடுகள் கட்டி இருக்கும் ஜனங்களை நீக்கிவிட்டு ஒரு மிராசுதார் அந்த நிலத்தை அனுபவிப்பது பெரிதா அல்லது ஆயிரக்கணக்கான ஹரிஜனங்கள் அந்த நிலத்தில் வாழ்ந்திருந்து குடியிருப்பது பெரிதா என்பதை கவர்ன்மெண்டார் கவனிக்கவேண்டும். ஹரிஜனங்கள் ஒரு இடத்தில் வாழ்ந்துவருவதை தடுப்பது நல்லது அல்ல. அவர்களுடைய சமூகத்தை காப்பாற்றுவதுதான் தருமம். அவர்கள் மனிதர்களோடு வாழ்வதற்கும் அவர்களுக்கு புரம்போக்கு நிலங்களை கொடுக்கவேண்டும். எந்த ஆட்சேபணையும் சொல்லக்கூடாது.

"அதிக உணவு உற்பத்திக்காக புரம்போக்கு நிலங்களை கொடுத்துக் கொண்டுவந்தார்கள். அதில் அதிகம் ஹரிஜனங்கள் புரம்போக்கில் உழுவது கிடையாது. பணக்காரர்கள்தான் அந்த நிலங்களை உழுது அனுபவித்துவருகிறார்கள். அதோடுகூட பணக்காரர்கள்தான் ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய பெயரைபோட்டு அந்த நிலங்களை உழுது அதிகமாக உற்பத்தி செய்து கொண்டுவந்திருக்கிறார்கள். வெறும் பெயர் உள்ளவனுக்கு அதனால் யாதொரு பிரயோசனமுமில்லை. பிரத்யேகமாக ஹரிஜனங்கள் உழுகிற நிலங்களுக்கு Caste ஹிந்துக்கள் வெறும் நிலத்திற்கு இடையூர் செய்து வருகிறார்கள்.

"ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு தர்காஸ்து நிலங்கள் ஒதுக்கப்படவில்லை. தர்காஸ்து நிலங்கள் கேட்டால் ஏதாவது பொய் சொல்லி பல காரணங்கள் சொல்லி தடைசெய்து விடுகிறார்கள். ஆனால் Caste ஹிந்துக்களுக்கு கொடுப்பதாக இருந்தால் ஒரு ஆட்சேபணையும் இல்லை. புரம்போக்கு நிலங்களையும் இப்பொழுது அதிகமாக கொடுக்கிறது இல்லை. ஆகையால் அவர்களுக்கு அதிகம் கொடுக்கவேண்டும்.

"ஜமீந்தார் நிலங்களுக்கு இப்பொழுது Compensation அதாவது நஷ்ட ஈடு கொடுக்கப்போகிறார்கள். அப்படி அவர்களுக்கு கொடுத்த பிறகு இந்த ஜனத்தொகைக்குத் தகுந்தபடி அவர்களுக்கு அந்த நிலங்களைக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். ஜமீந்தார்களுக்கும் உழுகிறவர்களுக்கும் இடையில் இருக்கும் குத்தகைக்காரர்களையும் தாருகாரர்களையும் எடுத்துவிட்டு உழுகிறவனுக்கே நிலங்களைக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். உண்மையாக உழைக்கிறவர்கள Madrasயிலோ சேலத்திலோ இருப்பார்கள். ஆகையால் உண்மையாக யார் உழுகிறார்களோ அவர்களுக்குத்தான நிலங்களைக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும் என்று கவர்ன்மெண்டை கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். முக்யமான இந்த விஷயங்களை எல்லாம் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் யோசனைசெய்து ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு சௌகர்யத்தையும் நன்மையையும் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு இம் மானியத்தை ஆதரித்து என்னுடைய சிற்றுரையை முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister will now reply."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, I thank the House for the valuable criticisms given by many hon. Members during the course of this debate. I would like to deal with as many points as possible, Sir, in the course of my reply. First, Sir, I would like to answer the minor points. The point was raised that the ryots send their petitions in the regional languages and that reply should be sent to them in the languages themselves. While this may not be possible as far as Secretariat is concerned we will try to see that this practice is followed in the mufassal in the offices of the District Collectors and other subordinate officers.

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" Another criticism was about the red tape. It is a well-known affair. All of us are suffering under that load. The Government are making a vigorous attempt to break this red tape along with the steel frame. And I can tell the House, Sir, that a Cabinet Committee is now reviewing the Secretariat Business Rules so as to eliminate much of the delay, if possible.

" A point was raised, Sir, with reference to the domestic workers. I do not know the problem very well. If it is a request just for the assignment of lands, wherever available, I have no objection to consider those applications along with other landless poor.

" Another point was, Sir, with reference to the fishery sales. I find from the Budget that we get over Rs. 3 lakhs from the fishery sales. As a matter of fact, Sir, when I took charge, I gave certain of these tanks exclusively for Harijans to catch the fish. But whether it should be a general problem is a matter for further consideration, as it has something to do with Finance. The suggestion of the hon. Members will be considered.

" Sir, Begum Sultan Amiruddin Saheba has raised the question of wells again. I have already answered that question during the debate on Demand No. XI, District Administration and I need not go into the question over again except to say that her suggestion that the Government themselves should undertake to dig these wells in every place is not feasible nor possible. After all, Sir, we are only giving subsidies and a major portion of the amount spent on each well has to be met by the applicants themselves. Again where are we to get the overseers? I have told the House more than once, Sir, that we could not get overseers to work on the minor irrigation works. It has become a very difficult problem in this Province and to give overseers, maistries and other workmen for thousands and even lakhs of wells it would be impossible. The other day I read figures to show that we have more than 2 lakhs of wells constructed in the province. Therefore it would be impossible for us to undertake the construction of these wells. But we are exercising a careful supervision over the digging of the wells. We have been able to spend the full allotment in the current year and we have given a fresh allotment of a further amount. We will also revise the rules as we have already promised, to meet the points of some hon. Members.

" Sir, the hon. Member. Sir Kumararaja of Chettinad raised the question of the transfer of Deputy Collectors. Of course, if not every fine morning, once or twice a week you will find some transfers of Deputy Collectors reported in the newspapers and in the weekly gazette. I am not in favour of disturbing people from their places at least for three years at a time. But there are certain difficulties which have cropped up during the war. The sanctioned strength of the cadre is 134 while the present roll is as high as 285. They were recruited during the war for various purposes and at present many Deputy Collectors are serving in other departments than the Revenue Department. As the controls

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are going many of them are reverting with the result that the juniors have got to be disturbed and we find that some transfers out of the ordinary are taking place nowadays. But it cannot be helped. We are exercising proper care to see that the transfers are not over long distances and that permanent people are provided for. All these normal procedures are being followed and we do hope that within the next few months this temporary difficulty also would be got over.

" Next, I would like to touch upon the question of land assignment, Sir. Many hon. Members, particularly the Harijan friends have raised the question. The Land Assignment policy of the Government is not yet a clear-cut one. Ten years ago, a Government Order was passed prohibiting the assignment of land in this Presidency with the result that there has been no assignment of land at all in this Presidency during the last ten years except in a very few cases which could be counted on fingers, where exemption was given by special Government Orders. Therefore the charge of my hon. Friend Mr. Majid that politics is playing a part in the assignment of lands is not true, at least, let me say, at the present moment, because there has been no assignment of land at all.

" But I can tell the House that the Government are engaged in settling this land assignment policy. You are aware, Sir, that a large extent of land which is mainly on the sub-marginal side is available for assignment. It is cultivable waste. But after the prices of paddy and other commodities fall, whether these lands will be remunerative is the question. But when there is enthusiasm, when there is need—and science has come to our aid in bringing even what were once uncultivable waste into cultivable waste—we can do all that is possible to assign much of this land to the people at large.

" Now we have to determine in which way this land is to be assigned. I can tell you, Sir, that all the preliminaries with reference to the question have been settled and I hope as I promised already on the floor of the House in reply to a question last week or so, the policy of the Government will be available to the public at no distant date. The question is this. There are plots of land which extend to 2,000 acres or 3,000 acres. There are also isolated plots of land which vary from less than 5, 6, 7 or 8 acres. What is the policy to be adopted with reference to these assignments? One thing that is engaging the attention of the Government is that where large extents of land are available, instead of making individual assignments of an acre or less than an acre, it would be better to gather together the landless and then give it to them as a co-operative society, or make an experiment in collective farming. I do not know what the effect of collective farming would be. We have no experience in this country as yet, but the Government are prepared to take the risk and make an experiment in that line.

" About co-operative farming, Sir, I am convinced as an age-long co-operator, that co-operative farming satisfies the needs

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of the individual, namely, that he owns the lands himself and the society pools the resources of all the members. It also makes them strong as regards their credit and the pooling of resources will be helpful in creating more food on the particular land by intensive cultivation. Therefore, primarily in the matter of land assignment, the Government will decide that these small plots of land can be given as individual assignments but wherever big plots of land are available it may be the policy that we will give them to co-operative societies and the like.

" In this connexion we have to take up the question about which a warning has already been uttered by Mr. Majid. In assigning these lands who are the people who will get the benefit out of them? Should it be the landless? If you say the landless, there are landless people in all communities. You have already heard a proposition from my good Friend, Mr. R. V. Swaminathan for equal distribution of land. I interrupted him then and told him that if all the available land which could be cultivated is distributed among the desirable persons the extent of land each individual would be able to get will be less than an acre. Therefore, that proposition is not at all a practicable one. We have therefore to think of a different system. We must see that nobody will be assigned more than 5 acres of land in these isolated plots. And also, personally speaking, I am in favour of making the assignments on the condition that those lands should not be alienated again. You are aware, Sir, that after the last war, the soldiers were given some pieces of land like this. Within a space of 5 or 10 years all of them sold away those lands to big or small landholders and they walked out of the picture. The land assignment policy of isolated plots was mooted out by the Advisers' Regime and they said that these lands should be assigned to the war-returned people. As I told you, Sir, I am not one of those that can make a distinction in favour of anyone nor do I see the reason why the war-returned men alone of all people in the country should get the benefit of these assignments. Politically speaking, I think except for our general sense of justice, there is no need to give even a single acre to them. They went to serve a foreign power for money and they did not serve this country while we on this side were not going to help in the war and we were filling the jails. And these gentlemen were drawing big salaries by partaking in the war and the like. Therefore while my sense of justice prevents me from banning this category of people from getting any portion of the land, I would like to restrict that the whole land or a good portion of it should not go to them. Sir, there are hundreds of people in this country who are real agriculturists, who are landless and who could stay there and cultivate the land. Therefore, I think, that their case should be considered only along with the rest and not on a priority basis. While considering the assignment of land to these . . ."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I.N.A. men also."

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THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" I am coming to this in the next sentence. I am just beginning with a ' while.' While considering the matter of assignment of land to the ex-military people, we will consider the I.N.A. category also.

" Next comes the question of Harijans. Mainly Harijans are very much attached to land wherever they are. And therefore to give them a security of life it is but just that their case should be considered on a priority. The Government are prepared to give them preference in the matter of assignment of these lands. And then we have to think of these backward classes. They are just on a par with the Harijans as regards their poverty. What separates them—or at least what separated them in the past—from the Harijans was only untouchability. Untouchability is no more. We have to consider their claims also. Take the case of agricultural labourers like Setti Balijas and the rest. We have certainly to consider their case. Then, Sir, we can think of the landless among the other communities.

" In this connexion, Sir, at least one Member had a dive against us with reference to the political sufferers. The last day for the application from political sufferers was over on the 28th, and from the information available, only about less than 10,000 applications have been received. This means that even if we give 5 acres per head, the total will not come to more than 50,000 or 60,000 acres out of more than a million acres available for assignment. As I have made it plain in this House and elsewhere, these political sufferers never asked for these lands. It is solely in recognition of their services in the cause of Indian Independence that we thought it just to remember their services on the eve of August 15, 1947, and we decided to assign the lands. I would make it plain now also that these lands will be assigned on one condition that these lands will not be allowed to be sold by them. 3-15 p.m.

" Sir, my Friend, Mr. Alluri Satyanarayanaraju, raised the question of other categories of political sufferers. If he had read the Government Order issued in this connexion, he would have seen that while there is *a priori* recognition in favour of those who had been to the jails in the cause of Indian Independence, there is a further clause to the effect that Government have power to decide whether a particular applicant is a political prisoner or not. That saving clause was put to cover certain cases, namely, people who went to jail in 1907 and others connected with the movements of Alluri Sitharamaraju, etc. All these cases will have to be considered on merits, because in certain cases we have records and in certain others we have no records. Therefore, that category will be determined on merits. I can assure hon. Members that there is no bias at least in my mind and in my department to the assignment of lands to other political prisoners. A Communist friend told me that he went to jail in 1931–32, and now he became a Communist Member. He asked me whether he would have any assignment of land to him. I said ' you had your share in the

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winning of Independence; we would not make any distinction.' Sir, I hope the House and you will agree with me that this is a laudable thing which the Government have undertaken.

" Then, Sir, one other question was raised by my friends and that is with reference to evictions. I would like to state that the person occupying the land, as was suggested by certain friends . . . (Interruption.) I am trying to be as exhaustive as I can. (Interruption.) I am coming to the question of eviction which will be covered under the Grow More Food scheme. There are two phases to this question, i.e., one for cultivation purposes and the other for constructing houses. Construction of houses can be separated and dealt with separately. Then there is the other aspect also with reference to occupation—unauthorized or authorized, or whether this particular occupation, if unauthorized, covered a pretty long period so as to bring in some kind of justification for that type of occupation. Judging these things from all points of view, I would like to state that as a whole as far as cultivation under the Grow More Food scheme is concerned, these lands were assigned to those who are in possession of them—let them be big or small landholders—on the written understanding that they will have to vacate them at the end of five years. The period of five years was over on 30th June 1947. But between the time I took up office and 30th June 1947, there was hardly two or three months' time, and I had no time to determine our policy. Therefore, we said that the leases would continue till 30th June 1948. The leases will terminate automatically on 30th June 1948, and as I said the policy that we are going to determine just now with reference to the assignment of lands generally, will apply to these lands also. Our object is not to oust the people from their present possession. If I simply say that we are terminating the leases, it does not mean that for the sake of vengeance we are sending out ' X ' and replace him by ' Y.' In the case of big landholders. I can straightaway tell them that we cannot continue to assign those lands to them. Persons owning 1,000 acres and more have been assigned two, three, four or five hundred acres of land. We cannot continue to assign those lands in their favour when many landless people are suffering. Therefore, *prima facie* we can dismiss the question of assigning any land to those people. Even with reference to the small landholder, though the lease will cease on 30th June 1948, it does not mean that he will be evicted automatically. His case will be considered and will be judged with all possible justice.

" With regard to the house-sites, Mr. Sahajananda brought to my notice that eviction notices were served on the tenants in Chidambaram taluk. The moment he came to me, I issued a stay order, and communicated it by telegram, because when once eviction takes place it will be difficult to regain the use of the house. I can tell him of one condition in this matter, which I hope you also will appreciate, that is, we must draw a distinction between poramboke and banjar and not use the words loosely.

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The word ' *puntha* ' in Telugu and ' poramboke ' in Tamil means communal lands. They are useful to the villagers. Their cattle have to roam about, and their carts have got to go to the fields. As suggested by Mr. Muniswami Pillai, during the last one or two centuries, the big landholders on either side of these *porambokes* began to eat away the *porambokes*. I cannot deny that. As a matter of fact, whoever paid some four rupees to the surveyor had the survey stone walk automatically two or three yards away. As ryots, we know this; perhaps some of us are also guilty of this. We should now check this. Therefore, I say that even if a ' Puntha ' or *poramboke* is a blind one and is not useful for any apparent public purpose, it may not be useful to the people of the village. If there is occupation of these lands for a reasonable period, or even if there is no reasonable period, if it is available for assignment now, I am prepared to consider their cases and do justice by them. We do not want to worry anybody over this matter. We will be as liberal as possible consistent with the condition I have just now said. Mr. Sahajananda need not feel worried over this question. We will do all that is possible. (Interruption.) My hon. Friend talks about enhancement. There is no enhancement in Grow More Food. For Grow More Food we only collect tax. But in each case of Grow More Food, the Collector issued a temporary patta. But there are certain gentlemen who went and occupied the lands by themselves. Therefore, the difficulty arises in certain cases. If notices are served upon them, and they do not vacate the lands, the law provides that a person who disobeys the notice will have to pay a penalty. The penalty will vary with the length of the period of unauthorized occupation. In the first year, it will be one rupee, second year two rupees and so on. But if that person obeys the law and applies for that piece of land, and that land is assignable, we will consider his application. If people think that they can use mass force against Government, I say, Sir, they will be mistaken. I had to deal with this question a little exhaustively so as to dispel the fears entertained by hon. Members of this House.

" I now come to the question of tenancy. On this matter, many friends have spoken. Sir, we should make a distinction between tenancy and tenure. As all of you know, tenancy is the relation between the pattadar and the tenant under him, who takes the land on lease, a term which is expressed in Tamil as ' kuthagai ' and ' kowlu ' in Telugu and in various other ways in other languages, throughout this Presidency. All these are not controlled by any statute till to-day. The day has now come, Sir, when something must be done for these people. How best that should be done is the matter that is under the consideration of the Government. I can in this connexion, draw the attention of hon. Members to the recent appointment of the Agrarian Committee by the All-India Congress Committee to go into this question and make suggestions to bring about some form of uniformity. Meanwhile, we are not sitting idle. As I told hon. Members earlier, Mr. Raghavendra Rao has reported on the

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tenancy reform. That report will be in the hands of hon. Members shortly for their study and for offering suggestions to Government. As hon. Members are aware, we cannot bring in this legislation before the end of April as our hands are full of other subjects including the Zamindari Abolition Bill. At the time when we meet next, we should be able to do something positive. Meanwhile, we will have some advice from the Central Agrarian Committee so that we can merely dot the 'i's and cross the 't's. In this connexion, I would also like to answer my friend from Malabar, Mr. Raghavan. He raised the question of the Malabar Tenancy Reform. I am fully aware that after the last Malabar Tenancy Legislation was passed, the Kuttikrishna Menon Committee gave its report in 1939. It was not implemented on account of the War and the intervening Advisers' regime. Mr. Raghavendra Rao was also asked to go into this question and he has given an elaborate report on Malabar Tenancy. We have to examine this report. We should also examine the suggestions of the report to which he has referred, namely, the Tenancy Reform report of the Kerala Provincial Congress Committee. I had the honour of meeting their representatives at Calicut itself some months ago and held consultations with them. Now I am glad to state that the departmental examination of the subject is over. Sectional notes are ready. Because, I do not thoroughly understand the intricacies of the Malabar tenancy, I have requested my hon. Colleague Mr. Madhava Menon to go through them. I promise my hon. Friends from Malabar that as originally stated by me, I will place these confidential suggestions of the Government before a meeting of the legislators from Malabar, before this session rises, take their advice and then proceed with the legislation.

"The question of holdings was also raised. The suggestion was that small holdings should not be taxed. It is a very nice suggestion indeed, but the whole difficulty, as the hon. lady Member envisaged, is finance. I am prepared to lose finance personally speaking, but while the gain to the party will be in annas, the loss to the Government will be in crores of rupees. I would like to inform the House of a few statistics which I gathered during the lunch interval. They are—

		Number of single pattas.	Number of joint pattas.
		Rs.	Rs.
Pattas on which the payment is	one rupee and less	8,25,502	8,10,456
Do.	Rs. 10 and less but over one rupee.	22,97,093	16,73,000
Do.	Rs. 30 and less but over Rs. 10.	3,14,130	5,08,037
Do.	Rs. 50 and less but over Rs. 30.	1,49,789	1,13,864
Do.	Rs. 100 and less but over Rs. 50.	83,228	53,931
Do.	Rs. 250 and less but over Rs. 100.	31,918	13,833
Do.	Rs. 500 and less but over Rs. 250.	7,023	2,372
Do.	Rs. 1,000 and less but over Rs. 500.	2,305	738
Do.	Over Rs. 1,000	1,353	535

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"Lastly, Sir, I must say that the total land revenue as shown in the Budget Estimate is Rs. 8,01,36,000. The irrigation portion of the revenue is Rs. 2,90,97,000 so that the pure land revenue comes to Rs. 5,10,39,000. The bulk of the revenue comes from the class of persons who pay between Rs. 10 and Rs. 50. Therefore, if the suggestion of the hon. Member is adopted, at least eighty per cent of this revenue will disappear. Therefore, the suggestion that is made will have to be considered on different lines.

"Then, Sir, I would now come to the question of the land tax in general. I have been saying, Sir, that the present land tax system is regressive. Apart from that, we have no Land Tax Act in this Province and so, we have got to depend upon the Board's Standing Orders. Even as Land Revenue Minister I cannot understand all their implications, for the simple reason, that suppose you take Board's Standing Order No. 110, there will be fifteen or twenty slips attached on the top of the order. In spite of frequent reprinting of the Board's Standing Orders we could not get over this difficulty. Now we have to codify all these land revenue laws in this Province. As I have told the House in the morning, Sri R. V. Krishna Ayyar is working on this and I can tell you, Sir, that the draft is ready and it will be examined by the Government and if necessary, by a small Committee and then, I would be able to bring it before the House for discussion. While I speak of codification, I mean that it is a codification of the existing land revenue laws in its simplest form. Still, the question of regressive tax remains. In this connexion, I would have to state that the question of Marjoribanks Committee Report cannot be taken into consideration for this reason. My hon. Friend, Mr. Venkateswaralu, raised that question. The trouble in accepting the Marjoribanks Report now is this; it was advocated by me at one time because at that time, the codification of the land revenue laws was not contemplated and we did not have a uniform land tax in the Province. What the Marjoribanks Committee Report recommended was a percentage cut in the existing tax in certain districts and not in the whole of the Presidency. It was a percentage cut only in certain areas. Therefore, I have stated more than once on the floor of the House that I was not in favour of rents being reduced only in certain areas. What ought to be levied is really a progressive tax whether it is related to the holding as suggested by Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin or whether it is related to the income as suggested by some other hon. Members. We will not now go into the intricate question whether the tax system should be on a sliding scale or whether the tax should vary according to the prices of commodities, as is the case in certain parts of West Punjab. Here, we have to consider the question of differential water rates. There is also the question whether the water rate should be combined with the land tax or whether it should be a separate tax or whether we have to relate it, as suggested by some others, with the fax on the

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produce, or whether the basic land tax should be levied at eight annas or ten annas per acre and add a purchase tax on commodities. All these things we have to examine carefully. This will be a new land tax system and we will be prepared to consider the suggestions of hon. Members and we hope to bring in progressive tax system in this Province with the co-operation of the House and with the co-operation of the public. We also hope to put on the Staute Book a codified land revenue law for this Province in the place of a number of land revenue laws that are existing at present in this Presidency.

" Then, Sir, I come to the important question of the zamindari legislation. Of course, I need not speak about it over and over again. My point of view was expressed in this House when the Bill was before this House some time back. As a matter of fact, all the details were discussed and much time was taken than was necessary. But still, some points are raised. I would like to state that the question of the abolition of the zamindaris cannot be reconsidered, as suggested by my hon. Friend, Mr. M. G. Natesa Chettiyar."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR :—" I did not make any such suggestion."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" I am glad the hon. Member wants abolition. Then, there was the question to exclude the inamdars. It is too late in the day to consider this question. The policy of the Government is settled as regards this question and the Bill is now in the Select Committee, and the House itself has agreed to the principle of the Bill."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR :—" Because there was no alternative."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" When you have joined a political party, you have both advantages and disadvantages. I am very sorry, my hon. Friend, Mr. Natesa Chettiyar, suffers a disadvantage in this particular question. Nonetheless . . ."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" The Select Committee can make changes."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" The Select Committee can make changes but it may not alter the fundamentals of the legislation. We are not including all inams and we are thinking of excluding the small inamdars from the scope of the Bill and also we will consider the question of charitable inams and the quantum of compensation to be paid to them and also the kudivaram rights of these people. All these questions call for discussion after the Bill comes from the Select Committee. Leaving that alone, the hon. the Lady Member also raised the question of charitable inams. That is a broad question. The Government is for the abolition of the charitable inams but, with

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respect to the question of recompensing them, the Government will see that a particular endowment or a particular religious inam does not suffer by a fall in its income. That point is under consideration and the Select Committee also will go into that. But, Sir, I am not in agreement with the argument she made at the end of her speech, namely, that the interests of the minorities will suffer because, the Bill is against the fundamental rights provided in the Constitution. It is not the question that the interests of the minorities are against the particular interests of the majorities. The minority has no more interest than the majority. The position is that the general interest of the minorities should be safeguarded. In this case, the majority interest of the Hindus goes with the minority interest of the Muslims and Christians and they sail together or sink together."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" I meant religious endowments."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" In these matters, we are not going to take away the income of those institutions.

" Then Sir, I would like to go into the question of rent reduction. In spite of what was said in this House on that subject, I submit that there is a lot of misunderstanding in the Presidency. One reason is that many people do not make a distinction between the rent reduction and the abolition of the zamindaris. That is the problem even with some of us. Even to me—I am not a lawyer—I have sometimes been in a quandary myself in interpreting them. The one difficulty is that when hon. Members put supplementary questions and when they are answered, not all the questions and answers are reported in the newspapers and they report only some interesting questions and answers probably for want of space. So, when one looks into them, one sometimes thinks that there is something wrong. Let me give one instance. One intimate friend of mine, reading one of these things, sent a telegram in the following words : ' This Minister has failed over this question ; therefore, let him resign and fight for the cause of the tenant.' Of course, that friend has no doubts regarding my bona fides and he has no distrust in me. Still, he has a feeling and an imaginary fear that I may belie my own words. I say, that is very wrong. Recently the doubts have been cleared. I would like to impress upon those who doubt, one or two salient points about the matter. A question was raised and I have answered everything in connexion with it but still there are some doubts. The position is this. We have passed the Rent Reduction Bill under which the rents are to be reduced to the level of the ryotwari rents and that will not come into effect when the reduction will be notified. The difficulty arose on account of this. We thought, Sir, that the Abolition Bill will quickly succeed the Rent Reduction Bill. Then, it would have been possible for us to take charge of the estates and this gap would not have arisen. But, on account of a gap of three or four months between the passing

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of the Rent Reduction Bill and the taking up of the Abolition Bill, a certain difficulty has, I confess, arisen and therefore, we want to clear it. If you go to the ryot and say, you pay what you have been paying all these years, he at once says ' Why not apply the Bill to fash 1357? Why do you ask me to pay the whole rent? Why should you not act quickly? Why should I pay? ' and so on. But if you go to the zamindar and tell him that whatever is paid may be credited to fash 1357, the zamindar says, ' What is all this? Why do you create all this hubbub? ' and then he says ' Until the law comes into force, let me enjoy as much as possible.' That is the position. Therefore, we wanted to clear that position. We have cleared it in this way, namely, that the zamindars will not ask for more than 75 per cent of the cash rent and that they will not ask more than one-third of the waram rent. Further, whatever is paid this year should not be credited to the arrears of previous years. Further still whatever is paid, if it is in excess of the reduced rent, then the balance will be credited to the account of the person who pays it in the next fasli. Therefore, the ryot does not stand to lose even a single pie in this transaction. I do hope that the matters will get adjusted and that there will not be any difficulty over this.

" Sir, it has been asked : ' What about the progress of the rent reduction? The Bill was passed two months ago. What have you done in these two months? We warned you that it would take two years, but you proceeded headlong.' In this connexion I phoned to the Special Officer and asked him to go over here in the interval and tell me about the progress. Till to-day 10 special assistants were working in the various districts. From to-day there will be 12 special assistants. Each will have to deal with 3,000 square miles of zamindari and inam areas. The target is to have at least 1,000 villages notified each month, so that all the 9,000 villages, big and small, may be covered in six to nine months. You will ask me ' What about your 1,000 villages for this month? ' We have received batches of proposals already, but we have not issued orders, for unless certain care is exercised in the beginning, mistakes will go on till the end and it will lead to litigation and petitions. Just as the Chief Examiner in the University Examination asks his assistant examiners to send a few specimen papers valued by them for his scrutiny and remarks, so also when batches of proposals are received from these assistants, the head of the department examines them, makes his remarks on them and returns them to the assistants. The batches of proposals have now begun to come and I promise that in the first month we will be able to notify at least 500 villages.

" Sir, from the experience gained till now in the matter of reduction, the reduction seems to be very much. There is a village named Devadi in Vizagapatam district. It is fed by Vamsadhara and Nagavalli. The water-rate there is Rs. 22-8-0. In another village named Komarti fed by the same channel the water-rate is

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Rs. 6-8-0. In Devadi it is Rs. 22-8-0, in the Government village of Komarti it is Rs. 6-8-0. This is one practical example of rates in villages fed by a river channel. It may vary from place to place, but as I have this information, I am giving it to the House. With reference to dry rates, I think the reduction ranges from 2/7 to ¼. It is not quite so marked as in the case of wet lands, because the rates are already low in Government areas and zamin areas. Sir, we will put all our vigour in the matter and see that the work is done with the speed of a hare but at the same time with the care of a tortoise.

" Then Sir, there was a suggestion that the tax on mamul wet inams should be increased. The mamul wet inam was a land which was getting water even before the irrigation systems were constructed. In East Godavari district when there were no conservancy bunds and the Dowleshwaram anicut, water used to flow into the fields in certain places and the land was cultivated. After the bund was put up, the water was prevented from flowing into the field. Originally when the settlement took place, the tax for such lands was fixed at less than the tax for lands which got water on account of the construction of irrigation works. My friend would want to remove this difference. It can very well be removed under the new system of a levy of tax at a progressive rate based on the capacity of the landholders.

" Sir, I now come to the question of the abolition of the Board of Revenue. Certain friends vehemently argued that it should be abolished and others equally vehemently argued that it should be retained. Personally speaking, I should say that the Board of Revenue is a Government within the Government. If it was a single individual like the Presidency Officers—the Inspector-General of Police, the Inspector-General of Registration and so on—the Government can review its decisions as they were the individual judgments of particular persons however eminent they may be. But here four or five people form a Board and make a decision. Even in cases where the decision is not progressive and the Government would like to go one way, if the Board likes to go another way there is difficulty. The Board is something like an unofficial Cabinet. The power of the fifth wheel in the coach will have to be broken in a progressive Government. I am not making any remarks here about the capacity or the work or the experience of the Members of the Board. It is known to one and all of us. But whether that institution will fit in with the progressive life of a free India is a question to be considered. From the beginning, the Revenue Board, the Secretary of State's Council and such bodies were super-imposed. As a matter of fact, the Retrenchment Committee is also thinking why many of these ' Deputy ' posts should not go. We have to replan and rehabilitate and do so many things in the country. The question of the abolition of the Board of Revenue has already been mooted and it is being considered by the Government actively. (Sri S. Nagappa : ' It has been

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said so for the last two years.') I am responsible for what I say. The matter has gone through departmental examination. After the decision is known, I will take the House into confidence. It is a major question. I think, Sir, I have answered many of the important points."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" What about grants of land to Harijans? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" I am afraid the hon. Member has been sleeping till now, or was absent then. I spoke on it for a considerable time in the course of my reply. (Interruption.) Mr. Kosalram reminds me about the palmyrah tax. Sir, it is a curious tax prevailing in the districts of Tinnevelly and Ramnad. The tax is levied on the trees themselves. The tree-tax demand for 1947–48 was Rs. 8,23,137 in Tinnevelly and Rs. 5,432–14–2 in Ramnad. I know it is an iniquitous levy and I am impressed by the argument that this tax should go. I am certain it will go in the near future."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO :—" On a point of information, I want to know from the Hon. Revenue Minister what has happened to the unfortunate spring channel cultivation in our district. For 50 years we have been agitating for a reduction of land tax."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" The hon. Members Mr. Subba Rao and Mr. Sanjeeva Reddi brought this to my notice two months ago in January. I had occasion to go to the area and examine the question. Recently we have practically come to the conclusion that the tax should be suspended for the present and that the whole question should be examined in detail and relief given in suitable cases."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" Sir, while explaining the process of rent reduction, the Hon. Minister did not make clear the position regarding arrears. According to the Bill if two years' rent is paid, all the arrears will be wiped out."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" Sir, I advisedly did not refer to the question of arrears, for the simple reason that till now we have not passed any Act with reference to arrears. The question is going to be dealt with in the Select Committee on the Zamindari Abolition Bill and we will have to wait for their decision. In the course of my reply, I stated that whatever is paid this fasli should not be credited towards the previous arrears at all. My hon. Friend is also a member of the Select Committee and he will be able to know the position at which the matter stands. As soon as the Select Committee decides the matter, this House will have to discuss it and give it a shape. Till then the 1946 Act will apply."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" What is the view of the Hon. Minister regarding agricultural income-tax and death duties? "

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THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" I spoke about the agricultural income-tax, but the hon. Member seems to have been absent from the House."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The Hon. Minister need not repeat it."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" I take the cue from you, Sir. With regard to death duties, I think that some form of a levy like the estate duty or death duty or inheritance duty is necessary, because while the progressive measures of taxation will eradicate the differences in annual incomes, the accumulated incomes will have to be dealt with by some such levy. We found recently that only about 2,800 people in India have got among them an income of Rs. 176 crores."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Regarding death duties, we have no power to levy it under the Government of India Act. The Government of India will have to levy it for the Provinces."

SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN :—" I want to know whether any relief will be given to the agricultural labourers."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" The hon. Member is aware of a recent Bill introduced in the Central Legislature. My esteemed colleague, the Minister for Labour, will apply that Act and make the necessary provisions for this Province. With reference to the homesteads—the kudiyiruppus—the Government are thinking of bringing forward some *interim* legislation for the protection of the occupants.

" Sir, finally I would like my hon. Friend, the mover of the cut motion, to withdraw the motion."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Before I ask the hon. Member Sahajananda whether he agrees to withdraw the cut motion, I must inform the House that of late I have been finding a number of members of the Legislature and the Members of the Treasury Benches occupying seats intended for visitors. These seats are intended for visitors and not for Members of the Treasury Benches. We do not allow the visitors inside the Chamber and we should not deprive visitors of their seats in the gallery. This is only for future guidance. Hon. Members may, if necessary, sit there for a minute or two, but they should not sit there for any length of time. The late Hon. Mr. Patel, when he was the President of the old Central Legislative Assembly, was very particular that these seats should not be occupied by members of the Legislature. What I say is only for future guidance. I say this because I have been seeing a Minister sitting there for the last one and a half hours."

MR. SPEAKER.—" சபை மந்திரி உறுப்பினர்கள் பொறுமையும் திருப்தியாக விடை கொடுத்திருக்கிறதாக சொல்லுகிறார். அதையாவது உங்களுடைய வெட்டு தீர்மானத்தை நீங்கள் வாபீஸ் வாங்கிக்கொள்ளுகிறீர்களா ! ".

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SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM :—" மிராசுதார்களுக்கும் தொழிளாளர் களுக்கும் கூலித்தகராறுகள் இருந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறது. கூலி விஷயத் தில் கூலி எவ்வளவு கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்பதை நிர்ணயம் செய்தால் தகராறுகள் குறைந்துவிடும். இந்த விஷயத்தைப்பற்றி சொன்னேன். பதில் வேண்டும். ஆகையால் கூலியைப்பற்றி என்ன செய்யபோகிறார்கள் என்று மந்திரி சொல்லவேண்டும்.

" பண்ணையாட்களின் கடனைப் பற்றி தெளிவாக சொல்லவேண்டும் . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" இரண்டாவது விஷயத்தைப்பற்றி கனம் மந்திரி தன்னுடைய பதிலை ஆங்கிலத்தில் சொல்லிவிட்டார்கள்."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" Sir, the question of agricultural labourers is a subject for the Labour Department. They are considering that. They are going to take some action. The hon. Member may deal with the question when the Demand for Labour is before the House."

SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM :—" நான் என்னுடைய வெட்டு மோ ரேபணையை வாபீஸ் வாங்கிக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

The cut motion was, by the leave of the House, withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER :—" The motion is—

' the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 29,11,300 under Demand I—Land Revenue '."

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XVII—PUBLIC HEALTH.

* THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

' that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 82,82,600 under Demand XVII—Public Health.'

The sum allotted in the budget under discussion looks less than the sum allotted in the budget for 1947–48 by Rs. 8·14 lakhs. But there is really no such reduction in the amount allotted for Public Health. The Rural Water-supply Fund of rupees one crore was reconstituted during this year. It was not in existence at the time of the framing of the budget for 1947–48. In the budget for 1947–48 a sum of Rs. 23·96 lakhs is provided for rural water-supply schemes. For the year 1948–49 a sum of Rs. 30·85 lakhs is provided for rural water-supply. Of this amount only a sum of Rs. 15 lakhs comes from the current revenues. The rest of the amount of Rs. 15·85 lakhs is debited to the Special Fund. There is thus only an apparent reduction in expenditure to the extent of Rs. 8·96 lakhs.

" There has been really no decrease in expenditure under Public Health. If you look at the budget estimates of the two pre-war years, the budget for 1937–38 provided a sum of Rs. 33·75 lakhs for Public Health and the budget for 1938–39 provided a sum of Rs. 38·97 lakhs for the same purpose. The budget for 1944–45 allotted an amount of Rs. 41·94 lakhs while in the budget under discussion we have Rs. 82·803 lakhs. So, there has been gradual progress of expenditure under this Demand. But this

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increased allotment for Public Health is not in proportion to the rise in the provincial expenditure as a whole. The Medical and Public Health expenditure forms about 6 per cent of the total provincial expenditure. It will have to be raised considerably, if it is to reach the ratio of expenditure in such progressive countries as Britain and America. The health development programme must be given very high priority in allocating the finance of the Government. Improvement of public health is one of the most effective ways of ensuring the economic prosperity of the country, for increasing the productive capacity of the people and of raising the level of our national income. We shall have to wait for better times when my Hon. Colleague, the Finance Minister, will be able to hold his head high and to dip his hands deep into the exchequer to provide more money for Public Health and enable us to reach the percentage laid down by the Bhore Committee, that is, 15 per cent of the total provincial expenditure.

" Madras, Sir, is reputed to be a Province where the Public Health organization has been best developed. But even here, the strength of Public Health staff is hardly adequate to provide sufficient health service for the large territories and populations committed to their charge. The jurisdiction of District Health Officers is too large and unwieldy. Health Inspectors have to perform a variety of functions but their time is mostly taken up in epidemic control work. The work of the Public Health Department is to be truly preventive and it must provide good sanitation, pure water-supply, efficient drainage and better housing. It must also regulate the growth of towns and control the growth of population. Nutrition is the most important and at the same time most difficult of the problems which we have in this country. The majority of our people are under-nourished. The result of mal-nutrition and under-nutrition is lowering of the standard of physical development and weakening of the power of resistance to many diseases. Conservancy, water-supply and drainage—the primary essentials of environmental hygiene are wanting in most places and even where they are provided they are inadequate. Housing conditions are so bad that they are very congenial to the breeding of flies and mosquitoes and for the spread of infectious diseases. Successful preventive work can be done by improving the conditions of healthy living. The Government are well aware that water-supply and drainage schemes are most essential for promoting healthy conditions of living in the town and the country-side. But the progress in carrying out these schemes has been very slow and very disappointing, owing to lack of staff, lack of materials, lack of funds, inability of local bodies to finance these schemes and also to the necessity of revising the estimates of the schemes due to the rise in prices during war-time and after that.

" Realizing this fact, the Government appointed in June last a Water-supply and Drainage Committee to find out and report to the Government how the investigation, design and execution of those schemes can be expedited and how the technical personnel,

the finances and the materials necessary for carrying out these schemes can be provided for. This Committee has submitted to the Government a very valuable report. I must take this opportunity of acknowledging the indebtedness of the Government to the Chairman and the members of the Committee and particularly to Mr. A. V. Raman, the Editor of People's Health, whose vast knowledge and ripe experience in this matter has been of great help to the Committee. The recommendations of this Water supply Committee will soon be considered by the Government. If the Government find it possible to undertake the entire responsibility for carrying out these schemes and are able to provide men, materials and money required for this purpose, we shall be able to undertake a large programme of water-supply and drainage for our towns and other urban areas and complete it within a definite period of time. A Public Health Engineering course will have to be opened in our Engineering Colleges so that we may organize a special, independent and self-sufficient department for this purpose."

MR. SPEAKER :—" (An hon. Member was seen smoking on the western side of the Assembly Hall, on the steps leading to the House.) That is not the place for the hon. Member to smoke."

* THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Thanks to our Hon. Premier whose solicitude for the welfare of the rural people is too well-known and needs no mention, the Rural Water-supply Fund of Rs. 1 crore was reconstituted this year. A sum of Rs. 15 lakhs is to be given as contribution annually for this purpose. The advantage in having such a fund is, there will be guarantee of funds for a number of years for water-supply works. Hon. Members who were members of this House during the first Congress regime may remember the memorable statement made by Sri (now His Excellency) C. Rajagopalachariyar when as the Premier of this Province he made his first budget speech. He said that the foremost among the things which his Government wished to achieve is the provision of pure drinking water to every village. Steps were taken to implement the policy laid down in that speech of his. Unfortunately war intervened and due to circumstances beyond our control, this policy had not been carried out in the way it was desired to be gone through. The provision of pure water-supply to our villages, I think, should be the first charge on the finances of our Government. If we are able to improve our water-supplies and protect them from contamination, it will be half the battle won against disease, particularly water-borne diseases like cholera, typhoid, etc. The proposals that have been received from the Revenue Board in regard to the better execution of rural water-supply schemes will have to be examined in the light of the recommendations of the Water-supply and Drainage Committee reports. I hope we shall soon be able to take the necessary action that will enable us to go ahead with water-supply and drainage schemes.

" Item No. 99 of post-war schemes has been sanctioned by this House and steps are being taken to start 30 primary centres and five taluk centres in five of the selected districts. There has been some delay in starting this scheme owing to certain modifications in the schemes suggested by the Re-organization and Retrenchment Committee. All steps necessary to start these long looked for schemes are now being taken and the necessary staff is being posted.

" Health officers in every district have been asked to study some special health problems peculiar to the area under their charge, to formulate and carry out definite schemes of work to tackle the problem. There are many other matters which are being attended to by the Public Health Department. I have drawn the attention of hon. Members to what I consider to be the most important measure which the Government are contemplating, namely, the provisions of water-suply and drainage schemes for all important urban areas and provision of drinking water facilities in rural areas also."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The question is—

' that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 82,82,600 *under Demand XVII—Public Health.'*

" Before I ask any hon. Member to move his cut motion, I wish to say that an hon. Member was seen smoking from the steps on the western side of the House. In the House of Commons Members are not allowed to smoke even in the corridors. Hon. Members will be interested to know that even in the verandahs hon. Members are not allowed to smoke. (An hon. Member: ' Hon. Members are smoking in the verandah behind you. ') I am facing the northern side and I am not able to see hon. Members smoking in the verandah behind me. I am going to lay down a rule. The practice of smoking in the House of Commons is forbidden. In the House of Commons no Member is permitted to smoke tobacco either in the galleries of the House or in the corridors or in division lobbies. I am pointing out this practice for future guidance. I had to point out what the practice in the House of Commons is, because one hon. Member said that an hon. Member was smoking on the steps leading to the House."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" May I know whether my hon. Friend, the Leader of the Opposition, can use snuff in the House? "

MR. SPEAKER—" I know hon. Members in the House of Commons are not allowed to chew. Snuffing also is prohibited in the House."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" Mr. Speaker, the practice in America is that a snuff box is placed on the table of the Speaker." 4-15 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER :—" I am adopting the practice obtaining in the House of Commons as far as possible."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Are the Members of this House allowed to suck oranges in the benches? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" They are not allowed to suck oranges in their seats."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to move—

' that the sum of Rs. 82,82,600 *under Demand XVII under Public Health be reduced by a sum of Rs.* 100.'

" Sir, I rise to move this cut motion, not with a view to reduce the meagre amount which has been allotted for this Department of Public Health, but as a token cut not only to tell the Hon. Minister for Public Health, but more than that, the Hon. Minister for Finance and the Government as a whole, that they are very indifferent to the question of public health in this Province. I can understand the indifference on the part of the past bureaucratic Government which was not interested in the people's welfare and people's health, but what is not pardonable is that this Government which is called a popular Government should adopt the same policy and neglect the health of the people in this Province. My hon. Friend the Minister for Public Health has possibly referred to various difficulties owing to which the Government have not been able to allot sufficient sums of money for various departments of Public Health. I am sorry to say that these difficulties could be brought as an excuse so far as Governments of the past were concerned. But now, the war is over and the revenues of this Government have increased by 300 per cent over what it was before or during the war. Yet, we are not in a position to allot an equal amount of money proportionate to the income, to the Public Health Department which is one of the major departments which the Government are handling to-day. Among the various measures which the Governments have to undertake for the benefit of the Province, public health stands foremost and Government ought to see that protected water supply and drainage schemes are assured to the people. Development schemes are allowed to be moth-eaten and to remain in the archives of the Secretariat, neglected and ignored, rejected, or, if not rejected, to die an unnatural death in the lumber rooms of the Government. It is not as if the villages alone that are neglected; even important municipal towns, which at least should have been given the due attention which they deserve for a protected supply of water and drainage have been neglected. In cases where water-supply is supposed to be protected and water made available to people in towns, even there arrangements for distribution are inadequate, so much so water facilities are not given to houses of any standing whatsoever. Poor people are not given water-supply in their houses. Water-supply is given to people on a certain basis and tax paid on a particular basis and below this limit water is not taken to the houses of the poor people. In these days it is the duty of the Government, particularly in view of the fact that the revenues come from the poorer people and the masses rather than

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from the rich, to carry out these very essential needs. So I would ask the Government to revise their Acts and Regulations in order to make drainage and water-supply available in poorer houses as well. Anybody who goes through any town knows the conditions to our shame—that our poorer classes of women, particularly those who observe gosha system, have to wake up very early in the morning say 2 or 3 a.m. go to one tap in a street and stand there along with any number of women coming there with vessels for taking water for their use during the whole day. At times some small skirmish arises between these women. I say this is only disgraceful. We seem to be living in olden days when the availability of water was not so bad. But it is strange even now that antediluvian methods are employed by the Government and water even for human life is not supplied. I ask, Sir, for what purpose is this Government existing if we cannot give water for drinking purposes and for domestic purposes. I wonder what exactly the functions of this Government are if they cannot carry out this important and essential reform. Protected water-supply goes a long way to make health possible and to prevent diseases from spreading. Water is a very fruitful source of diseases, and if protected water-supply is given the health of the town will certainly be maintained. At any rate if diseases are to be prevented, a good water-supply is a major necessity. With regard to the question of drainage it is worse. It is the duty of the Government to maintain the health of the people at least in towns. We talk of village reconstruction, we talk of improvements and amenities in towns. We create beautiful municipalities, ill-managed in some cases by municipal councils on account of factions. Although we are supposed to look after the interests of the people at large, we neglect them, apart from our incapacity to carry on the municipal administration and to give them proper distribution of water-supply and drainage schemes. Inadequacy of finance stands in the way of most of the municipalities to carry out the major reform of drainage. Whenever my hon. Friend the Minister for Public Health is confronted with the spread of malaria or any other epidemic due to want of drainage facilities, he pleads want of finance and is unable to carry out this very necessary reform. In most cases the local bodies cannot afford to make these reforms. It is the duty of the Government to go to the help of the local bodies, which are financially incapable to carry out these necessary reforms, with sufficient grants and not loans. I say ' grants ' because here the responsibility is thrown on the Government to carry out these reforms. Of course primarily the municipal councils and local bodies are expected to carry out these reforms according to rules and they are directly responsible to maintain these things in good order. But I would point out, Sir, that local bodies and municipalities are there not so much to carry on the administration to the entire satisfaction and health and happiness of the people, but are there merely as training ground for public men. Beyond that to expect that these municipalities or local bodies will be able to carry out all the reforms with the slender financial resources at their disposal is to expect from them too much. It is the

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primary duty of the Government to allot by way of grants to local bodies for protected water-supply and drainage and for public health reforms. Government are not in a position, perhaps also due to want of finance, to give one big hospital to every town. There is no arrangement whatsoever in very important towns in the north as well as the south for having a very capable and reliable doctor in each town. It is the primary duty of the Government to make reforms in the abovesaid directions and if Government are shirking their responsibility and throw it on the shoulders of municipalities and local boards, I say this Government is not discharging its duty."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member has got one more minute."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I shall finish before that time.

" Sir, the Hon. Minister for Public Health did very well in giving an account of the way in which the administration of public health is to be carried on and he very rightly and sincerely pleaded his inability to carry on those reforms for want of finance. He is helpless. I do not think we can hold him responsible for this position, because Government as a whole is responsible. (Poor man, he cannot do it, he cannot take anything from an empty bag, a bag whose resources have been exhausted on account of the loss in Excise revenue which is certainly very dear to us. The Hon. Minister has narrated what difficulty he is experiencing in managing the affairs of his department. He holds out his hands to the Finance Member or other Members of Government for financial help for carrying out these very necessary reforms which it is the primary duty of any Government to carry out."

4-30 p.m. * H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I second the cut motion moved by my hon. friend, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan. Nobody can ever deny that health is of the utmost importance for the well-being of the people. That being so, I feel sure that not only we, here in the opposition but all those on the benches of the Government party including the Treasury Benches, fully realize the importance of health. Sir, while we realize the importance of public health, we should also be prepared to give it the priority that it deserves. Have we been doing that? Has any previous Government done that? I do not think that so far anything serious has been done about this matter by any of the previous Governments. Of course, the previous Congress Government headed by His Excellency C. Rajagopalachariar was very anxious to take up this question in all its seriousness, but unfortunately, the war intervened and that Government could not put through the programme of that great man of our Province. Now, Sir, it is the turn of this Government and we hope that this Government will make a very good beginning in this direction and for that, I feel sure, the Government will find the necessary funds. Without necessary funds, it is impossible to have a well-chalked out health programme for the whole Province to be pushed through

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in as short a time as possible. Health of the people cannot wait for the convenience of the Government. That thing also we should realize. Government should somehow or other find the necessary money. As the Hon. Minister for Health rightly remarked, all prosperity depends upon the health of the people, whether it is economic prosperity, whether it is educational prosperity and whatever field of prosperity it might be, all that kind of prosperity will ultimately depend upon the good health of the people in any part of the world. Therefore, Sir, we have to pay special attention to this problem of public health. Now, what is it that we find with regard to the health problems that this Government have been tackling in this Province? What we find is, there has not been sufficient propaganda on health problems, not only in urban areas but in the rural areas, as well. Sir, what I would suggest on this occasion is that we should have small health units or health committees consisting of non-officials who are really interested in problems of health guided by the Health Inspectors and health committees should be established in all important rural centres, not merely in urban centres. Health committees might organize, if possible once a month or at least once a quarter, some demonstrations or talks on public health matters. That will, I think, make our people health-conscious. We have first to make the people health-conscious and our people should realize that health is the greatest gift that we should enjoy under the sun and if people realize that, naturally we can expect their whole-hearted co-operation when we organize measures for promoting public health. Therefore, Sir, I say propaganda and publicity are of the utmost importance in the matter of making our people health-conscious in this Province. Sir, we have got a department, Public Health Department as it is called, but unfortunately, it is under-staffed and we want more men in the districts and in the rural areas who could go about and educate the people by means of public health committees. That is my plan which I place before the Government and particularly before the Hon. Minister for Public Health for consideration in due course. Of course, the Hon. Minister by himself will not be able to carry through or push through the schemes that he has himself got in his mind unless the Government come to his rescue with the necessary finance. We know that too, but all the same, the subject being of such vital importance for the welfare of the people, the Government should apply their mind and put their head into this problem more seriously and I plead with the Government to do it.

" Sir, now with regard to the question of protected water supply and drainage, I have to say that the committee that was recently appointed to consider the question of protected water supply and drainage for the whole Province, has already submitted its report. As I happened to be one of the members of that committee, I would like to say that the Government should seriously consider the report. The recommendations made by this committee are of far-reaching importance. They have stated that within a period of 10 years, throughout the Province there should

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be arrangements made for the supply of protected water-supply and drainage, not only in urban areas but also in rural areas. The Government, I am sure, are already considering this very important report and I am sure they will not delay matters because delay is always very dangerous and like so many reports on public health and other matters submitted by so many previous committees, the report of this committee also will not, I hope, find a place in cold storage and will not be shelved by a responsible Government like ours. Therefore, Sir, we have to make a beginning somewhere and that beginning we have to make immediately here and now. What is it that is required? We require men and material and trained personnel for carrying out, for investigation, for designing and for execution also. I, not only in my own personal capacity, but as a member of the committee, plead very strongly that we should not leave this matter of vital importance to local bodies, because they have not been able to do anything at all. The whole matter should be provincialized and run by the Government through their own agency. Now, Sir, the training of the personnel in public health engineering is of very great importance and therefore we must straightaway start special courses of study in public health engineering, so that we may start the work in a very short time. I hope that the situation will become easier by that time in the matter of getting the necessary material for pushing through the schemes that will have been made ready.

" Sir, there is hardly any time for me to speak at length and I am really sorry that I have to cut short my speech and have to obey the chair and resume my seat."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The question is—

' that the allotment of Rs. 82,82,600 *for Demand VII—Public Health be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

I have allotted two hours for this Demand."

* SRI U. PADMANABHA MALLAYYA :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, let me express my gratification that from the time this demand is before the House for discussion, our Hon. Finance Minister is here. Sir, many of the remarks that might be uttered in this connexion are meant and probably addressed to him to provide more finances for this necessary reform. At the outset of the introductory remarks that were made by the Public Health Minister, he expressed his inability to give what he wished because of the meagre finance that is placed at his disposal for this very very important demand. Sir, he has also expressed that in a country like India, only a small percentage of our general revenues is being spent for this important head. I wish, Sir, this sort of provision will not be repeated when the next budget is being discussed here and that a better provision will be made in regard to this important matter. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate the Hon. Minister for Public Health on one important thing that he did as soon as he assumed office and that is, to constitute a committee which has given us a very very valuable report. Sir, I would rather like to speak about some

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of the items contained in that report. The report I refer to is of the Water-Supply and Drainage Committee. It has included in it many important changes that are sought to be introduced in the water-supply schemes of this province. At the outset, it is stated and emphatically stated that the responsibility for water-supply both in urban and rural areas must be taken over by the Government. We know, Sir, that this has not been done in the past and unless this is done, our protected water-supply schemes would not progress, because the local bodies with their meagre resources could not undertake this work. As an example, I would refer to the water-supply scheme of our own town of Mangalore. Though the necessity for it was being felt for the last 35 years or so, yet we could not proceed with it and one of the reasons was its financial aspect. Now, if we are to take that up and ask the municipalities to find the necessary finance, both for water-supply and drainage, it would be very very hard on them and if it should be insisted on, I should think this major reform, this great reform, would never be achieved. Therefore, Sir, when this report is being discussed by the Government, I hope they will immediately take on themselves the responsibility of undertaking the supply of protected water-supply and drainage. The Committee has also recommended that this programme should be finished within ten years. Well, Sir, it is indeed a very laudable object and I hope the Committee's recommendations will not be shelved as it has been done in the past in the case of other reports and that the Government will seriously proceed with it so that the recommendations of the Committee to supply water-supply and drainage within ten years may be fulfilled.

" Several of the previous speakers have dealt with the question of men and materials; still I do feel that by my associating with it, its importance may be felt. It is in fact so very important that I do think that every speaker that will speak hereafter will certainly refer to water-supply. About men, I should think that the Health Minister will see to it that there will be a department in the Engineering College specially dealing with Sanitary Engineering and soon good personnel will come forward to take up the responsibility which they are expected to take up. The present system is certainly not conducive to the progress of the schemes. The point has been raised also about material; during the war, it was not possible to get enough materials but I do not think that alone stood in the way. Anyhow, the Government must make an honest attempt and a very serious attempt to get the required materials. I am happy to note that in this year's budget, a fund has been created for rural water-supply schemes. I think that it will be pursued and that rural areas will get protected water-supply that they need and deserve. In this connexion, I wish to bring to the pointed attention of the Hon. Minister that in the agency areas where the hill tribes are living, there is not sufficient supply of drinking water. Those people are ordinarily neglected and they serve us in our needs and therefore, they deserve to be given the water-supply that is so essential for them. I hope that

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the Hon. Minister will look into their needs and see that they get their necessities attended to in the matter of protected water-supply. I think, Sir, that everybody is aware that this preventive aspect is gaining more importance than the other aspect, namely, the curative and medical aspect of the question. If we were to give people good healthy conditions of life and good environment, I am sure much of the need to give medical help would automatically vanish. We all know that a healthy individual is one of the greatest assets to a State and as such any investment that is made on him is made to ensure a healthy state and as such, it will certainly repay a thousand times. I, therefore, urge the importance of this question on the Hon. Minister for Public Health and I do hope next year when the grant is being discussed he will be able to say that he is giving much more than he has given to-day."

SRI A. CHANDU :—" Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the Demand moved by the Hon. Minister for Public Health. During the course of the discussions, much has been said about the inadequacy of medical and sanitary arrangements by several members in general. Sir, I shall not do it but confine myself to the needs of my district of Malabar. The district of Malabar, as far as medical and sanitary arrangements are concerned, has been criminally neglected. Fatalities from water-borne diseases are very heavy and on the increase as can be seen from the vital statistics of the district. There is no drainage system in Malabar and the katcha drains in municipalities like Calicut, Tellicherry, Cannanore and Palghat serve as breeding places for mosquitoes and bacilli for water-borne diseases. Representations were made as early as 1935 to have proper drainage system for Calicut municipality but some attempt was made in 1939 to push through the scheme and Sanitary Engineers and staff were appointed for surveying and level-taking but unfortunately the war intervened and everything was suspended. No attempt has been made after the war to revive the scheme and to give effect to it. We have no protected water-supply in Malabar. In the Calicut municipality, we have to depend upon well water for drinking purposes. Most of these are shallow, with the result that in summer—from February to April—when water is most wanted, most of the wells go dry. Since 1939 some attempts were made to give protected water-supply in the Calicut municipality. Wells were sunk, reservoirs have been constructed and pipes have been laid. But for want of machinery, the scheme is kept in abeyance. In the Calicut municipality they have been collecting water-tax for the last twenty years. Yet water-supply has not been supplied.

" Sir, I wish to say a few words about the Headquarters hospital at Calicut. The present Headquarters hospital is worse than cattle-shed. It was built some eighty years ago to accommodate about eighty patients. Now there are about three hundred patients under daily treatment. They are placed in open verandahs and in temporary sheds. Poor patients cannot afford to go to nursing homes. During the rainy season when it

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rains cats and dogs in Malabar, viz., from June to September, it is a pitiful sight to see the patients lying about in the verandah and in temporary sheds without adequate clothing and bedding. In September 1947 when Mr. Prakasam was the Premier, he visited Calicut. Seeing the pitiful conditions of patients in the Headquarters hospital, he immediately sanctioned two more sheds to be built. And that can accommodate some fifty persons more. I wish to submit that this is not enough and we want more. As a make-shift arrangement between now and the time when the Headquarters hospital will be remodelled—which will take ten years to complete—I request that arrangements may be made for putting up some more temporary sheds so as to accommodate some hundred patients more.

" Sir, I understand that the Calicut municipality has asked for the grant of a loan of a lakh of rupees for improving the sanitation of the town. This, I hope, will be considered by the Government.

" Sir, the Post-War Reconstruction Committee has recommended a medical college for the West Coast. Representations were made lately by some M.L.As. of Malabar to have medical college in the West Coast, but on account of financial considerations, it has been held in abeyance. I hope the present Government, now that the war is over, will give effect to the scheme. With these words, I support the motion."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN :—" பொது சுகாதாரத்திற்காக கேட்டிருக்கும் மான்யத்தை ஆதரித்து . . . "

MR. SPEAKER :—" நீங்கள் தமிழில் பேசினாலும் 'கனம் சபாநாயகரே' என்று ஆரம்பிக்க வேண்டும்."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN :—" மன்னிக்க வேண்டுகிறேன். கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, இன்று பொது சுகாதாரத்திற்காக கேட்டிருக்கும் மான்யத்தை ஆதரிக்கையில் சில விஷயங்களைக் கூறவிரும்புகிறேன். பொது சுகாதாரத்தின் அவசியத்தைப்பற்றியும் முக்கியத்தைப்பற்றியும் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். அவைகளை மந்திரி அவர்கள் தெரிந்து தான் சொல்லி இருக்கிறார்கள். எனினும் இவ்வளவு அவசியமும் இவ்வளவு முக்கியமும் உள்ள ஒரு இலாகாவுக்கு ஒதுக்கப்பட்டுள்ள பணத்தைப் பார்த்தால் ஒரு விதத்தில் வருத்தமாக இருக்கிறது. எல்லா காரியங்களுக்கும் எல்லா முன்னேற்றத்திற்கும் அடிப்படையாக உள்ள ஒரு இட்டத்திற்கு இவ்வளவு குறைந்த பணம் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருப்பதானது எல்லோரும் வருந்தவேண்டிய விஷயமாகும். ஆரம்பத்தில் இந்த விஷயத்தில் பல அங்கத்தினர்கள் பேசியபிறகாவது கனம் சுகாதார மந்திரியாவது அல்லது எல்லா மந்திரிகளும், மந்திரிசபை மூலமே இதில் அதிகமான சிரத்தை காட்டவேண்டுமென்று நானும் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். காலம் வெகுவேகமாக முன்னேற்றமடைந்துவெண்டிருக்கிறது. உலகத்திலுள்ள எல்லா தேசங்களும் அடைந்துவருகிற முன்னேற்றத்தைப் பார்த்தால் நம்முடைய தேசம் அவர்கள் அடைந்திருக்கும் முன்னேற்றம் அடைவதற்கு இன்னும் நூறு வருஷங்களாகுமோ என்று தோனறுகிறது. அமெரிக்கா, இங்கிலாந்து முதலிய தேசங்களில் சில வியாதிகள், அதாவது காலரா, பிளேக், டைபாயிடு, போர்குலோசிஸ், இம்மாதிரி வியாதிகள் பூரணமும் இல்லாத முறையில் அந்நாடுகளில் சுகாதார வசதிகள் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. அவ்விதமான வசதிகள் நம்முடைய தேசத்தில் எப்பொழுது வருகிறதோ அப்பொழுதுதான் நாமும் அவ்விதமான ஒரு வியாதிகளுக்கும ஆளாகாமல் இருக்க

முடியும். வியாதியைப் போக்க கோடிக்கணக்கான பணத்தை சிலவழிப்ப தைவிட வியாதி வராமல் முன்பாதுகாப்புக்காக சிலவு செய்வது என்பது முதல் கொள்கையாகும். இப்பொழுது நம் வரவு சிலவு திட்டத்தில் பார்த்தாலும்கூட பொது சுகாதாரத்திற்காக சுமார் 2 கோடி ரூபாய் இருக்கிறது. ஆனால் இந்த இரண்டு கோடி ரூபாயில் ஒரு கோடி ரூபாய் நிதியாக அமைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். இரண்டு கோடியில் ஒரு கோடி போக ஒரு கோடிதான் இருக்கிறது. ஆனால வைத்தியத்திற்காக சுமார் 3 கோடி ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கி வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். சுகாதாரத்திற்காக எவ்வளவு குறைவாக செலவு செய்கிறோமோ அவ்வளவு வைத்தியத்திற்கு அதிகம் சிலவு செய்யவேண்டியிருக்கும். இன்னும் பல பல காரியங்களுக்கு அதிக மான சிலவை நாம் செய்யவேண்டியிருக்கும். ஆகையால் பொது சுகாதாரத்திற்காக அதிக சிரத்தை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு எவ்வளவு முடியுமோ அவ்வளவு அதிகமாக செலவு செய்வது மிக மிக அவசியம்."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member can continue his speech to-morrow."

III.—GOVERNMENT MOTION.

THE MADRAS ALIYASANTHANA BILL, 1947 (L.C. BILL NO. 1 OF 1948).

5 p.m.

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

'that under Rule 80 of the Madras Assembly Rules read with rule 111 (7) thereof, the leave of the House be granted to the Joint Select Committee appointed to consider the Madras Aliyasanthana Bill, 1947 (L.C. Bill No. 1 of 1948), to hold its sittings at Mangalore and Udipi whenever the Committee thinks it necessary to do so.'

"Sir, the Aliyasanthana Bill affects only the people of South Kanara and there are a number of persons who have asked us that they should be examined before the Joint Select Committee finishes its business. It is only right that we should hear them. Instead of calling them here, it is better that the Committee goes there and examines them; for most of the members of the Joint Select Committee come from South Kanara and Mangalore; and it is only a few members of the committee come from outside South Kanara. So we have thought fit to hold the meetings of the committee in Mangalore and Udipi. That is why this motion is moved and I request the House to accept it."

The motion was put and carried.

The House then adjourned to meet at 11 a.m. the next day.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday, the 16th March 1948.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Selling of lands by the Special Officer for Departmental Enquiries.

*163 *Q.*—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Special Officer for Departmental Enquiries has recently sold extensive lands in Mylapore which were in the joint ownership of another person;

(*b*) whether the Special Officer is permitted to buy and sell properties at Madras and elsewhere;

(*c*) if so, whether the Government's permission has been obtained;

(*d*) whether the Special Officer has submitted his assets and liabilities statement required by the Government servants for the last year;

(*e*) whether this item of property has been shown in the report referred to in (*d*);

(*f*) whether it is a fact that the Superintendent of the Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Tambaram is doing business in selling and buying properties with the Special Officer as partner in the name of a relation of the former;

(*g*) if so, whether the Government will enquire into the source of income for a Government servant of this status to do business and speculation; and

(*h*) whether it is a fact that the Special Officer and Superintendent have bought properties in Nilgiris?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—"(*a*) The Special Officer (Departmental Enquiries) sold a few months ago, building site about 2½ acres in extent which he owned at Mylapore. It was not held in joint ownership with any other person.

"(*b*) *to* (*f*) *&* (*h*) The answer is in the negative.

"(*g*) Does not arise."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know for what price the Special Officer disposed of his property at Mylapore?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I have no information."

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I ask the Government to call for the information? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The Government do not think it is necessary to do so."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" In view of the bland denial given by the Hon. Minister and in view of the serious allegations made against the Special Officer, may I request the Government to make a serious and careful inquiry into the matter? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Yes, the Government have gone carefully into the matter and find there is no ground for allegations made."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" In view of the fact that the things that are mentioned in the clauses are facts, will the Government once again make a detailed inquiry into the matter instead of answering in this light-hearted way? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I have called for a detailed information and I am satisfied that there is no foundation for this allegation."

* 164 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member (Sri R. V. Swaminathan) is not in his place; the answer will be printed * in the proceedings."

Improvement of Vengalampalli tank, Kurnool district.

* 165 *Q.*—SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI (on behalf of Sri N. Venkata Subbiah): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representations have been received by him for improvement of supplies to Vengalampalli in Dhone taluk of Kurnool district and, if so, from whom;

(*b*) whether the tank was inspected by the Hon. the Minister in January 1947;

(*c*) whether the proposal has been investigated; and

(*d*) what action has been taken on the representations?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" (*a*) A representation has been received from the ayacutdars under Vengalampalli tank.

" (*b*) Perhaps, yes.

" (*c*) Yes.

" (*d*) No action is proposed to be taken since it is found that compliance with the request would adversely affect the existing supply to the Mettupalli tank."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister remembers the promise that he made when he saw the tank himself when he visited Kurnool? "

* Vide pages 180–184 infra.

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" If I have made a promise that promise is subject to the limitations mentioned in this answer."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I ask whether the Hon. Minister had not arrived at his conclusion on seeing the circumstances, and is it not those circumstances that prompted him to make that promise? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I do not think I ever made a promise, the compliance of which would adversely affect the existing supply to the Mettupalli tank."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" In view of the fact that the Dhone taluk in Kurnool district is a backward area will the Government make a special favour to see that the tanks in that area are restored so that there may be water in the wells."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" That is a different question."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I inquire whether the Hon. Minister remembers the explanation given by the Executive Engineer convincing the Hon. Minister that this tank requires immediate repairs, and as the Hon. Minister was convinced he made a promise to improve Vengalampalli tank when he visited it."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" It is not possible to remember the various promises I might have made in the various areas when I visited them; but I assure the hon. Member everything possible would be done to improve the sources of supply."

Floods in the river Vaigai.

* 166 *Q.*—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there was sudden floods in the river Vaigai on the 18th instant (January 1948);

(*b*) whether there were any human loss owing to the floods;

(*c*) if so, how many, what their names are and in what places;

(*d*) whether there were any loss of animals and clothes;

(*e*) if so, how many and what is the value respectively;

(*f*) what the cause of such sudden floods is;

(*g*) whether notice and warning were given to the people of Madura and other places on the banks of the Vaigai up and down;

(*h*) if so, when, by whom and in what places;

(*i*) if not, why not;

(*j*) who were responsible for not giving information; and

(*k*) what action has been taken against those responsible?

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"(*a*) Yes.

"(*b*) Yes.

"(*c*) One man and two women of Madura were carried away by the floods, a woman of Theneur was drowned near Arapalayam (Madura) and one washerman and a man named Veeraswamy were carried away by the floods near Upparpatty and Sholavandan respectively.

"(*d*) Yes.

"(*e*) Two asses and some clothes the value of which is not known.

"(*f*) The cause of the sudden floods was unexpected and concentrated heavy rainfall in the Cumbum valley on the night of 17th January 1948 and the consequent combined inflow in Suruliyar and the streams falling into it swelling into unprecedented floods.

"(*g*) Yes.

"(*h*) The flood warning was received from the Executive Engineer, Periyar Division, at about 9-30 a.m. on 18th January 1948 by the Collector and the people of Puttuthope, Karimedu, Arapalayam Municipal water works, the cheris in Arasadi, Othaipatty, and West Gate were warned by the Revenue Divisional Officer. Tom-tomming was also done.

"(*i*), (*j*) & (*k*) Do not arise."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"Sir, I sent this question two months back as a short notice question and it is being answered to-day. The question loses its usefulness if it is answered after such a long time."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have already informed hon. Members several times before, that it is for the Government to decide when the question may be answered, as it will take time to collect the information."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"With reference to the answer to clause (*g*), namely, that notice was given, may I know when was the notice given and when did the floods reach Madura?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I have already answered, the flood warning was received from the Executive Engineer by the Revenue Divisional Officer, at 9-30 a.m. on the 18th January 1948. The report I have received is, immediately the warning was given by tom tom also."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state how the message was sent from the Perani sluice to Madura—for the floods seem to have passed the sluice early in the morning between four and five, and Sholavandan at 7 o'clock in the morning, and so men and things were washed away in daylight. May I know what was the cause for the long

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delay in the message being sent to the Executive Engineer at Madura, evidently there has been an unpardonable delay for four hours."

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

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATASALAM:—"The Revenue Divisional Officer must have sent by messenger the warning to the several places."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Arising out of the answer to clause (*g*), though the information was received at 9-30 a.m., the people of Madura were not informed before 11-30 a.m. May I know why?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I take the information from the hon. Member. I shall make further inquiries, Sir."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Are the Government aware that there were no ropes and other things available on that day to rescue people, and they had to rush to the Devasthanam Committee for them?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I take the information from the hon. Member."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it a fact, Sir, notice and tom-tom were issued only after the flood?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Perhaps so."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that the floods reached Madura much earlier than 9-30 a.m.?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I have no information."

SRI K. RAJARAM NAIDU:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that there is telephone connexion between Perani and the Executive Engineer's office which is at Madura?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Yes, Sir."

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU:—"Then, why did he not send the information by telephone to the Executive Engineer as soon as the floods appeared?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"In the report I have received no specific time is mentioned about the time of despatch of message. They have only stated that they issued the warning as soon as the information was received."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Will the Hon. Minister cause an inquiry to be made as to why there was so much delay in the receipt of the message by the Executive Engineer after it was despatched from the Perani sluice, inasmuch as there is telephone connection between the two."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"If any hon. Member would give me in writing about these factors I shall make an inquiry."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know when this information was first given from the source. It is said, it was received at 9-30 a.m. at Madura; may I know when it was actually given from the source? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The information must have been received by telephone."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I do not mean the time of the receipt of the information, but the time of giving the information, i.e., when it emanated, at what time it emanated from the first authority? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I have no information. I thought the hon. Member referred to the telephone information."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is it not a fact that this ' a day after the fair ' policy of the Government has been the cause for the loss of life and property."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" It is not so. I have given the House the report I have received. So there is no question of ' a day after the fair ' policy. Anyhow I shall make inquiries."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—" Arising out of the Hon. Minister's reply, may I take it, that in future warning of sudden floods will be given by tom-tom only after the floods have subsided? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" This does not arise out of my answer, Sir." (Laughter.)

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that these sudden floods are a blessing in disguise as they take away from the river bed all its dirt? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Perhaps so."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—" May I inquire. Sir, if the warning of sudden floods had been given by telephone from the source at Perani to Madura and if the same had been done with regard to the intervening places also, instead of sending the message by a messenger, might it not have been possible to save loss of life and property in Sholavandan and these places. I want to know whether the officer became panicky or was callously indifferent."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I would once again request my Friend to give it specifically in writing so that it will enable me to make a full inquiry."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTY:—" Is it right on the part of the whip of the Party in power to whip the Hon. Minister also to elicit more information by way of supplementary questions? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" As a Member of the House he can put questions."

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SRI P. KAKKAN:—" சின்ன காஜியார் அவர்கள் கேட்டதற்கு வெள்ளம் வந்த பிற்பாடு டாம் டாம் அடித்திருக்கலாம் என்று சொன்னார்கள். ஆனல் ஆபீசர்கள் அனுப்பியுள்ள ரிபோர்ட்டிலும் டாம்-டாம் அடித்திருக்கிறது என்றும் சொன்னார்கள். இரண்டையும் பார்க்கும்போது வெள்ளம் வந்தபிறகுதான் டாம் டாம் அடிக்கப்பட்டதாக தெரிகிறது . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—" நீங்கள் explain பண்ணக்கூடாது. கேள்வியாக கேட்கவேண்டும்."

SRI P. KAKKAN:—" ஆகையால் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் தக்க நடவடிக்கைகள் அதிகாரிகளின்மேல் எடுப்பார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I shall read the relevant portions of the report from the Collector for the information of the House:—

' The cause of the sudden floods was due to the unexpected and concentrated heavy rainfall in the Cumbum Valley on the night of 17th January 1948. The recorded rainfall at Gudalur, Uthamapalaiyam and Veerape in the valley is 5·27 inches, 2·00 inches and 1·35 inches, respectively. The consequent combine into the Suruliyar and the streams falling into it swelled into an unprecedented floods resulting in a stream flowing 10'0" over the crest of the Chinnamanur Anicut in Uthamapalaiyam limits. This is 1·37 feet above the highest flood recorded so far, which occurred in 1943. The Suruliyar breach at the above anicut-site and the head sluice collapsed. The Collector has stated that the flood warning was received from the Executive Engineer, Periyar Division, at about 9-30 a.m. on the 18th January 1948 and that the people of Puthuthope, Karimedu, Arapalayam Municipal Water-works, the Cheris in Arasadi, Othaipatty and West Gate were warned by the Revenue Divisional Officer. It is also stated that tom-toming was also done.'

I am unable to give any further information. I have already said, if necessary, I shall make further inquiries."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" To a supplementary question, the Hon. Minister replied that he would take action if some hon. Member would give him specific points in writing. May I know whether the questions put in the House are not enough for taking action? " 11-15 a.m.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" A letter is not necessarily a condition precedent to my taking further action. To proceed with the enquiry, I want more specific complaints than what I have got in the supplementary questions. That is why I wanted at least one hon. Member to give me in writing."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" May I know at what time the abnormal flood was noticed in the Cumbum Valley? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I have no information."

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SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Will the Government consider the desirability of keeping a small staff, and boats, ropes and other things for helping the people in times of flood? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Unprecedentedly heavy flood occurs only once in four or five years, and it is not worth while to maintain a separate staff."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" May I know whether it is not clear that the officer concerned has failed in the discharge of his duty in not giving a timely warning? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I am unable to accept my hon. Friend's contention. That is why I want him to give me his complaint in writing so that I may cause enquiries to be made."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" As there is telephone connexion from the source downwards, may I know whether it is not possible to send a message of warning within a few minutes? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I have no information as to how the message was sent."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" In calling for information on the question, did it not occur to the Government that they should get information as to whether the officer in charge took the earliest possible opportunity to warn the people concerned of the flood? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" That the earliest possible warning was given was the impression I gained on reading the report of the Collector. But still there are these supplementary questions."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—" Is it not a fact that the officer and watchman were not able to open the sluice at Perani in proper time, that the flood water overflowed the sluice for a long time, and that therefore the flood took a surprising and grave turn? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I can answer that question only after further enquiry."

Number of Gypsies, etc., in the Province.

* 167 *Q.*—SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have information about the number of persons belonging to the Gypsies, viz., Narikuravas, Irulas and Kuravas in the Province;

(*b*) whether they are included in the census;

(*c*) whether they are given educational facilities;

(*d*) if not, whether facilities would be given to them in the matter of education, housing, etc.;

(*e*) whether they are employed in Government services; and

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(*f*) if so, the number of Government servants in each of the abovesaid communities?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (*a*) The Government have no information about the number of Narikuravas and Kuravas in the Province. The number of Irulas according to the last census is 4,316.

"(*b*) Only 'Irulans' are included under 'Tribes' in the last census.

"(*c*) The Kurava community is included in the list of scheduled castes (now called Harijans). The Irula community is included in the list of backward classes. Poor pupils belonging to these two communities are eligible for educational fee concessions.

"(*d*) Does not arise.

"(*e*) & (*f*) The time and labour involved in the collection of the information will not be commensurate with the result achieved."

SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI: " Sir, நரிக்குறவர்கள் போலீஸ் இலாகாவிலும் மற்றும் இதர இலாகாக்களிலும் உத்தியோகங்களில் யாராவது இருக்கிறார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I have no information."

SRI P. KANDASWAMY PILLAI:—" Will the Government take a census of Narikuravas and other gypsies who are not included in the list of scheduled castes or backward classes? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The Provincial Government have nothing to do with census; it is the duty of the Government of India."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" Are the Government aware that the Aboriginal Tribes Enquiry Committee appointed by the Government some time ago and which was mercilessly scotched by the Minister concerned, has recommended that the nomads referred to in the question should be provided with housing accommodation on a large scale? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The hon. Member is aware that there is a provision of Rs. 1,00,000 for backward classes. I am sure these people will also be included. I am in touch with the Commissioner of Labour regarding how best this amount can be utilized."

SRI P. KANDASWAMY PILLAI:—" In view of the answer to my previous supplementary question, will the Government recommend to the Government of India to take up the question of census immediately? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" It is not easy to make recommendations to the Government of India with regard to census operations."

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M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know from the Hon. Finance Minister what the financial possibilities and potentialities of these gypsies are?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The hon. Member is engaged in trade and he must know the financial possibilities."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"May I know whether it forms part of the duties of the Hon. Finance Minister to take charge of the gypsies in this Province?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Besides Finance, I am also in charge of backward communities. Gypsies necessarily are in my charge."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Will the Government consider the desirability of bringing all the Narikuravas in the province in one settlement and make them live in a particular area?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I am sure Narikuravas themselves will not appreciate such a move."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Arising out of a previous question, may I know what the recommendations of the Aboriginal Tribes Enquiry Committee are and what the Government have done with them?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The report of the Committee is under consideration. If the hon. Member wants any specific information, he may put down a separate question."

SRI M. P. : ERIYASWAMI:—"இந்த [illegible] ஒரு இடத்தில் settle செய்யும்படி செய்து அவர்களுக்கு [illegible] மென்றுக்கு உத்தேசம் உண்டா?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"There is no such proposal before the Government."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"If there is no proposal, will the Government initiate a proposal for settling these people in one particular place, educating them, and providing them with suitable jobs?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think this question puts together the several points in the questions put before."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Will the Government consider the necessity of placing the report of the Aboriginal Tribes Enquiry Committee in the hands of the hon. Members of this Assembly as soon as possible?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I have already assured the House that the report will be made available to the Members as soon as it is printed."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Hon. Finance Minister said that the Government would not take the responsibility of settling these people permanently in one place and

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that they would do their best to bring these people to the schools. May I know how he proposes to do that by allowing the people to wander from place to place without pursuading them to stick to some place?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is not our intention to segregate them from the general community. That is why I said that we do not want to colonize them in one particular place. We shall see that their children are sent to school and given all facilities for education."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not the duty of the Government as well as the advanced people to afford them all possible facilities, financial and educational, to extricate them from their present backwardness?"

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

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"As the Hon. Finance Minister said that Narikuravas would not like to settle in one particular place, and as they are not educated, will the Hon. Minister consider the desirability of opening mobile schools for them?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"No, Sir, I cannot give any assurance."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Have the Government made any attempt to offer lands for cultivation and house-sites to the 4 to 5 lakhs of nomads that exist to-day?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The hon. Member may address a separate question to the Minister concerned."

Construction of a road to Srisailam Hill.

* 168 *Q.*—SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI (on behalf of Sri N. Venkata Subbiah): Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is or was a proposal to lay a motorable road to the top of the Srisailam Hill, which is a well-known All-India pilgrim centre (Kurnool district);

(*b*) whether the feasibility of laying the road has been investigated and, if so, whether a copy of the report would be placed on the table of the House; and

(*c*) whether the Government propose to construct the road?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"(*a*) Yes; there was a proposal.

"(*b*) Yes; a copy of the report [a] of the Chief Engineer (Highways) in the matter is placed on the table.

"(*c*) In view of the position explained in the Chief Engineer's report, Government consider that the work cannot be taken up in the immediate future. However, the question of executing the work under phases 3 and 4 of the Post-War Road Development Programme will be considered in due course."

[a] Printed as appendix on page 226 infra.

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SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that six people were killed when a cart in which a party of pilgrims were returning from Srisailam to Kurnool on 12th March 1948 overturned, and if the work is not urgent when people are dying, may I know when it will become urgent? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" Srisailam is a pilgrim centre and people will go there only once in a way. If the funds allotted to this district are to be diverted, most of the funds will have to be diverted for this one work only. Taking into consideration the urgency of several other works, this one work is not considered urgent. I assure the hon. Member that we will try to expedite the matter as much as possible."

SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that pilgrims from not only Kurnool but from all over the Province and India visit the place and that the people who died belonged to the districts of Kurnool, Nellore, and also Guntur from which the Hon. Minister hails? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" I know that it is a pilgrim centre of All-India importance. That is why I assured the hon. Member that we would consider the matter again and try to expedite it. I will consult my Hon. Colleague Mr. M. Bhaktavatsalam."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I hope the Hon. Minister realizes that a festival takes place here which is very largely attended by pilgrims from all parts of the country. May I inform the Hon. Minister that unless a road is provided immediately not only will deaths take place but epidemics also will occur? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" In considering this work however important it may be, other works also should be taken into consideration. There are several other works requiring immediate execution in the interests of the district. We cannot completely ignore such works and take up this one work alone immediately. Any way, I have assured the hon. Member that we will consider the matter once again."

11-30 a.m. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know what other important items of work which the Hon. Minister has in his mind for execution, in respect of Kurnool? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" There are other important village roads for the carting of produce, etc., which the Government have proposed to lay out, Sir."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—" May I know the number of pilgrims who are visiting this place every year, and if they are so large, is it not the duty of the Government to provide a good metal road? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" That is why Sir, the matter has been considered and I can tell you, it will be hastened, Sir."

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MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" If it is an all-India matter, why should the Hon. Minister think of spending money from the allotment of that district? Why should the Government not spend the money from the Provincial funds? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" Our idea is to spend money out of Provincial funds only. That is why there is a certain amount of delay. If the work is to be taken up immediately, then we shall have to think of spending the money from the district funds. But as it is proposed to lay out this road from Provincial funds, it will have to be considered along with other works. "

SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" Since the people I have mentioned died from the Hon. the Finance Minister's district, will the Hon. Minister for Local Administration be pleased to ask the Hon. Finance Minister to give a special grant for this district to put up this road? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I would only advise the people of my district not to go to that place hereafter, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I ask the Government to consider the desirability of taxing the pilgrims who visit that place so as to make up that Rs. 6 lakhs for putting up that road, instead of making use of the Provincial funds? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" Taxation is a separate question, Sir."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" Apart from the religious importance of Srisailam, is it not a fact that there are about 9,000 Chenchu families living in that area, and even for them, this road is necessary? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" For everybody who goes to Srisailam, that road is necessary, Sir."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that this is one of the oldest and the most sacred places in South India, and if so, is it not wrong to tax the pilgrims who go there for spiritual needs? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" That is why, Sir, I did not answer that question at all. I can assure the hon. Member that it is a very old and sacred pilgrim centre and that is why, the matter of putting up a road to that place was considered by the Government, and action will be taken to see that the road is formed at an early date."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Is it not a fact that it is the pilgrims that undergo all sorts of difficulties before they could reach the temple, and from that point of view, is it not they that should contribute to the formation of that road, and if Provincial funds are to be spent on this road, will it not take away the funds intended for other roads? "

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THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"I can assure the hon. Member that if pilgrims are to be taxed, they would not go to that centre at all."

Appointment of Sub-Deputy Registrars and Inspectors as Supervisors.

*169 *Q.*—SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many Sub-Deputy Registrars and Inspectors are appointed to supervise—

(i) Co-operative stores,

(ii) Co-operative Hondloom Weavers' Societies, and

(iii) Scheduled Caste societies; and

(*b*) how much of Government funds is spent on the Government staff entrusted with supervision of co-operative societies?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"(*a*) (i) 24 Co-operative Sub-Registrars and 36 Senior Inspectors for Stores societies.

(ii) 25 Co-operative Sub-Registrars and 108 Senior Inspectors for Weavers' societies.

(iii) 42 Junior Inspectors for Scheduled Caste societies as well as Kallar societies and societies for fishermen. (In 9 districts, supervision of these societies by the territorial Inspectors).

"(*b*) The cost to Government of the staff mentioned above amounts to Rs. 5,17,000 per annum."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"In view of the large expenditure involved on this supervision, may I know if the Government are aware that this sort of supervision has not been contemplated by the Co-operative Societies Act II of 1932?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"Most of the supervision is being done at the request of the societies and organizations concerned. As and when it is found that supervision is not necessary, it will be withdrawn, Sir."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"My point is this, Sir. This supervision is not contemplated by the Co-operative Societies Act II of 1932, and therefore the expenditure that is incurred by the Government on the staff is nothing but an illegal expenditure and a waste; may I know, if it is not so, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"I do not consider that it is an illegal expenditure, but any way if my hon. Friend puts a separate question on the legality of the expenditure, I will answer it in detail."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Are the Government aware that the inspection of the District Co-operative Wholesale Stores by financing banks, which was done recently, has revealed that these

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stores which have departmental officers as administrative heads are not well-administered, that their stock accounts are not well-maintained and that they are not brought up-to-date?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"If any specific instances are brought to the notice of the Government, they will be considered and action taken by the Government."

SRI P. KAKKAN:—"May I know, Sir, in how many districts, the Scheduled Caste stores are functioning and what is the minimum share capital of each such store?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"A separate question may be put, Sir."

SRI P. KANDASWAMY PILLAI:—"Is it not a fact that societies for particular communities are bad from every point of view, and if so, may I know, Sir, whether the Government will consider the question of the abolition of these Scheduled Caste societies and amalgamate them with other societies?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"As matters stand at present, it is not possible for the Government to scrap all such existing societies. But the policy of the Government will hereafter be more and more towards non-communal and non-religious societies."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the fact that co-operative stores and co-operative handloom weavers' societies are earning large profits, may I know why the cost of the supervision staff cannot be met by them, instead of the Government bearing it?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"Wherever these societies are earning large profits and can afford to pay for cost of their supervision, the Government, in fact, recover the charges on account of the Inspectors lent to them."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government will consider the necessity of giving special training to the Sub-Deputy Registrars to exercise an effective supervision over these stores and their accounts?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"As matters stand at present, the inspections are going on, and if any complications or difficulties arise, action will be taken to overcome those difficulties. But if the hon. Member has any particular suggestion to make on this subject, he can bring it to my notice, and I will look into it and take the necessary action on it."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the fact that these district co-operative stores are only war-babies that thrived in the war-time, and in view of the fact that they will not be able to do any work hereafter, now that the war is over, will the Government consider the desirability of allowing them to turn their attention to start huge industries?"

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THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" I do not believe that these co-operative societies are war-babies and that they cannot stand on their own legs. I am sure, Sir, that they will be able to do much better work than any other institutions."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—" In view of the several allegations made by hon. Members on the floor of the House about the working of these co-operative stores societies, will the Government consider the desirability of appointing a committee to enquire into their working and submit their report to this House? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" Not one specific instance has been brought to my notice, Sir, that these societies are inefficient or that their working is unsatisfactory. Therefore, there is no good of making general statements and asking us to make enquiries. If any specific complaints are brought to my notice, and if these complaints are true, then I shall consider the question of appointing a committee."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" May I know, Sir, whether Sub-Deputy Registrars are also lent to other kinds of co-operative societies, like the house-building societies? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" Yes, Sir."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" Are the Government aware, that indirect pressure is being brought to bear upon these societies to apply for the services of departmental officers, and if it is correct, may I know what action the Government propose to take to prevent such things? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" I do not know anything about it, Sir, and no such complaint has been brought to my notice hitherto."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister to my last question, may I know, why no inspector has been lent to the Madura Society, when all other societies have been given the services of Sub-Deputy Registrars? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" I would request the hon. Member to put a separate question, Sir."

Ground rent at Cruz Fernandezpuram in Tuticorin.

* 170 *Q.*—MRS. JEBAMONEY MASILAMONEY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that at Cruz Fernandezpuram of Tuticorin an exorbitant sum of rupee one per cent or Rs. 100 per acre per annum is collected as ground rent from the poor hut dwellers there;

(*b*) whether the Government are aware that at Teeveypuram and Bultonpuram of Tuticorin, a more prospective area occupied by middle-class and well-to-do people, a rent of one anna per cent or Rs. 6-4-0 per acre per annum is collected; and

(*c*) the reasons for this huge difference in ground rent?

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THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) Yes.

" (*c*) The reason for the difference is that the lands in Cruz Fernandezpuram and in Boultonpuram and Teeveypuram were assigned at different times. The lands in Cruz Fernandezpuram were assigned in 1918. The rules regarding assignment then were that the assignee should pay on assignment an initial value together with ground rent. The ground rent fixed represented the rate next lower to the competitive rent, twenty-five times of which worked out to the full market value. The lands in Boultonpuram and Teeveypuram was assigned at a later date when the rules regarding assignment had been revised. Under the revised rules the assignees would have to pay the full market value and a ground rent at one anna a cent.

Assuming the market value of the land to be 8 annas a kuli Rs. 28-2-0 for one cent, the ground rent and the initial value or market value as the case may be to be paid by the assignees in Cruz Fernandezpuram and Boultonpuram and Teeveypuram have been worked out as follows:—

	Ground rent.			Initial value or market value.		
	PER CENT.			PER CENT.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Cruz Fernandezpuram ..	1	0	0	3	2	0
Boultonpuram and Teeveypuram.	0	1	0	28	2	0

It would therefore be seen that whereas the assignees in Cruz Fernandezpuram pay a high ground rent but have paid a low initial value, the assignees in Boultonpuram and Teeveypuram pay a low ground rent but have paid a high market value."

SRI V. S. SANKARA SUBRAHMANYA MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether the inhabitants of Cruz Fernandezpuram have sent representations to the Government to redress the inequality, that is the ground rent for their lands being sixteen times more than that of the lands in Boultonpuram and Teeveypuram? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" The inhabitants of Cruz Fernandezpuram had paid only a very small initial value to the lands as compared with the amount paid by the inhabitants of the other two villages, and hence they had to pay an enhanced ground rent. If they are now willing to pay the difference in the market value, the question of reducing the quit rent will naturally be considered."

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Woman surgeons in the medical colleges of the Province.

*171 *Q.*—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of permanent Women Assistant Surgeons and Woman Civil Surgeons in the medical colleges in this Province, teaching (i) clinical subjects, (ii) non-clinical subjects;

(*b*) the number of the Professors in Midwifery in each of the various medical teaching colleges in the Province; and

(*c*) whether the claims of duly qualified women to be appointed as Professors in Midwifery have been examined and given recognition?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"(*a*) The number of Women Civil Surgeons teaching non-clinical subjects in medical colleges is two of whom one is permanent and the other is officiating. There is also one officiating Civil Surgeon teaching clinical subjects. There is a permanent Woman Assistant Surgeon teaching non-clinical subjects and another acting Woman Assistant Surgeon teaching clinical subjects.

"(*b*) There are four Professors of Midwifery in medical colleges, two in the Madras Medical College, one in the Stanley Medical College, and one in the Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatam.

"(*c*) The posts of Professors in Midwifery are borne on the men's cadre and the question of considering the appointment of women medical officers to these posts will not arise so long as qualified members of the service are available in the men's section. The claims of qualified permanent Women Assistant Surgeons and Woman Civil Surgeons for appointment as Professors in Midwifery in the medical colleges will be considered if occasion arises therefor."

11-45 a.m. BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is not a fact that women prove . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Order, order. I am not able to follow the questions and answers at all."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know whether it is not a fact that women prove as competent as men in the teaching line rather that in many instances they prove to be even more efficient than men? (Interruption.) That has been the verdict of educationists. (An hon. Member: Question.) As such, may I know why there is such paucity of women in the teaching line in the Medical Department? The Hon. Minister stated that there is only one woman in the teaching line with reference to clinical subjects. May I know, Sir, why only one woman is to be found there and whether she is permanent or temporary?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I said, Sir, one was permanent and the other was officiating."

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Since the Hon. Minister states that only one woman is holding a permanent appointment for teaching clinical subjects, will the Hon. Minister enlighten me as to the reason for the treatment meted out to women?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I believe, Sir, that even in advanced countries like Britain and America the posts of professorships are mostly held by men. The top-ranking doctors who have made a mark in the profession are men everywhere." (Laughter.)

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister is aware that Britain is not at all advanced with reference to women's rights. (Laughter.) Does he not know that we need not copy Britain with reference to the treatment accorded to women. The Hon. Minister will find that . . ."

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

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"I have to explain to him the position, Sir." (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I believe women are very much advanced in both England and America, Sir. Many of them have taken to the medical profession. But still most of the professorships are held only by men."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know the number of posts that are reserved for men in the Medical Department but are now held by women in Madras?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I gave this information yesterday. This does not arise out of this question. About seven posts are held by women in the place of men."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister is aware that sex prejudice is strong in Britain, hence despite their high academic qualifications, women are not given their due chances? Will he therefore dispel from his mind the idea that Britain and other western countries are good examples to be followed in this matter?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I have stated yesterday, Sir, that the question of giving more posts for women in the teaching line is being examined."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"For various reasons, Sir, the Government have seen it fit to reserve certain posts for men. May I know why the Government are continuing women in those posts?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The posts reserved for men will be filled again by the war-returned men and women will have to make place for them."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Does not the very fact that there are only few women in countries like Great Britain and America teaching such subjects as are referred to on the floor of the House, show that the women of those countries are not sufficiently advanced and that they are not proper examples for this Government to follow? Should they not set an example of their own to the whole world by appreciating the worth of women properly and teaching the world how to appreciate their worth?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I only quoted America and Britain by way of illustration, Sir. I believe in all progressive countries it is men who are holding the largest number of posts in the teaching line as well as in the general line."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My point is this, Sir. Is not that very fact that only men are holding such posts in those countries proof of the fact that women are not sufficiently advanced? Therefore it is that I say that our Government must not follow the example set by these countries."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I do not understand the point." (Laughter.)

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Are not the Government conscious of the fact that since woman in Great Britain and America are not sufficiently advanced and it is owing to that reason they are not found in many posts as are being referred to here? Does it not appeal to reason that this Government ought not to follow the examples of those countries where women are concerned?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I grant the fact, Sir, that as far as we are concerned, our women seem to be more advanced because, these women, without any struggle, have got their franchise. And in regard to educational facilities also we are almost leading the way. But, Sir, there are certain functions which only a man can perform more successfully than a woman can. There are certain limitations. (Laughter.) I hope hon. Members will realise those limitations."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"With reference to the answer to clause (*b*), and with reference to what has been mentioned just now by the Leader of the House, I would like to know when midwifery is the special sphere of women, why men arrogate to themselves the claim that they are more competent than women in this sphere of work also?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"For the simple reason, that many women would like a man Gynæcologist to look after them than women in matters of surgery because men seem to have a better handling of the situation than a woman doctor can possibly do. That is the experience of doctors, Sir, and I am not giving it as my own experience. I trust my hon. Colleague the Minister for Food will support this contention." (Laughter.)

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MR. H. O. FOWLER:—"I would like to know, Sir, whether this Government accepts the proposition that women patients should be attended to by women doctors alone or do this Government agree that a doctor is a doctor irrespective of sex?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"From the answers my hon. Colleague has given I should have no hesitation in saying that a doctor is a doctor irrespective of sex."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that such prejudice against women is antiquated and that while in the olden days some women might have preferred to be operated upon by men, now that competent women doctors have come to the fore and are available women are quite prepared to engage women Gynæcologists and hence the utmost confidence in them."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It is not a question of anybody being prepared, Sir. It is a question of the Government getting the best available talent irrespective of sex."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I request, Sir, that with the consent of the Leader of the House a day may be allotted for discussing this question?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I do not think there is any necessity, Sir, in spite of the great interest which the hon. Member from Kurnool seems to be taking in this matter."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"In view of the expert advice given by the Hon. Leader of the House on this issue, may I enquire, Sir, whether at any time he has had occasion to be operated upon either by a male doctor or by a female doctor?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I have had operations, Sir, fortunately by men doctors." (Laughter.)

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"With reference to clause (*c*) . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member should resume her seat. I have only 3 minutes more and the questions should be finished."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"This is an important matter, Sir, about which it is very necessary to elicit information."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let the hon. Member take her seat. If she wants any further information let her give the questions in writing in the form of fresh questions. I shall allow all the questions. I am sorry I have to disoblige the hon. Lady Member. She should resume her seat."

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Opening of dispensaries in hill stations.

* 172 *Q.*—SRI K. P. KAMAKSHI CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether there is any proposal before the Government to open a few dispensaries in the Kodaikanal and Palni Hills to provide medical aid to the hill villagers of the place?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The answer is in the negative."

SRI K. P. KAMAKSHI CHETTIYAR:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that there was only one dispensary in the whole of the area and that too is closed down for the last six years?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"It may be, Sir. Proposals for opening dispensaries should come through the Special Officer of the District Board?"

* 164 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member, Mr. Swaminathan told me that he had to come a little late on account of some trouble with his car. The question may be answered now."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I thought that the answer was going to be printed in the proceedings, Sir."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I might explain the position, Sir. As a matter of fact, if questions are passed over at first and if the question time is not over, it is in your discretion to allow the Member to put the question later on."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"I have informed the Hon. Food Minister . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have already told the House that on account of some trouble in his car, the hon. Member came late. The hon. Member told me this and it is a valid reason."

Scarcity of foodstuffs in Ramnad district.

* 164 *Q.*—SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that many people have died on account of starvation and in thousands of villages people are suffering without food in Ramnad district; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"(*a*) No. There was not a single case of death due to starvation. But as the local production of paddy and millets is inadequate to meet the demands of the people, it is true that in some places people do experience difficulty in getting foodgrains.

"(*b*) Relief shops have been opened in areas of scarcity and stocks of foodgrains are rushed to such areas to the extent possible. So far 62 relief shops have been opened in 26 semi-urban areas and 85 in villages. A quota of 5,000 tons of rice from Tanjore has been allotted to Ramnad for February 1948. Out of this quantity and an arrear quota of 626 tons making a total of 5,626 tons, 5,150 tons have been moved up to 27th February 1948. Out of the quotas of 7,100 tons of overseas maize and 1,600 tons of milo, allotted, about 4,530 tons of maize and 1,567 tons of milo have also been moved to the district already. The balance will reach the district soon. These supplies may be expected to relieve the distress. Special attention is being paid to supply foodgrains to the worst affected areas in the district especially coastal villages and places where there was extensive loss of crops. Further, people in deficit areas freely purchase and move paddy from Tiruppuvanam and Tirupatchetti areas, where paddy is available. When the relief shops were opened, at the beginning only a day's ration was being given but the Government have since ordered the issue of three days' rations at a time at the rate of 6 oz. per adult per day, the composition of ration being as follows:—

(1) Rice-eaters—3 oz. of rice plus 3 oz. of millets including maize.

(2) Millet-eaters—1 oz. of rice plus 5 oz. of millets including maize.

(3) Mixed diet eaters—2 oz. of rice plus 4 oz. of millets including maize.

Road works have started in Mudukulattur and Paramakudi taluks and the labourers who get wages in cash are able to purchase foodgrains from the relief shops."

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SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Government are aware that some people died on account of starvation in the Aruppukottai and Mudukalattur taluks and that one death occurred in the railway station of Virudhunagar as the people were coming from Mudukalattur?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"So far, no death from starvation has been reported from anywhere from Ramnad and in fact, the Collector whom I personally met last week and in fact, the Collector whom I personally met last week assured me that there was no death due to starvation."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Are the Government sure of their arrangements to see that every death is reported and recorded and also the category under which the death occurs, namely, whether as a result of starvation or otherwise?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I can admit, Sir, that there is no post-mortem examination of every death occurring in the Ramnad or any other district."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state as to how much of these 5,000 and odd tons given in February has so far been moved into the district?"

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I shall read the figures again for the information of the hon. Member:—

' A quota of 5,000 tons of rice from Tanjore has been allotted to Ramnad for February 1948. Out of this quantity and an arrear quota of 626 tons making a total of 5,626 tons, 5,150 tons have been moved up to 27th February 1948. Out of the quotas of 7,100 tons of overseas maize and 1,600 tons of milo allotted, about 4,530 tons of mize and 1,567 tons of milo have also been moved to the district already. The balance will reach the district soon.' "

12 noon KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Sir, is it a fact that no appreciable quantity of this has reached the very deficit taluks of Tiruvadanai and Tiruppattur? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The information is that there is movement of rice from Tanjore district. If the hon. Member gives me time to get the information, I shall obtain it."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Will the Hon. Minister for Food be pleased to make a separate enquiry as to the conditions of food scarcity in the two taluks I have referred to? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Sir, the matter has been referred to and reported on by the Collectors at the Collectors' meeting we had last week."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" In view of the fact that a death did occur in my district, and in view of the fact that we, the representatives of the people, know these things personally, may I ask the Government, Sir, whether there are any secret instructions to district authorities to classify these deaths as though they are natural deaths due to dysentery or cholera? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Sir, it is a rather base insinuation which I refuse to accept."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know, Sir, whether the people in the districts are suffering simply because of shortage of foodstuffs or also because prices have soared so high that the ordinary people cannot afford to buy the foodgrains? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Sir, reports from districts where there is decontrol show that foodstuffs are available and the prices are not beyond the ordinary reach of the average man."

SINNA KAZLAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that people in some portions of Mudukalathur taluk were eating horsegram? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" It might be, Sir. I do not know whether it is wrong to take to horsegram. But I can assure the hon. Member that horsegram is a much better food for its caloric value and sustaining qualities."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I want to know, Sir, whether the Government are really anxious that the people should not die due to starvation, and if so, what steps have they taken to see that deaths that occur in particular areas are not due to starvation? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Sir, the Government have made themselves certain that these deaths are not due to starvation. If the hon. Member would ask us to take further steps to investigate all the deaths in that district, I can certainly go into this question, but I do not think it is possible."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I ask, Sir, whether it is the policy of the Government that people should give up eating rice and take to horsegram? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" In the event of rice not being available and horsegram being available, I mean certainly asking the people to take to it, because I am personally positive of the statement I made that horsegram has greater food value. The only thing is it has got to be prepared in such a way that it can be easily assimilated."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Sir, arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, may I ask the Minister to appoint a committee—it may be an official committee—to enquire whether or not these deaths were due to starvation? I am putting this question because I fear the authorities are hushing up the matter? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Sir, the Government are themselves satisfied about the cause of these deaths, and they are not prepared to accept the suggestion that an official or non-official committee should go into this question."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, referring to the relief shops about which the Hon. Minister spoke, may I ask whether the Hon. Minister is sure that certain people overbuy in those relief shops thereby making other people go without food? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" That is why the Government's first instruction to relief shops was to issue only one day's ration to people who are suffering for lack of food. But there was a hue and cry against this, and people came and demanded that at least three days' ration should be supplied in advance. Considering the distance these people have got to travel, the Government decided that three days' ration ought to be issued to every one that goes to the relief shop."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government can guarantee that after decontrol prices will not rise beyond the reach of the ordinary man? "

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"No such assurance can be given. Prices depend upon the market and on the availability of the stuff. But if a particular stuff goes beyond the reach of the ordinary man in the street, the Government's duty is to control the price and take such measures as may be necessary to bring it down."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I want to know from the Hon. Minister for Food, Sir, whether the steps enumerated by him with reference to these relief shops do not amount to rationing, though decontrol has been introduced in those areas?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The hon. Member may paraphrase the term in any way he likes. As far as the Government take up responsibility for giving relief through some agency or other, it is for them to regulate the food to all those people who want it, and to that extent, these relief shops are being worked to give one day's ration or three days' ration according to the recommendation of the Collector or local authorities concerned."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, does it not stand to reason that rationing should be re-introduced?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, it does not arise out of this."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Questions are over."

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

II.—SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE.

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Sir, to-day there is the Debate on Demands for Irrigation and Agriculture. For discussion of these Demands the House can sit till 8 o' clock or 7 o' clock. These budget Demands should be discussed more thoroughly and the House, I think, will be willing to sit longer."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We shall take up this question later."

III.—SHORT NOTICE QUESTION *RE* MUSLIM WOMEN'S COLLEGE.

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Sir, on a point of information. I wish to know what happened to my short notice question with reference to the Muslim Women's College. I do not see the Hon. Minister for Education in his seat to-day. I want to know whether he is in Madras or he has left Madras on tour."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, the Minister is arriving here this evening. Very likely he will deal with this question to-morrow."

IV.—STATEMENT BY THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE *RE* NATURE OF QUESTIONS PUT BY MEMBERS AND ON FREEDOM OF SPEECH.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, before we proceed to the next item of the agenda, I want to make hon. Members understand this. Questions are being put regarding the Special

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Officer day after day. My hon. Friend Mr. Nagappa (who is not here now) put a question to-day. I have had a careful enquiry made in this matter. The 2½ acres referred to by the hon. Member was purchased by the Special Officer by commuting a portion of his pension. After he became a Member of the Public Service Commission, it was not necessary for him to give details of properties that he possessed, because His Excellency the Governor decided in his discretion that in those cases such a statement is not necessary from members of the Public Service Commission. When the Special Officer came into the Secretariat for these enquiries, it was still decided, as his term of office was being extended from time to time, that it was not necessary for him to give such details. Besides, the hon. Member's question implies also an allegation on the head of the Tuberculosis Institute at Tambaram, Dr. Vasudeva Rao. As a matter of fact neither the Special Officer nor the Doctor at the sanatorium held any property in common. We put the question specifically to Dr. Vasudeva Rao and the Surgeon-General also enquired into the matter, and we found to our satisfaction that no such properties as alleged in the question were bought by the Doctor concerned. I have asked hon. Members time and again that unless they are sure of their facts they should not cast aspersions on officers of the Government, because it does lead to deterioration and to indiscipline if questions of this kind are put. It is the duty of the Member of the Government who is in charge of that department to defend his subordinates to the best of his ability. I can assure hon. Members that no such defence will be made unless the Government make certain of the facts and are sure that the allegations so made are of a kind which do not deserve any consideration."

* SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"I want to say something in this connexion, Sir. The Hon. Minister has been saying that we have been passing some remarks on the Special Officer. It is not my intention in putting this question to pass any personal remarks against the officer concerned. I can bring to the notice of the Government that the facts are true. If the Government failed to make a proper enquiry, the Member cannot be held responsible. I can charge the Government with having failed in their duty to make proper enquiries. Instead of the Government going into details and making enquiries, they come forward and charge the Member who put the question. I am unable to understand this. I request your ruling, Sir."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Now, it has come to this, Sir. He is charging the Government. I will challenge the hon. Gentleman to make this statement outside and take the consequences of such a statement."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"I accept the challenge, Sir. I am prepared to prove with facts and figures what the Special Officer has done. If the Government are prepared to accept my challenge I am also prepared to accept their challenge."

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Sir, evidently, the hon. Member has not understood what I said. I do not want to give him any threat. All that I said was if the hon. Gentleman has the courage and knows that the facts are true, he can mention it outside this House, because statements made inside this House are privileged. Then it will let him in for defamation and he should take the consequences, because the Government will then have no more responsibility. It will be a matter between the officer concerned and the hon. Gentleman."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" On a point of order, Sir. I want to know whether challenges can be issued in the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Challenges are issued in the House of Commons. They are not for duel. Only one such thing, viz., for a duel has happened in the House of Commons during the time of Pitt when a challenge was issued by the Leader of the Opposition. If the Hon. the Leader of the House challenged the hon. Member Mr. Nagappa into a duel, I am here to prevent it. But at that time the Speaker of the House of Commons did not interfere. He intervened when the duel was going on."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" What happened eventually, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The Speaker stopped the duel."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" On a point of order, Sir. I also request a ruling arising out of this challenge thrown in this House. Is it fair on the part of the Leader of the House to ask a Member in the way of a threat 'if you want you can make a statement outside this House and reap the consequences' when we are making statements or asking questions about particular officers of Government?"

12-15 p.m. MR. SPEAKER:—" Hon. Members should understand that they have got the freedom of speech here. The courts cannot take any action on what hon. Members say here but that is not the case outside the House. Hon. Members can speak anything they like here, of course, subject to my ruling. That cannot be done outside this House. The hon. Member, Sri Nagappa, said something here which he cannot say outside."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Is it not the duty of the Government to go into the matter whenever there is a charge made against the officers of the Government?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I have already told the House—the hon. Member has not probably understood what I was saying—that every enquiry that could be possibly made was made and the Government have come to the conclusion that there is no point in the allegation made."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" The matter is now closed. Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman will continue his speech on the Public Health Demand."

V.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—*cont.*

DEMAND XVII—PUBLIC HEALTH—*cont.*

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, பொது சுகாதாரத்தில் குடி தண்ணீர், சாக்கடை மிகவும் அடிப்படையானவை. இந்த இரண்டும் ஒவ்வொரு ஊரிலும் அவசியம் அமைக்கப்படவேண்டும். அதற்காகத்தான் சர்க்கார் ஒரு கமிட்டியை நியமித்தார்கள். அந்தக் கமிட்டி தன்னுடைய அறிக்கையை சமர்ப்பித்திருக்கிறது. பல அரிய யோசனைகளை அவர்கள் கூறி இருக்கிறார்கள். அந்த அறிக்கையை கால தாமதம் இல்லாமல் பரிசீலனைசெய்து உடனே எவ்வளவு தூரம் செய்யமுடியுமோ அவ்வளவு தூரம் சீக்கிரமாக நிறைவேற்றும்படியாய் சர்க்காரை கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். பல இடங்களில் குடி தண்ணீர் சாக்கடை திட்டங்கள் அறை குறையாக இருக்கின்றன. அவ்விதம் அறை குறை இருக்கும் இடங்களில் மதுரை பிரதானமானது. சுமார் 20 வருஷங்களுக்கு முன்னால் அதனுடைய ஜனத்தொகை 1-3/4 லட்சம் இருக்கும். அப்பொழுது தண்ணீர் அபிவிருத்தி திட்டம் போட்டார்கள். எனினும் இதுவரைக்கும் அந்த அபிவிருத்தி திட்டத்தில் ஒன்றுமே எடுத்துக்கொண்டு வேலை செய்யப்படவில்லை. ஆனால் இன்றையதினம் அங்கே ஜனத்தொகையைப் பார்த்தால் 3½ லட்சமாகி விட்டது."

MR. SPEAKER:—" நேற்று நீங்கள் 7½ நிமிஷம் பேசி இருக்கிறீர்கள்."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" இல்லை இரண்டு நிமிஷம் தான் பேசினேன். மதுரையின் ஜனத்தொகை 3½ லட்சம். திட்டம் போட்டு சுமார் 15 வருஷங்களாகியும் ஒன்றுமே செய்யாததனால் பல சிக்கலான பிரச்னைகள் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. ஜனத்தொகையும் இரண்டு மடங்காகிவிட்டது. திட்டத்தை நிறைவேற்றுவதற்கு ஆகக்கூடிய செலவும் மூன்றுமடங்கு ஆகிறது. காலாகாலத்தில் காரியங்களைச் செய்யாததால் பல துறைகளிலும் பல சிக்கல்கள் ஏற்படுகின்றன செலவும் அதிகமாகிறது. ஆகவே மதுரை பொறுத்தவரைக்கும் இனி எந்தவிதமான தாமதமும் செய்யாமல் உடனே திட்டத்தை வகுத்து நிறைவேற்றவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" மதுரை ஒரு பெரிய நகரம். இடத்திலல்ல ஆனால் ஜனத்தொகையில் நிலப்பரப்பு ஜனத்தொகைக்கு மிகவும் குறைவு. இவ்வளவு ஜனநெருக்கம் இருக்கிற ஊர் தென் இந்தியாவிலேயே வேறு கிடையாது. அங்கே குடி தண்ணீருக்கு ஜனங்கள் கஷ்டப்படுவதைப் பார்த்தால்—நான் அந்த ஊரிலிருந்து வருவதால் சொல்லுகிறேன் என்று நினைத்துக்கொள்ளக் கூடாது—வந்து பார்த்தால்தான் தெரியும்—ரொம்ப பரிதாபமாக இருக்கிறது. வீட்டுக் குழாய்கள் நூற்றுக்கணக்கில்தான் இருக்கும். தெருவிலுள்ளது ஜாஸ்தியாக ஆயிரம் அல்லது ஆயிரத்தி ஐநூறு இருக்கும். பெண்கள் தண்ணீர் கொண்டு வருவதற்கு படும் கஷ்டங்களைப் பார்க்க முடியவில்லை. நூற்றுக் கணக்கான பெண்கள் 'க்யூ' வரிசையில் குடங்களை வைத்துக் கொண்டு நின்றுகொண்டிருப்பார்கள். தினந்தோறும் அவர்கள் நேரத்தில் இரண்டு மணி நேரம் முதல் நாலு மணி நேரம் வரையில் தண்ணீர் கொண்டுவருவதற்காக கழித்துவிடுகிறார்கள். இவ்விதம் தினந்தோறும் அங்கே நடந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறது.

" சாக்கடை இல்லாத பாகம் நகரத்தில் பெரும் பகுதி உண்டு. அநேகம் தெருக்களில் ஓடைமாதிரி சாக்கடை ஓடிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. நெருக்கமான ஊராக இருந்தபோதிலும் பல பாகங்களில் இன்னும் சாக்கடை கட்டப்படாமலிருப்பது மிகவும் வருந்தத்தக்கது. பாக்கி இருக்கும் பாகத்தை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவும் சீக்கிரம் கட்டிமுடிக்க ஒரு வருஷமாக முயற்சி எடுத்துக்கொள்ளச் சொல்லியும் இன்னும் ஒன்றுமே செய்ய

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விலை. சர்க்காரால் எங்கேயாவது அவசரமாக குடி தண்ணீர் சாக்கடை திட்டம் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று இருந்தால் அந்த ஊர் மதுரை தான் என்றும் மதுரைக்குதான் முதல் ஸ்தானம் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்றும் சர்க்கார் இஞ்சினியர்கள் கூறி இருக்கிறார்கள். அதன் மேல் ஒரு வருஷமாகியும் இன்னும் வேலை ஒன்றும் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளாமல் இருப்பது மிகவும் வருந்தக்கூடிய விஷயம். மதுரை பொறுத்த வரையில் எந்தவிதமான தாமதமும் செய்யாமல் உடனே எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். இன்னொரு விஷயம் சொல்லுகிறேன். அதைப்பற்றி எற்கனவே பல தடவைகளில் சொல்லி இருக்கிறேன். யுத்தம் நடந்தபோது Advisors ஆட்சி இருந்தது. அப்பொழுது அந்தக் காலத்திலிருந்த மதுரை நகரசபை யுத்தமுயற்சியில் ஒத்துழைக்காததால் முனிசிபாலிட்டிக்குக் கொடுக்கப் பட்ட மான்யத்தையும் வரியையும் வாபஸ் வாங்கிக்கொண்டு விட்டார்கள். ஆகையால் போட்ட திட்டங்களை நிறைவேற்ற முடியவில்லை. மதுரை அடைந்த இவ்வளவு கஷ்டங்களையும் உணர்ந்து முனிசிபாலிட்டியின் அவசியத்தையும் உத்தேசித்து மதுரைக்கு வெகு சீக்கிரமாக திட்டம் போட்டு நடத்தவேண்டும். அந்த திட்டத்தை இப்பொழுதே ஆரம்பித்தால்தான் ஆறு மாதத்திற்குள் ஆராய்ச்சியையும் திட்டம் போடுவதையும் முடித்து அடுத்த வருஷம் கோடைக்குள் வேலை ஆரம்பம் செய்துவிடலாம். ஆகையால் இப்பொழுதே திட்டத்தை ஆரம்பிக்கவேண்டுமாய் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"அடுத்தபடியாக கும்பம் பள்ளத்தாக்கு திட்டத்தைப்பற்றி சொல்ல வேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. அங்கே சாக்கடைக்கும் குடி தண்ணீருக்கும் வரி கொடுத்துக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். இன்னும் அங்கே ஒரு வேலையையும் ஆரம்பிக்கவில்லை. பல வருஷங்களாக முயன்றும் ஒன்றும் நடக்கவில்லை. இப்பொழுது அது 12 வருஷத்திற்குமேல் ஆகிவிட்டது. அது சொம்பவும் பிற்போக்கான பிரதேசம். அந்த திட்டத்தை உடனே எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அடுத்தது திருமங்கலம் சாக்கடை திட்டம். அதற்காக அங்கு 12 வருஷங்களாக வரி கொடுத்து வருகிறார்கள். ஆனாலும் இது வரையில் ஒன்றுமே செய்யவில்லை. சுகாதார விஷயமாக ஒவ்வொரு வருடம்தோறும் பணத்தை மட்டும் நாம் சிலவு செய்துகொண்டு போனாலும் அதற்கு ஒரு முடிவு மில்லை. இருக்கவும் இருக்காது. ஜனங்களுடைய மனது மாற வேண்டும். அவர்களுக்கு சுகாதார உணர்ச்சி வளரவேண்டும். ஆங்கிலத்தில் கூறுகிற Civic consciousness social hygiene இவ்விரண்டும் மக்களிடையில் பரவ வேண்டும்.

"அதுதான் நமது முதல் கடமை. ஒவ்வொரு ஊர்களிலும் ஒவ்வொரு வருடைய மனதும் மாறுபட்டு அவர்களுக்கு சுகாதார உணர்ச்சியை வளர்க்கும்படியான கார்யங்களைச் செய்யவேண்டும். அதற்கு உடனடியாக வேண்டியதை செய்யவேண்டும். சிறு குழந்தைகளுக்கு சிறு வயது முதற்கொண்டே நல்ல மாதிரி பழக்க வழக்கங்களை கற்றுக்கொடுத்துக் கொண்டு வந்தால் பிற்காலத்தில் உதவியாக இருக்கும். அதிகாரத்தி லுள்ளவர்கள் பொது சுகாதார உணர்ச்சி இல்லாதவர்களாக இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களும் வயதுவந்தவர்களாகிவிடாமல் அவர்களுக்கு இந்த உணர்ச்சியை உண்டாக்குவது மிகவும் சிரமம். ஆகையால் சிறு குழந்தைகளுக்கு பள்ளிக்கூடம்மூலம் இந்த உணர்ச்சி பெரும்படி பயிர்ச்சியளிக்கவேண்டும். எந்தெந்த இடத்தில் மலஜலம் கழிப்பது எங்கு அசுத்தம்செய்யலாம் என்கிற விஷயங்களை அவர்களுக்கு சிறு வயது முதற்கொண்டே கற்றுக்கொடுக்கும்படியாக கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன் நம் நாடு வைதீகத் தின் மூலமாக சுத்தத்தில் உயர்ந்திருந்தது. அந்த ஒரு தன்மை இப்பொழுது இல்லை. வைதீகமும் தற்கால சுத்தமேனாட்டு சுத்த உணர்ச்சியும் இந்த இரண்டும் இல்லாமல் போய்விட்டது. சுத்த மனப் பான்மை இல்லாது எவ்வளவு தூரம் போய்விட்டது பாருங்கள். சாதா ரணமாக சமுத்திரக்கரையில் காலையில் போய் நடக்க முடியாது. ஆற்றங்கரையிலும் போய் நடக்க முடியாது. குளக் கரையிலும் போய் நடக்கமுடியாது. அதற்குக் காரணம் நான் சொல்லத் தேவை இல்லை. சமுத்திரக் கரை முதலிய இடங்களில் பார்த்தால் சாப்பிடுவதற்கு

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உட்கார்ந்து கொண்டிருப்பதைபோல் உட்கார்ந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இது தவறு என்று அவர்களுக்கு தெரியவில்லை. இப்பொழுது ஜனங் களுக்கு சுத்த உணர்ச்சி என்பதே போய் விட்டது. மான உணர்ச் சியும் மழுங்கிவிட்டது. அதைக்கிளப்பி மறுபடியும் வரும்படிசெய்ய வேண்டும். கிராமங்களில் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் எவ்விதம் மலம் ஜலம் கழிப்பது என்பதைச் சொல்லிக்கொடுக்கவேண்டும். இவைகளை அனுசரிப்பது சுகாதாரத்திற்கு மிகவும் அவசியம் என்று ஜனங்களுக்கு தெரிய வேண்டும். அதற்காக பிரசாரம் நடத்தவேண்டும். நம்முடைய நாடு ஏழ்மையான நாடு. மகாத்மா காந்தி அதை அனுசரித்து எல்லா துறைகளிலும் முன்னேற்றமடைய சேவை செய்திருக்கிறார். சுகாதாரத்திலும், மலஜலம் கழிபபதிலும் நல்ல முறையை காண்பித் திருக்கிறார்கள். நகரும் ஒருவித கக்கூஸ் இருப்பது அநேகம்பேருக்குத் தெரியும். அந்த கக்கூஸ் எல்லா கிராமங்களிலும் வைத்து அதை உபயோகப்படுத்தும் முறையில் பிரசாரம் செய்யவேண்டும். அப்பொழுது தான் நம் நாடு சுகாதார முறையிலும் பொருளாதாரமுறையிலும் முன்னேற்றம் அடையும். ஆகையால் சுகாதார இலாகா கிராமங்கள் பூராவும் மகாத்மாகாந்தி காண்பித்துக்கொடுத்த இந்த கக்கூஸ் முறையை பரப்பி உபயோகிக்கும்படி செய்யவேண்டும் என்று மறுபடியும் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். நேரம் அதிகம் இல்லாததால் இத்துடன் முடித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"For the benefit of the House, I may inform hon. Members that the name of the gentleman that challanged was Mr. Tirney. Mr. Addington was the Speaker at that time. Mr. Pitt called him a traitor. That is why the Leader of the Opposition challenged Mr. Pitt. The incident took place on 26th May 1798 in the House of Commons."

* Begum Sultan MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, while supporting the cut motion, I wish to state that I was glad to learn from the Hon. the Minister for Public Health that as a matter of fact there was no reduction in the allotment for Public Health made in this year's Budget. I am however sorry to note that even after the revenues of the Government have increased considerably, the allotment for Public Health has remaned stationary; for only about six per cent of the revenues are set apart for public health expenditure whereas, the Bhore Committee, as the Hon. the Minister himself acknowledged, has recommended that at least 15 per cent should be allotted for this purpose. It is gratifying to learn that the Government have constituted a special fund of one crore of rupees for improving rural water-supply. It is a matter of common knowledge that one of the most urgent desiderata for the prevention of epidemic diseases in the country is the provision of protected water-supply. The Hon. Minister is plied with questions on the floor of this House with reference to the outbreak of epidemics like cholera. The best method of preventing such epidemics is to ensure the safety of water, for the modern conceptions of the maintenance of public health find their centre and cardinal point in making provision for a pure and adequate supply of water. Sir, we find that the provision of water-supply in Madras started as early as 1886. But despite the fact that this matter became the focus of attention in the last century, progress made in regard to it has been exceedingly slow. It seems that in western countries provision of water-supply began to be made about the same time, as in Madras, but, while, great strides have been made by western

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countries in this connexion, Madras is still in a primitive stage, with the result that while epidemic diseases are rare in those countries, they are a common feature of our Province.

" Sir, the Hon. the Minister stated that Madras has made great advance in the matter of public health when compared to the other Provinces. But, I wish to draw his attention to the fact that Madras has not at all advanced with reference to the provision of protected water-supply which is so essential for public health. As a matter of fact, Madras is even more backward in this respect than one of the most backward of provinces. I am referring to the North-West Frontier Province which now forms part of Pakistan. According to the 1939 Report of the Public Health Commission with the Government of India, the population served by protected water-supply in Madras Province was only 6·6 per cent whereas in the North-West Frontier Province the population served was 9 per cent. The 6·6 per cent of the population of this Province provided with protected water-supply was mainly urban for until recently the question of rural water-supply was generally neglected. I am therefore glad that the Government have now set apart one crore of rupees for rural water-supply. But, Sir, I am not very sanguine about the results for we have had instances in the past of large sums of money having been set apart for specific purposes but which have not been utilized. You are aware, Mr. Speaker, that a fund of one crore of rupees was created for the purpose of Harijan Uplift. I do not know what has happened to that fund but I believe that no steps have yet been taken to utilize it. It is also well-known that during the last Congress Ministry, the then Premier, Sri C. Rajagopalachariar, created a fund of about ten lakhs of rupees for rural water-supply and it was stated that the scheme would be executed in ten years, but nothing was done and eventually the fund was wound up. Having regard to past events, I wish to utter a note of caution that steps should be taken to see that the fund now created does not meet with the same fate as its predecessors but is properly utilized. Otehrwise there is no use in creating such funds. Therefore, Sir, I hope that the Government will see to it that this fund that they have set apart will not lapse but will be actually put to use.

" Sir, I should like to be enlightened as to what procedure the Government intend to adopt for the establishment of water-supply in the rural areas. I wish to know whether the Government intend to leave the question once again in the hands of the local bodies or will come forward themselves to undertake the work. It is a matter of common knowledge that in the past, the local bodies have been apathetic in regard to this matter. It is no use expecting the initiative to come from the local bodies because they are handicapped for lack of funds, of suitable personnel and of material. It is therefore necessary that the entire responsibility for the execution of the scheme should rest with the Government, who should provide the necessary personnel, funds and material. To this end the Government should, in the first place, appoint an

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expert committee to plan the water-supply scheme on a comprehensive scale and prepare a list of priority in respect of such schemes. I am glad that public health engineering courses are to be opened in the Engineering College. This is a step in the right direction. The Government should establish a Public Health Engineering Department in order to tackle the problems of public health.

" There is another matter, Sir, to which I should like to advert on this occasion and that is the problem of the women medical officers serving under the local bodies. Sir, these women medical officers are suffering considerable hardships, being subject to the security and control of the Health Officers who often harass them. Some time ago, I, along with Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddi, waited in deputation on the Hon. the Premier and requested him to provincialize the services of the women medical officers serving under the local bodies but I find that till now nothing has been done in this regard. I may inform the Hon. Minister that from the year 1932 till now, 63 posts of women medical officers have been sanctioned and that out of these 34 women medical officers have resigned. He should inquire into the causes for these resignations and should investigate into the hard conditions and the difficulties of the women medical officers. Even now when sitting in this House I have received a registered letter from a woman medical officer who states that she has resigned her post as she was being harassed by the Health Officer. The Government should, therefore, lose no time in provincializing the services of women medical officers under the local boards. Otherwise, women's health in the mufassal will suffer considerably. They should be provincialized in two grades—Junior and Senior—on the same scales of pay as Second and First-class health officers respectively. I hope the Hon. Minister for Public Health will give the matter his due consideration and take early steps to bring relief to a class of women officers, who are suffering considerably under local bodies. With these words, Sir, I support the motion."

12-30 p.m.

Dr. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO:—" Mr. Speaker, the watch-word of public health is: ' Prevention is better than cure.' Health depends on the fulfilment of the simple daily duties of life. In our youth we learned the lesson ' Health is wealth ' but very few of us take as much trouble to secure and maintain health as we take to earn and hoard money. It is in the minute attention to the daily routine, to the small things of life, that the health of an individual as well as of the community largely depends. From the Government's point of view there are two duties to be done. There is then what the Government ought to do in any civilized community. There is what the community itself to see that the community does its duty.

" Sir, as regards the attention to the small things of life, I may mention two or three things as an illustration. India suffers more than any other country in the world through the outbreak of epidemics. Most of these could be prevented if proper care is taken both by the people and the State. Take for instance, cholera.

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It is a disease borne by water. Care in the disinfection and purification of water and of its channels of distribution would prevent, at all events reduce, the death-rate in the country very considerably. But Sir, it is not easy to provide the people of a large country like this with pure water. Protected water-supply is no doubt a necessity, but to provide that throughout the length and breadth of this vast country would mean the sinking of enormous sums of money and also of spreading the work over a number of years. On the other hand there is a simple thing which can be done if the people and the Government are earnest about it. If every individual home would boil the water before drinking it, several millions of lives would be saved, particularly at the time of epidemics. By giving effect to this principle in the operative methods, the great surgeons of the world have been able to save hundreds and thousands of lives. They have been able to do it by simply boiling the instruments and the surgical paraphernalia for quarter to half an hour before the operations.

" Sir, in our country, the majority of us do not believe in drinking fresh milk and we have been habituated to get the milk boiled before using it. As a result, statistics show that surgical tuberculosis is quite insignificant in our country, whereas in western countries where milk is taken without being boiled, surgical tuberculosis is on the ascendant. Sir, the care with which we drink milk should be transferred to water. Then we would have the death rate considerably reduced.

" Another example is malaria. Questions have been put in this House over and over again as to the steps taken to reduce the incidence of malaria. No doubt scientific tackling of the problem would need time and money and it is being done to the best of their ability by the Public Health Department and the Medical Department with the small sums of money that are doled out to them with parsimony. But, Sir, if the Government would teach the people and the people are willing to provide themselves with mosquito nets, the problem of malaria would be considerably solved from the domestic and individual point of view. The Government should take up these small principles upon which the health of the country greatly depends and make wide propaganda as is done in western countries, so that the people may realise that their health to a large extent is in their own hands. For example, by building airy homes, by burning off everything that one does not need, we could improve the health of the country considerably.

" Sir, we have been blessed in this country with brilliant, hot sunshine. Considering the insanitary way in which the great masses of our people live, we should have been exterminated long ago but for the hot sun that comes to our aid. It is the sun-shine that has saved us so long. Then, Sir, particularly in some of our towns and cities and villages there is a large army of unpaid
1-45 scavengers, the pigs. It is they that clean our streets and help
p.m. to solve the problem of sanitation in their own way. I would

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like that this problem should be brought home to the homes of India. We have been discussing a little while ago the problem of . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" One minute more for the hon. Member."

DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO:—" We have been tackling the question of appointing men and women to Medical Services. If women can be of real use in bringing home to Indian women and children the importance of public health, you can employ hundreds and thousands of medical women to go to people's homes and teach women and children. By so doing, the health of the family and the neighbourhood will improve. I once again hope that the Government would try their best to teach people the wholesome lesson that prevention is really better than cure."

* M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not think I am far wrong if I say that the speech of the Hon. Minister for Public Health in moving this Demand is nothing but a catalogue of woes and miseries that the people of this Province are passing through. It is a tale of the sins of commission and omission by the Government of which he happens to be the Minister in charge of Public Health. I am really sorry to note that he has laid a definite charge at the door of the Hon. Finance Minister when he said that the allotment under Public Health is not increased in proportion to the allotment made for other items of expenditure in this province. It is really a surprise to me that the Hon. Finance Minister has not been able to realise the importance and magnitude of the public health problem in this province and that he has not joined hands with the Minister for Public Health in making better allotment for public health. You are aware how our province is backward in almost all the activities of public health. Our conservancy is in a hopeless state. Our water-supply schemes are inadequate. Drainage works are yet to be undertaken in several of the important cities of this province. Housing conditions are hopeless. The Hon. Minister himself said that the Public Health staff are not enough to tackle the problems that come up before the Government again and again. We find from time to time that people are becoming victims of plague and cholera. Why, Sir? Plague is there because people live in unhealthy quarters. Water-borne diseases prevail in the province because you do not have proper water-supply schemes. The Hon. Minister himself said that the district boards and local bodies are not co-operating with the Government in tackling these problems. How can these local bodies and district boards co-operate with the Government? Most of these district boards including the Corporation of the City of Madras have become superannuated. I do not know really when these councils are going to go out. I think that the present members of these bodies will cease to be members only due to natural causes.

" Taking the City of Madras into consideration Mr. Satyamurti's ' City beautiful ' still remains a dream. Let us not think about the broad thoroughfares like the Mount Road, or the Marina which

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is nothing but a gift given by nature. When we go to the streets, and by-lanes of the city, we find they are not properly attended to. What they call dust-bins, are nothing but permanent places where dirt and disease prevail. Therefore the Government should take it into their heads to remove these superannuated bodies and see that elections take place so that new blood may be put into these councils and people who come in may tackle these problems. Therefore I say if you want to do something really good to the province, you must at once order fresh elections for the district boards and municipalities. With regard to the City Corporation, what is it that we see. We see only Mayoral pageantry and Mayoral banquets. They are only trying to name streets after the names of great leaders of the country. These names are given to the streets where toddy-shops still exist and where corruption is going on. They are simply finding jobs for their own relatives. These are the activities of the councillors and equally of the members of district boards and municipalities. I know, Sir, that several hon. Members here who happen to be members of these district boards and councils may not agree with several of my remarks. I think they will at least agree with me that the members of the district boards are superannuated and they are unfit to look after the public health of this Province. (An hon. Member: 'Question.')

"Take the question of water supply. After all, people should get good water to drink. It is one of the necessities of life. The Government should provide people with water for drinking purposes. If the Government are not able to do so, I ask the Government, why exist. Cannot the Government find out simple methods? Have you ever investigated the question about the subterranean sources of water and told people here is water; dig your wells here and take water. I say this province is a province of tanks and wells. You are not attending to these tanks and wells. I know you have got perennial rivers like Godavari, Kistna, Cauveri and Tambraparani. These rivers supply water to a few areas. Even the water of these rivers are not healthy for drinking purposes. The Government should examine these waters from year to year. No such examination is undertaken and people are allowed to drink unhealthy water. They become victims of plague and other diseases like cholera. For the last two years we have been fighting on the floor of this very House and questions have been put by several hon. Members as to what steps the Government are taking to prevent cholera, malaria, etc., occurring in the villages, and in districts. This will stand as a stigma to the present administration of this province. Therefore I must say that the whole Government and the Cabinet should go into this question and see that enough money is given to the Public Health Department so that people can live healthily. There is the proverb, health is wealth. It is more than wealth. This proverb is not intended to be taught only in our class rooms. The basis of economic prosperity of cultural advancement and of the social progress of our country is the health of people. Therefore it is not surprising that in countries like America, emphasis is laid

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on health. Their great Reformer Emerson once said 'Give me health and a day; I will make the pomp of emperors ridiculous.'

"We have got independence now but the lot of people have not improved. They are suffering from disease. I would only impress upon the Hon. Minister for Public Health that he has not tackled these health problems in a serious manner. I know the Public Health Minister is a very nice gentleman. He is a man of generous and kind disposition. He is a man of high intentions. But of what avail are his generosity, his kindness and his good intentions if he is unable to make this province really healthy and progressive?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I fix five minutes for hon. Member's speeches."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—"Sir, after the eloquent speech of my hon. Friend, Mr. Majid Sahib, I do not know what to speak on this Demand. Although the Public Health Minister is a very nice gentleman he has not been able to find funds and put through all the schemes of public health though he has got the will. He was also very keen in introducing Prohibition all the same. It looks as if this is a nightmare. Every time Hon. Ministers are criticised by hon. Members for not carrying out useful schemes, they say that all the money has been taken away by the introduction of Prohibition. The programme of Prohibition could have been postponed for at least 3 or 4 years. In the meantime we might have improved the water-supply and drainage schemes in a few mufassal towns. Since you are not allowing me much time, I shall confine myself to the Report of the Committee of Water-supply and Drainage schemes presided over by Mr. Kaleswara Rao. I have read the report circulated to hon. Members this morning. I wish to say a few words on this report. The amount of money that is provided for in the Budget and the purposes for which they are ear-marked are the ones that we should deal with. What are the programmes that the Government propose to take up? Some hon. Members referred to the facts that a sum of rupees one crore should be set apart for improvement of water supply and drainage schemes. What are you going to do with that Rs. 1 crore? Wherefrom are you going to get that amount? By the time you find the money, half of the population will have passed away. When this Budget was prepared, the report of this Committee was in the hands of the Members of the Cabinet. I should like to know whether the Cabinet considered this Report. Will the Hon. Minister tell us whether the elaborate report of Mr. Raman who is an expert on Public Health Engineering, was considered at all? Does it serve the purpose of the Government merely to possess good reports without giving them active consideration? I should like to have a very definite answer whether the Government considered the report or not. There was sufficient time before the Budget was framed. It was not too late then to include some of the schemes recommended by that Committee. Even now, the Government can come forward with a Supplementary Demand. Since 1937, the Government have been wasting a

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sum of Rs. 65 lakhs for rural water-supply. Are you not going to root out defective organizations? The Hon. Minister's idea seems to be to train some men in the Public Health Engineering in the Colleges of Engineering. I would like that a separate institution should be started to train Public Health Engineering staff, just like the Medical profession, where we see professors of Medical Science who are experienced in the line. The Government should provide for such an institution. I wish that the Hon. Minister will see that some effective steps are taken towards this end. He must also fix up the standard for training. In spite of there being long-established Engineering Colleges, men have not been trained specially for Public Health Engineering. The relative importance of incurring expenditure for Public Health schemes should have been considered by the Hon. Finance Minister. When he provided various sums under various heads in the Budget, he should have taken into consideration what are the important items that should be provided for the Public Health Department and what priority he should give to such schemes.

1 p.m. " I was just going to say substantial provision for rural water-supply and drainage is not there. As I have already said so many times, even places like Bezwada are suffering because the health of the town is not at all cared for and the place is stinking, and the town is absolutely filthy. Those who come actually from that town can bear testimony to what I say. Bezwada is considered to be a second rate or a third rate city and the condition of health there is far from satisfactory. It is much worse in other places. Instead of hon. Members crying hoarse here every time that money is not available for many useful items of expenditure, I would respectfully say to the Government ' You have plumped for Prohibition; take the consequence ' and to the people ' you have plumped for a Congress Government and suffer the consequence of that '."

* Sri N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, our grievances are too many and to try to enumerate them will be fruitless. Repeatedly we have been crying in this Assembly that Government should look after this urgent need but it is all a cry in the wilderness. Drinking water-supply, drainage, provision of hospital and maternity—in fact everything is bad. If anything is good, and only some things are bad, there will be use in pointing out that such and such a thing is bad and it should be rectified. Now, everything is bad, and repeatedly it has been pointed out to the Government.

" Sir, I would like to refer particularly to the hospital at Anantapur. It is not fit for operations. There are mosquitoes all round and there is very little space within the hospital. There are only very few beds in the general ward. There is no X-ray apparatus either.

" Then, Sir, about public health, the first thing that is most necessary is rural water-supply. In many of the villages in the Anantapur district they are not able to get drinking water. I have been complaining that in the villages in Kalyanapur taluk the

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people are getting their drinking water from several miles away. In Penukonda town water is purchased. As you all know we come from a famine-stricken area where we depend on Government gratuity and relief works. In such an area if Government are not able to supply drinking water free of charge, it does really no credit to this Government.

" I also see that for rural water-supply a crore of rupees is granted. I say that if that amount is to be spent it cannot be divided between districts equally. In Kistna, Tanjore and other places rural water-supply is not necessary because if a man digs a few feet down the earth he can easily get water whereas in Anantapur and other places, it is very difficult to get water even if you go hundreds of feet down the earth. When such is the case, if we want to get on with the one crore of rupees that has been granted and if that amount has been made available it may be spent in hilly taluks of Rayalaseema. But now I would like the Hon. Minister for Public Health to visit my place and see how the hospital works there. I would urge upon him the necessity of bringing this hospital to the level of a district headquarter hospital.

" Sir, there is no medical aid in many places in my district for hundreds of miles, and it is ridiculous that people should die like flies during times of epidemic. There is only one Tuberculosis sanatorium and it is run by a missionary institution. Persons belonging to one particular community alone, i.e., the rich can get accommodation in the hospital, because such people give by way of donations to these missionary hospitals and they easily get accommodation for them. Sir, the health of the poor is as much dear as the health of a rich man. Therefore I request that this Government should pay attention to this matter. It is the poor that must be accommodated first and taken care of. It is no use of hospitals existing only for the rich. It is only the poor that want the hospitals. If local bodies or municipalities cannot afford to spend for establishing such institutions, it is the duty of the Government to see that such hospitals and institutions are made use of for the poor by giving them grants.

" I request the Government to concentrate their attention on this one matter at least, i.e., rural water-supply and see that something is done in our district. If at least one reform is introduced in our district, we shall feel very happy that something practical has been done."

* Sri PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" Mr. Speaker, it is very difficult to speak on this subject within five minutes.

" The Hon. the Public Health Minister has put his demand for a meagre sum of Rs. 82 lakhs and odd. You have also reduced our time limit to 5 minutes. In India we have got a very high death rate and less expectation of life. There are no health conditions in existence. Knowing this full well, it is strange that a popular Government has gone to the extent of reducing this grant and allotting this meagre amount under this Demand. On the other

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hand we find a very high figure under Police Demand. It is now clear that this year the Government perhaps want the people of this Province not to expect any benefit from the existence of the Public Health Department. I do not want to go in detail into the way in which the Health Officers are working, particularly Government Health Officers and how they have neglected to look after the condition of the working classes. No habitable quarters are there for them, no light and no latrines for them. Nobody is looking after their welfare. Now that they have reduced the allotment, it is very doubtful whether these working classes will get anything at all.

"Another point which I would like to refer to is about the Municipal workers, i.e., the health staff and the conservancy staff. Their wages are very low, i.e., from Rs. 8 to 12 and their dearness allowance is Rs. 16. Even though the Government have raised the salaries of the Non-Gazetted Officers by a nominal sum of Rs. 2 or 3, even that has not been granted to these poor Municipal workers. Till now they have not come to any decision with regard to the raising of salaries of Corporation and Municipal workers. The Corporation workers have given strike notice and municipal workers also may follow suit. If Government are earnest that the condition of the working classes of the Corporation and Municipalities is to be improved, I would ask the Government to see that the demands of these people are satisfactorily met. There is no use of saying afterwards that the communists have induced them to go on strike. Even at this stage, I would request the hon. Minister to take up this matter very seriously and see that something is done to the Corporation and Municipal workers.

"There is one other thing to which I would like to refer, the Medical College at Guntur. This college was about to be scrapped away last year and we complained that it was rather ill-equipped."

MR. SPEAKER:—"When the Medical Demand comes the hon. Member can speak about this."

*SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I just wanted to bring to the notice of the Government that we require more doctors and that the existence of the Medical college at Guntur was essential.

"One word more with regard to the work done by the Panchayat Boards. If you go into the villages, you will find that these Panchayat Boards are formed even though an order for cancelling them was issued long ago. But after they are formed, they never care for the health or safety of the village people and they go on in their own way. So, I would request the Government to see that these Panchayats work efficiently and do something for the health and safety of the rural people."

SRI P. KAKKAN:—"கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, பொது சுகாதாரத்திற்காக கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கொண்டு வந்திருக்கும் மான்யத்தை ஆதரித்து சில வார்த்தைகளைப் பேச விரும்புகிறேன். சுகாதாரத்தில் நாம் முன்னுல் செய்துகொள்வது குடி தண்ணீர், சாக்கடை இவைகளுக்கு முக்கியமான வசதிகள் செய்துகொள்வதுதான். குறிப்பாக

16th March 1948] [Sri P. Kakkan]

கிராமங்களில் முக்கியமாக தண்ணீர் குடிப்பதற்கு தகுந்த ஏற்பாடுகள் செய்யவில்லை. இந்தக் குற்றம் அதிகமாக இருக்கிறது. குறிப்பாக ஹரி ஜனங்கள் இருக்கும் இடத்தில் அந்தக் காலத்தில் தகராறுகளினுல் கிணறு வெட்டப்பட்டது கிடையாது. இப்பொழுது சர்க்காரே கட்டாயமாக வெட்டு கிறேரும் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அப்படிச் சொல்லியும் கிணறுகள் வெட்டுவது கிடையாது. வருஷத்திற்கு 6, 7 கிணறுகள் வெட்டுகிறேரும் என்று சொல்லியும் ஒன்றும் செய்யவில்லை. கிராமாந்திரங்களில் தண்ணீருக்கு கஷ்டப்படுவதால் காலரா அதிகமாக வருகிறது. அம்மை வருகிறது. பிளேக் வருகிறது. நான் சொல்லுகிறமாதிரி தண்ணீர் வசதிக்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்திருந்தால் காலரா வராது. என்னுடைய தாலூகாவில் தண்ணீர் வசதி இல்லாததால் நூற்றுக் கணக்கானவர்கள் காலராவினுல் செத்திருக்கிறார்கள். மதுரையிலும் காலராவினுல் அங்கங்கே ஜனங்கள் செத்தார்கள். எனென்றால் தண்ணீர் வசதி கிடையாது. எத்தனை பேர்கள் செத்தார்கள் என்று அரசாங்கத்தாரை கணக்குக் கேட்டால் அந்த கணக்கை அனுப்ப ஹெல்த் இன்ஸ்பெக்டருக்கு 2, 3 மாதங்களாகிறது. ஜில்லா போர்டும் இதே நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். ஹெல்த் இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்கள் 2, 3 மாதம் என்ன வேலை செய்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள், எத்தனை கிணறுகள் வெட்டி இருக்கிறார்கள் என்று அவர்களை கணக்கு எடுத்து ஸ்டேட்மெண்டு கேட்கவேண்டும். இன்னும் அவர்கள் ஹெல்த் சம்பந்தமாக பிரசாரம் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று இருக்கிறது. அவர்கள் எங்கு சென்றார்கள் என்ன பிரசாரம் செய்தார்கள் என்று கணக்கு கேட்கவேண்டும். ஹெல்த் ஆபீஸர்களும் என்ன பிரசாரம் செய்தார்கள் எந்தக்காலத்தில் செய்தார்கள் என்று கணக்கு கேட்க வேண்டும். எந்த இடங்களில் செய்தார்கள் என்றும் கேட்கவேண்டும். ஆனல் தாலூகா கமிட்டி இருந்த காலத்தில் பிரசாரம் செய்தார்கள். இன்றைக்கு செய்யவில்லை. இவைகளை கிராமங்களில் சினிமா மூலமாகவும் மாஜிக் லாண்டர்ன் மூலமாகவும் பிரசாரம் செய்யவேண்டும். எந்த முறையில் சுத்தமாக இருக்க வேண்டுமென்று பிரசாரம் செய்கிறேமோ அந்த முறையில் சுத்தமாக இருப்பார்கள். சினிமாக்களை கொண்டுபோய் கிராமங்களில் சுகாதாரத்தை போதிக்க வேண்டும். இன்னும், சிறு சிறு புஸ்தகங்களை எளிய நடையில் எழுதி காலராவைத் தடுப்பது முதலிய வைகளை எழுதி அவைகளை கிராமங்களில் வைத்து பிரசாரம் செய்து வாங்கிப் படிக்கும்படி செய்தால் சுகாதாரத்தை அறிந்துகொள்வார்கள். இதை சர்க்கார் உடனடியாகச் செய்யவேண்டும்.

"குறிப்பாக ஹரி ஜனங்கள் வசிக்கும் இடங்களில் எல்லாம் ஊழலாக இருக்கிறது. அந்த இடம் சுகாதாரமாக இருக்கிறதா வென்று தாசில்தார்களோ அதிகாரிகளோ வந்து பார்ப்பது கிடையாது. ஹரி ஜனங்களுக்கு இடம் வேண்டுமென்றால் குப்பையாக இருக்கும் இடத்தில் ஜாரி செய்து விடுகிறார்கள். அவர்களை அந்த இடங்களில் வந்து பார்ப்பதும் கிடையாது. கேட்பதும் கிடையாது. ஆனல் ரிப்போர்ட்டைப் பார்த்தால் போனதாக இருக்கும். ட்ராவலிங் அலவன்ஸ் கிளெய்ம் பண்ணுகிறார்கள். போவது கிடையாது. எத்தனை ஊர்களை சுற்றிப் பார்த்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்று கேட்கவேண்டும். ஹெல்த் இன்ஸ்பெக்டர் இந்தக் காரில் போனல் அடுத்த காரில் வீட்டுக்கு வந்து விடுகிறார். இன்னும் இந்த ஹெல்த் இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்களும் ஆபீஸர்களும் ஆபிஸுக்கு போவது கிடையாது. என்னுடைய வீட்டுக்கு கீழ் வீட்டில் ஒரு ஹெல்த் இன்ஸ்பெக்டர் இருக்கிறார். அவர் ஆபீஸுக்குப் போவது இல்லை. அவர்கள் ஆபீஸுக்குப் போனல்தானே மக்கள் சுகாதாரத்தைப் பற்றி புகார் சொல்ல வருவார்கள் என்றுதான் ஆபீஸுக்குப் போவது இல்லை. இதை சர்க்கார் கவனிக்க வேண்டும். ஒரே ஒரு விஷயம். ஹரி ஜனங்களுக்கு பொது சுகாதாரத்தின்படி திட்டம் போட்டு வீடு கட்டவேண்டும். இப்பொழுது ஹரி ஜனங்கள் குடியிருக்கும் இடங்களில் குப்பைதொட்டியைப் போட்டு குப்பை கொட்டுகிறார்கள். இதை நிச்சயமாக கவனிக்க வேண்டும். ஹரி ஜனங்களுக்கு குப்பை தொட்டி கக்கூஸ் இவைகள் இருக்கும் இடங்களில் வீடு கொடுக்கக் கூடாது. அப்படி அவர்கள் இருக்கும் இடங்களிலும் குப்பைகளை போடக்கூடாது என்று ஒரு சர்க்குலர் விட வேண்டும் என்று பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டுக்கு சொல்லவேண்டும். தூரத்தில் கொட்டும்படியாக சொல்ல வேண்டும். அல்லது ஜாதி ஹிந்துக்கள் வீட்

மிற்குப் பக்கத்தில் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு வீடுகள் கட்டிக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். இவைகளைச்செய்து அவர்கள் சுகாதாரமாக இருக்கும்படியாகச் செய்ய வேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக் கொண்டு நான் முடித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

1-15 p.m. * THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to the several Members who have spoken and made helpful suggestions and also reasonable criticisms. My hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan who moved the cut motion and others who have followed him have stressed the need for more funds for Public Health and for the installation of water-supply and drainage schemes in as many places as possible. They have pointed out the necessity for implementing as early as possible the recommendations of the Water-supply and Drainage Committee. One or two members have been vehement in their criticism which reminded me of what Mr. Bernard Shaw said on an occasion: 'It is always necessary to overstate a case startlingly to make people sit up and listen to it and to frighten them into acting upon it.' He said, 'I did this habitually and deliberately.' It is for some such consideration, I believe that those hon. Members have been rather vehement. But I do welcome the helpful criticisms that have been offered and the useful suggestions that have been made

" Sir, one of the hon. Members said that regarding finance, I made a complaint that sufficient money is not allotted for the Public Health Demand. I know, Sir, that the financial resources of the Government are limited. We have to work towards the ideal of a prosperous, literate and healthy Province. In order to do this, we have to increase agricultural production; we have to develop industries; we have to extend compulsory education; and we have to expand our Health Services. The needs to be met, are many and they are vital and very urgent. But the resources available to us, both in respect of money and men, are so limited that we are beset with the problem of priorities. Some people say that education must have priority because without education, we cannot make any progress in any direction. Others will say that agriculture must have precedence over everything else because we must eat before we think of anything else. Those who are interested in Public Health will say that public health must be given first attention and any expenditure of money in improving the nation's health is a sound economic proposition. The Bhore Committee have said, 'It is a giltedged investment which will yield not deferred dividend but immediate return in increased productive capacity.' The strength of the Police Force has a special claim at the present moment and it has made a large demand on our finances. The demand for increased wages and allowances also has its own justification in view of the increase in prices. All these demands are competing for a share of the available money of the Government and some order of allocation of funds between these several demands is necessary. As Mr. Griffiths said on the occasion of the Budget Demand in the Central Assembly, 'The most difficult of all the problems in the country today, is the problem of priorities.' Health cannot be treated as an isolated item. Health, education and agricultural production are interrelated to each other. The public health policy, if it is to be successful, must be well planned and it must be

broadbased on increased food production and better education to the people. Particularly, better health, education—these are as important as expansion of Health Services. The Housing Programme which the Hon. Minister for Prohibition has launched, if it could be extended on a sufficiently large scale, will help to ensure better conditions of living for the people. My hon. Friend Mr. Natesan has spoken about Prohibition.

" Sir, Prohibition, I venture to say, may be taken as a part of the general health programme. Alcohol in excessive quantity has a deleterious effect on liver and other organs of the human body. If alcohol is taken to the point of intoxication even occasionally, it is not without its harmful effects. Apart from the direct effect it has on a habitual drinker, it has an indirect effect on the dependants of drinkers, if reduced or avoided in that it makes more money available for food and other necessities of life.

" Sir, regarding water-supply and drainage, about which many hon. Members have drawn attention to the needs in their own places like Calicut, Madura and so on, I do grant—I have already said so yesterday while presenting this Demand—that the water-supply and drainage are two of the basic necessities for the improvement of public health. We often have so many questions in this House about cholera. Cholera, as hon. Members are aware, is mostly prevalent in places where irrigation channels run by the side of the villages. This channel water which is used for drinking purposes, is contaminated. I do recognize that if we have an effective drainage system in all our big towns and cities and larger villages also, we can effectively combat the problems of malaria and filariasis. We have now thirty-seven water-supply and drainage schemes. Four schemes are about to be started, six schemes are awaiting sanction and sixteen more schemes are programmed to be taken up in the year 1948–49. As I said yesterday, there are certain difficulties in the way of our making rapid progress in executing water-supply schemes—difficulties regarding materials like cast iron pipes which have to be imported from abroad and difficulties about giving sufficient technical personnel. In order to organize a separate technical department for this work we have to institute a Degree of Public Health Engineering at the Engineering Colleges in Madras and we shall also have to send men for a a shorter course of training at the All-India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health in Calcutta. One of the hon. Members asked, why the Water-supply and Drainage Committee's Report was not considered before the budget was framed? Hon. Members are aware that copies of this Report were printed and distributed not only to the Members of the Legislature but also to several other people who are interested in this question of water-supply and drainage. As many as three thousand copies have been printed and they are available for sale. Suggestions from the public were invited and time was given up to the end of February. Many suggestions have been received and all these suggestions will have to be carefully examined in the light of the recommendations of the Water-supply and Drainage Committee. There are many other matters about which hon. Members have spoken, for instance, Anti-malarial

work was mentioned. We have twenty anti-malarial schemes in operation at present. Six new schemes are awaiting to be sanctioned. We have been able to combat malaria successfully in the places where anti-malarial schemes have been introduced. For instance in the Araku Valley and in the Wynad Colonization places and in Pattukkottai—as a result of the anti-malarial operations carried on there, we have been able to reduce the incidence of malaria and bring down the spleen rates considerably. Rural malaria has been effectively combated by the newer methods of spraying D.D.T. and by the use of the new and effective anti-malarial drugs which are now available. Training courses have been started for training health officers and health inspectors in Anti-malarial work in Madras and at the regional malarial organizations. My friend Mr. Sanjeeva Reddi spoke about the difficulties of drinking water-supply facilities in Rayalaseema. The Revenue Board have issued instructions to Collectors to pay particular attention to the execution of well works in all the Ceded districts and launch an intensive drive for this purpose. Special additional allotments are granted for water-supply in these areas as and when they become necessary. My hon. Friend Mr. N. M. R. Subbaraman as well as the hon. Dr. Ramachandra Rao have drawn attention to the necessity for emphasising preventive work and have pointed out how diseases have been eliminated in most of the Western countries. I know, sir, that in countries like Great Britain, many of the epidemic diseases have been conquered. The death rate has been reduced and the span of life has been raised by several years by improved sanitary conditions. The time has come to give increased attention to preventive measures in this country also. With the limited staff and funds that are available to us, more lasting and effective results can be achieved by creating conditions of healthful living rather than by merely concentrating on extending medical relief by establishing more hospitals and dispensaries. The Bhore Committee in their report have recommended that one preventive aspect of medicine should be stressed in the teaching of every subject throughout the clinical course. They have recommended that the Department of Dietetics should be started in large hospitals and trained dieteticians should be employed in such hospitals. The Medical Education Committee has drawn attention to the importance of giving longer training, viz., fifteen months' training to house surgeons and house physicians and it wants the last three months of this training to be made practical field training in a public health unit. The new post-war reconstruction scheme for primary health centres is also a stage in the direction of combining preventive and curative work.

" Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Hussain has drawn attention to the necessity for having increased propaganda and publicity in matters of health so as to make the people more health-conscious. I do recognize that there is grater necessity for developing the publicity campaign in regard to health."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" If the Hon. Minister wants to continue his speech after lunch, he can do so. But on the other hand if he wishes to finish it in one or two minutes, I have no objection."

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY:—" Sir. I will finish in one or two minutes.

" Sir, the Public Health Department have been doing propa- 1.30 p.m.
ganda and publicity by means of lectures, cinema shows, health dramas, exhibitions, posters, celebration of Health and Baby week and so on. It is necessary that we should carry the message of health to every village and secure the full and hearty co-operation of the people in the matter of improvement of public health. Seven propaganda vans have recently been allotted to the Public Health Department and the Civil Supplies Department have also replaced four of the chassis taken over by them some time ago.

" Sir, there are several other matters to be mentioned. I have not been able to answer the members regarding all the points raised by them but I may tell them that all the points which they have urged will be taken note of by me. The work of the improvement of public health will be carried on to the extent that the limited funds at the disposal of this department and the staff available for the purpose permit such work to be done. I therefore request the hon. Member who moved the cut motion to withdraw it."

Begum Sultan MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" What about women medical officers? "

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, wishing every prosperity and better luck to my hon. Friend, the Minister for Public Health I beg leave to withdraw the cut motion."

The cut motion was by leave of the House withdrawn.

Mr. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that Government be granted under Demand XVII a sum not exceeding Rs. 82,82,600 '."

The motion was carried and the grant was made.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 2-30 p.m.

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

DEMAND VIII—IRRIGATION.

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move that on the recommendation of the Governor—

' that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,12,86,900 *under Demand VIII—Irrigation.'*

" Sir, this demand is for expenditure other than Capital expenditure on Irrigation works. The items of expenditure may be classified under three heads. One item comprises schemes and improvements costing Rs. 66,40,300. That represents the anticipated working expenses on works productive and unproductive for which capital and revenue accounts are kept. Under this item a provision of Rs. 55,75,700 is made for maintenance and repairs of existing systems and there is a provision of Rs. 12,22,400 for extensions and improvements to the systems. Hon. Members would find included in the Budget proposals under this head as many as nine important schemes.

[Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam] [16th March 1948

"Then Sir, under the second item, the anticipated expenditure is Rs. 1,40,58,700, representing the cost of original works for which capital and revenue accounts are kept, the cost of minor irrigation works, working expenses of existing works for which capital and revenue accounts are not kept and also investigation of new projects. The estimated amount under this item which exceeds the actuals for 1946–47 and the revised estimate for 1947–48 provides for a number of improvement works, such as:

(1) the formation of a new tank in Mogalicherla village in Nellore district;

(2) restoration of Beeraperu cheruvu in Chittoor district;

(3) restoration of Ponneri tank in Trichinopoly district;

(4) restoration of Thalai Anai Dam across the Palayar in Tinnevelly district;

(5) excavation of a supply channel from Boggeru Bhimavaram tank, Udayagiri taluk in Nellore district;

(6) construction of an anicut across the Shiriyar river in South Kanara district; and

(7) completion of the detailed investigation of the Ramapadasagar Project.

"This also includes a lump sum provision of 32 lakhs for meeting the expenditure on irrigation schemes of grow more food campaign which would go to revenue account. There is also a lump sum provision of Rs. 38,00,000 that would be included under the demand for capital expenditure on irrigation. Hon. Members will note that as against this provision of 70 lakhs under these two items, I have given a list of 147 schemes districtwar which might be found in page 655 of the detailed Budget proposals. The schemes could not be included under Part II because they were not quite ready for inclusion under the financial procedure, but we do hope to get the investigations completed and other examinations also completed and take up these schemes for execution in the course of this year. Therefore, we seek approval for a lump sum provision and we have given the list of schemes which might be taken up. But I would like to point out that that list is not quite exhaustive and we might add other schemes too and we have been seeing that particularly districts which were neglected and which were poor in irrigation sources should be given necessary attention. This item also includes a token provision of Rs. 100 for the revival of the Tank Restoration Scheme operations. Under the three items, the estmated expenditure is Rs. 5,87,900 for capital outlay on works which are productive and unproductive and are financed from ordinary revenues. The main provision under this item which also exceeded the actuals for 1946–47 and the revised estimates for 1947–48 are: Extension of the Vadlur-Tetali channel in the Godavari delta, extension of irrigation to about 874 acres in Komaragiripatnam village, Amalapur taluk in East Godavari. construction of an anicut across the Cheyyar river at the head of Uttiramerur tank supply channel Chingleput district and Peddakandaleru project in the Guntur district. The total estimate for

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these works is based on the anticipated requirements. As I have pointed out, items of work which we propose to take up in the course of the year and other items of expenditure which we expect to incur on the irrigation works come under the demand for capital expenditure on works which would come to Rs. 3,72,98,400. This serious food shortage from which we have been suffering has compelled the Government to give a very high priority for irrigation. Whatever has been the past policy in the matter of taking up and sanctioning new schemes of irrigation development, we are quite alive to this serious deficit in food to the extent of 2 million tons of rice. Perhaps by 1951 for the then population we might have to find food to the extent of 2½ million tons of rice and for securing self-sufficiency in the matter of food we have to bring under cultivation four to five million acres afresh. Therefore, Sir, there is no question that any expenditure on useful irrigation sources should be accepted without any hesitation, but in the matter of finding new irrigation sources and in creating new resources we have to go necessarily through a process of investigation. We have to spend large amounts of money and we cannot commit the Government to such items of expenditure, unless the Government are satisfied that the expenditure that would be incurred would be worthwhile. Formerly, several useful schemes, which we now propose to take up, were given up because according to the standards then set up they would not yield a minimum return of revenue. But, although we may not insist on such minimum returns, we have to see whether the scheme is feasible and profitable from several points of view. We have to see, for instance, whether the expenditure proposed to be incurred would be worthwhile whether such schemes would secure us the necessary results in the matter of additional production of food. We have to examine these aspects; we have also to examine whether water would be available; we have also to determine what would be the form and capacity of these various new irrigation sources which we propose to construct. Therefore, inevitably, investigations of the schemes do take some time. Any how, we have been going ahead with the investigation of schemes. Schemes may be very old and hon. Members may be quite familiar with such schemes, but still the investigation has yet to be done and we are going ahead with the investigation of the several schemes and wherever investigations have been completed, we examine the other aspects as speedily as possible and then take up the schemes for execution. We have now provided for a lump sum provision of 70 lakhs which we propose to incur under the Grow More Food schemes. Under this Demand which I have moved, we want approval for a lump sum provision of 32 lakhs. Under the capital head, we propose to take up certain other schemes and for these we seek a provision of 38 lakhs. As against that we have given a list of 147 schemes arranged districtwar and we have been trying to distribute as much as possible equitably among the districts. These 147 schemes, a list of which would be found on page 655 of the detailed Budget proposals, would ultimately cost 6 crores of rupees, but even if we should take up all those schemes, we do not expect to incur an expenditure of more than 70 lakhs in the current year.

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2-45 p.m. "In the first year of execution of irrigation works, we do not expect to incur major items of expenditure as certain preliminary things have got to be done. Therefore, we feel that this provision of 70 lakhs of rupees would be adequate for these schemes.

"A five year programme for the Grow More Food schemes has also been prepared and we have sought the approval of the Government of India who are giving their subsidies and the first year's programme has been duly approved and we have taken up the several schemes under that programme for execution. The five-year programme of Grow More Food consists of about 297 small schemes and they would cost roughly about 5 crores of rupees. If these schemes are executed about 2,50,000 acres of land would be brought under cultivation and the target fixed under the Grow More Food Scheme for five years is 50,000 tons of rice by way of additional production. The Government of India have also been stressing this and we have been trying to take up the several schemes which would produce results within a short period and it is with that view that we have framed this programme. Several hon. Members have complained that the Grow More Food Campaigns have not produced any results but I have got figures relating to the smaller schemes executed in the delta areas between 1941 to 1946 both in the Circars and in Tanjore delta which go to show that 44,03,000 acres have already been brought under cultivation but this is not sufficient and we have to go ahead as the smaller schemes alone will not secure self-sufficiency in the matter of food and therefore, we are taking major schemes too.

"As was pointed out by the Hon. Minister for Finance in his speech investigation of the Rampadasagar Project is nearing completion and certain other preliminaries have to be gone through and therefore, we could not ask for any specific provision for the execution of the Project but we do hope to go through all these preliminaries within a short time. Therefore, we ask for a token provision of Rs. 100 under this Demand VIII.

"We have also sought approval for a token provision under the Tank Restoration Scheme. Tank restoration was being attended to and it was particularly necessary for non-delta areas but in 1931, on the ground securing retrenchment and economy, tank restoration schemes were suspended. We propose to revive these schemes and take up immediately several districts which are mainly dependent upon tanks. We are examining various questions concerning the restoration of tanks; there is one main difficulty in raising the full tank level which is a legal difficulty and we propose to solve such difficulty by a comprehensive irrigation legislation to be introduced in this House before long. The Malabar Irrigation Improvements Act has removed several hurdles and we propose to acquire and take over several of these private-owned tanks. We hope to take up one major scheme and some minor schemes also in Malabar in the course of this year and the lump sum provision which has been included under this Demand covers items of expenditure in Malabar and South Kanara.

"In South Kanara we have already sanctioned the scheme called the Sheriyar scheme. It is no doubt costly costing nearly

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Rs. 1,000 per acre but still in view of the poor attention paid to that district, we have already sanctioned that scheme and there is provision for Rs. 1,50,000 for expenditure this year.

"We have also not neglected the question of drainage. We have already taken up the drainage scheme in Kistna delta area; the Romperu is under execution; the Peddalanka drain has also been sanctioned and taken up. We are also attending to the drainage difficulties in the Cauvery-Mettur delta area and a provision of 29 lakhs of rupees and odd has been made for drainage schemes in the Tanjore district.

"In the matter of financing of these several schemes, I may at the outset point out that all the productive and remunerative schemes have already been taken up and what is left is a formidable list of unproductive schemes. Because they are unproductive we cannot leave them as they have been left in the past. We have been spending crores to get food to avoid starvation and mere expenditure should not be an insurmountable difficulty in the matter of bringing more lands under cultivation. But we have also to see how we should be able to repay loans which we should have to raise for executing the several schemes. We propose to levy invariably and compulsorily a betterment fee on lands that would be brought under cultivation under the new irrigation sources. That is also under examination under the proposed comprehensive irrigation legislation. So long as the law of private property exists, the owners of lands which will be brought under cultivation who naturally stand to gain on account of the fact that the value of their lands would be raised four or five times, should not demur to a fair fee which would go towards the cost of these schemes.

"Three other major schemes are already under execution. The Tungabhadra scheme is going on and we propose to complete it according to programme. The Lower Bhavani Project has been recently sanctioned and we are attending to the preliminaries. There is the Romperu drain which is also a major scheme which is under execution.

"But one insurmountable difficulty is the shortage of staff. You could sanction the investigation; you could find the money; you could levy a betterment fee and we could make adequate arrangements for the financing of the schemes but we want men to attend to the execution of these schemes. We are facing a shortage of personnel, a shortage much more serious than the shortage of food. Several schemes are held up; investigations are held up; we sanction investigation but no men are available. We are trying to solve the question of shortage of staff to the best of our capacity. We have recently sanctioned a short-term course, the lower subordinate course and about 150 students have been admitted recently. We are also re-employing retired men so far as overseers and supervisors are concerned. We advertised also for retired men who are fit enough to take up work. We have also recently appointed failed candidates in the colleges on a lower salary allowing them

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to appear again for the examinations and on passing the examinations they would have the regular scales of pay as overseers and supervisors. That way, we are trying to solve the question of shortage of technical personnel.

" In conclusion, Sir, I want hon. Members to have the whole picture before them and look at the proposals not only under this head but also under the head Capital Expenditure."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that under Demand—VIII—Irrigation a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,12,86,900 be granted '."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—" Mr. Speaker, I move—

' that the Demand be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" I really appreciate the anxiety of the Hon. Minister for Public Works to do as much as possible for the development of irrigation in this Province and whatever suggestions, constructive no doubt, that may be placed before the House are so placed with the anxiety to help the Government. Irrigation could be divided into major irrigation schemes and minor irrigation schemes. While it is agreed that major schemes will serve the districts in a larger measure, so far as minor irrigation schemes are concerned, it should be the duty of Government as well as hon. Members to see that no district is kept in a backward position for want of sufficient attention being paid to this aspect of irrigation. It should be said to the credit of the Hon. Minister for Public Works that such major schemes like the Tungabhadra Project, the Lower Bhavani Project and one or two others have been started. The Government have done their duty particularly for the Rayalaseema which is really the black spot in our Province. It is not necessary for me to go into the condition of people there who are threatened by famine every now and then and it is perfectly right for the Government to try to finish the Tungabhadra Project as early as possible and it was very good of the Hon. Minister for Public Works to say that the work is under progress. We know that the Government is anxious to see that it is completed soon. I only ask the Hon. Minister to say how far the work has progressed and how long yet it would take for the thing to be completed. With regard to the other Project, the Ramapadasagar Project, it was very good on the part of the Department and the Hon. Minister to have given us an idea of the Project. Hon. Members would remember that a few months ago the Executive Engineer gave us a demonstration of all that is intended to be done in the Banqueting Hall. Not being engineers but mere lay men, we were able to understand and appreciate it; there is no denying the fact that it is a very huge project, if I am right the first of its kind in India. Having regard to the difficulties that may be encountered our engineers were sent to foreign countries, particularly to America to study the question there and to contact some authorities on the matter. We understood that it is a remunerative project.

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" Therefore, Sir, as was said rightly by the Hon. Minister there are certain schemes which may not be very much productive from the financial point of view, but having regard to the fact that it should be done for rice production of the province we have to do it. Although food production does not form part of this Demand, I have to say this, that all irrigation projects are done for that definite purpose. It is a well-known fact that our province is not an industrial province. But unfortunately the last four or five years have revealed that even in agriculture we are very much backward. Therefore, our aim should be to have as much of irrigation schemes as possible. I do concede the point adverted to by the Hon. Minister for Public Works that Government are there to do their duty. The only question is we cannot accept it from the financial point of view. Of course it is a difficult job to find money for alloting to each and every department, though the demands of each department may be quite right. Having regard to that fact, we have to say, that with regard to irrigation something tangible has been given. I am sure in the schemes contemplated, we have to spend some time for a proper investigation before they could be started, and I am sure, when that is over, within the next four or five years, in the matter of food problem our province as a whole will be a surplus province. Incidentally I may say out of the 24 districts in our province, it is only four or five districts which are surplus districts, and the rest are all deficit districts. So it is for the Government to see to improve the tanks, rivers and canals in the districts so that each district may be self-sufficient. In spite of all this, Madras Province as a whole may be regarded as far behind in the matter of irrigation as compared with the Punjab or the United Provinces. I am saying this subject to correction; for I do not claim to have first-hand knowledge of this. But one thing I want to say here. While Government are having major and minor irrigation works, in the United Provinces they have got what is called tube well irrigation. There are so many places where you cannot have a major or minor irrigation scheme. But on that account you cannot allow those parts to suffer for want of facilities. Throughout the United Provinces, there are possibilities of tube wells and with their aid irrigation is being done. I am sure our Government will look into this matter and see whether that is not possible in this province also. If such a thing is possible several backward areas may be made to yield foodcrops.

" I do not wish to take much time of the House. I will say something about Chittoor, my district, which I have the honour to represent. Under the Land Revenue Demand, the Hon. Revenue Minister said that justice will be done to every district. But I see very little has been done to Chittoor district. I do not wish to be very severe towards the Hon. Minister for Public Works; for sometimes it does not pay, if you are severe. So I shall be persuasive, for it always pays, so that the Hon. Minister may give something. Chittoor district cannot boast of any big irrigation schemes. But I am sure there are possibilities of several minor

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irrigation schemes. The only thing is, Government have not investigated the matter. If only right and proper investigation is made I am sure there will be any number of schemes to be carried out in Chittoor district. One thing I may say: very recently, in spite of the fertile soil of the district, the district is on the verge of famine, due to the failure of crops. There is the Swarnamukhi river. If only the waters of the river could be harnessed, that part of the district watered by that river could be made at least self-sufficient in food.

"Lastly, one word about engineering staff. In spite of the paucity of scope for engineering education our province has come forward to the front, and even with the growth of more irrigation schemes in the province, I hope we will be able to send our engineers to other parts, even outside India, where they have already earned for our province a good name. Incidentally I may say an important part of this department's work is carried out in research work, and if it does good work it really paves the way for all work being done in the right direction. I am sure Government will do well to set apart substantial sums for research work, because real success of our work depends on the research and investigation done there. I am sure Government will not ignore this aspect of the question. With these words I move the cut motion."

*SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, நீர்பாசனமானது மக்களுக்கு இன்றியமையாதது. இந்த நீர்பாசனத்திற்காக கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சிரத்தை எடுத்துக்கொண்டதற்கு நான் சந்தோஷப்படுகிறேன். தஞ்சை ஜில்லா கும்பகோணம் தாலூகா திருப்பனந்தாழுக்கு அண்மையில் பழவாறென்னும் பெரிய ஒரு ஆறு வருகிறது. அந்தப்பழவாற்றின் தொடர்புடைய சாத்தனூர் கலங்கலிலிருந்து ஒரு வாய்க்கால் புறப்பட்டு வஞ்சனூர், இளங்கானூர், மணிக்குடி, சாத்தனூர், திருமாந்துறை, திருவெள்ளியங்குடி, பால்வாக்குடி, நரிக்குடி, முட்டக்குடி முதலான ஊர்களுக்கு தண்ணீர் பாய்ந்துவருகிறது. இவ் வாய்க்காலுக்கு சாத்தனூர் வாய்க்காலென்று பெயர். இவ் வாய்க்கால் பழவாற்றிலிருந்து பிரிந்து வட கிழக்காக வருகிறது. ஆற்றுக்கு சமீபத்தில் ஆர். எஸ். நெ. 21-ல் இருக்கும் முக்கால் வட்டம் வடிகாலாயிருக்கிறது. இது சாத்தனூர் வாய்க்காலுக்கு 4 அல்லது 5 அடி பள்ளமாயிருப்பதால் சாத்தனூர் வாய்க்கால் ஜலம் இவ் முக்கால் வட்ட வடிகாலில் பாய்ந்து பழயபடி பழவாற்றிலேயே போய் சேருகிறது. தண்ணீர் அதிகம் வந்தால் வடிகாலில் போனதுபோக மீதம் தண்ணீர் வாய்க்காலில் ஆர்.எஸ். நெ. 18-லுள்ள பாசன வாய்க்கால் மிகுந்த பள்ளமாகவின் அதில் விழுந்து சாத்தனூர் வாய்க்காலில் வருவதில்லை. அதலை வஞ்சனூர், இளங்கானூர் முதலிய கிராமங்களுக்கு காலாகாலத்தில் தண்ணீர் பாயாமல் அதிக நஷ்டமுண்டாகிறது. ஆதலால் ஜலத்தை வியர்த்தமாக்கும் முக்கால் வட்டம் வடிகாலிலும் ஆர். எஸ். நெ. 18-ல் உள்ள பாசன வாய்க்காலிலும் 2 அல்லது 3 அடி உயரம் கட்டை கட்டி அக்கட்டையின்மேல் ஜலம் வழிந்துபோகும்படி செய்தால் சாத்தனூர் வாய்க்காலில் போதுமான ஜலம் வந்து எல்லா கிராமங்கட்கும் பயன் படும். ஆதலால் பள்ளமாயுள்ள இரண்டு வாய்க்கால்களிலும் கட்டைகட்டிக் கொடுக்க கனம் பாசனம் மந்திரியவர்களைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். மேலும் சாத்தனூர் வாய்க்கால் அநேக கோணலோடு வருகிறது. அதலை ஜலம் வேகமாக வர முடிவதில்லை. கோணல்களை நிவர்த்தி நேர்வாய்க்காலாக்கினால் மிகுந்த லாபம் உண்டு. மிராசுதாரர்களும் இதற்கு சம்மதிக்கிறார்கள். ஆதலால் இவ்வியஷத்தையும் கனம் மந்திரியவர்கள் கவனிக்கும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்

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ளுகிறேன். இவ்விஷயமாக அதிகாரிகளுக்கு பன்னிரண்டு தடவை மகஜர்களும் தனித்தனி மனுக்களும் அனுப்பியுள்ளார்கள். இதுவரைக்கும் அதிகாரிகள் மனுக்கள் விஷயத்தில் யாதொரு நடவடிக்கையும் எடுக்கவில்லை.

"தென்னார்க்காடு ஜில்லா, விருத்தாஜலம் தாலூகாவில் வெள்ளாற்றில் பிலாந்துறையணைக்கட்டொன்று இருக்கிறது. அதிலிருந்து பிலாந்துரை வாய்க்கால் வருகிறது. அதற்கு 3/4 மைலில் தெற்குவடக்கு புத்தூருக்குத் தண்ணீர் சப்ளைசெய்ய ஒரு டிராப்பர் கட்டியிருக்கிறார்கள். அந்த டிபாப்பர் உயரமாயிருப்பதால் தண்ணீர் வழிந்து விழுந்து அதிலுள்ள மணலை அடித்துக்கொண்டுபோய் பள்ளமாய் இருப்பதால் மேலே பாயவேண்டிய ஊர்களாகிய ஆனந்தகுடி, வேட்டகுடி, இராஜேந்திரபட்டணம், முதலிய வற்றின் மதகுகளுக்கு தண்ணீர் சரியாக சப்ளை செய்வதில்லை. ஆனந்தகுடி இடத்தில் கிரேட்வால் கட்டி இருக்கிறார்கள். அங்கிருந்து தண்ணீர் வருவது இல்லை. ஆதலால் மேற்படி பிலாந்துரை வாய்க்காலுக்குத் தண்ணீர் வராமல் மார்கழி மாதமே குணமங்கலம் வரி காய்ந்துவிட்டது. குணமங்கலம் எரியின் கீழ் எனக்கு 52 எக்கர் நஞ்சை நிலங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. சென்ற ஆண்டில் சர்க்காருக்கு சுமார் 400 மூட்டைகள் நெல் கொடுத்தேன். இந்த வருஷம் தண்ணீர் வராமல் பஞ்சமாகிவிட்டபடியால் 60 மூட்டை நெல் கொடுக்கமுடியவில்லை. அப்படித்தான் பல கிராமத்தார்களும் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். பிலாந்துரை அணைக்கட்டிலிருந்து எல்லா கிராமங்களுக்கும் கிரமமாக தண்ணீர் பாயும்படி சப்-டிவிஷனல் இஞ்சினீயரும் ஜில்லா எக்ஸிக்யூடிவ் இஞ்சினீயரும் ஸ்தலத்திற்கு சென்று தீர்க்கமாக சிந்தித்து எல்லா மதகுகளிலும் தண்ணீர் பாயத்தக்கபடி ஏற்பாடு செய்யும்படி மந்திரியவர்களைக் கேட்டுக்கொண்டு வெட்டுப்பிரேரேபணையை ஆதரிக்கிறேன்."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the sum of Rs. 2,12,86,900 under "Irrigation" be reduced by Rs. 100'."

*N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to speak in support of the cut motion. First of all I have to congratulate the Hon. Minister for Public Works for the indication which he has made in the course of his speech with regard to the comprehensive irrigation legislation which he expects to introduce in this House soon. Mr. Speaker, our country which lives practically on agriculture must only look to the Hon. Minister for Public Works for it, for he holds the master key to the situation, his portfolio of irrigation and electricity. It is through irrigation and electricity schemes that the ryot can expect salvation; not so much from zamindari legislation which is almost now coming to a close as an established fact. I was listening to certain schemes, major and minor, to which he was referring in the course of his speech and I was really happy to see that certain parts of our province will very soon get the blessings of such schemes. Ramapadasagar scheme, I understand, is nearing completion with regard to investigation. Equally so, Tungabhadra and the lower Bhavani schemes. But I was wondering where comes in the Palar (Laughter) in all his schemes. I was expecting for a ray of hope when he touched on the lump sum provision which is being ear-marked for a catalogue of schemes, major and minor. But I really would like to know particularly when he has kept before us a very laudable ideal, that every scheme

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will be put through from the standpoint as how best it may yield us food. I am glad of it, for there can be no two opinions with regard to this ideal.

3-15 p.m. "In a country where we have yet to meet the shortage of food, there cannot be a greater ideal than to see that the irrigation schemes are correlated to the fundamental requisite of Grow More Food. Speaking from that standpoint, I urge that even schemes which may be unproductive from the financial point of view should be executed if only such schemes can bring more land under cultivation and add to the sum-total of our food production. In a province bordering on crisis where we are expected to face the ordeal of famine in the months to come, I cannot but reiterate with full vigour the demand for the Palar scheme. My district and many districts round about North Arcot look to the Palar scheme as the only salvation for being freed from the spectre of famine. Year after year we have been passing through deficits and every time we have been thrown to the small mercies of the neighbouring districts. At least this food crisis, which is appearing in all its serious proportions now, should re-awaken the Government to the utter necessity of putting through the Palar Scheme. I know that it has a long history behind it. Only recently the Hon. Minister said that he would go into that history and see that the scheme was pushed through as early as possible. I wonder whether he has applied his serious mind to it for, if only he had done that, that scheme should have been given the highest priority. That would immediately solve many problems in my district.

"There are also one or two urgent problems connected with to the Palar Scheme. We want bridges to be built over the Palar in many parts the absence of which is denying easy marketing facilities for our agricultural produce, and North Arcot lies within the sugarcane belt area. We are put to serious hardship because the river cuts through my district and cuts through so many other districts and renders marketing difficult for many months.

"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad that the irrigation schemes which the Hon. Minister for Public Works has on hand will add to our foodcrop.

"I now turn to minor irrigation schemes. The Hon. Minister for Public Works referred to certain tanks. Not only through major schemes but even through certain very ordinary and elementary measures, the Government can increase our crop cultivation. In my district there is a particular taluk to which the Hon. Minister made a visit recently. I speak of Visharam where we have got a wonderful area known as Nowlakh. If only the Government bestow their serious thought and set water diviners at work, that area can be brought under cultivation. That area is supposed to possess plenty of water sources. Here I am reminded of the proverb: 'God made the country and man made the town.' God has given many hidden sources of water. It is only left to the Hon. Minister for Public Works to discover such hidden sources and put them to the best advantage by harnessing

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them to ever so many irrigation schemes. I have got only to add my word in support of what Mr. Raza Khan said regarding the tube wells scheme of the United Provinces. Alongside these measures, electricity should be extended. Particularly in my district, electricity has not penetrated very deep. In Gudiyatham taluk and round about my village Valattur, we have been struggling to get electricity extended. We have not yet been fortunate enough to see such extension. Since the Hon. Minister for Public Works is in charge of electricity also, I am sure that he will extend the boon of electricity in the interest of our agriculture.

"Mr. Speaker, I am glad that in connexion with the irrigation legislation, the Hon. Minister is thinking of ways and means to levy a betterment fee. I think every section of this House will give the warmest support to the proposal. We do not mind the imposition of this tax or that so long as we know that our districts will be freed from the menace of starvation and terrible famine which have made their periodic visits to many parts of our province."

MR. SPEAKER:—"As many as 17 members on the Ministerial side want to take part in this debate. So I fix three hours for this demand. The House will rise at 5 o'clock and continue the debate tomorrow."

SRI K. K. SUBBANNA GOUNDER:—"கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கொண்டுவந்த இந்த மான்யத்தை ஆதரிக்கும் முறையில் ஒரு சில வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். நம் நாடு இப்பொழுது முக்யமாக உணவு பிரச்னையால் பாதிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதற்காக எவ்வளவோ கவனிக்கவேண்டியதில் நீர்பாசனமானது எல்லாவற்றைக்காட்டிலும் இன்னும் அதிகம் கவனிக்க வேண்டிய விஷயம். அதற்காக கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் பெரிய திட்டங்களையும் சிறிய திட்டங்களையும் கொண்டுவந்திருப்பது பாராட்டத்தக்கது. அதிலும் தமிழ் நாட்டில் வெகுகாலமாக பேசப்பட்டுவந்த கீழ்பவானி திட்டத்தை அவர்கள் இந்த வருஷத்தில் ஆரம்பித்து வருகிற வருஷத்தில் தீவிரமாக நடத்த ஏற்பாடு செய்வது மிகவும் போற்றக்கூடிய விஷயம். என்னுடைய சிறிய அனுபவத்தை அது சம்மந்தமாக அவருக்குச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். கீழ்பவானி திட்டத்தில் கொண்டுவந்திருக்கும் இரண்டு லட்சம் ஏழாயிரம் எக்கர் பாசனத்தில் ஒரு பகுதி பருத்தியும் ஒரு பகுதி புஞ்சை தான்யமும் சாகுபடி செய்வதாக திட்டம் இருக்கிறது. இந்த திட்டத்தை பரீட்சையாக பார்த்தால் திருப்தியாக இராது. என்னுடைய அனுபவத்தைக் கேட்டால் பருத்திதான் வெற்றிகரமாக இருக்கும் என்று சொல்வேன். ஆனால் புஞ்சை தான்யம் பொறுத்தவரையில் அவ்வளவு திருப்தியாக இராது. அதுமுழுவதும் வராது என்பது என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயம். புஞ்சை வெள்ளாமை சாகுபடி செய்தால் சரியாக வருவது இல்லை. பரீட்சை பார்த்ததில் வெற்றிகரமாக இருக்கிறது என்று ரிப்போர்ட்டு வந்திருக்கும். ஆனால் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் எங்களுடைய ஊருக்கு வந்து நேரடியாகப் பார்த்தால் அது வெற்றிகரமாக வந்திருக்கிறது வாவில்லை என்பது தெரியும். ஆகையால் அவைகளை நஞ்சைக்கு கொடுத்தால் சௌகர்யமாக இருக்கும் புஞ்சைக்குக் கொடுத்தால் நஷ்டமாகிவிடும். அதை கவனித்து கவர்ன்மெண்டார் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"அடுத்தபடியாக என்னுடைய சொந்த ஊராகிய கோபிசெட்டிபாளையத்தில் கொடிவேரி அணைக்கட்டு இருக்கிறது. அதற்கு falling shutters கட்டுவதற்கு இந்த வருஷம் estimate போடப்பட்டு வேலை செய்யவேண்டு

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மென்று சர்க்கார் உத்திரவு வந்திருக்கிறது. ஆனல் இதுவரைக்கும் அந்த வேலை முடியும் என்று நமபிக்கை இல்லை. வருகிற ஜூன் மாதத்தில் ஆற்றில் வெள்ளம் வந்துவிடும். அதற்குள்ளாக செய்து முடித்தால் அதற்கு சிலவு ரூ. 1,000 தான் ஆகும். Falling shutters போட்டுக் கொடுத்தால் உணவு பிரச்னையை தீர்க்க ரொம்ப தூரம் உபயோகப் படுத்த முடியும். Falling shutters போட்டுக் கொடுத்தால் சுமார் 20,000 எக்கர் நிலத்தை இருபோக சாகுபடி செய்ய வசதி இருக்கும். 10,000 டன் தான்யத்தை இந்த வருஷம் அதிகமாக உற்பத்தி செய்யலாம். ஆகையால் இந்த வருஷம் ஜூன் மாதத்திற்குள்ளாகவே அந்த falling shutters போடும் விஷயத்தை முடிததுக் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"அதே மாதிரியாக இன்னும் ஒரு Grant கூகலூர் வாய்க்கால் எக்ஸ்டென்ஷனுக்கு கொடுத்தார்கள். அதுவும் இந்த வருஷத்தில் வேலை செய்யப்படவில்லை. இம்மாதிரி பல இடங்களில் பணம் ஒதுக்கியும் வேலைகளைச் செய்யாமல் நன்றுவிடுகிறது. பூர்ணமாக கொடுக்கும்படியான தொகை அவ்வளவையும், சிலவு செய்யவேண்டும் அதோடுகூட என் னுடைய தொகுதியில் மலைப்பிரதேசமாகிய கொள்ளேகாலத்தை யாரும் வந்து பார்த்திருக்கமாட்டார்கள். அங்கே நீர்ப்பாசன வசதி இல்லை. அடிக்கடி சொல்லியும் ஒன்றும் இன்னும் செய்யவில்லை. அங்கே இரண்டு திட்டங்கள் குண்டல் நதி, தொட்டஹல்லா இரண்டிலும் அணைகள் கட்டலாம் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அங்கே சிறு சிறு அணைகள் கட்டும்பட்சத்தில் பல இடங்கள் சாகுபடிக்கு வசதியாக இருக்கும். அதை investigate செய்து முடிவுகள் செய்யவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. பவானி தாலூகா நீர் பாசனக்குறைவான இடம். ஒருபக்கம பவானியும் மற் றொரு பக்கம் காவேரியும் இருந்தும் கூட அங்கே ஒரு எக்கர் அல்லது ஒரு சென்டு கூட ஆற்று பாசனம் கிடையாது. மேட்டூர் தேக்கத் திலிருந்து பவானி வழியாக சேலத்திற்கு வாய்க்கால் கொண்டுபோவ தாக திட்டம் இருக்கிறது. இதை இவவருஷத்தில் ஆரம்பித்து அந்த திட்டங்களை நடத்தினல் உணவு பிரச்னையை நீகி சமாளித்துக்கொள்ள லாம். அந்த திட்டங்களை இவ்வருஷமே நடத்த முயர்ச்சி செய்வார் களென்று நம்புகிறேன். தவிர பவானி திட்டத்தைப்போல் பெரிய திட்டங்களை மாத்திரம் போட்டுக்கொண்டு மட்டும் இல்லாமல் சில சிறிய திட்டங்களையும் உடனடியாக கவனிக்கவேண்டும். என ஜில்லாவில் அநேக குளங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. பாசன வசதியில் அவைகள நேரடியாக நீர்ப் பாசனத்திற்கு உதவாமல்போனலும் அவைகளை பழுதுபார்த்து மராமத்து செய்து தண்ணீர் நிற்கும்படி செய்தால் பாசன வசதி இல்லாமல்போனலும், குளத்திலிருக்கும தணணீரை பக்கத்திலுள்ள கிணறுகளுக்குத் தண ணீர் ஊறுவதன மூலம மறைமுகமாக நீர்ப்பாசனத்திற்கு உதவுகிறது. ஆகையால் சிலவு செய்கிறதைப் பொறுத்து பணம் வருகிறதா எனபதைப் பார்க்காமல் குளங்களையும் சீர்திருத்தம் செய்யும்படியாக கேட்டுக்கொண்டு நான் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன."

* SRIMATHI A. V. KUTTIMALU AMMA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the cut motion moved by the hon. Member Janab Raza Khan and support the Demand moved by the Hon. Minister for Public Works. While doing so, I would like to point out certain things with reference to Malabar. It is gratifying to see that certain irrigation projects are being considered for Malabar in this budget, two major schemes Malampuzha and Walayar and certain minor schemes in Ponnani and other taluks. I sincerely hope that these schemes will be pushed through as early as possible. Malabar and South Kanara, two coastal districts, are entirely different from all the other districts in the Presidency. Our monsoon lasts for six months and it is impossible to do any kind of work during the monsoon. All that should be done has to be done between December and June. In view of this, I would

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request the Hon. Minister to see that the works are begun immediately. Many tanks that are unused for want of repairs could be repaired at not very high cost so as to bring more areas under cultivation. Our district, where most of the lands are single crop area, could be made into double crop lands if we had more water conserving tanks, etc.

"There are also many places where small locks could be restored and constructed so as to prevent salt water penetrating and spoiling crops. Large areas of land along the coast which are uncultivable now on account of salt water stagnation could be made cultivable. We are even now nervous that something might happen to delay the works that are being considered for Malabar as this district's irrigation has been grossly neglected for the last two hundred years. And when we see these schemes for Malabar in the Budget we feel it is too good to be true. So I again request the Minister-in-charge to see that steps are taken to expedite the works and the usual official delay is avoided." 3-30 p.m.

* MAHIN SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the cut motion, I have to say that the South Kanara district is considered as a deficit district. There are six taluks in the South Kanara district. Except Kasargod, all the remaining taluks are surplus taluks. Only Kasargod is a deficit taluk, and because it is the biggest taluk, the whole district is considered to be deficit district. The Kasargod taluk is a very extensive taluk extending from the Arabian Sea to the Western Ghats. In spite of its extensive area, the taluk is considered to be a deficit taluk, because all the fields in the taluk produce only one crop, and not more for want of water. On the other hand, the fields in the other five taluks produce three crops.

"Sir, so this taluk of Kasargod is not able to produce three crops, as there is not sufficient water. If there are sufficient water facilities in the Kasargod taluk, all these fields will also produce three crops and the whole taluk will then become a surplus taluk, and then the district of South Kanara, as a whole, will be considered as a surplus district. The Government will have then no obligation to supply foodstuffs to this district. If there are more irrigation facilities, the Kasargod taluk will not suffer from want of water.

"The Tekkli Irrigation Scheme was already thought of. I do not know under what stage it is now. This scheme will take two water-courses on both sides of Tekkli river. If this scheme is executed, then all the fields in the taluk will be irrigated, and they can be converted into three crops, and then the food problem in the whole district will be solved. I therefore request the Hon. Minister for Public Works to take up the execution of the Tekkli Irrigation Scheme immediately.

"I am thankful to the Hon. Minister for Public Works for Sheriyar irrigation work which he has undertaken to execute in the course of the year, as mentioned in the Budget. If he takes

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up the above Tekkli Irrigation Scheme also, for immediate execution, the major problem for the district, as a whole, will be solved, and there will be then no more food scarcity in the district."

* SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the Demand, let me make a few observations. Since last year we have been trying to see what improvements have been effected by the Irrigation department till now. We made certain remarks last year and our further remarks will be useful, only if we consider that something has been done since last year. To our great disappointment, nothing tangible has been done till now. Not one tank has been restored, not even one rupee has been spent towards irrigation works in my district. Not only nothing has been done in my district, but, in fact, in the whole of the Rayalaseema, not much has been done. There are a number of grants made, but all of them are token sums. I do not know when these token grants will be made into bigger sums and the projects taken up for execution in right earnest. Sir, it looks as though the Government itself is a token Government. I wish, the Government is more realistic. Hundreds of projects are shown and lakhs and lakhs of lump sum grants have been made, but all these are in books. Particularly in my district alone, the Government have shown that they are going to take up dozens of irrigation projects, costing about Rs. 1·70 crores. Likewise in all other districts a number of projects are shown, and they are said to be still under the consideration stage. I want to know when the Government are going to come out of the consideration stage, and when they are going to put those projects actually into execution. Hundreds of crores of rupees have been shown in the budget for irrigation schemes. It is no use trying to make jugglery with figures. One concrete project actually taken up is much more valuable and useful than ten projects shown in books. The people of Rayalaseema are thoroughly disappointed and they do not know when the Government are going to pay heed to their grievances.

" Sir, the Hon. Minister for Public Works himself has seen the Upper Pennar project area. The investigation of that project is over and the scheme is ready for execution. But when it is going to be executed is not known. It is probably still under the consideration stage. It may be that some thousands of rupees will be allotted for laying the foundation stone for this project; but it seems that nothing more is going to be done. If things are going on in this way, we will not be able to get anything done by this Government.

" Sir, for minor irrigation works in the Rayalaseema about Rs. 17 lakhs were provided for in the last year's budget. Of this, only a few lakhs were spent and the remaining sum was left unspent and allowed to lapse. That means that proper care was not taken. It appears that nobody is interested in those works. Thousands of tanks and innumberable number of irrigation chaunels still require restoration and repairs. Since all the Rs. 17 lakhs which were provided for, have not been spent in the last

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year, this year, only a token grant of Rs. 100 has been made for repairs and restoration of tanks.

" Again Sir, I may mention these are only token grants. The Hon. Minister for Public Works is never wanting in pouring out his sympathies towards the people of Rayalaseema and the Ceded districts. As I said, even last year, he expressed his full sympathies on the floor of this House towards Rayalaseema, and assured us that he would give sympathetic consideration to our grievances. His heart was overflowing with sympathies towards us. If sympathy alone could fill our bellies, then we must say, that we are suffering from indigestion and we do not want any more sympathies. We want something concrete to be done and that means that these minor irrigation works should be undertaken immediately. That alone will inspire confidence in us. Whenever we, the people of the Rayalaseema, approach the Hon. Ministers with our demands, whenever we clamour for better treatment, whenever we agitate for greater attention to our districts, the Government simply say that they would appoint a Committee and that after the report of that Committee is received, they would take action on their recommendation. That is what they have been doing till now. Various committees have been appointed, various enquiries have been made and various reports have been submitted, but not a single action has been taken on any one of those recommendations. We have already got a Ceded Districts Economic Development Board which has made its report and now a Commissioner has again been appointed. What has been done by him till now? We are only indulging in big phrases. It is time that we stop these things. We have tolerated them all along; we are not going to keep quite hereafter. We are going to rise and see that something tangible is done for us.

" Sir, about the Kistna-Pennar Project, the Hon. Minister for Finance was pleased to say that this project would bring in untold benefits to the people of the Rayalaseema. But I am afraid, Sir, that by this project, it is not the Rayalaseema that is going to be benefited more, but it is his own district of Nellore that is going to be benefited more out of this project. Along with taking up this big project which is still in the stage of investigation and consideration, if the Hon. Minister for Public Works can take up many of the small tanks which are in need of immediate repairs and restoration, and get something done concretely, then it would go a great way towards mitigating the difficulties in Rayalaseema. There are ever-so-many tanks in Rayalaseema which would considerably facilitate irrigation there, and because there are not great rivers flowing in our area, the restoration of these tanks will give greater and more immediate relief, than projects of the nature contemplated. I wish Sir, that particular attention is given to the restoration of our tanks immediately.

" Then again Sir, as regards grow-more-food schemes, the Hon. Minister for Public Works just now gave certain figures. He said that about 44 and odd lakhs of acres have been brought under

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cultivation in this Province. I submit Sir, that these are only figures on paper. I want to know how many acres have actually been brought under cultivation in the Rayalaseema? We know they are not more than a few hundred acres. It may be so in the Kistna delta area or in the Godavari delta or in the Tanjore delta. Even if a portion of the sympathies which the Hon. Minister has showered upon us has been translated into some concrete action, we would have been more satisfied. Whether he is going to take up the Kistna-Pennar Project or whether he is going to take up any other projects which he has enumerated on behalf of the Rayalaseema, is not a matter which is our immediate concern. How much money is he going to spend over them this year? It is no use merely providing token sums. Are these sums to be used simply for the purpose of laying the foundation stones, and leaving the projects at that stage? If something is not done substantially, these token grants and these unfinished works are not going to satisfy anybody. The Hon. Minister for Public Works is a very intelligent man. He has mentioned ever so many schemes on paper, and made it appear that he has money for all those projects. He has also stated that about Rs. 32 lakhs are provided for minor irrigation works. He is full of sweet words and promises. How much of these Rs. 32 lakhs are going to be actually spent on minor irrigation works this year? If they are really going to be used, then it will be useful for us. If it is going to be like last year, when simply an allotment was made in the Budget, without any actual expenditure, then it will not satisfy anybody. Rupees 32 lakhs is not too big a sum for being spent upon these districts. In Anantapur alone there are between two thousand and three thousand tanks in immediate need of repairs. All these Rs. 32 lakhs are not enough even for that one district alone. Therefore if this full sum of Rs. 32 lakhs is not spent in this year, then it means that the Government are lethargic. I do not want to say anything more, Sir. As I said, it is no use simply making an allotment in the budget and not spending it—it is no use merely showering words of sympathy. I want the Government to translate their words and sympathies into some concrete action and do something substantial and useful to the people of Rayalaseema."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, within the time you have allotted to us, it will not be possible for us to give at least a general survey of the various things that we have in our mind."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Hon. Members should know that as the debate prolongs, I will have to decrease the time-limit even to five minutes."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, at the most what we can do is to send in the form of a telegraphic message to the Hon. Minister for Public Works some of our individual grievances under this Demand. Before I could do so, Sir, I cannot help making one reference to the Hon. Minister himself. He

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appears to be a very calm and quiet man. It looks rather astonishing how he is going to take upon himself the great responsibility of providing irrigation facilities for the whole of this Province. Sir, in this connexion, I cannot but make a reference to that great saying, 'Silent waters run deep.' Behind that static exterior I find the dynamic personality in him and I am sure, Sir, he is going to do the greatest service to the Province and that the people of this Province are surely going to get more irrigation facilities than ever before.

"Sir, the first and foremost question I should like to refer, and to which reference has already been made by the several hon. Members on the floor of the House is the question of food. If you want more food, you must improve agriculture and if you want to improve agriculture, you must provide greater irrigation facilities. Therefore, upon irrigation facilities depend not only the progress of agriculture, but also the increase of food production. Sir, in this connexion, I find that qualified staffs are not available in this Province and the Hon. Minister himself finds it difficult to get the necessary qualified staff. I would therefore urge upon the Government to depute young and energetic students that are reading in the various colleges to foreign countries, not only for technical training in irrigation, but also to study the various irrigation projects in America, in England and other great advanced countries of the world.

"In this connexion I would like to make a reference to the Tennesse Valley Authority. I would only wish that the Hon. Minister would send a deputation consisting of a few hon Members of the House to America to study that scheme so that they can come back and bring to bear their knowledge upon the people of the Province and upon the Government so that we can improve our irrigation facilities. 3-45 p.m.

"I find, Sir, that in most of the supply channels silt is accumulating and thereby the ryots are put to considerable difficulties. Therefore I would urge that the Hon. Minister should see to the clearance of the silt in the supply channels and open more supply channels so that areas which are lying around the Godavari, Kistna and such other perennial rivers and which are uncultivated might be brought under the plough.

"When I am on this I would like to make a reference to the difficulties of my own constituency, South Arcot and Chingleput. Sir, the Sathanur scheme is still in the book. I find that the Government have not taken up that scheme seriously. If they only take up the scheme, I am sure that they will be able to help my district. With regard to Adayar scheme, I am sure, if it is properly developed it will go to irrigate nearly 40 villages in my district and thereby the disabilities of the people in the district will be easily solved.

"With regard to Minor Irrigation, I have often stated during question hour that the work of minor irrigation should be brought within the purview of the Public Works Department (Irrigation)

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and the Collectors should not be made responsible for these works. I have pointed out that the District Collectors work under very great pressure due to the several control orders. Therefore the whole minor irrigation work must be taken away from the District Collectors and handed over to the Public Works (Irrigation) Department. They can at least have a small department for this and look to solving the problem of minor irrigation.

"Besides, the Irrigation department should not consider schemes purely on commercial lines. They should not simply work out the profit and loss of a scheme. If the department is going to be commercially minded, I would say, that the vast areas of land that are to-day lying uncultivated will not be brought under the plough. Therefore this commercial mindedness must be removed from the Department of Irrigation and they must look primarily to the interests of the Province and the people concerned. When the development of irrigation schemes is undertaken you need not have to assign large amounts under Famine Relief, Revenue remission, etc. These amounts can be saved and can be invested in creating new irrigation schemes.

"Then I would like to say something with regard to the river Cooum, Sir. They used to say with regard to the Thames that it was the biggest sewage in the world. Those people have not seen our Cooum. It should be the biggest sewage not only in this country but in the whole world. Suppose those people visit our City, when they get into the City and come across the unhealthy vapours emanating from the wonderful river, what a poor opinion they will have of our Government, and particularly of the Hon. Minister for Public Works? I remember, Sir, that he has made a promise on the floor of the House some two years before that he has introduced an experimental scheme in the Poondi Reservoir and that he was going to introduce the scheme here in order to improve the Cooum river. I do not know what has happened to that model. The old Cooum still goes on carrying its vapours. Even the Hon. the Premier of the Province has felt the very difficulty of enjoying the flavours of this wonderful Cooum. Therefore, Sir, I would urge on the Hon. Minister for Public Works to take up the question of the river Cooum and see that he deepens the Cooum as early as possible so that the Cooum instead of being a curse to the Province and to the country will become a pleasant river to whose banks the people, after getting tired in this Honourable House may resort to and enjoy the sceneries.

"Lastly Sir, I cannot but refer to the matter of corruption. It has been brought to the notice of the Hon. Minister concerned and all the Hon. Ministers, by almost all the Members of this House that corruption prevails. We could tolerate corruption in other Departments but we cannot tolerate corruption in a Department like Irrigation, because you know that it is the poorest of the poor, that to-day stand in need of water. If the Irrigation staff are going to let out water only when they receive mamuls from the people then you can imagine the suffering. Therefore I am sure

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that the Hon. Minister for Public Works will see that this corruption is at least routed out from this Department and the people are not put to difficulties. It has often been pointed out not only by the Hon. the Home Minister but also by other Hon. Ministers, 'If you know of corruption, bring it to the notice of the Government and we will take immediate steps.' You know, Sir, the intricacies of how these things work. Suppose the poor ryot is to-day coming out and points out an instance of corruption to the Hon. Minister, you must know that he is going to suffer ultimately. Therefore it is no use saying like this. The farmer is placed in a helpless state. It is impossible for him to bring to the notice of the Hon. Ministers the instances of corruption that take place."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has one more minute."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is a fact that corruption exists whether the Hon. Members of the House bring it to the notice of the Government or whether the people of the Province bring it or not. When we have corruption in this Department the Government must realise that it is a very great danger to the people and therefore they must try to eliminate corruption from this Department."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may resume his seat."

SRI K. P. KAMAKSHI CHETTIYAR:—"கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது விவாதத்தில் இருக்கும் டிமாண்டை ஆதரிக்கிறேன். நீர்பாசன வசதிகள் பலவற்றை செய்துமுடிக்கவேண்டுமென்று ஆர்வத்துடன் வேலைகளை செய்துவரும் மராமத்து இலாகா மந்திரி அவர்களை பாராட்டுகிறேன். ஆனால அவர்கள் எவ்வளவு ஆர்வத்துடன் வேலை செய்கிறார்களோ அதைவிட பரிமடங்கு ஆர்வத்துடன் அந்த இலாகா அதிகாரிகளும் சிப்பந்திகளும் வேலைசெய்தால்தான் மந்திரி சபை அல்லது மராமத்து மந்திரி அவர்கள் கொண்டுவரும் திட்டங்கள் வெற்றிகரமாக நிறைவேறும். அப்படி நடை பெறுவதற்கு அவர் சம்மந்தப்பட்ட அதிகாரிகளை துரிதப்படுத்திக்கொண்டிருக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். எனெனில் பல திட்டங்கள் பூர்வாங்கமாக பரிசீலனையிலேயே இருக்கிறது. இன்னும் பல திட்டங்கள் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களின் கவனத்திற்குகொண்டு வரப்படாமலேயே இருக்கிறது. என்னுடைய தொகுதியில் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் 1½ வருஷத்திற்கு முன் இரண்டு மூன்று திட்டங்களை நேரில் பார்வையிட்டார். பார்த்த மாத்திரத்தில் அழகானதும் ஜனங்களுக்கு நன்மை பயக்கக்கூடிய திட்டங்கள் என்றும் சொல்லிவிடலாம். அப்படி சொல்லப்பட்ட திட்டங்கள் இன்னும் முடிவான பரிசீலனை செய்யப்படாமல் இருக்கிறது என்பதைப்பற்றி வருந்துகிறேன். எனென்றால் அதிகாரிகளைக் கேட்கும்போது போதுமான சிப்பந்திகளும் சூபர்வைசர்களும் இல்லை என்று ஒரே முகமாக அனைவரும் சொல்லிவிடுகிறார்கள். உடனடியாக வேலைகளை ஆரம்பிக்கவேண்டுமென்றால் வேண்டிய சிப்பந்திகளை தாமதமின்றி உற்பத்தி செய்யவேண்டும். அதற்கு வேண்டிய ஏற்பாடுகளை உடனடியாகச் செய்யவேண்டும். இதைப்பற்றி சென்ற வருஷத்திலும் சர்க்காருக்கு இந்த சபையில் யோசனை சொல்லப்பட்டது. எவ்வளவு அதிகம் Supervisor களும் Engineer களும் இந்த இலாகாவுக்கு அனுப்பப்படுகிறார்களோ அவ்வளவுக்கு நீர்பாசனத் திட்டங்களை வெற்றிகரமாக நடத்திவைக்கமுடியும். சீக்கிரம் நம்மாகாணத்திற்கு சுபிட்சம் ஏற்படும். நிலக்கோட்டை தாலூகா சாத்தியாறு அணைக்கட்டு மிகவும் நல்ல திட்டம். கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களும் வந்திருந்து பார்வையிட்டார்கள் பூர்வாங்க பரிசீலனை இன்னும் சம்மந்தப்பட்ட இஞ்சினீயர்களிடமிருந்து வரவில்லையாம், ஒரு வருஷமாகிறது. அதைப்போலவே

[Sri K. P. Kamakshi Chettiyar] [16th March 1948

மதுரை ஜில்லாவில் பழனி தாலூகா ஒரு நீர்பாசனமற்ற தாலூகா. நஞ்சை நிலம் அதிகம் இல்லை. அந்த தாலூகாவிற்கும் ஒரு திட்டம் பல வருஷமாக இருந்துவருகிறது. அதுவும் பரிசீலனையில் இருப்பதாக சம்மந்தப்பட்ட இஞ்சினீயர்களையும் கனம் மந்திரியையும் கேட்கும் போது சொன்னார்கள். இன்னும் அவைகள் அதே நிலைமையில்தானிருக்கின்றன. முடிவான ஏற்பாடு எதுவும் செய்யவில்லை என்பதை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களின் கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டுவருகிறேன். இன்னும் மஞ்சலார் என்று ஒரு திட்டம் இருக்கிறது. கொடைக்கானல் மலைசாரலிலிருந்து விழும் நீர் வீழ்ச்சியினருகே ஒரு அணைக்கட்டு கட்டலாம் அதில் electricity உற்பத்தி செய்வதுமான பல ஆராய்ச்சிகளும் செய்யலாம் என்று நிபுணர்கள் சொல்லியிருப்பதாக கேள்வி. இந்த திட்டத்தையும் எவ்வளவு சீக்கிரமாக நடத்துகிறோமோ அவ்வளவு சௌகர்யமும் விவசாயிகளுக்கு ஏற்படும். ஆகவே கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் இந்த திட்டத்தை உடனே ஆரம்பிக்க ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"தவிர சிறிய வேலைகளுக்குகூட **Engineering Departments** காலதாமதம் செய்வது மிகவும் வருந்தத்தக்கது. சிறிய வேலைகளை காலாகாலத்தில் செய்து முடிக்கவேண்டுமென்று **Engineering Departments**க்கு கண்டிப்பாக தெரிவிக்கவேண்டும். எந்த விதமான திட்டங்களுக்கு அதிக உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் தேவை இல்லையோ அந்த திட்டங்களையாவது கால தாமதம் இல்லாமல் முடித்துவிடுவது அவசியம். சிறிய வேலைகளை உடனடியாக முடித்துவிடவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஒரு தடவை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கொடைக்கானல் மலை அடிவாரத்திற்கு வந்திருந்தார்கள். அங்கே 2, 3 குளங்கள் இருந்தன. அதை அவருக்குக் காண்பித்தேன். குளக்கரைகளிலும் உள்வாயிலும் விவசாயம் செய்யும் 1, 2 பேர்கள் அந்த குளங்களின் தண்ணீரை தங்களிஷ்டப்படி உபயோகப்படுத்திக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். **Grow more food campaign** திட்டத்தின் கீழ் அந்த நிலங்களை அவர்கள் விவசாயம் செய்கிறார்கள். தங்களுக்கு தண்ணீர் வேண்டாதபோது மேற்படி குளங்களின் பாசனத்தை அடையும் நிலங்களுக்கு அபாயம் வரும்படியாக குளத்தை திறந்துவிட்டு விடுகிறார்கள். ஆதலால் குளக்கரைகளில் விவசாயம் செய்வதை தடுப்பதுடன் குளத்து தண்ணீரை யாரும் துஷ்பிரயோகம் செய்யாமல் பார்த்துக் கொள்ளவேண்டும். கால்வாய்கள் சரியான பராமரிப்பின்றி, மண்ணும் வண்டலும் வந்து குளங்களை நிரப்பிவிடுகின்றன. அதனால் மேற்படி கால்வாய்களுக்கு **cross bunds** கட்டும் வேலையை இஞ்சினீயர்கள் சீக்கிரம் எடுத்துகொண்டால் ஜனங்களுக்கு நன்மை ஏற்படும என்று சொல்லிக் கொண்டு என் வார்த்தையை முடித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

* SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, though it is usual to say that every subject is important, this happens to be the really important subject and it should be understood that this cry of food shortage is not heard from our Province alone and not from the districts and taluks of our Province alone, but it is a cry from Simla to Ceylon and from Cuttack to Karachi. Throughout the length and breadth of India, you hear this pathetic cry. Certainly, Sir, I am not here to attack or criticise the actions of our Hon. Ministers as they have assumed the reins of administration only very recently and as I have already said, God also has been cruel in suspending rain after they became Ministers. Sir, the whole system was spoiled during the prolonged 180 years' administration of the British Government. Certainly any Ruler who ruled such a sub-continent as India would not have neglected the land like this. The most important thing is, what they did not do we have to do to-day. This responsibility has now been put on our Hon. Ministers.

[Sinna Kaziar Haji Moulvi S. A. F. Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur] **16th March 1948]**

" Sir, now every Member has been speaking about his own district and taluk. I want to suggest another proposal if you are not going to laugh. I do not want to conceal it. It may be a wise proposal or a foolish proposal, but unless we adopt that proposal there cannot be any salvation. Our Hon. Minister says that hands are not available to start new schemes. One hon. Member says that dams and embankments are to be constructed. Suppose, Sir, we get engineers and overseers and professors, amply spend crores and crores of rupees and construct dams and tanks, and repair also tanks, then without water what is the use, Sir? First of all we should have water, and then only we should think of these things. Sir, several lakhs and lakhs of tons of water, every moment, flow into the sea. It may be a surprise to you. It is an all-India scheme which I want to suggest to you. It is not a wonder. It is not an impossibility. Please get some book on Egyptian irrigation to know as to how the Nile irrigation project was carried out and how the Euphertis irrigation project was carried out. It is only after launching such big schemes those countries became not only self-sufficient but also are able to export grains to other foreign countries. It is a major scheme (connecting Ganges with Cauvery) no doubt, and it cannot be accomplished in a couple of days. You start from to-morrow. Have negotiations with the Central Government. It would be an easy matter. The Central Government will have to finance a portion of it, and all those Provinces which are going to be benefitted by this major scheme will gladly contribute from their provincial funds. Unless you start such a scheme, we are not going to permanently solve our food problem in India. 4 p.m

" I now wish to say a few words about my own district as other people have done, because when I go to my district, my people will question me. I was told there was a prepared scheme for the Annapatti dam in Tirumangalam taluk for the irrigation of the south bank of the Vaigai river. A survey also was made. I do not know whether the scheme has been dropped or not. If that scheme has been dropped, I request the Hon. Minister to re-open the subject, because I was told that during some months in the year we get surplus water and that water could be stored along with the new proposed scheme. Further, it is very curious in Madura that in certain places (Interruptions). Mr. Speaker, Sir, after all I have got only 10 minutes and if the Hon. Minister does not hear me, it will be of no use. There is one hill called Nagamalai. Please do not be misguided. It is a barren rock. It is a barren hill. I have seen a perennial flow of water from that rock. You also may go and see that. Even during the driest season, there is the flow. Some investigation should be done in this matter. Boring work may be done. Again, Sir, there is the case of Vilatur, a village six miles from Madura town. That is the driest place. There within the tank all the 12 months of the year, you find water bubbling out from the ground. I think in this portion you must have some artesian wells. After all, these are all things in which we can make experiments. If the experiments are successful we

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stand to gain; if they are not successful we are not going to lose much. Sir, the worst thing Government did hastily to improve food production was to give subsidies to dig wells and also bonus to people who produced foodgrains. I know in my district the people are very glad and they are praying for your long life, because they got Rs. 500 and they had not dug wells. (Laughter.) I asked a friend of mine 'suppose the Tahsildar inspects your place what will happen to you'. He replied 'don't be afraid Mr. Sinna Kaziar; very near there is a tank; I will spend Rs. 50 to Rs. 60, and with buckets I will bring water and pour it into a pit, and thereby satisfy him.' (Laughter.) That is what is going on, Sir. With the amount which the Government have paid as subsidy and bonus, I think water could have been carried from one place to another by water wagon and cultivation made. That is how we have been duped. For Heaven's sake please stop these bonus and subsidies, and use them in a better way. From my personal experience, I am saying all this; you may take them for what they are worth.

"Sir, so far as Madura, Ramnad and Tinnevelly districts are concerned, my suggestion is that Ganges water is not going to come next year. My humble request, till then, is to do some minor irrigation works in these districts. There are big tanks, but they are shallow. The tanks which were intended to hold water for a year's supply now hold water only for three months' supply. If you would improve some minor irrigation works and see that these tanks are restored to their original condition, you can in a way be helpful to the grow more food scheme.

"With these words, Sir, I support the cut motion. Even before the time limit fixed is reached, I have closed my speech so that you may give me more time to speak on the next occasion." (Laughter.)

*M. V. HYDROSS SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this cut motion. We, people from Malabar, have been always accused of parochial tendencies when we speak for Malabar. But especially in a matter of this kind, I feel that it is absolutely necessary that I should speak for Malabar and Malabar alone. The main reason that prompted me to make this observation is that out of many of the districts in this Province, Malabar is the place where we have got the greatest food shortage. As a matter of fact, it would have been the duty of the Government to pay immediate attention to the irrigation needs in Malabar and Government ought to have given greater preference for growing more food in this district. Even the rationing schemes in many of the other districts have been abolished, but still it has been kept up in Malabar for this reason that it is one of the most deficit districts. As a matter of fact, what we find is that we had for Malabar about 32 schemes investigated which subsequently have dwindled into about 17. I do not know if any one of these schemes has been taken up yet. To some questions that were put previously, the Hon. Minister has been pleased to

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answer that the schemes are taken up. But I ask this Government whether it was possible for them to grow even one grain of paddy or any other produce out of these schemes. If only they had bestowed some better attention to the needs of Malabar, and if only they had earnestly endeavoured to have greater production in the district of Malabar, things would not have been what they are to-day. Well, Sir, we hear of great projects in other districts, e.g., the big scheme in Kallakurichi taluk of South Arcot district. We do not know what it is. It has not been explained to anybody. I am told that the Government are very earnest to proceed with this work. Where is the need for this kind of project—spending huge amounts out of Government funds—while districts like Malabar, require greater and immediate attention in the matter of irrigation and in the better production of food. Where is the hurry for the Ministry to go on with this unproductive project without explaining the need to us satisfactorily and fully. I may be excused if I call this an unproductive project. There is the answer, Sir, that we in Malabar have plenty of rain. The whole rain water goes into the sea washing away even whatever manure we have in the district. You know, Sir, we have what is called Conolly canal, a canal that came into existence one hundred years ago. It runs from Cochin to South Kanara. If only Government had paid slight attention to the irrigation facilities of this district, they would have been able to divert various portions of this canal and they would have found various methods for meeting the needs of Malabar. During the Advisers' regime they had some small steps taken in the matter of diverting water from this canal and putting up some dams here and there. But in many places they are not proceeded with, and the whole canal is neglected. I would request Government to pay immediate attention to this and see that the schemes they have worked up so far are taken up immediately. As my friend Mr. Sinna Kaziar said we have been giving subsidies. If only half the amount given as subsidies had been spent on irrigation facilities in this Province, this Province would have been far better and it would have produced greater quantities of foodgrains in this Province, and we could have solved the food problem without any great difficulty. So, I would once again request Government that if they want Malabar or Kerala to be a Province, if they are going to divide portions of this Province into linguistic areas, it is their duty to see that all Provinces that come into being are self-sufficient in the matter of food. With this request I support the cut motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The time-limit for speeches on this Demand will be five minutes hereafter."

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, வெட்டுப் பிரேரேபணையை எதிர்த்து பேசுகிறேன். கனம் மராமத்து இலாகா மந்திரி அவர்கள் இந்த வருஷ வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தில் தங்களால் எவ்வளவு முடியுமோ அவ்வளவு வேகமாக ஏனை கனிஷ்ட ஆபீஸ் பூர்த்தி செய்ய மிகவும் மிஞ்சி இருப்பதாக தெரிகிறது. ஆதலால் அவர்களுடைய விருப்பத்திற்கு இணங்கி இலாகாவும் வேலை 4-15 p.m.

[Sri K. Rajaram Nayudu] [16th March 1948

செய்தால் நன்றாக இருக்கும். சென்ற வருஷத்தின் வரவு செலவு திட்ட விவாதத்தின்போது வைகை reservoir திட்டத்தை இவ்வருடம் வேலையில் எடுத்துக்கொள்வது என்று தாங்கள் உத்தேசித்திருப்பதாக கூறினார்கள். இந்த வைகைத் தேக்கத் திட்டத்தினால் பயன் அடையக் கூடியவர்கள் திருமங்கலம் தாலூகாவில் பல வருஷம் குற்ற பரம்பரை சட்டத்தால் பாதிக்கப்பட்ட மக்கள். இப்பொழுது குற்ற பரம்பரை சட்டத்தினின்று விடுவிக்கப்பட்ட மக்களாகிய அவர்களுடைய வாழ்க்கைத்தரத்தை உயர்த்துவதற்கு ஒரு நல்ல திட்டம் இருக்குமென்றால் அது இதைத் தவிர வேறு ஒன்றாக இருக்க முடியாது. அது பூராவும் வரண்ட பிரதேசம். இந்த வைகை reservoir திட்டத்தின் மூலம் திருமங்கலம் தாலூகாவில் இப்பொழுது 15,000 எக்கர் நிலத்தை சாகுபடிக்குக் கொண்டு வரலாம் என்று மந்திரிக்கு தெரிவித்தார்கள். ஏற்கெனவே இந்த பெரியாற்றுப் பாசனத்தால் அந்த பிரதேசத்தில் ஒரு ஆயிரம் எக்கர் நிலத்தில் தண்ணீர் கசிவு எடுத்து புஞ்சை சாகுபடி செய்வதற்கு லாயக்கில்லாமல் நஞ்சை சாகுபடி செய்யும்படியாக இருக்கிறது. அதனால் ஜனங்கள் தண்டத்தீர்வை கொடுத்து கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இம்மாதிரியான திட்டத்தை சுமார் 1½ கோடி ரூபாயில் நிறைவேற்றிவைத்துவிட்டால் அவர்களுக்கு ரொம்பவும் அனுகூலமாகி விடும். இதற்குத்தண்ணீர் வசதிக்காக திருவாங்கூர் சமஸ்தானத்தோடு பேச்சு வார்த்தைகள் நடந்து தோல்வி அடைந்தது எல்லோருக்கும் தெரிந்த விஷயம். இப்பொழுதாவது உடனடியாக ஒரு ஒப்பந்தம் செய்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். இப்பொழுது திருவாங்கூர் மாஜி திவானும் சென்றுவிட்டார். திருவாங்கூர் சமஸ்தானமும் இந்திய யூனியனில் சேர்ந்து விட்டது. இப்பொழுது அனுவசியமாக அரபிக் கடலில் போய் விழும் தண்ணீரை கொஞ்சம் கீழ்புரம் திருப்பிவிட முயற்சி செய்யலாம். கல்லாறும் பெரியாற்றைப்போலவே அரபிக்கடலில் போய் விழுகிறது. அதையும் பெரியாற்றுடன் சேர்த்தால் மதுரை ஜில்லா முழுமையும் இராமனாதபுரம் ஜில்லாவில், திருவாடானை தாலூகா, சிவகங்கை தாலூகா முதலிய இடங்களுக்கு நீர் பாசனம் செய்துகொடுக்கலாம். இதற்கெல்லாம் முன்ன கிலவையும் இரண்டு கோடி ரூபாயில் முடித்து விடலாம். சொற்ப சிலவில் செய்யக்கூடிய மிக பெரிய காரியங்களை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளாமல் இராமபாதசாகர் போன்ற 180 கோடி ரூபாய் செலவாகும் பெரிய திட்டத்தை எடுத்துக் கொள்வது என்பது பெயராவில் தான் இருக்கிறது. இப்படிப்பட்ட சிறிய வைகளை முடிக்க மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கு இலாகாக்கள் யோசனை கூறினால் ரொம்பவும் நன்றாக இருக்கும். அனந்தபூர் மெம்பர் ஸ்ரீ சஞ்சீவ ரெட்டி சொன்னார் சுமார் 140 வேலைகள் அதிக உணவு உற்பத்தி திட்டத்தின் கீழ் போடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்று. இந்த வருஷத்தில் அதற்கு 32 லட்சம் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்றும் ஆரம்ப பிரசங்கத்தில் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். அவருடைய ஜில்லாவில் சுமார் 1 டஜன் வேலைகள் தான் எடுத்துக்கொண்டிருப்பதாக குறை கூறினார்கள். நம் மாகாணத்தில் தான்யம் இல்லாமல் பஞ்சத்தில் அடிபட்டு கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிற மதுரை, இராமனாதபுரம், திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாக்களுக்கு என்ன ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது? தயவு செய்து பட்ஜெட்டைப் பாருங்கள். தலைவர் அவர்களே தெரிந்து கொள்வார்கள். மதுரை ஜில்லாவிற்கு ஒரு வேலையை 5 வருஷத்திற்குள் சிலவு செய்யவேண்டுமென்று 20 ஆயிரம் ரூபாய், அதுவும் பெரியாற்று பிரதேசத்திற்கு போட்டப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. வரண்ட பிரதேசங்களாகிய இராமனாதபுரம் ஜில்லாவில் எதுவுமில்லை. ஒரு வேலையும் இல்லை. திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவிற்கு ஒரு வேலை மட்டும் போடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்பதை சற்று கவனித்தால் நன்றாக இருக்கும். ஐந்து வருஷம் திட்டம் போட்டும் பிரயோஜனம் இல்லை. ஆகையால் மந்திரி அவர்கள் வைகை ரிசர்வாயர் திட்டத்தை இந்த வருஷத்திலேயே ஆரம்பிக்க முயற்சி செய்யவேண்டும். கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் பதில் சொல்லும் போது என்ன நிலைமையில் இருக்கிறது என்பதையும் சொல்லவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு நான் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

* SRI G. VENKATA REDDI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am highly thankful to you for giving me an opportunity of speaking on this Demand. In supporting the demand moved by the Hon. Minister, I welcome the provisions made in the Budget for this

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Demand. Yet, Sir, the provisions are not in accordance with the needs of the Province. Anyhow, I wish to refer to the most backward tract known as the Rayalaseema. It is comprised of five districts, Kurnool, Cuddapah, Anantapur, Bellary and Chittoor. Its area is about 32,000 square miles, which is about one-fourth of the whole area of the Madras Province. Out of a total cultivated land of three crores of acres, this tract alone contains eighty lakhs of acres. While irrigation facilities are provided in the Province for about 40 lakhs of acres under the major irrigation schemes, this tract contains only 86,000 acres under major irrigation. Besides, Sir, when large amounts of money are being spent on major irrigation for improvement and execution, nothing has been spent in this tract for the extension and improvement of irrigation facilities. This tract has been completely neglected and needs to be improved from the existing backwardness. By constant neglect the whole area has been impoverished. The Hon. the Minister may say that the Tungabhadra Project has been provided for that area. Even that project, Sir, which was originally intended to cover the areas in Kurnool, Cuddapah, Anantapur and Bellary districts, will not now cover all those areas because its scope has now been reduced and it is now expected to irrigate only a few taluks in the Bellary district and a few villages in the Kurnool district and it does not cover the whole area which is most easily susceptible to famine. Besides, Sir, there are no facilities for minor irrigation in this area. Therefore, I wish to suggest to the Hon. Minister to extend this project so as to connect it with the Gandikota Project. The list of works to be undertaken this year appended to the Budget proposals does not touch even the fringe of the problem of the Rayalaseema. I therefore request the Hon. the Minister to take up all these works immediately and I also suggest to him to take up in hand the several schemes that are being proposed day by day and to see that these irrigation works are taken up regularly and executed with great speed. It is also bad economy, Sir, to spend money on this famine-affected area for giving relief without developing this area, and so, I suggest that this area should also be developed economically so that it may also prosper and contribute its quota for the well-being of the whole Province. Of course, Sir, there are several minor grievances such as the construction of a regulator to the Nandyal tank and extension and improvement of the Kambam tank which has been a most productive work. Nothing has been spent on this work for extension and improvement though it has got an ayacut of 7,000 acres and no provision has been made to improve it and to augment its supply. Finally, there is one more scheme and that is the Venkatareddikunta scheme, which is ready but in its final stage the sanction has been withheld. I appeal to the Hon. the Minister to take up this work immediately and to do what he can in this matter."

SRI B. VENKATANARAYANA REDDI:—"అధ్యక్ష, ఇరిగేషన్ విషయంలో నెల్లూరు జిల్లాకూడా చాలా వెనకబడి ఉన్నదనే సంగతి నేను మనవిచేస్తే చాలాసందికి నిజంగా ఆశ్చర్యము కలుగవచ్చు. ఎందువల్ల అనగా నెల్లూరు జిల్లా అంటే

[Sri B. Venkatanarayana Reddi] [16th March 1948

విషయంలో ఒక పెద్ద ఆపోహ ప్రభుత్వమువారికి, ప్రభుత్వ అధికారులకు ఏర్పడి ఉన్నది. దీనికి కారణం ముఖ్యంగా వారు నెల్లూరు జిల్లాయొక్క యదార్థ పరిస్థితులను గమనించలేదనే మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. కాబట్టి నెల్లూరు జిల్లాయొక్క యదార్థ పరిస్థితినిగూర్చి కొంచము తెలియచేస్తాను.

"నెల్లూరు జిల్లాలో మొత్తము 13 తాలూకాలు ఉన్నవి. ఇందులో రెండు తాలూకాలు మాత్రమే డెల్టా తాలూకాలు, తక్కిన 11 తాలూకాలు రాయలసీమ కంటెకూడా అధ్వాన్న స్థితిలో ఉన్నాయి కనుక ఆ 11 తాలూకాల మీదకూడా రాయలసీమ విషయంలో ప్రభుత్వమువారు వి విధమైన ప్రత్యేక అభిమానము ఉంచ దలచి ఉన్నారో అదే విధమైన అభిమానమును ఉంచవలసినదిగా మనవిచేస్తున్నాను.

"ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఇప్పుడు సంగమేశ్వరం ప్రాజక్టు నిర్మాణమునకుగాను investigation చేయించ దలచినందులకు వారికి నా అభినందనలు. సంగమేశ్వరం Project ను నిర్మించుటకు ఎక్కువ శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొనబడుచున్నదని, ఈ ప్రాజక్టువలన నెల్లూరు జిల్లాలోని గ్రామములన్నిటికి నీటి సౌకర్యములు కలుగునని, అందుచేత ఇతరచిన్న సదుపాయములను యిప్పుడు చేయవలసిన ఆవశ్యకములేదని ప్రభుత్వమువారు అభిప్రాయపడుచున్నట్లుగా నేను తలచుచున్నాను. ఇది సక్రమమైన విధానము కాదేమోనని నా అభిప్రాయము. ఇప్పుడు నెల్లూరు జిల్లాలోని ఈ 11 పెట్ట తాలూకాలలోను అనేక చెరువులు, కాలవలు, నదులు ఇతర జలాశయములున్నవి. కొన్ని చెరువులు గండ్లుపడి మరమ్మతులు లేక అధ్వాన్న స్థితిలో ఉన్నవి. ఇటువంటి చిన్నచిన్న మరమ్మతులు వెంటనే చేయించుటవలన త్వరగా నీరు సరఫరా అగుతుంది. ప్రస్తుత ఆహార కొరతను ఎదుర్కొనటానికి వీలవుతుంది. కనుక ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఈ విషయములను గమనించవలసినదిగా కోరుచున్నాను.

"ఆంతకుముందు మాట్లాడిన సభ్యులు వారివారి జిల్లాలలోని రైత్వారీ భూములకు ఎటువంటి నీటి సౌకర్యములను ఏర్పాటుచేయవలెనో ఆ నీ విషయములనుగురించి తెలియజేశారు. కాని మన మద్రాసు రాజధానిలో మూడవవంతు ఉన్నటువంటి జమీందారీ భూములలోని జలాధారములు గురించి ఎవ్వరూ చెప్పియుండలేదు. ఇప్పుడు ప్రభుత్వమువారు జమీందారీలను రద్దుచేయుటకు ఒక బిల్లును శాసనసభలో ప్రవేశపెట్టినారు. దానిని Select Committee కి పంపించి ఉన్నారు. త్వరలో జమీందారీలను ప్రభుత్వమువారు స్వాధీనము చేసుకుంటారనే కారణంచేత జమీందారులు ఇప్పుడు ఆ ప్రాంతములలోనున్న జలాధారములకు ఏ విధమైన మరమ్మతులు చేయక చాలా నిరాదరణ చేయుచున్నారు. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వంవారిని ఈ మరమ్మతులు చేయించమని అడిగితే వారు యింకనూ జమీందారీలను స్వాధీనము చేసుకోలేదు, కనుక వారు అక్కడకు ప్రవేశించకూడదని ప్రభుత్వమువారు చెప్పుచున్నారు. ఈ పరిస్థితులవలన ఈ జమీందారీ గ్రామములలోని రైతులు సాగుచేయటానికి అవసరమైనయంటి నీరు supply కాక చాలా యిబ్బందులు పడుచున్నారు. నీటి కొఱతవల్ల పంటలు చెడిపోతున్నాయి. రైతులు అనేక కష్టనష్టాల పాలుకావలసివస్తోంది. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఈ విషయంలో తగిన శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొనాలని, అవసరమైతే, ఒక చట్టము చేసో, లేకపోతే ఒక ordinance చేసో ఈ చిన్నచిన్న మరమ్మతులను జమీందారీ గ్రామములలో అశ్రద్ధచేయకుండా చేయవలసినదని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. ఈనాడు జమీందారులు జమీందారీ ఏరియాలలోని కాలువలు, చెరువులు, ఇతర జలాశయములు గండులు పడిపోయినా తగిన శ్రద్ధతీసుకోవటం లేదు. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఈ విషయములను గమనించి వెంటనే ఈ జలాధారములను, కాలు

16th March 1948] [Sri B. Venkatanarayana Reddi]

వలను, చెరువులను ఎడోవిధంగా మరమ్మతులు చేయించవలసినదని, ఈ ఏజన్సీ ప్రాంతాల కొరతకాలములో ఈ చిన్నచిన్న సదుపాయములను కలుగజేయుట అత్యవసరమని మరల మనవిచేస్తున్నాను."

* SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI SANKARA AYYAR :—"కనం అక్కిరాసనుతిపతి అవర్కళే, నీర్పాసన మాన్యత్తై నాన్ మనప్ పూర్వమాగ ఆదరిత్తు ఒన్ఱిరణ్డు వార్త్తైగళ్ పేస మున్ వన్తిరుక్కిఱేన్. మణితరుక్కు శుత్తమాన కుడి తణ్ణీర్ ఎప్పడియో అవ్వళవు అవశియం నామ్ ఉట్కొళ్ళుం ఉణవుక్కాగ పాసన వసది సెయ్తు కొడుప్పతు. నామ్ నల్ల తిడకాత్తిర సరీరముళ్ళవర్కళాగ ఇరుక్కవేణ్డుమెన్ఱాల్ ఎప్పడి శుత్తమాన నీర్ ఇరున్తాల్ నాన్ ముడియుమో అదే మాదిరి నమక్కు ఉణవు అదికమాగ ఉర్పత్తి సెయ్యవేణ్డుమెన్ఱాల్ నీర్ పాసన వసదిగళిల్ ఎవ్వళవు అదికమాగ సెయ్యవేణ్డుమో అవ్వళవు సెయ్తాల్తాన్ నామ్ ఉర్పత్తియై అదికమాక్కముడియుమ్. 4-30 p.m.

"ఎంగళుడైయ జిల్లా దుర్అదిర్ష్టవసమాగ తెన్ కోడియిల్ ఇరుక్కిఱదు. అన్త ఒరు కారణత్తాలో అల్లదు ఎంగళుడైయ జిల్లావిలిరున్దు వేణ్డియపడి ఇలర్చ్చి సెయ్యాతదిణ్ణాలో ఎంగళుడైయ జిల్లావిర్కు పాసన వసదిగళుక్కాగ తగున్తపడి ఒదుక్కవిల్లై ఎన్పదై సిఱిదు వరుత్తత్తుడన్ తెరివిత్తుక్కొళ్ళుగిఱేన్. ఎంగుం వాయ్క్కాల్గళ్ తరై మట్టత్తిర్కు వన్తిరుక్కిఱదు. కణం మన్త్రిరి అవర్కళ్ అంగే వన్తాల్ నాన్ కాణ్బిక్క తయారాగ ఇరుక్కిఱేన్. మణిముత్తా నది పెరుంగాణి (?) ఎన్ఱు ఒరు కాల్వాయ్ వరుకిఱదు. అదు ఆయిరక్ కణక్కాన ఆయక్కట్టుగళ్ ఉళ్ళదాగ ఇరుక్కిఱదు. అన్తక్ కాల్వాయ్ వరుం ఆరంభత్తిలిరున్దు పోగప్ పోగ తరైమట్టత్తిర్కు వన్తిరుక్కిఱదు. అదే మాదిరి అనేకం కుళంగళుం కాల్వాయ్గళుం ఇరుక్కిన్ఱన. కణం మన్త్రిరి Tank Restoration Scheme-ఐ ఎడుత్తుక్కొళ్వదర్కు అఱిగురియాగ token ఆగ రూపాయ్ 100 ఒదుక్కి వైక్కప్పట్టిరుక్కిఱదు ఎన్ఱు తెరివిత్తార్కళ్. నానుం Budget memorandum-తైప్ పార్త్తేన్. అన్త వగైక్కుం సన్తోషం. ఆనాల్ ఒదుక్కివైప్పదు మాత్తిరం పోదాదు. సెన్ఱ వరుషత్తిల్ ప్రదమ మన్త్రిరి అవర్కళ్ ఇంగే పేసుం కాలత్తిల్ Engineering College-క్కు అదికం మాణవర్కళ్ వరుగిరార్కళ్, Supervisor, Overseer-క్కు అదికమాగ వరవిల్లై. అవర్కళ్ అదికమానపడి ఇల్లాదదాల్ అనేకం వేలైగళ్ తడైపట్టిరుక్కిన్ఱన ఎన్పదాగ తెరివిత్తార్కళ్. వాస్తవత్తిల్ అదుదాన్ కారణం. జిల్లాక్కళిల అదికారిగళ్ ఎంజినీయర్కళిడం పోయ్కేట్టాల్ estimate తయార్ సెయ్వదర్కుకూడ ఒరు overseer ఇల్లై, నాంగళే ఎదైయెల్లాం సెయ్వదు ఎన్ఱు కేట్కిరార్కళ్. ఆగైయాల్ supervisor-కళైయుం overseer-కళైయుం జాస్తియాక్కవేణ్డుం. ఇదైయేదాన్ కణం కామాట్చి సెట్టి-కళైయుం జాస్తియాక్కవేణ్డుం. ఇదైయేదాన్ కణం కామాట్చి సెట్టి-కళైయుం జాస్తియాక్కవేణ్డుం. యుద్ధ కాలత్తిల్ 4 వరుష Engineering యార్కూడ కేట్టుక్కొణ్డార్. యుద్ధ కాలత్తిల్ వరుషత్తిల్ Engineers ఆగ course-ఐ ఇరణ్డు వరుష మాక్కి ఇరణ్డు వరుషత్తిల్ Engineers ఆగ course-ఐ ఇరణ్డు వరుష మాక్కి ఇరణ్డు వరుషత్తిల్ Engineers ఆగ ఆక్కివిట్టార్కళ్. అదే మాదిరి ఇన్త overseer course-ఐయుం కుఱిప్పిట్ట కాలత్తిర్కు సుఱుక్కమాగవే అవర్కళుక్కు పయిర్చ్చి అళిత్తాల్ ఇప్పొదు overseer-కళై అదికమాక్కలాం. ఇన్ణుం రిటయర్ ఆనవర్ కళైక్కూడ ఎడుత్తుక్కొళ్ళలాం. ఇదైప్పఱ్ఱి నాన్ general discussion-ల్ పేసుం కాలత్తిల్ సొన్నేన్. ఆగైయాల్ వెఱుం పణత్తై ఒదుక్కివైత్తాల్ మాత్తిరం పోదాదు. వరుషం ముడివదర్కుళ్ ఇన్త వేలైగళై సెయ్తుముడిక్క ఏర్పాడు సెయ్యవేణ్డుం.

"అడుత్త పడియాగ ఎన్ణుడైయ జిల్లావిల్ తామ్బిరపరణియిల్ అడిక్కడి దివుగళ్ ఏర్పడుగిఱదు. కారణం electricity reservoir-క్కు కొడుత్తిరుప్పదాల్ అప్పడి ఏర్పడుగిఱదు. పాసన reservoir ఏర్పడుత్తిణాల్ remunerative ఆగ ఇరుక్కాదు ఎన్ఱు electricity reservoir మాత్తిరం సెయ్దు విట్టార్గళ్. ఆగైయాల్ మణిముత్తా నదియిల్ ఒరు project కట్టిణాల్ ఇన్త పాసన వసదిక్కు సౌకర్యమాగ ఇరుక్కుం. ఇదైప్పఱ్ఱి అడిక్కడి పేసుంపోదెల్లాం కేట్టుక్కొణ్డిరుక్కిఱేన్. ఎంగళ్ ఊరిలిరున్దుకూడ కణం మన్త్రిరి అవర్కళుక్కు ఒరు memorandum కొడుత్తిరుక్కిఱార్కళ్. ఇదర్కు ఇన్త వరుష బడ్జెట్టిల్ ఎదువుం ఒదుక్కప్పడామల్ ఇరుప్పదు

[Srimathi V. Lakshmi Sankara Ayyar] [16th March 1948

వరుసంతక్కూడియ విషయం. Estimate-கள் தயார் செய்வதாக சொல்லி வருகிறார்கள். வருஷ நடு மத்தியில் estimate-கள் தயார் செய்வது முடிந்துவிட்டாலும் அதை சீக்கிரத்தில் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"அடுத்தபடியாக Electricity . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—"Electricity-க்காக தனியாக ஒரு demand இருக்கிறது. அதைப்பற்றி இப்பொழுது பேசவேண்டாம்."

* SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU :—"అధ్యక్షా, 5 నిమిషములు కాలములో ఈ ఇరిగేషన్ డిమాండ్‌పై మాట్లాడడం ఎట్లా సాధ్యమో నాకేమీ తెలియడం లేదు. Shorthand reporters ఎల్లాగయితే తొందరగా వ్రాయగలరో అల్లాగే short speeches ఇవ్వడం చేతనయితే తప్ప 5 నిమిషములలో మాట్లాడడం సాధ్యం కాదు. అయినప్పటికి విధిలేక మాట్లాడ వలసివస్తోంది

"నీటి సౌకర్య శాఖా మాత్యులు (Hon. Minister for Public Works) తెచ్చి నటువంటి demand ను హృదయ పూర్వకంగా support చేస్తూ నేను వారికి కొన్ని సలహాలను యివ్వదలచుకొన్నాను.

"ముఖ్యంగా మా పశ్చిమ గోదావరి జిల్లా కరువు ప్రాంతాలైన యితర జిల్లాలకు ధాన్యమును పంపించేటటువంటి surplus జిల్లాలలో ఒకటి. కాని నీటి సౌకర్యముల విషయములలో చాలా వెనుకబడియున్నది. మా జిల్లాలో అనేకమైన మురుగు కాలవలు (drains) మరమ్మతులు లేకుండా ఉన్నాయి. ఈ మురుగు కాలువల పేర్లన్నీ చదవటానికే ఈ గీ నిముషాల కాలము సరిపోతుంది. కాని వాటిని వదవక తప్పదు. ఎందుచేతనంటే మా జిల్లాలోని ఈ మురుగు కాలువలలో చాలా వాటిని శ్రీ భక్తవత్సలంగారు వారు మా జిల్లాలో పర్యటన చేస్తున్నప్పుడు, పడవమీద, రోడ్ల మీద, కాలి నడకమీదా వెళ్లి చూచారు. అక్కడ ప్రజలు పడుతున్న బాధలు కళ్లారా చూచారు. వారి కష్టాలను తొలగించడానికి ప్రయత్నము చేస్తానని హామీ వాగ్దానము చేశారు. కాని బడ్జెటు చూచినట్లయితే వీటి విషయమై ఏమీ కనుపించడం లేదు. ముఖ్యంగా నా నియోజక వర్గమైనటువంటి, నరసాపురం—తణుకు తాలూకాలలో (1) నక్కల కాలవ, (2) కాజా drain, (3) మొగల్తూరు drain, (4) గొంతేరు drain ల మరమ్మతుల విషయంలో ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఏ విధమైన శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొని నట్లు కనిపించడం లేదు.

"ఇంతేకాకుండా మా జిల్లాలో ఎర్ర కాలువ, ఎనమదుర్రు drain మొదలైన అనేక మురుగు కాలువలు ఏ విధమైన మరమ్మతులు లేకుండా ఉన్నాయి. ఈమురుగు కాలువలు మేట వేయడంవల్ల ముంపు పోక వేలాది ఎకరాలలోని పంటలు పాడవుతున్నాయి. ఇటువంటి చిన్నచిన్న మరమ్మతులు తక్కువ ఖర్చుతో చేయించినట్లైతే సారవంతమైన నటువంటి మా పశ్చిమ గోదావరి జిల్లాలో ఎక్కువగా ధాన్యమును పండించి ఇతర జిల్లాల వారికి సహాయ పడగలమని, కాబట్టి ఇటువంటి చిన్న scheme లను వెంటనే sanction చేయించవలసిన బాధ్యత, ముఖ్యంగా మంత్రులను తొమ్మిదిమందిని ఎదుర్కొనిన ఈ కాలంలో, ప్రభుత్వంవారిపై ఉన్నదని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. ఈ scheme లకు సంబంధించిన estimates ఇంకా తయారు కాలేదని వాటిని అంగీకారము చేయవద్దని, అధికారులను ఈ విషయంలో తరిమి estimate లను త్వరగా తయారు చేయించి అధివేశనము వాటిని Supplementary budget లో నైనా చేర్చవలసినదిగా మంత్రిగారిని కోరుతున్నాను.

16th March 1948] [Sri Alluri Satyanarayana Raju]

"ఇప్పుడు మా పశ్చిమ గోదావరి జిల్లా వారికి, తూర్పు గోదావరి జిల్లావారికి ఒక పేచీ వస్తున్నది. దీనికి కారణం ఇప్పుడు ప్రభుత్వంవారు అనుసరిస్తున్న Proportionate distribution of water అనే పద్ధతి (system). ఈ విధమైన పంపకం వల్ల మా పశ్చిమ గోదావరి జిల్లాకు అన్యాయం జరుగుతోంది. చాలవా పంటకు సరిపోయి నంత నీరు supply కాక పంటలు ఎండి పోయి రైతులకు నష్టం సంభవిస్తోంది. ఇటువంటి ఇబ్బందులను, మా ఉభయ గోదావరి జిల్లాల వారికి పేచీలు లేకుండా చేయటానికిగాను ఫణిభేశ్వరం అనకట్టయొక్క shutters (తలుపులను) 1½ అడుగులో 2 అడుగులో పొడవు చేసినట్లైతే ఎక్కువ నీరు నిలువ చేయడానికి అవకాశం కలుగుతుంది. వారికి మాకు పేచీ లేకుండా పోతుంది. అధిక ఆదాయానికి పొడవు పొడవులుంటాయి.

"మిత్రులు మునీదుగారు minor irrigationను Public Works department వారికి అప్పగించవలసినదిగా చెప్పి ఉన్నాము. మా అభిప్రాయంతో నేను ఏకీభవిస్తున్నాను. ముఖ్యంగా ఇరిగేషన్ విషయంలో రెవిన్యూ డిపార్టుమెంటువారికి ఏ విధమైన సంబంధం ఉండకూడదు. ఇప్పుడు ఉన్న విధంగా ఉంటే రెవిన్యూ శాఖవారి అభిప్రాయాలకు ఇరిగేషన్ శాఖవారి అభిప్రాయాలకు ఏ విధంగాను సంబంధం లేకుండా పోతున్నది. ఇటువంటి వ్యతిరేక భావాలవల్ల రైతులకు సరి అయినటువంటి సహాయం జరుగదు. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఇరిగేషన్ విషయం పూర్తిగా P.W.D. వారికే అప్పగించవలసినదిగా కోరుతున్నాను.

"ఇంతేకాకుండా ఇప్పుడు ఇరిగేషన్ విషయాలకు సంబంధించిన సలహా సంఘాలను విస్తారము చేశారు. ఈ సలహా సంఘాల సలహాను బట్టి వ్యవహరించినట్లైతే రైతులకు చాలా ఉపయుక్తంగా ఉంటుంది.

"నిజం చెప్పాలంటే రైతు దేశాని కంతా అన్నదాత. ఆతడు కష్టించి భూమిని చేస్తేనే తప్ప మనకు తిండి ఉండదు. ఆటువంటి రైతుకు తగిన సహాయము, వ్యవసాయాభివృద్ధికి కావలసిన కనులు చేయుటవలన, సాగుకు కావలసిన నీటి సరఫరా సౌకర్యాలు చేయుటవలనే, ప్రభుత్వం చేయగలదని, మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

"గుంటూరు సాగరం ప్రాజక్టు విషయంలో ప్రజలలో అనేక అపోహలు ప్రబలి ఉన్నాయి. ఇటువంటి అపోహలను తొలగించుటకుగాను ఆంధ్ర రైతాంగాన్ని ఉద్ధరించేందుకు వెంటనే ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఈ ప్రాజక్టు construction మొదలు పెట్టవలెనని హృదయ పూర్వకంగా కోరుతున్నాను. ఇటువంటి పెద్ద ప్రాజక్టును కట్టించి భక్తవత్సలం గారు మద్రాసు రాష్ట్ర చరిత్రలో వారి పేరు సువర్ణాక్షరాలతో లిఖించబడేటట్లుగా చేయాలని వారిని హృదయ పూర్వకంగా కోరుతున్నా."

* SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—"Mr. Speaker, I would request the Hon. Minister for Public Works to take up the investigation of the Pennar-Kistna Project in its various aspects. The water from Kistna river could be taken practically to irrigate the whole of Nellore district. The present scheme, as it is announced, covers only a portion of the Nellore district—the Kavali and Kandukur taluks. But if water can be taken through Kovthikanama, it is possible to irrigate even the rest of the Nellore district as well as the eastern portions of the Kurnool district. That is one aspect that has to be attended to immediately. The other

[Sri K. Koti Reddi] [16th March 1948

aspect is the taking of water from Kistna to the Gandikotta project. We have been anxious for the execution of the project. There seems to be a possibility of taking this water. The water from Pennar is not sufficient. The present scheme is intended to irrigate only about one lakh of acres. If water is taken from Kistna, we will be able to irrigate four or five lakhs of acres and more in the Cuddapah district. With regard to the Gandikotta project, I also want to know why there has been so much delay in executing it.

"Sir, I am glad, some provision has been made under the Grow More Food schemes for a few projects in the Cuddapah district. The schemes are only a very few, and even so, it is not certain how many of them will be taken up. The provision is very small. If the Government of India is not going to give a subsidy, there is a possibility of some of them not being taken up. I urge upon the attention of the Hon. Minister the necessity of giving preference to the Grow More Food schemes in Rayalaseema.

"Sir, there is one other point with regard to what fell from the mouth of the Hon. Minister for Public Works, about the remunerative and unremunerative character of irrigation schemes. There is a very wrong impression which has come down to us from the bureaucratic Government days. According to their standards, there will be very few, practically none, of the schemes which can be called remunerative. Under this bad impression that certain schemes are unremunerative there has been a long delay in the past. We cannot tolerate any further delay in the future. The idea seems to be that a scheme is remunerative only if the return on the capital invested is equal to the interest on the capital plus the maintenance charges. It ought not to be considered so. Sir, we must consider the added wealth to the country which results from the scheme. The new formula should be that the added wealth to the country as a result of the irrigation scheme should be equal to the maintenance charges plus the interest on the capital outlay. In such a case, the scheme should be considered remunerative. From the new standpoint, many schemes that were condemned as unremunerative are remunerative.

"Sir, the question whether the Government is in a position to finance the scheme is a different matter. As long as there is wealth in this country, money will be forthcoming either as loan or as revenue realized from the people."

Sri N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI :—" கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, இன்றைய தினம் மராமத்து இலாகா கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கொண்டு வந்திருக்கிற தீர்மானத்தை ஆதரித்து சில வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். எனது டிவிஷனிலும் ஜில்லாவிலும் வேலைகள் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று நாங்கள் இங்கே வேண்டிக்கொண்டதற்கு இணங்கி இவ்வருஷம் வரையில் வேலைகள் பூர்த்தி செய்யப்படாமல் இருக்கிறது. உணவுக்கு பஞ்சம் வற்பட்டிருக்கிற இந்த சமயத்தில் மராமத்து இலாகா அதிகாரிகள் அக்கரை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் ஒழிய இப்பொழுது வற்பட்டிருக்கும் பஞ்சத்தை நிவர்த்திக்க வழி இல்லை. கனம் மராமத்து இலாகா மந்திரி அவர்கள் அதிகம் கவனம் செலுத்தினாலும், மேலே அவரைப்பின் பற்றி நடத்துகிற அதிகாரிகள் ஆமை நடப்பதுபோல் நடந்து வருகிறார்கள்.

16th March 1948] [Sri N. Annamalai Pillai]

இந்த கஷ்டமான காலத்திலும் அவர்கள் இப்பொழுது சுயராஜ்யம் அடைந்த பிறகும் இந்த தேசத்தின் பொருளாதாரத்தை விருத்தி செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று ஊக்கத்தோடு வேலை செய்யாமலிருக்கின்றதும் இந்த மந்திரி சபை மெதுவாக நகர்ந்து செல்வதும் மிகவும் துக்க கரமாக இருக்கிறது. கனம் மராமத்து இலாகா மந்திரி பக்தவத்சலம் அவர்கள் வாழ்நாளில் சில இடங்களில் செய்த வேலைகள் அழியாத பாக்யத்தை அடைந்திருக்கிறது. அவருக்கு இன்னும் பூர்ண வெற்றி கிடைக்கவேண்டுமென்று கடவுளை பிரார்த்திக்கிறேன். எனென்றால் இப்பொழுது எனது ஜில்லாவில் சாத்தனூர் dam ஆரம்பித்திருக்கிறார்கள். இப்பொழுது வேலையானது மொம்பவும் மெதுவாக போய்க்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது இருக்கிற கஷ்டத்திலும் இப்பொழுது விவசாயத்திற்கு இருக்கிற நெருக்கடியான நேரத்திலும் துரிதமாக வேலை செய்தால்தான் பயன்படும். சாதாரணமாக ஒன்று சொல்லுகிறேன். சாத்தனூர் dam வேலையை ஆரம்பித்தார்கள். அந்தக் காட்டில் புலி, கரடி வாசம் செய்கின்றன. காட்டிற்குள் செல்வதற்கு ஒரு ஜீப் கார் கொடுக்கவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. அந்த ஜீப் கார் வேண்டுமென்று அதிகாரிகள் கேட்டும் இன்று வரையிலும் போய் சேரவில்லை. அது இல்லாவிட்டால் காட்டிற்குள் நுழைந்து துரிதமாக வேலை செய்ய முடியாது. இந்த கஷ்டமான நிலைமையில் வேலை செய்பவர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். சர்க்கார் துரிதமாக சாமான்களைக் கொடுத்தால் தான் வேலை சரியாக நடைபெறும். சென்ற வருஷத்தில் நான் வேண்டிக் கொண்டேன். சில மராமத்து வேலைகளை நடத்திவைக்கவே இல்லை. அந்த வேலைகளானது அப்படியே இன்று வரை செய்யப்படாமல் இருக்கிறது. செங்கம், செய்யார் அணைக்கட்டு போன்று பாம்பனூர் அணைக்கட்டு தீப்பாஞ்சான் அணைக்கட்டு பாமனந்தல் செய்யார் அணைக்கட்டு கருமல்பாடி அணைக்கட்டு, காஞ்சி கொண்டம் கால்வாய் ரிப்பேர், ஐவேல் எரி கால்வாய் ரிப்பேர், சோர்ப்பனந்தல் எரி கால்வாய் ரிப்பேர், துரிஞ்சலார் கோணலூர் அணை ரிப்பேர், இப்படி பல அணைக்கட்டுகள் உடைந்து போய் தண்ணீர் சரியாக வராமல் குடிகள் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். மற்றும் ரேனூர் அணைக்கட்டு, ஒலையார் அணைக்கட்டு, காடகமான் அணைக்கட்டு, தண்டரை அண்டம் பள்ளம் நீர் பாசன கால்வாய் ரிப்பேர், வேட்டவலம் குடி தண்ணீர் திட்டம், பண்ணியூர் எடை வெளி எரி ரிப்பேர் ஆகிய வேலைகள் செய்யப்படவில்லை. வேட்டவலம் மலைவெள்ளம் ஹரிஜன சேரியில் சேதம் செய்கின்றன. வீடுகள் விழுந்து விட்டன அதை இன்னும் ரிப்பேர் செய்யவில்லை. போனூர், மஞ்சனூர் அணை ரிப்பேர், காப்பலூர் காமன் கால்வாய் கொண்டம் ரிப்பேர், கலசபாக்கம் செய்யார் ரிவெட்டுமெண்டு கட்டுதல், அணியாலை ஆனைவாடி செய்யார் கால்வாய் ரிப்பேர் இவைகள் எல்லாம் செய்யவேண்டியதாக இருக்கின்றன இவைகளை உடனடியாக ரிபேர் செய்ய வேண்டும்."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" நீங்கள் வாசிக்கக்கூடாது. பேசத்தான் பேசலாம்."

Sri N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI :—" நான் வாசிக்கவில்லை. திட்டங்களை மட்டும் குறித்துவைத்து சொல்லுகிறேன். எனக்கு கொஞ்சம் கூட டயம் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். என்னுடைய தொகுதியில் ஒரிந்து முஸ்லிம் கலவரம் நடந்து விட்டது அதனால் இவ்வளவு நாள் வரவில்லை. சமாதானத்தை உண்டு பண்ணுவதற்காக அங்கேயே இருந்தேன். 30 நாட்களுக்கு 5 நிமிஷம் வீதம் இப்பொழுது கொடுக்கவேண்டும். அதுதான் சாதகமாக இருக்கும். ஆனாலும் தலைவர் அவர்கள் அபிப்பிராயபடி நடந்துகொள்ளுகிறேன். Highway department-ஆர் ஆமையைப்போல் நடக்கிறார்கள். ரோடுகள் வேலைகள், ஜில்லா போர்டு வேலைகள் சரியாக நடைபெறவில்லை. முனிசிபாலிடியின் ரோடு வேலைகள் கூட நடைபெறுமல் இருக்கிறது. இந்த மாதிரி அசம்பாவித சந்தர்ப்பம் இப்பொழுது ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. Engineering department-ல் ஆட்கள் கிடைக்கவில்லை என்கிறார்கள். ஆட்கள் கிடைக்கவில்லை என்றால் overseers செய்யும் திட்டத்திற்கு பல மேஸ்திரிகள் பலகாலத்து கைதேர்ந்தவர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களைக்கொண்டு வேலை செய்யலாம். அவர்களுக்கு 3 மாதம், 6 மாதம் training கொடுத்தால் அவர்கள் இப்பொழுது இருக்கிற சர்க்கார்

[Sri N. Annamalai Pillai] [16th March 1948

overseer-களுக்கு நூறு மடங்கு அதிகம் வேலை செய்வார்கள். மேஸ்திரிகளுக்காக 6 மாதம் படிக்கச்செய்து சோதனை செய்து பார்த்தால் overseer-களைவிட நன்றாக வேலை செய்வார்கள். ஆட்கள் கிடைக்கவில்லை என்று சொல்வதில் பயனில்லை . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" உங்களுக்கு பயத்திற்கு மேல் கொடுத்துவிட்டேன்."

SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI :—" ஒரே ஒரு வார்த்தை. இந்த குறைபாடுகள் என்னுடைய டிவிஷனில் நிறைந்திருக்கிறது. இவைகளை நிவர்த்தி செய்வதற்கு மேஸ்திரிகளை overseer ஆக training 6 மாதத்திற்குக் கொடுத்து வேலை செய்தால் காங்கிரஸ் சர்க்கார்முடைய திட்டம் நிறைவேறும். மந்திரி அவர்களுடைய புகழும் நன்றாக விளங்கும் என்று தெரிவித்துக் கொண்டு நான் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

* SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" Mr. Speaker, while speaking on this cut motion, I should like to say a few words. I have made several speeches in this House for the last two years criticising the Ministry. I have used strong and even violent words but they have not yielded any fruit. Now, I want to adopt a different method. I am going to make a pathetic appeal to the Hon. Minister for Public Works and see whether at least that produces any effect. Sir, Ramnad is the only district which has been terribly neglected as regards irrigation works. (N. Muhammad Anwar Sahib Bahadur: 'North Arcot.') May be, North Arcot also. In my district, we have no major or minor irrigation works, not even good well irrigation. The Hon. Minister has visited recently certain parts of my district. My district is a dry district and it is also a deficit district. It is facing famine now and then. Several times we have asked for an irrigation project for our district. We are seeing Periyar water flowing in the nearby taluk of Melur in Madura district but we have no benefit from it. We wanted that water for our Sivaganga taluk, but it is just like sea water to us, which we see with our eyes but cannot drink. When we asked for Periyar water, it was stated that there was not sufficient water to provide for Ramnad district. It may be also true, Sir, and we want to find out whether any other source is available for a major project and whether there is any possibility of a major project near Thakkadi lake. I suggest, Sir, that an expert committee may be appointed or at least an expert may be appointed to find out whether there is any possibility of a major project. I do not want a non-official committee of M.L.A's. I am told that some portion of the Periyar water is running waste into the Arabian Sea. If there is no possibility of irrigation in our district, I do not know how we can live there. Let us see what they do in Holland. They spend a lot of money and pump water from a low level to a higher level. But here, we do not find any such scientific methods being adopted. Now, Sir, my memory goes to my leader the late Mr. Satyamurthi. He told the people of Ramnad that if Congressmen came into power, they would move the Heaven even and bring water to the district, as Bagiratha brought the Ganges. If Mr. Satyamurthi had been alive, certainly he would have brought water to Ramnad even from Heaven.

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" Sir, in this connexion, I want to mention another scheme. There was a proposal to take a channel from the Cauvery at Trichinopoly to the Tiruppattur, Sivaganga and Tiruvadanai taluks. The channel had to pass through the Pudukottah State. There were some complicated problems and there was a quarrel between the Madras authorities and the Pudukotta State authorities over certain jurisdictional questions. The Pudukottah State wanted also some water. The Madras Government agreed to give water to the Pudukottah State but they wanted that any civil and criminal offences committed in the canal areas by the P.W.D. subordinates or by any other must be reported to the P.W.D. and must not be tried by the State authorities. The Pudukottah State did not agree to this. On account of this difference on the question of jurisdiction, the Government dropped the idea of taking the Cauvery water to the three taluks. The scheme was dropped on a mere question of prestige and the result is, the people of the three taluks and of the Pudukottah State suffer. Now that the State has been merged into the Madras Province, I request the Hon. Minister for Public Works to kindly look into the old records and see whether there is any possibility of taking a channel from the Cauvery to these three taluks.

" Another point, Sir. The Hon. Minister says that the Government are not able to provide for major schemes in this year. They have not provided any amount for maintenance of minor irrigation schemes too. So far as Ramnad is concerned, no minor irrigation schemes have been provided for seven taluks out of nine taluks for Mudukalattur, Aruppukottai, Ramnad, Paramakudi, Sivaganga and Tiruvadanai taluks. No major or minor scheme has been provided for. What are we to do? What is the use of having lands in the Ramnad district? We, the representatives of the people, come here and say that no provision has been made for repairs of minor irrigation schemes. This is the position in Ramnad district, which I wish to state to the Hon. Minister. I request him to consider these points and find out whether there is any possibility of giving water to my district. I wish to refer to some more points. I hope I have not made any violent speech or criticism or used any strong words. The state of affairs in Ramnad district is pathetic. I have often made appeals to the Hon. Minister. I think the Hon. Minister would relish my speech and I request him to reconsider the matter not because of my appeal, but to help people there. About 24 lakhs of people will be benefited if any irrigation scheme is provided for the Ramnad district. I request the Hon. Minister to reconsider the whole question, to find out some money and give some irrigation facilities for my district." 5 p.m.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 168 asked by Sri N. Sanjeeva Reddi (on behalf of Sri N. Venkata Subbiah) at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 16th March 1948, page 169 supra.]

Copy of letter No. 414-*B*/47-*HR, dated the* 31*st May* 1947, *from the Chief Engineer* (*Highways*), *Madras.*

[Communications—Roads—Kurnool district—Construction of a road to Srisailam Hill.]

It is seen that the construction of the road under reference is important only for the pilgrims visiting the temple at Srisailam. The country is reported not fit for cultivation or habitation and it is also unhealthy. From the Highways point of view also there is no urgency for taking up the work now.

2. Moreover, on a rough distribution of the allotment for the post-war works for the first five years, the Kurnool district is likely to get an allotment of about Rs. 10·5 lakhs for expenditure of other district roads and village roads. The cost of the work under reference, (i.e., for the route F.G.H.I. in the sketch enclosed to this office No. 2759/B/46-HR, dated 8th January 1947) according to the original post-war programme are:—

	RS. LAKHS.
(*a*) Improving the existing length of road between Rollapenta and Peecheruvu	1·32
(*b*) Forming a new road from Peecheruvu to Srisailam	4·50
	5·82

This however is likely to be exceeded and the whole scheme may cost more than 6 lakhs. The inclusion of the work in the five-year programme will affect seriously other important works.

3. It is not therefore proposed to include the work in the first five-year programme. The work will be considered for inclusion in phases 3 and 4, i.e., years 6 to 15 of the programme.

4. As regards cost of maintenance of the alternative routes referred to in the memorandum first read above, it is reported that though the route is to be of village road or other district road standard, owing to the terrain and the remoteness and unhealthiness of the jungle country around, repair and labour will be costly and Rs. 500 per mile will be about the minimum to keep the road generally in fair condition and especially during festival seasons.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, the 17th March 1948.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Removal of National flag from the Local Board School in Enangudi village.

* 173 *Q.*—SRI V. S. SANKARASUBRAHMANYA MUDALIYAR (on behalf of Sri A. Vedaratnam Pillai): Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the National flag was removed from the Local Board School building in Enangudi village, Nannilam taluk, Tanjore district, at about 10 p.m. on 29th September 1947; and

(*b*) whether the Police were informed about the miscreants and still no action has been taken in the matter?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"(*a*) Yes.

"(*b*) The police were informed of the incident. The facts disclosed an offence under section 426, I.P.C., which is non-cognizable. The police could not locate the offenders, but they are still making further enquiries in the matter."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether there are regular timings and instructions for the flags to fly. Is it the intention of the Government that flags should be flying throughout, day-in and day-out?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I cannot see how this supplementary question has anything to do with the original question. At the same time I wish to tell the hon. Gentleman that definite instructions have been issued with regard to the flying of the flag."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I ask what the definite instructions are and when they were issued?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"They have already appeared in the Press."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know whether the miscreants are kisans, Communists or Congressmen themselves?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"They have not been apprehended. Therefore they cannot be classified."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether this incident happened after definite instructions were issued or before that time?"

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I do not think that this supplementary question has any bearing on the original question."

Reinstatement of dismissed Police officials.

* 174 *Q.*—SRI V. S. SANKARASUBRAHMANYA MUDALIYAR (on behalf of Sri A. Vadaratnam Pillai): Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any Police officials who were dismissed for corruption or otherwise have been reinstated in the course of this year;

(*b*) if so, how many were so dismissed; and

(*c*) whether a list of such people with reasons for their dismissal as well as for reinstatement will be placed on the table of the House?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) Three items as per statement placed on the table of the House.

" (*c*) A statement[a] showing the particulars is placed on the table of the House."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" From the statement laid on the table of the House I see that only three constables have been reinstated. May I know whether there are any more cases to be reconsidered by the Government? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The original question refers to those who have been restored. So, I am afraid I can give no further information."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know whether there are any cases pending reconsideration? "

(No reply.)

Black-shirts procession at Rayapuram.

* 175 *Q.*—SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the Black-shirts were going in a procession on 23rd November 1947 at Rayapuram, whether the Police attacked the innocent onlookers; and

(*b*) if so, what steps the Government have taken against the Police?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (*a*) No.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

[a] Printed as Appendix on page 316 infra.

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SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN:—" தலைவர் அவர்களே, அன்றையதினம் போலீஸ்காரர்கள் பாதையின் மீது நடக்கச்கூடிய காங்கிரஸ் வாலண்டியர் களைப் பிடித்துக்கொண்டுபோய் கண்டபடி அடித்திருப்பது அரசாங்கத்திற்கு தெரியுமா என்று கேட்கிறேன்."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" தெரியாது என்று தான் சொல்லி இருக்கிறேன். "

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN:—" அப்படியானால் அவர்கள் ஆஸ்பத்திரிக் குப்போய், சொம்ப நாள் ஆஸ்பத்திரியில் சிகிச்சையிலிருந்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதை ருஜுப்பண்ணினால் அதைப்பற்றி விசாரணை செய்ய முடியுமா . "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" இதற்கு முன் கமிஷனர் அதைப்பற்றி விசாரித்து அப்படி யாதும் ஒன்றுமில்லே என்று எழுதி இருக்கிறார். "

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Are the Government aware of the statement of Mr. E. V. R. Naicker that there is no organization as Black-shirts and if so, did the Government ban an organization which did not exist? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The original question is about what happened at Rayapuram. This supplementary question has nothing to do with it. The hon. Member may put a separate question."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—" Now that the Government have banned the Black-shirt organization and declared it illegal, may I enquire whether hon. Members coming in black-shirts or long-coats come under the ban? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The Government have nothing to do with the sartorial ways of any hon. Member."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I know whether members of the Black-shirt organization are in evidence in this Province? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" It is impossible to give a dissertation on the point at the present time."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" கேள்வி கேட்கக்கூடிய நபர்கள் உறுதியாக இருப்பதினால் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் அதைப்பற்றி விசாரணை செய்யமுடியுமா ?."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" விசாரணை செய்திருப்பதில் தான் அப்படி இல்லே என்று நம்பி இருக்கிறேம்."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to define the Black-shirt organization? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I am afraid I cannot attempt the definition."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—" May I know whether it is a political organization just like the Black-shirts of Mussolini? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The hon. Member can draw his own conclusions."

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SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN :—" அவர்கள் சொல்வதெல்லாம் வேத வாக்காக இருந்தால் நாங்கள் சொல்வதையும் நம்பக்கூடாதா என்று கேட்கிறேன். பொது ஜனங்கள் அதைக்குறித்தும் எழுதி இருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதை தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" எழுதிவைத்ததை யெல்லாம் வைத்துக்கொண்டுதான கமிஷனர் அவர்கள் விசாரிக்க செய்து அதுபற்றி யாதொன்றும் இல்லை என்று எழுதி இருக்கிறார். "

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN :—" நானும் அவரும் அந்த ராவக்குப் போய் பொது ஜனங்களை விசாரித்தால் அப்பொழுது அவர்கள் என்ன சொல்லுகிறார்களோ அதை நம்புவார்களா என்று கேட்கிறேன். "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" அதைப் பற்றி இப்பொழுது சொல்வதற்கு தயாராக இல்லை. "

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI :—" May I know whether the Black-shirt organization is a political organization? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" It is definitely communal."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" In view of the fact that during the searches that were conducted, nothing incriminating has been found from the houses of the members of the Black-shirt organization, may I know whether the Government are going to change their decision? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" This supplementary question does not arise. I have no objection if the Hon. Minister wishes to answer the question."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" It may interest the hon. Member to know that no one has been arrested under this ban."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" When the Government ban an organization, they issue a statement showing the reasons why it is banned. May I know why no statement was issuesd in this case? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The Government felt that there was no need to do so."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" In view of the fact that there are two versions, one held by non-officials that something happened and the official version that nothing happened, may I ask the Hon. Minister to find out the truth? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" As far as we have heard, there was no such thing, as is referred to in the original question."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB :—" May I have an assurance from the Hon. Minister that persons who are found in Black-shirts or long-coats will not be suspected as one of the Black-shirt organization? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The hon. Member may wear a Black-shirt. He would not be touched if he does not belong to an organization which is declared illegal."

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MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know what was the policy of the enquiring officer? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" This is a matter which requires deeper consideration."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know the aims and objects of this organization? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The hon. Gentleman has to ask the authors of the organization."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" Arising from the answer of the Hon. Minister, that this is a communal organization, may I know to which community this organization belongs? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" It is a communal organization and it may be composed of many communities; yet it will be communal."

Quality of rice supplied in Cuddapah.

* 176 *Q.*—SHAH ALAM KHAN SAVOI SAHIB BAHADUR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the people of Cuddapah have been continually receiving stock of rice which is unfit for human consumption; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government will take early steps to supply better class of rice?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" (*a*) No. During the months of November and December 1947 only par-boiled rice could be supplied to the district as raw rice was not available. As the people of Cuddapah are not accustomed to use boiled rice there were persistent complaints regarding the issue of this rice. As raw rice was not available and as all local stocks of raw rice had been exhausted, the boiled rice had to be pressed into consumption because there was no other alternative. A sample of the boiled rice supplied was sent to the Government Analyst, Guindy, who certified that the rice could be used after polishing and sifting and the Collector arranged to do this.

" (*b*) At present only raw rice is being issued out of the consignment of 400 tons of raw rice received from Tadepalligudem against the January quota."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether he has any arrangement to see that bad rice is distributed proportionately to all the areas, instead of sending it always to particular areas in the Province or particular divisions even in the city of Madras? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I do not accept the statement that we are distributing inferior rice. We are distributing the rice we are able to procure. We are taking such precautions as to see that consumers' health is not

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affected and that there is no deterioration of health. I am not able to understand what the hon. Member means when he refers to rice of poor quality. I have given full and detailed information on the point why a particular type of rice was supplied on a particular occasion."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"The Hon. Minister stated that par-boiled rice was given and that it was of good quality. But the Government Analyst had recommended that it should be re-polished, sifted and cleaned. Does it not show that something was wrong with the quality of the rice?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The analyst did not say that the quality of the rice was bad. He simply said that the quality of the rice will very much improve if it is polished and if the dirt that may be there, is removed. He is perfectly right in saying so."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know what steps the Government took hitherto in regard to the complaint regarding distribution of unfit rice?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"When the Government received a complaint of that sort, the matter is investigated. The quality supplied is examined by the analyst and if any suggestion is made for improving the quality, the Government adopt the suggestion."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is not the Government aware that, out of the quantity of rice it gets from different parts of the country, there are inferior kinds and better kinds of rice? I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether any arrangement has been made to see that bad rice or inferior kind of rice is not sent always to particular areas and better kind of rice always to other particular areas?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The Government do not discriminate between one place and another. There are only two qualities of rice that are bought by the Government and supplied to ration shops. One is rice of superior quality and the other is second-class rice. There are only two varieties that are being distributed by the ration shops."

11-15 a.m. SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask, Sir, if they think that polishing does not add to the quality of rice, should it not be the policy of the Government to minimise polishing as far as possible?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Polishing does take off certain important vitamins from the rice, but unfortunately our people are used to polished rice and in spite of all that the Government might preach and talk about it, they still prefer only polished rice."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Arising out of the complaint that in recent months the stock of rice

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supplied to Cuddapah has been unfit for human consumption, may I know, Sir, from the Hon. Minister who, then has been consuming that rice in the Cuddapah district?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The complaint was there and it does not mean that that rice was not consumed."

M. V. HYDROSS SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, the reasons that prompted the Government in sending this rice to the expert at Guindy?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The expert is a Government agency that inspects the quality of the rice about which complaints are received and just informs the Government as to how far the complaint is correct and how it could be got over. It is only that investigation through the recognized authority that is being done."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, whether the Hon. Minister has forgotten the fact that when we were discussing the food problem, many hon. Members brought samples of rotten rice and sent them on to him and if he has not forgotten that, may I know whether he still maintains that they are not dealing in rotten rice?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I do not know what the hon. Member means. That there are different kinds or qualities of rice supplied by the Government is not correct. The Government, as I said, have bought only two qualities of rice, one is the better quality and the other is the second class quality. As regards the tricks played by the millers and so many other agencies in between the producer to the consumer, all sorts of things are being done, but whenever the facts are brought to the notice of the Government, we investigate into the matter and correct it and make such arrangements to see that such a fraud is not played on the ration authorities. It is just possible that if such tricks are played the consumers receive inferior stuff."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware, Sir, that this inferior kind of rice is reduced in quantity by further milling to an extent of 50 per cent and thereby the poor people, particularly in Ceded districts and Cuddapah, suffer not only in having to take bad rice but also in quantity?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"That is why Government take upon themselves the responsibility of cleaning up the rice and what is distributed is only cleaned rice and not the rice complained of by consumers."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, from the Hon. Minister whether controls continue in Cuddapah even to-day and that they are distributing rationed rice?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Controls do not continue in Cuddapah and it is one of the deficit districts where we

have removed controls now, but this question relates to the time when there was control and the complaints were made about that period."

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—"Sir, in view of the reply given by the Hon. Minister that the people of the Ceded districts are not accustomed to eat par-boiled rice, may I ask, Sir, why should the Government persist in supplying the same kind of rice?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Because, Sir, it so happens that in the distribution of rice, the Government do run short of a particular type of rice and it is not possible to procure that rice immediately and replace it, but there is an interval between the supply of one type of rice and another and in between people have got to be supplied with rations, because people have got to eat every day and ration has to be supplied to them every day. So, if raw rice is not available and if only par-boiled rice is available, Government have to give the rice that is available at their disposal."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know, Sir, who gets the better quality of rice and who the inferior. I wish to know whether the better variety is supplied to the rich and the bad quality given to the poor?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"There is no such thing like that. Of course, it is bad enough to ration rice and meet all the complaints. But, with regard to the quality of rice, it is all a question of price. All kinds of rice are available to both the rich and the poor alike."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Does the Hon. Minister know, Sir, that people are spending a considerable amount of money, in addition to buying the rationed rice, in order to polish the Tadepalligudem rice to make it fit for human consumption?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"As I have already said, the Government undertake to have the rice cleaned and distributed to the people who complain against it; therefore, ration card holders are not affected by the expenses involved in cleaning. They have the right to take only the right type of rice and refuse the bad quality of rice. If complaint is made about the bad quality of the rice supplied, the Government cleans it at their own expense."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Sir, I want to know from the Government whether there is any agency of the Government to examine the rice before it is purchased or allotted to this Province?"

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

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMAYYA:—"Was it not a fact, Sir, that blackmarketing in rice flourished not only because of the small quantity of rice given in rationed areas but also on account of the bad quality of rice which was generally given in the

rationed areas all over the Province and people went to the black-markets and bought rice because they were not getting good rice from the ration shops?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The Government are not prepared to go into the reasons for black-marketing."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, the Hon. Minister was pleased to mention about certain tricks being played by middlemen. To avoid this practice, why not the Government eliminate all middlemen and work through co-operative societies and wholesale co-operative stores?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, the policy of the Government is to deal through co-operative societies and wherever they are available they have preferred co-operative societies to other agencies and it is only in places where co-operative agencies are not available that millers are being employed."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Does not the Government at least now realise, Sir, that all these difficulties can be rectified by removing inter-district transport restrictions?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"No, Sir, inter-district movement control has nothing to do with this."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Sir, in view of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, namely, that Government clean the rice before it is supplied to the ration shops, may I know, whether, in the Salem district the Government have cared to ascertain from the Collector, they clean the rice before it is supplied to ration shops?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The whole of the Salem district being a deficit area, there is no control there."

Smuggling of liquor from Banganapalle State.

*177 *Q.*—SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that smuggling of liquor is going on on an extensive scale from Banganapalle State into the adjoining dry areas;

(*b*) how many cases of smuggling have been detected since the introduction of prohibition, how many ended in conviction and how many in acquittal; and

(*c*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take to prevent smuggling and ensure the success of prohibition?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"(*a*) In the earlier days of Prohibition in the Kurnool district, large quantities of liquor used to be smuggled in cars, lorries, etc. Now smuggling is confined to small quantities carried by head-loads along foot-paths.

"(*b*) Two hundred and nine cases were detected. Of these, 163 ended in conviction, and 2 in acquittal. The rest are pending.

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" (*c*) Preventive action was undertaken to check smuggling by the appointment initially of a staff of one Assistant Prohibition Officer and two Sub-Inspectors each with six men under them for both the Banganapalle and Hyderabad State borders. The Banganapalle State border soon demanded greater attention as large scale smuggling was observed. The preventive staff was reinforced by three additional Sub-Inspectors with seven guards under each of them with headquarter at Owk, Koilkuntla and Panyam along the Banganapalle border. The Assistant Prohibition Officer was also instructed to have his temporary headquarters at Koilkuntla and intensify the drive against smuggling from the State.

The Government also addressed the Banganapalle Durbar to close all border shops and to adopt other measures to prevent the smuggling of liquor and drugs into the dry area in this Province. The Durbar replied promising complete co-operation and stating that they had decided to close all abkari and opium shops within two miles from the border of Kurnool district. In view of the merger of the State in the Madras Province, the border problems relating to Prohibition enforcement can be tackled effectively."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—" Did it not occur to the Hon. Minister, Sir, that this smuggling would have been avoided if the distillery was controlled or recognized at that time and how is it he did not do this simple thing? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" Sir, the administration of the Banganapalle State was then in the hands of the Durbar and it was not open to appoint our own officers in that State for this work."

SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" May I ask, Sir, whether at least now Prohibition cannot be introduced in the Banganapalle State immediately? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" The matter is under consideration, Sir."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—" Is it not a fact Sir, that there is a general demand that Prohibition should be introduced forthwith in the State so that smuggling can be put down immediately? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" The demand is there but we have to make necessary administrative arrangements."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware of the fact that in the Nizam's border, particularly in the Kistna district, smuggling is going on with the aid and for the benefit of the Malabar Special Police that is stationed there? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" I am not aware of the truth of the statement of the hon. Member."

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" On a point of order, Sir. I would like to point out how the Malabar Special Police can come in here. If the hon. Member wants he can put a separate question and I can deal with him adequately."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, from the Hon. Minister for Prohibition whether this Banganapalle State will become dry before 2nd October next? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" Possibly even earlier, Sir."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" Are the Government quite sure, Sir, that none of the special staff posted for checking black-marketing and smuggling here, has been given by Government confidentially special facilities or permits? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" In reply to the special supplementary question which is a favourite of the hon. Member, I may assure him that not a single permit was given to any official in that area."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" May I know, Sir, how far negotiations with the Pudukottah State have progressed in regard to the introduction of Prohibition in that State? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member may put a separate question on that."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—" In view of the fact that at the time of taking over the Banganapalle administration there were already regulations which were likely to lead to an improvement of the situation, may I know whether they arrived at a settlement in regard to the matter? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" I think the local authorities might have already made some arrangement. However, I shall take the suggestion of the hon. Member."

Illicit distillation in Venkatagiri Division.

* 178 *Q.*—SRI K. SHANMUGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many applications for appointments as Prohibition Guards and Petty Officers, have been received from Venkatagiri, Gudur, Rapur and Sullurpet **taluks** and out of them how many applications, have been received from the Harijans and how many Harijans have been so far appointed; and

(*b*) since the introduction of prohibition in Nellore district, how many cases of illicit distilling and illicit possession of arrack in Venkatagiri Division have been registered and how many out of them have been convicted?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" (*a*) Forty-two applications were received for the posts of Prohibition Petty Officers and 120 for the posts of Prohibition Guards in the four taluks; out of this the number of applications from

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Harijans were 6 and 19, respectively. Three Harijans have been appointed as Petty Officers and two as Prohibition Guards.

" (*b*) Fifteen cases have been registered. One case has been disposed of resulting in the conviction of the accused."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, why out of the six Petty Officers only 3 Harijans have been appointed and out of the 18 guards why only 2 Harijans were appointed? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" Sir, that depends upon the qualifications of the candidates who applied for the posts. For the information of the hon. Member, I may say, that wherever suitable candidates turn up they were given preferential consideration. For example, in Malabar, all the 19 applicants have been appointed and so also I find that wherever suitable candiates were available they have been appointed."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I ask, Sir, what were the particular points in respect of the candidates as to why they were not found suitable? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" That cannot be given, Sir, unless the names of the candidates are specifically referred to by the hon. Member."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government will call for the applications of the six candidates and their educational and other qualifications which are required by the Government? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" I do not think any useful purpose will be served as it is more than a day after the affair."

11-30 a.m. ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—" May I know, Sir, how many political sufferers have been appointed to these posts? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" I would ask the hon. Member to put a separate question, Sir."

Allegations against the District Health Officer of Coimbatore.

* 179 *Q.*—SRI R. KUPPUSWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any petition has been received from any subordinate of the Coimbatore Health staff saying that they are unnecessarily teased by the District Health Officer, if he is not given supplies; and

(*b*) what action has been taken on the petition received?

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" (*a*) Copies of certain petitions addressed to the Director of Public Health by Sri K. R. L. Narasimha Rao, Health Inspector, Dharapuram Range, Coimbatore district, making certain allegations against the District Health Officer have been received by Government.

" (*b*) The matter is being enquired into by the Director of Public Health."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" The Hon. Minister has been kind enough to mention about certain allegations; may I know what they are, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The Health Inspector was asked to go to Pollachi to be in charge of plague duty and he refused to obey; he is under suspension and charges have been framed and an enquiry will shortly be held."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Whenever questions concerning officers of the Government are put on the floor of the House, the Hon. Leader of the House and other Hon. Ministers have made it a policy to defend them. May I know what is their policy, whether it is that they are determined to defend them or explain the position for the benefit of members? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I would like to point out for your consideration that there is a departmental enquiry pending in respect of this officer; further questions will naturally prejudice the enquiry."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know the policy of Hon. Minister in answering questions; whenever there are any allegations are they determined to defend them or to give infomation on the basis of enquiry into the matter? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The hon. Member knows as well as I do that when allegations are made, the poor officers are not here to defend themselves and it is the duty of my Hon. Colleague and myself to defend them."

MR. SPEAKER:—" When matters are under enquiry, it is better that in future Ministers bring it to my notice so that I can tell the Member concerned not to put further questions as it will prejudice the enquiry."

Cholera in Melur, Madura taluk.

* 180 *Q.*—SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI (on behalf of Sri P. Kakkan): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that a number of persons have died in Melur, Madura taluk, in Madura district, due to cholera; and

(*b*) if so, what steps have been taken to protect the poor people from the infection of cholera?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) Necessary preventive measures such as chlorination of water-supplies, disinfection, anti-cholera inoculations, etc.,

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were carried out. In all, 32,411 persons were inoculated against cholera in the taluk. Additional staff was posted according to the requirements of the situation."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Is it not a fact that adequate medical assistance was not given at Melur just at a time when cholera broke out there? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Certain representations were made by Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar and another hon. Member and immediate action was taken in the matter both by the Municipal Commissioner and by the Director of Public Health."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" May I know, Sir, how many people died of cholera at the time of the outbreak? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Till the 22nd February 1948 there have been 526 cases with 218 deaths."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" May I know, Sir, how many were attacked by cholera in the taluk? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" I have given information about Melur taluk till the 21st February 1948."

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—" May I know how many of these people who died have been inoculated? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" I have no information; I have given the total number of inoculations."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" May I know, Sir, whether in spite of the representations made by Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar and others, medical aid was not sent to the Melur taluk for nearly a week? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Immediate action has been taken."

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—" The point I want to know is whether people had been inoculated in time and therefore it is that I asked the question whether of those people who died there were any who had been inoculated? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" I have no information about this particular matter; but inoculations have been done and I have given the number."

SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—" In view of the fact that there is great superstition among the people that cholera is due to bhuthams and spirits, it is not necessary for Government to consider the advisability of appointing some propagandists to remove superstition and to make people undergo inoculation and scientific treatment for the disease? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The fact that people readily undergo inoculation shows that they do not believe that it is solely attributable to bhuthams and spirits."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, may I know, Sir, within how many days after the attack action was taken? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The next day, Sir."

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N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—" A serious point has been raised by my esteemed Friend Dr. Samuel who is a medical practitioner when he put the question as to how many died in spite of inoculation, to allay the misgivings of the public, will the Hon. Minister collect statistics and show that not a single case of death has occurred as a result of inoculation? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Investigations regarding the efficacy of cholera inoculation have been done by the officers of the King Institute and they have found as a result of the investigations that the inoculations is sufficiently effective in giving protection."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" In view of the fact that a large number of people died at a particular time in these two taluks, will the Government devise extra-ordinary measures to protect and safeguard the lives of the people at times of emergency? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Yes, Sir, necessary steps are being taken."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" I am sorry, Sir, I came late; our cars nowadays are getting old; they are more than two years old and I lost count of time."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Confession is the beginning of wisdom? "

Collection of revenue in Malabar district.

*172-A *Q.*—SRI K. RAGHAVAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact that revenue is still being collected in the Malabar district in spite of the order of the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue to suspend collection from landholders so that landholders in turn may be enabled to give remission to their tenants?

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" The Collector of Malabar reported that there was no justification for postponing kist in that district. The Government have not issued any orders directing postponement of kist in that district, but have authorized the Collector to postpone the January kist in areas in which he considers such postponement necessary."

II.—MOTION UNDER RULE 15 (3) OF THE MADRAS ASSEMBLY RULES.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Sir, I am making the motion in consultation with the Leader of the Opposition who is not here. I move, Sir—

' that under rule 15 (3) *of the Legislative Assembly Rules that Demand X—Legislative Bodies and Demand XII —Administration of Justice be taken up after Demand XVIII—Agriculture.'* "

The motion was put and carried.

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

III.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—*cont.*

DEMAND VIII—IRRIGATION—*cont.*

SRI R. RAMANUJULU REDDIYAR:—"தலைவர் அவர்களே இன்றை யதினம் இப்பொழுதாவது பேச அனுமதி கொடுத்ததற்கு முதல் முத லாக வந்தனம் செலுத்துகிறேன். கனம் மராமத்து இலாகா மந்திரி அவர்கள் தயாரித்த demand-ஐ ஆதரிக்கிற காலத்தில் என்னுடைய ஜில் லாவாகிய வடஆற்காடு ஜில்லாவில் சில திட்டங்களைப்பற்றி பிரஸ்தாபிக்க முன்வந்துள்ளேன். தஞ்சாவூர் ஜில்லாவுக்கு காவேரி எப்படியோ, circar ஜில்லாவிற்கு கோதாவரி, திருஷ்ணை எப்படியோ அதேமாதிரி பாலார் வடஆற்காடு ஜில்லாவிற்கு பாய்ச்சல் ஆறாக இருக்கிறது. பாலாற்றைப்பற்றி எனது நண்பர் ஜனாப் அன்வார் அவர்கள் நேற்று சொல்லி இருக்கி ருர்கள். பாலாரானது மைசூரிலிருந்து நந்திக் கிராமம் ஜமீன் வழியாக வந்து 75,078 எக்கர் நிலத்திற்கு சாகுபடிக்கு உதவியாக இருக்கிறது. இதனால் வடஆற்காட்டில் 5 தாலூகாக்களுக்கும், செங்கற்பட்டு ஜில்லா வில் 3 தாலூகாகளுக்கும் அந்த பாலாற்று ஜலம் உபயோகப்படுகிறது. வடஆற்காடு ஜில்லாவில் இந்த 5 தாலூகாகளிலுமாக 317 எரிகளுக்கு பாய்ச்சலாகிறது. முக்யமாக சென்னை மாகாணத்தில் பெரிய எரியாகிய காவேரிபாக்கம் எரிக்கு கால்வாய் இருக்கிறது. இந்த கால்வாய் சுமார் 18 வருஷமாக மண் அடித்து தூர்ந்திருக்கிறது. சென்ற வருஷம் கொஞ் சம் ரிபேர் செய்தார்கள். பூராவாகவும் ரிப்பேராஞல் இந்த எரிக்கு மிகவும் நன்மை ஏற்படும். இதனால் ரொம்ப கிராமங்களுக்கு நீர்பாசன வசதி ஏற்பட்டு இப்பொழுது அனுபவத்தில் இருக்கும் உணவு பஞ்சத்தை கொஞ்சம் நிவர் த்தி செய்யலாம். அதன்மேல் உணவு பஞ்சம் நாட்டில் இருக்காது.

"இதற்கு அடுத்தபடியாக தூசிமாமந்தூர் கிராமம் இருக்கிறது. இதைப் பற்றிகூட வெங்கட்டரமணி அவர்கள் தன்னுடைய 'முருகன் ஓர் உழவன்' என்னும் புஸ்தகத்தில் வெகு அழகாக எழுதி இருக்கிறார். அந்த ஊரில் இராஜன் வாய்க்கால் வந்து சேருகிறது. அந்த வாய்க்கால் 10 வருஷங் களாக ரிபேர் செய்யப்படாமல் தடைபட்டிருந்தது. இப்பொழுது சென்ற ஆண்டில் சொற்ப estimate தயாரித்து இப்பொழுது அந்த estimate பகுதி ரிபேராகி இருக்கிறது. இன்னும் ரிபேர் செய்யவேண்டியது 10 அணைகள் இருக்கின்றன. இந்த மாமந்தூரில் செய்யார் நீர் பாசனம் ஒன்று சேதாரப் பட்டு தண்டரை என்னும் கிராமத்திற்கு ஒரு திட்டம் தயாரித்து அதன் மூலம் மாமந்தூர் கிராமத்திற்கு கால்வாய் போகவேண்டுமென்று ஏற் பாடு செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். இதைப்பற்றிகூட சென்ற மந்திரி சபை கனம் மந்திரி யாகூப் ஹசான் ஒரு திட்டம் தயாரித்திருந்தார். அது ஒரு பெரிய திட்டம். அது 11 வருஷமாக அப்படியே இருக்கிறது, அதைப்பற்றி தற் சமயம் மராமத்து இலாகா கனம் மந்திரி பக்தவத்சலம் கூட பார்த்திருக் கிறார்கள். ஏதாவது செய்யலாம் என்றுகூட ஒப்புக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார். இன்று வரையிலும் யாதொரு நடவடிக்கையும் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப்பட வில்லை. அநேகம் விவசாயிகள் இதைச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று அடிக்கடி கவர்ன்மெண்டாரைக் கேட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள்.

"அதற்கு அடுத்தபடியாக சத்தியமங்கலம் (1) கமண்டலா நாகநதி கால்வாய் அணைக்கட்டு திட்டத்தில் வந்து சேருகிறது. வந்தவாசி தாலூகா வில் அண்மருதை திட்டம் வருகிறது. இந்த திட்டம் சுமார் 60 வருஷ காலமாக இருக்கிறது. அதற்கு சுமார் 10 ஆயிரம் ரூபாய் சிலவாகும். அதிகம் சிலவாகாது. அணைக்கட்டும் ரீதியில் அந்தக் கால்வாய் ரிப் பேருக்கு 50 ஆயிரம் ரூபாய் சிலவாகும். அதனால் 250 எக்கருக்கு அனு கூலமாக இருக்கும். அதனால் கவர்ன்மெண்டுக்கு வருஷம் 15 ஆயிரம் வரும்படி வரும். மூன்று வருஷங்களில் லாபம் கிடைத்துவிடும்.

"பாலார் நீர் பாசனத்தால் எட்டு கிராமங்களும், செய்யார் தாலூகா வில் ஆறு கிராமங்களுக்கும் வட ஆர்க்காட்டில் இரண்டு கிராமங்களுக்கும் பாய்ச்சல் திருப்திகரமாக இருக்கும். மேல் புத்தூர் முனுக்கப்பட்டு கால்

வாய்கள் ரிபேர் செய்ய 12 வருஷமாக மனுக்கொடுத்து வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். இன்னும் pending ஆக இருக்கிறது. வந்தவாசி தாலூகாவில் முரு கேரிகொண்டம் இங்கே ஒரு எரி கால்வாய்க்கு சிறிய அணைக்கட்டு கட்ட வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டு 1917-ம் வருஷத்திலிருந்து pending ஆக இருக் கிறது. அணைக்கட்டு கட்டவேண்டும் என்று பிரயத்தனம் பண்ணிக்கொண் டிருக்கிறார்கள். சுமார் 30 வருஷமாக மனுக்கொடுத்து வருகிறார்கள். Executive Engineer, Subdivisional Officers இதை கவனிப்பது இல்லை. அதனால் எரியில் ஒரு வாரம் ஜலம்கூட பிடிபடாமல் இருக்கிறது. இந்த மாதிரி கஷ்டங்களை ஜனங்கள் அனுபவித்துக்கொண்டிருந்தால் எப் பொழுது உணவு பிரச்னை தீரும் என்பதைப்பற்றி சிந்திக்கவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது.

"இதைத் தவிர சுகர் நதியில் வ்ருதூர்கொண்டம் இருக்கிறது. ஓர் அணைக்கட்டு வேண்டுமென்று 20 வருஷமாக pending ஆக இருக் கிறது. Estimate போடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. சுமார் 20 ஆயிரம் ரூபாய்க்கு estimate போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த திட்டம் செய்வதற்கு விவசாயி கள் compensation கொடுக்கக்கூட தயாராயிருக்கிறார்கள். இது 20 வருஷமாக நிறைவேற்றப்படாமலிருக்கிறது. இம்மாதிரி சங்கடங்களில் விவ சாயிகள் அவஸ்தைப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இதை சீர்திருத்தம் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கனம் மராமத்து மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கு தெரிவித் துக்கொண்டு இந்த டிமாண்டை ஆதரிக்கிறேன்."

* SRI S. CHIDAMBARA AYYAR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting this Demand, I wish to make a few remarks generally and with special reference to the South Arcot district. In my district a number of rainfed tanks have become silted up. Besides them, there are a number of tanks fed by channels from rivers and streams and also direct irrigation channels; most of them have become silted up for a long number of years, and no effective repairs have been done till now. I only want Government to take note of this that if only they are repaired now, there will be enough supply of water, so much so, we can tide over our present difficulty even during drought and failure of monsoon. In addition to these, there are certain other sources of irrigation, springs, springheads and channels emanating from these springs. I want Government to repair these and if that is done there will be a perennial supply of water for irrigation. 11-45 a.m.

"I now come to lift irrigation from wells. Lift irrigation is done mainly by motors, oil-engines and circular mhotes known as kavalais. The difficulty is we do not get enough electricity for motors, oil for oil-engines, and iron materials for kavalais. I would like Government to pay attention to these and see that these are supplied to the ryots, so that, they may make use of the wells to the better advantage of the Province.

"Another thing I wish to point out here is, that the money allotted under Irrigation or under Public Works is not at all spent, and as mentioned by Mr. Sanjeeva Reddi, 75 per cent of the allotment is not spent at all but allowed to lapse. If the entire allotment is utilized before the 31st March of every year, much work would have been done, and Government would deserve to be complimented. I realize, there are difficulties in the matter of execution. There is paucity of contractors, difficulty in the matter of rates to be given to contractors; but if only a slight adjustment is made in accordance with the prevailing rates in the

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localities by the officers concerned on the spot, I think it would improve matters and enable a large amount of work to be executed; and in this way lapses may not occur."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has one minute more."

SRI S. CHIDAMBARA AYYAR:—"As regards schemes under 'Grow More Food' campaign, ten schemes have been mentioned for South Arcot, and I congratulate the Hon. Minister for having allotted money for such schemes. Tiruppachanur flood damage is a thing which the Hon. Minister himself inspected and found its repair absolutely necessary and though he had asked the work to be pushed through, I find, so far nothing has been done to implement it. Sir, flood damages occurred fifteen months back, and the Hon. Minister inspected the place as early as six months back, and yet nothing has been done to repair them. There is a big breach and forty to fifty acres have become sanded to a depth of 6 to 9 inches. The Hon. Minister himself saw the place and he ordered the breaches to be closed and widen the railway line. This is in Tirupachur near Sendanur railway station. Though the Executive Engineer was asked to see to the work being done, I am told, the work is not done yet. I only wish the Hon. Minister directs the flood repairs, or any repairs for the matter of that, to be done immediately. If only the several short-term schemes are taken up and pushed through, I am quite sure we can have the benefit of them in one or two years.

"Another thing I want to say is, that in Kallakurchi taluk there is a proposal to construct a reservoir to store the waters of the Gomathi and Manimukthanathi rivers for irrigation purposes. I am told by that ten to twelve villages will be submerged. I would like the Hon. Minister to reconsider this question and drop it because there is the Toludur Project which can be used for irrigating these parts also. With these words I support the Demand."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting this Demand I only wish to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to one or two facts. Irrigation under the present circumstances must really consist of two programmes, a long range and a short range programme, big schemes as well as small schemes. Engineers who are in charge of devising schemes must also revise their opinion. They ought not always stick to big schemes, schemes requiring laying of deep foundations, schemes depending on the use of cement and steel, which are not now easily available. They should not stick only to one kind of engineering work. They must devise engineering works for emergency purposes. There is a great emergency now on account of scarcity of food. So there is no use of devising reservoir of a particular kind, which cannot be constructed till cement and iron are available. You cannot say, 'until cement and iron are available the reservoir cannot be constructed and till then no water can be brought down for irrigation.' For instance, Sir, about Vamsadara river, about which I have asked several qustions on the floor of this House, it is running between the borders of Orissa

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and Andhra in the north. The engineers after investigation have drawn up a preliminary scheme. They always devise a scheme which involves a dispute of boundary with the neighbouring State or Province, submersion of hundreds of villages of the neighbouring territory and possibly of realignment of railway line also. Tell them anything you like, tell them the people are starving, tell them India which once was flourishing has now to import food from Brazil and Argentine, they stick to their own proposal! With regard to the Vamsadara, a number of engineers who were working at the scheme, reported to the Government that the scheme could be done in no other way except involving boundary disputes with the neighbouring territory; no alternative to a cement dam they could devise. I only draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to look out for alternative methods rather than always stick to the old method of saying 'there are boundary troubles and we cannot proceed with it.' We must pull up our engineers from always saying that unless such and such a thing is not available the dam cannot be constructed—a thing which they learnt in schools and which they saw perhaps in Western countries. The river Vamsadara flows in such a plane that water can be taken in an open head system. Cement concrete is necessary only for a closed head system. I can show the open head system is not a waste, as our engineers would tell us. I draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the river Eleru in East Godavari. All the land under that system yield double crop. One of the richest bits of East Godavari is under that system. Water is brought to the fields under the open head system."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has one minute more."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"I crave the indulgence of the Chair for a few more minutes, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member can have it."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Thank you, Sir. Therefore, I am suggesting to the Hon. Minister to put these engineers to the study of alternative schemes rather than wait for the supply of a material which it is not possible to get.

"I want to say with regard to the Ramapadasagar Project, this House was not given the complete set of documents of advice given by the expert engineers who went and investigated it. The American and Swiss engineers, so far as I can remember, completed the investigation by 1946; and what little there was, was cleared in July 1947, and there was nothing technically wrong in preventing the Government from starting the work. The Hon. Minister in reply to a question here said, 'investigation is proceeding'. I am told on reliable authority, this further investigation on which the American engineers talk, and which is mentioned in their report, would not really take place until the dam has begun to spring up because any investigation now to be conducted will have to be done on hypothesis. Therefore I want the Hon Minister to look into the matter and not be carried away by the

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words of the engineers, that investigation is still being continued. I am sorry on an important subject like this I came late, and I am given only five minutes, where even 55 minutes are not enough."

* MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the cut motion, and in doing so, I wish to bring to the notice of the Government, some of the imperative needs of my constituency, Nellore district, in the matter of irrigation facilities. Sir, I do realize that this Demand as well as other Demands is overshadowed by the policy of Prohibition and the consequence which it involves. I do feel that more attention should have been paid to some of the very urgent needs of my district in this matter. It is an agreed fact that so far as agriculture is concerned, that is the one thing that needs improvement in this Province and that is the one thing that would tend to the increase of the wealth of this Province. I remember, when I toured my district along with the Hon. Finance Minister in the course of inauguration of Prohibition, I was met with one fact throughout the tour, and that was wherever we went, to whichever village we went, there was one sad story of lack of irrigation facilities; every one was demanding more canals, more irrigation facilities, more tanks and more irrigation projects. Unfortunately, Sir, the Hon. Finance Minister could not give any satisfactory reply. They said, 'You promised us this tank; you promised this reservoir; you promised us this canal when you came to us in 1937; you said, till then, the British Government, the bureaucratic Government was in power, and therefore our needs were not met; but once you return us to the legislature, when we are in power, we will see all your demands are met.' Now, Sir, after ten years, the Hon. Finance Minister goes back to those places and he is faced with the same demands and the same sad story to tell. There are certain very urgent needs in the matter of irrigation. I brought
12 noon. to the attention of the Hon. Minister for Public Works the need for repairing the existing tanks in the Nellore district. There is the Kanigiri reservoir and the Nellore tank. Silt has accumulated in these tanks with the result that they are not as useful as they were originally intended to be. It is very necessary if we want to continue the utility of these tanks some repairs have to be effected in order to remove the silt.

" Then the canal system also needs very urgent improvement. I do not know whether it is a special feature in India that these canals should be overgrown with weeds and not attended to and not repaired indefinitely. If these canals are kept in proper condition—and I am sure it does not involve any huge expenditure—a little supervision and a little expenditure will certainly go a long way to keep these tanks in good and proper condition.

" With regard to well irrigation, I wish to say a few words. In Nellore, there is going to be a thermal station and if electric energy is supplied to the agriculturists from that station and they are given high priority in the matter, it will go a great way to improve the lot of the agriculturists.

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" Then there is the Kistna-Pennar Project which has been pending before the Government for a pretty long time. I hope these two things will not be left merely on paper but that the Government will go straightaway to implement and give effect to them as early as possible."

* SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" I rise to wholeheartedly support the Demand moved by the Hon. Minister for Public Works, and in doing so, I wish to make a few remarks.

" Sir, the necessity for carrying out repairs in respect of irrigation works is being felt keenly in mufassal parts. We are being informed from time to time that technical hands are short, such as overseers, etc., and that Government are making all efforts to make up this shortage. But, Sir, owing to this shortage of hands, there is inordinate delay in attending to minor irrigation works. Minor irrigation works are mostly handled by non-technical officers. That is the reason why any work connected with minor irrigation works is not promptly and efficiently carried out. I am speaking this from my own experience. Estimates are not at all got ready for executing the works, so much so allotments that have been made by the Government for certain works in particular year are left unspent in some cases. I have brought a certain fact to the notice of this department, viz., that a particular minor irrigation tank in my district was breached as far as I remember about two years ago but that breach has not yet been closed, the reason being that the technical authorities have not taken up the matter in right earnest. So if the minor irrigation works also were to be in the hands of the Public Works Department, I am sure breaches like the one I have mentioned above would have been closed. My earnest request is that all the defects now existing in the Minor Irrigation Department can be wiped out if it is amalgamated with the Major Irrigation department. Under the existing state of affairs we cannot expect any speed or efficiency in the Minor Irrigation department. In a dry district like Coimbatore, we cannot expect any big project as in the northern districts."

MR. SPEAKER:—" One more minute only."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" I am so sorry, Sir, that I am not able to say what all I have got to say.

" Sir, the Upper and Lower Bhavani Projects are hanging fire for a number of years and at last Government were pleased to sanction the Lower Bhavani Project as they were of the opinion that more acreage and a large number of people would be benefited by carrying through that project. It was designed mostly as a dry project, of course, with some wet cultivation. My hon. Friend from Gabichettipalayam represented that the water made available from Lower Bhavani Project should not be given for the cultivation of dry crops, but only for wet cultivation. Sir, in my opinion, half a loaf is better than no loaf. My submission is that Lower Bhavani Project was also intended to be a dry project and to benefit people in the famine-stricken areas like

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Dharapuram. The hon. Minister when he paid a visit to Dharapuram, was pleased to say that he would extend irrigation facilities from the Lower Bhavani Project when it came to fruition, to 25,000 acres of land, and the main idea of the Hon. Minister in saying so was to treat the Lower Bhavani Project as a dry project. Sir, if there is going to be any change now, I am afraid the dry tracts of Dharapuram will be greatly affected. I therefore sound a note of warning that in the interests of famine-stricken areas like Dharapuram, the Lower Bhavani Project should be undertaken."

SRI T. K. T. N. R. TATACHARI:—" Sir, with regard to the constituency from which I come, I have to make a special plea, because that district is neither fish, nor flesh, nor good red-herring so far as Irrigation Budget is concerned. Of course, the Irrigation Minister is a clever gentleman and he has put a long list of schemes which he has promised to consider in order to satisfy everybody in the Province. I do not know how far that can be done with any immediate result. Whenever we propose any project, some technical authority comes and says that it is not possible or feasible. We want some irrigation project that will give us an immediate supply of water. What is the use of thinking or expecting that a big project is going to bring water after 30 years! Chittoor is one of the best districts from the point of view of irrigation facilities in the whole of Rayalaseema and there are many tanks which are in a dilapidated condition. Immediate steps will have to be taken to see that these tanks are repaired and their bunds restored to their original condition so that irrigation may go on without any impediment as in olden times. It is usually said that people kick off the ladder after their purpose is served. Likewise, my district and Rayalaseema were the districts from which you derived the largest amount of revenue by reason of their productive capacity in cottage industries and you had also a surplus revenue left with you and that enabled the Government to build the Grand Anicut. It is also with the revenue derived from my district and other districts of Rayalaseema that you are now launching upon the Ramapadasagar Project which will provide a third meal to people who are already having two meals. But here in my district there is not even one project and this Budget does not make a provision of Rs. 1,000 for bunding this channel or improving some other channel. Swarnamukhi Project is under contemplation and it is awaiting sanction. The Hon. Minister has promised to give a special staff and I am sure he will be doing something in this direction. But the only difficulty that is always expressed, so far as this district is concerned, is that a major part of it is zamindari area and it is not possible to give any immediate relief. But that thing, I think, should be got over now, particularly in view of the abolition of the zamindaris.

" Another point that I wish to refer to is this: there must be extension of electricity for irrigational purposes in my district because most of the tracts there are irrigated by lift irrigation. The land is so good that it is worth while extending electricity to my district immediately.

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" There should also be a systematic survey of the district. Whenever a scheme is brought forward, the plea is that there are no proper data on which we can proceed with the scheme. Whenever a scheme is brought forward some technical authority comes forward and says the same has to be investigated."

SRI R. VENKATAREDDI:—" Sir, while supporting this Demand, I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the feeling of disappointment and frustration of the people of Rayalaseema. There is inordinate delay in putting through even small schemes, that have been promised to us from time to time. One or two hon. Members from Rayalaseema have been very vehement in their criticisms. I request you, Sir, and the other hon. Members of the House not to go away with the feeling that they are making a fetish of their demands but try to appreciate their difficulties and the urgency.

" Sir, Rayalaseema is a very hard hit area. There are no natural sources of water, nor the rainfall is sufficient. The average rainfall is very scanty. It does not go more than 20 to 23 inches. The people there have no other occupation, industrial or otherwise. The hon. Mr. Prakasam when he was Premier promised to carry out some of the most important schemes. Deputations waited upon him and impressed on him the urgency of attending to at least certain minor works pending consideration of major works. At the instance of hon. Sri Prakasam, the hon. Messrs. Koti Reddi, Prakasam and Bhaktavatsalam toured through the various parts of Rayalaseema with whom I also went and had conferences with people there and finally promised that immediately at least the minor works would be taken on hand. What we the representatives from those districts are confronted with from the people there is ' What is it that is being done by this Government? ' Unless at least the minor works are taken up in hand immediately there will be no satisfaction to the people.

" So far as the district of Chittoor is concerned, I must urge the necessity of making a survey, because it is a district where there is no scope for any project big or small. It is a district which depends entirely upon a good system of tank irrigation and well irrigation. Now the district consists mostly of zamindari area and the tanks and wells are completely in disrepair and electricity is quite essential for lifting up water for irrigation facilities."

SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, while supporting the Demand, I wish to say a few words. Some members of our own party from Tamilnad have said that, instead of taking up small schemes, the Government are contemplating to take up big schemes which, according to them, are a waste. I wish to tell them that big schemes are more paying than small schemes and therefore they should not think that big schemes are a waste. I am referring to the Ramapadasagar Project the implications of which, I am sure, many hon. Members do not understand. To-day Madras is a deficit province with regard to food, and every year the Government of India and the Government of 12-15 p.m.

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Madras are spending a large sum of money on importing foodstuffs from abroad, on Grow More Food Campaign and things like that. We are deficit by two million tons of paddy, and this deficit can be made good by executing the Ramapadasagar Project. Fortunately for us, cotton brought into existence the Godavari and Kistna systems but for which we would have been terribly famine-stricken. Our Tamil friends do not seem to realize that even with these two schemes, our condition to-day is very bad, and that but for them we would have been very much worse off. At least now, when we are depending on the Government of India for our food, they should realize that the construction of a big project on the Godavari, which is one of the biggest rivers in the world, will make good the deficit of two million tons of paddy. The engineers guarantee that this deficit can be met if the Ramapadasagar Project comes into existence. Recently I visited the project at Polavaram. People who are really interested in the welfare of the human beings all over India ardently feel that it should be brought into existence immediately. In the north, schemes are sanctioned even without plans, estimates and things like that. We have been going on with the investigation of the Ramapadasagar Project and we do not know when it will really come into existence.

"Yesterday Mr. Rajaram Nayudu said in the course of his speech that this would cost 180 crores. I do not know how he arrived at that figure. I was told that he added interest on the capital also. In foreign countries, the Governments do not think of interest for major schemes like this and they do not take into account the customs duties on the import of machinery. When such is the case, when the entire deficit can be met by one single scheme and when the money to be spent on it is not going to be met wholly from the provincial funds, why should these members feel hesitant to approve the scheme? I do not know whether it is due to an anti-Andhra feeling on their part. When we are assured of so much extra production, we need not depend upon foreign imports and the Government of India need not spend 100 crores of rupees every year. The hydro-electric power that will be generated by this project will be twice the quantity of power of all the three big projects which are now in existence. The Hon. Mr. N. V. Gadgil, Minister in the Dominion Government, said the other day that the Government were not thinking in terms of interest or profit in respect of major schemes. His Excellency the Governor, when he paid a visit to Polavaram, said that the project was important and that it must be taken up immediately."

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU :—"ஒரு personal explanation. கனம் Deputy Speaker பேசும்போது இராமபாத சாகர் Project க்கு 180 கோடி ரூபாய் செலவாகும். அதை என் இப்பொழுது எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று நான் பேசியதாக அவர்கள் கூறினார்கள். நான் அந்த எண்ணத்துடன் நேற்று பேசும்போது சொல்லவில்லை. 180 கோடி ரூபாய் உள்ள பெரிய திட்டங்களை ஆரம்பித்து பல வருஷங்களுக்கு பின்னல் முடிப்பதைவிட உடனடியாக இவ்வருஷத்தில், ஒரு கோடி அல்லது லட்சக் கணக்கில் செலவாகும் சிறிய திட்டங்களை உடனடியாக ஆரம்பித்து அமைக்கவேண்டுமென்றுதான் கேட்டுக்கொண்டேன். வேறு ஒன்றுமில்லை."

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• THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very thankful to the several hon. Members of this House for their valuable suggestions and helpful criticisms. The suggestions that they have given will be very carefully examined by the Government and necessary action will be taken. I am particularly grateful to hon. Members for having drawn my attention to several difficulties and shortcomings. I am unable to deal with them here on the spot without further examination. But I assure my hon. Friends that I shall have these points duly examined again.

"My hon. Friends Messrs. N. Sanjeeva Reddi and R. V. Swaminathan took up two different attitudes. My hon. Friend from Anantapur was very bitter and critical while my hon. Friend from Ramnad took up a very appealing attitude. I may at once tell my hon. Friend from Ramnad that this does not make any difference in me. I appreciate the feelings of the hon. Member from Anantapur. I understand his bitterness because I have known Anantapur district. The Anantapur district has been so poor in irrigation resources, as also the Ramnad district. Both are equally poor and so far it has not been possible to achieve anything substantial. Therefore both the hon. Friends are really anxious and appeal to the Government to do something tangible in the near future. Although I may be able to show something substantial in the course of this year for the Anantapur district, I am sorry to say that, in spite of the appealing attitude of my hon. Friend from Ramnad, I may not be able to do anything substantial during the course of this year. I am quite well aware of the conditions in these and other areas and I can assure my hon. Friends that we are doing our very best in the matter. I only want hon. Members to understand the difficulties and the hurdles that the Government have to face in this matter. There is no question of anybody showing sympathy to any one. My hon. Friend from Anantapur said that they did not want any sympathy. I appreciate his attitude. I am one with him that any attitude of patronage should be severely condemned. Nobody is in need of any sympathy or patronage. After all, who is to give sympathy and to whom? This is a Government of the people including the people of the Anantapur district and those of Rayalaseema. We do not adopt any patronizing attitude. My hon. Friend from Anantapur complained that ever since I dealt with this matter last year, nothing had been done in the Anantapur district. I may at once assure him that we took up the development of irrigation in Anantapur district even a year back and since then we have not been keeping idle. There is so much to be done and whatever we have done appears to be nothing. As I said yesterday, before a scheme is taken up, whether it is a major scheme or a minor scheme or even if it is the restoration of a tank, we have to do the necessary examination before we commit ourselves to the expenditure. Investigation does necessarily take time. Several hon. Members complained that even the investigation had not been taken up. While the investigation of a

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particular scheme in a particular district had been ordered and the necessary staff has been posted, the hon. Member from the same district complained that there was the other scheme which I promised to undertake and for the investigation of which no staff had been posted. I have already explained my difficulty regarding the shortage of staff, and it is not possible to get several schemes in the same district investigated at the same time by several sets of staff. Before we ask this House to vote for an item of expenditure either in the general budget or in a supplementary budget, we must satisfy ourselves and this Hon. House whether the amount asked for is worth while spending. I may point out one instance which came to my notice during my tour. Last year I inspected a tank called the Chinnatekur tank in the Kurnool district. Under the Grow More Food Campaign, the tank was taken up for restoration during the Advisers' regime. In a hurry, plans and estimates were prepared and the restoration was executed. It must have cost between 5½ and 6 lakhs of rupees. The ayacut of the tank was estimated at about 550 acres, and this works out at Rs. 1,000 per acre. When I inspected the tank, the execution was almost over. In this, as in other areas, we had the heaviest rainfall last year. But there was water in the tank only sufficient to irrigate 100 acres. Still only 25 acres had been brought under cultivation after having spent nearly 5½ lakhs. When I enquired about it, I was told that there was some defect somewhere. Without thoroughly examining the feasibility, if we launch on a scheme in a hurry in our anxiety to achieve results in the quickest time possible, the results will not be commensurate with the money we have spent.

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"Therefore hon. Members will appreciate the need for investigation of both the minor and major schemes. But I can assure hon. Members of the House that once we take up investigation, there is no further delay. Sometimes we have to take the gaugings of water in order to find out how much water is available and this is also very necessary. But anyhow, to the extent to which we were able to allot our staff, we have taken up the investigation of projects in the various districts. I may even say that in almost every district, some staff is investigating some scheme or other. When I went to Rayalaseema last year, I inspected those areas and I told then that the Mid-Pennar Scheme and other schemes would be taken up for investigation. I am glad to say that the investigations have been completed and plans and estimates are under preparation. It must be remembered that the next stage after investigation, is the preparation of plans and estimates. Then these will have to be scrutinized by the Chief Engineer and his subordinates, and sometimes I have seen that the plans and estimates that are submitted by the subordinate officers have again to be scrutinized and revised by the Chief Engineer. These are necessary processes and after these processes are gone through, we ourselves examine these schemes once again and place them before the Legislature for sanction. Without finalizing the plans and estimates, we cannot ask you to vote for any specific provision. That is why I have given the list of schemes which we expect to

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take up in the course of this year. We have asked for a lump sum provision of Rs. 70 lakhs under two heads. Sir, let me explain how we seek for a token provision of Rs. 100 for tank restoration schemes. There is no meaning in ridiculing this idea of token grants. We propose to take up many tank restoration schemes. We shall start them in the several dry non-deltaic districts, but what specific provision can we ask for now? We do not know what amount would be necessary. In certain cases, investigation is still not completed and in certain others, plans and estimates are under preparation. Therefore, under such circumstances, we seek the approval of the House for a token provision, so that we might inform the House even when we present the Budget that we propose to incur expenditure on those tank restoration schemes. There would be no difficulty about securing necessary finances, whenever those schemes are taken up for execution. Over and above these token sanctions which we seek for through this budget, there may be other important and urgent schemes which we may have to take up in the middle of the year, and for which we will have to come to this House again for the grant of a supplementary provision, which we get without any difficulty. Therefore there is nothing wrong in providing token grants. That is how we have provided for the Shariyar Scheme in the South Kanara district as a Part II scheme, for Rs. 1¼ lakhs in this year, but we have already sanctioned the scheme because the monsoon would be coming very soon, and we are anxious to start work before the monsoon sets in. My hon. Friend from Anantapur referred to the Gantimari tank and urged the need for restoring it. We have already considered the scheme and it is being examined. It is estimated to cost Rs. 2,20,000. The area that is to be brought under cultivation is estimated to yield 150 tons of rice or millets. Although we have not shown it in the budget, we are considering this scheme for introduction even in the course of this year and I may tell my hon. Friend that I do hope that we shall be able to sanction the scheme before the budget is passed.

"Sir, there has been a general complaint from several hon. Members, that bad as the Rayalaseema is, sufficient attention has not been paid to it. It is true, that things have accumulated on account of past neglect and it is but natural that people expect us to do several things. But it is not physically possible to take up all these things at the same time, even though we push through the various stages of our schemes as vigorously, as we can. But I can assure the House that we are fully alive to the needs of Rayalaseema. Even in Ravalaseema, Kurnool is not so bad as the other three districts. We should not forget that Chittoor is also part of Rayalaseema. I have heard a remark from one hon. Member sometime back, referring to the Kistna-Pennar Project, that it would benefit only two districts in the Rayalaseema, namely, Cuddapah and parts of Kurnool. I was wondering whether he was disowning Chittoor from Rayalaseema. The Kistna-Pennar Project will also benefit a large area in Kalahasti in the Chittoor district, which is also a part of Rayalaseema."

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SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"I said, Sir, that 80 per cent of its benefit goes to Chingleput and Nellore."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"It is absolutely wrong, Sir. Parts of Cuddapah and Kurnool would have first the benefit of the Kistna-Pennar Project, when it comes into existence. Then the benefit comes to Nellore. My hon. Friend from Anantapur asked 'what is the benefit that it would give to Rayalaseema? It might benefit other districts, but not Rayalaseema.' I say, Sir, that parts of Kurnool and Cuddapah would also be benefited. My hon. Friend from Cuddapah made certain suggestions regarding the investigation of the scheme. I can assure my hon. Friend Mr. Koti Reddi that those suggestions will be considered by our investigation staff.

"Then Sir, regarding the Gandikota Project, it is true that we have not mentioned it in the Budget. That is because, the investigation in respect of this project is not yet over. My hon. Friend from Cuddapah asked why we cannot take water from the Kistna to Gandikota. We are also examining that very point. Another suggestion was made by the hon. Member from Nandyal, that we can take water from Pennar to Gandikota. It is considered possible to take the waters from the Kistna and not from Pennar or Tungabhadra to Gandikota in which case, this scheme will become a larger scheme than what we have proposed sometime back. All these points are being examined by the investigation staff. So after Kurnool and Cuddapah, the project water comes to Nellore, which was described as the district of the Hon. the Finance Minister. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkatanarayana Reddi pointed out, 11 out of the 18 talaks of the Nellore district are dry, non-deltaic famine-ridden areas. I am sure hon. Members will agree that there should not be any preference to a particular area over other areas which are similarly situated."

SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"I did not say, Sir, that Nellore should not be helped. All I said was, that though this project was proposed in the name of Rayalaseema, the Hon. Finance Minister's district of Nellore stood to obtain greater benefit from it."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"It was probably an inadvertent reference made by the Hon. Finance Minister. This project will help only a portion of Nellore. We shall try to give as much water as is feasible to Nellore. Then, Sir, it comes to Kalahasti, which has otherwise no other possibility of getting water. It is far from correct to say, as my hon. Friend from Anantapur has said, that 20 per cent of the water would go to Rayalaseema and that Chingleput and Nellore would get 80 per cent of it. It is not so, Sir."

SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"What is the correct figure then?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I am not able to give it, Sir, at present, but I am absolutely sure that his statement is not correct.

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"Sir, I have already said that the valuable suggestions put forward by my hon. Friend from Cuddapah will be examined. We will give as much water as is possible to Kurnool, to Cuddapah and to parts of Nellore and Chittoor and then whatever water remains, would be taken to other districts. I can assure hon. Members that there is plenty of water in the Kistna and there would be no trouble about it. Only a small portion of the Chingleput district on the way would be benefitted and still smaller portion of South Arcot district would stand to benefit further. But whatever it is, I am sure, there is going to be no dispute or quarrel about the sharing of the waters among the districts concerned. We are taking up this scheme, because of its possibilities. And no one need lay exclusive claims.

"Well Sir, as the Hon. Deputy Speaker has rightly said just now, there is no question of this district or that district, getting the benefit, because all projects are intended for the benefit of the people at large, and if there is a large possibility of production of food thereby, it is distributed among all the people of the Province. The Government take up these irrigation projects from two points of view; one from the point of view of securing additional production of food and the other from the point of view of the economic development of the various areas and various districts and particularly, the neglected dry districts. It is with that view that we are taking up projects, both major and minor, and I can also assure the House that there can be no conflict in this matter, nor need there be any competition between one district and another. We have to tackle the food problem of this Province as a whole, and secure self-sufficiency in the matter of production. The economic development in the various districts and especially in backward districts is also another primary consideration of the Government. Therefore, it is from both these points of view that schemes are formulated.

"My hon. Friend from Anantapur also referred to the Pennar-Kumudavati Project. That has been there for the last several years. Even as early as 1937, the previous Congress Ministry was proposing to bring it forward. There are certain difficulties in the way. It was considered a very costly project. But to-day it must be more costly. We have also to secure the consent of certain other Governments under certain agreements. That is the main hurdle. Anyhow I am taking up the matter with the Ministers to the Governments concerned, and I hope to meet them in the first week of April next and I have no doubt that it would be possible to take up that project very soon—which is absolutely ready otherwise—after the Budget is passed. About the Upper Pennar Project, about which my hon. Friend was so anxious, I say almost all the examination is now over. I do hope that it should be possible to take up the project very soon after the Budget. My hon. Friend is very kind to me and paid compliments that I was clever. I may be clever or I may not be clever, but I am not capable of any jugglery which my hon. Friend imagines. Why should there be jugglery? What is the purpose. I am not anxious to satisfy people by giving false

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hopes. Government are equally interested as hon. Members representing several constituencies are. We are anxious to do our very best in the matter. We have also known various districts and their conditions. We are also faced with a very serious food problem, which we have to tackle. Therefore, Government have their own interest in the matter, and it is with that view, with all our limitations, that we are examining the various schemes. As soon as investigations are over and other aspects are examined, they will all be taken up. We cannot ask for specific provisions for the Pennar Project or for Anantapur or any other project because in several of these cases plans and estimates have not been finalized. Therefore, I have given a list and I have asked for a lump sum provision of Rs. 70 lakhs under Capital and Revenue accounts. I do expect to take up the several schemes in the course of the year."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, is it in order for an hon. Member to read papers in the Assembly?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Not only papers, even letters should not be read in the House."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"A number of Ministers are reading books, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member raised a point of order and I have given my ruling. In the House of Commons not only papers, even letters should not be read."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"Who is found reading papers, Sir?"

AN HON. MEMBER:—"The Deputy Speaker."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I submit, Sir, that if any hon. Member wants to raise a point of order, it is better that he avoids giving names."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Once again, I assure my hon. Friend from Anantapur that there is no jugglery in the matter. We do mean business. We do propose and we do expect to take up several schemes in the course of the Budget year, without any avoidable delay.

"My hon. Friends from Ramnad pointed out the conditions of tanks. They are being examined. In Ramnad, my hon. Friends would admit, all the tanks are mostly in the zamindari area. It is not possible to do many things. After the abolition of zamindaris we shall certainly do it. Even in the ryotwari area, there are no big rivers in the district."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission I rise on a point of order. May I submit through you to the Hon. Minister to explain most clearly? I am not able to understand and also many Members of the House are not able to understand him.

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Apart from the question of taking over zamindaris and their becoming ryotwari, is it impossible from the point of view of administration to get through irrigation work in zamindari areas by coming to an agreement with the zamindar with regard to the use of water and extra payment, etc."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"In view of the sure abolition of the zamindaris in the near future, the question raised by the Leader of the Independent group is merely an academical one. Unless the zamindars come forward, particularly in districts like Ramnad, where land is mostly tank-fed, or Chittoor for that matter where tanks are kept in an absolutely bad condition—they are untouched by the zamindars—we cannot incur any expenditure. During the Advisers' Government an Act was passed called the Irrigation Improvements Act. In that Act there is a provision that Collectors should issue notices to zamindars concerned, and if they do not attend to the work within a particular time, the Government can do the repairs to the tanks, etc., themselves and charge the same to the zamindar. Collectors used to give notices and the zamindars concerned would put some five or six baskets of earth on the tank bund, and the provisions of the Act would thus be satisfied. Then again the Collector would have to get further improvements examined. Only repairs were contemplated in the Act, and improvements were not contemplated. Therefore, this Government proposed to amend that Act. Meanwhile, the Zamindari Abolition Bill has come up. We do expect that when the zamindaris are abolished, we shall be able to devote sufficient attention to these tanks and to the several irrigation sources in the zamindari areas. In the ryotwari areas in Ramnad district, there are no large possibilities. No water is available from Periyar for purposes of irrigation as my hon. Friend from Ramnad admitted. The extension of the Grand Anicut Canal from Arantangi to Tiruvadanai taluk was examined and found not feasible. There was a proposal to construct a reservoir in Watrap which would cost Rs. 100 lakhs and which would irrigate 3,000 acres. As it was considered to be costly, it was given up in the past. We propose to take it up now. It is being examined as to whether there will be sufficient water available for that. Gauges are being taken. If the results prove satisfactory, the Government will consider taking up the scheme although it is costly. We are also examining the possibility of grow more food short-term schemes in the district. When the zamindaris are abolished and brought under ryotwari, we propose to have a tank restoration unit in the Ramnad district, which will take up the restoration of the several neglected tanks. (Sri V. Raghavayya: 'What about the agency scheme, Sir?') I am now in Ramnad, Sir. My hon. Friend referred to a scheme passing through Pudukottah. I shall have it examined. I can tell hon. Friends that even Bagiratha's work was an engineering feat. It was not by *Manthram* that water was brought. In Valmiki's description you see how many days and years it took Bagiratha, in those days, to bring the water of the Ganges. (N. Muhammad Anwar Sahib Bahadur: 'It is all

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literature, Sir.') Yes. We are considering the augmenting of supplies to Periakulam and Sengulam tanks in Sivakasi taluk by diverting a small tributary of Sindapalli *odai*. The work of constructing scouring sluices in the cross-bank of Kollengudam in Srivilliputtur taluk is being considered.

" It is not an attractive list I have given. I only plead inability of the Government and the inability of the engineers. If my hon. Friend would give any further specific suggestions, I can assure him . . . "

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" I made one more suggestion, Sir, namely, the appointment of an expert to find out reasonable major schemes."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Sir, I am unable to find a better expert than the engineers we have. I can claim that we have the best engineers. Even the Government of India want our engineers for their services, which we are unable to spare. I can tell my hon. Friend that it is not possible to find a better expert. There has been a general complaint that nothing substantial has been provided for the three districts of Madura, Ramnad and Tinnevelly. My hon. Friend from Tirumangalam is anxious to get the Vaigai river to that dry area occupied by the poor people who had been afflicted under the provisions of the Criminal Tribes Act. He has been pleading for the Vaigai scheme. We do realize the importance of that scheme, particularly from the point of view of the benefit that would accrue to the taluk of Tirumangalam. We considered a joint enterprise with Travancore along with the Cardomam Hills reservoir project. It had been expected that this would give 5,000 acres under the old Periyar irrigation and 15,000 acres under the new irrigation. But the Travancore Government is not helpful—even the present Government, I say. I do not see it is possible to pursue that. Therefore, we are examining the question of taking up the Vaigai Scheme as an independent scheme, though the capacity would be reduced. It will give 5,000 acres under old Periyar irrigation and 7,000 acres in Tirumangalam. We shall try to take this up, although it may be costly in view of the reduced capacity. Because this has not been finalized, it was not possible to make mention of this in the Budget. Therefore, my hon. Friend from Tirumangalam or the people of Tirumangalam should not misunderstand that we have abandoned the scheme and that they have no other prospect.

" My hon. Friend from Kodaikanal referred to the delay in the investigation of certain schemes. We have taken up the Palar Perenthalar investigation work. I have myself seen that there is a great possibility. The necessary staff have been posted. Although there has been delay in the posting of staff, they have now taken up the work. My hon. Friend is not correct in saying that no investigation has started. He also referred to another scheme, i.e., the Sathiar Scheme in Nilakottai taluk. Investigation of this has to be done. He complained that no staff had been

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posted. As I said before, it is not possible to post staff, in our present shortage, to different schemes at the same time in the same district. That is the delay. He pointed out that in certain cases there had been neglect. I shall look into them.

" My hon. Friend Mr. Sinna Kasiar has made very valuable suggestions requiring big efforts like Bagiratha's. We shall get them examined in due course. He has also made reference to certain small schemes which I am unable to understand. Anyhow I shall have them examined.

" My hon. Friends from Tiruchendur bitterly complained during the course of the general discussion of the Budget and again now, the hon. Members from Tinnevelly district complained that nothing had been done for that district. If there is no specific provision in the Budget for the clearance of silt in the supply channels, I can only say that it is not necessary to provide for that in the Budget. There are other provisions under which the expenditure could be incurred. We have been devoting our attention—whether in the South Arcot district as pointed out by my hon. Friend from Villupuram or in the Tinnevelly district, or any other districts, referred to by hon. Members— 1 p.m.
to the clearance of silt in the supply channels. But I must seek the co-operation of the public in this matter."

SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL:—" Sir, what about the schedule of rates for coolies? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" We sanctioned repairs to supply channels. Although some of these channels used to be repaired by people under *kudimaramathu system*, we have been taking up these works. I hear complaints from the officers wherever I go that people are not forthcoming to take up the works. There is great demand for taking up silt clearance work in channels. Once you sanction the work, then the business aspect comes in. There is an idea among the people that if it is a contract work, they must have the biggest profit possible. That is why people are not forthcoming. My hon. Friend referred to the schedule of rates. I can assure her that we have been raising the rates. But we cannot raise the rates to the extent to which the local people want it to be raised. We have raised the rates considerably in the recent past. I have been telling ryots wherever I go that they must come forward to take up the works without any profit motive. Of course they should not suffer losses, but at the same time they should not expect large profit, and they should themselves co-operate with Government in getting those channels cleared of silt. I can assure the House we are fully alive to the necessity of paying attention to these supply channels. There are other minor channels which could not be taken up by Government. People in the local areas sometimes take up the work of these channels, and sometimes they do not. It is not possible for them to combine and take up as in the past. Therefore, we are also examining the question of taking over the supply channels—at least the main channels—instead of leaving

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them to be worked under the *kudimaramathu system*, and levy a small fee on the people who have been paying subscriptions year after year. In place of subscriptions they have been paying, we may levy a small fee and do the work ourselves. (Interruption.) That scheme we are examining, Sir.

" Reference was made to the Manimukthar scheme. I am quite well aware of the possibilities of the Manimukthar project. Water in the Tambaraparani river is not sufficient, and therefore during the year on account of the failure of the monsoon, water was demanded by the ryots. The Papanasam electric scheme was solely intended for power development, and even that power is mostly used by agriculturists in the several taluks. Still, the Electricity Department managed to spare some water, and they gave water and helped several of the villages. Sir, about Manimukthar scheme, investigation is not yet over. There are two alternative schemes. One would cost about Rs. 120 lakhs and the other would cost Rs. 200 lakhs. The latter would give water for ten to twelve thousand acres. We have to examine which of these two alternatives is feasible. We are at that stage, and as soon as that is settled, in the course of the Budget year we might come to this House for a supplementary demand.

" Then, Sir, a reference was made some time ago to the Giriar project. We are aware of this possibility. This would bring under cultivation 549 acres. But for doing investigation of this project, we had to go to the area belonging to Travancore Government. For that we sought the permission of the State. The Travancore Government would not even give that permission. They pointed out that this Giriar was a tributary of another river there in which they are interested regarding a hydro-electric project. We were not given permission to go into that area and do investigation work regarding the Giriar scheme. But I have not left the matter at that. I am pursuing the matter.

" Provision is made in the Budget for the Sivalapperi tank scheme. The Nagalakulam scheme would extend irrigation under Alangulam. This is being examined. Then, Sir, investigations will be done about Vayali and Malgodipatti tank schemes. There is a proposal about a reservoir at the foot of the ghats in Valaimaliar and Kootamaliar. We propose to take up investigation. We have already ordered the investigation of the proposal to construct a dam across a jungle stream and divert the water to Karisankulam in Kootudangadu.

" My hon. Friend from Cuddapah also referred to the distinction between remunerative and unremunerative schemes. I fully appreciate what he said. We must take into account the indirect benefits that would accrue under schemes and not merely the revenue that we get therefrom. I am glad to say that the Government of India also appreciate this point of view.

" My hon. Friend Mr. Majid referred to the prevalence of corruption and existence of *mamools*. I can assure this House that we are equally interested in rooting out corruption, and I am particularly interested in rooting out this evil from the Public Works Department. Although normally we should not take notice of anonymous petitions—petitions from those who would not reveal their names—I wish to tell the House that I have been taking notice of such petitions against officers and if there are any specific allegations, I cause an enquiry to be made. Sir, what are the results of such enquiries? More often than not it is not possible to get any evidence to substantiate the allegations. I have found also that the allegations are baseless and they are from persons who have personal grievances against the officers. We do take action, and we have taken action against officers wherever the charges have been substantially proved. We have been doing everything possible to find out the corrupt and eliminate them from service. Sometimes it happens like this also. There have been factions as are natural everywhere. One party wanted a particular officer to be posted to a district. I did not do that. Instead, another officer was posted. I have known the officer who was posted to that district as an aboslutely honest, incorruptible, efficient and popular officer. But still there were anonymous petitions against this officer containing so many allegations. Even here, I caused an enquiry to be made of the various allegations. After the enquiry, I found out that none of these allegations could be proved. Therefore, Sir, I would, through this House, appeal to the public to help the Government in rooting out corruption. Government for their part are quite prepared to do everything possible to eliminate corruption from their services.

" My hon. Friend Mr. Majid referred to the importance of sub-soil water. We are quite well aware of it, and we have, as an experiment, taken up a pilot scheme in Sathanur. As it is a new experiment for our Province, we would see the results before long, and we would introduce sub-soil tube wells in several of the areas. We have ordered the Sathanur scheme, which would help the North and South Arcot districts, to be taken up. The investigation is going on, although there are difficulties, as pointed out by my hon. Friend from Tiruvannamalai. Still, we are doing our very best, and we are speeding up the investigation.

" My hon. Friend Mr. Majid also referred to the shortage of staff. I said yesterday that we are doing our very best to meet this shortage. We have already introduced a short-term year lower subordinate course. We are employing retired men. The lady Member from Kallakurichi said that we must employ retired men. We are already doing so. I would also request her to help us by securing applications of course from those with physical capacity to undertake the work.

" My hon. Friend from Tiruvannamalai made a novel suggestion that maistris and masons should be trained for these overseers' work. The work that is expected of an overseer is really a foundation work, involving lakhs and crores of rupees. It is not only the expenditure that is involved in the scheme, but if the scheme should fail, it would involve several villages. So, I wonder

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whether we can take that risk and employ these men by giving them training for a few days. It would be like the proposal to appoint quacks as village doctors.

"Mr. Majid made another suggestion that we can send our young men to foreign countries to learn. We have been sending our young men to foreign countries to learn specific items—dam construction, bridge construction and so on. But that will not solve our problem of shortage of technical personnel. A few men can go and come fully equipped to guide others. But this will not solve our problem.

"Another interesting suggestion was made by my hon. Friend that we can send some non-official members—Members of this House—to foreign countries, e.g., United States of America, to learn about the dams and other schemes in the Tennessee valley. It may be done. But I do not know how it would be useful for our technical requirements. We are in need of technical men. The non-technical knowledge that could be acquired by going over there could be got from the literature that we have in plenty. We can see these dams and their working in film pictures. We have got the pictures. Government themselves have been showing these pictures, and I can arrange to show these various dams through pictures to hon. Members. (Muhammad Abdul Salam Sahib Bahadur: 'What about the Hon. Minister himself going to foreign countries to study these things?') I do not think it is necessary, Sir. I am also a non-technical man. It would be more profitable to send our technical men to acquire knowledge.

"Then, Sir, my hon. Friend from Chittoor (Mr. Raza Khan) referred to the inadequacy of irrigation facilities in Chittoor. Several other hon. Members followed him. Chittoor is equally a neglected district like Ramnad or Anantapur. There are natural difficulties. It has been mostly zamindari, and it has not been possible to take up any big scheme. Anyhow the Beerappacheruvu tank, costing Rs. 4,20,000 has been renovated. We are taking up the restoration of Yerracalva of Manchur village in Vayalpad which would cost Rs. 4,57,000. Investigation for constructing an anicut over the Kalinga river, and excavation of supply channel in Kalahasti are also being taken up. The Swarnamukhi project and the Rayalacheruvu restoration schemes are also being taken up.

"In the grow more food scheme, we are taking up the formation of a reservoir over Kalyani river which would cost seven lakhs of rupees and irrigate 1,500 acres, and also the construction of a new tank called Rellavanka which would cost Rs. 1,12,000 and irrigate 200 acres.

1-15 p.m. "Sir, there are other schemes which are being taken up. My hon. Friend Mr. Raza Khan wanted specific particulars about the Tungabhadra Project. A press note has been recently issued and I am sure, hon. Members would have seen that. The project will be completed by 1952 as originally scheduled. The canal on the Madras side will be 210 miles long and 2·94 lakhs of acres will be served. It will cover the districts of Bellary and portions

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of Anantapur. There is a provision for high level channel and under power development we can secure a firm output of 7,000 kwts. and a seasonal power of 13,000 kwts. Mr. Raza Khan referred to the importance of research in irrigation. Government is aware of it. As hon. Members would have seen, the Poondi Research Station is growing. I would also invite hon. Members to have a look at this research station. Very interesting experiments are being made there. Reference, in this connexion has also been made with regard to the Cooum. The experiments are not yet over. It is really a tough problem. There are major schemes and major proposals to be dealt with and these we are examining.

"Sir, and then the invariable complaint about the North Arcot district from the hon. Muslim Member from North Arcot. The hon. Member from Thiruvannamalai gave a very formidable list of broken anicuts. Regarding the Palar system, it irrigates 83,000 acres. It is not possible to extend the irrigation under this ayacut. But we propose to remodel all the three anicuts, Palar, Cheyyar and Poiney anicuts. We are taking up minor schemes under 'Grow More Food'. Several hon. Members from North Arcot district like Mr. Ramanjulu Reddiar referred to certain schemes. I am unable to explain the position about the several points which were raised but I can assure them, even regarding the clearance of the supply channel that the allotment made last year was fully spent and even this year we have provided substantially for the clearance of the supply channel. We have got on hand certain other schemes in the North Arcot district besides the Sathanur scheme. Reference was made to certain difficulties in the Coimbatore and South Arcot districts. These will be looked into. Again, we have heard some complaints about Malabar and South Kanara. Malabar might have been neglected in the past. But we are taking up several schemes. It took some time to complete the investigation and a special staff are working at it. We are taking up the Malampuzha scheme. Mr. Hydross referred to some reservoir in Kallakurichi. I do not know at what stage it is, but if the objection is to be based upon the submersion of some villages, I am unable to understand the objection. For benefitting some ten to fifteen villages, one or two villages may be submerged. I cannot understand the difficulty. For getting water to the City of Madras in connexion with the Poondi Reservoir, villages near-about have been submerged, and people there were no doubt paid some compensation. We have to look at matters in a spirit of sacrifice and I hope no serious objection would be raised. As a matter of fact, villages in other States and Provinces are being submerged and we are tackling that question. But I do not know about the scheme referred to. It is not yet ready. But my hon. Friend Mr. Hydross said, 'Why spend so much money on a costly scheme in Kallakurichi'. I wish to tell him that is a dry area and there are no irrigation sources there. What are we going to spend on Malampuzha, about which friends from Malabar are so anxious. The estimated cost is 384 lakhs and if we work out the returns

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from it, it would be only 84 per cent. Still we are taking up that scheme; investigations are over and plans and estimates have been finalised; and there is a lump sum provision. The Lady Member from Malabar was unable to believe that any scheme would be taken up for Malabar. That has been her experience in the past. I sympathise with her and appreciate her spirit of pessimism. But I can only tell her that she should wait till we actually take them up and no further assurance need be taken. She may perhaps wait till we bring water to the reservoir.

"Sir, so far as Malabar is concerned, we have nineteen schemes, seven in Palghat, five in Walluvanad and seven in other taluks. Besides the Malampuzha scheme, there is the Vandithodu scheme, and the Cheramangalam scheme, in respect of which investigations are over. Mr. Schamnad talked only of Kasaragod and complains that enough has not been done. I may tell him that we are taking up a scheme like Sheriyar which would cost thousand rupees per acre. He wanted us to take the Tekkili scheme. There are two other schemes in other taluks. And the problem in South Kanara is a peculiar one. We get a lot of rains, indeed much more than in Malabar so that for the first crop, no water source is necessary but for the second crop we have to construct irrigation works and that is the problem. We are taking up two other schemes in other taluks and I believe my hon. Friend would not mind other taluks also having some benefit. My hon. Friend Mr. Venkata Reddi from Nandyal complained of the inadequacy of the provision for the K.C. Canal. Necessary repairs are being taken up. About Nellore, my hon. Friend Sri Venkata Reddi referred to the problem that would arise when the zamindaris are abolished. It is a problem which would fall upon the Government and they have to tackle it and I am sure, we shall tackle it, particularly with the revival of the Tank Restoration Schemes. My hon. Friend from Narasapur referred to certain drainage difficulties in his district which are not being attended to. It is true, I saw those places and the drainage defects therein and I do appreciate the need for improvements. Investigations have to be done and that is why there is no specific provision here. Whenever any scheme is ready, I can assure my hon. Friend, that it would be taken up even in the course of the year. My hon. Friend, the Chief Whip of the Party, reminded me about the Tammaleru scheme as he had no opportunity of speaking during the discussion. I am fully aware of it. I have also seen it and we shall take it up in due course.

"Sir, reference was made by several hon. Members to the Ramapadasagar Project and I am obliged to them for their suggestions. It has given me an opportunity to explain the position. It is not as if the completion of the investigation that stands in the way and I would like to tell my hon. Friend Mr. Viswanatham that we have come to a stage where we can take it up for execution presently and the engineers do not at all stand in the way. But there are certain hurdles and our engineers are doing the work with all their earnestness and enthusiasm.

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It is unfair to charge the engineers. There is no question of under-estimates or lower-estimates. We had a discussion with the Government of India about the sanction of the scheme. We do need the support of the Government of India because we have to raise loans only through the Government of India and they want us to come to a definite understanding with the Provinces and States regarding submersion of lands in their territory. On that question, it is not advisable on my part to deal further at present, because it is a delicate question. We do hope it will be solved early. Even recently I had a discussion with the Minister of Public Works, Government of India, whom I met at Visagapatam and we are dealing with this question. The plans and estimates have not been finalised. And we hope to take up execution before long. My hon. Friend Mr. Viswanatham has made certain suggestions. I wish to assure him that I would very carefully examine them. But I have to do it only on the advice of technical people whom the Government have and I would have that aspect examined carefully. There was a complaint that money allotted for minor irrigation works were not spent. It is true. That was due to the difficulty of want of personnel. Minor irrigation supervisors and overseers are not available. All the same, this time we have increased the allotment and we propose to spend the amount allotted and concentrate on the restoration of minor irrigation channels. We propose to augment the staff after the Engineering College examinations are over. We shall be able to get about two hundred supervisors. It is not possible to secure officers otherwise."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, what about bringing it under the Public Works Department?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Sir, that question has been pending for a long time. I did raise the question as soon as I took charge of this department but there are other difficulties. It would be considerably costly but still, as an experimental measure, we have taken up a small area and we shall watch the results and consider the future course of action. The Nellore Muslim Member, Mr. Ansari, referred to difficulties in the Nellore district. I recently visited his district and had full discussions with him and others. And as he is aware, we are taking up several schemes. Most of the investigations are over. We shall do whatever is possible about them. My hon. Friend from Coimbatore referred to the question of minor irrigation which I have already dealt with. He referred to the importance of bringing water from Lower Bhavani to Dharapuram and the warning that he has given will be carefully taken into account before we finalise the scheme. Another Member from Gobichettipalayam referred to the Lower Bhavani Project. We shall take into account his suggestions and examine them duly. The hon. Member complained about the delay in fitting falling shutters to the Koduveri anicut. They have to be made at our workshop and that is being done. We shall be able to fit them before the

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next season. Mr. Tatachari referred to several projects, as also Mr. Venkata Reddi. Once again, I assure hon. Members that we are doing everything possible. The Deputy Speaker said that big schemes are paying better than the smaller schemes and we are taking up both big and small schemes. I wish, once more, to assure hon. Members that there is no conflict between major and minor schemes. We are tackling all the schemes at the same time subject to our own limitations. Several other points have been raised during the course of the debate which it is not possible to answer in detail. I can assure hon. Members who made those points that they will be very carefully examined. With these words, I request the hon. Member from Chittoor to withdraw his cut motion."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—" Sir, in view of the very exhaustive reply combined with a good deal of assurances given by the Hon. Minister, I crave the leave of the House to withdraw the cut motion."

SRI ROKKAM RAMAMURTHY:—" మన రాజధానిలో ఉన్నటువంటి మొత్తం భూమిలో చూడవలసిన భాగము జమిందారులచేతులలో ఉన్నది. ఈ జమీందారీలను ప్రభుత్వంవారు రద్దుచేయ నిశ్చయించినారు. కాబట్టి జమీందారులుకాని జమీందారీలలో ఉన్న చెరువులు మొదలైనటువంటి జలాశయాలను మరమ్మతులు చేయించడం లేదు. ఈ విషయమై Public Works Department వారిని అడిగితే ఇంకా జమీందారీలను పూర్తిగా ప్రభుత్వంవారు రద్దుచేయలేదు కాబట్టి మేము ఈ మరమ్మతులను చేయడానికి వీలులేదని అంటున్నారు. ఈ మరమ్మతులను వెంటనే చేయించకపోతే వచ్చే సంవత్సరం వంటలు పండవు. కాబట్టి ఎవరో ఒకరు ఈ చెరువులను, గడ్డలను వెంటనే కాను చేయించవలసినదని మంత్రిగారికి మనవిచేస్తున్నాను."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Sir, the Hon. Revenue Minister has been assuring us often that these zamindaris would be abolished very soon. Therefore the question raised by my hon. Friend is an academic one and we shall be taking all these neglected irrigation works very soon."

The cut motion, by leave of the House, was withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that under Demand VIII Irrigation the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,12,86,900 '."

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

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

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

DEMAND XVIII—AGRICULTURE.

• THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Sir, I move—

' that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,68,78,600 under Grant XVIII—Agriculture.'

" Before I explain the scope of the grant and the policy, I may say a few words about the adequacy of the grant. There may be some who consider that a sum of Rs. 1·68 crores is inadequate for Agriculture and there may be some others who consider that this grant is too much. To the latter I would point out that a grant of Rs. 1·68 crores for a Province in which the net area of crops sown is about 35 million acres, the per-acre expenditure on Agricultural administration comes to less than eight annas per year. If we take the population into consideration, the expenditure will be about five annas per capita per year. Hon. Members will agree with me that this expenditure is by no means extravagant, considering the fact that agriculture is the basic industry of the Province and that the administration relating to agriculturists is one of the most important branches of administration. To those who consider that the grant is inadequate, I should perhaps explain at the very beginning that the grant under Demand XVIII does not include expenditure on the State Trading Schemes which will come under Demand XXXIX. As far as the present Demand is concerned, I may point out that the expenditure under the head in 1937–38 was only 21 lakhs. In 1945–46 it was 80 lakhs and in 1946–47 it was 105·70 lakhs. In 1947–48 the Budget Estimate was 116·87 lakhs, which is about 52 lakhs less than the demand I am now presenting before the House. It will, therefore, be realized that the present Government are alive to the paramount need for adequate expenditure on Agricultural administration, consistent with the needs of economy and practical utility, and above all, the needs of other policies to which the Government are committed. When irrigation schemes fructify and the land tenure question is rationalized, I hope, Sir, it will be possible to spend more. The present grant comprises expenditure on direction, superintendence, experimental farms, agricultural demonstrations and propaganda, agricultural education, agricultural engineering, experiments and research and a number of other minor charges. We have provided for about 10·5 lakhs for direction and superintendence, about 25 lakhs for experimental farms, research stations and experiments, 14 lakhs for agricultural education, 65 lakhs for agricultural engineering and about 48 lakhs for demonstration and propaganda. It will be seen that adequate provision has been made for all aspects of work of the Agricultural department. Under Agricultural Engineering, we have provided for capital expenditure on the purchase of tractors, pump sets and other agricultural machinery, for which there is increasing demand in this Province due to shortage of labour, work-cattle, etc. Under experimental farms, we have provided for expenditure for agricultural research stations and the agricultural farms in connexion with Wynaad and Araku Valley. Under demonstration and propaganda come improved methods of cultivation, purchase of seeds, manures, agricultural implements, control of disease of crops, exhibitions, etc. Under Agricultural education, expenditure is provided for the two Agricultural Colleges and the Agricultural Schools at Anakapalle, Palur, Coimbatore and Samalkotta. Under agricultural experiments and research, provision is made for the Research Institute at

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Coimbatore and several research schemes undertaken by the department. The activities of the Agricultural department have expanded in all directions and expenditure is bound to grow, and no progressive Government and no Legislature which has the interests of the agriculturists at heart can grudge spending enough money on the Agricultural department which seeks to serve about 70 per cent of the population engaged in agriculture directly or indirectly.

" Sir, from the notice of cut motions given by hon. Members, I am glad to find that they are taking a keen interest in the department of which I am in charge. Nothing is more welcome than constructive and well-informed criticism not only in the interests of administration, but also in the interests of the public. I do not wish to anticipate the points that will be raised under the respective cut motions, but would only draw particular attention to one or two points which deserve special mention. During the last one year, we have effected a reorganization of the staff of the Agricultural department so that they may be of real use to the agriculturists in the rural areas. We have expanded the field staff so necessary for demonstration, propaganda and extension work. We have also consolidated the various grow more food activities into a Five Year Plan which has been accepted almost in full by the Government of India. Although the grow more food activities of which the distribution of manures, iron and steel has loomed large in the eyes of the public, I would say that the other normal activities of the department are by no means neglected. Before I refer to the grow more food campaign, I would like to answer a few criticisms which are generally levelled against the department.

" Sir, to the common complaint that the Agricultural department has failed to carry agricultural improvements to the people, I would point out that with the trained staff at our disposal and the general level of education and poverty of the vast mass of agriculturists, I do not think that more is possible. By that, I do not suggest that the department has done all they could possibly do in that direction. The Government are taking steps to improve research and to communicate the fruits of research to the ryots so that they may reap the benefit by improved methods of cultivation, manuring, etc. Complaints are also occasionally made of corruption. I would dismiss this vague complaint unless specific instances are brought to the notice of the Government. In the State Trading Schemes the Government have taken all possible measures for the proper maintenance and audit of accounts. They have set up internal audit parties for checking the accounts and the accounts are audited by the Chief Auditor for State Trading Schemes. His reports so far received have not revealed any serious irregularities. Petty defalcations, embezzlements, malpractices and negligence have no doubt occurred in a large number of cases. The general policy is to recover shortages from the persons concerned, prosecute the defaulters and remove

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them from service, or otherwise adequately punish them. The defaulters are mostly storekeepers, a low-paid class, who have to be entrusted with stocks of large value. Irregularities by Agricultural Demonstrators have also occurred in a few cases and they are dealt with suitably. As regards superior officers, we have taken adequate action wherever necessary.

" Coming to the grow more food scheme, Sir, it was said by the Hon. the Lady Member, Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin, that the grow more food campaign was a failure. It is, in my view, not quite correct to say that the scheme has failed. The results may not have been spectacular; in fact, spread out as it is over a vast area, the results cannot be spectacular. But, I would say that for almost the first time, all ryots have become fertilizer conscious. In the last three years, about 2·7 lakhs of tons of chemical fertilizers and more than 4·6 lakhs of tons of groundnut cake have gone into the soil. It has been found that one ton of ammonium sulphate adds to the yield by three tons of paddy and one ton of groundnut cake by a ton of paddy. During 1946–47, the yield of paddy increased from 6·33 to 7·34 million tons. The increase is attributable mainly to the grow more food measures. During 1947–48, it is expected that the use of manure and improved seeds will result in an increased production of about four lakhs tons of paddy. Green manures are being popularized and the Agricultural department are giving assistance by distribution of seeds, etc. Compost manure is prepared in 55 municipalities and 32 panchayat areas. But it is not popular in some areas like Vizagapatam, Palghat and Madura. This is an important weakness because if any type of manure like bonemeal, fish-meal and compost is abandoned on account of sentiment and superstition, so much manure and production are lost. Government agencies are trying to popularize these manures and I do hope that the hon. Members will do their best to help us to get these manures popular.

" Then, Sir, I may state that the result of the grow more food campaign on the extent of cultivation is also considerable. During 1946–47 the total area under food crops increased from 26·43 to 27·63 million acres, an increase of 1·2 million acres. The acreage under paddy increased from 10·20 to 10·99 million acres. Irrigation facilities from new major irrigation schemes were given for about 26,000 acres up to the end of June 1947. Under the well-subsidy scheme, about 38,000 new wells have been sunk and about 30,000 old wells repaired, bringing an additional area of about 70,000 acres under cultivation. The subsidy scheme for wells has been extended to tanks.

" Proposals for the further extension of grow more food schemes were recently discussed with the Hon. Minister for Food and Agriculture, Government of India, and substantial results are anticipated in the coming year. The Hon. the Food Member has also made a statement yesterday in Delhi with regard to the grow more scheme and it has also appeared in the papers this morning.

" Sir, in the light of these observations, it may be contended that the grow more campaign is paradoxically both a success and

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a failure; failure in the sense that it has not produced spectacular results or increased production successfully and stabilized it at a higher percentage as, for example, was done in England by bringing grass lands under the plough during the war. To an intelligent student of Agriculture and Economics, it will be apparent that this campaign was not a failure because in assessing the net results one has to take into account all the counteracting influences which are not part of the campaign and beyond its control.

2-45 p.m. "The counteracting influences may be broadly classified under the following heads:—

(1) The adverse seasonal conditions which became recurrent. 1941-42 was the best year and after that we did not have anything like that. In 1945 there were cyclones and floods, in 1946 both the monsoons failed and in 1947 there was a failure of the north-east monsoon. The seasonal factor for paddy in 1941-42 was 97 while in 1942-43 it was 87. It fell to 82·5 in 1945-46 while there was a slight improvement in 1946-47 when it went to 89.

(2) The price control of foodgrains by the Government which made production economically unprofitable. It is only recently it was realized that an increase in price was necessary if any increase in the production is to be expected. The marginal lands practically went out of cultivation.

(3) The enormous increase in the cost of production of foodgrains and the increase in the cost of living of the cultivators.

(4) The policy of procurement of surplus grains from cultivators which discouraged cultivators from producing the maximum that they were capable of.

(5) Agricultural labour trouble which affected production in many districts.

(6) The uncertain conditions on account of the proposed changes in land tenure policy of the Government.

(7) The extreme shortage of iron and steel for agricultural operations.

(8) The introduction of rural rationing which did not induce small farmers to produce enough for their own subsistence as they were assured of a ration by Government.

(9) Lack of large blocks of virgin land free from malaria and other handicaps to increase production on the acreage margin.

(10) Lack of immediate supply of increased quantities of manures and improved seeds to increase production on the yield margin.

(11) Lack of adequate irrigation and drainage facilities to the extent to which they are required to step up production to the desired level.

(12) The utter neglect of agriculture and an illiberal irrigation policy during the past many decades.

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(13) The continuous drift of labour from land on account of increased employment elsewhere during the war and on account of development of industries.

(14) Lack of missionary zeal and devotion of Government officials who are concerned with the prosecution of the campaign.

"Sir, the grow more food campaign, like philosophy is accused of not having produced results. Science is claimed to have achieved wonders including the Atom Bomb, but philosophy is still groping in the dark. Food production like philosophy is a way of life, a Dharma as expounded in the First Book of Kural. Unless all sections of society realize their obligations and indebtedness to the agriculturists, and the agriculturists realize their obligations to the rest of society, the grow more food campaign cannot produce miracles. Unless there is a constant endeavour on the part of all to increase agricultural production, society will not get the food it wants and will not make progress.

"Sir, the object of the various cut motions is to discuss the policy of the Government. I have explained in brief outline that the policy of the Government is increased production of food by providing better seeds, more manure and more facilities for cultivation. There are also many other interesting suggestions accompanying the cut motions. One suggestion is to discuss the question of collective farming and State farming. There are practical difficulties in the way due to the system of land tenures and tenancy and the system of inheritance and partition which leads to fragmentation of holdings and the existence of private property and rights in land. These difficulties are sufficiently big for me to solve. I shall certainly await with interest the suggestion of hon. Members to get over these difficulties. Last time I was not fortunate in getting the suggestion of hon. Members who are well-versed in agriculture, because there was no time to discuss this Demand and it had to be guillotined. I knew very little of agriculture, at least I knew precious little of it before I became Minister. I was greatly helped by the practical agriculturists, my Hon. Colleagues the Minister for Food and the Prime Minister. I am sure I shall benefit more by the discussions that will now take place in the House. I move, Sir, that the Grant be sanctioned."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that under Demand XVIII—Agriculture—the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,68,78,600.'

I have fixed two hours for the Demand, and ten minutes as the time limit for each hon. Member."

Travelling Allowance for Members.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Before we proceed further, I wish to announce to the House that between the general discussion of the Budget and the subsequent meeting there was an interval of five days. The Government have sanctioned Travelling Allowance for the Members who visited their houses in the interval."

[17th March 1948

SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, விவசாய இலாகாவிற்கு ஒதுக்கியுள்ள மான்யும் ரூ. 1,68,78,600-ல் விவசாயத் தொழிலாளர்களின் குறைகளைப்பற்றிப் பேச 100 ரூபாய்கள் குறைக்க வேண்டுமென ஓர் வெட்டுப் பிரேரேபணை கொண்டுவந்திருக்கிறேன்.

"விவசாயத்திற்கு இன்றியமையாத சாமக்கிரிகள் பல விருந்தாலும் விவசாயத் தொழிலாளியே மிக முக்யமானவன், நிலச்சுவான்களும் இடையிலுள்ள தரகர்களாகிய குத்தகைத்தாரர்களும் இருந்தும் பயிர் ஏறுது. அவர்கள் இல்லாமலும் பயிர் உண்டாகும். ஆனால் நிலத்தில் இறங்கி உழுபவனாகிய தொழிலாளி இல்லையானால் பயிருண்டாகாது. ஆனது பற்றியே "உழவினர் கைம்மடங்கினில்லை" என்றும் "உழுவார் உலகத்திற் காணி" என்றும் "உழுதுண்டு வாழ்வாரே வாழ்வார்" என்றும் திருவள்ளுவர் பயிர்த்தொழிற் செய்பவனை இன்றியமையாதவனாகக் கூறினர்.

"கடந்த மகாயுத்தத்தாலும் நாட்டிலேற்பட்ட பஞ்சத்தாலும் வாழ்க்கைக்குவேண்டிய எல்லாப் பொருள்களுக்கும் முன்னையவிட ஐந்து அல்லது ஆறு மடங்கு விலைகள் ஏறிவிட்டன. ஆனால் சர்க்கார் உணவுபொருளுக்கு மாத்திரம் விலையேற்றம் கூடாது எனா control செய்து தடுத்துவிட்டார்கள். அது பணமாகச் சம்பளம் வாங்கும் ஏழைகளுக்கும் உத்யோகஸ்தர்களுக்கும் பயன் பட்டதேயொழிய தான்யமாக வாங்கிக்கொள்ளும் விவசாயத் தொழிலாளிக்கு பெரிதும் பாதகமானது. சொற்ப தான்யத்தை ஊதியமாகப் பெற்று அது கொண்டு வாழ்க்கைக்கு இன்றியமையாத பிர சாமான்கள் வாங்கமுடியாமல் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கும் தஞ்சை ஜில்லா இராஜமன்னர்கோவில், பட்டுக்கோட்டை முதலான இடங்களில் communists காரர் இயக்கத்தை ஆரம்பித்தார்கள். அது நாளடைவில் நிலச்சுவான்கள் நன்மையைக் கருதாமல் தொழிலாளிகளின் நன்மையை மாத்திரம் குறிக்கோளாகக்கொண்டு பலாத்காரத்தில் இறங்கலானார்கள். வைக்கோல் போரைக் கொளுத்துவதும், நெல் சேர்களை வாரிக்கொள்வது முதலிய அடாத காரியங்களையும் செய்யலானார்கள். ஏழைத் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு இவ்விஷயத்தில் உண்டாகி இருக்கும் ஊக்கத்தையும் மிராசுதார்களுக்கு உண்டாகும் நஷ்டத்தையும் கருதி காங்கிரஸ் தொண்டர்கள் இந்த இயக்கத்தை அதிகம் வளரவிடக்கூடாது. காங்கிரசுக்கு முதுகெலும்பு போன்ற தொழிலாளிகள் communists ஆகி விட்டால் அடுத்த தேர்தலில் கட்டாயம் communists வெற்றியும் congress தோல்வியும் அடையுமாதலால் இதை காங்கிரஸ்கார்களே ஏற்று நடத்தவேண்டுமென மாயவரத்திலிருக்கும் காங்கிரஸ் தொண்டர் ஸ்ரீ நாராயணசாமி நாயுடு அவர்களும் இன்னும் சிலரும் கலந்து மிராசுதார்களிடம் சென்று தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு நியாயமானக் கூலியைக் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென பிரசாரம் செய்ய ஆரம்பித்தார்கள். இவர்கள் கருத்தை அறியாத சில மிராசுதார்கள் இவர்கள் தான் communists என்று சர்க்காருக்கு பல பாகங்களிலிருந்தும் தெரிவித்தார்கள். அதை நம்பி, திரு. நாராயணசாமி நாயுடு அவர்களை arrest செய்தார்கள். சென்ற ஆண்டில் நானும் எனது நண்பர் களம்வி. ஐ. முனுசாமி பிள்ளையவர்களும் ஹரிஜன் ஆலயப் பிரவேசத்தை முன்னிட்டு சிக்கல், கீவளூர், நாகப்பட்டிணம் முதலான இடங்களுக்குச் சென்று மாயவரம் முசாபுரி பங்களாவில் தங்கினோம். அப்பொழுது திரு. நாராயணசாமி நாயுடு அவர்களை சர்க்கார் arrest செய்தது தவறு என அறிந்து நாங்கள் இருவரும் கையொப்பமிட்டு தந்திகொடுத்து அவர் விடுதலையைக் கோறினோம்.

"திரு. நாராயணசாமி நாயுடு அவர்களும் மற்றும் பலரும் முயற்சித்ததன் பயனை தஞ்சாவூர் ஜில்லாக் கலெக்டர் அவர்கள் பின்வருமாறு அறிக்கை வெளியிட்டனர். பண்ணையாளுக்கு தினம் பட்டணம்படி இரண்டு படி நெல்லும் பண்ணைப் பெண்ணுக்கு தினம் ஒன்றரை படி நெல்லும் வருஷத்தில் போனஸ் 12 கலமுமாக வருஷ வரும்படி 60 கலம் கொடுக்கலாமென்றும் வாரம் 100-க்கு 30 வீதம் என்றும், குத்தகையானால் 20 கலம் கொடுத்துவந்தால் 25 கலமும், 25 கொடுத்து வந்தால் 30 கலமுமாக தற்போதய நிலைமைக்கு ஐந்து கலம் ஏற்றிக்கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று முடிவு செய்தார். இந்த முடிவையே ஏற்றுக்கொள்வதென சிதம்பரம் தாலூகா உணவு கமிட்டி ஒத்துக்கொண்டது. தாலூகா கமிட்டியின் முடிவையே சிதம்பரம் மிராசுதார்கள் சங்கமும் ஒத்துக்கொண்டது. ஆனால் சிதம்பரம் communists இந்த முடிவுக்கு ஒத்துக்கொள்ளாமல் 60 கலத்திற்கு பதிலாக 125 கலம் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென ஜனங்களிடையே தப்பு உணர்ச்சி உண்டாக்கினார்கள். ஒரு பண்ணையாளும் பெண்ணாளும் கூடி ஐந்து எக்கர் நிலம் பயிர் செய்ய முடியாது. ஐந்து எக்கரிலும் 120 கலம் விளைந்தால் அதிகம். அந்த 120 கலத்தையும் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டால் நிலம் படைத்தவர்கள் என்ன செய்வார்கள். எங்களுக்குப் பண்ணையாள் வேண்டாமென்று கூறிவிடுவார்கள். ஆகையால் நியாயமான வரும்படி கேட்கவேண்டுமென்று என் போன்றவர்கள் பிரசாரம் செய்தோம். பண்ணையாளுக்கு நாள் ஒன்றுக்கு பட்டணம்படி இரண்டு படி நெல் கொடுத்தால் அதன் விலை தற்காலம் ஐந்தணாவாகிறது. ஐந்தணாவைக்கொண்டு எப்படி ஜீவிக்கமுடியும். எப்படியும் ஒரு நாளைக்கு கூலி வேலை செய்தால் ஒரு ரூபாய் கிடைக்கும். அதன்படி பார்த்தால் பட்டணம் படி ஆறு படி நெல் கிடைக்கும். ஆதலால் 125-க்கு அதிகமாகக் கேட்கவேண்டுமென பிரசாரம் செய்தார்கள். பயிர்த்தொழிலில் அதிக வரும்படி எதிர் பார்த்தால் மிராசுதார்களும் வரும்படி இல்லாமல் போகுமாதலால் சொற்ப காலம் இந்த வரும்படியைப் பெற்றுக்கொண்டு வந்தால் பிறகு கால நிலைமை ஒத்துவரும் என்று சமாதானம் சொல்லி வந்தேன். மிராசுதார்கள் இந்த குறைந்தபட்சக் கூலியைக் கொடுப்பதாக ஒத்துக்கொண்டு ஆங்காங்கும் வேலைகளை வாங்கிக்கொண்டு இப்பொழுது அப்படி கொடுக்க முடியாது என்று கூறுகிறார்கள். மார்கழி மாசம் இறுதியில் சிதம்பரம் தாலூகா மிராசுதார் சங்கம் கூடி தாலூகா உணவு கமிட்டி செய்தபடியே கூலி கொடுப்பதாக தீர்மானம் செய்து அறுவடை முடிந்த பிறகு கூலி கொடுப்பதாகக் கூறி அறுவடையை முடித்துக்கொண்டு உணவு கமிட்டி செய்த தீர்மானப்படி கூலி கொடுக்க முடியாதென்று மேற்படி சங்க நிர்வாகிகளே கூறிவிட்டார்கள். அறுத்த நெல்லெல்லாம் காட்டில் களத்தில் கிடக்கின்றன. அறுத்த கூலியும் வாரமும், குத்தகையும், கொடாமல் தொழிலாளர்களை காவல் வைத்துவிட்டு கவலையற்றிருக்கிறார்கள். தொழிலாளிகள் கடந்த ஒன்னறை மாத காலமாக கார்த்திகை, மார்கழி மாதங்களில் பட்டினியாயிருந்ததுபோல இப்பொழுது பட்டினியால் வாடுகிறார்கள். களத்தில் உள்ள நெல்மீது போட்டிருக்கும் குறி கலைந்தால் தொழிலாளர்களை திருட்டுக் கேசில் சம்மந்தப்படுத்த முயலுகிறார்கள். அதிகாரிகளிடம் தெரிவித்தும் அதிகாரிகள் முயன்றும் காரியம் பலிக்கவில்லை. மிராசுதார்களுக்குச் சாதகமான அளவில் சம்பளம் கேட்டும் கொடாமல் நயவஞ்சகமாக சிலர் நடக்கிறார்கள். இவ்விஷயத்தில் உடனே நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கவேண்டும். (At this stage the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.) மிராசுதார்கள் சில சமயத்தில் சர்க்கார் நம்பும் வண்ணம் காரியங்களைத் திருத்திக் கூறி தவருன நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கும்படி செய்கிறார்கள். சிதம்பரம் தாலூகா ஆடூர் கிராமத்தில் கலகம் ஏற்பட்டு Reserve Police வந்திருக்கிறதெனத் தெரிந்து ஆடூர் சென்றேன். ஜில்லா கலெக்டர் கனம் கைவார் அவர்களும் ஜில்லா சூப்ரண்டெண்டு அவர்களும் டிபுடி சுப்ரண்டெண்டு அவர்களும் டிப்டி கலெக்டர் தாசில்தார் முதலானவர்களும் ஹரிஜனத் தலைவர்களும் சென்று இருந்தோம். மிராசுதார்கள் ஹரிஜனங்கள் நிலங்களை உழுவதைத் தடுக்கிறார்கள் என்றும், வெளியிலிருந்து வேலை செய்ய வரும் கூலியாள்களைத் தடுக்கிறார்கள் என்றும் சர்க்காருக்குத் தெரிவித்து போலீஸ் படை வந்தது என்றார்கள். ஹரி ஜனங்களை விசாரித்தபோது ஆறு முறை உழுது நடவு செய்யத் தயாராயிருக்கும் நிலங்களை வேரொருவர் உழ வந்தால் தடுக்காமலிருக்கமுடியுமா என்றார்கள். வெளியூர்களிலிருந்து வரும் கூலியாட்களை என் தடுத்தீர்கள் என்று கேட்டபோது ஆடூர் தொழிலாளிகளைப் பக்கத்து கிராமங்களில் வேலைக்கு வைத்துக்கொள்ளக்கூடாதென மிராசுதார்கள் தெரிவித்திருப்பதால் ஆரில் ஒருவர் ஆயிரம் காணி மிராசுதாராயிருப்பதால் அவர் வார்த்தையைக் கேட்டுக்கொண்டு எங்களை வேலைக்கு வைத்துக்கொள்ளவில்லை. ஆதலால் வெளியூர் ஆள்கள் ஆடூருக்கு வர வேண்டாமென நாங்கள் தடுத்தோம் என்று கூறினார்கள். பிழைகள் செய்வது மிராசுதார்கள்தான். ஆனால் ஒன்று மறியாத ஏழைகளை பிழை செய்கிறார்களென்று அவர்கள் விளம்பரப்படுத்துகிறார்கள். முகையூரில் சிறு

[Sri A. S.Sahajanandam] [17th March 1948

சிறு மிராசுதார்கள் சம்பளங்களைக் கொடுத்துவிட்டார்கள். ஆனால் ஆதீர் ஆயிரம் காணி மிராசுதார் கொடுக்கவில்லை. அவர் மீது சிலர் சாக்கு கூறு இருக்கள். ஆகையால் பெரிய மிராசாய் இருப்பது ஏழைகளுக்கு ஆபத்தாய் இருப்பதால் அவர்களையும் ஜமீன்தார்களைப்போல் ஒழிப்பது நலம்.

" ஏழைகளுக்கு உதவி செய்ய வரும் காங்கிரஸ்காரர்களையும் **communists** என்று சர்க்காருக்கு தப்பாக மிராசுதார்கள் தெரிவிக்கிறார்கள். அப்படித்தான் மாயவரம் திரு. நாராயணசாமி நாயுடுவையும் இன்னும் சிலரையும் **arrest** செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களை விடுதலை செய்து கூலி நிர்ணயம் செய்யும் சட்டதையும் இயற்றவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு என்னுடைய வெட்டு பிரேரேபணையை பிரேரேபிக்கிறேன்."

3 p.m. BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, in seconding this cut motion, at the outset I should like to state that it would have been better if the portfolios of Food and Agriculture had been combined in one Minister, because these are cognate subjects, the matters relating to them being interlinked. After the forthcoming elections of the Congress Legislature Party I hope the Hon. Ministers will duly re-adjust their portfolios.

" The subject with which we are dealing to-day is of paramount importance, but I find that hon. Members are not taking much interest in it as is evident from the thinness of the House. Agriculture, is a major industry of this province, for 75 per cent of the population is dependent upon it. This country has not developed its industries and it is a matter of regret that even with reference to Agriculture, it is in a most backward condition otherwise we would not have been faced with an acute food crisis to-day. No doubt this food problem is an aftermath of the war, nevertheless if due attention had been paid to agriculture, the situation would not have been as bad as it is now. I do not blame the present Congress Government entirely for it, for they have been in office only for a couple of years. The bureaucratic regime of the past years, have to share a good proportion of the blame, for it is they who neglected not only the industrial but also the agricultural development of this country. Much leeway has, therefore, to be made in regard to agricultural progress. This country and this province should no longer be dependent upon Burma for rice, but should become ' self-sufficient '. Time has arrived when this province should give its earnest attention to the question of intensifying production particularly in view of its growing population. We have to remember that we have to make provision not merely for the millions that are to be fed to-day but also for the additional numbers that are brought into existence from year to year. By 1951 there will be an increase of at least another 10 per cent in the existing population. Hence we have to so plan our agriculture as to suit our future needs as well. It is a matter of gratification that this province has abundant potentialities in regard to agricultural development, for Providence has bestowed on it the wealth of rivers, which if properly utilized will work remarkable metamorphoses in the life of the country. If the Godavari and the Kistna are properly harnessed, this Province will become in course of years, the

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granary for the whole of India, for if the Ramapadasagar Project is completed, Madras will be able to produce rice not merely for her own requirements but for the rest of India as well. North India is self-sufficient in wheat but it is short of rice, which Madras can supply to her. I see that the Deputy Speaker is smiling, perhaps due to the fact that the abovementioned project is situated in Andhradesa . . ."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—" I want to say why I smiled. I thought it was only going to make good the deficit for the Madras Province. I do not know if it is going to supply the rest of India also."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" As one who has been a member of the Provincial Food Council for six years—not the present council, but the Provincial Food Council that was in existence during the Advisers' regime, of which, Sir S. V. Ramamurthi was the Chairman—I may state that my above observation is based on knowledge. We discussed this matter at the Food Council several times and Sir S. V. Ramamurthi informed us that if the Ramapadasagar project were completed, Madras would become not only self-sufficient in rice but would be able to supply that foodgrain to the rest of India as well, so that India may not have the necessity of importing any more rice from Burma. Hence the work in connexion with the Ramapadasagar project should be pushed forward with the utmost vigour.

" I am very glad to find that the Government have this year allotted a larger amount for the provision of irrigation facilities. This is a step in the right direction, for it is mainly through the provision of irrigational facilities that agriculture can develop. Hitherto agriculture in this country has been described as ' a gamble in rain ', but with the extension of irrigation projects agriculture will be placed on a secure basis.

" It is gratifying that instead of the usual provision of Rs. 17 lakhs for minor irrigation works, this year a sum of Rs. 37 lakhs has been provided and that the Government are actively considering the revival of the Tank Restoration Scheme operations which were abolished in 1931 as a measure of retrenchment. This Province has the largest number of tanks in the whole of India, but unfortunately those tanks are not properly utilized as some of them are kept unrepaired. We have heard complaints that in the zamindari areas in particular the tanks have been neglected. The Tank Restoration Scheme will go a long way to help agricultural development.

" In the course of his speech the Hon. Minister made a reference to a remark that I had made sometime ago, that the Grow More Food Campaign had not been a success. I may point out that my observation was based on the statement that had been made by the Hon. Food Minister. When I said that the Grow More Food Campaign had not been a success, I did not mean that it had not yielded any result at all. My point was that the results

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achieved had not been commensurate with the expenditure involved in the scheme. That is the criterion whereby one should determine the success or failure of a venture. Having regard to the heavy expenditure on the Grow More Food Campaign, there can be no gainsaying the fact that the results achieved have not been substantial. That is the reason why we are compelled to express our disappointment at the Grow More Food Campaign. I hope in the coming year, steps will be taken to make this campaign a complete success.

"Another point that I should like to mention is that in this country the urgent need is not merely extensive, but also intensive cultivation. The Hon. Minister has given figures to show how the area under cultivation has been enlarged. But this, by itself is not sufficient. Steps have further to be taken in regard to the intensive cultivation. Even with regard to extensive cultivation we find that the progress made is inadequate for while 64 per cent of land is capable of being put to cultivation only about 33 per cent has so far been brought under the plough. Thus there is much room for progress in that direction also. As for intensive cultivation considerable advance has to be made, for the yield from agriculture is very low in this country as compared with other countries. Japan produces twice the amount of paddy per acre, so does Egypt and Italy produces three times as much as we produce here. I do not see why India should lag behind even Oriental countries like Japan and Egypt.

"In order to promote intensive cultivation three things are necessary: firstly good seeds, next good manure, and thirdly agricultural implements. To-day the agriculturist is hampered by lack of these essentials. The Government should provide the agriculturists with suitable manure and with good seeds. Both chemical manure as well as sufficient quantities of green-leaf manure should be made available to him. Chemical manure by itself is injurious to the soil. Hence both kinds of manure should be supplied. The present Director of Agriculture is an enthusiast in regard to green-leaf manure. I hope that, under his direction, the production of green-leaf manure will increase so that sufficient headway may be made in regard to agricultural development in this Province. (The gong was sounded.) I have one or two points more. Since many hon. Members on this side of the House would not be speaking on this subject, I may be allowed a few minutes more. In regard to green-leaf manure, we and that indigo possesses good manurial value, but the pity of it is that the cultivation of indigo has gone down. If the use of artificial blues is restricted and the cultivation of indigo encouraged, I think it will go a long way to supply green-leaf manure.

"Another matter to which I wish to draw attention is that the agriculturists need to be taught modern methods of production. His primitive outlook and his outmoded equipment require a change. I should like the Government to open demonstration farms in every taluk of 35 acres so that sound methods of farming may be brought home to the agriculturists. Another handicap

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from which the agriculturists suffer is lack of cheap credit facilities. As the Hon. Minister is aware, unless one is a proprietor of land no loan is granted by the Land Mortgage Bank or the Co-operative Banks. Hence it is necessary that Agricultural Banks should be established in the rural areas so as to provide the agriculturists with cheap and easy credit facilities. Another point that I should like to mention is that it is necessary to restrict the area under cash crops by legislation as has been done in some other Provinces. This may be a temporary measure until the food crisis has been tided over. I also wish to urge upon this Government to impress upon the Government of India to increase the allotment of iron and steel granted to this Province and to see that the full quota is received in the course of the year and does not lapse. At the present time the Central Government are giving a very small quantity of iron and steel to this Province and even that is not supplied in full. Further steps should be taken to manufacture all kinds of agricultural implements in the Province itself. Now that India has attained independence it should no longer be dependent upon others. Even tractors should be produced in this Province. There are certain other points that I wanted to mention but as my time is over I shall resume my seat."

Sri S. K. SAMI GOUNDER:—"உதவி சபாநாயகி அவர்களே, கனம் விவசாய மந்திரி கொண்டுவந்திருக்கும் விவசாய மான்யத்தை ஆதரித்து இன்று நான் இரண்டொரு வார்த்தைகளைச் சொல்லுகிறேன். தற்சமயம் நமது முன்னுல் மிகவும் முக்யமாக இருப்பது உணவு பிரச்னை. இதைத் தீர்ப்பதற்காக உணவைப்பற்றி அதிகமாக பேச வேண்டியது நம்முடைய கடமையாக இருக்கிறது. இதற்கு கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் பெரிய திட்டங்களை வகுத்து நமக்கு உணவு பொருள் கிடைக்கும்படியாக செய்து இருக்கிறார். அதை வரவேற்கிறேன். ஆனுல் உணவு பிரச்னையை தீர்ப்பதற்கு எடுத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டிய விஷயங்கள் சில இருக்கிறது. தற்போது நம் நாட்டில் பூமியைத் திருத்தி புஞ்சையாக இருக்கும் அநேக நிலங்களில் கிணறுவெட்டி பாசனம் செய்யக்கூடிய அநேக பூமிகள் இருக்கின்றன. அநேகமாக கோயம்பத்தூர், சேலம், மதுரை, திருநெல்வேலி போன்ற இடங்களில் விவசாயத்திற்கு கிணறு வெட்டிக்கொடுத்து அதனுல் பயிர் செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். தற்சமயம் விவசாயம் செய்வதற்கு முடியாமல் சாமான்கள் விலை 5 மடங்கு முதல் 8 மடங்கு வரை அதிகரித்து இருக்கிறது. அதனுல் விவசாயம் செய்வதற்கு சக்தி இல்லாமலிருக்கிறார்கள். உடனடியாக ஒரு யோசனையை நான் சொல்ல வேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. அரசாங்கம் விவசாயத்திற்கு உடனடியாக தண்ணீர் கொடுத்து நீர் பாசன வசதி செய்து கொடுக்கவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. அதற்கு அரசாங்கம் மின்சார வசதி செய்து கொடுத்தால் சௌகர்யமாக இருக்கும். இது அவசியம் செய்யக்கூடிய விஷயம். எவ்வளவு சீக்கிரம் செலவு செய்கிறார்களோ அவ்வளவு சீக்கிரம் பலன் கிடைக்கும். தற்சமயம் மின்சார இலாகா வேலை செய்வதைப் பார்த்தால் ஆமை நகர்வது போல் மெதுவாக நடந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறது. விவசாயத்திற்கு மின்சாரத்தை உபயோகப்படுத்த அரசாங்கம் தனியாக ஒரு கமிட்டி அமைக்க வேண்டும். மின்சார சாமான்களை வெளியூருக்குப் போயாவது வாங்கிவந்து அவற்றை அதிகமாக செலவு செய்து மின்சாரத்தை உபயோகித்து உடனடியாக உணவு உற்பத்தியை செய்யும்படி ஒரு திட்டம் வகுக்கவேண்டும். கவலை வைத்து சாகுபடி செய்வது என்பது முடியாது. கவலை வைத்து சாகுபடி செய்வதைக் காட்டிலும் மின்சார சக்தியினுல் சாகுபடி செய்தால் ஒன்றுக்கு நான்கு மடங்கான பொருள் உற்பத்தி செய்யலாம். இதைப் பார்த்து எல்லா கிராமங்களிலும் செய்ய வசதி ஏற்படும். அரசாங்கம்

3-15 p.m.

[Sri S. K. Sami Gounder] [17th March 1948

மின்சாரத்திற்கு முதல் ஸ்தானம் கொடுத்து நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக் கொண்டு, பொருள் உற்பத்தி செய்ய ஏற்பாடு செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று அரசாங்கத்தை கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" அடுத்தபடியாக விவசாயத்திற்கு வேண்டிய எரு முதலிய சாமான்கள் சரியாக இல்லை. இப்பொழுது எரு கொண்டு போவதற்கு கிராமங்களில் வசதி இல்லை. இந்த உணவு பஞ்சத்தை தீர்ப்பதற்கு சாதாரணமாக கிராமங்களில் எரு கொண்டு போவதற்கு வேண்டிய போக்கு வரத்து வசதி இல்லை. ரோடு வசதி இல்லை. இவைகளை தீர்ப்பதற்கு நடவடிக்கைகளை அரசாங்கம் எடுத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டும். விவசாயம் செய்வதற்கு தங்கு தடை இல்லாமல் வசதி செய்து கொடுக்க வேண்டும். எரு, மண், இவைகளை கொட்டிவைத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டிய வசதிகள் அரசாங்கம் செய்துகொடுக்க வேண்டும்.

" இப்பொழுது விவசாய கருவிகளின் விலை ஒன்றுக்கு பன் மடங்கு ஏறி இருக்கிறது. விவசாயிகளுக்கு மேற்கண்ட பொருள்களை சர்க்கார் வாங்கிக் கொடுக்க முக்யமாக கவனம் செலுத்த வேண்டும். தவிர இப்பொழுது நமது தேசத்தில் இந்த மாதிரியான உணவு பஞ்சம் வரவேண்டிய காரணம் என்ன என்பதை கொஞ்சம் சிந்தனை செய்து பார்க்க வேண்டும். பழங்காலத்தில் இந்தமாதிரி உணவு நெருக்கடி வந்ததாகத் தெரியவில்லை. அந்தக்காலத்தில் நிலங்களை நன்றாக பழுது பார்த்து அதிக நீர்பாசன வசதி செய்துகொடுத்து வந்தார்கள். அதனால் அந்தக் காலத்தில் குளங்களில் தண்ணீர் இருந்து விவசாயத்திற்கு சௌகர்யமாக இருந்தது. இதற்கு முன் இருந்த அரசாங்கம் குளங்களை கவனிக்காததால் குளங்கள் கெட்டுப்போய் விட்டன. அதனால் விவசாயம் பாதிக்கப் பட்டிருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது இருக்கும் அரசாங்கம் இதில் ஏதாவது சீர் திருத்தம் செய்தால் கூடுமான வரைக்கும் விவசாயம் செய்யலாம். இதைச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று அரசாங்கத்தை கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" இன்னும் அரசாங்கம் விவசாயிகளுக்கு லாரி முதலியவைகள் கொடுத்து உதவுவதை முதல் ஸ்தானமாக வைத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டும். இப்பொழுது லாரிகள் வியாபாரிகளுக்கு மாத்திரம்தான் கொடுத்து வருகிறார்கள். அதைப்போல் விவசாயிகளுக்கும் லாரிகளைக் கொடுத்து உதவி செய்ய வேண்டும். நமது தேசம் அபிவிருத்தியடைய வேண்டுமானால் நமது தேவையை நாமே பார்த்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டும். இதர தேசத்தின் உதவியை நாடக்கூடாது. நம்முடைய தேவைகளை நாமே பூர்த்தி செய்து கொண்டால்தான் நம்நாடு முன்னேற்றமடையும். வேறு நாட்டின் உதவியை எதிர்பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருப்பது நல்ல நாடு அல்ல. நம்நாடு பிற நாட்டின் உதவியை தேடாமல் நாமே செய்து கொள்ள வேண்டும் மென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு இந்த மான்யத்தை ஆதரித்து என்னுடைய பேச்சை முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" Madam, I rise to support the cut motion moved by my hon. Friend. I agree with the Hon. Minister for Agriculture when he says that they were able to increase the land under cultivation, but at the same time I would like to point out that however much they have tried their level best they have not been successful in bringing the land that is cultivable under cultivation. As far as my information goes—and I believe it is correct—we have got nearly one crore of acres that can be cultivated, whereas only an addition of one million acres have been brought under cultivation till to-day. If we take the total acreage that could be cultivated and the acreage that was newly brought under cultivation, the proportion is very little. It is only one-tenth of what we could do, we have been able to do. Of course, I do not attribute this to any individual or to the incapacity of any particular Minister, but

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it is more due to the policy which the Government are following. The Hon. Minister has stated that in order to increase food production the policy of the Ministry is to create better facilities to the ryot by way of manure and other practical improvements. He expressed that there are difficulties in the way, namely, questions relating to private property, land alienation, fragmentation of land and labour troubles. This is the crux of the problem facing us to-day. It is not impossible to solve these problems provided there is will behind and efforts to implement. Madam, because the Government have not changed their policy in regard to these important problems, they have not been able to step up production as much as we would wish it to be done.

" In regard to the agrarian troubles, Madam, I would like to point out, whether they like it or not, even though you may shoot down all the Communists in our Province, you cannot solve the agricultural problems or the land problem. You can arrest any number of Communists to suppress agrarian discontent, but until you solve the problem of land and unless you give the land to the actual tiller of the soil, you cannot solve the problem and any kind of repression is not going to help you to solve the problem. I leave the point there, Madam. But, so far as the land problem is concerned, if you want to increase agricultural production, you have to radically change land relationship and tiller of the soil should get the land. My hon. Friend, Mr. Sahajananda has already pointed out to you that the mirasdars and big landholders are instigating the Government to arrest the labour leaders or the kisan leaders, but the real solution of the problem lies in giving the land to the tiller of the soil.

" Another point which I would like to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister is, in regard to the question of digging wells. If my information is correct, Madam, on the whole there are 8 lakhs of wells in our Province and out of these only half a per cent are fitted with pumps and there is ample scope for power-pumping development so far as agriculture is concerned but I do not know what the Government have done in this direction. Government must come to the help of the ryot in regard to this matter and they should supply the kisans electric power at a cheaper rate. They should also give them pumps and other instruments and there is no use saying, we will give you subsidy and let the peasants go somewhere and purchase their requirements at the blackmarket rates. So, Madam, the peasants, however anxious they may be to improve their methods of agriculture, are unable to do so because the whole trade is in the hands of the capitalists and private traders. As far as agricultural implements are concerned, it is better that Government monopolize all the trade and have full control over the trade so that the implements needed by the peasants may be made available to them both easily and at a cheaper rate.

" In this connexion, Madam, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government the question of oil engines required for agricultural purposes. In 1929-30 there were only about 313

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and to-day we have got 690 oil engines and since most of them are overworked and there is wear and tear they require spare parts but these are not available. So, Government must start industrial workshops in order to manufacture all the spare parts and supply them to the agriculturists who need them.

"In regard to manure also, Madam, I suggest that Government may start a fertilizer factory, particularly in Bezwada. I think there was a suggestion in regard to this matter from the India Government and I do not know what has become of that.

"Madam, in regard to the digging of wells, till now the Agricultural Department have been using only manual labour and not mechanical power and that is why it is costing us ten times more than what it would have cost if mechanical power were used. If, on the other hand, mechanical power is used in digging wells, much of the labour of the people will be saved and the people will be grateful to the Hon. Minister for Agriculture. Much of the gun powder is being wasted by the Police to shoot down the peasants who are struggling to get their poor demands fulfilled. It can as well be better utilized for digging wells and thus help the Grow More Food-wallahs.

"Coming to absentee landlordism, Madam, I think, if at all food production is impeded, it is mostly due to absentee landlordism, because no absentee landlord will ever take an interest in the improvement of land. That is left to the poor tenant who cannot enjoy the produce which he is producing. He is, therefore, naturally not much enthused over the improvement of the land. That is why agriculture is suffering. Unless therefore, you radically change your policy in the matter of agriculture, and unless you radically reform land relations, nothing can be done in this direction. As a matter of fact, we are in a way attempting to do this in the Zamindari Bill, however feeble it may be.

"Madam, there is another matter which I would like to deal with in this connexion and that is in regard to waste lands. There is so much of land lying idle and I do not know what stands in the way of the Government in bringing all this waste land under cultivation. I have no objection to giving these to whomsoever the Government like. Recently the Hon. Minister for Revenue expressed his reluctance to giving these waste lands to ex-servicemen for political reasons. I can understand political reasons, even though I may disagree with him, but since to-day political conditions have changed; and those gentlemen who partook in the 1942 movement are now at the head of affairs of the State both in the Centre as well as in the Provinces I do not find any reason why the Government should victimize the poor ex-servicemen. After all they went and took part in the war without any malicious motive. They have not done anything against the interests of the country, while those who worked against the interests of the then Government are themselves to-day in charge of the Government both in the Centre and in the Provinces. In these circumstances, I appeal to the Hon. Minister for Agriculture to

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see that in the matter of the distribution of waste land, the case of the ex-servicemen also should be considered. If this is done, I think much of the waste land will be brought under cultivation by these people and if they introduce radical reform, we can improve agriculture to a great extent and afford greater facilities to the ryots. With these few words, Madam, I support the cut motion."

SRI G. SANYASI RAO:—ఉపాధ్యక్షురాలగు అమ్మా, Agricultural Department కుగాను 1,68,78,600. రూపాయలను మూతపడే ఆయవ్యయ పట్టికలో చూపించుట చాలా విచారింపవలసినటువంటి విషయము. ఎందుచేతనంటే మన దేశంలో సుమారు 80 మంది వ్యవసాయదారులు. ముఖ్యంగా వ్యవసాయదేశంలో వ్యవసాయదారుల అభివృద్ధికొరకు పాటుపడ వీల్పాటు చేయబడినటువంటి వ్యవసాయ శాఖకు ఇంత తక్కువ డబ్బును ఇచ్చుట విచారింపవలసిన విషయమని నా భావము. 2-30 p.m.

"మహాత్మా గాంధీగారు బతికిపోయేముందు వారి ఆఖరి ఉపన్యాసంలోకూడా ముందు ముందు మన దేశంలో రైతురాజ్యం రావ్వాలి అని చెప్పిరి, కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వాలు రైతు శ్రేయస్సును దృష్టియందుంచుకొని రైతుల ముఖ్య కృషి అయినటువంటి వ్యవసాయానికి ప్రోత్సాహమివ్వాలని చెప్పి ఉన్నారు."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"కూలీలను ఏమి చేస్తారు."

SRI G. SANYASI RAO:—"రైతులంటే అందులో కూలీలుకూడా ఉన్నారు.

"కాబట్టి మన ప్రభుత్వమువారు వ్యవసాయశాఖకు ఎక్కువ ప్రాముఖ్యతనిచ్చి ఈ డిమాండు మొత్తమును హెచ్చుచేయాలని నేను మంత్రిగారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

"వ్యవసాయశాఖలో ప్రభుత్వమువారు వ్యవసాయదారులకు మంచి సలహాలను ఇవ్వాలనే సదుద్దేశంతో Agricultural farms విస్తారంచేసి ఉన్నారు. కాని ఈనాడు ఈ Agricultural farms వలన చిన్న రైతులకు ఉపకారము జరుగుటలేదు. కారణం ఏమిటంటే ఈ Agricultural farms లో రైతులకు ఇచ్చుటకుగాను మంచి రకపు విత్తనాలు (Seed) హెచ్చుగా లభించుటలేదు. Agricultural Demonstrators హేచ్చరీలనుండి తీసుకొనిన విత్తనాలనే వారికి తిరిగి ఇస్తున్నారుగాని, కొత్తరకముల మంచి విత్తనాలను భారీయెత్తులో తయారుచేయటానికి ప్రయత్నముచేయటంలేదు. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఈ agricultural farms లో మంచిరకపు కొత్తవిత్తనాలను పండించి రైతులందరకూ కూడా supply చేయిస్తారని తలుస్తాను."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"Madam Deputy Speaker, the other day when the Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi was sitting in the Speaker's Gallery, the Speaker objected to the Members, both of the Treasury benches and others, sitting there. On a point of order, may I know if Mr. Tenneti Viswanathan can sit in the Speaker's Gallery?"

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"I do not think that there is anything wrong in that. I do not know about the Speaker's ruling but I do not think it is wrong."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Madam Deputy Speaker, this happened on two occasions when there have been differences between your ruling and the ruling of the Speaker and they

differed violently. This is one instance and the other instance was the question as to whether Members who raised objections against speeches or statements made by the Ministers need wait until the Minister replies and whether their absence from the Assembly on such occasions would amount to a gross discourtesy. Then, you were pleased to rule that any Member or Minister, whoever it may be, may absent himself if he had more important business. I learn that the Speaker disagreed with this ruling. According to the rules made by the Legislature, what is the position where the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker or any other Member functioning as Speaker differ from each other? Whose is the final voice and is there any appellate authority provided? When I went through the rules of the Legislature, I could not come across anything clarifying the position. It may be that the previous Speakers and Deputy Speakers did not think it necessary to differ from each other. But in the interests of the future discussion of this Assembly and the efficiency of the working of the rules, I should like to have an authoritative ruling from you as to what should be done in case a difference arises between your ruling and that of the Speaker. My second point is if you decide a particular matter in a certain manner and there is disagreement on the part of the Speaker, what is the go for hon. Members of this House and what is to be done as regards the future proceedings of this Assembly? I should be very grateful if you would enlighten me and the House, not immediately but a little while later if it would be convenient to you, and let us know your view on this question so that our deliberations could be conducted with less trouble and more ease."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Madam Deputy Speaker, I am sorry that Mr. Raghavayya has thought it fit to raise a point of order on these questions. So far as the rules are concerned, I do not think there is any difference of opinion between you and the Speaker. But questions of rulings as distinct from the observance of rules, are certainly different. It is open either to the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker to take their own point of view. The Speaker referred to what happened in the House of Commons and gave his ruling and it is just possible that the Deputy Speaker might also base her point of view on certain parliamentary procedure. In view of this, it is much better that we do not magnify differences between the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker on these matters and not create trouble or clashes between the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"On a point of information . . ."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"No explanation is necessary, it is fairly clear.

"There is no contradiction or difference of opinion between the Deputy Speaker and the Speaker. Hon. Members may even say that I have contradicted myself if they did not fully follow what I said. I said that every Minister should try to be present when general discussions were going on so that they might take

note of points and give replies if possible; but I also said later on it was not necessary to be very strict with regard to their presence in the House because they might have some other important business and it might take them away from the House and they were entitled to be absent. Even with regard to what I said you may find some sort of contradiction if you do not understand it properly. So there is no question of difference of opinion between the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker, much less violent differences. About Members sitting in the Speaker's Gallery or anywhere, we are responsible for their conduct only as long as they are present in this House. I do not know why the Speaker said it was wrong."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPAL REDDI:—"Following the procedure of the Central Assembly, he said that visitors need not be deprived of their seats in the Speaker's Gallery when hon. Members could sit here."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"If it is only a matter of depriving other people of their seats, surely when seats are vacant and they may be allowed to sit.

"The hon. Member wanted to know the appellate authority. If there are differences of opinion between one Speaker and another Speaker, they are discussed in the Speakers' Conference and the Chairman of the Conference gives his own point of view on the matter."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"The point I raised, Madam, has not been clarified.

"The Deputy Leader of the Independent Party has imported something into my statement which was not intended at all. My point is that if there should be two conflicting decisions or rulings on a particular matter which affects the procedure of the House what is the appellate authority and the go for hon. Members? Is there any provision under the present rules which guide the proceedings of the House as to which ruling we should obey? Why should any Member come to trouble later on that he disobeyed this or that ruling? It may be now you are presiding and my lay man's mind tells me that your ruling being the latest must be respected by whoever sits in the Chair. My point which has not yet been made clear is what is the remedy if there is any conflict or difference of opinion or rulings between two persons who occupy the Chair and what is the finality about it and what is the remedy in the case of conflict? I do not at all mean any disrespect to the Chair to magnify differences."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"Let me at the outset say that the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker cannot differ from each other and if they do, it means they are not following any ruling that has been already given."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Just as the King never dies?"

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THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"It is not like that. If the ruling has been given, it must be as binding on the whole House as much as it serves as a guidance to the Deputy Speaker. So there cannot be any difference at all.

"But differences there may be between the procedure and rulings given in one House and another. All these things are thrashed in the Speakers' Conference. The English Parliament may not follow the procedure of other legislative bodies. It is best for us to follow that procedure which is most suited to our convenience and our circumstances."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information . . ."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"No point of information is necessary."

SRI G. SANYASI RAO:—"Agricultural farms లో పశువులను పెంచడం, గోళ్లను పెంచడం విన్నాటులుచేశారు. వీటివల్ల మంచి జాతి పశువులను వ్యవసాయదారులకు సప్లయిచేస్తే చాలా ఉపకారం కలుగుతుంది. కాబట్టి రైతుకు ముఖ్యంగా ప్రచారము ద్వారా పశువులను పెంచటం, గోళ్లను పెంచటం, ఇతర నూతనమైన వ్యవసాయ పద్ధతులను తెలియజేసి రైతులకు వ్యవసాయాన్ని సక్రమంగా నవీనపద్ధతులమీద ఆధారపడి జయప్రదంగా కొనసాగించటానికి ప్రోత్సాహమివ్వాలని కోరుతున్నాను.

"ముఖ్యంగా రైతుకు వ్యవసాయంచేయటానికి పశువులు అత్యవసరం. పశువులు రైతుకు సొమ్ము (wealth). పశువులులేనిదే ఏ రైతూ వ్యవసాయముచేయలేడు. ముఖ్యంగా ఇప్పుడు కాలూకాలలో పశువైద్యానికిగాను ఆసుపత్రులులేవు. ఈ విషయమై మంత్రిగారిని అడిగితే డాక్టర్లు లేరని అంటున్నారు. డాక్టర్లులేరని పశువైద్యము చేయించటానికి శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొనకపోయినట్లైతే పశునష్టమువల్ల వ్యవసాయదారుని స్థితి అధోగతి పాలైపోయింది. డాక్టర్లులేరని ఊరుకోకుండా వెంటనే పశువైద్య కాలేజీలను స్థాపించి, డాక్టర్లకు హెచ్చు జీతాలిచ్చి సాధ్యమైనంత త్వరలో కాలూకు ఒక ఆసుపత్రిచొప్పున విన్నాటుచేయవలసినదని, ఈ విధంగా రైతులకు ప్రోత్సాహపరచాలని నేను కోరుతున్నాను.

"ఈ నాడు ప్రభుత్వమువారు Grow More Food Campaign కు గాను హెచ్చు డబ్బు ఖర్చుచేసి ప్రచారము చేయించుచున్నారు. కాని ఈ విధంగా డబ్బు ఖర్చుచేస్తున్నాకూడా క్రియాహీనత్వమేగాని రైతుకు ఏ విధంగానూ ఉపయోగం పడటం లేదని అందరూ తెలిసిన విషయమే. ఈ Grow More Food Campaign వలన కొన్ని ప్రాంతాలలో ఏ కొద్ది భూమైనా సాగులోనికి తేబడినదేమోకాని ఇతర ప్రాంతాలలోను, ముఖ్యంగా జమిందారీ ప్రాంతాలలోను ఏ మాత్రం భూమికూడా అధికంగా సాగులోనికి తీసుకొనిరాబడలేదని నేను చెప్పగలను. స్వతసిద్ధంగా సాగు చేయవలసిన భూములనే సాగుచేయటానికి అవకాశాలు లేనటువంటి జమిందారీ ప్రాంతాలలో పారంబోకులు, బంజరులు జమీందార్లు తమ్మంతకాలం సాగుకిందకు తీసుకొని రావటం అసంభవము. ఈ కారణంవల్ల జమీందారీలను వెంటనే రద్దుచేస్తేనే తప్ప ఈ Grow More Food Campaign జయప్రదమవడం కష్టము ఉదయం శ్రీ భక్తవత్సలంగారు చెప్పినట్లు సాధ్యమైనంత త్వరలో జమీందారీలను రద్దుచేసి ఆ ప్రాంతములలో Irrigation scheme లను త్వరగా అమలు చేసినట్లయితేనే కాని సుభము

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కాదూన్ని ఎదుర్కొనలేము. మనరాజధానిలో మొత్తము ఉన్నటువంటి భూమిలో మూడవవంతు ప్రస్తుతం జమీందారుల చేతులలో ఉన్నది. నేడో, రేపో ఈ జమీందారీలను ప్రభుత్వమువారు రద్దుచేస్తారని మీ చారులకు తెలుసును. అందుచేత వారు ఈ జమీందారీ ప్రాంతములలో Irrigation scheme లకు గాను ఏ మాత్రమూకూడా ఖర్చుచేయదలచలేదు. ఈ చిన్న చిన్న మరమ్మతులను వారు కృపయాపూర్వకంగా నిర్వహణ చేస్తున్నారు. ఈ విషయాలు గవర్నమెంటువారికి తెలుసును, మంత్రిగారికి తెలుసును, శాసనసభ్యులందరకూ తెలుసును. అందుచేత ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఈ నాడు రైతులు పడుతున్న ఇబ్బందులను గమనించి ఈ Irrigation scheme లను, చిన్న చిన్న మరమ్మతులను పెంటనే చేయించుటకుగాను జమీందారీ బిల్లు రద్దు అయ్యేంతవరకూ పెంటనే ఒక Ordinance చెయుట అత్యవసరమని మనవిచేస్తాను.

"ముఖ్యంగా వ్యవసాయానికి, నీటిసౌకర్యాలు మొదలైన ఇతర విషయాలకు చాలా దగ్గర సంబంధమున్నది. కాబట్టి వ్యవసాయ శాఖామాత్యులు ఇరిగేషన్ మంత్రిగారితోను, రెవన్యూ మంత్రిగారితోను, Finance Minister గారితోను సంప్రదించి, Finance Minister గారి వద్దనుంచి ఎక్కువ ధనసహాయము తీసుకొని ఎక్కువ నీటి సౌకర్యములు కలిగించి, వ్యవసాయదారునకు వ్యవసాయ department వారికి తగినంత ప్రోత్సాహము, సహాయము చేస్తారని ఆశిస్తున్నాను.

"బేగం ఆమిరుద్దీన్‌గారు ఈనాడు మనకు ఆస్ట్రేలియానుంచి, బొగ్గుతీరుచి అవసర పదార్థాలను తెప్పించవలసిన గతిపట్టినదని చెప్పి ఉన్నారు. నేను వారి అభిప్రాయముతో ఏకీభవిస్తున్నాను. మన హిందూదేశము ముఖ్యంగా వ్యవసాయ దేశం. మనకు కావలసినంత భూమి ఉన్నది. అనేక నదులున్నాయి. వ్యవసాయం చేయటానికి అనేక వసతులున్నాయి. ఇన్ని సావకాశాలుండికూడా మనము ఆహార ధాన్యాల కొరకై ఇతర దేశాలమీద ఆధారపడిఉండడం చాలా విచారకరమైనటువంటి విషయము.

"బేగం ఆమిరుద్దీన్‌గారు ఉదయం మాట్లాడుతూ రామపాదసాగర్ ప్రాజక్టు విషయమై తెలియజేసారు. వారు చెప్పినట్లుగా ఈ project నిర్మాణము చేస్తే ఆంధ్ర రాష్ట్రమునకే కాకుండా మన పొరుగు రాష్ట్రానికే కాకుండా ఇతర రాష్ట్రాలకు కూడా ధాన్యము supply చేయగల పరిస్థితులలో ఉండగలమని మనవిచేశారు. ఈ అభిప్రాయముతో నేను ఏకీభవిస్తున్నాను. ఈ సంగతి సభ్యులందరకూ కూడా తెలిసినటువంటి విషయమే కాబట్టి ఈ project ఆంధ్రరాష్ట్రములో ఉన్నదో ఆనే అభిప్రాయముతో దీనిని వెనుకబెట్టక చాలా త్వరలో పూర్తిచేసినట్లయితే మన రాష్ట్రం ఎన్నడూ క్షామానికి గురికాదని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను.

"ఇప్పుడు వ్యవసాయ department లో ఎరువులను రైతులకు పంపకము చేయుటకుగాను ఒక scheme ఉన్నది. దీనిలో చాలా అరాచకము జరుగుతోంది. ఈ scheme వల్ల చిన్న రైతులకు సక్రమమైన ధరలకు ఎరువులు చేరటంలేదు. ఈ scheme వల్ల పెద్ద రైతులకే ఉపకారం జరుగుతోంది కాని చిన్న రైతులకు ఎరువులు చేరటంలేదు. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వంవారు చిన్న రైతులకుకూడా ఎరువులు చేరేటట్లు విన్నాటులు చేయవలసినదని నేను వారిని కోరుతున్నాను.

"తరువాత రైతులకు వ్యవసాయానికిత్తం కావలసినటువంటి (agricultural implements) ఇనుప పనిముట్లను గురించి మనవిచేస్తాను. ఈ నాడు రైతులకు ఎండ్ల బట్టాలు, ఇతర వ్యవసాయ పనిముట్లకుగాను ఇనుము దొరుకుటలేదు. మంత్రిగారు మన రాజధానికి ఇనుప కోటా తక్కువగా ఉన్నదని ఇంతకన్న హెచ్చు supply చేయ

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టానికి సాధ్యంకాదని చెప్పుచున్నారు. ఇసుక పనిముట్లు లేనిదే రైతు వ్యవసాయం చేయలేడు. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఈ విషయాలన్నింటిని గమనించి రైతుకు కావలసిన వస్తువులను సరకుమీద ధరలకు అందజేయు ఏర్పాట్లను చేస్తారని, తద్వారా వ్యవసాయాన్ని, వ్యవసాయదారుని ప్రోత్సహిస్తారని ఆశిస్తూ agricultural department కు నాను ప్రత్యేకించిన ఖర్చుల demand ను నేను సమర్థిస్తున్నాను."

3-45 p.m. M. V. HYDROSS SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Madam, I rise to support the cut motion. Unfortunately, we find there is no fixed or settled policy regarding the agricultural programme in my district. No doubt agriculture is connected with land tenure, with the relationship between the Government and the landowners, with irrigation and matters like that. Unfortunately, we find no co-ordination between the various departments so that we may have a settled idea about the future policy of Government. I may be excused when I say it is mostly the want of policy that has brought us up to this stage of present anxiety in the matter of agriculture and consequently in the matter of food. I may give one or two instances regarding this matter. You know, Madam, that there is the policy of the Government as far as procurement is concerned. In my own district of Malabar, not to speak of other areas, statutory rationing is abolished in non-municipal areas. But at the same time, what the Government have done is that the Madras procurement rules and the Malabar procurement regulations are all kept intact, and the result is that the Government is entitled to take whatever they like from the cultivators, while they are not bound to supply food to the non-statutory areas. It will be evident and it is a well-known fact that the agriculturists are deprived of even the last grain in their granary. Their seed is also taken by the Government and there have been innumerable complaints that the agriculturists are not able to cultivate the land for lack of seeds. At the same time, those persons had to spend a lot, you will be aware that the present value of price paid for paddy (or for the matter of that, the price of any other articles) is not commensurate with the expenses incurred by them in these days. Therefore, whatever they cultivate in the land is taken by the Government, and there is a tendency on their part to remain idle. For they don't feel that it is worth the trouble to cultivate the land and then give the paddy to the Government at a low price. It is this policy of the Government that is partly responsible for the lack of agricultural improvement in Malabar.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker occupied the Chair.)

"Then, again, Sir, there is the policy of the old bonus system. I know things in Malabar, and also the Hon. Minister is well aware, having special regard to the peculiarities of the tenancy in Malabar, that it is the person in whose name, paddy is given to the procurement agents or the wholesale shops who is entitled to the bonus. In the majority of the cases, the real cultivator is not entitled to the bonus, because paddy is not sold in his own name. It is in the name of the landlord. The result is that the manure

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that is given to the person who actually supplies paddy is appropriated by the landlord and the tenant is left to the mercy of the rain and the meagre manure available near at hand. This policy has also to be revised as far as Malabar is concerned.

"Then, Sir, there is an additional fact that an area which may fetch about Rs. 50, if he grows paddy, may fetch to the agriculturist about Rs. 500 if he is able to grow other crops like banana, tapioca and other things. So there is a tendency on the part of agriculturists to have more money crops in the land, and the result is paddy cultivation goes to the background. Several suggestions have been made to the Hon. Minister by many of us from Malabar, and I am sorry to say that no steps have been taken to put a stop to idleness on the part of agriculturists.

"Then, Sir, the system of land tenure is such that land is being split up into various small sections and groups, as the Hon. Minister himself has made known to us now, and that system should as far as possible be discouraged. There should be a system of collective cultivation either on co-operative basis or on some understanding which will help the people to apply their might together and get into cultivation on a scientific basis. Agriculture has been thought to be a poor man's profession; but I would submit that it is one of the greatest industries that can be developed in this land and that could be made useful not only for the respective areas but for the various parts of the Province as well, where food shortage prevails. Now, Sir, most of the parts of the Province were dependent upon import of rice from Burma. Now that Burma has become an independent country, Burma has very little to do with India hereafter. There is only a moral obligation on her part to supply us with the necessary foodstuffs. So until we are able to stand on our own legs, unless we are able to improve our agriculture and unless we enable our ryots to do that this problem of food shortage can never be solved. Therefore I would request concrete proposals to be placed before the public and people encouraged to act according to the directions given.

"I am sorry that our grow more food campaign about which many Members have spoken is a failure. That campaign itself has been defined as grow more officers. Instead of growing more food, some officers have grown; it is only to their benefit that this campaign has been started, and the feeling is they have become an impediment to agriculture rather than an impetus. Therefore I request Government to define their policy, give concrete directions and put agriculture in this Province on stable basis."

SRI R. THANGAVELU.—"கனம் சபா நாயகர் அவர்களே, கனம் விவசாய மந்திரி அவர்கள் கொண்டுவந்திருக்கும் மான்யத்தை நான் ஆதரித்து சில வார்த்தைகளைப் பேச விரும்புகிறேன். நமது நாட்டில் விவசாயம் என்பது ரொம்பவும் முக்யமானது என்று எல்லோருக்கும் தெரிந்த விஷயம். ஆனால் நமது நாட்டில் விவசாய மக்கள் பலர் கஷ்டப்பட்டு சாகுபடி செய்து அவர்கள் பட்ட கஷ்டத்திற்குத் தகுந்த ஆதாயம் கிடைக்கவில்லை என்று மிகவும் வருந்துகிறார்கள். இதற்குக் காரணம் என்னவென்றால் விவசாயிகளுக்கு போதுமான உழவு சாமான்கள், விதைகள், உரம், உப்பு, தோல், செமிட்டி, மின்சார சாதனங்கள் இவை

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களெல்லாம் விவசாயிகளுக்கு காலாகாலத்தில் தாரர்ளமாகக் கொடுப்பது இல்லே. சர்க்கார் அவைகளே உடனடியாக விவசாயிகளுக்கு தருவித்துக் கொடுக்கும்படியாகக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். தவிர, விவசாய பண்ணேயில் வேலே செய்யும் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு குத்தகையோ, வாரமோ, கூலியோ சரியானபடி கொடுக்கும்படியாக அரசாங்கம் ஒரு சட்டத்தை ஏற்படுத்த வேண்டும். அரசாங்கம் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்காக சலுகைகாட்டும் பொருட்டு நான் சொல்லிய வகைகளே ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு முன்னதாக தயார் செய்து கொடுக்கும்படியாக நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். என்னுடைய வார்த்தையை இத்துடன் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

4 p.m. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very important subject as it affects every individual living in this part of the country. I wonder, in the arrangement of the portfolios as to why the demand under Land Revenue, Irrigation and Agriculture have not been combined. As these three subjects can go together it would have been better if all these three demands had been put under one Demand. If that had been done it will be possible afterwards to make readjustments in the matter of expenditure. At any rate, things being as they are, it is, as I said, a very vital subject, as it affects the people's lives. Agriculture is the main industry in our country and it is unfortunate that even under a popular Government, it is not taking a whole view of the question. Government ought to bear in mind the vastness of this Province. It is a very extensive Province having a very large population of 50 to 55 millions of people. There is no use of Government pleading difficulties in this matter. They ought to take a very serious and large view of things and realise their responsibilities to the people. After all, we cannot depend for all time or under very difficult conditions upon importing foodgrains from other countries. It is true we depended upon Burma, Siam and other neighbouring countries, for rice and other foodgrains. We all know how difficult it was during times of war to import rice from these countries. The problem became more serious so far as this Province is concerned. The most important thing for cultivation is rainfall, and God has given us wisdom and power to utilize the providential help in the shape of rains. Unless the rain water is conserved to its maximum limit, we shall not be able to utilise it fully. Rice is a staple foodgrains in this Province. I cannot understand why other foodgrains are not cultivated. Attempts are not being made to cultivate wheat. I do not think it is very difficult to grow wheat in our Province, if Government can devise the means to allot dry lands which are congenial for the growth of wheat. I do not know why this is not done, so that our people may have not only rice but also wheat. We have been thinking of various methods for improving cultivation both intensively and extensively. There are vast plots of land throughout the Province which are not cultivated at all on the ground that water is not available for agricultural purposes. To say so is to plead inability without making an effort to overcome that difficulty. During the War various methods for securing water for cultivation purposes where natural resources were not available were suggested and employed. Bore-wells were dug. There was one Engineer—I think his name was Mr. Griffiths—who came forward with the suggestion of digging bore-wells throughout the country, where rain water and

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tanks were not available. Possibly we can resort to digging bore-wells on an extensive scale rather than employ modern machinery which it is very difficult to get now. There is no use of depending on antedeluvian methods for cultivation and for securing water. We are not giving that amount of attention which it deserves for the spread of agricultural education and employment of modern methods of agriculture. We have a college but that college is not based on a large scale and that college does not enable a large number of students to receive training in agricultural education. It is very necessary that we must have agricultural colleges in various parts of the Province so that a large number of students could be trained in agricultural methods, and we can give more and more educational facilities for improving agricultural methods. Model Farms are things which have not been given that amount of attention which they deserve for improving agriculture both intensively and extensively.

" The other and the most important thing that has been agitating the public mind is the agrarian trouble in this Province. We have not examined the question of giving more and more facilities to the actual tiller of the soil. His rights are not recognized to the extent to which they ought to be recognized."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member has exceeded his time already."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I wish to submit to the attention of hon. Members of this House that both the Government as well as the landowners have not devoted that amount of attention which it deserves to the tiller of the soil. He has been relegated to the background. It is high time that so far as people who are owners of lands and those who are interested in agriculture are concerned they should devote more and more attention to this matter. We are abolishing the zamindaris but at the same time we are not touching the proprietary rights of the mirasidars who are in no way different from the zamindars, inasmuch as they are particularly zamindars except that they do not own extensive lands. It is high time that both the Government and the agricultural landowners give that amount of attention to this subject which it is necessary to make the lot of the poor agriculturist labourers better than what it is to-day."

MR. SPEAKER:—" As a large number of hon. Members are anxious to speak on this Demand, I reduce the time limit to five minutes."

SRI ROKKAM RAMAMOORTHY:—"అధ్యక్షా, వ్యవసాయము యొక్క ప్రాముఖ్యత దేశములో ఉన్న ప్రజలకేనేమి, ప్రభుత్వమైతే నేమి గుర్తించినప్పటికి ఇంతవరకూ కూడా వ్యవసాయాభివృద్ధికొఱకు మాత్రము సరిఅయినటువంటి ప్రయత్నము లేమిటీ జరిగియుండలేదు. వ్యవసాయము అతి ప్రాముఖ్యమైనటు కంటిదని ప్రజలు, ప్రభుత్వములువారు దేశములోనిప్రజలకు కావలినంత ఆహారము లేనప్పుడు, ఆహార ధాన్యములకై ఇతర దేశములమీద ఆధారపడవలసివచ్చినప్పుడు గుర్తించినారు. అందువల్లనే దేశానికి వ్యవసాయాభివృద్ధి చెయ్యవలెనని అని గుర్తించినప్పటికి వ్యవ

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సాయమును అభివృద్ధిచేయుటకు, వ్యవసాయదారుని స్థితిని బాగుచేయుటకు ఎంత మాత్రము శ్రద్ధ చూపించకపోవడం, వ్యవసాయము నిమిత్తము ప్రభుత్వమువారి ఆ వ్యయపట్టికలో హెచ్చు మొత్తము విన్నాపు చేయకపోవడం చూస్తే చాలా ఆశ్చర్యంగా ఉన్నది.

"ముఖ్యంగా మన మద్రాసు రాష్ట్రంలోని ప్రజలకు ప్రధాన ఆహారము వరి ధాన్యము. ఇంత ప్రధానమైనటువంటి ఆహారధాన్యము యొక్కపంట అభివృద్ధి చేయుటకు కూడా విధమైనటువంటి ప్రయత్నములు జరుగుటలేదు. మన మద్రాసు రాష్ట్రము 25 జిల్లాలు గలిగిన అతి విస్తీర్ణమైన భూభాగము. ఇంత పెద్ద రాష్ట్రములో వేర్వేరు జిల్లాలలో వేర్వేరు వాతావరణ పరిస్థితులుగలవు. ఉత్తరజిల్లాల వాతావరణానికి దక్షిణ జిల్లాల వాతావరణానికి, వ్యవసాయ విధానాలకు, శీతోష్ణస్థితిగతులకు కాలమానానికి, భూసారానికి చాలా వ్యత్యాసాలు ఉన్నటువంటిసంగతి మనకు తెలిసినటువంటి విషయమే. అందుచేత ఏ జిల్లాకు ఎటువంటి రకముల విత్తనములు ఉపయుక్తంగా ఉంటాయో, ఏ పద్ధతులు, ఏ పరికరములు, ఏ ఋతువులు వరిసాగుకు అనుకూలంగా ఉంటాయో మొదలైన విషయాలను పరిశోధనలు (research) చేయవలసియున్నది. దీనికిగాను ప్రతి జిల్లాకు ప్రత్యేకంగా పరిశోధనాలయాలను (research institutes) పెట్టి ఆ జిల్లాలో ఉన్నటువంటి పరిస్థితులను (conditions) బట్టి ఆ జిల్లాకు అనుకూలమైనటువంటి విత్తనాలను తయారుచేయించి రైతులకు supply చేయించవలసినదిగా కోరుచున్నాను. ఇదే సందర్భములో ఈ పరిశోధనాలయాలు (research institutes) ఆ ఆ జిల్లాలోని soil conditions ను కూడ పరిశీలించి ఎటువంటి పైరులకు ఆ భూములు అనుకూలముగా నుండునో మొదలైనటువంటి విషయాలను రైతులకు తెలియజేయుటకు విన్నాపము చేయవలసిన బాధ్యత ప్రభుత్వమువారిపై ఉన్నదని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను.

"ఉదాహరణకు మా విశాఖపట్టణం జిల్లాను తీసుకొందాము. విశాఖపట్టణం జిల్లా మన రాష్ట్రమునొక్క ఉత్తరభాగాన ఉన్నది. ఈ జిల్లాలో సగభాగము కేవలము మెట్టభూమిగాను, సగభాగము పల్లము భూమిగాను ఉన్నది. ఈ పల్లము భూమిలో చాలా ప్రాంతము జమీందారుల చేతులలో ఉన్నది. ఇందుచేత ఈ ప్రాంతములలోని ఇరిగేషన్ విషయాలకు గవర్నమెంటువారికి ఏవిధమైన బాధ్యతలేదు. ఈ పనులన్నిటిని జమీందారులే చేయవలసియున్నది. కాని ఈ జమీందారులు రైతులకు ఏ విధంగాను నీటిసౌకర్యాలు కలిపించకపోవటంవల్ల, వ్యవసాయాభివృద్ధికి అవకాశం లేకుండా పోయింది. మా విశాఖపట్టణం జిల్లాలో సుమారు 40 లక్షల జనాభా ఉన్నది. ఆనగా మొత్తం ఆంధ్రదేశంలో 1/5 వ వంతు జనాభా ఉన్నది. ఇటువంటి జిల్లా ఈ నాడు ఆహారపదార్థాలకు కొరతపడి ఇతర జిల్లాల మీద ఆధారపడవలసి వచ్చింది. ఆంధ్రదేశంలో విశాఖపట్టణం జిల్లా, రాయలసీమ జిల్లాలు ఆహార విషయాలలో deficit స్వయంపోషకముగాని జిల్లాలుగా ఉన్నాయి. ఈ జిల్లాలలో ముఖ్యంగా వ్యవసాయాభివృద్ధికి ప్రభుత్వంవారు చేయూత నిచ్చినట్లయితే మొత్తము ఆంధ్రదేశంలో ఆహార సమస్య పరిష్కారమైనదన్నమాట.

"మా విశాఖపట్టణం జిల్లాలో హెచ్చుగా మెట్టపంటలనే పండిస్తారు. ఈ మెట్టపంటలలో ముఖ్యమైనది వేరుశనగ పంట అయిఉన్నది. కాని మా జిల్లాలో ఈ వేరుశనగ పంటకు ప్రభుత్వమువారు తగిన ప్రోత్సాహమిచ్చుటలేదు. రైతుకు మంచి రకపు వేరుశనగవిత్తనము ఇచ్చుటకు ఏవిధమైన ప్రయత్నములు జరుగుటలేదు. గత సంవత్సరం మా జిల్లాలో వేరుశనగపంటకు ఒక రోమవంటి పురుగుపట్టి పైరు సర్వనాశనము చేసివేసింది. నిజంగా సగము పంటకూడా రైతులకు చిక్కలేదు. రైతులు

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కాల నష్టపడ్డారు. కాని ఇప్పటికీ [illegible] ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఈ [illegible] తగినటు వంటి ప్రయత్నము చేయలేదు. [illegible]ను ప్రభుత్వమువారు [illegible]ము తెగులుమను రూపుమాపటానికి ఎక్కువ శ్రద్ధ [illegible]లసిందని కోరుచున్నాను.

"మరొకవిషయం మనవిచేస్తా [illegible] మూజిల్లాలో తోటభూములు ఎక్కువగా ఉన్నాయి. ఈ తోటలు ముఖ్యంగా [illegible]తోటలు. మా జిల్లా [illegible] మామిడిపండ్లు ఇతర జిల్లాలకు, ఇతర provinces కు [illegible] ఎగుమతి చేస్తుంటారు. కాని ఈ మామిడిపళ్లు ఎగుమతికి [illegible]ity లేనందువల్ల రైతులు కష్ట నష్టముల పాలు గావలసివస్తోంది. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వముమారు ఈ విషయములో తగిన శ్రద్ధవహించి ఈ మామిడిపళ్లను ఇతర మార్కెట్లకు సరఫరా చేయుటకు సౌకర్యములు కలుగ చేయవలసినదిగా ప్రభుత్వము వారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

"మా జిల్లాలో అరుకులోయ (Aruku Valley) అనేచోట ప్రభుత్వమువారి వ్యవసాయకేంద్రము ఉన్నది. అక్కడ అనేకరకముల పళ్లను పండించవచ్చును. ఈ అరుకులోయను అభివృద్ధిపరచుటకుగాను ప్రభుత్వముమారు ఒక ప్రత్యేక research board ను వేసి పరిశోధనలు చేయించినట్లయితే అది ఆంధ్రదేశమున కంతకు హెచ్చు ఉపయోగపడుతుంది. కాన ప్రభుత్వముమారు ఈ విషయంలో తగిన శ్రద్ధవహించి పరిశోధనా ప్రయత్నములు చేయించవలసినదని కోరుచున్నాను."

* SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise on a point of information. When the Madam Deputy Speaker was in the Chair this morning, I was not allowed a chance. Can a Member sleep in the Assembly Hall?" 4-15 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER:—"No, Members cannot sleep. If they sleep, they will snore and it will be a disturbance to others. I have already given a ruling on this point."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Probably I was not present when the ruling was given. That is why I am not aware of it."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Because the hon. Member was not present, it does not mean that he should raise the point again. It is the business of the hon. Member to go through the proceedings of the House."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"When a speech is being delivered in Telugu, we are naturally forced to sleep because we do not know the language. But sleeping is not allowed. We can engage ourselves in reading newspapers so that we may avoid sleep. But even that is not allowed, as per your yesterday's ruling, Sir. Then what to do?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is the duty of the hon. Member to listen to the speech of every Member in whatever language it is delivered."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Demand under discussion relates to agriculture. It is really very unfortunate and pathetic that the people of this province and the country as a whole should die for want of food. This is like the story of a man who died of

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thirst on the bank of a river. India is one of the biggest agricultural countries of the world and still there is famine and starvation. If proper steps had been taken in proper time, this country could have supplied foodgrains to the whole world. It is not the fault of the Hon. Minister for Agriculture. We were ruined and doomed to this position by the previous bureaucratic Government. Even after the present Minister for Agriculture assumed office, he is following the same old preposterous policy. Modern implements are used and modern methods of agriculture are adopted throughout the world. But what is our Minister doing?

(The Hon. Speaker was conversing with Sri K. T. Kosalram. Mr. Ibrahim Sahib stopped his speech and drew attention to the Hon. Speaker being engaged in a conversation.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"A number of Members will come to the Chair for guidance. It is not the business of the hon. Member to point out that I am conversing with some Member. In the House of Commons as well as in other Parliaments, Members used to approach the Chair for guidance. Michael Macolough in his book "The Speaker of the House," says 'If a Member of the House of Commons is in trouble about anything, he can go at once to the Chair and privately get his advice. Constantly during a sitting members may be observed coming to the Chair for a conference with the Speaker on points of procedure or as to the action properly to be taken in some matter or business or as to their claims to be called upon to address the House in a particular debate which they can only do if they are permitted by the Speaker.' The hon. Member should know this thing. Let him not misunderstand the Chair."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am very sorry. Hereafter I will strictly follow the advice and very often go to the Hon. Speaker for guidance.

"Coming to the Demand, the food position has reached a crisis. Here I am reminded of a Tamil proverb:

"எரிகிற வீட்டிற்கும் தோண்டும் இணற்றுக்கும் போலிருக்கிறது." which means that when a house is burning, a well is being dug to draw water to put out the fire. That is exactly what the Hon. Minister is doing. He is giving subsidies for sinking wells to bring more land under cultivation and thus grow more food. Grant of subsidies will not grow more food. I request the Hon. Minister to follow the methods of cultivation adopted by other progressive countries. For instance, Australia is growing fruits and exporting them to India and other countries. Other countries use electricity, adopt modern devices, do research work and apply the results to cultivation with the result that they are able to grow not only more food but more food in less time.

"I remember that during the last year a pamphlet was placed in the hands of the hon. Members in which a research worker had explained that it was possible to grow paddy even as a dry crop. Nobody took any interest to see how far that would have been a

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success. I read the whole pamphlet. It appealed to my mind as it was very convincing. But what is the use of my being convinced? Who is going to listen to my words unless I am a Minister? I simply kept quiet. But the matter ought to have attracted the attention of the Hon. Minister.

"I know that in ever so many places many acres of land are lying fallow because of kisan troubles. My hon. Friend said that the troubles were due to the Communists. It may be due to the Communists; it may be due to some others also. I do not want to blame anybody. After all, this is a fight between the *Haves* and *Havenots*. Unless the Government go into the question, there will be no possibility of growing more food.

"I should like to point out one more difficulty in growing food and that is want of implements. There may be labourers, lands, water and everything. But without implements nothing can be done. If the Government with all the power and resources at their command are not able to get the necessary implements, what can the poor labourer do? With an ante-diluvian system of ploughing, the agriculturists cannot carry out their operations successfully. Please see that as many tractors, modern ploughs and implements as possible are supplied to the agriculturists and electric power supplied to as many places as possible to lift ample water for irrigation.

"In the matter of food, production is not the only issue. Distribution also has to be carefully planned. As a matter of fact I know that officers go and procure bags of foodgrains from poor people, but they do not approach big landlords who have hundreds and thousands of bags of foodgrains. I want to bring this to the notice of the Hon. Minister.

"With these words, I resume my seat."

SRI M. NAGESWARA RAO:—"అధ్యక్ష, వి రైతు కారకదేశానికి వెన్నెముక అని, వి రైతు అభివృద్ధి దేశ శ్రేయస్సాయకమని చెబుతున్నాము అ రైతుకు సంబంధించి నటువంటి వ్యవసాయ శాఖకు సంబంధించిన ఖర్చులకొక్క Budget demand ను చర్చించే సందర్భంలో దేశ భాషలలో మాట్లాడుతున్నవుడు సోదర సభ్యులు కొందరు నిద్రిస్తున్నామని ఆసడం చాలా చింతించవలసిన విషయము.

"ఈ నాడు అందరు 'రైతు శ్రేయస్సేనమ ఆదర్శము' అనే slogan తోనే ప్రచారము చేస్తున్నారు. కాని ఎవరుకూడా ఆ రైతు శ్రేయస్సునకొరకు ఒక నిర్ణవ కార్యక్రమముతో పనిచేయడంలేదు. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వమువారు వ్యవసాయాభివృద్ధికొరకు ఒక మంచి పథకమును తయారుచేసి దానిని అమలు చేయవలయును. ప్రతి జిల్లాకును ఒక వ్యవసాయ సలహా సంఘం, రాష్ట్రానికొక సలహా సంఘం విర్పాటు చేసి, ఆ యా జిల్లాలలోని వ్యవసాయ పద్ధతులు కాలమానాలు దృష్టియంచుకొని ఆ సలహా సంఘాల అభిప్రాయానుగుణంగా వ్యవసాయాభివృద్ధి ప్రణాళికలను కొనసాగించవలసినదని ప్రభుత్వమువారిని ప్రార్థిస్తున్నాను.

"ఈ నాడు మా గుంటూరు జిల్లాలో వ్యవసాయ శాఖాధికారులు జనుప విత్తనాను (sunnhemp seed) రైతులు కచ్చి ఎరువు (green manure)గానుపయోగించాలని ప్రచారము చేస్తున్నారు. ఇది చాలా విచారించవలసిన విషయము. ఈ నాడు పత్తుగాసరు నిమిత్తము జనుము వేయటానికిహాడ రైతుకు జనుప విత్తనాలు దొరుకు

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టులేదు. ఈ ఇనుప విత్తనాల ధరలు అపరిమితంగా పెరిగిపోయాయి అందుచేత ఇనుమునునాటి పశువుల మేతకై ఇనుమును ఉపయోగించడం రైతులకు అందుబాటులోలేని పనిగా ఉన్నది. ఇటువంటి విపరీత పరిస్థితులలోనూడా వ్యవసాయదారునికి ముఖ్య సాధనమైనటువంటి, చేదోడు వాదోడు అయినటువంటి పశువుల మేతకు పంచి గ్రాసమును ఇచ్చే ఇనుప విత్తనాలను వ్యవసాయ డిపార్టుమెంటువారు పచ్చి ఎరువుకు (green manure) గాను ఉపయోగిస్తున్నారు. (One man's meal is another man's poison) ఈ విధంగా ఇనుప విత్తనాలను వారు ఎందుకు ఉపయోగిస్తున్నారో అర్థం కాకడంలేదు. కాబట్టి మంత్రిగారు వ్యవసాయ శాఖాధికారులకు ఇనుప విత్తనాలను పచ్చి ఎరువుగా ఉపయోగించవద్దని ఉత్తరవులు జారీచేయించ వలసినదిగా ప్రార్థిస్తున్నాను.

"ఈ నాడు మన రాష్ట్రంలో ముఖ్యమైన పంటలలో పొగాకు ఒకటి. ఈ పొగాకు పంటమీద వసూలుచేసిన పన్నులలోనుంచి కేంద్ర ప్రభుత్వంవారు, రాష్ట్ర ప్రభుత్వంవారికి 22 లక్షల రూపాయలు ఇస్తున్నారు. ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఈ పొగాకు రైతుల ఉపయోగార్థము ఒక లక్ష రూపాయలు ఖర్చు చేసి Provincial Marketing Board ను ఏర్పాటు చేశారు. కాని ఈ Provincial Marketing Board వలన పొగాకు రైతులకు ఏ మాత్రము ఉపకారము జరుగుటలేదు. ఈ విధంగానటువంటి ఒక Board ఉన్నదని రైతులకు తెలియదు. రైతు తనకు పండిన పొగాకును ఎక్కడ, ఎప్పుడు ఏ ఏ ధరలకు అమ్ముకోవాలో అనే విషయాలు తెలియచేయబడటం లేదు, అంతేకాకుండా ఇతర దేశాలలో పొగాకు పంట, ఏ విధంగా ఉన్నదో, మన దేశపు పొగాకుకు అంతర్జాతీయ (international) market లలో ఎటువంటి వెలామడి ఉన్నదో, ఏ ఏ ధరలకు మన పొగాకు అమ్మితే రైతుకు లాభదాయకంగా ఉంటుందో మొదలైన విషయాలేమికూడా తెలియచేయబడటం లేదు. దీనివల్ల పొగాకు పండించే రైతు చాలా నష్టపడుతున్నాడు. ఈ నాడు ఈ పొగాకు పండించే రైతులవల్ల మన ప్రభుత్వమువారికి 22 లక్షల రూపాయలు ఆదాయం వస్తోంది కాబట్టి మంత్రిగారు తగినంత శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొని ఈ పేద రైతులకు ప్రచారముకూలకంగా సహాయము చేయ వలసినదిగా మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

"ఈ నాడు మా జిల్లాలో పొగాకు పంట Tokra కొడ్యము అనేకటువంటి తెగుళ్ళవల్ల నష్టపడుతోంది. ఈ తెగుళ్ళవల్ల పొగాకుకు వాసన (flavour) పోతుంది, మెత్తదనం (softness) పోతుంది, సిగరెట్లు చేయటానికి పనికిరాదు. ఈ కారణాల చేత రైతుకు మంచి ధర రావటంలేదు. పోయిన సంవత్సరం కొన్ని వేల రూపాయలను ఖర్చుచేసి ప్రభుత్వమువారు మా జిల్లాలో Tokra scheme ను ఏర్పాటు చేసియున్నారు. దానివలన రైతులకు కొంత ఉపకారం జరిగింది. కాని ఈ సంవత్సరం ఏ కారణం చేతనో ఈ Tokra schemeను తీసివేశారు. ఇది చాలా విచారకర మైనటువంటి విషయము.

"మన రాష్ట్రంలోని commercial crops లో ఈ పొగాకు పంట ముఖ్యమైనది. కాని మన రాష్ట్రంలో ఈ పొగాకు పంటను ఏ విధంగా అభివృద్ధి చేయాలో తెలుసు కొనే పరిశోధనాలయాలు లేవు. ఇటువంటి పరిశోధనాలయాలు ఉన్నచోట వచ్చిన ఫలితాలను (results) కూడా ఈ నాడు రైతులకు తెలియచేయడం లేదు. ఇది చాలా విచారకరమైనటువంటి విషయం.

"పొగాకుకన్నా ముఖ్యమైన పంట వేరుశనగ పంట. మన రాజధానిలోని మొట్ట ప్రాంతాలలో వేరుశనగ చాలా చక్కగా పండించబడుతోంది. ఈ మధ్యన ఈ వేరుశనగకు వేసుకంటి ఒక తిరుగు పట్టడంచేత పంట నూటికి 60 వంతులు పాడై పోతోంది, రైతులకు అపారమైన నష్టం కలుగుతోంది. ఈ మధ్యన ఈ వేరుశనగ

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రైతులకు ప్రభుత్వంవారు బోనస్ ఇస్తున్నారు. ఈ విధంగా బోనస్ ఇచ్చినంత మాత్రాన రైతుకు ఏమీ లాభించదు. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఎక్కువ శ్రద్ధతో ఇటువంటి రోగాన్ని నిర్మూలం చేసేందుకుగాను కావలసిన పరిశోధనలకు సిబ్బందిని ఏర్పాటు చేయాలని కోరుతున్నాను.

"ఈ విషయాలన్నిటిని గమనించి జిల్లాలలోని వ్యవసాయదారుల ఇబ్బందులను తొలగించుటకుగాను, జిల్లా సలహా సంఘాలను, ఒక రాష్ట్ర సలహా సంఘాన్ని ఏర్పాటు చేసి, ఆ సంఘాల సలహాలను, సహాయమును తీసుకొంటూ రైతులకు తోడ్పడ వలసినదిగా రాష్ట్ర వ్యవసాయశాఖా మాత్యులకు నా విన్నపము."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, as a villager, I feel that I should rather consider this Department as the biggest of all departments under the Government of this province. It is really surprising that in a country which is still essentially agricultural and is very often exposed to the vicissitudes of climates, the Agricultural department should be considered as a cindrella. It is this department that the ryots in this province look to many schemes of amelioration and it is really unfortunate that a department that must be given the highest priority—Priority No. 1—should still be given a place of secondary importance in the scheme of things. 4-30 p.m.

"Mr. Speaker, agriculture is a problem which must be considered as too comprehensive and must include many problems such as agricultural indebtedness, agrarian reforms, scientific agriculture, irrigation schemes and agricultural education. I am not going to speak on any of these subjects but shall confine myself to certain practical suggestions which I want to place before the Hon. Minister for Agriculture. We want in this province for each firka one agricultural demonstrator and for each firka one model village providing for all means of scientific agriculture and practical agricultural education through improved seeds and by the use of modern chemical fertilizers. It is through such model villages in every firka that we can expect to kill the apathy and prejudice which we still see against our agriculture in this province.

"Mr. Speaker, the hon. Lady Member, Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin has referred to the meagre extent of acreage brought under the plough in spite of intensive and extensive means of cultivation to-day. She was giving us figures to show that still in spite of all these measures, this province has witnessed by way of advance in the field of agriculture only 33 per cent of the total acreage of lands under the plough. If only we use our full knowledge of botany, we can bring under the plough another 33 per cent of the remaining lands under the plough. Sir, what is the change that has been brought about by the specialized Grow More Food schemes which the Government have undertaken? Here it is. Mr. Speaker, that I have got to suggest to the Hon. Minister for Agriculture certain measures by which he can at least see that lands which have been abandoned as useless, could be restored and made fit for cultivation. We have got the great problem of abandoned lands in this province. Particularly here it is, that I have got to address the Hon. the Minister for Home. He has got to liberalise

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the issue of licences for guns and rifles not for the purpose of mere protection of minorities, but even to make raids against the depredations of wild animals.

" Mr. Speaker, we have got many malaria specialists in our province, but still our people are suffering from malaria despite all the anti-malarial measures taken by the Government, and particularly the people in the Agency tracts, in the sub-ghat areas and in portions of forests, where marshy lands still abound. The Government should come forward and see that these vast areas of marshy and fertile lands are reclaimed and made fit for cultivation and that the people living in these parts are spared from the vicissitudes of malaria.

" Equally in certain parts of the province, our cattle are exposed to rinderpest and we have not still got the necessary agency to tackle the problem, nor have we taken the necessary elementary precautions to protect these animals from rinderpest and thus render help to our agriculture.

" Sir, much has been said about the subsidy schemes that have been in vogue for the sinking of wells in the various parts of this province, but I am afraid, they are not worked in the right spirit and in the proper direction and, after all, the results which are achieved therefrom are not commensurate with the ideal with which the Government have launched upon these schemes.

" Mr. Speaker, we have got so many vast catchment areas in this province where rain-water could be stored and could be bunded and made use of for agriculture, but no proper use has been made of them and the rain-water is simply allowed to run waste.

" Mr. Speaker, equally important are our minor irrigation works, which could usefully be brought under the Agricultural department rather than be allowed to suffer a separate and uncared for existence. Its proper place, Mr. Speaker, is in the Agricultural department and not in either the Revenue or the Public Works department.

" Now, Mr. Speaker, we have got a number of tanks which are in need of urgent repairs and if the restoration and repairs of these tanks are taken up immediately, much of the difficulties of our agricultural population will be greatly minimized. Speaking of my own village of Valattur, there also we have got the same difficulties, the same sufferings and the same experiences and we have been deprived of the natural source of water, which we could very easily take from the Palar, but for the inactivity of the Department of Public Works, which has been indifferent towards our needs.

" Finally, Mr. Speaker, I only wish that the department of Agriculture actuated by zeal and possessing a comprehensive knowledge of all the needs and requirements of the agriculturists, could take up these various problems and tackle them in right earnest and see that something is done for the good of the Province, as a whole."

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Sri R. S. MANICKAM:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கொணடுவந்திருக்கும் டிமாண்டை ஆதரித்து சில வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். விவசாயம் என்பது ஒருவருடைய கண்ணுக்கு தோன்றப்படுவது அல்ல அது ஒரு நூல் அல்ல. Madras city யைப்போல் இருக்கிற பெரிய இடங்களில்தான் அது சம்மந்தப்பட்டவர் கள் அதை கவனிப்பார்கள். பெரிய இடங்களில் நடக்கக் கூடிய தாக இருந்தால் தான் அதை உடனே கவனிப்பார்கள். எழை எங்கோயோ தூரத்தில் தெரியாமல் இருப்பதாலும் அவனுக்கு போக்கு வரத்து வசதி இல்லாமல் இருப்பதாலும் அவனுடைய விவசாயத்தை யாருமே கவனிப் பது இல்லை. எங்கும் நடக்கிற மாதிரி செய்தால் ஒரு மாதத்தில் நடக்கிற வேலை ஒரு மாதத்தில் நடக்கும் ஒரு 50 ரூபாயில் நடக்கிற வேலை ஒரு 50 ரூபாயில் நடக்கும். இப்பொழுது புது முறைகளை கொடுத்தால் என்ன வந்து விடப்போகிறது. எல்லாம் பேச்சில்தான் இருக்கிறது. நடை முறை யில் இருப்பதாக தெரியவில்லை. பெரிய cityல் இருந்தால் அதைப் பற்றி ஒன்றும் தெரியாது. என்னைப்போல் விவசாயி இராமனாதபுரத்தி லிருந்து வந்தால் தெரியும் நான் விவசாயத்தை கண்ணால் பார்த்து கையால் செய்து அனுபவித்திருக்கிறேன். இப்படியெல்லாம் இருக்கும் போது விவசாய இலகா அழகான, முக்யமான டிபார்ட்டுமெண்டு 41 டிமாண்டு இருக்கிறது என்று சொல்வதில் பிரயோஜனம் இல்லை. இந்த டிபார்ட்டுமெண்டு கொஞ்சம் கவனித்தால் பிரயோஜனம் கொடுக்கக் கூடியது. இந்த இலாகா யாருக்கு அனுசரணையாக இருக்கிறது ? இந்த டிபார்ட்டுமெண்டு இல்லாவிட்டால் இந்த அசம்பிளியில் உட்கார்ந்திருக்க முடியாது. ஜெயிலை காலி செய்தால் இங்கே உட்கார்ந்திருக்கலாம், மெடி கல் டிபார்ட்டுமெண்டை காலி செய்தால் இங்கே உட்கார்ந்திருக்கலாம், எலெக்டரிசிடியை காலி செய்தால் இங்கே உட்கார்ந்திருக்கலாம் ஆனால் விவசாயத்தை காலி செய்தால் இங்கே எப்படி வரமுடியும் ! அப்படி இருக்கும் போது இந்த டிபார்ட்டுமெண்டு ரொம்பவும் கேவலமான நிலை யில் இருக்கிறது. காரணம் அதைப்பற்றி பெரியவர்கள் கவனிப்பது இல் லை, முதலாளிகள் இருந்து சலுகைகள் காட்டுவதற்கு வழி இல்லை. செல்வாக்குள்ளவர்கள் இல்லை. விவசாயத்திற்கு சலுகைகாட்டச் சொல்வதற்கு வழி இல்லை. அதற்கு பெரிய பாங்கர் இல்லை. அப்படி பாங்கர் இருந்தால் அவரும் ஜமின்தார் என்னும் முறையில் போய்விடுகிறார். விவசாயத்தை முன்னுக்கு கொண்டு வருவதற்கு ஆள் இல்லை. ரொம்பவும் கவலையாக இருக்கிறது. நாகரீகத்தில் என்ன விருத்தியாகி இருக்கிறது என்று கேட்கிறேன். சாத் தூரில் எஞ்சின்கள் வேண்டும். ஒரு எக்கருக்கு 24 ரூபாயாகிறது. ஒரு பெட்ரோல் பம்பு வைத்தால் மூன்று ரூபாயில் மூன்று எக்கர் நிலத் திற்கு அருமையாக தண்ணீர் பாயும். இந்த பம்பை கவர்ண்மெண்டில் இன்னும் வரவழைத்துக் கொடுக்க வில்லை. சட்டதிட்டம் என்று வைத்துக் கொண்டு பேச்சில்தான் நடக்கிறது. அது பிரயோஜனம் இல்லை. ஒரு கார்லை புதிதாக கட்டுவது போல் கட்டுகிறார்களா ? இப்பொழுது விசாகப் பட்டணத்தில் கட்டினதைப்போல் கட்டுகிறார்களா ? கிராமத்திற்கு ஒரு பம்பு வாங்கிக் கொடுத்தால் சௌகர்யமாக இருக்கும். அதற்கு மார்க்கம் இல்லை. இது சம்மந்தப்பட்ட மந்திரி அவர்களும் இதைக் கொடுக்கவேண் டும். இதற்கு அதிக ஆதரவு கொடுக்க வேண்டும். அப்படி இருந்தால் தான் விவசாயம் முன்னுக்கு வரும். அழகாக பேசுவதில் என்ன இருக்கிறது !

" இராமனாதபுரம், திருநெல்வேலி இந்த இரண்டு ஜில்லாவும் பஞ்ச நாடு என்று ரிகார்டுகள் வந்திருக்கிறது. சாத்தூர் தாலுகா கோவில் பட்டி தாலுகாவில் தீர்வை வசூல் செய்வதை postpone பண்ணி வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். இராமனாதபுரம் ஜில்லாவில சாத்தூர், கோவில் பட்டி இங்கே ஒழுங்காக வசூல் பண்ணுத காரணம் என்ன என்பது தெரியவில்லை. R. S. மாணிக்கம் வந்து சத்தம் போட முடியாமல் இருப் பதாலோ என்னமோ தெரியவில்லை. முன்சீப் தீர்வை வசூல் செய்வதில் பெரிய இடஞ்சல் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. கிராமங் களில் யோக்யமாக உள்ள ஒரு நல்ல மனிதரை போட்டு தீர்வையை வசூல் பண்ணுவதற்கு கவர்ண்மெண்டு ஏற்பாடு செய்யும் படியாக கேட் டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

[Sri R. S. Manickam] [17th March 1948

"இன்று எனக்கு ஒரு லெட்டர் தஞ்சாவூர் ஜில்லாவிலிருந்து வந்திருக்கிறது. யாரோ ஒருவர் எழுதி இருக்கிறார். தஞ்சாவூர் ஜில்லா பட்டுக்கோட்டை, அரந்தாங்கி முதலிய தாலூகாக்களில் ஹரிஜனங்கள் வண்டியில் எருவு, தழை முதலியவைகளை ஏற்றிக்கொண்டு பிராசுதார்களுடைய தெருவுடன் போகிறபோது வண்டியில் ஏறி ஓட்ட முடியாது. சர்க்கார் பூர்வீக பாதைகள் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்களாம். இது அலுப்பவத்தில் தஞ்சாவூர் ஜில்லாவில் நடந்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. ஹரி ஜனங்கள் பார வண்டியிலிருந்து எப்படி இரங்கிபோவது என்பதை கவனிக்க வேண்டும். ஆகையால் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு முக்யமான நடை பாதைகள் தயாரித்து கொடுக்க வேணுமாய் சர்க்காரை கோட்டுக்கொண்டு நான் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

* SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I speak I would like to bring to your notice that about 15 minutes of the time of the House were taken in debating on a point of order. This is an important demand. I wish that you give some more time for Members to speak."

MR. SPEAKER:—" As far as the Chair is concerned, I am prepared to give 15 minutes more if the House is prepared to sit till 5-15."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" We have got a meeting of the Standing Finance Committee at 5-15, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Mr. Muniswami Pillai will now speak. As soon as he finishes, I will call on the Hon. Minister to reply."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the Hon. Minister for Agriculture began to make a speech from his notes, I thought he was going to have a new orientation of the Agricultural Department. Unfortunately, Sir, he told the inconveniences in which he is placed and what he could do in the matter of agriculture in this Province. Sir, the ordinary agriculturist requires three things, first, cheap fertiliser, secondly, cheap agricultural implements, and thirdly, a regulated market. As it is known, Sir, in India we are not producing that amount of chemicals that are required for the agriculturists. The Government of India has put a ban on the import of fertilizers from Germany and other countries. Recently in a conference at Delhi this matter was discussed. Even within the Province itself, the Hon. Minister is aware, that about 3,000 tons of fertilisers are lying in Ranipet and they could not be moved to Nilgiris to plant potatoes which is due this month. But I think now the movement has started.

" Secondly, Sir, in the matter of colonization of Wynaad and Arakku valley, Rs. 32,300 and Rs. 1,86,600 have been put side by side for agricultural operations. These two places are full of malaria, and I do not see the wisdom in colonization taking place in these places, and above all agricultural operations taking place in these areas. I think the time has come when the Hon. Minister should take stock of the operations that are going on in the various places of this Province—not only colonization but also experimental farms and all other things that come under the category

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of agricultural operations. Moreover, Sir, I do not see why cinchona experiment is to be conducted at Arakku valley. I find Rs. 1,800 has been set aside for this cinchona operation. We know that both in the Nilgiris and Anamalais we have thousands of acres of land well suited for cinchona plantation, and I do not see why this experiment should be undertaken in a malarial area.

" Another important thing I would like to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister is the one relating to the marketing of potatoes. Sir, coming as I do from Nilgiris, I find that an amount of Rs. 1,04,100 has been provided for marketing of produce. During the War all the potatoes that were produced were taken by the military. Now, Sir, potatoes from foreign countries such as Italy, Kenya, Japan and Australia are going to be dumped into our Province. Sir, a lakh of people are engaged in potato cultivation in Nilgiris. Unless there is a regular market for potatoes, I am afraid these people will be ruined. I wish Government take note of this and do the needful."

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, many of the Members, I may say, have not spoken on the Demand that I have made, but on other subjects which may have a connexion with agriculture. But they are not directly concerned with the demand that I have made. For instance, Sir, Swami Sahajananda who moved the cut motion has spoken only one sentence about this demand, and all the rest he spoke was beside the demand. His main speech perhaps the speeches of others who followed him also, including the Communist Member —was about the condition of the agricultural labourer and the inadequacy of his wages, and the difficulties he is suffering from, Swami Sahajananda told us that Communists are creating disturbances in his area. He told us also that he has settled the disputes between the agricultural labourers and mirasdars, and that the mirasdars backed out of the settlement, and that serious trouble would set in if Government did not interfere in the matter. He made a fervent plea for the release of Mr. Narayanaswami Naidu and other Congress men who have been arrested, and who have been working for the cause of labour. This was the main theme of Swami Sahajananda's speech. Even though the facts may be true, I say, Sir, they do not relate to the demand before the House now. Agricultural labourers' trouble or Communists' trouble or the arrest of people for having taken part in the agricultural labour disputes, is not a matter I can deal with. These things could very well have been discussed at the time of general discussion of the administration of the Home Department, or they may be discussed when the Labour demand is going to come up to-morrow or the day after. I shall convey these to the Minister concerned and try what can be done in this matter.

" Swami Sahajananda said one thing that is felt by many other Members also, that is that the Agriculture Department is now doing more a matter of trade than any agricultural demonstration. He says that the Demonstrators are more traders of

manure and agricultural implements than doing their legitimate duty. I agree with him that to a certain extent it is a fact. Unfortunately, this trading in groundnut cake and manure has brought more harm to them than anything else. During the time of difficulties when manure had to be controlled, there was need for an organization that could easily take up this work and this department had to do the work. I explained this difficulty at the very beginning of my speech. We have partially decontrolled groundnut cake. We hope to decontrol completely groundnut cake and manure soon so that these things may be left to normal trade channels and the Agriculture Department may also take up its legitimate duties of instructing the villagers about the proper methods of agriculture, which have been evolved at various research stations in the Province. This is all I have to say, Sir, to Swami Sahajananda and others that spoke in the same strain about agricultural labour.

"The Hon. Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin referred to the important question of assignment of portfolios between Ministers and that food and agriculture should be under one Minister. The hon. Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan went a step further and said that land revenue, irrigation, food and agriculture should all be under one Minister, and that otherwise there would be overlapping. This is also a matter for discussion on 'General Administration and Salaries of Ministers.' This is not to be imposed on me when I ask a demand for purely agricultural purposes. The suggestion may be good, but there are certain difficulties which we had to adjust ourselves. This has not stood in the way of administering the various departments.

"Other matters mentioned by the hon. Member Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin regarding Ramapadasagar project and other irrigation schemes, I think, have been discussed in detail when the Irrigation budget was discussed a few minutes ago, and I need not say anything by way of reply to them. I entirely agree with the lady Member and many other speakers that what we really require is more intensive cultivation than increase in area. That is what I have outlined already, and it is our idea and policy. I am attempting to do it.

"As regards green manure, I know in parts of the Province wild indigo is the main manure that is used. That is being sedulously cultivated, and seeds are supplied by the department. About cheap credit facilities and establishment of agricultural banks, these are all suggestions which we shall try to work out if possible. I cannot agree with the hon. Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin that the area under cash crops should be restricted by legislation. There is a provision in law already by which we can do it. We were restricting cotton, tobacco and even sugarcane previously. But we found out there was absolutely no increase in the growth of food crops. On the other hand considerable commercial crops were lost. After all, commercial crops of tobacco, cotton and sugarcane give the ryots a little bit of money. In spite of our attempting to restrict the area of commercial crops, there

has been no appreciable increase in food crops. The result was that both the commercial crop cultivator and the paddy crop cultivator suffered. So, we removed all the restrictions in the matter of raising commercial crops, which were quite unnecessary. Because, I am sure a cultivator knows his business very well. If the prices at any time for commercial crops are not attractive to him, he will certainly revert to the cultivation of crops that are profitable to him. Therefore, it is not fair that we should restrict a little commercial crop cultivation that he has.

"Then, Sir, Sri Sami Gounder and many others also spoke 5 p.m. about the supply of electricity for agricultural purposes. They also spoke about the supply of crude oil, supply of petrol and other agricultural implements. The Hon. Sri Bhaktavatsalam, while speaking this morning, dwelt to some extent about the position of electricity and the question of its supply for agricultural purposes because of the failure of the monsoon. I may say that every attempt is being made to give the first preference to agriculture.

"Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillay spoke about the supply of agricultural implements. I have stated before and I may repeat it again that the question of agricultural implements is one in which we are not our own masters. We have been fighting and also entreating and doing everything possible with the Government of India to get us at least a fair amount of steel. The amount that has been set apart by them to this Province is 31,000 tons of steel. But still this year, I do not think we have got 20,000 tons up to now and the whole of it is set apart for agricultural purposes. The quantity received is not at all sufficient and it is not even half of our normal requirements."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The House will sit till the Hon. Minister finishes his speech."

*THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The quantity of steel that is given to us and which is at our disposal is as equitably distributed as possible. It is a matter which is under the control of the Government of India. They have given us more than what they gave us last year but even that is so little. They give us in such a piecemeal way and it is very difficult for us to increase the supply. As I said already, we are not our own masters in this matter.

"Some hon. Members also spoke about the supply of high-speed diesel oil. Even in the case of diesel oil, a quota is set apart by the Government of India for this Province. Especially after the failure of the monsoon, in the South Arcot, Chingleput, Chittoor and other districts, the supply of this oil is very essential. In fact, there was a hue and cry for the supply of more oil. We discussed the question of the supply of this oil with the major oil companies, and we told that they should give as large a priority to the supply of this oil as possible for agricultural purposes, provided the quantity does not exceed the quota that is allotted by the Government of India. We even approached the

Government of India to increase the quota and the Government of India have been pleased to increase it and so, we are doing our best in the matter.

"Then, my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkateswarlu, as usual, was not speaking about the agricultural demand but something else. He said that the arresting of the Communists is not going to solve the problem, as if the Communists have been arrested to solve the problem of agriculture. Apparently my friend knows that if any attempt is made to create trouble or difficulty, those persons who create such trouble will be arrested and dealt with according to law. It is very improper on his part to say that people who are helping the agricultural labourers are being arrested. By saying so, my friend simply is laying a flattering unction on his own soul. As a matter of fact, I think they are doing the greatest harm to the cause of agriculture with ulterior purposes of strengthening the party to which the hon. Member belongs. But, the poor agricultural labourers does not understand it and my hon. Friend wants to make out that the Government are attempting to do something against the interests of the agricultural labourers. The hon. Member also said that if the gunpowder which is wasted in shooting down agricultural labourers is used to dig wells there would have been no food scarcity. As if the poor agricultural labourers are being shot down every day! Such sort of propaganda may be good for party purposes but it is not good to say such things in an Assembly like this and the House will find his party out very soon if he speaks such things.

"Then, Sir, Sri Sanyasi Rao said that the agricultural farms are not useful to the small ryots and that modern methods of agriculture should be introduced. We are doing our best to introduce modern methods of agriculture. The House passed a Supplementary Demand a few months ago, for the purchase of 200 tractors. We have already received about 100 tractors and about 50 tractors have already been distributed and thus we are doing everything to supply these modern implements of agriculture. The difficulty is that these modern implements of agriculture are not available in India and they have to be got from foreign markets. But, Sir, we hope, before the end of this month itself, we shall be in a position to have about 150 small tractors working in this Province. The other portion of Sri Sanyasi Rao's speech related to the Veterinary Demand which is coming in a couple of days and therefore, I will deal with that at that time.

"Then, Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Hydross, was saying that informal rationing and compulsory procurement will not go together and that a great hardship is being done to Malabar on account of this policy. That is matter, Sir, which should be discussed when the food question is taken up. I may say, Sir, that no change in the system of rationing and distribution of food has been made with regard to Malabar and as long as there is compulsory procurement, it is the duty of the Government to feed the people there. About the question of supply and as to who is entitled to more, are all matters to be discussed by the Hon. the

Food Minister at the time of the Food debate. Then, Sir, the hon. Member characterised the 'Grow More Food' Campaign, as the 'Grow More Officers' Campaign. On the other hand, another hon. Member, Mr. Anwar, was saying that there should be an agricultural demonstrator for every firka. Therefore, all I can say is that Mr. Hydross has not really understood the 'Grow More Food' Campaign.

"Then, Sir, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan was asking why attempts were not being made to cultivate wheat. I may tell him, Sir, that attempts have been made and we found that we can grow wheat only in certain places like the Nilgiris and that it is not possible to grow wheat in other places. Even an attempt was made to grow Australian wheat here. The seeds were brought from Australia and attempts were made to grow it here but we failed. It is only in the Nilgiris and Kodaikkanal areas it could be grown and other areas in this Province were not suitable for wheat cultivation."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOWNDER:—"May I inform the Hon. the Minister that we have been growing wheat in Coimbatore and other places? It is not merely in Nilgiris alone that wheat can be cultivated. Wheat can even be cultivated in the plains, if proper attempts are made."

*THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, I am glad about the information. Of course, Sir, wheat can be grown under special circumstances when large amounts of manure are placed but that cannot be done commercially in order to get sufficient quantities of wheat for meeting the food requirements. We tried to grow wheat commercially in farms and our experience has been that it is a failure.

"Then, Sir, Sri Rokkam Ramamurthi said that different practices are being followed in different districts in the matter of agriculture and that attempts should be made to conduct research so as to make it useful for every district to follow some uniform method. Sir, we have got about forty agricultural research stations and farms in the various parts of the Province. It is a question of money if we should have more farms.

"Then, Sir, Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillai said that the provision made for the Arakku valley is a waste of money. Sir, I may say that attempts are made to carry on colonization schemes in Wynaad and Arakku valley and also we have conquered the malaria that was raging there. Arakku valley is a very fertile area and both the places contain virgin soil which is very good for intensive cultivation. Much more money could be got out of it if only the possibilities of this virgin soil are explored and it is really to improve the condition of the people of the locality that this amount is asked for and it is not at all a waste. Then, Sir, my friend said that the provision of Rs. 1,800 for conducting cinchona experiments in the Arakku valley is also a waste. If only we are able to grow cinchona properly in the Arakku valley, we will be in a position to get enough supplies for our needs and

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therefore, the experiment in the Arakku valley is a thing which is certainly not a waste. I thought that my hon. Friend would complain that Rs. 1,800 is not enough for the purpose; on the other hand, I am surprised to find my hon. Friend expressing the view that cinchona will not thrive in Arakku valley.

"That is all what I have to say with regard to the various points raised. As I said, I am grateful for the various suggestions.

"Then, Sir, Sri R. S. Manickam said that the poor agriculturists do not get any benefit from the Agricultural Department and he made a complaint that he himself has not received a pump set for agricultural purposes. In spite of the fact that we have got about 800 petrol pumps, many are not using them and if the hon. Member wanted one pump to be supplied to him, instead of making a complaint here, if he had approached me, I could have arranged to give him one pump set. Then, Sir, about the remission of the land revenue, it is not the concern of this Department.

"Then, Sir, Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillay referred to the question of the supply of cheap fertilizers and agricultural implements. I have already explained the position with regard to the agricultural implements. With regard to fertilizers also, the Government of India have got the control and they are allotting a particular quota for this Province. Then, about the supply of chemical fertilizers for growing commercial crops such as potato, I may state that such crops are being given fairly large quantities of these fertilizers. As soon as conditions improve and as soon as we find that there is no difficulty with regard to the transporting of these fertilizers from Ranipet, we can move the railway authorities to transport these fertilizers to the required places. Therefore, Sir, what can possibly be done in this matter is being done. About marketing facilities also, we are doing our best in marketing the potato that is grown in the Nilgiris, in the whole of this country.

"I hope, Sir, I have replied to almost all the criticisms and suggestions that have been made and I therefore request Swami Sahajananda to withdraw his cut motion."

SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM :—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் அனுதாபமான பதில் கூறினார்கள். ஆனால் தொழிலாளர்களுடைய கூலியைப்பற்றி ஒன்றும் சொல்லவில்லை."

MR. SPEAKER :—"அதைப்பற்றி லேபர் மந்திரி தெரிவிப்பார்கள்."

SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM :—"ரெவினியூ மந்திரியை கேட்டதற்கு இப்பொழுது என்று சொன்னீர்கள், இப்பொழுது கேட்டால் லேபர் மந்திரி பதில் சொல்வார்கள் என்று சொல்லுகிறீர்கள். ஆனால் இப்பொழுது எல்லா மந்திரிகளும் இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆதலால் எல்லோரும் சேர்ந்து பதில் சொல்லவேண்டும்."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"The hon. Member can speak about the wages of agricultural labourers when we take up that Demand which will come day after tomorrow. Now, we are on the Agricultural Demand."

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SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM :—"ஆகையால் லேபர் டிபார்ட்மெண்டாக இருந்தாலும் சரி விவசாய டிபார்ட்மெண்டாக இருந்தாலும் சரி நியாயம் கிடைக்கும் படியாக கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். கூலி கொடுப்பதற்கு ஒரு சட்டம் இயற்ற வேண்டும். Labour Minister, Revenue Minister இவர்களிடம் சொல்லி இதை வற்புறுத்தும்படியாக கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். நான் என்னுடைய வெட்டுப் பிரேரேபணையை வாபஸ் வாங்கிக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

The cut motion was by leave of the House withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER :—"The question is—

'that under Demand XVIII. Agriculture, the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,68,78,600.'"

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Thursday, the 18th March 1948.

APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to Starred Question No. 174 asked by Sri V. S. Sankarasubrahmanya Mudaliyar (on behalf of Sri A. Vedaratnam Pillai) at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 17th March 1948, page 238 supra].

POLICE.—*List of officials dismissed for corruption or otherwise and who have been reinstated in the course of the year* 1948.

Serial number and date of dismissal.	Rank of officer.	Reasons for dismissal by the competent authority.	Authority ordering dismissal.	Reasons for reinstatement.	Authority ordering reinstatement.
		1. *Madura North district.*			
1. 27th June 1946.	Police constable.	For unnecessarily harassing the merchants with a view to extort money on 1st June 1946.	District Superintendent of Police.	The Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Southern Range, held that the latter part of the charge, viz., "with a view to extort money" was not proved and that the first part of the charge alone was proved for which the pay of the Police constable was reduced by eight annas for a period of two years.	Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Southern Range.
		2. *Tinnevelly district.*			
2. 21st October 1947 ..	Do.	High-handed action in assaulting and arresting one Ramasami Moopanar, son of Sankaralinga Moopanar and taking possession of 32 handloom sarees and unnecessarily reporting against him for carrying the sarees without a permit.	District Superintendent of Police, Tinnevelly.	Four Police constables were concerned in the offence. The first two were reduced in the time-scale of pay while the other two were removed from service. The constables who were removed from service appealed to the Deputy Inspector-General of Police and they were reinstated by the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Southern Range. The next increment of the two appellants was withheld for two years.	Do.
		3. *Malabar Special Police.*			
3. Do.	Do.	(1) Grave misbehaviour towards the Orderly Officer on 28th May 1947 night and (2) Gross insubordination towards the Company Commander on 29th May 1947.	Commandant, Malabar Special Police, Malappuram.	The order of dismissal was modified into one of reduction to a constable's rank as it was considered that a less severe punishment would serve the purpose.	Inspector-General of Police, Western Range.
4. 30th May 1947 ..	Temporary Naik.				

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, the 18th March 1948.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Sivalaperi tank, Tinnevelly district.

* 181 *Q.*—SRI V. S. SANKARASUBRAHMANYA MUDALIYAR (on behalf of Sri D. Durairaja Pandian): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) at what stage is the "Maramathu work" of Sivalaperi tank, Tinnevelly district; and

(*b*) at what stage is the proposed Nagalkulam scheme, Tenkasi taluk, Tinnevelly district?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"(*a*) Plans and estimates for the scheme have been prepared and the scheme is under consideration.

"(*b*) The proposal is under examination by the Chief Engineer with reference to the latest figures of gaugings of the flow available for diversion to Alankulam tank."

Co-operative Housing Scheme in Courtalam village.

* 182 *Q.*—SRI V. S. SANKARASUBRAHMANYA MUDALIYAR (on behalf of Sri D. Durairaja Pandian): Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state whether the Government are aware that a site for construction of houses under the Co-operative Housing Scheme has been selected by the Co-operative Housing Committee in Courtalam village, Tenkasi taluk, Tinnevelly district, which falls within the limits of the reserve forest area?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Yes, Sir. The Housing Committee for Courtalam Panchayat Board area selected three sites out of which two are within the reserve forest area. The Collector of Tinnevelly recommended the site outside the reserve forest area for starting a housing scheme.

Recently at a meeting of the Health Committee at Courtalam, the Committee recommended that the site selected by the Housing Committee adjoining the forest bungalow should be made available for house construction."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether the Government will give the same facilities to any other co-operative society that comes forward to construct houses on a co-operative basis to poor labourers and others?"

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THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"It is always the policy of the Government to encourage Co-operative House-Building Societies. For several years past the Government have been giving loans to such societies and they are certainly prepared to help any society which comes forward with the object of constructing houses for poor labourers."

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN:—"Co-operative Society மூலமாக ஏழைகளுக்கு பணம் கொடுத்துகட்டமுடியுமா என்று கேட்கிறேன்?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"இந்தக்கேள்வி கேட்கிற நண்பர் அவர்களுக்கு அந்த நிலைமையைப்பற்றி நன்றாகத் தெரியும் என்று நினைக்கிறேன்."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Will the Government consider the desirability of changing the acquisition procedure as it normally takes not less than two years?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The Government are convinced that the present acquisition procedure is dilatory and complicated. They are considering the ways and means by which it can be simplified."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"When the Government have changed the acquisition procedure to a new method, may we expect that the time taken will be about a month or so?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"My hon. Friend is always keen on a time-table."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"May I ask whether the Government have till now undertaken even a single scheme for housing landless and houseless labourers anywhere in the Province?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The Provincial Housing Committee has submitted a comprehensive report to the Government. The report is under consideration. One of the things considered in the report is the construction of houses for landless labourers."

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN:—"Co-operative Society-ன் மூல மாக ஏழை தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு கடன் கொடுத்து வீடுகட்டிக் கொடுக்க முடியுமா என்று கேட்கிறேன்?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Co-operative Society ஜனங்களுக்கு சில நிபந்தனைகளை ஏற்படுத்தி இருக்கிறார்கள். அந்த நிபந்தனைகளுக்குக் கட்டுப்பட்டால் அந்தப்படி செய்யமுடியும்."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether it is a fact that these house-building societies are given loans to the extent of only three times the share-capital while other co-operative societies are given eight to ten times the share-capital, and if so, why this differentiation?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I am not quite sure of the accuracy of the statement made by the hon. Member. I believe, Sir, that four to five times the share-capital is advanced to these house-building societies. I am not sure whether eight to ten times the capital is allowed in other societies. The matter will be looked into."

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SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"So far as the schemes on hand at present are concerned, is there anything which helps to provide houses for the labouring classes and other poor classes?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The Registrar of Co-operative Societies who is in charge of house-building societies has under consideration the construction of low-cost houses at a cost which will be within the means of even the poor classes of people. In Madras we have selected sites at Ayanavaram where we hope to build houses at a cost of Rs. 2,000. The land value also will be comparatively very modest."

Hand-made paper mills in the Province.

*183 Q.—SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) how many hand-made paper mills were established by the Government in the Province during the war and where;

(b) what is the cost of establishment for each, the output of each in the past three years and the value of production;

(c) what is the output of paper boards at each of these centres in the past three years and the amounts realized from their sales;

(d) whether it is a fact that the hand-made paper mill at Gazulapalle in Kurnool district has been closed down and, if so, why; and

(e) whether the Government consider that there is need to encourage such industries in the Ceded districts?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"(a) Three hand-made paper units were established in the Province during the war; at Bezwada in the Kistna district, at Bugga in the Cuddapah district and at Gazulapalle in the Kurnool district.

"(b) A statement[a] showing the particulars of cost of establishment in each of the units, their output and value of production during the last three years is placed on the table.

"(c) The output of paper boards at each of these centres during the last three years and the amount realized from the sales during the period are also given in the statement placed on the table.

"(d) Yes, Sir. The mill was closed down as its working was found uneconomical resulting in loss to the Government.

"(e) If private parties come forward to start the industry, the Government will render all advice and guidance necessary for its development."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Sir, with reference to the Gazulapalle paper mill, was any proposal submitted to the Government to run it as an economic unit by introducing side industries like sawing mill, soap factory and others, and if so, what action have the Government taken thereon?"

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[a] Printed as appendix on page 399 infra.

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The proposal is being examined on the suggestion of the Development Commissioner that the Bugga unit might be closed and shifted to Gazulapalle, so that if possible it may be worked as an economic unit. The question is being examined by the Director of Industries and after getting his report, I shall be able to answer the question."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the Government have got any proposal to help hand-made paper industry if it is conducted by individuals and local bodies, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I have already said we can advise and guide."

SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"Sir, instead of simply closing down the paper mills, could not the Government examine the question again and see whether they can work properly and continue the same?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I may draw the attention of the hon. Member of the statement. He will see that the Government have tried for three years continuously to see that something is done. In spite of loss, the unit at Bugga is being kept up. I have already said that we are trying to see that the other unit at Gazulapalle is worked economically. The Government are anxious to see that these units work economically if possible and also that they must be of use to the public."

SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—"May I know, Sir, how many hand-made paper experts are there in the Province and where they were trained?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I do not have the information with me now, Sir. I suggest to the hon. Member to put a separate question."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"While the hand-made paper industry is a cottage industry, may I know why it is called a 'mill', Sir?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The question has been put like that. I am not responsible for it." (Laughter.)

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, in view of the satisfactory production of hand-made paper, will the Government consider the question of removing the control on paper in this Province?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Sir, though there is no connexion between hand-made paper and decontrol of paper, the Government of Madras have already stated on the floor of the House that they have suggested to the Government of India that paper control might be removed."

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SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"May I know, Sir, why no cottage industry for making hand-made paper has been started in Tamil Nad?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Sir, there was no idea of not starting it in a particular place. These units were started some time ago. If my hon. Friend wants that one should be started in Tamil Nad and if there are adequate facilities and if it is going to be an economic unit, the Government would very favourably consider the question."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Sir, from the figures given in the tabular statement regarding cost of establishment, is it not obvious that the uneconomic working of the units is mainly due to the high cost of establishment and if so, what steps are the Goverment going to take to reduce the establishment?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"That will be one of the aspects that will be considered by the Director of Industries and Commerce—the establishment of the existing units."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Sir, was it not done in the case of the Gazulapalle unit before it was ordered to be closed down?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Sir, before the Gazulapalle unit was closed down every effort was made to keep it going, but unfortunately it was found that it was likely to result in a substantial loss to the Government and so it was thought that it was good to close it down."

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that one of the technicians employed at Gazulapalle came forward to run the unit on economic lines?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I believe he was one of those who bid at the auction when the unit was sold in auction."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"Sir, May I enquire whether there is any proposal to have these hand-made paper units as part of the Firka Development Schemes?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I should like to have notice, Sir,"

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"As there is a large stock of hand-made paper in these depots, may I know whether the Government are contemplating to use it for printing the Administration Reports and the Legislature Reports?"

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

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, does the total value of the paper and boards given in the statement represent the value of the stock or the value of the goods sold?"

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The statement says that it is the value of the output of the paper and the boards."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, has any quantity produced here been sold and if so, how much?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I should like to have notice, Sir."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"May I know why this useful industry has not been tried in the various jails in the province?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I believe, Sir, that it is being tried. If my hon. Friend wants further information, I should suggest to him to put a question to the Minister in charge of jails."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"Sir, is it a fact that there is a hand-made paper industry in Kodambakkam and that it has approached the Government for a subsidy?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I have no information, Sir."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—"Sir, are the Government aware that for a number of years, hand-made paper has been successfully manufactured as a cottage industry in Rajapalayam and Madura and that the industry is languishing for want of Government support?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"It is not a question of successfully manufacturing. It can be successfully manufactured. The whole question is the economics of it."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"My previous question has not been answered. I ask the Hon. Minister whether it is not a fact that one of the Members of this Assembly, D. V. Ramaswami approached the Hon. Minister with regard to encouraging the industry at Kodambakkam?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Evidently the hon. Member has all the information. I do not know why he wants information from me."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"May I ask whether the Government will give a subsidy to the industry and render other kinds of help?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I suggest to the hon. Member to put a specific question. I cannot have all the information with me here. The original question raised is with reference to the industry at Gazulapalle. I cannot have in my hands all information regarding the paper industry in the whole of this province."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"From the statement furnished, I find that the cost of establishment at Gazulapalle in 1944–45 was rupees 40,000 and odd, whereas the total value of paper produced was

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Rs. 11,000 and odd. Again in 1945–46 the cost of establishment was Rs. 19,000 and odd whereas the total value of paper was Rs. 2,000 and odd. The difference in the output of paper in those two years is about 500 lb. less. May I know whether paper was not available or whether the cost was very low?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The Government are not responsible for the fall in prices of paper. The Government cannot help it."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask what is the policy of the Government as regards the paper industry? Do they propose to place this industry on a par with other industries in the province and will they be able to supply the very large quantity of the paper requirements of this province?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The policy of the Government has been to encourage the manufacture of hand-made paper. With a view to educate people, the Government render help to people running the industry or start institutions themselves. The Government want to help private people starting this industry. They also train people to make hand-made paper."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the efforts of the Government and the people to make hand-made paper was a stunt to drive away the foreign power? Now that we have independence, are we not going to start mills to manufacture paper instead of making it by hand?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The Government do not believe in stunts."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know whether the Government is contemplating to abolish the post of the hand-made paper expert and if so, why?"

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

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister to concentrate on improving the quality of paper than increasing production of hand-made paper by starting the industry in many places?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The suggestion of the hon. Member is quite valuable."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Will the Hon. Minister take the House into his confidence, whether the manufacture of hand-made paper is not economic, whether there was no demand or whether production was less?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I should like to have notice of the question. I should like the whole question to be examined. I am prepared to have a statement prepared and place it on the table of the House, if my hon. Friend puts a specific question on this matter."

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SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—" May I ask whether hon. Members who talk much on hand-made paper, ever use the hand-made paper supplied by the Legislature office? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I cannot answer this question, because it is a matter on which my hon. Friend seems to know more than myself."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTI:—" May I know whether in the year 1939 during the time of the Congress Ministry, a Government official was sent to Japan to study cottage industries, including making of hand-made paper? Was the report submitted by him considered by the Government and was it published in order to educate the people of this country regarding hand-made paper in the advanced manner in which it is made in Japan? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" This question was put specifically on the floor of this House and the Government have already replied to that question."

Printing work of the High Court.

* 184 *Q.*—SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the printing work of the High Court is being executed in the Government Press, and if so, from what date; and

(*b*) whether a portion of the printing work done for the High Court is given to the private presses also?

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

" (*a*) The printing work of the High Court was transferred to the Government Press with effect from the 4th January 1923.

" (*b*) All the work connected with the printing of the records of the High Court is sent to the Superintendent, Government Press, Madras, who engages private presses to the extent necessary with the sanction of the Government."

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN:—" தயவுசெய்து தமிழில் சொல்ல வேண்டும்."

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

" 1923-ம்வரு ஜனவரிமீ 4உ முதற்கொண்டு High Court அச்சு சம்மந்தமான வேலைகளை கவர்ன்மெண்டு அச்சாபீசுக்கு மாற்றப்பட்டிருக்கிறது.

" ஹை கோர்ட்டு சம்மந்தமான அச்சு வேலைகளை கவர்ன்மெண்டு அச்சாபீசு Superintendent க்கு அனுப்பப்படுகிறது. கவர்ன்மெண்டு அச்சாபீசில் வேலை செய்ய முடியாமல் இருந்தால் கவர்ன்மெண்டு உத்திரவின்மேல் தனிப்பட்ட அச்சாபீசுக்குக் கொடுக்கப்பட்டு வருகிறது."

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN:—" அப்படி செய்யாமல் இருப்பதற்கு காரணம் என்ன? அங்கேயே வேலைகளைச் செய்யாமல் வெளியில் கொடுப்பானேன் என்று கேட்கிறேன்."

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

" அச்சாபீசில் வேலை அதிகமாக இருப்பதே காரணம்."

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SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN:—" அதிகமான ஆட்களை வைத்து நடத்தலாமே? "

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

" நடத்த இயலாமல் இருக்கிறது."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know whether printing outside the Government Press is economical as far as the rates are concerned? "

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

" Printing in the Government Press is more economical. When it is not able to attend to some work, it has to be given to outside presses."

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

II.—READING OF BOOKS, ETC., IN THE HOUSE.

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Sir, you ruled the other day that no hon. Member can read papers or books in the House. Is it binding on all hon. Members, including Ministers? I see the Hon. Minister Mr. Daniel Thomas reading a novel here."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" Sir, I am not reading a novel. I am reading a book on 'Science and the Nation.' I am referring to the authorities in order to enable me to meet any arguments put forward by hon. Members."

MR. SPEAKER:—" It is not allowed in the House of Commons. Every hon. Member will tell me that he is reading books, etc., to prepare himself to give answers to other hon. Member's questions. There will be no end to this practice."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Sir, I am not disputing your claims to give rulings. At the same time, I would like to point out that my Hon. Colleague has got in his hands a book with regard to the application of Science to Industry. It may be useful to answer points raised by hon. Members. My Hon. Colleague might help his Colleague in charge of Industries to answer questions put to him, and to put proper value on questions that may be put. That is the reason why in the House of Commons Members of the Treasury Bench are allowed to read literature bearing on the subject under discussion. My Hon. Colleagues might help one another though they may not be in charge of the particular department. I, therefore, appeal to you not to pass a stringent order or ruling like the one you gave, because a certain amount of elasticity is required in this matter. Entirely it is your right and your privilege to give a ruling. It is in your hands. But at the same time, I would like to point out that justice and equity should be meted out."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr Speaker, Sir, literature is universal and knowledge is universal. There is hardly any book which does not help hon. Members on the Treasury Benches. May I ask whether any distinction

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can be drawn between one book and another? Therefore I submit that a ruling may be given as to whether books of any kind can be allowed to be read in the House. We are discussing the right of hon. Members whether they can be permitted to keep themselves engaged in reading even valuable books which may be helpful to them in some way or other. I would request you to give a ruling which will be in the interest of all hon. Members."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, I wish to reply to what my hon. Friend said. Evidently he is not acquainted with literature as literature, because there are books and books. I quite realize what my hon. Friend means. He is referring to novels also. There is literature on fiction; there are books on Cricket, Rugby, Football, etc. Books of that kind cannot be read in this House, though a sportsman can use the language of sports to answer a question raised in a debate or to help my Hon. Colleague, the Education Minister. What I say is, evidently, my hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan Sahib has not very well acquainted himself with the whole range of literature in the English language, or even in Urdu or Tamil language."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"If the views of the Hon. Leader of the House are accepted, it may be misused. Suppose a Minister reads a newspaper. He may state that he is reading it to know news . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let the hon. Member be short."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"An hon. Member may be reading a newspaper. He may say he is doing so to have ideas of hon. Members who have spoken on the subject previous to him."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I wish to know, Sir, what the Hon. Ministers are doing in their houses. Can they not read useful literature in their houses? They cannot find better knowledge than that contained in the questions put by hon. Members on the floor of this House."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The hon. Member has evidently misunderstood the position. Literature is worth reading at any time. Continuous reading is necessary if we wish to have a knowledge of the world and its affairs. I am afraid the hon. Member has not kept himself abreast of the times."

SRI V .M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I want to make one representation. It is equally necessary that any privilege you may be pleased to offer to the Treasury Benches should be extended to all hon. Members in view of modern trends. After attaining independence, we have to set up new standards. I want that any privilege should be available to all hon. Members."

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN:—"தலைவர் Sir, அனேகமான காரி பங்களில் அநேகம் பேர்கள் தூலயிட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். உங்களுக்குத் தெரியும் 'பாரத தேவி' பத்திரிகை என்கிறது . . ."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"அதைப்பற்றி என்பேசுகிறீர்கள். பேபரில் என்னென்ன வருகிறது என்பதை கேட்கக்கூடாது. அவரவர்கள் இஷ்டப் பிரகாரம் எழுதுவார்கள். இப்பொழுது சட்டசபையில் newspaper படிக்கலாமா, படிக்கக்கூடாதா என்பதுதான் கேள்வி. பேபரில் இருப்பதைப்பற்றி சொல்லவேண்டாம்."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Sir, I wish to have your ruling not only about books that can be read or not, but also about pictorial books which may not be read but seen."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yesterday, I remember the hon. Member Mr. Muniswami Pillai raised the same point of order. I told the House that not only papers but even books should not be read in the House. That is the ruling that I gave yesterday. Even letters should not be read. In the House of Commons, any privilege enjoyed by the Treasury Benches is enjoyed by other Members also. In answering questions, Ministers can refer to certain books. I hope I will not be bothering the House with what is the procedure in the House of Commons. There are 600 years of experience and history behind it. I take the trouble to go through these things. If hon. Members are willing, I for one wish to state what the practice is in the House of Commons. Every rule that is observed there and is the every procedure there has got a history of its own and the result of experience of 600 and odd years. This is the practice in the House of Commons. 'Members are not to read books, newspapers or letters in their places. This rule, however, must be understood with some limitations, for although it is still irregular to read newspapers, any books or letters may be referred to by Members preparing to speak, but ought not to be read for amusement or for business unconnected with the debate.'

"If I allow this privilege here, I think there will be no end to it and everybody will say that he is preparing for the debate. The proper place for preparing for a debate is outside the Assembly. Let the Hon. Ministers prepare in their houses. I do not object to that. If they want to refer to any book, let them go out and refer to it and come back again and I will allow it." 11-30 a.m.

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"The Hon. Speaker said the other day that he was following the procedure laid down by the Hon. V. J. Patel in Central Assembly. Sometimes the Hon. Speaker says he follows the Parliamentary procedure which is very old and which was followed for a number of years. Will the Hon. the Speaker, therefore, kindly tell us which procedure should be observed."

MR. SPEAKER:—"There is a saying 'take it with a grain of salt.' So, whatever is good in anything we may take it with a pinch of salt."

(Questions and answers were then resumed.)

Cost of uniforms of Secretariat peons.

*185 *Q.*—SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state the total cost of

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uniforms supplied by the Government to the peons of the Secretariat, the Board of Revenue and other Government departments in the Provinec; and how much of it is spent on khadi?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"The total cost of clothing supplied by the Government to the peons of the Secretariat, the Board of Revenue and other Government departments in the Province during the year 1946-47 was Rs. 43,608-14-9."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Sir, the latter portion of the question has not been answered."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"The expenditure on khaddar is Rs. 90-6-0."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Sir, in view of the great divergence between Rs. 43,608-14-9 and Rs. 90-6-0, does the Government realize the embarrassment in preaching loudly on khaddar and practising silently against it?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am afraid the hon. Member does not think or understand. This was in 1946-47 when khaddar was not produced. Now orders are being issued that clothes for these people must be of khaddar."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask, Sir, whether there is any proposal . . ."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Be more polite, Mr. Avinashilingam."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I do not understand the hon. Member sitting and speaking here. That is out of order both in the House of Commons and here."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"I was talking aside to the Minister, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If the hon. Member wants to speak anything to the Minister, let him go to him and speak."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"He was talking aside and I only replied to it."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I did not talk to him aside at all, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It was only on the 15th of August last that we attained freedom and we should leave behind us some good model to be followed and that is why I am following very closely the procedure of the House of Commons and the Central Assembly where this kind of talking is not allowed. This being the first time, I do not propose taking any action."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I want to know whether there is any proposal for effecting dress reform in the

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matter of uniform, especially because the uniform that is now supplied to the peons of the Secretariat and the Board of Revenue are unhygienic, uneconomical and uncouth?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"This question does not arise out of the question before us, but still I give for the information of the hon. Member that the matter is under consideration."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether it will be economical to give khaddar uniform to all the servants of the Government instead of mill-made cloth?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, khaddar is being produced in the Government departments and the Government think they would be well-advised in using the khaddar so produced to peons for their uniforms. Since we have on hand a certain quantity of khaddar, we think it will be economical to dispose of it in this manner."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know, Sir, how many uniforms are given to each peon in the Secretariat here and what improvement the Government propose to effect, if khaddar is supplied as uniform to these people?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"That does not arise out of this question. If the hon. Member wants information on that, he may put a separate question."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I enquire, Sir, what have uniforms to do with the portfolio of Education?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Because they come under that portfolio."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that khaddar is more durable than mill-made or other kinds of cloth?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am sure the hon. Member knows it better."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"May I know, Sir, when the Government will take up the question of converting the entire uniform into khaddar?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, orders are being issued that uniforms must be purchased from the khaddar stocks available with the Government and I am unable to say anything more than that at present."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government are contemplating purchase of khaddar from any producer of khadi or from the All-India Spinners' Association or are they trying to get khaddar from Firka Development centres?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Yes, Sir, the khaddar produced in the Firka Development centres will be first requisitioned for the purpose."

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Selection of secondary grade teachers employed in local boards as deputy inspectors.

* 186 *Q.*—SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI: Will the Hon. ıe Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have provided ı the Educational Rules that the secondary grade teachers who re employed by the local board can be selected as deputy ıspectors;

(*b*) if so, from what date these new rules come into force nd who is the selecting authority; and

(*c*) what are the methods by which the recruitment will e made?

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

" (*a*) If the hon. Member means by 'secondary grade teachers' the answer is that provision has been made under the rules to recruit a certain number of secondary grade teachers to the cadre of Junior Deputy Inspectors.

" (*b*) The new rules will be deemed to have come into force from 1st April 1947 and the selecting authority will be the Director of Public Instruction.

" (*c*) Substantive vacancies in the category of Junior Deputy Inspectors of Schools in the Madras Educational Subordinate Service that have arisen since 1st April 1947 and that will arise in future should be filled on the following basis:—

(1) 30 per cent of vacancies should be filled or reserved to be filled by promotion from Manual Training Instructors who have not completed 45 years of age, secondary grade teachers in Government service (Madras Educational Subordinate Service) or by recruitment by transfer from any other service.

(2) 40 per cent of vacancies should be filled or reserved to be filled by direct recruitment of teachers employed in schools under the control of local bodies or aided agencies, who possess a completed Trained Teacher's Certificate of the Secondary Grade, have put in 10 years of service as teachers and are below the age of 35 years.

(3) 30 per cent of the vacancies should be filled or reserved to be filled by direct recruitment of 'outsiders'."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government will consider the desirability of appointing teachers for the ther executive posts like Municipal Commissioners, District 'anchayat Officers and so on? "

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

" The hon. Member may put a separate question on this to my Hon. Colleague, the Minister for Local Administration."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—" In view of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, may I know, Sir, who is the selecting uthority or the appointing authority? "

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

" The Director of Public Instruction, Sir."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know, Sir, whether instructions have been issued to the Director of Public Instruction to reserve seats for qualified Harijans also? "

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

" I believe, Sir, the recruitment will be according to the Communal G.O. and if the hon. Member wants more accurate information, he may put a separate question."

MOHAMED RAFEEUDDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, if there is any provision in the rules for the transfer of secondary grade teachers from the Municipality to the District Board service? "

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

" That question does not arise out of this, Sir."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Since there are many trained graduates serving in the cadre of secondary grade teachers, may I request the Hon. Minister to provide for quick prospects of promotion for these secondary grade teachers in the cadre of Junior Deputy Inspectors? "

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

" I am afraid the hon. Member's information is not quite correct. I do not think there are many graduate L.Ts. trained as secondary grade teachers to-day."

Number of girls' hostels in the Province.

* 187 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many girls' hostels are there in the Province attached to schools and colleges;

(*b*) whether any boarding grants are given by the Government to these hostels; and

(*c*) what is the number of girls who live in these hostels?

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

" (*a*) 272 including boarding homes for destitute pupils.

" (*b*) Boarding grants are not paid to all hostels. Such grants are paid only to those boarding homes for destitute pupils which satisfy the conditions laid down in Chapter XI of the Grant-in-Aid Code.

" (*c*) About 19,000."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state at what rate the Government are giving grants per head, Sir? "

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

" The grants are paid only to orphanages where there are destitute children and for other hostels no grants are made. If the hon. Member wants information about grants paid to

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destitute children, I think it does not exceed Rs. 8 per child. If he wants more information he may put a separate question on it."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Is it a fact, Sir, that destitute children belonging to the European community are paid four to five times more than the amount paid to Indian destitute children?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"It is not four to five times, Sir, but it is nearly double."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know, Sir, how many girls' hostels have been opened and how many have been closed down during the past year?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I think the hon. Member may put a separate question on the subject."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Will the Government consider the desirability of treating all the destitute children, whether Indian or European, on an equal footing?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"There is this difficulty in it, Sir. I understand that the Minorities Sub-Committee of the Constituent Assembly which considered this question has decided that for 10 years more the concession shown to Anglo-Indians may continue. In view of this recommendation, I am afraid, it will be difficult for Government to take any action in the matter immediately."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"May I know, Sir, if these hostel grants are not available to many aboriginal children because they are not able to satisfy the requirements of age and the class above which alone they are eligible to these grants?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, the aboriginal people are, I think, given more concessions than others. If the hon. Member wants more information on it, he may put a separate question on the subject."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Sir, since those children are below a particular age and that those who have passed the fourth standard alone are entitled to these scholarships and since most of these aboriginal children have no education and therefore unable to satisfy these conditions, may I know if the Government are prepared to waive some of these limitations in regard to these aboriginals?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I believe, Sir, already certain concessions are being allowed to these people. If the hon. Member wants more concessions to be given to these people, the hon. Member may put a separate question and I will try to answer him."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"Sir, arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister to clause (*a*), may I ask whether the hostel accommodation is commensurate with the number of applications received from the pupils?"

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, I believe, we are a growing race and in regard to education, demands are increasing every day and the number of hostels also are, I believe, increasing every year."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—"May I know, Sir, if the grants are given to institutions run by Non-Christian organizations; if not, will they give such grants to Hindu institutions if they run such institutions hereafter?" 11.45 a.m.

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—Certainly, Sir; the grants are for all communities; if I may give information on the subject of the 283 orphanages in the year 1946-47, 33 are Hindu institutions, 14 Muslim and 256 are Christian-managed institutions."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether it is a fact that Anglo-Indian children are being given double the grant given to others?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister has already answered that question."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Is it desirable to make the Indian destitute children feel even at a time when this country is free that they are inferior to European and Anglo-Indian children; in view of this, will Government consider the desirability of increasing the grant given to Indian children so that no disparity will be felt by them?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am afraid that cannot be done. In view of the provision in the draft Constitution that their concessions should continue, though it has not been ratified by the Constituent Assembly, I am afraid, the Government are unable to do anything in the matter."

Study of Hindustani in college classes.

* 188 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government intend to make it a policy to encourage the study of Hindustani in college classes;

(*b*) whether the Government think it necessary to encourage the study of Hindustani among candidates for the Public Service Examination; and

(*c*) in what script or scripts Hindustani is being taught in the schools and colleges in this Province?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"(*a*) Hindustani is now offered as language for the Intermediate and B.A. courses in some colleges. There is no proposal under consideration for the compulsory introduction of Hindustani in all the colleges.

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" (*b*) This must refer, I presume, to the Public Services Commission Examination conducted by the Government of India. If so, that is a matter for the Government of India to consider.

" (*c*) Hindustani is being taught now in Nagari script in colleges and in both Nagari and Urdu script in secondary schools at the option of the pupils."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state the policy regarding the teaching of Hindustani in high schools and colleges? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
" The policy is to encourage the study of Hindustani."

SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—" In view of the long cherished hope of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, that Hindustani should be *lingua franca* of India, will not Government, which always followed the teachings of Mahatmaji, consider the advisability of making Hindustani compulsory in colleges in order to encourage spread of Hindustani over the Presidency? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
" We cannot have compulsion in colleges all in a sudden; it must come from the schools and we are at present introducing it in the schools in the Province."

SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—" When the country is thinking of adopting Hindustani as the *lingua franca* of India, where is the difficulty for Government to make Hindustani compulsory in colleges as well as in high schools and middle schools? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
" We cannot introduce the language freshly in the college; it has to be started when the boys are young; now Government are introducing them in schools and when they pass out and they come to the college it will be time then for them to take up Hindustani."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, why Hindustani is not taught in both scripts in the colleges also in view of the fact that Gandhiji's advice to the country was that Hindustani should be taught in both scripts? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
" Because there is another language called Urdu recognized by the University. The hon. Member is also in the Syndicate and he might pursue the matter in the Syndicate."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB: (Put a question in Hindustani.)

MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—" (Put in Hindustani.)

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR: (Answered in Hindustani.)

SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—" Are not Government aware that there is not much difference between Hindustani and Urdu grammar? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
" I am not prepared to answer the question put by the hon. Members because I do not very much know about it."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—" Is it a fact that the Hindustani teachers are paid very niggardly? "

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

Pay of Government Press workers.

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

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Cabinet Salaries Sub-Committee recommended to pay a minimum of Rs. 35 a month to the Government Press workers;

(*b*) whether this recommendation has been implemented; and if not, why not;

(*c*) what are the reasons for reducing the minimum pay of the Government Press workers to a pittance of Rs. 15 and Rs. 20 as per G.O. No. 78 of 6th February 1947 when the Salaries Sub-Committee has recommended Rs. 35 as minimum;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that there are workers in the Government Press who are temporary for years together, viz., from five years to fifteen years;

(*e*) whether there are volunteers in the Government Press who are not paid at all; and if so, the number of such volunteers;

(*f*) whether the workers in the Government Press are allowed the benefit of bonus, provident fund and gratuity; and if not, why not;

(*g*) whether it is a fact that the sanitary arrangements of the Government Press are very unsatisfactory; and

(*h*) whether it is a fact that overtime work in the Government Press is compulsory and that those who could not work are being dismissed from service?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
" (*a*) No.

" (*b*) & (*c*) The questions do not arise. A further increase in the scales of pay has been ordered by the Government. Under these revised scales the minimum pay generally is Rs. 30 or Rs. 35.

" (*d*) Yes—mostly posts of compositors. The question of placing them on a permanent footing is under examination.

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"(*e*) There are no volunteers, but there are unpaid learners for learning work in the technical section of the Press. Their number is fourteen.

"(*f*) The employees are not allowed the benefits of contributory provident fund or bonus. They are eligible for pension or gratuity.

"(*g*) No.

"(*h*) When there is pressure of work in the Press, overtime work is compulsory. Disciplinary action, not entailing dismissal, is usually taken against those who are booked overtime and fail to attend wilfully."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Is it a fact that the lino and monotype workers of the Government Press have not been given proper scales of pay; was there any representation about it and if so, what action has been taken by Government?"

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

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know what is the minimum pay for the Press workers in the Government Press?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Under the revised scales of pay, the minimum pay generally is from Rs. 30 to Rs. 35."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"May I know whether the provisions of the Factory Act or the Non-Power Factories Act apply to the Government Press?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I believe they apply, but I would suggest to the hon. Member to put a separate question."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"With reference to the reply of the Hon. Minister about the linotype and monotype workers of the Government Press, may I tell the Hon. Minister that it is I that made a representation on their behalf and will he be pleased to look into the matter?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am afraid he has not understood my answer; he asked whether they were not paid properly and my reply to it was: 'No', which means that they are paid properly."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know for how long Government want to keep the temporary workers as such without making them permanent?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Arrangements are being made to enlarge the cadre."

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN:—"உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களுக்கு மாத்திரம் அதிகப்படி வற்றி விட்டு தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு என் சம்பளத்தை உயர்த்த வில்லே? உத்யோகஸ்தர்கள் சொல்கிறபடி நடக்கிறார்களா என்று கேட்கிறேன்?"

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR.—"அவர்கள் தயவு செய்து பதிலே பூராவும் படித்து தெரிந்துகொண்டு கேள்வி கேட்கும்படியாக கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அவர்களுக்கும் சம்பளம் உயர்த்தப்பட்டிருக்கிறது."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Do not Government think that Rs. 50 will be a healthy and irreducible minimum for the Press workers residing in the City of Madras?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"They were getting something like Rs. 14 and now a substantial increase has been given to them."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTI:—"Are the Government aware of the fact that the salaried hand-compositor strength is 333, while more than 190 are temporary still? If so, may I know when these people will be confirmed?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am afraid that the figures given by the hon. Member are not the latest figures; they are nearly a year and a half old. The hon. Member may put a separate question."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know why such a large number of people are kept on a temporary basis for so long a period as fifteen years?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Of course it is wrong to have kept them temporary for such a long period. Government have looked into the matter and orders were issued that the cadre must be enlarged so that these people may be absorbed in the permanent cadre."

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN:—"அங்கே இருக்கிற தொழிலாளர்கள் மந்திரியிடத்திற்கு வந்து குறைந்த சம்பளம் கொடுக்கிறார்கள் என்று முறையிடுக்கொண்டார்களா?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am sure large increase in their basic pay was made."

Extent of land on lease in Tanjore district.

* 190 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:. Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the extent of land in Karpanatharkulam village, Tiruturaipundi taluk, Tanjore district, which is going to be leased out;

(*b*) whether the local authorities have recommended to lease it out to a single person who is already owning thousands of acres; and

(*c*) if so, what is the extent of the land and to whom they are going to lease it out?

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"(*a*) An extent of about 342 acres of land was leased to Sri Rao Bahadur N .R. Samiappa Mudaliar for 5 faslis from fasli 1352. An application for renewal of the lease is pending the consideration of the Government.

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"(*b*) & (*c*) The local authorities have recommended the renewal of lease to Sri Rao Bahadur Samiappa Mudaliar. He is stated to own 660 acres."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government will consider the question of auctioning the Government lands so as to have the benefit of large sums of money by way of auction amount, seeing that there is great demand for these lands?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"If the Government begin auctioning their property, they will get lakhs of money; but we would prefer to give them to poor Harijans and the like who are landless."

SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"Is it the intention of Government to abolish the old zamindaris and create new ones?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Those gentlemen that created the zamindars leased the land to them."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Will the Government consider the desirability of rejecting the application of the Rao Bahadur and allot the land to poor agricultural labourers?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Orders on applications are not passed on the floor of the Assembly."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Will Government consider the desirability of establishing landless agricultural workers' society and then leasing lands to such societies rather than to give it to individual cultivators?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"I am very sorry that my hon. Friend who espouses the cause of Harijans is behind the times. The other day, speaking for 25 minutes, I said that we would assign lands to them rather than lease them."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether there were any Harijan applicants before the land was given on lease to the particular individual?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"At that time the hon. Member and I were in jail."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"Will the Hon. Minister kindly say when they are going to lease out the lands because if they delay in leasing, it will become difficult to cultivate for the coming fasli?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"The Government are very anxious to publish their Land Revenue policy and follow it up by actual assignment of the land; the question of lease of the lands, therefore, does not arise."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know when the Government will finalise their plans of assignment of these lands to poor Harijans and other communities?"

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THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"I think, Sir, the hon. Member must have read my speech in the newspaper if he has not heard it in the House."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"My question was whether the Government had received any other application especially from landless labourers or Harijans or they received it only from this Rao Bahadur?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Last time I said on the floor of the House that the Advisers preferred Rao Sahibs and Rao Bahadurs who subscribed to the War Fund to other people."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister whether lands given to Harijans are not wasted as they are not cultivating it on account of want of bulls and agricultural implements?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"If the Harijans have no money, we try to give them subsidies or give them loans also."

III.—CONDUCT OF DEPUTY SPEAKER.

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Sir. Since it is a very important matter, I will explain the matter. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. the Deputy Speaker has taken part in discussions on various controversial subjects . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"What is wrong with it?"

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, she has taken part in discussions concerning very many controversial matters such as Muslim League, the ex-Ministry and so on. Of course she may be entitled to speak on those matters and hit us, but we too may have to hit her back. I think it is not good for us to do so, because she happens to be the Deputy Speaker. So I want your ruling as to whether she can take part in controversial matters and even if it is allowed, whether it is good that she should be allowed to do so."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, my view is this: Speaker's position should not be confused with the position of other hon. Members who occupy the Chair from time to time. There are several hon. Members of this House who occupy the Chair from time to time . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have heard the hon. Member. That is enough. I am going to give my ruling straightway. The Deputy Speaker, like any other member, can take part in any debate. Only the Speaker is supposed to be above all parties and should not involve himself in controversial matters. In this connexion I hope I will not be misunderstood if I say that it is not the case in America and France. There the Speakers are allowed to take part in the debate, but what the Speakers do there is they

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Members of the House have been representing to the Hon. Minister in charge about the various needs of Members from time to time, but I am afraid that that during the two years that we have been here no improvement has been effected. The sooner it is done the better.

"So far as accommodation to mufassal Members in the Government House is concerned, it is all right to some extent, but the Government House has not been converted sufficiently and satisfactorily to make it a real hostel where there can be privacy for Members and where they can have exclusive rights to use the rooms they occupy. As it is, a number of Members have to huddle themselves in one room. In this connexion I would suggest that Government House Estate at Mount Road could be utilized not only for building small cottages for Members who would like to stay there with their families but also build extensive Parliamentary Houses for housing the Legislative Assembly in one hall and the Council in another, as we find in the Central Legislature. Of course, hon. Members of Government may come forward and say that we should not spend so much money on buildings and that we should somehow get on and with the division of the Province into Tamil and Andhra we may not require a very big hall and that the present building is sufficient. I do not know when the Andhra Province is going to come into existence, but until then to ask us to wait with this poor accommodation is most unsatisfactory.

"I would finish by making certain remarks with regard to transport facilities to be given to the Members of this House. The transport facilities now offered to the Members of this House to come to the Assembly to attend the sessions are not satisfactory. I would like the Hon. the Home Minister to suggest to the Hon. Minister in charge of Transport that he should so arrange the bus service in the City as to make a sufficiently large number of buses to come to this place throughout the day bringing passengers from the places they live and taking them back in the evening to their homes. If this is done, it would be satisfactory.

"There are many other difficulties which are experienced by Members of this House with regard to assistance that they require from the staff with regard to printing and typing correspondence, doing typing work for the Members of the Legislature, etc., particularly from members of the Legislature Secretariat staff. I would like Hon. the Home Minister to see that we the Members of this House are given sufficient facilities in this direction.

"Sir, I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 11,26,900 *for Legislative Bodies be reduced by Rs.* 100'."

12-15 p.m. SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, while seconding this cut motion I wish to bring to your notice certain points. It is now two years since this House has been regularly meeting; since the first day of the meeting, I urged

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that our party should be recognized as a separate party and it is high time our party is so recognized. Apart from the allocation of a separate room for our party which is quite essential we should be given representation on every Select Committee and we should also be consulted in chalking out the programme of work for this House. We know we are only two members in our party inside this House, but outside this House our strength is greater and we are not represented in proportion to our strength outside. (Several Voices: Question.) You may question here. Everybody outside knows it. You put that question outside this Assembly and you will get that reply. My point in speaking on this cut motion is that we as a Communist party in this House should be recognised as a party and we should be given all the amenities that other parties here enjoy. We should be given a separate room. When the House is not sitting there is no room for us to sit and study or otherwise transact work. We have simply to roam about the veranda or the lobby. It is the duty of the Hon. Leader of the House to provide us with such facilities. The Communist party is not given a place in most of the Select Committees. After all we represent a definite view point, particularly of the working classes and of the poorer classes of the population. We are entitled to be represented in all Committees irrespective of our numbers here.

"Another point I wish to say here is with regard to the translation of the speeches. I do not insist that each and every speech should be translated. But I want particularly the speech of the head of our Government, our Premier, to be translated, because he as head of the Government enunciates the policy of the Government which the Cabinet is expected to follow. His replies are very important and it should be translated always. I hope that hereafter all his speeches will be translated.

"Another point is regarding adjournment motion. The present rule is that for an adjournment motion about 30 or 35 Members should stand in their seats in favour of the motion for it to be taken up for discussion. At present the Opposition Block taken as a whole may not be sufficient to satisfy the rule regarding the allowing of an adjournment motion. So I want the rule to be relaxed. The Government should not take that motion as a motion of no-confidence. It is brought only to discuss an important urgent matter of public importance. When it is of public importance and is of an urgent nature, the Hon. Leader of the House should not refuse the request. So, I say, the rule regarding the admission of adjournment motion should be relaxed.

"Now, Sir, the draft constitution has been published, and till to-day we have not been given an opportunity to discuss it here. The Hon. Leader of the House should set apart some days for its discussion. We know it is we who elected the members of the Constituent Assembly and it is for the benefit of the House it is given an opportunity to express its opinion on the draft constitution. We feel our House is reduced to a district board. Therefore I think the draft constitution should be discussed. There are so many points in it which are of interest to the Province and also of all-India interest.

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"Coming now to the next point, I have often complained about the way in which the Hon. Ministers give their reply. The Hon. Ministers being in an advantageous position, reply insinuatingly, casting a fling at us, Members of the Opposition here. I can quote several cases of insinuating replies. On several occasions the Hon. Leader of the House in his replies has said that we as a party are out for decoity in the country. I have refuted this allegation and suggested an open enquiry and he may as well have a debate for that, so that we, poor members, may have on opportunity to reply. He is taking undue advantages. On so many other occasions he has questioned the strength of the Communist Party and that too not in a speech or on any relevant point but irrelevantly. He is entitled to have his opinion. It is a matter of opinion, and if he is serious to know the truth let him order elections at least in Panchayats. In the municipal elections in Bombay, let me bring to the notice of the House what has happened to the great Congress Party under the leadership of Mr. Desai, the blood brother of Dr. Subbarayan. Your party is reduced to a minority. Only I want to bring truth to the notice of the House.

"There is a change in the situation now and so there is no use insulting the other party. We have to judge our strength. Even to-day Government are not holding the elections to the Panchayats; for they are doubtful of their strength. We are prepared to face the elections. The only thing that I ask them to do is not throw insults at us, which I have previously on several occasions during question time brought to the notice of the House. With these words I support the cut motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the allotment of Rs. 11,26,900 *for Legislative Bodies be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

I have allowed three hours for this Demand and I fix ten minutes for each Member to speak."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"May I know whether this time-limit will be adhered to right through, or will it be reduced to five minutes after some time."

MR. SPEAKER:—"That cannot be assured."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demand and in doing so I wish to place before the House certain facts. First of all I wish to deal with the Speakership. So far as this House is concerned I really feel you have proved yourself to be fit to be the Speaker. You have been fair and equal in your treatment of the Members of the House as well as Members of the Treasury Bench. I know some Members of the Treasury Benches wanted a different kind of treatment for them, but you were careful to treat us all equally without any distinction and for that we are all very grateful to you, Sir.

"Regarding the rulings given by you, Sir, I really feel our House has set an example to other provinces to follow. I do not think within these two years any Speaker has given so many rulings about the procedure and conduct of business. It seems when

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you took up this office there was a feeling in some quarters that as a Harijan Member you were offered that office; but after these two years, your regime has shown that you deserve it not because you are a Member of the Harijan community, but Mr. Sivashanmukham deserves it. (Applause.) You have always upheld and maintained the dignity of the House. You have not only shown to be fit for conducting the proceedings of this House, but also if ever the time comes, fit to be the Speaker of the Central Assembly. (Applause.) The rulings given by you to-day show what increasing interest you are taking in the proceedings of this Assembly. I feel, you should be sent to England to study Parliamentary practice. I think from the keen interest you evince here if you were a rich man you would have gone of your own accord (laughter) to study Parliamentary practice. But really you are a poor man . . ."
(Several voices: 'Is he a poor man?')

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTI:—"Is he not embarrassing the Speaker by saying he is a poor man?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Really I am a poor man. (Laughter.) There is nothing to embarrass me by saying so."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"I am a poor man; what is there in calling one a poor man. Because our Speaker is taking great pains to study procedure of the Legislature I think this Government should come forward to send him to Europe and also to America to study Parliamentary practice. Hitherto you were following House of Commons procedure only; to-day you have given American procedure. I earnestly request this Government, because our Premier is here now, to send our Speaker to Europe and if possible to America to study Parliamentary practice."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"What about the Deputy Speaker?"

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Mr. Kosalram asks what about the Deputy Speaker? Because, Sir, now you give these rulings, everybody in the other provinces will know them and when you return well-versed in parliamentary practice from Europe, who knows, you may be snatched away as Speaker to the Central Assembly, like Mr. Mavlankar of Bombay. Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru and Mr. Vallabhai Patel will not spare you for Madras."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Might I correct the hon. Member. The present Speaker of the Dominion Parliament was not sent to England at the expense of Government."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Thank you, Sir. When our leaders take away our Speaker, we must have in reserve our Deputy Speaker and so she should also be sent for training in parliamentary practice. Sir, it is not my wish alone that you should be sent to Europe; it is the wish of several of us here.

"Then, Sir, about this Assembly Hall, it is very old. It was designed perhaps to seat 100 persons; but now we are 212; there is cramped space; and when I am now on my legs there is not enough

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space for my neighbour, Mr. Fernandes to move out of his seat. This arrangement should be revised and better accommodation should be provided."

12-30 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has two minutes more."

SRI B. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"I want only one minute." (Laughter.)

"Look at the fans. It is really a wonder to me why they are moving so slow. Even though they are moving, we are not getting breeze.

"There are very few mikes. I suggest that each bench must be provided with a mike.

"I have got a complaint from the press reporters that the accommodation in the press gallery is very inadequate. The gallery must be properly arranged leaving sufficient moving space.

"The members of this House remain here from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and they will have to take lunch. Lunch arrangements are very unsatisfactory. Only very few items of menu are available." (The Hon. Speaker sounded the gong and the hon. Member resumed his seat.)

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, with reference to this Demand, the first point that I should like to urge is the need for equipping the Hon. Speaker of this House with an official robe. The idea of having an official robe is nothing novel to this province. The High Court Judges, the Mayor, the Sheriff, the Vice-Chancellor of the University—all wear official robes—when engaged in the discharge of their duties."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Even Ministers had official robes previously."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"I am referring to the present and not to the past. Even lawyers were prescribed robes at the present time. Mr. Speaker, when you were the Mayor of Madras, you used to don the Mayoral robe, but now that you hold the exalted position of Speaker of this august Assembly the privilege of wearing an official robe is denied to you. I do not suggest that the dress may be ornate or costly; it may be plain without pomp yet so designed as to be becoming of the dignity of the Speaker. To maintain the dignity of your office an official robe should be prescribed for you and an equipment grant given to you for the purpose. Now that India has attained her independence, foreigners would be visiting this land to find out how we are conducting our affairs. Knowing Westerners as I do I feel sure that they would not be impressed if they found the Speaker of this Assembly clad in ordinary attire. Since this is a very small matter I hope the Government will accept my proposal without demur. The Government have refused to comply with the request made by the members of this House to depute you to foreign countries for the purpose of acquiring a deeper insight into Parliamentary procedure. I hope that they will not likewise turn down this modest request for an equipment grant for you. I find Mr. Speaker, that you have not

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lost much by your being denied the facility, of a travel abroad for you are different from many others. By your deep study and research, you have acquired a remarkable knowledge of Parliamentary work, which is very much appreciated not only by the hon. Members of this House but even outside. I may tell you that a learned professor asked me a few days ago: 'How is it that the Speaker of your Assembly is so well-versed with the Parliamentary procedure obtaining in other countries that off-hand he refers to them and gives such sound rulings?' I replied that you had made a deep study of the subject and that even though you had not been allowed the opportunity of visiting foreign countries you were endowed with much greater knowledge than many who had been abroad. (Hear, hear.) (N. Muhammad Anwar Sahib Bahadur: Therefore he need not go abroad.) No. My point is not that. Let me not be misunderstood. I wish that the Government would make available to you, Mr. Speaker, the opportunity of a foreign travel, for a visit to Western countries has its own value, and it would enable you to get an idea about the discipline and organisation that govern the lives of people in those parts in every field of their activity."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It might perhaps help to cut short discussion if I say that if the hon. Lady Member visits the House of Commons, she will find that we are much more disciplined than the members there."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"I may inform the Hon. Leader of the House that I have visited both the Houses of Parliament, the House of Commons as well as the House of Lords, several times. On the occasions when I visited these Houses I found the members very disciplined. I do not know about other times."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"It may be as a mark of respect to the Indian visitor." (Laughter.)

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I would like to inform the hon. Lady Member that if only she had visited the House of Commons when the Irish Nationalist Party were in, she would have found that they followed a system of guerilla warfare."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"I now come to a very important point and that is the need for a Privileges Bill for the members of this House. We do not know what our rights, privileges and responsibilities are, because these have not yet been defined. The matter has been pending ever since the first Congress Ministry was in office. In 1938, the then Speaker, Mr. Bulusu Sambamurti, stated on the floor of this House that the question would be discussed at the Speakers' Conference, and that what decision was arrived at at that conference would be circulated to the members of the various legislatures. I believe a Speakers' Conference was held, but nothing was done to prepare a Bill defining the rights of legislators. In this connexion I may point

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out that it is not necessary to act on an All-India basis with reference to the Privileges Bill for section 71 (2) of the Government of India Act, thus provides:

'In other respects, the privileges of members of a Chamber of a Provincial Legislature shall be such as may from time to time be defined by *Act of the Provincial Legislature*.'

Therefore my point is that we need not wait for an All-India decision in regard to this matter. The Hon. Minister may be aware that in the Central Provinces a Privileges Bill is shortly to be introduced. It is high time that a similar Bill is brought forward in this House also.

" Another point to which I wish to advert is the need for constituting an Advisory Board or Council for everyone of the Government departments so that expert advice may be available to those in charge of them as well as to the Ministers. I understand that in the past the Central Government had such an Advisory Council or Board attached to every department, composed partly of members of the legislature and partly of experts from outside. This is necessary so that before the Government decide upon a policy, they may have the opportunity of studying all shades of opinion. It is also necessary to have a standing legislation committee to scrutinize and suggest alterations to all Bills prior to their introduction in the legislature. In the past, legislation in this House has not been at all satisfactory, both from the legal and practical points of view. It is necessary to have such a committee to see that the defects of the past are not repeated in future. It is not possible for the Secretariat alone to do justice to legislation because the Secretariat is concerned merely with the text and technicalities and not with policies. Particularly in these days when legislation is being hustled with speed, such a Committee is very necessary.

" Another point to which I wish to refer is that the Government should see to it that the agenda of this House is not constantly changed, as is usually done for this prevents members from making a study of the subjects that are to be discussed. You would remember that after the Zamindari Abolition Bill had been introduced and discussions had proceeded thereon for two days, it was suddenly abandoned and another Bill taken up. The Zamindari Abolition Bill came up again after a long interval by which time we had forgotten the trend of the discussions. We have been often told that the procedure of the House of Commons is being adhered to in this House. But I am afraid that in regard to regularity and method it cannot be said that the British precedents are followed. I am not casting any aspersions on you, Mr. Speaker, because I know that it is not within your power to compel the Government to take up work for which they say they are not prepared. My remarks are addressed to the Members of the Treasury Bench whom I request to be more methodical and to arrange their work in future in such a manner as to avoid constant changes. I also request them to see that once the dates of the Assembly Sessions are fixed, they are not changed, as this causes great inconvenience to members, particularly those coming from the mufassal.

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" I also wish to draw attention to the unsuitability of the Ladies' room which is not a room but a portion of the verandah partitioned off. I pleaded for the Press on a previous occasion and now it is they who have deprived us of our room. Apart from our present room being unsuitable, what is a source of annoyance to the ladies is that crowds of men assemble just in front of it, so much so, often the Lady Members find it difficult to reach the Assembly Hall and policemen have to ask the men to make way for the ladies. Therefore my request is to give us a better room if available; if not, at least to ask the men to gather near the men's rooms instead and not near the Ladies room.

" Mr. Speaker, you promised to let us have a list of unparliamentary words."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I shall get the list printed and circulated."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Another point to which I wish to refer is the need to amend the rules of the Assembly. About a year ago, attention was drawn to this matter. I should like to know what action has been taken in this regard.

" I am sorry the Hon. Minister is not listening . . . "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" My ears are very open and I am hearing all that the hon. Lady Member says."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Very often Hon. Ministers have stated on the floor of this House that the matter would be considered. During the course of the past two years innumerable times have the Members of this House been given such an assurance but in actual fact the assurance has not been implemented. This is evident from the fact that when the same question has been asked as was put before, again the same reply has been forthcoming, namely, that the matter would be considered. Therefore, my request is that the department concerned be directed to intimate to the Member who was told that the matter would be considered what action is taken on it by the Government as soon as the Government have taken action on the same."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, last year I had to move a cut motion in order to request the Government to see that the Hon. Speaker of this House was sent to England. But nothing has so far been done. The hon. Lady Member has clearly pointed out the need for the Speaker to visit that country. Parliamentary practices have been changing all over the world and more especially in the Mother of Parliaments. Therefore it is all the more necessary now because we are a self-governing nation. In regard to rulings also, the Hon. Leader of the House always takes refuge under the Mother of Parliaments procedure. When we ask questions he would reply ' that is how it is being done in the Mother of Parliaments.' When it suits him, he will quote the procedure in the Mother of Parliaments; when it does not suit him, he will keep quiet. If the Hon. Speaker would go, he will

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also understand what the present procedure is and how conventions are developing. Apart from the Speaker, I would very much like that the Deputy Speaker and three Hon. Ministers should also visit England to study conditions there. Among the Ministers, except the Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan who visited England perhaps about twenty years ago . . . "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" My last visit was about ten years ago."

12-45 p.m. SRI P. NATESAN:—" We have since had another war and now things should be very different there. I say he is also out of date. But I want to see that the Government makes it a point to send for instance, the Industries Minister, the Finance Minister and also another Minister by turns to study the conditions there. (An hon. Member: 'Why not the Agricultural Minister also?') Yes, Sir, that is why, I said, three Ministers should be sent at a time. They should spend at least three months there, one month in England and two months in the continent. It will be a great advantage to them to study the present day conditions in those countries. To-day they do not know anything about the things going on in the outside world. They can only talk about prohibition. Even for that they may have to invoke the name of Mahatma Gandhi. I want them to be more modern. Let them go and study how agriculture is carried on in those countries. Let them go and see how industries are developed. Let the Hon. Minister for Home also go and see how the police are working there. (Interruption.) He was in the War Department during the last war as Assistant Private Secretary to Lord Derby and during that time he was only learning about racing and nothing else.

" Sir, I am sorry for the poor newspaper reporters here. They have no place to sit and if they sit there for a few hours together, they will surely get piles. They must be provided with better accommodation, because they are the people who broadcast the news. What will happen, if all that we voice forth in this House and the feelings we express here are not published in the newspapers? Therefore we must give them better accommodation, so that they may give two or more lines for each Member. Even the vernacular papers are not able to give more space for our speeches. In this connexion, Sir, let me say that there are so many languages that are spoken in this House and outside, that one does not know what is his own language to-day. We really depend upon our Tamil Ministers to go out and talk about it in Tamil Associations like the Tamil Valarchi Kazhagam, in order that we may know what is exactly our language. Now Hindustani is being taught in our schools and colleges, so that I myself do not know what is my language to-day. (Laughter.)

" Now what about our own reporters, Sir? You are paying such a niggardly salary to these reporters that the reports which you get here are absolutely useless. But I do not want to hurt their feelings and I know that they are really doing good work and let us pay them higher salaries. You cannot expect a hundred

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rupees man to report all your speeches well. What is it that they are paying to the reporters of the Central Assembly? And what is it you are paying to our reporters? Sir, the cheapest shorthand-writer in a commercial firm is now getting nearly Rs. 200 per mensem—whose work is merely to take down notes of letters dictated slowly and clearly. But here we are talking all day long and are making all sorts of speeches at whatever speed and whatever manner we like—including myself. That is why our shorthand-reporters have got to be clever enough to cut off certain portions of our speeches which are irrelevant and take notes of only relevant portions. I have seen reports of my speeches containing the same thing repeated over and over again, so much so, that I simply score them out, whether I have said them or not, because I cannot make out any sense out of them. Therefore, what I want to tell you is that these reporters ought to be at least paid a starting salary of Rs. 350 rising up to Rs. 500; otherwise you cannot get really good shorthand reporters."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The reports of my speeches are quite satisfactory."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—" That is because you speak deliberately, slowly and nicely, so that the reporter has time to take down your speeches. But ours are not like that. If the Hon. Leader of the House considers that the report of his speeches are quite satisfactory, then I can tell him that there are other Members of this House who consider that their speeches are not satisfactorily reported. But I have got nothing to say about the reporters. I am sure, if you give them a better salary, you will be able to get better type of men.

" Now, Sir, one word about us, the Members of this House. I submit, Sir, that you must be fair to hon. Members of this House. Although I was not present at the time, I have read the Hon. Speaker's ruling that nobody should smoke in the lobbies or on the verandahs. Where are we to go? Are we to go to the streets? Can you not give us a room where we can smoke and chat? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" If I remember right, what I said was, that it was a ruling given in the House of Commons and also the practice that is obtaining there. It is not right on the part of hon. Members to say that I have also given the same ruling. What I said was that Members of the House of Commons are not allowed to smoke in the Chamber or in the lobbies or in the corridors. Therefore, let no hon. Member be under the impression that it is my ruling that they should not smoke in the verandahs."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" I suppose, Sir, that it is applicable here also. If it is not applicable, then I say that there is no place for us to go and chat and smoke. At least we should be glad if you would kindly use your good offices either with the Secretary or with the Hon. Leader of the House to give us some place to sit. The Secretary of the Legislature has been good enough to place the Congress Party room at our disposal but the Congress Members

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are always sitting there, and we must have to go only when they go out. (An hon. Member: 'Drive them out.') Sir, we people practice non-violence!

"Now Sir, there one more important point. We have got now one Telugu Reporter and one Tamil Reporter. They have got to be sitting in the House throughout the day and God knows when a Tamil speaker or a Telugu speaker is going to speak. Unless there are more than two or three vernacular reporters, it would be quite impossible for them to move about."

MR. SPEAKER:—"That is why I am arranging the speakers in such a way that they are not put to too much trouble."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—"Anyhow, Sir, the troubles are always there because they have got to sit watching the proceedings throughout the day. I would therefore request the Hon. Leader of the House to see that more Tamil and Telugu Reporters are appointed."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the cut motion, I wish to state that in this Province in the name of Democracy, we are having dictatorship, because the Government are having a steam-roller majority. But for your office, Sir, it would have been complete dictatorship, and because of your good offices, we have been sailing smoothly with this Government and we are sure, that our rights and privileges are really safe in your hands. It is no good, Sir, to have the rulings of the House of Commons with regard to the privileges of the Members and of the Speaker, but we must have in our Province a dignity attached to the office of the Speaker. In England there are certain privileges that are exclusively given to the Speaker of the House of Commons. There whenever the King sends any public invitations, he also invites the Speaker of the House of Commons and a regular dress is prescribed for the invitees, who attend such functions. So also when the Speaker of the House of Commons sends invitations to Members for any public function, they have also to come in a special dress.

"Then Sir, there is also an order of precedence in sending invitations. Here also in this Province we have got a certain order of precedence, but I do not know on what basis they are arranged. Even among Ministers, there is an order of precedence, and simply because a Minister happens to be a Harijan Minister, he is given a very low rank. I do not know on what basis these ranks are placed. In England, I understand, the Speaker gets the seventh place, whereas in Madras, for various reasons, which we are not aware of, the Speaker is assigned the 22nd place. It is really very strange that this should be so. We should also have a Bill of privileges in this House, especially after this country has attained independence, we should have a Bill on the lines obtaining in the House of Commons in England and I expect when the Hon. Leader of the House replies, he will be able to tell us something on this point.

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"Then, Sir, there is already a suggestion that you should go to England. I hope that the Hon. the Finance Minister will very soon come before this House for the grant of a provision for this purpose. But if the Hon. Speaker goes to England, and if the Deputy Speaker does not go, then probably the rulings which both of them might give are likely to clash with each other. Therefore, the Deputy Speaker also should go and study the Parliamentary procedure in other countries. From the way in which we are hearing things from the Deputy Speaker, it is better that she does not go to England because she has to learn many more things before she can go to England and learn things there, and therefore it is better that she is sent to Abyssinia first. (Interruption). I say, Sir, that it is better if she goes to Abyssinia first and learn things there and then after sometime, let her be sent to England. Otherwise she will not be able to follow the procedure in England (Interruption). Then Sir, if there are any rulings in England that the Deputy Speaker can take part in the parliamentary debates and other activities, then we can also have no objection here for our Deputy Speaker doing so. But in spite of the fact that she has got that privilege, I think, it would have been much better, if she had not used that privilege and taken part in the party activities and other cliques and helping the leaders with this or that. We must know that it is possible, because in this Province we are having leader's election every year that . . ."

SRI T. S. PATTABHIRAMAN:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, the hon. Member seems to be giving some advise to the Deputy Speaker and it seems that it is more or less of a personal character. It is better that he avoids these things on the floor of this House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member need not give advice to the Hon. Deputy Speaker."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, is there a Parliament in Abyssinia?"

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Sir, the hon. Member Mr. Salam said that the Deputy Speaker should be sent to Abyssinia. I do not know why he mentioned that place. Is there any Parliament there, where she could study the conditions and learn the Parliamentary procedure? As far as I know, there is no Parliament in Abyssinia. I feel, Sir, that he is making some insinuations against the Deputy Speaker. If so, he must withdraw, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I do not know the present constitution of Abyssinia. I happened to study something about it when I was in my B.A. class. But now, I do not know the present conditions there. Anyhow, it is much better that the hon. Member stops with this and does not make personal references."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I know that there is a Parliament in Abyssinia. It is better that we know it, Sir.

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" Then Sir, it is really strange how the Hon. Leader of the House is answering questions. I have given a number of short notice questions but no answers have been given to them at all till now. Short-notice questions are generally very important and should have precedence over others and they will have effect only if they are answered in time.

1 p.m. " On this date, Sir, about twenty-five questions of mine are not answered even though they have been put as short notice questions. I have not received replies whether or not those questions are treated as short notice questions. It is possible that the Leader of the House has some other duties. He himself has said that a number of files are pending. Perhaps these questions are also there. So, I say that a special man may be appointed to deal with these short notice questions, because, after all if they are not answered in time, the effect of the question will be gone. Sir, it is better that the Ministers who are in charge of portfolios try to answer questions relating to their portfolios. We have in this Province a Prime Minister who has not been answering questions. It is better that the Prime Minister himself answers questions put to him. I am not enamoured to hear his answers, but, Sir, at times it is possible that the Leader of the House may not be able correctly to understand the attitude or the views of the Premier and so we will not be able to know and the public also will not be properly informed of the views which the Premier will be holding. So, Sir, there should be some method invented as in the United Nations Organization, namely, whenever the Premier speaks in one language we should be able to hear his answer in different languages which we can follow. That method should be adopted, and it is better that the Premier tries to answer questions here.

" Sir, the way in which the opposition is treated is very well known. We are not properly consulted and we are not given facilities to speak."

MR. SPEAKER:—" It is not correct on the part of the hon. Member to say that. Regarding debates I have given enough time for the Opposition." (The Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan: 'Quite right.')

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Now that you say that you are there, I think we are safe. The way in which this House is summoned without proper notice, the way in which we are asked to stay here, and the way in which they inform us of the days fixed for the meeting, are all not convenient to Members. Government themselves are not clear as to when they are going to pilot Bills and when they are going to finish their business. They generally call us for three or four days. Then they say 'we have finished our business; we have other business now.' Then again, they call us. This is not a healthy practice, Sir. I hope Government, in future, will have a plan of work in their hands and will give us proper notice in proper time so that we can make it convenient to attend the session.

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" I have already said about questions. The Leader of the House who answers many questions has a knack of giving evasive replies. He says that that is the Parliamentary way of doing things. But, Sir, what he should aim and what we are aiming at is to get information that is necessary for the general public. It would do no good if the Leader of the House goes on giving evasive replies. I hope that in future he will be able to appreciate the questions and give whatever information that is available with him.

" Recently, Sir, the House Committee met and suggested certain amenities to be provided in the Government House, Mount Road. I do not think the Committee is devoting proper attention for the convenience of Members now staying in the hostel run for the Members of this House. They are charging Members at the rate of one-anna per telephone call. We do not have the change with us to pay it then and there. It is better that Members of the Assembly are allowed to stay in the Government House hostel without paying anything at all. It is not a question of money, but a matter of privilege and dignity. (Interruption by the Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan.) They are after all charging two rupees per day, and they will be getting a few thousands by these rents. Just as Ministers and Speaker are provided with houses, let Members who come from the mufassal be allowed to stay in the hostel free of rent. They (Government) are not going to lose lakhs and lakhs of rupees if they do not collect rent. There is a special dignity about it, and I hope Government will consider my suggestion and allow us to stay in the hostel free of rent. With these remarks, Sir, I resume my seat."

* SRI M. A. EASWARAN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the Demand moved by the Hon. Home Minister. In supporting the Demand, I fully endorse the suggestion made by the Hon. Lady Member (Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin) to send our Hon. Speaker to foreign countries. The Speaker and the Deputy Speaker must be sent to foreign countries so that they may attend the Parliaments there and gain experience. Their experience will be of use to us in conducting the proceedings of this Assembly.

" As regards accommodation for Members in the Government House Hostel, I see that accommodation for only 70 Members has been provided. Government must provide accommodation for all the Members in the Government House compound. During the interval between 1 and 3 on Fridays and 1-30 and 2-30 on other days, there is no proper place for Members here to take rest. They have to wander in the verandahs. A proper place must be provided for Members to take rest during the luncheon interval.

" Railway travel facilities for Members are also inadequate. I think railway authorities are informed by Members to reserve seats for them when they are to attend the Assembly. Even after writing to the railway authorities three days earlier that a seat must be reserved for a Member, that seat (which is reserved) is not available to the Member, and it is occupied by another passenger.

[Sri M. A. Easwaran] [18th March 1948

An incident happened in Erode on 29th February 1948 when the Hon. Minister for Home was at Erode. A seat for Mr. Rajagurunatha Chettiar, a Member of this House, was asked to be reserved three days before the journey. It was reserved but occupied by another passenger. The railway authorities could not make that seat available to Mr. Rajagurunatha Chettiar. Ultimately, Mr. Rajagurunatha Chettiar had to travel in first-class with a second-class ticket. The train also was held up for about half an hour on account of this difficulty in accommodation. Sir, these are the facilities provided for Members. I mention this in order that the Hon. Home Minister may inform the railway authorities to give adequate facilities with regard to Members travelling in trains.

" Sir, in Ceylon, I think, Assembly Members are given a silver pass to tour about the whole Island so that they may understand the position of the Island and take an interesting part in the Assembly debates. Here also, our Assembly Members should be provided with a free pass so that they may travel throughout the Province and take part in the debates fairly well. Most of the Members are confined to their constituencies only. If they travel throughout the Province, the Budget debates would certainly be better.

" Sir, in foreign countries, the Leader of the Opposition is given an annual allowance or an allowance just for a session. The Leader of the Opposition is very useful in criticizing Bills and resolutions that would enlighten Members of the Treasury Bench to do things in a better manner. Here, in India the Leader of the Opposition is not given an allowance. Let Madras give a lead in this matter. Let us give our Leader of the Opposition an allowance and a car and let us adopt the procedure followed in England, Australia and Canada.

" One more thing, Sir. Members must be given an emblem to indicate that they are Members of this Assembly to enable the constables on duty (in the Assembly) to do their duty properly. Whoever is clad in *khadi* and whoever that calls himself a Member is let in. There is no other identification to show that he is a Member of this House. Recently, an incident happened here. A person clad in khadi, calling himself a Member, came here with a knife in his loin cloth. Such things will not happen if Members are given an emblem so that when they enter the Assembly, the constables on duty may identify them whether or not they are Members, and they can do their duty properly. Therefore, Sir, I say that Members should be given an emblem.

" With these suggestions, I support the demand."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, to-day is really a great day for you, because I find Members in this House are vying with one another in expressing their appreciation of the way and the manner in which you are conducting the proceedings of this House. Every one of us will be justified in saying that you had been fair, if not more, to all sections of the

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House, and that nobody should have any sort of feeling or grouse against you, particularly when we see the great trouble you have taken to study the proceedings of the House of Commons and other Parliaments just to enlighten the Members of this House. In fact, Sir, not a day passes without your giving two or three rulings from the procedure of the House of Commons.

" With regard to the point raised by Members about your going to England or other places, personally speaking, Sir, I do not take it seriously, because, with certain feelings, I say that this point has been raised by Members in the course of the last three years, and the Members of the Treasury Benches, especially the Finance Minister, have not taken it seriously. Of course, he is perfectly right in his view ' where is the necessity for the Speaker to be sent to the House of Commons when he is doing so well here and therefore there is no necessity for a foreign tour.' In fact, Sir, although we are all new to the democratic way of running parliamentary institutions, it should be said to your credit and to the credit of the Leader of the House and other Members that we have conducted ourselves in a very excellent manner. Although there may be a number of rulings quoted from the House of Commons, here, I am just watching for the day when your rulings will be quoted in the House of Commons. Therefore there is no point in your going to foreign countries. Because it is quite possible that when you are giving very good rulings, even the Speaker of the House of Commons would quote your ruling. I leave it at that. Let me not add something more to the suggestion of your going to England, because it does not seem to be serious with us or with the Treasury Bench.

" Now, Sir, I come to the Leader of the House (The Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan). This must be said to his credit, Sir, that he has enhanced the level of the debate by his manners and stock phrases and good expressions and by the way he replies to questions, particularly to hon. Members who are almost new to the Assembly. The Leader of the House has been very, very helpful in making us just learn as to how to debate, how to press a point and how to press the point home. His phrase ' I cannot grant the hon. Member's premises,' knowing as we do, has become so famous that although we try to imitate him on occasions, it is not possible for us. I am sure, Sir, the Leader of the House has been very helpful. On occasions, it is really a pleasure to join issue with the Leader of the House, because that is how we can raise the level of the debate. On that account, we have practically no complaint against the Leader of the House.

" Some reference was made by Members that our Leader of the House, particularly while replying to questions, is rather evasive or, I can say, less communicative. He is so on occasions. But I feel, Sir, that he will be more helpful to Members when he gives answers. After all, when we put questions, it is to get information or elicit information not only for ourselves but also for the public at large who have sent us here.

[Muhammad Raza Khan Sahib] [18th March 1948

"Only one complaint I am making, Sir, with your permission I am sure the Leader of the House will take it in good spirit. Practically, it is no complaint. The complaint is that the Leader of the House becomes impulsive or emotional at times. I am sure that he should avoid it. I do not want to cast any aspersion on him. Myself being young, I am apt to be impulsive or emotional. Sometimes I find the Leader of the House also becomes impulsive. I am sure he will avoid that, Sir. My hon. Friend Mr. Venkateswarlu made one or two good suggestions. I am sure the Leader of the House will consider them. Let him not brush it aside because it comes from the Communist Member. Whether it is the Communist party, or League party or the Congress party, when something good is said, it is better that the Leader of the House considers it.

1-15 p.m. "Then, Sir, about adjournment motions, our hon. Friend, Mr. Venkateswarulu, raised that point. Well, Sir, I do not deny that the Congress Party has got a big majority and the rules that were made in the year 1936 or earlier say that for any adjournment motion there should be at least 35 members. Still the rule is there and it is working hard on the members. The other day my friend, Mr. Venkateswarulu wanted to bring in an adjournment motion on a matter which was of great significance and importance. The members of the opposition having understood that the matter was of definite importance, wanted to give their support to Mr. Venkateswarulu. But, still, the adjournment motion could not be moved simply because the number of members provided in the rules did not stand up and the Leader of the House took shelter under that rule. Therefore, Sir, I submit that the rules should really be helpful to the members and, particularly to the members of the Opposition, in discussing a matter of urgency and importance. I am only speaking the view point of the Opposition in saying this and I feel that the rules should be so amended as to be helpful not only to the Opposition but also to the public at large, in knowing the views of the Government on definite matters of urgent public importance. Of course, Mr. Speaker, you have been very helpful in upholding the rights of the members of the Opposition. But, that is not enough. I have to make this complaint that the time-limit of ten minutes fixed for speeches is very inadequate because, on important questions, a number of speakers may wish to take part in the debate and the time-limit of ten minutes for each speaker may not be sufficient for some members to adequately deal with the points. Then, Sir, there are also some important members in this House who may not be able to express their views within the ten minutes that is allotted. For instance, the other day, my hon. Friend, Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, was speaking on the Budget Demand. The time-limit fixed for him at that time was fifteen minutes. But, he had so many important points to deal with and the members were not allowed the opportunity of hearing his views. On such occasions, Mr. Speaker, you should show a certain amount of latitude in relaxing the time-limit."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"I have been showing latitude wherever is necessary. It is wrong on the part of the hon. Member to attempt to criticize the Chair."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"I am sorry if the Hon. Speaker takes it in that spirit. My explanation is this . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Wherever necessary, I have been allowing sufficient time to help some hon. Members."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"Then, Sir, with regard to the other question raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Salam, I must say it is also a very pertinent point. He raised the point about short notice questions, which, I am sure, the Government will consider. Some questions arose about a matter of urgent public importance and therefore, the hon. Member has raised it by means of a short notice question. Sir, I quite concede the difficulties of the Government in getting the information and that they should be given sufficient time to get the available information. At the same time, Government also should be anxious to help the members who put the short notice questions so that the members may know what really happened. For short notice questions, members expect a reply from the Government in as short a time as possible but the Government takes ten days and sometimes even a month to get a reply by which time, the particular purpose for which the question was asked is lost and therefore there is absolutely no use in replying to such questions after a month or two. Therefore, Sir, it is a very important point and I hope the Leader of the House will bear this point in mind.

"Then, Sir, the other point to which I should like to refer is about the privileges of the Members of this House. That question was raised by the Hon. the Lady Member, Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin. Well, Sir, in times to come, the Members of the House should be in a position to know definitely what privileges they enjoy. I do not deny the point that everyone of us is really enjoying large privileges, within our limits. But, as the Hon. the Lady Member said, a Privileges Bill should be brought before the House so that every member may know definitely and explicitly what exactly are the privileges he or she enjoys. With these words, I support the cut motion."

SRI M. NAGESWARA RAO:—"అధ్యక్షా, మీరు అధ్యక్ష స్థానమును అలంకరించినప్పటినుంచి చేయుచున్న కృషి చాల ప్రశంసనీయమైనటువంటిదని నాకు ముందు మాట్లాడిన సోదర సభ్యులందరూ మిత్రులను అభినందించియున్నారు. వారి అభిప్రాయములతో నేను పూర్తిగా ఏకీభవిస్తూ, తక్కరు ఈ శాసనసభా సమావేశాలలో చూపుచున్న సమదృష్టి మిక్కిలి కొనియాడతగినదని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

"మీరు ఈ శాసనసభా కార్యక్రమ విధానములందు చూపుచున్న ప్రత్యేక, వివిధ దేశములు శాసనసభలనుగ్రహించి తెలుసుకొని మాకు తెలియజేయుటకుగాను చేయుచున్న కృషి మన ఉపాధ్యక్షులవారుకూడా అనుసరించుచుండిన నేను చాల సర్వకతి ఉండేవాడిని.

[Sri M. Nageswara Rao] [18th March 1948

"నా మిత్రులు, నా సహపాఠి, సోదర శాసనసభ్యుడు అయినటువంటి అబ్దుల్ సలామ్‌గారు నిన్నటి రోజున ఉపాధ్యక్షులవారు point of order మీద ఇచ్చిన ruling విషయమ్మీద చెప్పి ఉన్నారు. తరువు ఇచ్చిన ruling కు ఉపాధ్యక్షులవారు ఇచ్చిన ruling కు ఎంత లేడా ఉన్నది. ఇటువంటివాటివల్ల ఎంత అసంతృప్తి ఉన్నదని చెప్పక తప్పదు. ఇకముందు అధ్యక్షులగు మీరు శాసనసభా నిర్వహణ ఎట్లు చేయుచున్నారో ఆదేవిధముగా ఉపాధ్యక్షులవారుకూడా నిర్వహించెదరని విశ్వసిస్తున్నాను.

"ఈ రోజువరకుకూడా ప్రతి శాసనసభ్యుడు రూ 150 ల వేతనమును తీసుకొనుచున్నాడు. ఈ రూ 150 ల వేతనమును తీసుకొని వారు ప్రజలకు ఏ విధమైన సేవ చేస్తున్నారని ప్రజలు అడుగుతున్నారు. ఇటీవల Constituent Assembly లో కూడా ఈ ప్రశ్న వచ్చినమీదట, శాసనసభా సభ్యులు అనరరీ ఉద్యోగులుగా కాకుండా, public servants గాను, public workers గాను ఉండవలెనని చెప్పియున్నారు. మన శాసనసభా సభ్యులందరూకూడా అదే విధమగు దృక్పథంతో ప్రజా సేవ చేయవలసినదిగా మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

"ముఖ్యంగా ఈనాడు ఈ సభలో భూస్వాములు, వ్యాపారస్తులు, లాయర్లు (lawyers), డాక్టర్లు (doctors) అయినటువంటివారు చాలామంది ఉన్నారు. వారు ఈ శాసనసభా సమావేశములు లేని కాలంలో వారివారి స్వంతపనులు—భూస్వాములు వ్యవసాయం, వ్యాపారస్తులు వ్యాపారము, లాయర్లు వారి క్లయింట్ల పనులు, డాక్టర్లు వారి రోగులకు చికిత్సలు—చేసుకొనుచున్నారు. ఇందువలన వారికి ప్రజా సేవ చేయుటకుగాను హెచ్చు అవకాశములు ఉండుటలేదు.

"కాబట్టి మన శాసనసభా సభ్యులందరు కనీసము నెలకు పదిరోజులైనను ప్రజా సేవయందు నిమగ్నులయినయెడల ఈనాడు దేశంలో ఉన్నటువంటి లంచగొండితనము (corruption) ను మనము 6 మాసముల కాలములో పూర్తిగా రూపుమాపగలమని వెల్ల సాహసింతుచున్నాను. అందుకుగాను మనమందరము కృషి చేస్తామని అశ స్తున్నాను.

"1937 వ సంవత్సరంలో కాంగ్రెస్ ప్రభుత్వంలో ఉన్నపుడు ఇప్పుకు పశ్చిమ బెంగాలు గవర్నరుగాను, అప్పుడు మన రాష్ట్ర ప్రధానిగాను ఉన్నటువంటి His Excellency శ్రీ సి. రాజగోపాలాచారిగారు ఈ విషయాన్ని గురించి చాలా విచారణలు జరిపినారనికూడా అప్పుడు శాసనసభా సభ్యులైనవారు చాలామంది చెప్పియున్నారు. కాని కారణాంతరాలవల్ల ఆనాడు సభ్యులు ఒక నిర్ణయమునకు రాలేక పోయిరి.

"శాసనసభా సభ్యులు వారి కాలమునంతను ప్రజా సేవలోనే గడిపి నట్లయితే వారి జీవితము గడచుట ఎట్లా అనే ప్రశ్న వచ్చినది. కాని ప్రజా సేవకులయినటువంటి, ప్రజా ప్రతినిధులైనటువంటి సభ్యులు ఈ విషయమ్మీద ఏ విధమునను భయపడ నవసరములేదు. కాని ఈనాడు ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఇస్తున్నటువంటి రూ 150 లతో ఎవ్వరూ సంసారం గడపలేరు. కాబట్టి ఈ వేతనాన్ని హెచ్చు చేయాలని చాలామంది అభిప్రాయపడుతున్నారు. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఈ విషయమును గమనించి, హెచ్చు డబ్బు ఖర్చుపెట్టుండనే ఉద్దేశంతోకాకుండా, ప్రజా సేవ దృష్టితోనే దీనిని పరిశీలించి, సభ్యులకు హెచ్చు వేతనాలిచ్చి, వారు వారి ఇతర స్వంత కృషులను విసర్జించి, ప్రజా సేవయందే తన కాలమును పూర్తిగా వినియోగించునట్లుగా చూడవలయునని ప్రభుత్వమువారిని కోరుతున్నాను. ఈ విధంగా చేయడంవలన ప్రభుత్వమువారు తలపెట్టిన సంస్కరణం

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నన్నింటిని సభ్యులు ప్రజలకు ప్రచారముద్వారా బోధించి, తద్వారా ప్రజలకు ప్రభుత్వానికి దగ్గిర సంబంధాన్ని కలుగజేయగలరు. లేకపోతే సామాన్య ప్రజానీకానికి ప్రభుత్వ కార్యక్రమములు, శాసనాలు తెలియవు. ఉదాహరణగా, ఈనాడు పల్లెటిగామాలలో మనము ఈ మధ్యన ఈ శాసనసభలో pass చేసినటువంటి Civil Disabilities Act ఎంతవరకు సక్రమంగా ఆచరింపబడుచున్నదో గమనించండి. ఇటువంటి సంస్కరణలను జయప్రదంగా ప్రజలచేత ఆచరింపజేయుటకు జిల్లాలలోని సభ్యుల సంపూర్ణ సహాయము అత్యవసరము. ఈనాడు మనము మన స్వంత పనులకే హెచ్చు శ్రద్ధ చూపుచున్నందువలన మనము ప్రభుత్వానికి, ప్రజలకు తగినంత సహాయము చేయలేకుండా ఉన్నాము. ఈ కారణంచేతనే మనము కొన్ని సంస్కరణలను జయప్రదంగా ఆచరణలోనికి తీసుకొనిరాలేకపోతున్నామనే కొన్ని విమర్శలకు గురి కావలసివస్తుంది. ఇటువంటి విమర్శల (criticism) కు మనము కావీయకూడదు. ఇప్పుడు ప్రధానామాత్యులుకూడ ఇక్కడ ఉండి మా అభిప్రాయములను తెలుసుకొనుచుండుటు ముదావహము. వారు వెనుకాడక శాసన సభ్యుల జీతములను హెచ్చించి, వారు వారివారి కృషులను వదలిపెట్టి ప్రజా సేవకై హెచ్చు కాలము వినియోగించుటకు అవకాశములు కలుగజేస్తారని, సభ్యులు ప్రజాసేవను ముఖ్య కర్తవ్యంగా గుర్తిస్తారని నేను హృదయపూర్వకంగా నమ్ముచున్నాను.

"మరొక విషయం మనవి చేస్తాను. ఇప్పుడు మీరు మాకు ఫలానా తారీఖున మీటింగు ఆని జాబులు పంపుతున్నారు. కాని అందులో మీటింగు ఎన్ని రోజులు ఉంటుందో మొదలగు విషయా లేమీ ఉండవు. ఇక్కడకు వచ్చినతరువాతకాని సభ్యులు ఇక్కడ ఎన్ని రోజులు ఉండాలో తెలియదు. ఇందువల్ల సభ్యులకు చాలా చిక్కుగా ఉన్నది. చాలావిధాల బాధలు పడుతున్నారు. కాబట్టి ఏ మీటింగు ఎన్నాళ్లుంటుందో మాకు ముందుగా తెలియజేస్తే మాకు కావలసిన వసతులు మేము చూచుకుంటానికి మాకు వీలుకలుగుతుంది.

"ముఖ్యంగా దేశకాలములో మాట్లాడే సభ్యుల ప్రశ్నలకు మంత్రులవద్దనుంచి సమాధానములు రావటం లేదు. నేను నిన్నటిరోజున వ్యవసాయ శాఖ డిమాండుపైన చేసిన ఉపన్యాసములోని విషయములు వేటిని వ్యవసాయ శాఖామాత్యులు గమనించినట్లు లేదు. నేను నా ఉపన్యాసంలో తెలియజేసిన అంశములలో దేనికినిగూడా వారు సమాధానమివ్వలేదు. ఏమంటే నా తెలుగు ఉపన్యాసము వారికి అర్థముకాక పోయి ఉంటవచ్చును. కాబట్టి దేశ భాషలలోచేసిన ఉపన్యాసములను వెంటనే తర్జుమా చేయించి మాతృలకు ఇచ్చే విధాటులు చేయించవలసినదని ప్రభుత్వమువారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

"మొన్నటి రోజున తమరు శాసనసభా సమావేశములు జరుగుచున్నపుడు తీరిక సమయములలోకూడా సభ్యులు ఇక్కడ పత్రికలుగాని, పుస్తకములుగాని చదువకూడదని ruling ఇచ్చారు. ఈనాడు మనకు వార్తాపత్రికలు, పుస్తకములు చదువుకొనుటకుగాను Legislature Library ఉన్నదని చెప్పుచున్నారుగాని ఈ Library కు ఎంతమంది వచ్చి చదువుకొనుటకు వీలున్నదో అందరికిూ తెలిసిన విషయమే. కాబట్టి సభ్యుల ఉపయోగార్థము ఇక్కడ ప్రత్యేకంగా ఒక party room ను ఇచ్చుట అత్యంత అవసరము. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వమువారు సాధ్యమైనంత త్వరలో కాంగ్రెస్ మెంబరులకు గాను ఒక పెద్ద party room ను నిర్మించవలసినదని కోరుచున్నాను."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the cut motion. While doing so, I would like to say a few words on the several aspects of the Demand under

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consideration. You are aware, Sir, that this Demand has got three aspects, namely, legislative, financial and administrative. With regard to the legislative side, Sir, we have what are called public Bills and private Bills. In this connexion, I would like to place certain points for the consideration of the Hon. the Home Minister.

"With regard to Government Bills, Sir, I am constrained to point out that there is too much hasty legislation. You are aware, Sir, that several Bills have been brought for the consideration of this House which are really important and which really affect the fundamental rights and the civil liberties of the people of this Province. The Government, in spite of knowing the importance of these Bills, have not given proper and sufficient time to the public to go into the several details of these Bills. Besides, Sir, the languages used in several of these Bills were more often ambiguous and vague. The laymen are not able to understand the implications of these languages. Even great legal minds would not have understood or would be having their own interpretations to several terms used in these Bills."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I see the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture disposing of files in spite of the fact that in this Demand that we are discussing, all the Hon. Ministers are also concerned. May I ask the Speaker, whether the Hon. Minister can go on disposing of files in this House?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister is listening to the debate. He is not disposing of files."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I do not think there are any files here."

*M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I would like to point out to the Hon. the Home Minister that he must give more time to the members of this House whenever he brings such important legislations which really affect the fundamental rights and civil liberties of the people.

"Then, Sir, with regard to the constitution of select committees, I would like to make one or two suggestions. I usually find these select committees are packed with the members of the Party which the Government represent."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may continue his speech after lunch."

The House then rose for lunch.

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

*M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, before we rose for lunch I was referring to the question of the formation of select committees in this House. I said that most of the select committees constituted by Ministers in charge of Bills were packed with members of their own party. It was not therefore possible for members belonging to the Opposition to impress their points of view in the select committees and gain their points of view. I have experience of two or three select committees. I sat in the select committee on the Shops Assistants Bill and in a few other select committees. I found that the views of the majority always prevailed and the Chairman who happened to be the Minister in charge of the Bill never gave heed to the suggestions of members from the Opposition. Sir, it is no use trying to pass Acts which will merely remain on paper. We must pass Acts which will be actually put into practice by the people. But unfortunately, Sir we have passed many Acts most of whose provisions will not be applied. Naturally a lot of corruption will creep into the administration of these departments. Therefore whenever you constitute a select committee, I would make a request to you, that you make a request to the Chairman of the Select Committee to see that the views of the minority are taken into consideration.

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"Sir, even in the Houses of Parliament we know that the Speaker does not preside over the select committees. It was due to the fact that in the formative period of Parliament the Speakers happened to be the nominees of the King and the people had no confidence in the Speakers. But here, Sir, you are the Speaker elected by us and you give us opportunities to express our views even though the views may not be liked by the majority. But, Sir, in the select committee we do not have the benefit of your advice. I would therefore make an earnest appeal to the Hon. the Home Minister to request his Hon. Colleagues to see that the views of the Members belonging to the Opposition are given proper consideration.

"Then, Sir, with regard to select committees, it is always better to receive evidence from the public and from the various organizations in the province, because that will give an opportunity to the people and the various organizations to express their views. We have followed this principle in the select committee regarding the Sales Tax Bill, and how useful it was, the Hon. Minister himself knows. I only wish that the other Hon. Ministers also followed a similar procedure so that the views of the public are brought to bear on the decisions of the select committee.

"Now, Sir, with regard to legislation I would refer to private Bills. You are aware, Sir, that the Hon. the Home Minister has again and again come before the House and taken away by a resolution the days allotted for non-official business. It is an inroad into and an assault on the privileges of private members I wish that non-official days are reserved for private members to bring in their Bills. These days have been taken away in the name of emergency and urgency, but you know, Sir, that the House has often been adjourned for lack of Bills and sometimes to suit the convenience of Hon. Ministers but the convenience and privileges of hon. Members of this House are not taken into consideration.

"Sir, with regard to the financial aspect of Legislative Bodies, I have got to say this. At the outset, I must welcome the procedure adopted by the Hon. the Finance Minister in having neatly

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printed the budget speech and presented it in an attractive book form. With regard to the speech itself, I would suggest it would be better in the interests of the Members if the points dealt with in the speech are given in the order of the Demands for Grants as found in the Budget. This would help the ordinary Members of the House to understand the Budget proposals, the implications of the same and how the money is going to be spent.

" Sir, the days allotted for the discussion of the Budget are very few. Several Demands do not come up for the consideration of the House and they have to be guillotined. Most of the Departments of Government go without the criticism of this House. I would request you to see that more days are allotted for the discussion of the Demands. In other countries they have strong budget committees consisting of Members of Parliament or House of Representatives. In this country we do not have any such budget committee. The Budget figures are very confusing and the Members are not able to understand them."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member has one minute more. He has already taken three minutes in the morning."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, with regard to the critical or administrative side of Legislative Bodies, I have to point out that questions are not properly answered and that vigilance is to be kept up during question time. The price of Democracy is eternal vigilance. Parliaments do not govern. Therefore putting questions on the floor of the House is the only weapon in the hands of the Members. It is the only way by which we can control the Administration and check the excesses of executive officers. But even that privilege is curtailed by taking away time allotted to it by Hon. Ministers.

" Sir, I have just placed before you some of the shortcomings of the Legislative procedure and some of the indignities shown particularly to the Members of the Opposition. But I forget all the shortcomings and all the indignities because of the great personality that resides in you, Hon. Mr. Speaker. With your sense of justice and equity you have kept the banner of free expression flying aloft in this House. I hope that you will try to have that courtesy extended to the Members of the Opposition. No doubt to-day our voice may be a feeble voice, but let me tell you, Sir, that the time is not far off when it will gather momentum and will help to shape the policies and programmes of this Government . . ."

* SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—" Mr. Speaker, after the last general elections when we assembled here for the first time in this House we did so under an oppressive feeling that we were still slaves under foreign domination. The flag now placed just above your head was not there then. Sorrowfully we came to your dais and took the oath of allegiance to the King Emperor. Though tradition and custom required that we should take the oath we did so, all of us, with an oppressive feeling, because we longed for freedom. Sir, little then did we dream that the dawn of

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freedom was near at hand. Little then did we dream that on 15th August 1947 we would be free. Thanks to the sufferings and sacrifices of the millions of the sons and daughters of this land, thanks to the efforts of the mighty organization the Congress to which we have the honour to belong and thanks to the guidance and leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, we got freedom much sooner than expected. But after the dawn of freedom the entire atmosphere in the country has changed. It has changed not only because we who loved freedom got it, but also because there has been brought about a revolution in our psychology altogether. With this change, I feel that our task to-day in this House is to build up a new democratic order in the country and to take practical steps necessary in economic affairs, in industry and agriculture, in education and social services so that we may grow in our stature and in our own understanding of the values of freedom and ethics of liberty. We must feel, so long as we are in this House that we are representatives of a great people. We have come here to serve them. They have sent us here to voice their feelings, thir difficulties, their needs and their grievances. We are here not only to serve the party to which we belong, but also the people outside our respective parties—the labourers who are toiling day in and day out in the factories and the fields, those also who are working in the services, the students in the schools and the colleges and in short the people belonging to all sections irrespective of caste or community. They must all be convinced that we are here with a due sense of responsibility and that we are serious and sincere about the things that we speak and deliberate and decide upon.

" It is only then that I consider that we have discharged our responsibility and our duty in a proper manner. I feel that democracy and liberty are not only something to fight *for*, as we have been fighting for these 25 or 30 years. Democracy and liberty are something to fight *with*,—fight poverty and disease and hunger. Unless we keep this feeling uppermost in our minds, liberty might degenerate into licence. Once degeneration comes in, we may not know where we will be. Watching as I do, some of the speeches made in this House by hon. Members, I feel that there is something terribly wrong. In this House sometimes we are more interested in personal exchanges. We want to enjoy a joke at another's expense or to indulge in mud slinging. Unless we got over these tendencies and personal prejudices, we cannot move forward to create a great nation. Under your guidance and under your rule in this House, we have been trying to do something good and we have been able to manage the affairs of this House. We are taking part in the deliberations of this House with all its privileges. Still I feel that some hon. Members must learnt lessons of decorum and rules of conduct. The seriousness of this House cannot be lost by trivialities nor dignity and prestige allowed to suffer by irresponsible statements. 2-45 p.m.

" Against this background I wish to state some of the feelings of Members of this House. I want to submit to Hon. Members

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on the Treasury Benches that they must all make it a point to be here. The Treasury Benches should not be empty as they are now or as it too often happens. I consider that to be scant courtesy shown to the House, if not insult. Those who are on the Treasury Benches should take note of what is said in this House. They should not think that it does not concern them all jointly or does not deserve any consideration. Take for instance what is happening during the budget session. When we make speeches, it does not mean that we are making remarks with regard to that particular Demand only. Yesterday for instance we had discussion about Agriculture. Agriculture cannot be said to be a water-tight compartment. Finance, Irrigation, Veterinary and Forests are closely allied to Agriculture. It is not satisfactory or sufficient if only the Agricultural Minister is on the Treasury Bench, as it happened yesterday. The Hon. Finance Minister must have been there to take notes and to provide if necessary more funds for Agriculture. The Irrigation Minister also must have been present, because some remarks were made about sinking of wells and irrigation works. That is the reason why I want that the Treasury Benches should be full and not empty.

"About the rights of M.L.As., some hon. Members have pointed out that there is no room provided for them to sit or smoke. Though I do not smoke, there are other members who want to smoke, and to lounge, to sit or write or to do some other work. I consider that the small room opposite to me which can accommodate only half a dozen persons is hardly sufficient for us, Members of the Congress Legislature Party, consisting of about 195 Members. I cannot understand how the Government can consider that the provision of such a small room with half a dozen chairs, and 2 or 3 benches can provide accommodation for such a large number of Members. They must have some consideration for the comforts of Members who are responsible for keeping them in the Treasury Benches. I feel that M.L.As. can do better work if they are given certain facilities, and conveniences at a cost of only rupees one or two lakhs. Out of the expenditure for Legislative Bodies the Government should provide Members with one or two steno-typists to dictate notes of speeches, etc., in their party rooms. Members should also be provided with service stamps. We have much to write on official matters. We can frank the covers and the service stamps can be accounted for by us. In that way our work will be facilitated. Every day Members will be receiving 15 or 20 letters. The mere acknowledgment of these letters not to speak of further correspondence thereof would cost rupees two everyday. The expenditure on this head may come to about Rs. 90 per mensem. There are many Members who come from ordinary ranks, who are not rich and have nothing in the Banks. Such facilities as these are necessary so that they could be wholetime parliamentary workers and devote their lives to the country's service."

* SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, as much has been said about you,

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I do not want to repeat the same thing. I was expecting that you will allow more time to those who praised you but I was disappointed. I do not want to lose my time of 10 minutes. Let me straightaway start my speech. Kindly assure me 5 minutes more than the usual time so that I may tell about you hundred times more than what others said and as you are more than what all was said about you, and as you will be more than what all of us are going to say about you, I do not want to say more in this direction. When they say so much about you, when they applaud you to the sky, and when they pay high tributes to your ability and ingenuity, it is really strange why they want to send you to England? I do not understand its meaning. It is a riddle to me. Some hon. Members have stated that people from the West should come here to learn things from you in the future. Now let them come here to learn things from you. No person can do better than you. What are rules? Rules are nothing but commonsense. They want Mr. Speaker, to send you to England, presumably to create a vacancy and to put some other person there. That is why I think they want to send you to England. (Laughter.)

"I have to say something about the handicaps under which hon. Members are suffering. There has been some misunderstanding between my hon. Friend, Mr. Raza Khan and the Hon. Home Minister. I shall take up this point later. I am going to suggest a way to bring this fight to an end.

"In the meanwhile I wish to point out that something was said about short notice and long notice qustions. I am not used to put questions. When we send short notice questions, they become long-notice questions. They do not serve our purpose. Long notice questions are not answered even at the end of the session. Our purpose is not served. I have stopped sending notice of questions to be on the safe side. We are all fair-minded gentlemen. We are in a different age now. We are not now what we were 50 years ago. The world is moving fast and in every democratic country there must be a majority and a minority party. The majority party should not misbehave. If they do so, it will end in anarchy. They should give some consideration to the minority party. If the majority party does not behave properly, it would be suicidal for them and would be a folly. If they continue to be like that the powerful will become powerless and the powerless powerful. There are here only five hon. Members on our side. Is it chivalrous or heroic to defeat us by the ocean of a crowd on the other side? No. As Bernard Shaw said, in democracy, a few illiterate widows of a majority party can defeat a leader of a minority party of internation reputation. You should take us into confidence. After all, you do not grant us even a weapon to fight with you. If you are bold give us a weapon to fight with. As was pointed out so pathetically by another Member we are unable to move even adjournment motions with our present strength in the Opposition. That is how we are handicapped. Why are you so timid and feel so nervous? Why not give us a stick to fight with you? We do not have strength. That is admitted. We should be permitted to move adjournment

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motions at least to discuss and then let us have a fight. Let the Hon. Ministers also have their say. Let us arrive at a settlement. The rules and regulations were framed long ago. They are pre-historic and anti-delivian. The rules should be amended so that an adjournment motion can be moved even if only 15 hon. Members rise in support of it.

"Please do not misunderstand me. I am quite all right in Madras. I have free boarding and lodging. Do not suspect me. It was represented by some hon. Members that the room-rent of Rs. 2 per day collected from them for occupying rooms in Government House, Mount Road, was not fair. Certainly I am not there. You may find this out, if you want, through C.I.D. officers. Hon. Ministers are given free quarters. Hon. Members came here on the 16th February. Till to-day they are here. They do not know what happened to their families and children. Ministers are here always. They have free quarters. Other hon. Members come here to discharge their duties. Why not give them also free quarters?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Ministers do not get free quarters."

3 p.m. SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, when you go into the question of travelling allowance, it is a white elephant. You do not allot free quarters to hon. Members. As a matter of fact, you do not require even your salaries if your travelling allowance is taken into consideration. I remember to have seen a statement of the travelling allowance drawn by the Hon. Ministers. The Hon. Finance Minister is the only Minister who has drawn the least amount. I thank him for it. It is probably because he is in charge of finance and if he himself spends more, people will begin to think that the Finance Minister himself has squandered all the money. Thus he has escaped criticism and he has been cautious in this respect. Let us see, what about other Ministers. It is said that the Ministers do not have free quarters, but are they not getting Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 2,000? Don't you have cars given to you free and a fat travelling allowance? Whereas, we come here and get only Rs. 7-8-0 as daily allowance and out of this Rs. 7-8-0, Rs. 2 for room rent, likewise, Rs. 2 for conveyance for coming and going from here and the balance for lunch and food. There is only a minus balance and that is our position here. I tell you upon my honour, I have free boarding and lodging and I have also got a car of my friend and I have not got to spend much, but I advocate the cause of the other Members of the Legislature. I have never occupied a room in Government quarters, nor am I going to occupy a room. But, what I say is, room-rent need not be collected from hon. Members and I hope the Hon. Leader of the House will consider this aspect of the matter.

"Finally, Sir, there has been always a dispute between my hon. Friend Mr. Raza Khan who is a mischievous man and the Hon. the Leader of the House, who happens to be my old old

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friend though he does not like me now (laughter) unluckily. One thing I know, Sir, he has a very good heart and a bad tongue and my hon. Friend Mr. Raza Khan here has a very bad heart and a very good tongue . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Order, order. The hon. Member has already taken more than ten minutes. He will now resume his seat."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have reduced the time-limit from 10 to 5 minutes."

*SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Sir, I rise to support the Demand made by the Hon. Minister for Home. Sir, much encomium has been paid to the Speaker of this House for the way he has been conducting the business of this House during the last one year. It will not be out of place if I also add my quota of praise that has already been paid by my predecessors.

"Sir, coming to the Demand itself, last time when my hon. Friend, Kumararaja Sir Muthiah Chettiyar, spoke on this Demand, you told the House that you were preparing a Legislative Digest for the use of Members of the Legislature. We have seen in this House on many an occasion points of order have been raised and much of the time of the House has been taken on them. If you have already prepared the Legislative Digest and it is supplied to the Members of the House, I hope much time can be saved and much useful work can be transacted by the members.

"Sir, many of the members who preceded me referred to the great inconvenience which they are feeling for want of a proper visitors' room and accommodation for them during lunch hours. I would like to say on this occasion that the importance of this House has grown in a larger measure; many visitors come to Madras during the meetings of the Assembly as many important pieces of legislation are being carried on in this House. So, I think, it is high time that Government came forward and arranged for a visitors' room so that members can go and meet the visitors and discuss matters of importance with them.

"Sir, it was stated that greater amenities are available in other Legislative Assemblies. As one who has had experience of the Central Assembly, I can tell you that the amenities provided to members there are more than what obtain here. During lunch time, wherever we go, either to the Library or to the lunch room—I do not think you can call it a lounge room at all—we see more visitors than members themselves and it is therefore impossible for any member even to write letters because the arrangements made there are so meagre. I wish Government take up this matter and do something to provide greater facilities for members. Even the lavatory and the urinal are old-fashioned and antiquated. They

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were provided during the bureaucratic regime and they do not suit Indian conditions—though there are a few of the Indian model. The entire arrangement must be of Indian model.

"Apart from all these, Sir, in the Central Assembly, there is a Watch and Ward section but there is no such thing here. Even a policeman stops any member and the other day one policeman told me, I should not go that side and I had to tell him that I was a member. So, Sir, there must be some method by which the members might be distinguished from visitors.

"There is another matter, Sir. In the Central Assembly, the Chief Whip of the major party plays a very important part in assisting the Speaker of the Assembly in the arrangement of legislative work and give his assistance in other matters also. Here, I do not find any room for the Chief Whip of the majority party and at times we have to run after him from this place to that place. There is not even a clerk provided for him in order to help the members in getting matters typed or for doing any clerical work. I think it is high time that in an Assembly of this nature such conveniences must be provided. I think the Chief Whip should be provided with a clerk and a telephone.

"One more point I wish to bring to the notice of the House, Sir. Some of the hon. Members have been insisting that the Hon. Speaker and the Deputy Speaker should be sent to England and other places to study legislative work, but I do not know why they should be sent to study work. Of course, they can go there to see what is happening. India has produced the best of men and as one member stated, your rulings must be quoted in other Houses and not that the rulings of other Houses should be quoted in this House. I know, Sir, you can create histoty. I know that the Speakers of several other Assemblies in India, especially the Speaker of the Indian Dominion Legislature have done very good work and he excels the work that has been done in foreign Parliaments. I have, of course, no objection either yourself or the Deputy Speaker going to foreign countries to see what is happening in those places. but, I do not agree with that. You should go there to learn."

* K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting this motion, I have only to urge one or two points upon the attention of the Government. The first point that I would urge upon the Government is with reference to the necessity for permanent enactments on certain matters regarding which emergency enactments have been passed by this House. I may refer to the Forest legislation, for an instance. There was a temporary Act passed by this House restricting the operations of forests, pending the enactment of a permanent Act regulating the operations of the forests, their administration in this Presidency. The other important matter regarding which a temporary Act was passed by this House was regarding suits and proceedings in courts relating to eviction of tenants. I mean the Ryots' Protection Act which was recently passed by this House. In fact, when that Act was passed, it was expected that at least within

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six months a permanent Act would be passed regarding land tenures in this Presidency. As is well known the District of Malabar stands in need of immediate attention because we have a peculiar system of land tenures in Malabar, as you know. The Malabar Tenancy Act which governs the tenure at present in Malabar stands . . ."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"On a point of order, Sir. I cannot see how the Malabar Tenancy Act comes under Legislative Bodies. If the hon. Member wanted to speak on it, he should have raised it under the Land Revenue Demand . . ."

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I feel, Sir, that the Hon. Leader of the House is mistaken in taking this view of the matter. It was this House that passed the Malabar Tenancy Act and Ryots' Protection Act and when we are discussing Legislative Bodies, I am perfectly in order in referring to the Malabar Tenancy Act."

MR. SPEAKER:—"What is the point that the hon. Member is discussing?"

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I want to point out there should be no further delay in legislation."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I suppose he is not discussing the merits of the Bill, but only delay in legislation."

* K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I do not know, Sir, why the Hon. Leader of the House is so very technical about this matter. I say, Sir, that in the matter of enacting legislation in the House there is delay. So, what I would respectfully request the Government is that there should be no further delay in the matter of amending the Malabar Tenancy Act and that there should be no indefinite stay of suits and proceedings in courts which are now held up on account of the Ryots' Protection Act which was passed by this House.

"Sir, the next point which I would urge upon the attention of the Government is about the lack of facilities for the members of the House in the matter of their lunch rooms, because the lunch rooms that are now provided are very inconvenient, with the result that the persons in charge of these lunch rooms are complaining that unless greater facilities are afforded to them they will not be able to cater to the needs of the members. Speaking from my personal experience, I find that the non-vegetarian lunch room is lacking even in ordinary facilities which are expected in such a room. I understand the caterers have made representations to the Assistant Secretary to the Legislative Assembly asking for certain very essential amenities being given to them.

"Then, Sir, about the facilities for party room, several hon. Members have already spoken. I request that at least a typewriter and a typist should be provided for each party room, so that Members might have their benefit for getting their interpellations or resolutions typed in time.

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"Sir, the last point which I would urge upon the attention of the Government is, that answers to starred questions, instead of being given for the first time on the Floor of the House, may be supplied to the press in advance so that they may have greater facilities to report those answers correctly on the day on which these answers are given on the floor of the House."

*SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI SANKARA AYYAR:—"அதிராசனுதி பதி அவர்களே, இந்த டிமாண்டை ஆதரித்து ஒன்றிரண்டு வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல முன்வந்திருக்கிறேன். இந்த சட்டசபையில் தமிழ் நாட்டிலிருந்தும் ஆந்திர தேசத்திலிருந்தும் ஆங்கிலம் தெரியாதவர்கள் அதேகர் இருக்கிறார்கள். இவர்களுக்கெல்லாம் ஆங்கிலத்திலேயே நம் நடவடிக்கைகளையும் இங்கே பாஸ் ஆகும் 'பில்'களையும் இன்னும் மற்ற நடவடிக்கைகளையும், வருடாந்திர ரிபோர்ட்டுகளும் வழங்கப்படுகிறது. இது ஆங்கிலம் தெரியாதவர்களுக்கு கொஞ்சம்கூட அர்த்த மாகாது. ஆகையால் அநேகம்பேர்கள் என்ன நடக்கிறது என்றுகூட தெரியாமல் மறு நாள் அந்தந்த பாஷை பத்திரிகைகளைப்பார்த்து தெரிந்து கொள்ளவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்வது என்னவென்றால் ஒவ்வொரு நாள் agenda வையும் என்னென்ன 'பில்'கள் வருகிறதோ அவைகளையும் அந்த பாஷைகளில் அதாவது தமிழ், தெலுங்கு, ஆங்கிலம் இந்த மூன்று பாஷைகளிலும் அச்சடித்து கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

3-15 p.m. "அடுத்தபடியாக நமது சபா தலைவர் அவர்கள் இங்கே முக்கியமான சந்தர்பத்திலும் Parliamentary Procedure ஐ எடுத்துக் காண்பித்து, வாசித்து அவர் நடவடிக்கைகளை திறமையாக நடத்துகிறார். புஸ்தகத்தை மாத்திரம் பார்த்து நமது சபையை இவ்வளவு திறமையாக நடத்துகிறார்களே இங்கிலாந்தில் இப்பொழுது நடக்கிற முறையை நேரில் பார்த்தால் இன்னும் எவ்வளவு திறமையாக நம்முடைய சபையை நடத்து வார்கள். ஆகையால் வாய்ப்பேச்சாக மாத்திரம் இல்லாமல் நாம் எல்லோ ரும் அனுமதித்து அவரை கூடிய சீக்கிரம் இங்கிலாந்துக்கு அனுப்பிவைக்க வேண்டும். நமது முஸ்லிம் நண்பர் சின்ன காதியார் பேசும்போது, எல்லாரும் புகழ்ந்து பேசும்போதும் எல்லோரும் வானளாவி Speaker-ஐ புகழ்ந்துவிட்டு எதற்காக இங்கிலாந்துக்கு அனுப்பவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லு கிறார்கள் என்றார். பார்லிமெண்டரி நடவடிக்கைகளை நேரில்பார்த்துவிட்டு வந்தால் இன்னும் அநேக நல்ல முறையும் மாறுதலுடனும் நடத்துவார் கள். அதே மாதிரி Deputy Speaker யும் அனுப்பவேண்டும். என்னைக் கேட்டால் இந்த சபையிலுள்ள ஸ்திரீ மெம்பர்கள் எல்லோரையுமே இங்கிலாந்துக்கு அனுப்பலாம். நாங்கள் எல்லோரும் சந்தோஷமாய் போய் பார்த்து வந்து எங்களுடைய ஸ்திரீ முன்னேற்றத்தை வெகு சீக்கிரத்தில் அடைய அங்குள்ளமாதிரி எடுத்துக்கொள்ள அனுகூலமா யிருக்கும். ஆகையால் ஸ்திரீ மெம்பர்கள் Deputy speaker, speaker, இவர்களை கட்டாயமாக இங்கிலாந்து, அமெரிக்கா முதலிய இடங் களுக்கு அனுப்பவேண்டுமென்பதாக கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"நமது ஜனப் சலாம் பேசுகையில் Deputy Speaker அவர் களைக்குறித்து அவர்களை அபிசீனியாவுக்கு அனுப்பவேண்டும் என்று பேசி னார்கள். அது மிகவும் வருந்தத்தக்கது. அம்மாதிரி பேசக்கூடாது. பேசும்போது விஷயங்களை நிதானித்து பேசவேண்டும். அபிசீனியாவுக்கு எதற்காக அனுப்பவேண்டும் என்று கேட்கிறேன். அதாவது கற்றுக்கொள் ளும்படியான விஷயமிருக்கா, எந்தக் காரணத்தை முன்னிட்டு அபிசீனி யாவுக்கு அனுப்பவேண்டும் என்றார் என்று கேட்கிறேன். ஆகையால் இம்மாதிரி மன வருத்தத்தைக் கொடுக்கும் வார்த்தைகள் இல்லாமல் அனுகூலமான வாரத்தைகளை சபையில் பேசவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"இரண்டாவதாக இந்த அசெம்பிளி கட்டிடம் போதாததாகத்தான் இருக்கிறது. இந்த அசெம்பிளி ஹால், இன்னும் வருகிற புது Constitution பிரகாரம், மெம்பர்களுக்கு இந்த இடம் போதாமல் இருக்கலாம்.

18th March 1948] [Srimathi V. Lakshmi Sankara Ayyar]

நாம் எல்லோரும் ஆமோதித்து இதை எந்த பார்ட்டி சர்க்காரை நடத்து கிறதோ அந்த பார்ட்டி கூட்டங்களுக்காக வைத்துக்கொண்டு புதிய டில்லி யில் White Palace எப்படி கட்டப்பட்டிருக்கிறதோ அது மாதிரி ஹால் ஒன்று கட்டவேண்டும் என்பதாக நான் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளு கிறேன்.

"இன்னும் ரிப்போர்ட்களுக்கு வேண்டிய வசதி இல்லை. அதைப் பற்றி அநேகம் பேர்கள் பேசிவிட்டார்கள். அவர்கள் உட்கார்ந்துகொண்டால் எழுந்திருக்கமுடியாமலும் எழுந்திருந்தால் உட்கார முடியாமலும் இருந்து அந்த நிலைமையில் அவர்கள் ரிபோர்ட்டு செய்யவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. இன்னும் vernacular reporters தமிழ் பாஷைக்கு ஒருவரும் தெலுங்கு பாஷைக்கு ஒருவரும்தான் இருக்கிறார்கள். ஒருவர் இருப்பதால் தமிழில் ஒருவர் பேசினால் பிறகு ஒருவர் இங்கிலீஷில் பேச வேண்டும் பிறகு தெலுங்கில் பேசவேண்டும் பிறகு இங்கிலீஷில பேச வேண்டும் இப்படி மாறி மாறி பேசவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. ஆகை யால் இரண்டு ரிப்போர்ட்களுக்கு மேல் அதிகமாக போடவேண்டும் என்ப தாக கேட்டுக்கொண்டு நான் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

*SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, வரப்போகும் தேர்தலில் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு போதுமான ஸ்தானங்கள் ஜனத்தொகைக்கு ஏற்றவாறு ஒதுக்கிக் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று Indian Constituent Assembly-ஐ கேட்டுக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். அங்கே இப்பொழுது ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு ஸ்தானங்கள் ஒதுக்கவேண்டாம் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அப்படி ஒதுக்கக்கூடாது என்று சொல்வதை ஹரிஜனங் கள்தான் சொல்ல வேண்டுமே யல்லாது அவர்கள் சொல்லக்கூடாது. காரணம் ஒருவன் சோறு சாப்பிடவந்தால் சோறு சாப்பிடுகிறவன்தான் எனக்கு சோறு வேண்டாம் என்று சொல்லவேண்டுமேயொழிய சோறு போடுகிறவன் மாட்டேன் என்று சொல்லக்கூடாது. அதைப்போல் ஹரி ஜனங்கள் தானுகவே ஒதுக்கவேண்டாம் என்று சொல்லும் வரையில் ஒதுக்கவேண்டும். ஜனத்தொகைக்கு தக்கவாறு 30-க்குப் பதிலாக 40 ஸ்தானங்கள் ஒதுக்கவேண்டும் அப்படி இல்லாமல் ஒதுக்கக்கூடாது என்று சொன்னால் அவர்களுக்கு ஸ்தானங்கள் கிடைக்காமல் போய்விடும். இந்த விஷயத்தை சென்னை அரசாங்கம் இந்திய அரசாங்கத்திற்கு சிபார்சு செய்ய வேண்டும். மேலும் வயது வந்தவர்களுக்கெல்லாம் ஒட்டுறிமை அளிக்கப்படவேண்டும். அப்படி இருந்தால்தான் நாம் அடைந்த சுதந் திரம் பயன்படும்.

"மேலும் Premier பதவியும் ஒவ்வொரு வருஷமும் ஹரி ஜனங்களுக்குக் கிடைக்கும்படி செய்யவேண்டும் அப்படி வந்தால்தான் ஹரிஜனங்களை முன்னுக்குக் கொண்டுவந்ததாக கருதப்படும். அவர்களும் சுதந்திரத்திற்காக ரொம்பவும் பாடுபட்டிருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதை சொல்ல வேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. ஒரு ஹரிஜன் Premier ஆக வந்தால் அது மகாத்மா காந்திக்கு மிகவும் சந்தோஷம் வரக்கூடியதாகும்.

"நாங்கள் election-ல் ஜயித்து வந்திருக்கிறோம். அதனால் எங் கள் தொகுதி பூராவும் பார்த்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. என்னுடைய தொகுதி சுமார் 100 மைல் விஸ்தீரணம் உள்ளதாக இருக் கிறது. குறுக்கே போவதாக இருந்தால் 70, 80 மைல் போகவேண்டிய தாக இருக்கிறது. இரண்டு இடங்களுக்கு போய்விட்டு வந்தால் எராளமான பணம் செலவாகிவிடுகிறது. ஜனங்களுடைய குறைகளை கவனித்து சர்க் காருக்கு Report பண்ண வேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. இதற்கு கொடுக்கிற சம்பளம் போதாது. 1936-ம் வருஷத்தில் ஏதோ ரொம்ப தாராளமாக இருந்தபோது ஸ்ரீமான் இராஜகோபாலாச்சாரியார் அவர்கள் ரூபாய் 75 சம்பளம் என்று வைத்தார்கள். இப்பொழுது விலை ஒன்றுக்கு 5, 6 மடங்கு அதிகமாகி செலவும் அதிகமாக ஆகிறது. அங்கத்தினர்களுக்கு ஊரிலும் செலவதிகம் சென்னையிலும் செலவதிகம். காலநிலை மிகவும் வறுமையாக இருப்பதால் சம்பளம் மற்ற மாகாணங்களில் கொடுப்பது போல் ரூ. 250 கொடுக்கவேண்டும். மேலும் ஒரு நாளைக்கு ரூ. 7½ படியாக கொடுக்கப்படுகிறது. அது car-க்குக்கூட காணுது. அந்தப் படி யையும் அதிகம் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

[Sri A. S. Sahajanandam] [18th March 1948

"அங்கத்தினர்கள் மக்களது குறைகளை எந்த அதிகாரியிடத்தில் சொல்லி னும் குறித்துக்கொண்டு அதை கவனிக்க வேண்டுமென்று சர்க்கார் அறிக்கை வெளியிட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அப்படி இருந்தும் அதிகாரிகள் அவ் வாறு நடப்பது இல்லை. ஜில்லா அதிகாரிகள் காதில் வாங்குவதுகூட இல்லை பதில் சொல்வதும் இல்லை. சர்க்கார் இவ்விஷயத்தில் கவனம் செலுத்தும்படியாக கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

* N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, we have been observing the proceedings of the House and when so many hon. Members have been speaking in a language which you yourself once said is foreign to us, I am struck with wonder which I should not now suppress and that is that day-in and day-out, we have been experiencing what has been nicely expressed by the Hon. the Leader of the House as murder pure and simple murder of King's English; (Laughter.) in fact, not only murder but culpable homicide not amounting to murder as well of King's English. (Laughter.) For that reason, before your rulings are cited by foreign authorities and our proceedings are read with care by them, we must see that much chiselling is done to our proceedings by the reporters here. I do not want that our proceedings are published verbatim for that will not make pleasant reading. That is just the reason, Mr. Speaker, why I wish we should not allow any exhibition of the grammarian's funeral almost every day on the floor of the House.

"One thing our friends from Malabar have not said, but which is left for me to speak is that they have been many times experiencing whenever they have an opportunity to speak in a language which is so dear to them, I mean Malayalam, that they have not got any stenographer here to report them. I plead on their behalf, and I am sure the treasury benches will welcome this suggestion at least in the spirit in which I am making it that we must have to defend the privileges of every language when we have to concede that in this Province we have many languages.

"I shall have to say a few words about questions. Quite often the questions lapse because the sessions come to a close; but I would only wish that you in your discretion see that they are revived as a matter of routine rather than ask every member to renew notice of questions. Mr. Speaker, many of us do not even have a knowledge of the questions that we have raised months back. Since time is a healer of wounds, it sometimes happens that we forget the questions which we have raised.

"With regard to lobbies, I do not know why the authorities have denied us chairs in the lobbies. When we go round our lobbies we feel that we have absolutely no provision for even the elementary rights as gentlemen and ladies. I am sure that the authorities will see to it that chairs are provided for us in the lobbies so that we can sometimes relax from the proceedings of the House.

"I wish to say one more thing and that is with regard to our non-official days. Time and again, the Leader of the House comes forward with the request that the non-official day be suspended and that he has been doing it with a vengeance. I am

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sure that at least in future, now that he has considerably toned down, he will give it up and I hope we shall have our non-official days as the elementary right to which the Opposition is entitled to ventilate their grievances. With these words, I close. I thank you, Mr. Speaker."

* SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA:—"Mr. Speaker, to-day two speakers have referred to my speeches and I am afraid that they have confused my conduct as a member and my conduct when I am occupying the Chair. About my conduct as an ordinary Member they are at perfect liberty to criticise my speeches, but I only wish that they should not confuse between the two. Even as a Deputy Speaker, I remain a Member of the Party and I must do my duty as a Member to my constituency. Mr. Salam said that even though the Speaker said that I am at liberty to take part in party politics, I should not use that privilege. It is left to me whether to avail myself of it or not. Might I remind him that Mr. Purushottam Tandon, the Speaker of the United Provinces Assembly, said that it is not worthwhile being a Speaker if he is forbidden from taking part in politics. I wish to say if at all I am wrong it is the party that has to take me to task and not any Member and it is really not worthwhile accepting office as a Deputy Speaker if I am to give up all my politics and my loyalty to the Party. I know when I was speaking the other day on the general discussion of the Budget that I offended the Muslim Leaguers because I criticised the League in a way but in that I only expressed what I honestly felt. I know truth is bitter and I would be offending people and I really wish if people are dissatisfied with my conduct as Deputy Speaker to say so and I will not hesitate to resign the Deputy Speakership, if loyalty to the Party and my duty as Member is impinged upon. I only wish that they should not confuse between the two."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. Speaker, one or two hon. Members have specifically referred to the question of salaries and daily allowances and they have compared what is being given in other provinces, and what is being done in other provinces.

"Sir, the legislation fixing the pay of hon. Members, their daily and travelling allowance was passed by this Legislature. The only competent body which could revise this, will be this Legislature. But as the Minister in charge of Legislation, I shall take into account what has been said by hon. Members and considering the economic condition and the difficulties we are labouring under, I am sure Government, as a whole, will review the situation and see what can be done to satisfy the demands of hon. Members with regard to what they have said in the matter of pay and allowances. My hon. Friend the Member from Chidambaram mentioned this point, but my hon. Colleague I am certain—when I said 'Government' I was including the Hon. Finance Minister—will eventually have his say from the point 3-30 p.m.

of view of finance and as the guardian of the finances of this Province and will consider the difficulties that confront hon. Members.

" My hon. Friend representing Guntur Labour talked about the way in which I am dealing with the Party to which he belongs. I am really sorry if I have hurt him in any way, but I must say what I really feel with regard to the activities in connexion with the State as a whole. I think that unfortunately the party to which my hon. Friend belongs believes in the old adage that end justifies the means. I may assure hon. Members that I am one of those who feel that the heritage which Mahatma Gandhi has left for this country is that the means must be considered before the end is reached. And our country for thousands of years has been known for its spiritual grandeur. If we are to lead the world in the future, I feel that all parties, whatever may be their opinion on economic changes—they are welcome to convert the people to their own view of thinking—are entitled to form their own Governments, but at the same time, may I not appeal to them to keep in their minds the means by which the end is reached, because that is the most important thing that Gandhiji has taught to the world and the existence of the world in its present state is due to the fact that most of the nations in spite of announcing their moral principles do still go on the adage that ' end justifies the means '. I for one am concerned with the spiritual and moral grandeur of this country. Whatever may be the difficulties we may have to undergo, it is only right and proper, as leaders of opinion in an independent country, that we should teach other nations this principle of ' means ' being first properly considered before the end is reached. I am not preaching a homily to my Communist friends here, but whatever may be their smpathies for the poor and the down-trodden, their activities, in order to make the lot of the common man better than what it is to-day, would certainly be better if the ends are reached by methods of justice. I know it from experience that these young friends whose sympathies I acknowledge and whose spirit of sacrifice I acknowledge have been misled by what is happening in the West and with that particular picture before them they go on doing things without knowing where they lead to. But I say that even if they get to their goal, as long as they go on the theory of ' end justifying the means ' I am sure they would have achieved something which will prove to be nothing but a dead sea fruit. I would like to remind my hon. Friend that certain persons were arrested and not detained for offences and charge-sheets have been filed and these worthy gentlemen chose to break open the jails and get out of them and yet, if really they say that their conscience was clear and as my hon. Friend was telling me, that they did not take part in what happened at Bezwada on that particular day they are welcome to stand before a court of law and prove their innocence. Therefore, I would ask him with all the emphasis I can command that his friends ought to deliver

themselves to the lawful authorities so that the law can take its own course. I am not using any language by way of threat, but at the same time it is the duty of the police and I have told them so, to get these people at all costs, because if the Government should exist, they cannot afford to have people who have been legitimately charged for offences of breaking jails and running away as fugitives from justice.

" One of my hon. Friends complained about adjournment motions and some hon. Members on the other side of the House also supported him, but I would like to ask him whether there have not been four or five adjournment motions which my hon. Friend proposed and which I opposed and not a single Member on the Opposition benches stood up with him, but very often he stood alone in solitary glory, often supported by his friend the Member for the South Indian Railway Labour, who I am sorry to say is not present here in this House (Cries of ' Where is he? '). Well, I can assure hon. Members who seem to be suspicious of my activities that as far as I am concerned that nothing has happened to the Member representing the South Indian Railway Labour. One or two hon. Friends raised a point about the new Constitution which has just been published in draft by the Constituent Assembly. I cannot give an undertaking that a discussion will take place on the floor of this House, but the Government, as a whole, are considering whether such a discussion may not clarify issues with regard to this Province and what they feel about the new Constitution which has emerged from the Drafting Committee of the Constituent Assembly.

" Now, I shall come to a particular matter which affects you, Sir, as well as the Members of this House. The hon. Member representing Tiruvadanai, referred to you (Speaker's) and Deputy Speaker's deputation to England. I am for the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker learning what is happening in the House of Commons because most of the parliamentary procedure all over the world proceeds from the practice obtaining in that House. Some Members also mentioned and praised the rulings you have given and asked, what necessity there was for either the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker visiting England. They have all understood the procedure and applied it in the best possible manner. I join with them in congratulating you for what you have done. As far as possible, I have tried in the short time I have been in office to help to establish proper precedents because I feel procedure is all important in the conduct of the proceedings in a deliberative Assembly like ours. But, at the same time, hon. Members must bear in mind that we have cut into our finances to a very great extent by the introduction of prohibition. Besides, there are various other matters for which Government have to find money. My Hon. Friend, the Minister for Education, is not here. He is very enthusiastic to introduce compulsory primary education which is a very important factor and which must have the first priority of the Government. With the coming of adult suffrage and the new Constitution we should educate

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our masses as quickly as possible. Though I have every sympathy with the demands for your and Deputy Speaker's deputation to England and even to America, because, the procedure in the Congress there is in some way difierent, I feel, it is not possible for me to say whether we can to do this in the present financial year. You have had experience of conducing the proceedings and may I say, Sir, without any idea of flattering you, that you seem to have digested that large book, May's Parliamentary Practice to the best of your ability and after all, it is called the Parliamentarian's Bible. Our finances being what they are, it will be rather difficult for us to make it possible for you and the Deputy Speaker to go and see the reality. I think we must at present be satisfied with the Bible.

"The hon. Lady Member representing the Muslims of the City of Madras raised the question of equipment grant. We, Sir, have got accustomed to much simpler methods than the grandeur of the House of Commons. There was a time when people appeared in the Legislature in their morning coats or even in frock coats even in the House of Commons. To-day we see them appearing in the lounge suit. Actually, when Mr. Keir Hardy came into the House, when he was elected as the first Labour Member, he came in his Navy coat. Therefore, sartorial requirement has considerably changed with the coming simplicity of clothing. And, therefore, the grandeur of a Speaker is rather by his personality than by any robes he may wear."

3-45 p.m. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May simplicity grow!"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"My hon. Muslim Friend from Kurnool says, 'May simplicity grow'. I echo that feeling with all the strength I can command. (Interruption.) I do not think we are referring to the dress of any particular Member. In this country we can do with less clothes than we wear. (Laughter.) That is really quite true. And people have proved that it is easy to be elegant, simply dressed.

"There was a question on the need for a new legislative chamber. As I explained last year, we do not know what is in the womb of the future; what the constitution is going to be; what is going to be the strength of the new legislative that will come in to being after the Constitution Act becomes law. We have got on this chamber well nigh for four years considering what happened during the last Congress Ministry. And I may also remind hon. Members that we have place here for every hon. Member on the floor of this House. In the old House of Commons there was only seating accommodation for 325 members when its strength was about 500 members. The same continued when it was 615. That House I believe has been a prey to Hitler's bombing; and even the new House that is being constructed, I am told will only hold about 375 members. (Interruption.) I know that climatic conditions make it incumbent that we should have a larger House, especially during the hot

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weather. Therefore, I am not citing the House of Commons as an example. All that I am saying is that at least for the present term of the legislature it will not be possible for the Government to make a different arrangment to what is being done. We all have discomforts, discomforts are the heritage of most men, and especially in a poor country like ours, might I not appeal for patience from hon. Members, so that when the new constitution comes and when we know the new set-up, it will be possible to build a house in worthy proportions to all comforts including the creature comforts of hon. Members, to which references have been made. I know the smoke room, the lounge, and large luncheon rooms are all wanted. And perhaps we might have the chamber in future in the Marina with a terrace like the House of Commons looking on to the sea (laughter) and hon. Members might get the comforts which might come from such a situation. (Laughter.) (Interruption.) My colleague talks of the Coum river. Well, if he can give money I shall make it looks beautiful, really a river on which the House of Parliament might be built, and the Thames might be repeated in Madras." (Laughter.)

"Mr. Natesan is not here. He made some irrelevant references to me. I do not want to get into a disputation with him; but in the course of one's life one does learn many things, some of them may be forgotten, some of them may be of use, and some of them may stay in order to go into the human psychology. Mr. Natesan, if he benefits by what I have established in the Madras Race Course then I should really congratulate him.

"Mr. Salam, as usual, went into ecstasies on democracy. From his speech, of what he meant by democracy, I could not gather. I doubt very much whether he himself knew what he was talking about. (Laughter.) It is democracy we are working to-day; it is democratic for the party in power to carry on the Government on the principle with which they went before the electorate. And I can assure hon. Members neither my predecessor in office here nor the present Government have tried to get away from the election pledges that we gave at the time of election. Things have come to such a pitch in this country that perhaps liberties have had to be curtailed and special legislations have had to be passed not in the interest of any single community, I assure all hon. Members, but in the interest of good government of this country so that we may leave posterity an example of what should be done in the art of government. I am prepared to be judged by posterity of what has been done during the past twelve months, or even for the past two years under the Congress Government.

"My Friend from South Malabar referred to the question of Malabar Tenancy Act. As I said and I still say so, the time for raising this point would have been on the Revenue Demand, because my Hon. Colleague, the Minister for Revenue, is in

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charge of it. But I can assure him, Government will consider this question, because the relations between landlord and tenant is a very difficult matter, and difficulties are arising in the day-to-day administration, and Government are considering how the relationship should be established on satisfactory basis so that there would be contentment among the tenants, who, after all, are the large body of agricultural population, in an agricultural country like ours their contentment and safety ought to be always present in the eyes of any Government.

"My Friend, the hon. Member representing Tirukkoyilur constituency, referred to the question that we should have a Watch and Ward as obtains in the Central Assembly. This again is a matter adding to expenditure. I am quite prepared to examine the question in consultation with you, Sir, whether some arrangements cannot be made by which there could be a separate Watch and Ward, so that the Police do not interfere with what happens in the precincts of this House. But this again is a matter of financial commitment and I cannot commit Government to this position till I have had consultations with my colleagues and specially the Hon. Finance Minister, who is sitting beside me, and perhaps laughing in his sleeves thinking, 'is this man going further than I could let him go?'. (Laughter.)

"With regard to adult suffrage raised by the hon. Member representing Chidambaram, if the hon. Member had a copy of the new constitution he will find that under the new constitution the only qualification for a voter will be the attainment of the age of 21 and being a resident of India. . ."

SRI K. BHASHYAM.—"He must be a sane man."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"And as my hon. Friend, the ex-Law Member reminds me from behind, he must be a same man (laughter) and the Hon. Finance Minister reminds me that he should be of sound mind. I think it is taken for granted that a legislator should be of sound mind. (Laughter.)

"Sir, I finish my speech with my reply to my Friend, the Muslim Member from North Arcot, who talked about King's English. Well, to-day our educational standards are not as high as when my hon. Friend was in charge of education of a district. (Laughter.) We are slowly moving to the conditions, when, with the establishment of provinces on linguistic basis, the language spoken on the floor of an Assembly may be different from the King's English we are accustomed to. And I am sure, then, my hon. Friend may be present to complain that the Tamil of Tirukkural is not being used. We work on adult suffrage and when we have to consider the freedom of the electorate as a whole we must be content to hear the language that members are capable of speaking, because, after all, I would remind my hon. Friend of the old English adage, 'Language is a vehicle of thought', and if he can understand what is being spoken, that is the language. Finally, might I request the hon. Muslim Member from Kurnool to withdraw the cut motion."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, after hearing the very learned discourse (laughter) I have great pleasure in asking leave of the House to withdraw my cut motion."

The cut motion was by leave of the House withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that under Demand X—Legislative Bodies the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,26,900'."

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XII—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, I move—

'on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rupees 1,36,28,500 *under Demand XII—Administration of Justice.'*

"Sir, a word or two of explanation may be necessary. There have been complaints about the large number of Courts and about pendency of litigation. All that I say is, hon. Members must remember that as far as Administration of Justice is concerned, the amount received by way of Court-fees is not more than what has been spent under Administration of Justice. Now after all, no Government in the world want to sell justice. Stamp duties are levied in order to provide for the expenditure incurred therewith, and therefore hon. Members will realize that what is demanded is the barest amount needed to run the department. After all, justice is the most important part of administration; because if there is failure of justice there will be almost failure of administration."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 1,36,28,500 *under Demand XII—Administration of Justice.'*

I have fixed three hours for this Demand."

4 p.m.

*BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to move the cut motion that stands in my name, i.e.—

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,36,28,500 *for Administration of Justice by Rs.* 100.'

At the outset I wish to state that it is indeed regrettable that there has been such inordinate delay in effecting the reform of separating the judiciary from the executive, despite the fact that this matter has been agitating the public mind for nearly half a century and despite the fact that investigation in regard to it had already been completed when this Ministry took over office from its predecessor. In the State of Hyderabad this reform was introduced about two decades ago and it has been working successfully."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Might I help the Member if I mention that what is happening in Hyderabad is no example to follow, because there, there is no justice as such."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"My point is that it has been working successfully there and so it can work successfully here also. It cannot be said that no justice is being administered in Hyderabad. After the matter has been put off under some pretext or other all these past months we are now told that the Government intend to implement the recommendations of the Judicial Reform Committee constituted by the hon. Mr. Prakasam. We were entertaining the hope that after the lapse of such a long time the present Government would have made suitable alterations in the recommendations of that Committee as they do not go far enough, so that there might be a real and effective separation of the judiciary from the executive. As hon. Members are aware, what that Committee has proposed is not to separate the judiciary from the executive but merely to separate the judiciary from the revenue for though the judiciary will not be under the control of the immediate executive, namely, the Collector, it will still be under the control of the Provincial Government. Now that independence has been attained, there should be no difficulty in making an amendment in the Criminal Procedure Code, by obtaining the assent of the Governor-General in this regard under section 107 of the Government of India Act, so as to bring about a real separation of the judiciary from the executive.

"Sir, although the judiciary might be separated from the executive, in the context of the tendency of the present Government to appropriate many of the powers of the law courts, we feel that this reform would be of little avail. We have had Acts after Acts passed in this House containing a clause ousting the jurisdiction of law courts and vesting in the executive the power that belongs to the judiciary. This is not at all a healthy sign. I would request the Hon. Minister to see that in future such a clause is not inserted in the Bills that are brought before this House. It may be that in the United States of America, the late President Roosevelt on the occasion of the New Deal divested the law courts of some of their powers. But that can be no argument for our acting likewise. As the Hon. Home Minister himself said a little while ago, we are here not to copy the mistakes of the West; as a matter of fact we are here to set an example to Western nations especially in the fields of democracy, morality and spirituality. In the matter of following in the footsteps of Westerners we would be well-advised to "take that which is good and reject that which is evil." That should be our guiding principle and we should strain every nerve to preserve those cherished ideals which are dear to every democratic citizen.

"Sir, apart from ousting the jurisdiction of the judiciary, complaints have been made that of late the Government have been interfering with the independence of the law courts. This indeed is regrettable for an independent judiciary is a '*sine qua non*' for good order and good Government. In the days gone by the judiciary of this land enjoyed the confidence of the public because it was noted for its independence. It will indeed be a pity if after the attainment of independence, the confidence of the public in the judiciary were to be shaken. Because the law courts desire that they should be independent, it must not be assumed that they are designing the creation of an '*imperium in imperio*.' They do not seek to be above the constitution. They are created by the constitution and shall abide by it. But they must be allowed to discharge their duties conscientiously and deal justice squarely and fairly to all irrespective of parties and personalities. In the interests of democracy, in the interests of the well-being of the people of the land, it is the duty of the Government to see that there is no interference with the independence of the judiciary.

"Another matter to which I wish to advert is the delay in the appointment of High Court Judges in the vacancies that have occurred of late by reason of the retirement of some Indian and the resignation of some European Judges. As the Hon. Home Minister is aware, this delay is causing great inconvenience to the litigant public. I understand that no I Full Bench is sitting now, that arrears are accumulating and that the litigant public is suffering much on this account; for it is well known that justice delayed is justice denied. I would therefore request the Hon. Home Minister to see that these vacancies are filled without any further delay. I should also like to know what is to be the number of the High Court Bench in future and what salary has been fixed for a High Court Judge. I am sure the Central Government has decided this point by this time. I should also like to be informed as to whether the Government intend to abolish or retain the two posts of first grade District Judges, who in the past drew a salary of Rs. 3,000 per mensem.

"Another point to which I wish to refer is the need for the State to provide facilities for the defence of such of the accused in criminal cases who by reason of indigent circumstances are not able to defend themselves. According to English Jurisprudence, which we are following in this land, an accused is presumed to be innocent unless his guilt is proved, unlike the French Law where it is just the opposite, for in France an accused is deemed to be guilty and the onus lies on him to prove his innocence. As things stand at present, the Government do not provide for the defence of the accused when he is too poor to defend himself unless his case is one in which a sentence of death is likely to be passed. Even in cases where the sentence of transportation for life is to be given, I understand that no provision is made for his defence. I should like the Government to provide for the defence of the accused who are poor in all criminal cases where a sentence of more than five years' imprisonment is likely to be given in other words when the accused is charged of grave offences.

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"Another matter to which I should like to draw attention is the question of the administration of the law pertaining to Muslim Wakfs. I understand that the Mussalman Wakf Act is not being implemented in this Province at present and that the law courts are not demanding from the Mutawalls the statements of accounts as required by the above Act. I should like the Government to all for a report from the law courts in this connexion and see that the Act is implemented. A suggestion that I would like to make is that the Government should insist that in each administration report there should be a paragraph showing the steps that have been taken by courts of law to implement the Mussalman Wakf Act.

"One other matter I should like to mention and with that I shall conclude. That is the question of the removal of the statutory bar to the appointment of women in the judicial service. I know that there is no statutory bar in this province with reference to the appointment of women to the posts of District Munsifs and the like though no woman has yet been appointed to such posts. But there is a statutory bar precluding women from holding small posts in the judicial Ministerial service. For instance, a woman cannot become a clerk to a District Judge, because she is deemed not capable of keeping secrets. (Laughter.) But such sex prejudice is a relic of antiquated ideas. I may asosure the Hon. Minister that in these days the utmost confidence can be reposed in women in the matter of not divulging secrets. No doubt these Ministerial posts are not of much consequence to women. The reason why I plead that these posts should be thrown open to women is that the existing bar is a stigma, a blot, a slur on womanhood, which should be removed. With these words, I move the cut motion."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to second the cut motion moved by the hon. Lady Member. Just now we have heard the Leader of the House passing some remarks about the party to which I belong. I am not going into that for the simple reason that within the very limited time allotted to me I may not be able to deal with it fairly and fully. Let me bring to his notice, if he is not already aware, that Mr. Anandan Nambiar only yesterday in Trichinopoly, where he went to see the General Manager of the South Indian Railway, was approached by the Sub-Inspector of Police with a warrant of arrest against him issued by the District Magistrate. No doubt he was previously convicted under the Officials Secrets Act, but the sentence was remitted by the Government. Mr. Anandan Nambiar told the Sub-Inspector that the sentence had been remitted by an order of the Government and that he could produce the order if time was given to him. On the one hand the Government of Madras remit the sentence and on the other the District Magistrate, a responsible officer, issues a warrant to arrest particularly a member of this House. I would like to make it clear to the Hon. Leader of the House this is how justice

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ss being administered and this is how the District Magistrates arrest persons and launch cases. In this context only I can explain the escape from jail to which the Hon. Home Minister referred on the previous Demand. Let me first inform you how these people were arrested. These Police officials went at the dead of night and arrested the people on a charge of murder. Does the Hon. Minister expect a person who commits a murder to sleep in a public place and get himself arrested by the police? I would like to point out only this much. The police, particularly the District Magistracy are not functioning in the way in which we expect them to function in a sovereign independent country. Moreover I should like to remind the Hon. Minister that all our laws and legal procedure are being administered in the same old way as before 15th August 1947. Section 124-A of the Indian Penal Code, and all the laws that were used against the national movement in the past are still there and they are being enforced in the same manner as before.

"But here let me tell you, Sir, why people were forced to escape from the jail. They have no faith in the way in which justice is administered in this Province. Cases are judged not on their merits, but on political considerations. The Hon. Minister for Law who is himself a Barrister-at-Law can easily understand the offences committed by these men and decide the cases himself. If they have committed any serious offence, such as murder, or if any charge of murder is brought against a responsible member of our party, then I would suggest that the case may be brought before the public for trial and judgment, because the public are in a better position to judge the case fairly and impartially than do these courts which are swayed by party and political considerations. Even in the matter of issuing warrants for arrest, political considerations are allowed to prevail. Further, for arresting persons now-a-days, the Public Safety Act alone is made use of, and it is made applicable to each and every case, because any man, arrested under that Act need not be shown any charge sheet, nor is there any necessity to take the case before a court of law. Why is it that the Public Safety Act is resorted to in all these cases? Why not the ordinary law be applied? It shows very clearly that the Government themselves have got no faith in the justice administered by their courts. Whatever that may be, Sir, in almost all the Acts recently passed by this Government, there is a provision made in each Act that none of the provisions of these Acts should be questioned in a court of law. Does it not clearly show that they are either afraid of the courts or are not satisfied with the justice administered there? Even the late British Bureaucratic Government did not dare make such extraordinary provisions in the laws which were passed by them, as the Congress Ministry is now doing after it has come into office. It is not we who are afraid of justic, it is the Government. That is why the Government had issued detention orders against these six and under those there is no question of justice. Therefore they were forced to escape.

4-15 p.m.

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" Sir, I remember that very recently the hon. Mr. Bhashyam issued a statement in the Press that the Government should be very liberal in applying the provisions of the Public Safety Act, particularly against the members of the R.S.S. group, and urging that their cases sould be individually considered and they released from detention as early as possible. I cannot understand his sympathy towards the R.S.S. people. But how is it the Government are also lenient towards them? My point in making reference to this matter is this. If his appeal was that the Government should give sympathetic consideration to the R.S.S. men in enforcing the provisions of the Public Safety Act, and to release them as early as possible, then I submit, that if the Government are impartial, they should act in justice and fairness to the members of the Communist Party also and release them as early as possible. But that has not been the case.

" Mr. Speaker, recently about 300 to 400 people belonging to the R.S.S. organization were arrested and kept under detention, in connection with the recent abominable conspiracy, and to-day almost all of them have been released and all their cases have been examined and release ordered within a month. But it has taken six or seven months to examine the case of the Communists who were arrested and detained under the Public Safety Act last year, and here also I cannot give any particular credit to this Government for having released some of them, because it was more or less a gesture and an all-India policy that this Government was asked to release them, after the 15th August when India had attained her independence.

" After all, Mr. Speaker, what is the charge against these Communists? They said that the Congress Ministry was not implementing the Congress election manifesto. For that, some brilliant students of our party were arrested and our Minister for Law has ordered that they should be arrested and detained under the Public Safety Act, which does not provide for their being taken before a Court, which will not enable them to come out of jails nor prove their innocence. If the Government are prepared to put these six people for trial before any public tribunal and even if the Hon. Minister for Home comes and takes evidence before them, we are prepared to face such a trial and abide by the judgment of the tribunal, even if it were a question of hanging. But these are prejudiced courts and nobody can get justice from them. We know of so many cases where innocent people have been victimized by the police and they are not able to get proper justice from courts and that is why we want them to be tried by the public.

" Now Sir, I should like to say a word about the enormous delay in dealing justice. Take for instance the Munagala affair. That place is about 80 miles from Bezwada and the persons arrested in that place will have to go to Bezwada to take their trial, Nizam territory intercepts the path and our police officials even went to the extent of handing over prisoners to the Nizam police. One person who was recently arrested there, was handed

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over to the Nizam's police, because our police did not like to protect them and bring them to our borders. He was then produced before the Nizam's court and sentenced to 3½ years' rigorous imprisonment. This is how district administrators are dealing with matters, and our Hon. Home Minister wants us to have implicit faith in the district officials. The administration of justice that is carried on in our courts in this Province is entirely different from what it is in other western civilised countries and there is no possibility of any changes being brought about in them. We feel that our judicial system and the system of administration of law and order and the manner in which the police are behaving towards the public are in the same old fashion as they had been during the 1942 regime when our Congress friends started their movement. The justice that is administered to-day is for the rich and not for the poor.

" Sir, let me in this connection remind hon. Members how many black-marketing cases were launched and how many were quashed before they were brought to trial and how no evidence was let in. But whenever there is any case against the Communists, the police are eager to produce any number of false witnesses and pursue the case. Moreover, it is not difficult to obtain bail even in the most serious case of black-marketing, whereas in the case of Communists, no bail could be obtained. I can cite a number of instances where justice has been administered in the most lenient manner possible in the cases brought against business interests, against black-marketers and against rich persons, whereas even the ordinary justice was denied in the case of thousands of poor people, and the simple reason is that the whole administration of justice has not changed a whit, after we have attained independence and the party in power did not make any serious attempts to put things right.

" Lastly, Sir, I should like to make one observation with regard to the retrenchment in the Judicial department. It has been announced in to-day's papers that four new High Court Judges are going to be appointed on Rs. 3,000 per mensem, or Rs. 12,000 in all per mensem. At the same time, we are told that in the subordinate ranks retrenchment is going on. Let me in this connection, bring to the notice of hon. Members of this House the very pertinent observations made by no less a person than Professor K. T. Shah, which has appeared in to-day's paper. He said, ' Economy does not consist in mere *ad hoc* retrenchment or cut in expenditure. It is not economy making some cuts here and some cuts there and at the same time recruiting a large number of highly paid officials '.

" With these words, Sir, I support the cut motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the allotment of Rs. 1,36,28,500 *for Administration of Justice be reduced by Rs.* 100 '."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demand and in doing so, I want to make a few remarks which

may be taken note of by the Hon. Minister in charge of the department. In the first place, I should like to emphasize the remarks which have been made by many hon. Members of this House about the separation of Judiciary from the Executive. Much work has been done already in this direction. I do not see why there should be any further delay on the part of the Government in taking the next step. It should have been brought into force long ago. It appears that the Government have not accepted the recommendations of the Committee in full. What are the changes they want to make in respect of this matter? They always say that something is going to be done and that very soon and so they merely lull us into sleep by making a token provision of Rs. 100 in the budget, as if they are going to bring it in force as early as possible. This matter has been there for more than a year now, and I do not see any reason why the Government have not yet come to any decision. Probably they are not in sympathy with the measure, in which case let them come out and say so, instead of lulling us to sleep.

" Sir, I want to make one remark on what the Hon. Leader of the House has said in reply to the debate the other day, about the remarks of the Chief Justice with reference to the interference of the Government with the Judiciary. I think, the Hon. Leader of the House has probably taken the remarks of the Chief Justice in a wrong light. I am sorry for that. They should be taken in the spirit in which they were offered. It is not as if the Judges themselves want to stand apart or be independent of the Government or of the constitution of the country. That is not the spirit in which those remarks were uttered. The Judges are there to administer law, fairly and impartially, whatever anybody might say. They have no fear for any man, except for God, and even for the Government, for that matter. After all, courts of justice are there to administer justice between the Government and the litigant public. In certain circumstances and in certain respects, it can be said that they are above the Government, but certainly they are below the Government in certain other respects. If there has been some interference by the Government with the administration of justice by courts, I think, it is much better that the Hon. Minister for Law had accepted the position and kept silent, giving due respect to the words uttered by the Hon. Chief Justice. As I heard him the other day in this House, it seemed to me that the Hon. Minister for Law had picked up a quarrel with that observation and made some impatient remarks. I do not like that even any public expression should be given by such remarks in derogation of the dignity of the Chief Justice of our High Court.

" Now Sir, I want to say one word about the reference made to me by my hon. Friend the Communist member about some communiqué that I issued about the Public Safety Act, sometime ago. Let me tell him this, Sir, for his information. The intention of the Public Safety Act is that whenever a person is arrested, an earliest opportunity should be taken for the examination of his case and no delay should be allowed to occur in giving the charge

sheets to the persons concerned, in obtaining their explanations and in taking them before the Advisory Council, etc., as provided for in the Act itself. I do not want that even a day's delay to occur in respect of this matter. After all, personal liberty is a very precious thing and you cannot trifle with it. If I had written, in my press statement, something about the members of the R.S.S. organisation, or even about the members of the Muslim Guards, I did it really in the interests of all subjects and nothing else. There was no intention on my part to single out any individuals or parties. I have known cases of persons who have been arrested and detained for months and nothing has been done about them till now. Quite a long and elaborate procedure has been laid down in the Act. The person arrested under that Act has not to make any application to the Government, but the Government should state the grounds on which he was arrested, and the man has to send his explanation to the Government for the purpose of scrutiny, and after the Government have taken their own time for scrutiny, orders will be issued, which will be communicated to him. It is only then that his case will go before the Advisory Council for decision. I know in many cases the Government had not taken prompt action, and so the man who is detained has had to remain under detention for quite a long time. I know also, that in certain cases, the Government communication to the persons concerned stating the grounds of their arrest, had not reached them at all. Sometimes it so happened that the arrested man was not the right man at all. That is the position, Sir, under the present Act. It is under such circumstances that I issued the statement in the Press. I thought that the interests of the public should be safeguarded and that it was necessary that there should be no delay in the scrutiny of charges against the persons detained, by the Government. Particularly in the recent arrests in connection with the conspiracy, a number of young persons have been arrested and detained, because they happened to be members of the R.S.S. Many of them are, I know, innocent and have nothing to do with the conspiracy at all. I therefore wanted that all these cases should be examined and scrutinised as expeditiously as possible.

" Let me say one word, Sir, with regard to the new Constitution. Hereafter we need not take our appeals to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. It is really a very gratifying thing that such a provision has been made in our future Constitution and I am really glad and thankful to the Members of the Constituent Assembly and to also the Members of the Drafting Committee, for having done away with the appeals to the Privy Council. We can now appeal to the Supreme Court or the Federal Court as the case may be and that will be the highest court of appeal in our country and its decision will be final. The Hon. Dr. Subbarayan who was also a member of the Drafting Committee can also take credit for adopting this provision.

" I think, Sir, that much has been said about the appointment of High Court Judges. I think, it is scandalous that the question of the appointment of High Court Judges should be talked about

in the bazaars, in tram-cars, in street-corners and a lot of rumours and gossips allowed to gain currency in the matter. It does not reflect much credit either to the Government or to the High Court Bench itself. The appointments should be made at once. It should not be allowed to individuals to make applications or leaders of parties to make nominations and the Government should not allow any such thing to happen. It is much better that the Government state that they are going to make the appointment before, say July next or let them state that they are going to make the appointments now itself. It is not good to allow matters to remain like this. So far as this matter of the appointment of High Court Judges is concerned, it is axiomatic—and the Hon. Home Minister will certainly accept it—that members of the Bar should be given priority. I do not say that members of the Services ought not to come in, but there must be a greater proportion of Judges from the Members of the Bar.

" Sir, one small matter I should like to bring to the notice of the Government. The Crown Prosecutor's place has been vacant for a long time and the Government have not taken any action to fill up that place. What is the economy in not filling the place? I must tell the Government that the work of the Crown Prosecutor has been increasing of late and the Public Prosecutor, who is attending to this work also, has not been able to cope with the heavy work. Already the Crown Prosecutor's work in the City is too much for one person, and there is no point in continuing the present arrangement for any length of time.

4-30 p.m. " The work is being done by juniors working in the office. It is not as satisfactory as it would be if done by a pucca Crown Prosecutor. I should like the Government to state whether they are going to amalgamate the posts or they are going to have separate officers. So far as the Solicitor to Government is concerned, I think it is a matter for consideration whether in the present state of things we should continue in service an officer like the Solicitor to Government whose office is working like a post office in the matter of sending records to Government. I think this is not a cheaper machinery. A cheaper machinery must be found to do this work. The Government may think about this matter seriously.

" I now come to the Court Fees Act. I have been dinning into the ears of Government and everybody for the reduction of the court-fees. I think the opening speech of the Home Member recognizes the fact that a litigant ought not to be asked to pay more than what is necessary to have his case heard. The Court Fees Act is an old one, which is illogical in certain aspects. It should be overhauled in certain matters. A special Officer was appointed to go into this matter. He made a bulky report. I speak from knowledge that the report has been tackled by the Revenue Board and by even the Secretariat. It only requires the slight attention of the Minister in charge. It does not require very much time at all. If he wants any help, there are persons ready to help him. It is a crying reform demanded for a very long time. The court-fees have been raised from time to time. It is very heavy

for persons to pay. I would request the Hon. Minister to give this matter his serious consideration. Let him either reduce the court-fees or at least equalise the differences in respect of certain matters.

" I should like to make another suggestion and that is with regard to the pay and prospects of judicial officers. Whatever may be said about corruption in other departments and whatever may be said about officers not being quite honest or straightforward in their dealings in other departments, the same cannot be said about judicial officers or about their conduct or about their way of dealing with the administration of justice. So, they deserve better consideration in your hands than ordinary officers of other departments. One anomaly, which I really find—for which I am also partly responsible—is whereas a Deputy Collector, a Provincial Officer, starts on a salary of Rs. 300 per mensem, a District Munsif is started on a salary of Rs. 250 per mensem. I think this anomaly can be remedied by a mere stroke of the pen. If Government do this, they will be giving complete satisfaction to a set of persons who are working hard.

" The Demand is for Rs. 1,36,28,500. If you take the income from this head you will find that very nearly this amount we receive as revenue. This is a provision not only for civil justice but also criminal justice. Therefore, I ask what is the point in overburdening the litigant with a lot of expense. Not only the Court-fees are high, but in the High Court you have to translate documents and also print them. The translation charges are very heavy. Printing of documents also involves heavy expenditure. (Interruption). So far as translation and printing of documents are concerned, I can tell my friend that as a matter of fact it is a case of over-charging the litigants. Government are making a gain out of it. If only you take the High Court by itself you will find that the High Court also gets an exactly equal amount. Therefore, if the administration of justice, as a whole, is taken, there is no doubt that the Government are making money by selling justice to the people. I should like the Hon. Minister to pay immediate attention to all these matters.

" While you have been talking about civil works, I find that for petty constructions and repairs the amount provided is the grand sum of ' Nil '. I do not know what does this mean. I know many courts in the mufassal are dilapidated and leaky. There are no amenities at all. When I go out I find there is no fan, and there is no man also to pull the punkah. We do not find any provision made for petty constructions and repairs to court house, etc. It is criminal, if I may say so, so far as the Hon. Home Minister is concerned—a person who is always interested in law and himself a Barrister. So, some provision should be made for the construction of new court houses and providing amenities to lawyers, for equipping the different mufassal courts with proper libraries, and other necessary amenities for the administation of justice. With these words, Sir, I resume my seat."

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* MR. W. J. FERNANDEZ:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the cut motion. I do so in order to make a few suggestions as to the possible ways in which economy may be effected in the heavy expenditure of the Judicial Department without either delaying the dispensation of justice or impairing the efficient working of the department. A few years ago I suggested that the strength of the High Court Bench may be reduced from 16 to 14, and if I remember aright, the then Law Minister in his reply agreed that 14 judges should suffice for the High Court. My object then in suggesting a reduction of two was that I found that the judges who were appointed temporarily were being slowly made permanent. Twenty-five years ago, the strength was 12. Two judges were sanctioned temporarily to deal with arrears. They carried on for a good number of years and they were finally made permanent. Then again two more judges were sanctioned as a temporary measure to deal with arrears. After some years, if I am not mistaken, a suggestion was made that even these two judges should be made permanent, and the sanctioned strength raised to 16, and also that the salary of the Chief Justice should be raised from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 6,000. Government, however, did not then accept that suggestion. Arrears, Sir, there will always be, because the judges who are now coming up, have no experience as in the good old days. We can see this from the fact that cases nowadays take a very much longer time to be disposed of than what they took ten years ago. Therefore, delay there will always be and arrears will go on increasing. I think we can employ experienced retired judges and tell them that within a reasonable time they should clear off the arrears. In regard to future arrears, the High Court must be made to understand that they must deal with the arrears themselves, unless they can show that the number of cases filed has increased abnormally. Litigation has fallen, but arrears are increasing. Therefore, I think it is a matter for consideration whether the High Court should not be called upon to deal more efficiently with cases and not allow arrears to accumulate.

" I now come, Sir, to the office of the Official Assignee. According to the Budget, the revenue from this office is shown as Rs. 16,000 and expenditure is shown as Rs. 79,900. In this office, there are about 20 clerks and several peons. The number of insolvencies for a year is between 40 and 45 for the last five years. I cannot understand why about 45 insolvencies a year require such a large establishment. The staff was at one time engaged in closing insolvency cases of 20 and 30 years old. I suppose they have now finished most of this work. There is no reason why the present staff should be retained in office to handle only about 45 insolvencies —not even four a month. When I raised this point two years ago, the then Law Minister reminded me in reply that there was a big fund from which they were getting a lot of income, that the office was not working at a loss, and that that fund was balancing the expenditure of working the office. I say that if such a fund should give you revenue why should you use that money in retaining that staff which is not really required to deal with a few number of insolvencies. That money can be more usefully diverted to some other purpose for the good of the public.

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" I now come to the office of the Administrator-General. Here again the figures are not so clear as to make one understand whether the office is working at a profit or not. In years gone by whenever that office required extra staff, they were told that they must work within the sanctioned estimates and should not add any extra expenditure to the State. That office must be self-supporting. The main idea with which that office was started years ago was for managing the estates of Europeans who left no one in this country to look after their affairs. That went on for some time, and then came Indian Estates. The office was always told that it must work on a self-supporting basis. I can say that it is not working so. The answer given by the then Law Minister was that there was a large fund of two or three lakhs of rupees of unclaimed balance escheated to Government, and that amount should be taken to be Government revenue. That was a very strange suggestion. You could take the interest of the Fund and treat that as an income, but you cannot treat unclaimed assets as moneys earned by the office. The office earns money under two heads, namely, commission and fees. We now see that the working expenses of the office are far heavier than the income. I feel that some economy should be made in both the offices of the Administrator-General and the Official Assignee. My suggestion is why not Government combine these two offices into one, if such a course is feasible. Government should consider the possibility of bringing the two offices under one officer, and, if need be, Government may give him a deputy to enable him to deal with both the departments. I am sure Government can reduce at least 50 per cent of the staff now working by adopting the above proposal without in any way affecting or impairing the efficiency of the two offices.

" Now Sir, with regard to the Public Prosecutor. My hon. Friend Mr. Bhashyam (ex-Law Minister) spoke about the appointment of Crown Prosecutors. I think the post of the Crown Prosecutor should be abolished. Let Government give the Public Prosecutor one more assistant to deal with the work of the Public Prosecutor, and let the other assistant attend to the work of the Crown Prosecutor. The Public Prosecutor can, attend to the work of the Crown Prosecutor in very important cases in which the Government or the Police want him to plead, as a special case. I think with one more assistant to the Public Prosecutor, the work of both the officers can be handled very well. The Crown Prosecutor and Public Prosecutor can be combined into one officer. Retrenchment in staff also can be effected.

" Then, Sir, the Hon. the ex-Law Minister said that the Court fees are very high and that they should be reduced. I wonder if he would make such a suggestion if he occupied the seat of the Law Minister."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" I have made that suggestion in my time also." 4-45 p.m.

MR. W. J. FERNANDEZ:—" On the other hand, what I suggest is that people should be discouraged from going to courts. Attempts should be made to settle their differences either through

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Panchayats or otherwise instead of filing suits in the High Court, wasting money and dragging on litigation for years and years. My only idea in making this suggestion is that Government must explore every possible avenue of effecting reduction in expenditure before coming to the House with proposals to raise the revenues in order to make up the heavy losses which the Government are incurring on account of the introduction of Prohibition."

MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMED ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the cut motion, I would like to bring to the attention of the House and the Hon. Minister a few facts. First of all, Sir, with regard to the High Court Judges, the desirability of their independence being maintained has been sufficiently stressed both by the mover of the cut motion as well as by subsequent speakers. I would like to refer to another aspect of the same question. Sir, it has been stated in the newspapers that the salaries of the High Court Judges are going to be revised. Of course, we know while there is a revision, the salaries of the High Court Judges are going to be reduced and are not going to be increased. I wish to point out that we should not grudge a decent salary to the High Court Judges. We will be doing a great disservice to the cause of the Judiciary if we reduce the salaries of the High Court Judges. I am sure if we reduce the salaries, it will not attract people of sufficient merit to the High Court Bench. People of some secondary merit, second-class or third class, will only be attracted. Sir, in the Madras High Court with its tradition of merit, with its tradition of genius and capability, it would certainly be a great pity if second-rate men are placed on its Bench and it would be a great pity if these traditions are not going to be maintained for the consideration of saving a few chips. Therefore, I would urge upon the Government, although I know it is a matter for the Central Government to fix the salaries of High Court Judges, to consider this matter carefully because I know that the considered opinion of the Madras Government will also be of great value to them in the matter of fixing the salaries. Therefore, I submit that the salaries of High Court Judges should be maintained at the present level.

" Now, Sir, coming to the District Judges, I wish to point out a curious position, namely, that there is a rule at present that unless a subordinate Judge has served as such for a period of two years, he cannot be promoted to the rank of a District Judge. Therefore, Sir, unless he satisfies that condition, the Subordinate Judge is not promoted to the rank of District Judge at all. I do not see any explanation to this rule. Sir, this rule has resulted in great injustice to a number of deserving Subordinate Judges. Therefore, I request the Government to do away with this rule.

" Coming next to the District Munsifs, Sir, it has already been stated that wherever there are less than 300 and odd pending suits in a District Munsif's Court, that Court will be abolished. Sir, there will be a number of cases where although the minimum number may not be available, although the minimum number put may not be existing, still if that court is abolished, then the total

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number of suits in the remaining courts will increase, with the result that it will make the work in those munsifs' Courts really cumbersome. I would, therefore suggest that in effecting retrenchment, Government should not do anything which would act as a detriment to the proper administration of justice. Already the administrative rules with regard to the District Munsifs' courts and Subordinate Judges' courts are such as to make the speedy disposal of cases impossible and they are involving a great deal of delay in the administration of justice. Therefore, I suggest that Government should not lay great stress on this aspect. Really great stress should be laid to devote more attention to the administration of justice rather than to the quick disposal of cases. After all, Sir, in most of these cases, the delay is not so much due to the overcrowding of cases but it is due to the parties themselves more often than not, not being ready for the work and therefore, if you rush the parties then the parties themselves will suffer in these courts.

" Then, Sir, with regard to District Munsifs' courts, I would like to suggest another thing. At present the District Munsifs and some other gazetted officers are asked to submit themselves to a language test other than their second language. In this matter, I would suggest to the Government that Hindustani in both the scripts, should also be included as one of the languages in which the District Munsif should have the language test.

" Then, Sir, with regard to Public Prosecutors, I wish to point out that although the fees of lawyers have been raised from five per cent to seven per cent and consequently, the fees of the Government Pleaders were also increased, yet the fees of the Public Prosecutors remain stationary. I may state, Sir, that in Nellore, the Public Prosecutor does not get, on the average, more than Rs. 300 per mensem. This amount is certainly very low, too low considering the fact that such a salary will not attract men of sufficient merit to this category. In the matter of Public Prosecutors, I would also request the Government to bear in mind that all communities should be given a chance in those appointments.

" Then, Sir, with regard to Official Receivers, I would suggest that in addition to these Official Receivers being recruited from the posts of Magistrates under the new scheme of the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive, the Official Receivers should also be appointed from the posts of District Munsifs also and these Official Receivers who are recruited from the posts of District Munsifs should be exempted from passing the prescribed tests. In addition, I would also suggest that these Official Receivers should also be entrusted with small cause work. At present, they are not having enough work and therefore, the small cause work of the District Munsifs may be entrusted to these Official Receivers. The rent control work may also be entrusted to them. At present the rent control work is being done by the Collectors of the various districts. The Collectors are already overworked and therefore, it is better that this work is entrusted to the Official Receivers.

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Otherwise, this work cannot be speedily disposed of. Therefore, Sir, if the house-rent control work is entrusted to the Official Receivers it will undoubtedly go a long way to satisfy the public.

"Then, with regard to the dress of lawyers, I wish to point out that the dress of lawyers in courts is very antiquated. Considering the hot climate that is prevailing in our Province, this wearing of gown and stiff collar is certainly very inconvenient and therefore, the dress of lawyers in courts should be simple and it should be such as to give a sense of dignity to both the courts as well as to the lawyers and also to the general public.

"Lastly, Sir, in the matter of granting adjournments and various other matters, it is all causing great inconvenience to the lawyers. The Magistrates do not realise that such things are causing great inconvenience to the lawyers as well as to the general public. Therefore, I would request the Hon. Minister to issue instructions to the Magistrates asking them to show as much leniency to the lawyers as possible. With these words, I support the cut motion."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, not being a lawyer myself, I should like to make a few observations as a layman. Sir, we see, on the floor of the House and outside it interested persons are freely discussing that this Government is not maintaining the independence of the Judiciary. Well. Sir, I am not well aware of the facts and I am speaking with the facts at my disposal. I am not charging the Government that they have really interfered with the judicial system in this Province. But, may I ask the Leader of the House, who is also our Home Minister and a lawyer, what is the necessity for such interference? Not only inside this House but also outside, it is freely discussed and it looks as if there has been a great interference, but to what extent and in what form and manner, we do not know. Only those persons that are affected, for instance, the Judges may know. The Government may also know. Therefore, Sir, I think it is the duty of this Government to assure the public of the Madras Province that, at any rate, there will not be any such interference at least in the future, because, I must say that whatever our feelings against the British Government might have been, we should admit that the judicial system that they have given us is really the best. Therefore, it should be our hope, it should be our endeavour and our aspiration to see that the independence of the Judiciary is maintained. It is much more needed to-day after we have attained independence than it was formerly because the civil rights and the liberties of the people as a whole are in the hands of the Judiciary. Every man should feel that as long as he does not act against the interests of the State or does not indulge in violent and subversive activities, he will not be touched and his civil liberties will not be curtailed by the Government. Therefore, I want the Government to give a satisfactory assurance to the public that they will not interefere

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with the independence of the Judiciary in any manner. In this connection, reference has been made to two famous speeches, one by the Chief Justice who has recently resigned and the other by our acting Chief Justice, the Hon'ble Mr. Rajamannar. These two speeches are proof positive to show that the State is not maintaining the independence of the judiciary. Otherwise, where was the necessity for this homily? Where was the necessity for the ex-Chief Justice, Mr. Gentle, while leaving the shores of India, to make such a speech? Where was the necessity for the present acting Chief Justice, the Hon'ble Mr. Rajamannar, to make such a speech? Sir, I do not lay any charge against the Government that they have really interfered with the freedom of the Judiciary. It may be or may not be. But, Sir, is it too much to ask of this Government, and particularly of the Hon. Home Minister to give an assurance to the public and to satisfy the public that there will be no such interference by the Government? The other day while some question was raised on the floor of the Upper House, I mean the Council, the Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan made a reference to what has happened in America. He said that there was some dispute regarding President Roosevelt's New Deal and that ultimately, the Government had to increase the number of Judges on the Supreme Court and put two new Judges of the persuasion of the party in power in order to carry on their policies. For one thing Mr. Speaker, we need not at all cite what had happened in America. We are now a free country and we can have our own conventions. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, it is our duty, in the existing circumstances, to maintain the independence of the Judiciary.

"Then, Sir, so many references have been made to the non-appointment of the judges in the existing vacancies. But, one caution, I will give to the Government. The Home Minister the other day said that they would fill up the posts of Judges either from the District Judges' cadre or from practising lawyers. Even here, I may state that while the Government fix the conditions and the qualifications for the post, they should also see that people from different communities and from different linguistic areas are appointed to these posts. But, in the appointment of Judges, only the best men should always be appointed. In these matters, it is our duty and it is our anxiety that we should render account to the public, because, whatever we may speak here and whatever the Government may reply, it is the public at large who are going to judge. In this connection I want to make a reference to one question which was raised in this House. The question was, what were the reasons for the resignation of the Chief Justice, Mr. Gentle. If the Government says that the hon. Members of this House have no right to ask that question, then there will be no dispute about it. But, if you concede our right to put this question, I ask, Sir, whether the Government will take the public into their confidence regarding the reasons for the resignation of the Chief Justice. Sir, as my hon. Friend, Mr. Bhashyam, said there are a number of rumours in the bazaar, rumours in the towns, rumours

in trams and rumours in the High Court also. Therefore, is it not the duty of the Government to take the public into their confidence and tell them definitely the reasons which made the Chief Justice resign? Sir, I hold no brief for European Judges, but this much I can say that they have done their work conscientiously and well. Nobody wants European Judges now, especially after we have attained independence. I do not on that score mind whether an European Judge has resigned or not, but Sir . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Does the hon. Member want to continue tomorrow or can he finish now?"

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"I want to continue tomorrow, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The House will now adjourn and meet again at 11 a.m. tomorrow."

The House then adjourned.

APPENDIX

[Vide answer to starred question No. 183 asked by Sri N. Venkatasubbayya at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 18th March 1948, page 319 supra.]

Statement showing the particulars of cost of establishment in the hand-made paper units, their output and value of production.

	Cost of establishment.	Output. Paper.	Output. Boards.	Total value of paper and boards.
	Rs.	LB.	LB.	Rs.
1 Bezwada—				
1944–45	77,021	34,677	37,837	25,350
1945–46	15,903	16,342	14,597	18,588
1946–47	42,396	13,573	12,525	18,172
2 Bugga—				
1944–45	32,056	943	10,493	5,240
1945–46	20,552	1,000	30,503	7,702
1946–47	19,670	2,098	3,612	4,712
3 Gazulapalli—				
1944–45	40,635	2,585	{12,491 / 280}	11,177
1945–46	19,904	2,016	{3,310 / 325}	2,794
1946–47	16,314	..	..	..

Statement showing the output of paper boards in each of the hand-made paper centres during the last three years and the amount realized from the sale effected during the period.

	1944-45.		1945-46.		1946-47.	
	LB.	RS.	LB.	RS.	LB.	RS.
1 Bezwada ..	37,837	11,912	14,597	18,781	12,525	21,472
2 Bugga	10,493	4,390	3,050	2,474	3,612	5,814
3 Gazulapalli ..	12,491	134	3,310	1,210	..	..

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, the 19th March 1948.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" Sir, I wish to make a request. I have got one question in my name to-day. Could that be taken up earlier as I have to attend a meeting of a committee elsewhere? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The Hon. the Leader of the House has fixed an interview with His Excellency the Governor. I will have to take up his questions first."

Merger of Pudukottah State into the Indian Union.

* 191 *Q.*—SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN : Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state whether the Pudukottah State has been merged into the Indian Union?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Premier) :—" The answer is in the affirmative."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" Sir, may I know what are the conditions of the merger of the State? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I am not in a position to give any information at the present time. The matter is under correspondence with the Government of India."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" May I know, Sir, what the Government propose to do with the State—whether they are going to keep it as a separate district or whether it will be merged in either of the adjoining districts? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" As I have already stated, the matter is in a very fluid state. I can give no further information."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA :—" Sir, is it a fact that only the administration has been taken over by the Provincial Government and that the Central Government still continues to retain control over the State? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I have already stated I am not prepared to give any further information because the matter is under correspondence between the Government of India and the Government of Madras."

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SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" Sir, may I know Sir, why the Government have asked the Collector of Trichinopoly to take over the administration of the State even though it is a temporary arrangement instead of asking the Collector of Ramnad to take it over, as Ramnad is nearer to the State for all practical purposes? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" In spite of the conundrums which the hon. Gentleman has propounded, I am afraid I cannot take the matter any further. The Government did what they thought was most convenient to do under the circumstances."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, even though the matter is under correspondence with the Central Government and the Centre has naturally to decide the matter, may I know what is the opinion of the Provincial Government in the matter. Is it not their duty to take the public into confidence in regard to their recommendation to the Government of India? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Till a final settlement is made, the Government are not prepared to give any further information."

MR. SPEAKER :—" In view of this reply, I think we may pass on to the next question."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" May I submit to you, Sir, that the reply is very unsatisfactory and in view of that, will you be pleased to allow a half-hour debate on this very important matter? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" No, I am sorry I cannot allow."

Attack on a Police Officer.

* 192 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI : Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state whether the kisans of Karpaganathargulam village, Tiruturaipundi taluk, attacked a Police Sub-Inspector and his party who went on duty recently?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Yes."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI :—" Sir, will the Government take action against those who induced the kisans to attack the Police officer? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The matter is being enquired into. I can give no further information."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" Sir, may I know the reasons for the clash between the kisans and the Police? Is it not a fact that the Police are always helping the rich landlords and not the kisans? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I deny the hon. Gentleman's premises. The matter is still under enquiry."

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SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR :—" May I know whether the kisans referred to in the question belong to the Communist kisans or the kisans of the Congress Party? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I have not got any nomenclature for these kisans."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask, Sir, who is conducting the enquiry in this matter—the Police Officers or the Revenue Officers? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The usual channels of enquiry, Sir."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask your protection in the matter, Sir. The question should be specifically answered. The question is whether the enquiry is being conducted by the Police Officers or the Revenue Officers and the answer is not specific. If the Hon. Minister is not in a position to give information, he may ask for notice. But to say ' Usual channels of enquiry ' does not carry us any further. It is a very unsatisfactory way of parrying the question."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The Chair cannot compel a Minister to answer the question in a particular way. If the hon. Member wants he may put further supplementary questions. I have no objection."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, Sir, what the usual channels of enquiry mean? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I can take the information no further."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I seek the protection of the Chair, Sir. The Hon. Minister has got the information, but he wants to avoid giving that information to this House."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" There is no question of giving any information. I give what is necessary. I am not prepared to give any further information."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister knows that the enquiry is being conducted by the Police and if so whether it is not very unsatisfactory? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The hon. Gentleman may presume that I know what is being done."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" Are the Government aware, Sir, that in all these disputes between the ryots and the labourers, whenever the Police visit the village to investigate the disputes, they usually reside in the houses of the landlords and thereby give the impression that they are the minions of the rich landlords? "

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I deny all the premises put forward by the hon. Gentleman."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" Sir, may I know whether the Police interfered in the matter of their own accord or whether they were sent for by anyone of these parties? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The Police never act on orders from anybody except the Government of Madras."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH :—" Sir, have the Government received reports recently that some of the landlords in Tanjore district are maintaining private levies or some kind of armies and harassing the kisans particularly the Harijans of these places? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" That is a matter that is being enquired into. I have already stated I have no further information."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, will the Hon. Minister call for a report from the Collector of the district in which the attack took place? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" If there were unfortunately attacks against the Police, I know the usual channels through which I can get the information. I am not prepared to take the question any further."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" In view of the fact that the Police also are a party in this matter, will the Government be pleased to appoint a Judicial Committee to enquire into the matter? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" This sort of judicial committees often impair the efficiency of the Police services."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" Sir, in view of the fact that so many hon. Members from the Congress side itself have raised objections to the Police enquiry will the Government consider the desirability of appointing a non-official enquiry committee consisting of hon. Members of this House? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Certainly not."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI :—" May I ask whether it is a fact that the C.I.D. officers are in charge of the investigation? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The hon. Gentleman need not presume too much."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" The Government may be aware, Sir, and the Hon. Minister may also give me credit for knowing this personally. When the Police visit these villages in large numbers for investigation, they never pay for their meals . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member is making a speech. Let him put his question."

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SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" I put the question, Sir. Is the Government aware that when the Police visit the villages in large numbers for investigation purposes, they never pay for their meals? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" As I said, Sir, the Government have their usual channels of enquiry. Naturally when an enquiry is made, it is made on the spot."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that whenever there is trouble between kisans and landlords and the kisans ask for Police help, generally the Police do not go there and even if they go there, they do not give the required help? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I have already stated I do not grant any of the hon. Gentleman's premises."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to place on the table of the House the report of the enquiry that is conducted? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" No, Sir, because judicial proceedings might take place."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI :—" May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that dangerous weapons were found in the kisans' houses during the search? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I am not prepared to take the matter any further, Sir. I shall cause an enquiry to be made on the information given by the hon. Member."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" May I ask, Sir, why the Government is not accepting the persistent demand for the appointment of a non-official committee? Are the Government afraid that if a non-official enquiry committee is appointed the culprit will be out of the bag? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The Government are not certainly afraid. I know the hon. Gentleman is."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" On a point of order, Sir. The Hon. the Leader of the House has been very often saying : 'I refuse to take the matter further.' My submission is that the Hon. Minister cannot take up that position. According to the rules, the Hon. Minister can keep silent if he does not want to reply and the House can draw its own inference. But if the Hon. Minister says he is not prepared to take . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The Chair cannot say that the Hon. Minister should answer a question or should not answer a question. If the hon. Member wants, he can move a vote of censure and speak on that. But I am afraid I cannot allow the hon. Member to make a speech now. If the hon. Member wants to move a vote of censure, he may follow the rules and do so."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" It is not a vote of censure that I want to move. I only ask, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister is entitled to say, ' I cannot take the matter further '. My point is that the Hon. Minister is entitled to keep quiet and not answer the question. But he cannot say, ' I refuse to answer '."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Yesterday when the Demand for Legislative Bodies was under discussion, the hon. Member could have raised all these points on a cut motion."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" I did give notice of cut motions."

MR. SPEAKER :—" On the cut motion of any other hon. Member, the point could have been raised. The hon. Member cannot raise it now. I pass on to the next question."

Services of teachers of Lady Hope College, Guntur.

* 193 *Q.*—SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many teachers from the Lady Hope College, Guntur, have been absorbed into the Government service;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that against some of them, there were pending charges; and

(*c*) what the Government propose to do with regard to the remaining unabsorbed staff?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" (*a*) Except the previous Principal of the College, who resigned, all the other members of the staff have been continued.

" (*b*) The only member against whom there were charges, was the previous Principal, who resigned her appointment.

" (*c*) Does not arise in view of the answer to clause (*a*)."

Pay of teachers in elementary schools under the management of the Basel Mission in Malabar.

* 194 *Q.*—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU (on behalf of Sri K. Anandan Nambiyar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government have received any representation from non-Christian teachers of the elementary schools under the management of the Basel Mission in Malabar to the effect that they are not being paid by the management as the Christian teachers?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" No."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" Sir, are the Government aware that most of the children that attend these aided elementary schools

have their names changed without their being baptized and will the Government instruct these managements not to indulge in such things?

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member has put the same question previously and it has been answered."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" Though the hon. Member's supplementary question does not arise from this question, I may inform the hon. Member that I will make enquiries if he brings to my notice specific instances."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" Will the Hon. the Education Minister enquire into the matter and find out whether salaries were paid to these teachers? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" I cannot make any enquiries unless we get a complaint that salaries were not paid to the teachers."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" If any specific cases are brought to the notice of the Government that some students change their names because they are reading in particular schools, may I know whether they will be treated as Hindus hereafter? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" I am unable to say what the Government will do. The Government will certainly make enquiries and do the needful."

Anti-religious propaganda in schools.

* 195 *Q.*—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any complaints against anti-religious propaganda in schools; and

(*b*) if so, whether any action has been taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" (*a*) Yes, against some teachers in schools.

" (*b*) The Government have amended rule 154 of the Madras Educational Rules relating to the suspension or cancellation of the certificates of teachers bringing within the definition of bad conduct mentioned in the rule, the expression of views calculated to bring into hatred, ridicule or contempt the beliefs or practices of any religion, within the precincts of the school or outside. Complaints against teachers, of anti-religious propaganda, will be dealt with under this rule."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN :—" May I know whether the Government have taken action according to the amended rules against any teachers? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" No certificates have been cancelled under this rule. But

action has been taken against certain persons against whom complaints were received and they have been warned in the matter."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" Will the Hon. Minister give the names of the schools and the places where they are located, where anti-religious propaganda is carried on? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" I do not know whether it will be in the public interest to give the names of these schools. If the hon. Member is very persistent, I may tell him. But I would rather wish that these names not mentioned."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I take it that atheists will not be eligible for appointment in any Government school or private schools? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" They can be employed if they do not carry on anti-religious propaganda."

SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDA :—" சில இடங்களில் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் முஸ்லீம் மானேஜர்களையும் சில இடங்களில் இருஸ்தவ மானேஜர்களையும் நியமிக்கப்பட்டு அவர்கள் அந்தந்த மதத்தை போதித்து வருகிறார்கள். அப்படி போதிக்காமலிருக்க ஏதாவது ஏற்பாடு செய்திருக்கிறார்களா?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" That is another matter. Orders have been issued . . ."

(HON. MEMBERS :—" The Hon. Minister may give his reply in Tamil.")

MR. SPEAKER :—" I give the choice to the Hon. Minister."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" In the matter of religious instruction clear orders have been issued that pupils belonging to other religions should not be compelled to undergo religious instruction given in the schools."

[The Hon. Minister rendered his answer in Tamil also.]

[அது வேறு விஷயம். அந்தந்த பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் மதபோதனை செய்யப்படும்போது வேறு மத மாணவர்களை கேட்கும்படி கட்டாயப் படுத்தக்கூடாது என்று உத்திரவு போடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது.]

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Since we live in a country which believes in God, may I suggest to the Hon. Minister to see that atheists and communists are not eligible for appointment in schools in this Province? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" I am afraid Sir, that that position cannot be conceded just now."

SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR :—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware that some high schools have started

some libraries from the funds of the Literary Association fee, whether such objectionable books like Dravidar Nilai, etc., are kept there and circulated among the students and whether atheism and hatred against particular communities are preached? May I know whether such books have been approved by the Text Book Committee? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" நீங்கள் ஏதோ படிக்கிறீர்கள். அது கூடாது. நீங்கள் கேள்விதான் கேட்கவேண்டும்."

SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR :—" No, Sir, I repeat the question, Sir. Are the Government aware that most of the High schools are running a separate library for pupils from the funds of literary association fees, wherein some objectionable books such as " Queens of Rome ", " Nadum Aedum ", " Dravidar Nilai " and ' Nallatheerpu ' not approved by the Text Books Committee are kept and circulated among the students preaching atheism and hatred towards a particular community? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" I could not catch the names of the books. I am not aware of such instances. If the hon. Member will bring to my notice any particular institution which preaches such objectionable views, I shall look into the matter."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" Are the Government aware that in some of the educational institutions, teachers belonging to the Muslim League and R.S.S. associations are preaching communal hatred and may I know whether the Government are taking any action against such teachers? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" The Government are not aware of these facts. They have not received any such information."

SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR :—" Notice of such a question was given some months ago. It was disallowed by the Hon. Minister."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" The Minister has no power to disallow questions."

Licensing of Nursing Homes.

* 196 *Q.*—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have arrived at any decision as regards the licensing of Nursing Homes; and

(*b*) what are the proposals of the Surgeon-General in regard to the control of Nursing Homes?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) & (*b*) The question of introducing necessary legislation for the control of private nursing homes is still under consideration."

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware that the term Nursing Home applied to some of the existing Nursing Homes is a misnomer and that some Nursing Homes are being utilized for other purposes?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The Government have no information, Sir."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know whether when the Hon. Minister visits Tenali, he will make surprise visits to some of the Nursing Homes there and see how they they are being run?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"If I happen to go to that place, I shall enquire."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask whether the Hon. Minister is aware that in Bombay Nursing Homes are not allowed to exist unless they are registered?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Exactly for that reason a proposal to introduce legislation for the control of these Nursing Homes is now under consideration."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I point out that this question has been pending for the past two years? I brought this point to the notice of the Government two years ago and I received the same reply as now, namely that the matter was under consideration. Does the Hon. Minister think that there should be no check on Nursing Homes?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The question has been referred to the Committee of Public Health and Medical Relief. After their report is received, a decision will be taken by the Government."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware that the neighbouring States like Mysore and Hyderabad have licensed Nursing Homes?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I have no information."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—"Will the Government prevent the opening of new Nursing Homes since we find that a few of these are really used for other purposes? (A voice: 'What other purposes?') Other purposes need not be mentioned here. What are called massages and some such moral or immoral acts are going on in such nursing homes. Will the Government issue orders even now that no new Nursing Homes should be opened before they are licensed and authorized by the Government?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Before the legislation necessary for this purpose is introduced and passed, the Government cannot prevent the starting of New Nursing Homes."

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I have an assurance from the Hon. Minister that the question will no longer be kept pending and that an early decision will be arrived at in regard to this question?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Yes, Sir. I have already stated that the report of the Committee on Medical Relief and Public Health is expected soon, and a decision will be taken early on this question."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know what prevents the Government from issuing an interim order that no new Nursing Homes should be started, before the Government come to a decision on the matter?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I do not think that such a thing is necessary."

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

II.—SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENTS OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1947-48.

* THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, I present the Demands for Grants for further expenditure and detailed supplementary estimates thereof for the year 1947-48.

"Copies of the demands have been laid on the table of the House.

"As the House is aware, two batches of Demands for Grants for further expenditure and the connected detailed supplementary estimates for this year were presented to the Legislature in September and December last. Those demands related to schemes of expenditure which were treated as 'new services' and the approval of the Legislature was obtained to the schemes by asking for token grants only. The present statement is the third and final one for this year.

"As explained in the introductory memorandum to the supplementary statement of Demands for Grants, the present statement includes mostly demands on account of the insufficiency of the original grants concerned for expenditure on standing sanctions based on existing orders and commitments. Some demands for expenditure on new services sanctioned late in the current year and for which no supplementary grants have yet been presented are also included.

"There are 31 Demands pertaining to the Revenue Account involving a total sum of Rs. 96,39,300 under Charged expenditure and Rs. 7,57,07,800 under Voted expenditure. Under other expenditure (i.e., capital outlay and loans and advances) there are 7 Demands involving a total sum of Rs. 34,600 under Charged expenditure and Rs. 5,09,36,100 under Voted expenditure. The

number of demands and the amount would have been much smaller but for the fact that as a consequence of the transfer of power on the 15th August 1947 some items of expenditure mainly the pay, allowances and pensions of the officers previously appointed by the Secretary of State for India which were till then treated as Charged expenditure have become votable from that date, as I have already explained in my budget speech. Corresponding to the increased expenditure under Voted in this account, there are savings in the original appropriation under ' Charged ', but, under the rules, no reappropriation can be made from Charged to Voted items and *vice versa*. It has therefore become necessary to make a supplementary demand under almost every grant. I would also draw the attention of the hon. Members to the fact that savings available under one Grant cannot be reappropriated to meet additional expenditure under another Grant. The position in regard to the total appropriation is now as follows :—

	Revenue account.		Other expenditure.	
	Charged.	Voted.	Charged.	Voted.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
Original appropriation (as in the Budget for 1947-48).	375·96	4,753·53	1·03	1,079·64
Revised Estimate for 1947-48.	405·87	5,325·03	·80	1,484·19

The variations between the Budget Estimate for 1947-48 and the Revised Estimate for 1947-48 have been fully explained in my budget speech and in the Financial Secretary's Explanatory Memorandum on the Budget for 1948-49. The final appropriation and the present supplementary demands for grants take into account factors which have come to notice after the Revised Estimates for 1947-48 were fixed in January last and new sanctions.

" The explanatory note under each Grant gives the reasons necessitating the additional appropriation in each case. It will be seen that apart from the reclassification of Charged expenditure as Voted which I have already mentioned, one general reason for the increased appropriation asked for is the revision of the pay and allowances of non-gazetted Government servants. Though the revision of pay and allowances took effect from the 1st January 1947, the pay of the individuals in the revised scale in almost all cases was fixed and the enhanced pay in including arrears drawn only in the course of this year. The lump-sum provision made in the budget for the current year for the revision of the salaries and allowances of non-gazetted Government servants has therefore proved to be inadequate. I hope that these general observations of mine together with the explanatory note under each Grant will make the position clear to the House."

III.—VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1948-49—*cont.*

DEMAND XII—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE—*cont.*

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, 11-30 a.m. I was referring yesterday to the maintenance of the independence of the judiciary in our Province. In that connexion, I cannot but make a reference to the resignation of the Chief Justice, because it was a matter in which the people of this Province were very much interested for the reasons which I have stated yesterday. The fact which I know, subject of course, to the contradiction of the Government or by the Premier or by the Home Member is, that as per the Government of India Act, 1935, it is entirely within the jurisdiction of the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court to send a panel of names to the Government of India and from that panel the Government of India make the appointments, and as far as the Provincial Government is concerned, they have no business to interfere with it. If at all they have to say anything, they can make a reference direct to the Government of India. As I said earlier, Sir, it is for the Government to deny that the Hon. Premier insisted that the list should come to him, either to add to it or to amend it. The Chief Justice wanted to maintain the independence of the judiciary and he took a strong stand and the matter did not stop with that. My information is, this Government and particularly the Premier had not even the courtesy to reply to the points raised by the Chief Justice in his letters. He also tried his best earlier to have talks with the Hon. Premier, but that was not arranged. Unfortunately, when the Hon. Chief Justice and the Hon. Premier met it was too late and he submitted his resignation. The Hon. the Home Minister knows that it is the duty of the Chief Justice to send a panel of names. Since the matter became too late, the Hon. Chief Justice could not go back on his resignation; he did not withdraw it and had to retire. As I said yesterday, Sir, it does not matter, but the question is, whether the Government was right in making such an inroad on the judiciary.

" Sir, another matter I wish to mention in this connexion. This matter of the resignation of the Chief Justice was well known to the people of this Province; it was well known to the members of the Bar and the High Court Bench. The question was also raised on the floor of this House by my hon. Friend, Mr. Salam, as I told you, three days after the resignation took place. But, the Hon. the Home Minister said in reply that except what appeared in the press, the Government had no information. In fact, Sir, the Government had in their possession the resignation of the Chief Justice, because it was submitted three days earlier, but still the Hon. Home Minister stated on the floor of this House that he had no information barring the report that appeared in the press. I ask, Sir, what would be the impression on the public? The prestige of the Government would get shattered if they say such a thing on the floor of this House. Such being the case, the Government or the Home Minister could no doubt say, the Government are not prepared to disclose the matter or are not prepared to deny the

matter. But he should not have taken shelter under that to deny a thing which had actually taken place. Sir, what I am saying will be proved from the records available with the Hon. Premier or other Ministers. Even three days after the resignation, there was no point in the Hon. Home Minister trying to deny it. After all the prestige of the Government would not go. In this connexion, Sir, in the Upper House to which I made a reference, when the matter was brought to the notice of the Home Minister, he being a good parliamentarian, tried to pay homilies to the Judges of the High Court. No doubt, it is a mater of politics; one party paying homilies to the other party and so on. I can understand it, but no Government, however, powerful it may be, particularly in democratic days, could pay homilies to the Judges of the High Court, because it would be unreal and underrate their prestige and position. What would be the confidence of the public in the Government if they should say what they should not. They try to take shelter under what has happened in America. We are not concerned with America and we are here to take the good things which are in other countries, be it England or America. What I say is, so far as this country is concerned, every one feels that since the High Court and the judiciary are our main bulwarks, no inroads should take place on them, so that the independence of the judiciary may be maintained. We have seen in some of the legislative Bills that the High Court is precluded from interfering in certain matters. I ask, Sir, where is the protection for the ordinary man, the common man? Where should he go for protection and he cannot come to the Assembly and put forward his views. So, Sir, we have to look to the High Court and if our High Court and the judiciary are to be treated in this manner, I say, we have practically no civil liberty. They say that they are working in a democracy, but unfortunately that very democracy leads to dictatorship. Therefore, I say, it is not only a party question, but it is a question in which all are interested and we as laymen have a right to impress upon the Government, for God's sake, do not touch the judiciary, but see that its independence is maintained. That is the greatest thing and it is the elementary right of every man to see that where his interest is affected, he has to look up to the judiciary. Take for instance, the Public Safety Act. When previously Mr. Prakasam as Premier moved the Bill, at that time he also made a number of promises. We know how it is being worked and how rigorously it is being worked. Here also they are making it a partisan question. My hon. Friend, Mr. Venkateswarlu made a few points about the detention of members of the Communist Party. My hon. Friend, Mr. K. Bhashyam, ex-Law Minister, who is not here now, referred to the R.S.S. and I must thank him for small mercies. He also referred to the Muslim National Guards. There are so many innocent R.S.S. men arrested; they have arrested the Communists and several innocent students who joined the R.S.S. have suffered. They joined it thinking that it was an organization for the physical and cultural development of the Hindus, but several of the youngsters who joined it were arrested

in hundreds. Several of the members of the Muslim National Guards were also arrested. Here also, I may say, that in spite of the fact that the organization did not exist in the proper way and in spite of the fact that the Leader of the Party went to the farthest extent possible in saying that the organization was dissolved, several people were arrested in different parts of the Province. Those who have been arrested even wrote letters to the Government saying they have ceased all connexion with the organization and requested the Government to release them. But, no one was released, except perhaps three in the mufassal. Of course, under the pretext of maintaining the safety of the State, Government can do anything. To-day it may be the case of the Muslim National Guards, it may be the case of the R.S.S. But, I may say, the liberty of everybody is at stake because Government think that under the pretext of the safety of the State they can do anything. Sir, we are as much interested in the safety of the State as the Hon. Ministers and let not the Hon. Ministers think that they alone are interested in the safety of the State. It is our inherent duty to see that the State comes in first and we will do everything for it and see that even our rights are subordinated to the larger interests of the people. So, Sir, my appeal to the Government is, let there be a limit in regard to these matters. For the mere prestige of it you cannot do things like that and make the position of the people harsh. On the other hand, you should see that the public are satisfied. But this much I may tell you. It is not a question of the Muslim, Communist or others, but the entire public seems to be dissatisfied with the way in which these arrests have taken place and the long time that Government take to realize the matter. Even in this matter, Sir, there is no policy, but it is mere discrimination. If it is their policy, the Hon. the Premier can release a few and the Hon. the Home Minister can release a few. But, where is the policy, where is the plan and where is the method? When you are here to do justice, let justice be done and see that no innocent person is charged. Even the Hon. Home Minister stated that according to British Jurisprudence, it would be better to see that the 99 persons who have been convicted of guilt may be released, rather than punish one innocent man. They have arrested and kept under detention 22 innocent men. It is not a question of merely keeping one man, whether he be a member of the R.S.S. or the Muslim National Guards of a Communist and I am not talking in a partisan spirit, but in the interests of the public. You are merely keeping people in detention simply because they were connected with these organizations. They were legally functioning in those organizations and for no fault of theirs you are keeping these people under detention without realizing the amount of ruination under which they are suffering. Government will do well to release them. I challenge the Government with regard to the points which I have raised—I believe them to be quite true—I challenge the Government to deny when I have said and judge for themselves as to whether the Government are right or what I have said is right."

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MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" On a point of information, Sir. When discussing on the Demand for Administration of Justice, the Hon. Minister in charge is not present, though it may be said that some other Minister is taking notes—I do not see even other Ministers taking notes or trying to follow the debate. After all, Sir, we discuss these matters once a year and give suggestions. What is the use of our suggestions when the Ministers are not able to be present here, Sir? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" As far as the Hon. Leader of the House is concerned, he had an interview with His Excellency and he told me about it. He has just now gone out. As far as the other Ministers are concerned, I see they are taking notes. As a matter of fact, I see the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon taking notes."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Though I do not know shorthand, Sir, I have taken the speech of Mr. Raza Khan verbatim, since the Hon. Home Member is absent and he asked me to do so."

* SRI T. S. PATTABHIRAMAN :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, while supporting the demand made by the Hon. Minister for Law, I have a few observations to make with regard to the nature of justice that is being meted out to the people of the country. Though I have not got much to say about the quality of justice that is being meted out, yet I have to say that justice is denied, just because it is being too much delayed to the disadvantage of the public.

" Sir, I am not going to make any remarks on the civil side, but will confine myself to the criminal side. I must submit to the Hon. Minister for Law that he has not taken into consideration the number of cases that have risen in recent years in the villages. The introduction of Prohibition and various controls have resulted in a huge increase in the number of cases in the criminal courts, but unfortunately it has not been compensated by the appointment of more magistrates to try these cases. As a result of this almost all the criminal courts in the mufassal are overcrowded and the courts are sitting late at night much to the inconvenience of the public, the prosecutors and the Judges and they too are not able to do justice properly. So, Sir, I would request the Hon. Minister to consider the question of appointing more magistrates to try these cases, so that there may not be any considerable delay causing much inconvenience to the people. For example, in the Salem district, unfortunately due to Prohibition, cases have gone up by leaps and bounds and the volume of cases has risen to nearly 400 per cent of what it was during the pre-Prohibition days. Yet, the same number of magistrates are there and so they are not able to cope up with increased work at present. I suggest that one or two Additional First-class Magistrates may be appointed in Sankari and Namakkal divisions to see that the existing courts in these places are relieved of congestion and that justice is meted out properly and without delay. Further, I would like to make another suggestion to the Hon. Minister that in view of the increase

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in Prohibition cases, it is desirable to appoint special magistrates for trying Prohibition cases, especially when the work is heavy owing to a very large number of cases. I may point out, Sir, that in Salem town alone the number of cases is nearly 5,000 and in Trichengode it is nearly 2,000 in number and the ordinary magistrates are not able to do justice to all cases. As a result of this, there is confusion and the litigant public are put to a great deal of difficulty. Though, Sir, the separation of the judiciary and the executive will go a long way in solving this trouble, I suggest that as the present number of magistrates are inadequate, the number may be increased considerably. Again, Sir, when you are considering the question of increase in the number of magistrates, in order also to relieve the congestion in the bar, lawyers alone should be recruited for these new posts, and they may be of some real use to the public also.

" Sir, I want to say, in this connexion, a few words about honorary magistrates. The present calibre and cadre of these honorary magistrates are poor and disgusting. As a matter of fact, in almost all the rural parts, these people have absolutely no educational qualification and those who cannot read and write are made honorary magistrates, just because they are favourites and partymen or because they have contributed a few rupees to the War fund. It is a pity that the administration of justice should be left in the hands of such illiterate people who have their own bias and who have absolutely no knowledge of law. I would, therefore, request the Hon. Minister to thoroughly overhaul the present system and see that in future these posts are given only to people who possess the minimum educational qualification, such as the S.S.L.C. or the Intermediate.

" Finally, Sir, I want to make an appeal to the Government with regard to the present Hindu-Muslim troubles throughout the province. I have had occasion to tour most of the disturbed areas, namely, Edappadi and Erode and see with my own eyes the suffering which was wrought by the majority community to the minority community. Though everyone now repents and condemns the acts of hooliganism, I can assure hon. Members that the people there honestly feel that they have committed a mistake, that they are in the wrong and that they do not want to see such things happen in their lifetime again.

" They are having a change of heart and I can assure, Sir, that no such incidents will happen in future in Erode or in Edappaddi, but there is the duty of the Government also to do one thing. In Edappaddi alone, nearly three hundred people are being prosecuted for joining in the riots. I do not want to say anything about charge-sheeting them, because it is *sub judice*.

" Regarding Erode, Sir, a number of people have been hauled up and they have not been released on bail. About five hundred of them are rotting inside the jails. I submit to the Government that the detention of these people in jails is creating bitterness among the people and it is not conducive to Hindu-Muslim unity in those parts. Some of the Muslims themselves like Dawood

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Sheriff of Erode and a number of Muslims in Edappadi feel that no purpose will be served by continuing the cases and prosecuting them, because it will not bring them lasting peace. On the other hand, it will embitter the feelings between the Hindus and Muslims. They honestly feel that the launching of cases will not serve the real purpose but on the other hand will embitter feelings in future and the Government may not succeed in establishing permanent peace. I appeal to the Government in the interests of lasting and permanent peace that they will agree to withdraw all pending cases with regard to the Hindu-Muslim rioting so that people who had been aggressors may feel repentent and make their own contributions. As a matter of fact, in Edappadi people on their own accord have collected nearly a lakh of rupees to compensate Muslims for their loss and I think, that is the best way of bringing better relationship between the two communities. I request the Hon. Home Minister and the Premier to consider this point favourably and to withdraw all cases that are pending."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, this is a demand concerning the administration of justice. But we have already discussed how not only there is no administration of justice but on the other hand there is mal-administration in this province. Not only there is no justice but justice has become a commodity in the hands of the members who belong to the party in power and it is being made use of in methods of which are not above criticism. I do not want the authority of the Chief Justice but I have the authority of the Revenue Minister who, the other day, clearly said that he had received reports from officials that the Members of the Assembly, viz., Members of the party in power in the Assembly, are interfering in the administration. It is an open secret; it is high time that a committee is appointed to go into the matter. When I repeated this matter, the other day, the Hon. Home Minister, who is not here to-day, said that I was repeating it. We ask and ask and repeat and repeat and it is for the Government to come out and say, what their reply is in the matter. There are charges against Ministers; there are charges against Members that they are interfering with the administration of justice and is it not proper that the Government come out with a statement as to how far these things are true? In spite of the fact that questions are appearing both in the House and outside, Government are keeping silent and the natural conclusion will be that the Government are sleeping over the matter or they are incapable of maintaining discipline in the province in the matter of administration.

" Sir, during the last three years, questions were raised about the separation of Judicial and Executive functions. They said that the matter was under considerartion; next year, they said it was under active consideration; until recently they said, we are going to do it. But no amount has been allotted for it in the budget which clearly shows that Government is not serious in the matter. I am not in a hurry and the Government also should not be in a hurry. Whatever Government does in this important

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reform, let them not proceed in the work without informing this House and without giving an opportunity to this House, to discuss the matter. The report, I understand, has been prepared by the Prakasam Ministry; that report, we are told, is modified by the present Government. I do not know for what reasons and I do not complain about it. But whatever it is, I say that the reform regarding the separation of Judiciary from Executive should never be introduced in this province before it is discussed in this House so that the people may not misunderstand the actions of the Government and say that this reform has come for various reasons. It is not possible to see why the Government is not giving a categorical reply to my question that this House should have opportunity to discuss this matter. We have seen, this morning, during question hour, the Home Minister becoming more and more evasive and less communicative. In answer to a question that has been explained very well by my hon. Friend Mr. Raza Khan, the Hon. Minister is trying to avoid things and that has been very well demonstrated this morning. A question was asked whether an opportunity will be given to this House to discuss the matter so that the House may know what part this Ministry did and what part the other did, regarding the reform. Is it not proper that they should at least give a reply as to what is going to be done, whether they are going to discuss this matter or not?

" Sir, my hon. Friend explained the way in which the Government is treating the High Court. Questions have been raised both here and outside regarding the strained relationship between this Government and the High Court. We are of the opinion that there should be the highest regard for the High Court, as the common people look to it for their protection. The way in which legislation is introduced in this House invariably—whether it is a zamindari legislation or a Public Safety Act—containing provisions to shoot, to kill and so on, saying that courts of law have no jurisdiction in this matter, is not satisfactory. It is a negation of justice. We are here to say on behalf of the people that this Government is entirely wrong in treating the courts in such a way and they should not be anxious to avoid jurisdiction of the courts and they had much better go about and talk of other things if they have no business, than talk about the High Court. Recently, the High Court passed a decree saying that the Government had no power to instruct semi-official bodies to act in a particular way. Instead of following it, the Government tried to circumvent the matter by introducing legislation. That, Sir, is a very unhealthy thing and an improper thing and the Government ought to have respected the High Court, as that is the citadel for the protection of the common man. Even though so many things have been said about the way in which appointments of High Court Judges are going on, the Government is proverbially silent. Even though Government decided to keep silent on all important matters and then try to defend officials when questions are raised, are they going to keep silent when we

ask about the judicial separation, about the High Court and about other fundamental things? I ask, is it because the Premier has not come or is there any Cabinet resolution that on such matters that we should cry hoarse even if the Government should not give any reply? Are they not aware of the statement made by Desabhaktha Konda Venktapayya about the interference on the part of Members in the day-to-day administration? Are they not aware that they have been trying to tamper with the powers of the High Court whenever they come forward with legislation? These things, they are aware and I request the Hon. Minister for Agriculture at least to give a reply on these matters."

* SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. Speaker, speaking on this demand, I shall confine myself to certain points which have been brought out clearly by the previous speakers. Apart from the urgency of completing the reform connected with the separation of the Executive and the Judiciary, about which the previous speakers have already addressed this House, I would like the Government to keep in mind certain apprehensions which have been roused in the minds of the general public by the recent speech of the Hon. Home Minister, following as it did speech of the new officiating Chief Justice of the Madras High Court. The Hon. Home Minister is reported to have said that even the Judges of the High Court must work within the Constitution, a proposition, pure and simple, to which nobody can take exception, but the context and the manner in which it was uttered very naturally roused apprehensions in the minds of the public, of the Government's attitude especially when the Home Minister quoted the example of President Roosevelt in creating new judges to implement his New Deal Policy. When I was reading the report in the papers, I, for one, as a member who has been connected with the Legislature of this province for over sixteen years, thought it was a very sad day that this reference should have been made especially as the Hon. Home Minister repeats often times about the great parliamentary traditions of England and his unstinted admiration for its institutions, where it is the unwritten law that the independence of the Judiciary must be maintained at all costs and it is a *sine qua non* of the liberty of the people in all democratic forms of Government. Trained as he was in that country, it really surprised me that he should quote America and the action of President Roosevelt in creating new judges. This, in the minds of the people, tends to be interpreted as a pointer to the attitude of the Government, what action they would take if the Judges of the High Court would still cherish the feeling that they are independent of the Government for the time being in power. Governments may come and go. It all depends upon the vicissitudes of political fortunes of political parties and the ballot boxes. But the Judiciary must be there as an independent body uninfluenced by political changes and doctrinaire principles which may sway the poll to one side or the other and may instal any Government in power. So, once again, I urge upon the Government to do everything to restore the confidence that has

been shattered in the minds of the public and to keep the High Court in this province beyond the influence of the Government or for the matter of that, any Government. After all, America is a new democratic country. It has not got the principle or tradition that has been built so assiduously and at so great a cost and sacrifice as the courts of justice in England and we in India, if for one thing we are to be thankful to the British administration, it is for the court of justice and the forms and procedure and the efficient manner in which the courts have been functioning. It is very important that the Government must retrace their steps in order to restore the confidence of the public in the High Court in particular and the Judiciary of this country in general.

" Sir, with regard to criminal courts and administration of criminal justice in the districts, I want to say a word. Criminal justice in the districts is administered by a set of magistrates, sub-magistrates and first-class magistrates who, in spite of their limitations, have done fairly well. But I think, it is not enough for a country that has embarked upon a free career as we are. In cases of disputes concerning property or civil rights, legally-trained judges preside over the trials and if, at any time or for any reason, things go wrong in one Court, even there it may be taken to another where also trained judges dispose of cases. But things are different in cases where the liberty of the people is concerned and hence it is a paradox. We are having criminal law administered by persons who are not legally trained and who are not capable of apprising evidence in its proper perspective and appreciating legal points. Therefore, it is very necessary, especially when we are contemplating the separation of Judiciary from the Executive, that criminal law must be administered by persons who have had some legal grinding because in criminal cases the magistrates have powers to send persons to jails and affecting his personal freedom. It is a matter for serious consideration and I would certainly insist upon the Government to place persons who have had legal training in charge of criminal courts. 12 noon.

" There is one other matter which has been a pet scheme of mine and that is we shall have to devise some machinery whereby we can make administration of justice quite handy and accessible to the litigant public. My idea is that justice should be taken to the very doors of the people. May I ask whether it is not possible to introduce a system of itinerary courts? In England the courts go from place to place once in a quarter and try important cases involving serious criminal offences and civil cases involving divorce, property, rights, etc. These courts are known as Courts of Azzizes. Whether it is going to be a decision by a criminal court or a civil court, these courts should be taken to the very doors of the litigant public instead of asking them to go over long distances and wait for days together for the purpose of having their suits disposed of.

" There is one other matter which I wish to touch upon. It is high time that with regard to recruitment to the judiciary in the High Court, either civil or criminal side, the claims of the

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members of the Bar must have more prominent recognition. Even in to-day's paper I saw that about two vacancies out of four in the High Court are to be filled up by the members of the I.C.S. I should certainly think that the time has come when we want very highly talented and highly trained legal men to preside over the destinies of the Madras High Court. It is common knowledge and a general impression among the members of the Bar that there is deterioration in the standard of learning, efficiency and talent among the members of the High Court Bench, because appointments have not been made from among the best men. In considering the claims of the members of the Bar, I should also bring to the notice of the Government that the claims of those from mufassal centres should also be taken into account because there are talented men even in mufassal courts who have conducted cases involving crores and crores of rupees and they also should have some recognition. The reason why their claims have not so far been recognized is that the judges of the High Court have not had opportunities of assessing their talents. That is perhaps one of the reasons why their claims have not so far been recognized. So far as I can see, such eminent men who have made their mark in mufassal Bar have not been recruited.

"I wish also to refer to court fees. Sir, I would point out that these courts are not intended to make profit out of litigation. After all, Sir, litigants have recourse to courts, either civil or criminal, only when there is no other course for settlement among themselves. When the court fee was enhanced it was solemnly promised on the floor of this House that it was done purely on account of the financial strain through which the then Government were passing. I strongly plead that the existing rate of court fees should be reduced and kept at such a level as to cover only the cost that is involved for the Government in running the judiciary. Thank you, Sir."

* K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the cut motion before the House, I say that it is a serious slur on the achievements of the Congress Government, that they have not been able to bring about the separation of judiciary from the executive. Even though it was hoped that this much coveted reform would come in with the advent of the popular Government and even though some of the neighbouring Native States like Cochin have been successful in separating the judiciary from the tramels of the executive work like revenue functions. I would, therefore, point out to the Government that there should be no further delay in this highly desirable reform to ensure the independence and integrity of the judicial administration in this Proivnce. Sir, it is very unfortunate that an impression has been created in the minds of the public that party politics make a lot of interference to account for in the administration of justice and even on the highest judiciary in the land the political party in power has been trying to have a controlling hand. As far as the highest judiciary, i.e., the High Court, is concerned, the Hon. the Home

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Minister's reference the other day to the Hon. the Chief Justice of the High Court was very unfortunate and it deserves the unanimous condemnation of all persons who are interested in the independence of the judiciary.

"With reference to the administration of criminal justice in mufassal, I have to urge one or two points for the consideration of the Government. It has become an unfortunate practice in the mufassal that the police should take adjournments for an indefinite time on account of the absence of some witness or other for the prosecution and tire out the other side especially when they have not a strong case to prosecute. I can cite as an instance that in a particular case in Malabar in which the accused happened to be members belonging to a particular political party, 59 adjournments were taken on the pretext that one prosecution witness was absent with the result that the poor accused in the case were subject to a loss of some thousands of rupees and lot of mental worry. After all this, in appeal, their innocence was established and they were acquitted. But this acquittal cost them some thousands of rupees. There are other similar cases like this, pending before the magistrates in Malabar where repeated adjournments are applied for and granted by the magistrates who have to a large extent depend upon the police for good reports for their promotions. Sir, for no justifiable grounds adjournments are taken. If as a matter of fact any prosecution witness is not available for some length of time, the best course would be to adjourn the case *sine die* and give notice to the other side that the case would be taken only after such and such time. If this is done, there would be no hardship to the accused, there would be no reason to complain of the motive of the police either. In the matter of withdrawal of cases, discrimination has been made by the police ostensibly on account of other influences in viewing certain members of political parties with suspicion and disfavour. It is better that Government take serious notice of these things. The accused in a particular case because they belonged to the Muslim League party were pursued with a vengeance. A perusal of the charge-sheets in this case would clearly show that prosecutions were unnecessary. In spite of all this they prosecute and after thousands of rupees have been spent, they are acquitted in the end. Government ought to exercise great caution before prosecutions are ordered.

"In this connexion I have to make one suggestion regarding withdrawal of cases relating to rioting. While I endorse the point of view put forward by one of the previous speakers that in order to bring about cordiality between communities and communities prosecutions should be withdrawn, I do not subscribe to the view that there should be indiscriminate withdrawal of cases in respect of all persons concerned in the riot. It is not advisable that all the offenders should be let off by withdrawing the cases against them. In cases where there is tangible evidence establishing the prosecution case, the cases should not be allowed to be withdrawn. If such cases are allowed to be withdrawn, it would be an encouragement to lawless elements, and my hon. Friend who made

this suggestion will rue the day if these lawless elements are allowed to have their own way. Law must have its own way, whether the offenders are Hindus or Muslims or any other community. There should be no leniency to offenders. Of course representations may be received from certain people that cases against particular persons may be withdrawn because they belong to particular communities. That the offenders belong to a particular community should not be the criterion on which the Government should withdraw their prosecution. Government must take a very strong attitude in these matters.

" Another point that I would urge upon the attention of the Government is this : great hardship has been caused to the people of Malabar by the staying of a large number of suits pending in courts. When the Tenants' Protection Act was enacted people were made to understand that the Malabar Tenancy Act was practically on the anvil and that it would be brought into force in the course of six months. That was the promise made by the hon. Member in charge but now it is a very long time since that Act was passed and the Malabar Tenancy Act has not been amended and suits against ryots are indefinitely stayed. So I request that there should not be any further delay in the matter of permanent legislation regarding Malabar Tenancy Act, and those suits that have been stayed by civil courts should be allowed to try again those cases. When the separation of judiciary and executive takes place, as urged by several hon. Members, the claims of law graduates should be taken into consideration and assistant public prosecutors and other law officers who are fully qualified should be given priority in the selection of first-class magistrates and others."

12-15 p.m.

* THE YUVARAJAH OF PITHAPURAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting this demand I would like to give expression to a few reactions, for what they are worth. Administration of justice, even as the Upanishadaic razor's edge of the path of salvation is, is strewn with difficulties and is an extremely dangerous one. No doubt it is beset with difficulties, but that is no excuse for any failure in the administration of justice. The whole problem is further confounded by the various definitions given to concept of justice. There is the Hitler's concept of justice, there is the Stalin's concept of justice and there is perhaps such a one as Churchillian concept of justice; but we will be very safe, I feel, if we accept the interpretation of someone who was nearer home, that is, the Gandhian interpretation. What little I say here, Sir, this morning, would be related to that concept of justice, which is commonly accepted by the ordinary man. Justice to be administered properly should have some vehicles. And I do feel that the judicature, the permanent services, like the Civil Service and so on, and the armed forces are all but vehicles of that justice. Therefore, it does pain me a lot when these stabilizing bulwarks of justice are attacked in season and out of season. No doubt there may be loopholes, no doubt there may be failures, but when the assets are weighed against the liabilities, the assets outweigh the

liabilities. Therefore, it is my submission that in dealing with these stabilizing influences amidst the chaos that we find ourselves in we should remember the fundamental aspects.

" Sir, coming now to the more immediate issue of the judicature, I would like to submit that no amount of carefulness is too much in dealing with this subject. In these days when individual liberty is in danger at the hands of the totalitarian concept of the State, nothing should be done and nothing should be said that would detract from this great bastion of individual liberty, even an iota of its usefulness or prestige. This sentiment of mine has added significance with particular reference to the fundamental rights that find a place in the draft constitution of the Union of India. With these words, Sir, I oppose the cut motion and support the demand."

H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is conceded that it is not only desirable but necessary to separate the functions of the executive from the judiciary. We have been waiting so far to know and hear what Government is going to do in the matter. But we feel a little disappointed because procrastination on the part of Government causes some anxiety. Sir, procrastination is the thief of time. An expert committee had been appointed to consider this question and submitted its report to the Government and a long time has elapsed since then. The Government had been telling us more than once that the report was being considered. But, Sir, if the Government really feels that the time has not come for the separation of the executive from the judiciary, the best thing would be for them to tell us openly that they are not going to do it for the time being. If the Government really wants to retain the control of the executive over the judiciary under the present conditions, let the Government say so in plain words, so that we may not be put to the necessity of repeating this demand *ad nauseum*, Sir, we shall stop this agitation for the time being if the Government will do some plain speaking in the matter. Sir, what we want is not hasty justice, what we want is speedy justice at less cost. We know that justice is available at enormous cost only to the rich, that is how it is being felt by the large mass of the poor people. It is also said that litigation is a costly luxury intended only for the richer few. What I feel is, ' make justice not only speedy but cheap, bring it within the reach of the common man.' It is his right that we have to safeguard, we should see justice is made available to him speedily and at less cost. I wish Government were able to device some machinery by which justice could be brought within the reach of the common man at a very much less cost. Sir, what is it that we want. It is justice according to truth, and not justice according to a cumbersome machinery of law and procedure. More often than not, we find that truth is lost sight of in the intricacies of law, procedure and evidence, and justice is delayed on account of the obstacles put in its way by the machinery of law. Therefore we should have some machinery; for instance, the panchayats in the villages should be entrusted with the duty of administering justice according to truth in a very

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simple manner as speedily as possible and as cheaply as possible. Then only can justice be made available to the large mass of the poor people. Therefore it is no use simply talking of the High Court, the district courts, the magistrates' courts and all that. We must be able to device some machinery by which we can help the masses and make justice available to them speedily and at less cost. That should be our aim.

" Sir, I do not know if any member has spoken about village courts and the village panchayat courts. They are really the courts which can be made use of for dispensing justice to the poor people. But what is it that has been happening. I find some village panchayat courts are not functioning satisfactorily at all, and in some cases they do not function at all. Government should see that village panchayat courts and the village courts should be made to function properly; they should be put on a proper basis. I know of one instance, where a suit that had been transferred from one village panchayat court to another more than six months ago, has not been heard of since. It is said that the village panchayat to which that suit was transferred has not been functioning. If that is the way in which we deal out justice to the poor villager I do not see how this Government can justify this expenditure under this demand. I would therefore request the Government to take up the question of administering justice in the rural areas in a proper manner by putting on a proper basis the Village Courts Act. Therefore this aspect of the question I would consider more important than High Court or any other court. In the High Court it is only the rich, the zamindar, the capitalist who can go and spend vast sums of money. Therefore while we are making arrangements under this demand year after year for the administration of justice, what we should see is that justice is not denied to the poor man, who is the man who stands in real need of justice. There is nobody to take care of him. He cannot make an easy approach to the courts of justice. He has to go to the lawyers, pay them fees first, and then only can he approach the court. At every stage he has to spend money like water. Will he able to do it? Therefore, Sir, I would strongly make an appeal to the popular Government to consider this aspect of the question so that justice may be made available to the large majority of the people speedily and at a less cost. Thank you, Sir."

12-30 p.m. • SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" I am not trying to be humourous if I suggest to the Hon. Minister for Courts to take up half a dozen cases anywhere in the Presidency and practise in some of the criminal courts so that he may himself have an idea of the humiliating conditions that prevail there even after the dawn of independence. I do not know where he has practised or whether he has practised at all. If he has not done so, it is better that be takes up the suggestion immediately. A criminal court presents the appearance of a police court even at the outset. A lawyer goes there with his flowing robes and glowing law books and encounters a head constable with a red turban and a magistrate who has barely passed, or perhaps failed, in the school-final examination. Such

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a magistrate sits there to judge the merits of the arguments and administer justice. I should think that it is rather disgraceful for any Government, and the more so for a Government existing in 1948, to leave justice to the mercies of these failed S.S.L.C. clerks and the batoned policemen.

" Mr. Speaker, Sir, you would have known by this time that there are what are called district magisterial orders. You may produce the highest law books, you may quote the cases of the biggest courts. But the note put up by the camp clerk that the District Magistrate in his grandeur has directed that so much fine should be levied for every case of bus overload and not less than so much for certain other offences is what the Magistrate has to follow. This nauseating, disgusting and most disgraceful way of dispensing justice should be put an end to without delay. Some of the Members on the Ministerial Benches who were till recently practising lawyers must come to my rescue if my appeal to the Hon. Minister for Courts fails to evoke a favourable response, because it may be that they may have to go back and practise in courts as nobody can presage the time and tide of man. Let them forestall the situation ahead and avoid these humiliating conditions by passing legislation in advance.

" In security cases, the Magistrate is asked to preserve peace. The Subdivisional Magistrate goes to the affected village with a posse of constables, but usually he fails. When a case is launched, it comes up before the very same Subdivisional Magistrate and he has to dispense justice between the parties. May I ask if this is the way in which you should administer justice in this civilized land of ours? The Magistrate has also to see that peace is maintained in villages where there are agrarian and other disputes. My view is that this state of affairs should not be allowed to continue any longer. That a Magistrate who goes to preserve peace and order should try the case also and that the whole thing should be rehearsed before him in a court of law is not a very desirable thing.

" Then an accused in a criminal case is made to stand even before a charge is framed against him. I wish to know what law on the face of the earth or equity requires it. Some time back I put a question to the Hon. Minister in charge of Law and Order asking for the provision under which the Government compel an accused to stand in a court of law. I can understand this restriction being placed upon him after he is charged. Unless and until he is convicted, there is no moral turpitude attached to him. I should think that a person against whom only a warrant has been issued should not be made to stand always shivering in his shoes. I have seen hundreds of poor people actually shivering and preferring an early conviction to bearing the ordeal. This must be ended.

" Coming to civil courts, there is a rush for disposal. Speedy disposal is very often mistaken for efficiency, and fitness for promotion seems to be judged by this measuring rod. My information is that District Judges in their over-enthusiasm have rushed

through trials of suits so much so that the High Court is now filled to the ceiling with second appeals and further appeals. I want to know why there is this mad rush for expediting trials in the lower courts. I can understand such a thing in the previous dispensation, but under this Government it is justice that we want and not disposal. If a case has been shabbily tried without taking evidence on all points and thereby miscarriage of justice has resulted, my submission is that the Judges of the High Court and other judges should be given a hint to take action against those who are responsible for such hasty and slip-shod trial and rushing-through of cases. Proper trial after taking evidence on all the relevant points should be the criterion for promotion in the rank of judicial officers.

" Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me point out that you are the custodian of the liberties of not only the Members of this Assembly but also the liberties of the millions of people whom the Members represent. There is a complaint of cases still being launched under the Criminal Tribes Act. That Act has been repealed by this legislature some six months back. But it has not yet been published in the gazette. In the Repealing Act, it is said that this Act shall come into force from the date of its publication in the gazette. I honestly thought that the publication would follow soon after the passing of the Act. But till now it has not been published, and people are still being prosecuted under that Act. People write to me letters asking why cases under the Act are still being launched while the Act has been repealed. The pity is that the police are throttling the administration of justice. As the Act has not yet been published in the gazette it is not on the Statute book and therefore the police are filing suits under that Act. I think the Hon. Mr. Prakasam when he was the Premier, passed an order that no complaint should be filed by any policeman in any court under the Criminal Tribes Act. That order is observed more in its breach than in its observance. This is very objectionable and I have to bring it to your notice because justice is not administered in conformity with the laws passed here.

" There is another point with reference to our laws. Nobody should be hauled up and put in prison simply because he has no ostensible means of livelihood. If we take the census figures, we will find that 90 per cent of the people of this country have no ostensible means of livelihood. Why do you want that there should be an Act of this type in these enlightened days? Granting that there is one such Act and that the Central Government have not yet come to know the absurdity of it, why should the courts of this province try to convict people simply because they have no ostensible means of livelihood? Really I do not know how many of us, the Members of this House, have ostensible means of livelihood. My submission is that these cases should be stopped. As far as possible we must instil in the minds of the people of this country that a change has come over. After all independence is like a clean municipal street where you don't find any ruts and people can walk safely even in darkness. Supposing

there is no humour in a newspaper's witty saying and you have to cheer with the help of a caution in the paper asking you to laugh, where is the effect of humour? If this is the way in which a statutory rule is enforced, where is justice? Where is the realization that we are having Swaraj?

" In conclusion I reiterate the suggestion I made in the beginning. The Hon. Minister for Courts will do well to accept at least half a dozen engagements in various courts of the Province. He can argue even police cases and find out for himself how undignified it is to meet a head constable with a red turban, a most offensive head dress for this guardian of peace and for a lawyer with his flowing gown, who has studied and understood law, to waste his arguments before a man who has failed perhaps three times in the School-final examination and who has been installed as a magistrate by dint of his community or by the favouritism of some obliging superior. My point is that this unbecoming state of affairs should be put an end to as early as possible."

• N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, our greatest inheritance from the British regime is the respect for the rule of law. How has been this administration of justice in this Province is not for me to say, because we have heard from almost every section of the House how there has been much of maladministration in this regard. I would only appeal to the Hon. Minister in charge of law just to go incognito round the courts and particularly walk in the corridors of the High Court to get a real picture of the esteem in which the administration of justice is held by men who count in matters of administration of justice. Suffice it to say that the recent resignations and appointments of the Judges of the High Court of our Province have shaken the public confidence. I do not like to add to what has been already said and that too remarkably well by ever so many friends including my esteemed friend, Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar.

" As regards our law courts in the mufassal, I believe enough has been said by my friend Mr. V. Raghavayya who has caricatured the mental make-up of the Magistrates in the lower courts. It is rather too late in the day for me to say that we must have the separation of the judiciary from the executive. We are anxiously waiting for the day when this promise given by the Congress will be implemented.

" My valued friend Mr. Pattabhiraman referred to Hindu-Muslim riots. I am glad he understands that crimes have been committed by the majority. I will feel very happy if every step is taken by the Government to restore goodwill between the two communities. If the Government feel that the release of a few individuals will help towards that end, I am not going to stand in their way. That is a matter which I leave entirely to the Government to decide.

" Mr Speaker, he (Mr. Pattabhiraman) also referred to the question of compensation. I am glad that private efforts are being

made in different parts to see that the sufferers are given some relief. But the damage that has been caused, he himself will admit, is so considerable not only at Erode, Edapadi and Rajapalayam but also in Tiruvannamalai that any amount of private effort cannot do the needful. Loss to the tune of several lakhs of rupees has been sustained in each area of disturbance. It is but right and proper that the Government should step in where private effort has failed to afford the necessary relief. In this connexion I am reminded of what the Hon. Mr. Prakasam as Premier had done with regard to the riots at Vaniyambadi. He visited the spot, witnessed the horror of the crimes committed and, after laborious investigation and negotiation, agreed to earmark a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs. But even that was too meagre an allotment compared with the loss sustained in that locality. But when his Cabinet approved of the allotment and His Excellency the Governor passed an order and it had been communicated to the district authorities, the new Ministry stepped in and cancelled that
12-45 p.m. order. The Hon. Home Minister said that he was perfectly right in superseding that order. Mr. Speaker, if one Government passed an order after careful consideration and another Government should come in and say: 'It is not proper' do you believe anybody, particularly the minorities, would have confidence in the administration? If such orders are issued one allotting compensation and another cancelling compensation, it would not make for confidence in Government on the part of minorities. I would only say that it is not necessary for me to bring to the notice of the Hon. Home Minister that his view of the problem is not considered final; it is the Provincial Government that are in charge of law and order. I bank upon their collective wisdom; where they have not taken courage in both hands to levy punitive fines, I hope that they will at least, as the authority in charge of law and order, do the needful by seeing that at least out of provincial funds they earmark an allotment towards the compensation for the minorities. I repeat even now: 'Better late than never.' Let them restore that confidence."

* SRI T. K. T. N. R. TATACHARI:—" Mr. Speaker, if there is one department which has maintained a high degree of integrity and justice during the days of political upheaval and turmoil, it is certainly the Indian Judiciary. But it is sad to note that the personnel who constitute this magnificent body of officers have not been treated with justice themselves. I agree with my hon. friend Mr. Bhashyam that the District Munsifs are started off very badly with regard to the salaries on which they begin and they are treated worse even as they become Subordinate Judges. The salary they get as Subordinate Judges is only Rs. 50 over the maximum which is fixed for the District Munsif. As Munsifs their pecuniary jurisdiction is only Rs. 3,000 whereas as Subordinate Judges, their civil jurisdiction is unlimited; as regards their criminal jurisdiction, they have all the powers of the Sessions Judge except the power to award a sentence of death. As Subordinate Judges they are subordinate to the District Judge who may find it

convenient to transfer to them the heavier type of work for disposal while they themselves get a salary ranging from Rs. 1,350 to Rs. 2,250. By the time a man becomes a Subordinate Judge, he is already 45 or 50 with a family of a moderately big size; I know of a Subordinate Judge who is hard put to it to buy clothes for himself and is not able to engage a jutka to go to court. These, Sir, are the officers who are entrusted with very heavy responsibility and considering the very sacred duty that they have to perform, they must be maintained on a higher rate of salaries which would enable them to discharge their duties with efficiency and maintain themselves with dignity and honour. As regards the Judicial Ministerial staff, if once a man enters the service he enters a blind alley. They have absolutely no promotion; if at all they get any promotion, they have got to await the death, disease or unsoundness of mind of the sheristadars of district courts or some such people higher up. Most of them are people who have got very good training in the procedural as well as on the legal side of criminal justice and I would suggest to Government that recruitment to the subordinate magistracy might very usefully be done from this class of officers rather than from among the clerical establishment of the Revenue Department who are very poor specimens who know neither the law nor procedure nor even court decorum.

"I have to touch another point. The state progress of society can be assessed on the exact extent to which orders and decrees of courts are respected. The execution side of civil court orders and decrees consist of the process service establishment who form a very miserable lot both from their size and from their training and discipline. So long as a person has local influence to scare away an amin or if the amin is corrupt, he is able to pay him off, there is absolutely no use by getting any kind of decrees or orders against him. On the other hand, orders of criminal courts are executed with greater efficiency by the police. I would request the Hon. Minister for Law to examine if a section of the police could not be put in charge under the nazir for the execution of the process of civil courts.

"About the separation of the judiciary from the executive, a number of hon. Members have spoken before me and I wish only to point out one particular instance which occurred under this Government and I should like the Hon. Minister to hear me. Mr. Speaker, I have got one particular instance to be put before the House which will convince the House as much as it has done me that separation is very important and must be immediately attended to. It is a case of blackmarketing as well of contravention of control orders, blackmarketing in groundnut oil in Mysore territory by conveying lorry loads to that territory through the district of Chittoor. The anti-blackmarketing Inspector apprehended one of the lorries, he is a very efficient man and is probably one of the pedigree hounds of the C.I.D. who has got a good record to his credit and he was able to detect that more than 1½ lakhs of rupees worth of groundnut oil had been carried into the Mysore State during a period of 6 to 9 months. When he was about to lay the

charge-sheet, there came an order from the Government asking him not to charge-sheet except for a minor offence involving between 2 to 3 thousand rupees and that the proprietor should be absolved and only the clerk of these oil mills should be prosecuted. On hearing of this, I, as a member representing the district, wrote confidentially to Government saying that such and such a thing had happened and there seems to have been some mistake. Instead of getting a reply from Government, within a period of forty-eight hours, one of the close relations of the party was at my doors to hush me up. When again I came here I asked Government to tell me what exactly the matter was but a threat was issued stating that the District Collector will be taken to task for having revealed this information. To the prosecution staff instructions were not merely given to prosecute for the lesser offence and to press for a lenient sentence but also to the trying Magistrate to entertain this request. This is an instance which has convinced me that under democracy there is no place for the co-existence of powers with the Government both over the executive and the judiciary. The judiciary must be made immediately independent so that they may dispense justice and discharge their duties in the manner that people ordinarily understand. With these words, I support the demand."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"On a point of information, Sir. I understand, Sir, that the Premier is in charge of the portfolio of the High Court or he has got something to do with it. May I know whether this matter entirely rests with the Home Minister or whether the Hon. Premier has got anything to do with it and if so, whether he will speak about the High Court?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Mr. Speaker, I have often mentioned to the hon. Member that Government acts as a whole. I am listening to the debates and one of my colleagues has been here all the time taking notes and they are here and I am prepared to address the House on the points raised during the discussions and they need not bother who is in charge of what."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" The question was whether the portfolio rests with the Home Minister or the Premier has anything to do with the High Court."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Recommendations of appointment of Judges of the High Court are finally made by the Premier."

MAHIN SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. Speaker, in the olden days punishment was awarded after a literal hue and cry on the part of the accused by way of his defence to the charges with which he was charged. But nowadays punishment is awarded without any enquiry and without giving the accused person any chance to say what he has in defence. It was being done during the days of the ancient Rajahs. The R.S.S. was

declared an unlawful body as it had connexion with the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi and the man who assassinated him belonged to the R.S.S. organization. That being so, why was the Muslim National Guards declared unlawful and members of that organization arrested and kept in jails? And that too without enquiry and without an opportunity being given to them to prove their innocence; and people are still rotting in jails. They are undergoing hardship. They are people who had not been to jail before and they have no experience of jail life; even though the Minister may say that jail life is ordinary from his point of view it is not so for others. The reason for banning them is not far to seek. They were the army and the workers of the Muslim league when they were fighting the Congress and so the Congress have their own fear for that organization."

MR. SPEAKER :—" If the hon. Member will take two minutes we shall sit till he finishes his speech."

MAHIN SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I will take five minutes."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I wish to remind the House that under rule 131 cut motions for supplementary grants should reach the office before 3 p.m. to-morrow."

The House adjourned till 11 a.m. on 20th March 1948.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Saturday, the 20th March 1948.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Expiry of the term of office of the present Special Officer (Departmental Enquiries).

[* 197 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member who gave notice of the question is not present. The answer will be printed in the proceedings."]

SRI R. NADHAMUNI REDDI: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state whether the present office of the Special Officer (Departmental Enquiries) expires on 31st March 1948?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—"The term of the Special Officer expires on 30th June 1948."

Alleged Police excesses at Naduveerapattu (South Arcot).

* 198 *Q.*—SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Police authorities at Naduveerapattu, Cuddalore taluk, especially Sub-Inspector Hameed, indulged in acts of violence and atrocity on the public in the name of maintaining law and order; and

(*b*) whether the Government have instituted an enquiry on the subject-matter contained in clause (*a*) and, if so, what the result of the enquiry is?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"(*a*) Allegations to this effect have been made and are under departmental enquiry.

"(*b*) The Government have enquired into this matter. A criminal case has been charged in the Court of the Additional First-class Magistrate, Cuddalore, against 23 persons (Padayachis) for offences under sections 147, 148, 325, 395, 397, 426, 454, 379 and 380 read with section 149, Indian Penal Code. A departmental enquiry is also pending against the Police officials against whom allegations have been made."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Since a departmental enquiry is going on and a case is pending before the court, I hope the House will agree with me that there should be no supplementary questions."

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"இந்த கேஸ் ஒன்று கோர்ட்டு நடவடிக்கையில் இருப்பதாலும் இரண்டாவது **departmental enquiry**-ல் இருப்பதாலும் அதற்கு **supplementary questions** போட்டால் அந்த நடவடிக்கைகளுக்கு பாதகம் ஏற்படலாம். ஆகையால் **supplementary questions** கேட்கவேண்டாம் என்று சொல்லுகிறேன். உங்களுக்கு **(to Sri S. Paramananda Rayar)** ஏதாவது கேட்கவேண்டுமென்று இருந்தால் தம்பில் கேளுங்கள."

The Highways Department.

[* 199 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member who gave notice of the question is not present. The answer will be printed in the proceedings."]

M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) what is the amount of expenditure for the upkeep of the Highways Department as compared with the Public Works Department during 1946–47; and

(*b*) what is the reason for creating a separate department as Highways Department?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"(*a*) & (*b*) The information asked for is placed on the table of the House."

Purchase of motor car by certain officers.

* 200 *Q.*—SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Mr. D. D. Sathe, the ex-Deputy Provincial Motor Transport Controller, had purchased any motor cars in his name and in his father's name and, if so, how many;

(*b*) whether Mr. C. V. Narasimhan, I.C.S., Deputy Secretary to Food Department, had purchased any cars for himself and, if so, how many; and

(*c*) whether the Government have got information about non-gazetted officers who have purchased more than one car?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"(*a*) No permits were issued for the purchase of new cars either to Mr. D. D. Sathe or to his father. The Government have no information as to whether Mr. Sathe purchased any cars in the open market.

"(*b*) So far as is known, two new cars were purchased by him.

"(*c*) The Government have no information."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Are the Government aware that Mr. D. D. Sathe purchased cars bearing Nos. MSP 2154, Chevrolet, in March 1947 and MSP 4602, Standard, a few days before his transfer in October 1947, and also MDH 1234 in September 1947 in Chingleput district where he had no right to purchase and register?"

* Printed as Appendix on page 526 infra.

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THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I take it that all these cars were purchased by him in the open market as a private individual. The Government have no information."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Is it true that Mr. Sathe sold car No. MYZ 5286, Austin, to himself under the fictitious name of Kannabiran and that it was later on purchased by Messrs. T. V. Sundaram Ayyangar & Sons and registered as MSP. 3691?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The Government have no information. If the hon. Member will give a written representation, the Government will make enquiries."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"May I inform the Hon. Minister that if only he cares to look into the file, he will find there all the information that I have given about this gentleman?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I may assure the hon. Member that the file is here, that I have read through every page of it, and that the information is not to be found."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the very serious allegations made, is it not a good thing that the Government institute an enquiry into them?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I have already said that, if written representations are given, the Government will make enquiries."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"A reference has already been made by me on two prior occasions in this Assembly to the case of Mr. Sathe. May I know whether the Hon. Minister has made any enquiry till now on the strength of my statements in this House?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"So far as Mr. Narasimham is concerned, the Government have moved in the matter so far back as December 1947 and it is still under enquiry. So far as Mr. Sathe is concerned, I do not remember to have received any representation from the hon. Member."

SRI P. KANDASWAMY PILLAI:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister for Transport whether the allegations made by members on the floor of this House are not enough for the Government to make an enquiry?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Supplementary questions are put in a general form. But we want detailed facts and figures for starting an enquiry as that will be more advantageous."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"May I know whether the Police department have not deputed their officers to Bombay to make further enquiries in this matter about Mr. Sathe?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I have requested the hon. Members time and again that if they have any allegations to make against particular officers, it will be much more

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conducive to discipline in our services if they are communicated to the Minister concerned so that he may take a personal interest and make an exhaustive enquiry. If the officers are found guilty of the offences mentioned by the hon. Members, they may rest assured that the Government will take necessary action to bring home to the officers concerned that they have acted in a manner not in consonance with the duties they owe as public servants. But if cross-examination of Ministers is made on the floor of this House with regard to the conduct of any particular officer, it is the duty of the Minister in whose department the officer is working to protect him to the best of his ability because the officer concerned is not on the floor of this House to defend himself."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" In view of the reference to the case of Mr. Narasimham made by the Hon. Minister for Transport, may I know the nature of the information that the Government have obtained so far in regard to the dealings of that officer? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" My Hon. Colleague has already said that the matter is under enquiry. Therefore he is not in a position to give any information, as it might eventually work out against the officer concerned."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" In view of the advice given to all of us by the Hon. Home Minister and in view of the fact that allegations were made against not only this particular officer but also various other officers, will the Government come forward to appoint a committee to investigate the issue of permits for the purchase of cars since this Ministry came into power? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" I have already said that, if written representations with facts and figures are given, the Government will make enquiries. I don't think it will serve any useful purpose to have a general roving enquiry into the matter."

Case against the proprietor of the Mettupalayam-Coonoor Bus Service.

[* 201 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member who gave notice of the question is not present. The answer will be printed in the proceedings."]

SRI K. ANANDAN NAMBIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state whether the criminal case against the proprietor of the Mettupalayam-Coonoor Bus Service referred to by the Hon. the Minister for Transport on 5th August 1946 on the floor of the Assembly in reply to a question is still pending disposal?

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THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" The case against the Managing Director of the M.C.S., Ltd., was disposed of on 10th November 1947 in C.C. No. 3 of 1946 on the file of the City First-class Magistrate, Coimbatore. He was convicted for an offence under the latter part of section 193, Indian Penal Code, and sentenced to imprisonment till the rising of the court and to pay a fine of Rs. 500 or in default to undergo three months' rigorous imprisonment. The fine was paid. The sentence was confirmed on appeal by the Sessions Judge, Coimbatore, in C.A. No. 139 of 1947 on his file."

Prohibition cases pending disposals.

* 202 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many prohibition cases are pending in each district in which prohibition was introduced last year;

(*b*) why there has been so much delay in disposing of these cases; and

(*c*) what action has been taken by the Government to expedite the quick disposal of these cases in future?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" (*a*) The number of prohibition cases pending in each district is given below:—

Guntur	421 ..	On 22nd February 1948.
Nellore	250 ..	On 24th February 1948.
Tanjore	72 ..	On 20th February 1948.
Trichinopoly ..	79 ..	On 23rd February 1948.
Madura	164 ..	On 21st February 1948.
The Nilgiris ..	5 ..	On 21st February 1948.
Malabar	54 ..	On 20th February 1948.
South Kanara ..	52 ..	On 21st February 1948.

" (*b*) There has been no delay in disposing of the cases except in Guntur.

" (*c*) Proposals for the appointment of Honorary First-class Magistrates are separately under the consideration of the Government. The question of amending the Madras Prohibition Act in order to permit the summary trial of certain offences is also being examined."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that the accused in prohibition cases who are released on bail continue to indulge in the illicit manufacture and sale of arrack and thereby earn for meeting the court expenses and, if so, whether the Government have any proposal to make offences under the Prohibition Act non-bailable? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" If such offences are brought to the notice of the Government, there will be a further prosecution. So far as making the offences under the Prohibition Act non-bailable is concerned, I think it is a suggestion for amending the Criminal Procedure Code which requires the occurrence of the Government of India, "

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MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know the reasons for the delay in the disposal of these cases in Guntur? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" I have no information, but I will call for it."

MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know whether instructions have been issued by the Government to the District Magistrates to award deterrent sentences in prohibition cases, and if so, whether it is not an interference with the administration of justice? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" The second part of the question does not arise as the first part is not correct."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" In view of the fact that the present Magistrates are not able to cope with the work, will the Government consider the desirability of appointing honorary First-class Magistrates or Additional Magistrates to dispose of the cases as early as possible? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" There are two ways of meeting the heavy pendency of prohibition cases. One is by the appointment of honorary First-class Magistrates and the other is by appointing Stipendiary Magistrates. The first of the alternatives is under consideration and if it is not found suitable, the second will be considered."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" May I know whether thousands of cases are still pending in the districts of Bellary, Anantapur and Cuddapah? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" There may be, but no action can be taken unless the offenders are charge-sheeted."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know whether the Government are aware that some of the Magistrates, who dispose of prohibition cases, themselves hold permits for liquor and, if so, will they see that the cases are not tried by such Magistrates? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" I deprecate a general statement of that sort. I would be thankful to the hon. Members if they bring any specific cases to the notice of the Government. So far as I am aware, there are no such Magistrates."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" Have the Government issued any instructions to the District Magistrates in regard to the punishments to be awarded upon particular types of persons and other types of persons in this matter? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" So far as I am aware, no."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Do the Government have any information about the quantity of liquor illicitly manufactured by the offenders in each district? "

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THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" That varies from district to district."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" May I supplement the answer given by my Hon. Colleague to the previous supplementary question? I can assure hon. Members that no specific instructions of any kind are issued to the Magistrates, because the Government believe in the independence of the judiciary."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know whether the Government has been able to assess the quantity of illicit liquor manufactured in each district, and if so, whether it can tell us the total quantity manufactured in the Province? " 11-1 a.m

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" I would request the hon. Member to put a separate question."

Deputy Directors of Agriculture.

* 203 *Q.*—M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of M. A. Muhammad Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government propose to appoint two more Deputy Directors of Agriculture;

(*b*) if so, what are their respective functions and duties; and

(*c*) what are the reasons for the Government to increase the number of Deputy Directors of Agriculture?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" (*a*) The Government recently sanctioned the employment of two temporary additional Headquarters Deputy Directors of Agriculture.

" (*b*) & (*c*) Consequent on the expansion of the activities of the Agricultural Department in all directions and the enormous increase of work, and in order to relieve the Director of Agriculture of his routine work to enable him to exercise effective control over the administration of the department, and maintain better co-ordination between the headquarters and the district administration by inspection of subordinate offices and to push on special schemes, like the Green-manure Scheme, the number of Headquarters Deputy Directors has been increased by two. The duties of one of the additional Headquarters Deputy Directors are to assist the Director of Agriculture in all matters relating to agricultural research, agricultural education and other miscellaneous matters and those of the other are to assist the Director in all matters relating to grow more food, demonstration, propaganda and general administrative matters."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know where the offices of these Deputy Directors are located? Are they located in Madras, or elsewhere in the Province? "

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The very name of the officer, viz., Headquarters Deputy Directors, show where they are."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Since these Deputy Directors of Agriculture are placed in charge of supervision over District Agricultural Officers in their divisions, may I enquire, whether in view of the status of the Deputy Directors of Agriculture, they are given a separate cadre and also a higher salary for their status like these two?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"They are given a higher status, Sir, because Headquarters Deputy Directors are of a different kind from other Deputy Directors."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the backwardness of Rayalaseema, will the Government consider the desirability of locating one of the Deputy Director's offices in Rayalaseema?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"There are regional Deputy Directors for Rayalaseema also, Sir."

Improvements to the Government Hospital at Chicacole.

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

(*a*) whether there is a proposal for installation of X-ray apparatus in the Government Hospital at Chicacole;

(*b*) What steps the Government have taken to see that the number of beds is increased in the hospital;

(*c*) whether the Government have realized the immediate necessity of expediting the construction of some more buildings in the hospital premises; and

(*d*) what other improvements the Government propose to make the hospital an up-to-date one?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"(*a*) There is no proposal now under consideration for the installation of an X-ray plant in the Government Hospital at Chicacole.

"(*b*) The permanent sanctioned bed strength of the hospital is 28 which has been temporarily raised to 53. The question of retention of the 25 bedded annexe as a permanent arrangement, till new buildings are constructed to provide additional accommodation for in-patients is now under the consideration of the Surgeon-General.

"(*c*) There is not enough space in the compound of the present Government Hospital at Chicacole where additional buildings can be put up with a view to increase its bed strength over and above the present bed strength of 53. The Government have recently decided that the question of acquisition of land lying adjacent to the hospital may be deferred for the present. The sanctioned bed strength of the hospital is 53 as stated above, and its daily average attendance of in-patients is 51.7. Having regard to these figures, it cannot be said that there is urgent necessity for providing extra in-patients' accommodation in this hospital.

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"(*d*) It is proposed to improve the Government Hospital at Chicacole under Post-War Scheme No. 100 and raise its status to that of an up-to-date Taluk Headquarters Hospital with a bed strength of 100 with provision for the treatment of patients suffering from the following types of diseases in special department:—

(i) Tuberculosis.

(ii) Leprosy.

(iii) Venereal.

(iv) Eye.

In addition there will also be an X-ray department and a small laboratory capable of dealing with all ordinary clinical requirements."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"In view of the fact that there is no facility for X-ray, right from Vizagapatam to Ichapur, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to take early steps to instal an X-ray apparatus in Chicacole, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"There is a proposal to have X-ray apparatus in several important hospitals very soon, Sir."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—"In view of the fact that the Government have already decided to bifurcate the district of Vizagapatam and in view of the fact that the Government Hospital at Chicacole, which is the headquarters of the newly bifurcated district of Chicacole, is not well-equipped, will the Government take immediate action to improve the hospital by installing X-ray apparatus, by increasing beds and introducing up-to-date equipments, etc.?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"After the bifurcation is effected, and Chicacole is made the capital of North Vizagapatam, this matter can be considered."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"In view of the want of accommodation in almost all the hospitals in this Province, may I know whether the Government have any scheme to provide sufficient accommodation in such of those hospitals which are badly in need of accommodation?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"In Part II schemes we have provided for increased bed strength in many of the hospitals, as also additional staff."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"In view of the fact that many of the district hospitals have not got X-ray apparatus, will the Government see that each district hospital is provided with an X-ray apparatus?"

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I have already said that there is a proposal to supply X-ray apparatus to important hospitals. All district headquarters hospitals will be provided with such apparatus."

SRI P. KANDASWAMY PILLAI:—"May I know whether the Salem Gosha Hospital is in the list of hospitals where the Government are going to increase the number of beds?"

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

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, has the Government provided any more funds in this year's budget for improvements to these hospitals?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The hon. Member may please refer to the Budget Memorandum."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, may I know whether this is one of the hospitals in the list of post-war schemes, or whether the Government have actually brought forward a scheme to improve this hospital, and if so, at what stage it is, and also which are the other hospitals under consideration; or in which construction is going on?"

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

Number of beds in the Government Hospital of Indian Medicine.

*205 *Q.*—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of beds provided in the in-patient wards of the Government Hospital of Indian Medicine after the conversion of the school into that of a college;

(*b*) whether the Government propose to increase the number of beds in the near future;

(*c*) if so, by how many; and

(*d*) if not, why not?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"(*a*) There are 110 beds in the Hospital of Indian Medicine.

"(*b*) *to* (*d*) A proposal to increase the bed strength by 100 immediately by providing temporary accommodation is under consideration."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Do the Government realize that at present both the College and School of Indian Medicine are functioning, and that there is need for more clinical material for teaching the students, and that therefore the strength of the beds in the hospital should be increased?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I have already answered that question, Sir."

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SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"May I know whether the Government have got any proposal to improve the Hospital of Indian Medicine, and if so, what are they, and also whether the Hon. Minister will be pleased to consider the desirability of encouraging Indian medicine?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"In connexion with the College of Indian Medicine, there are several proposals for providing more accommodation by construction of new buildings for the college, the hostel and the hospital and for providing additional staff also."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I enquire from the Hon. Minister what provision has been made for lunatics who would like to be treated by this Indian System of medicine?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"They may go to the Hospital of the Indian Medicine, Sir."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Will the Government consider the necessity of placing in the hands of the Members of this Assembly a copy of the report made by the Special Officer?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I do not think there is any necessity to place on the table that report, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"After converting the school to the status of a college, what additional facilities have been provided for students of the college in this institution?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Additional temporary buildings are proposed to be put up very shortly for increased hostel accommodation and also for more beds in the hospital."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Is it not a fact that the Special Officer in the interests of the improvement of Indian medicine has made very valuable suggestions as regards the increase of beds, and several other items of improvements to the School of Indian Medicine?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Yes, Sir; the Government are taking on some of those proposals."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Are the Government aware that the absence of a woman medical officer to the Panchama women ward of this hospital is a great handicap and will the Government take steps to appoint a woman medical officer in this institution?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"This question does not arise, Sir, out of the main question."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"May I know whether surgical cases are also admitted and operations done in this hospital?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Yes, Sir."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"May I know, what system is adopted for surgical operations in this hospital?"

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Both the Western System of medicine and Indian System of medicine are taught in the institution, Sir, and the surgical operations are conducted according to the Western System of Surgery."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"Will the Government come forward with half-grants, if there are people to start ayurvedic hospitals in their own districts?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The Government are giving aid to certain ayurvedic hospitals also, Sir."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know what is the strength of beds in the Indian College of Medicine, and whether there is any correlation between the number of students and the bed strength, as is the case in Medical Colleges of Allopathic System?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The number of beds is proposed to be increased by 100, as I have already stated. There is no correlation between the number of students and the number of beds."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether the Government are aware that because of the absence of a woman medical officer, the particular ward is not at all working, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"This question does not arise out of the question put by the hon. Member, Sir."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister whether he knows that the Medical Council governing the Allopathic System of Education has prescribed a minimum number of beds for every student so that every student may have sufficient clinical material, and if so, whether the same standard is observed with regard to the students of the College of Indian Medicine also?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I know, Sir, that the Indian Medical Council has laid down certain standards in this matter. We have yet to attain this standard in this school and college."

Appointment of District Harijan Welfare Officers.

* 206 *Q.*—SRI K. SHANMUGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state when the Government are going to appoint District Harijan Welfare Officers with gazetted rank to look after the ameliorative measures of the Harijans and other backward communities?

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"The matter will be considered after receipt of the report of the Provincial Harijan Welfare Committee."

SRI K. SHANMUKHAM:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that most of the District Harijan Welfare Officers at present are non-Harijans and non-labour sympathizers, and if so, will the Government try to replace them by Harijans?"

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THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"The hon. Member seems to know better than myself, but I will call for information."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know at what stage the matter stands after the Hon. Minister has made the statement on the floor of the House the other day, that he would appoint Harijan Welfare Officers of gazetted ranks shortly?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"I think the hon. Mr. Nagappa evidently refers to the answer given to his question last year. Since then, at an informal meeting we have decided to drop the matter, till the receipt of the report of the Harijan Welfare Committee."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the fact that the Harijan work, especially in the backward districts, can be discharged efficiently only by Harijan officers, may I ask the Government to expedite this matter and see that District Harijan Welfare Officers are appointed at as early a date as possible?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Generally the posts of the District Harijan Welfare Officers are held by Deputy Tahsildars, and they are drafted from the Revenue Department. So there is no question of appointing anybody directly for this post, because they have been promoted by the Collectors concerned."

SRI K. RAGHAVAN:—"May I know, Sir, why there is such inordinate delay in taking up the matter of Harijan uplift?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"I do not think there is any inordinate delay, Sir. The District Welfare Officers are looking to their usual work as far as possible."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, how long it will take for the Committee to give its report?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"It is left to the Committee, Sir. I have asked the Committee to expedite the matter of sending their report."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"May I know, Sir, whether there is any objection to direct recruitment being made from the ranks of the Harijans for appointment as Harijan Welfare Officers?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"It is a question to be decided in the future."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Is the Government aware that most of the Harijan Welfare and Labour Officers are Revenue Officers posted from time to time and that there are breaks in such appointments, and that on account of such discontinuity of service and experience the Harijan welfare work is suffering in the districts?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"It is true, Sir, that when officers of the Revenue Department of the cadre of Deputy Tahsildar's grade are posted as Labour Officers they are very

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THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"The Government are actively considering the question of empowering District Labour Officers as regards acquisition proceedings."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the work of Harijan Uplift is being delayed for a very long time and as it is a very important work, I request, Sir, that a half an hour debate may be allowed this evening so that we may discuss the question."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I can't say now. There is another adjournment motion. I do not know whether it will be taken up to-day."

Muslim Women's College.

* 206-A *Q.*—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that he has asked the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India to take the Muslim Women's College before he handed over the College to a private individual?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"No."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister has received a communication from the Muslim Educational Association requesting him to fix a date for receiving a deputation on its behalf?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Yes, Sir. Just a few days back I received a communication from the Secretary of the Muslim Educational Association that he would like to talk over matters with me in that connexion."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister has sent a reply to that communication?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Yes, Sir, I suggested to them a date some time later when our present strain of work will be over."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that this is a very urgent matter, namely, the question of the abolition or retention of the Muslim Women's College, and that delay in receiving the deputation will defeat the purpose of the deputation?"

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

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Is it a fact that the College, which Mr. Ethiraj intends to establish in the building where the Muslim Women's College is located has not yet received affiliation from the University?"

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I have not caught the Hon. Member's point."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware, that Mr. Ethiraj has not yet received intimation from the University as regards the affiliation of his college, and that the college cannot come into existence this year for the University cannot grant it affiliation according to the existing rules?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am not aware of that information, Sir. It is given on condition that Mr. Ethiraj should establish the college next year."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"With reference to the answer of the Hon. Minister, that it was a matter of opinion may I tell him that it is not a matter of opinion but a matter of fact that any delay in receiving the deputation is going to be rather detrimental to the interests of the deputation that is seeking to interview him?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I still maintain, Sir, that it is a matter of opinion."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the fact that the Secretary of the South Indian Educational Association is also anxious to meet the Hon. Minister, will he give a promise that he will defer passing further orders in the matter till the interview is over?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"All the necessary orders have been passed, Sir, and there is nothing further to be done. But I am willing to meet the person concerned after the strain on account of the work in the Legislature is over. I do not know what else the hon. Members expect me to do."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"In view of the anxiety in the minds of the Muslim Members, may I ask the Government, Sir, whether it is not possible to find a little time during the Easter Vacation for the interview?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I think, Sir, the hon. Muslim Members are well aware of their convenience and they will fix a date convenient to them."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I request the Hon. Minister to realize the urgency of the matter and therefore find some time, especially in view of the fact that the Educational Budget is over, to meet the representatives of the Muslim Educational Association as soon as possible?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am not anxious to postpone it for any day, Sir. But considering the present strain, I suggested that it may be a few days hence. A few days' difference will not make anything worse or better."

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask for an assurance from the Hon. Minister, Sir, that he will fix an early date for receiving the deputation as the matter is very urgent and as 5th April is the date fixed for the transfer of the college to Mr. Ethiraj?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am sorry the hon. Member is asking for too many assurances. She may as well leave it to me."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask for an assurance from the Hon. Minister that in the mean time he will not pass orders to make the object of the deputation infructuous?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"All the necessary orders have been issued and I can say that no further orders may issue."

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

II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin has given notice of a motion under rule 36 which reads as follows:—

'I wish to move an adjournment motion after question time to-day to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the proposal of the Government to close down a number of Women's Educational institutions in the province, to wit, a number of High Schools including the Muslim Girls' Secondary School at Georgetown, and also the Muslim Women's College, Madras, as this proposal is most detrimental to Women's education.'

"Has the Hon. Minister to say anything about it?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"The Government will place all the information they have before the House, Sir. But the only point I would like to point out is this. The present state of affairs is just as I am going to state. The Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee have recommended that certain schools which they consider uneconomical according to certain standards in vogue may either be closed down or handed over to other private agencies or local boards."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether this is not the stage when the Hon. Minister should say whether he is agreeable to the motion being made or not."

MR. SPEAKER:—"When the Speaker does not have any information, he can ask the Minister concerned to say at what stage the matter is and on that he will give his ruling."

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, the Director of Public Instruction is examining the matter. Government have not issued any orders. There is no proposal before Government to close down any school. As far as I am aware, Government have not issued any orders. The proposal to close down schools will depend upon the report of the Director of the Public Instruction."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Am I to understand from the Hon. Minister that at present there is no proposal before the Government?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"The proposals are considered by the Director of Public Instruction. There is no proposal whatever before the Government at present. No orders also have been issued. An adjournment motion must relate to orders issued by Government. Sir, I do not want to burke any discussion. The only information I can give is that the proposals are being considered by the Director of Public Instruction. Government cannot say anything more concrete even at the end of the discussion. If the House feels and if the Hon. Speaker decides that there should be a discussion, it may be allowed. The matter relating to the Muslim Women's College is also asked to be discussed. I may say that this Muslim Women's College was discussed during the Budget discussion itself, and there is no urgency about it now. If the House feels and the Hon. Speaker also feels so, I say that Government do not want to burke any discussion."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am afraid the Hon. Minister for Education is trying to hoodwink us just as he hoodwinked the other House by saying 'there is no proposal before the Government' whereas actually notices have been sent to schools intimating them that they will be closed down. I shall read to you a communication that I have received with reference to an important conference that is to be held this evening, wherein it is stated that the Inspectress of Girls' Schools has written to say that the Government propose to close down . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I wish to know whether the Government are prepared to have a debate."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"My point is that no orders have been issued to raise a discussion now."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let the Hon. Minister clearly say whether, as far as the Government side is concerned, the Government are prepared to have a discussion."

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"If you rule that the motion is in order, I have no objection, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The motion is in order. This matter will be taken up at 5 o'clock to-day, and discussion will go on till 7."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, rule 40 says—

'If the Speaker is of opinion that the matter proposed to be discussed is in order, he shall read the statement to the House and ask whether the member has the leave of the House.'

Now you have ruled that the motion is in order."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I know that rule. The Minister concerned has accepted the motion."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"You are in order in allowing the motion. What I was going to say was that you are bound to take up the motion at 4 p.m. because the rule is peremptory. I shall read out that rule. I am entitled to raise this matter and take your ruling. This is my right.

"The rule is—

'The Speaker shall intimate that the Member has the leave of the House and that the motion will be taken up at 4 p.m. the same day.'

The word 'will' is peremptory. Whatever intervenes, you have got to take it up at 4 p.m. and not at 5 p.m."

MR. SPEAKER:—"To-day being a Budget day, I cannot do it. The Budget days are fixed by His Excellency the Governor, a fact which is well known to everybody. The Hon. the Leader of the House came to me some time ago in connexion with this matter, and I told him that to-day being the Budget day, I would take up the motion at 5 p.m., and that it would go on till 7 p.m. if the House gave leave for the motion."

SRI A. SUBRAMANIAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of information, வரிசை நம்பர் 198, கேள்வி நம்பர் 418, கனம் பரமானந்த ராயர் கேள்வி கேட்கப்பட்டபோது கேள்வி சம்பந்தமாள நடவடிக்கைகள் கோர்ட் டிலும், டிபார்ட்மெண்டல் enquiryலும் இருக்கிறது என்று உள் நாட்டு மந்திரி சொன்னர். அதனல் உப கேள்வி கேட்கக் கூடாது என்று சொன்னீர்கள். அதை நான் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அனல் கோர்ட்டில் நடவடிக்கைகள் எந்தவிதமாக நடக்கிறது என்றும் போலீஸ்காரர்கள் பேரில் எதாவது நடவடிக்கைகள் நடக்கிறதா என்றும் தெரிந்துகொள்ள வேண்டும்."

MR. SPEAKER:—"இதைப்பற்றி நீங்கள் தனி கேள்வி போட்டுக் கேளுங்கள்."

III.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—*cont.*

DEMAND XII—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

* MAHIN SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government have their own fear for the National Guards and so they declared the National Guards to be unlawful. There is some justification for this. But why was the R.S.D. in South Kanara district declared unlawful? It is a Congress organization. It was started by the Congress Committees and the expenses of this organization were also met by the Congress Committees. The mebers of this R.S.D. have been trained at the expense of the Congress Committee. But why was this R.S.D. declared members of this R.S.D. have been trained at the expense of the Congress Committee? We know, Sir, the R.S.S. organization want to drive away the Muslims of India. The Congress Committee formed the R.S.D. organization to enlist youngsters in this organization. The members did propaganda against the activities of the R.S.S. On the day, when Mahatmaji was assassinated, the R.S.D. took all precautions to prevent any disturbances. It is only a peaceful organization. When the Ministers were in the district, they did bandobust work. The unity of Hindu and Muslim communities in South Kanara district is mostly due to this organization. All people singing *Iswar Allah Ther Nam* went in procession on the 12th day of Mahatma Gandhi's assassination. The police taking advantage of this organization having been declared unlawful went to the Houses of respectable Congressmen and behaved very badly there. In Kasaragod a Police Circle Inspector went to the house of a respectable gentleman, a Gowd Saraswath Brahman, a genuine Congressman, and behaved there very rudely towards his daughter. He told his daughter that there was a warrant against her, but he never arrested her. There was no necessity to say that he had a warrant and then threaten her. The Police Circle Inspector insulted both the father and his daughter. If the Government can institute an enquiry, what I said would be found to be true. It appears that Government declared both the national guards and the R.S.D. as unlawful simply to satisfy the members of the R.S.S. Sir, in the administration of justice, the police take sides with the parties and insult the people, who are respectable and honest. If there is a dispute regarding harvest between two brothers, the police takes side with one of the brothers and sends the other for remand. In technical offences, arrest of persons by the police is quite illegal. I request Government to issue instructions to the police not to put people to dishonour and disrespect in technical offences."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I told the House that I had allotted three hours for this Demand. A number of Members want to take part in this Demand, and therefore I have extended the time by one hour more."

* SRI B. S. MALLIKARJUNA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, I feel that one cannot conscientiously support the Demand before he makes the following observations. After freedom is won, the independence of the judiciary is a thing which must be an accomplished fact. It is not merely a separation of the judiciary that is to be insisted on, but the independence of the judiciary should be made the foremost item if you are to protect the civil liberties

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of the subjects. In a democratic state where everything depends upon party power politics, the liberty of the subject is at stake. It will be in a worse position than that under an alien Government. So, the only thing that can secure liberty to the subject is the independence of the judiciary. It is for this reason that so much of feeling has been expressed by Members on this side and also on the opposite side.

12 noon. "After August 15th, any delay in the separation of the judiciary from the executive, is a negation of liberty, is a negation of freedom. So, the Government must feel that they should not lose a single minute in the matter of the separation of the judiciary from the executive. Even for the efficiency of the executive, we feel that separation is necessary. Otherwise there would be interference with their working under the present system. Law's delays and delays in the disposals as we see to-day, are due to the fact that the executive is burdened with judicial functions also. When the executive officer returns to his office after his executive survey, local inspection, etc., he will be a misfit to coolly deliberate on the task that he has to discharge. It is absolutely necessary that the two functions should be separated. Otherwise it would be a mockery of justice. There is nothing executive in the work of the civil courts. It is very much in the revenue courts and in the criminal courts.

"I wish to offer one or two remarks with regard to the staff. The staff that is recruited to discharge the functions, are misfits to the profession. Till now we have been trying to dispense justice at the least cost. We have been caring only for economy. It is at the sacrifice of justice. It is not in the interests of the public. It is a danger to the public. Justice to the public is at stake. In such matters economy should not be the criterion. Civil liberty of the subject is at stake. Justice to the poor is at stake. We see now that discharge of justice is very costly. It is due to the admixture of executive and judicial functions. The executive is not able to discharge its functions promptly. We have been thinking of this reform since 1946. The Province was expecting the separation of the functions. I see no reason why there should be such delay in the matter. There is much apprehension with regard to this matter, in spite of the Government having stated that they are for the separation and in spite of the fact that the Hon. Home Minister has informed the House that he is for the independence of the judiciary. The apprehension is due to the fact that under our recent legislation we are giving more powers to the executive. Such powers cannot be questioned in a court of law. There cannot be any appeal or petition to a tribunal of justice against these powers. Because of recent legislation, this sort of apprehension is creeping into the minds of every one. Every one thinks that we do not want to separate the judicial from the executive functions, and that we refrain from separating them in order to have a grip over the judiciary. In our recent legislation we have given powers to a police constable to shoot a man to death. His discretion cannot be questioned in a court of law. No appeal is provided against such an act of the police constable. We

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have passed a legislation recently in the name of public safety. Such acts cannot be taken before the judiciary and we cannot find out whether a certain action was taken properly or not. With our party system, with our power politics, if we place judicial functions in the hands of the executive, we will not be able to give protection to the individual. The individual is not in a position to have his grievance redressed or to get justice. To-day we are all for the separation of the judiciary from the executive functions. We want to give freedom to the subject. If there is no independent judiciary it is not at all a civilized state of society. Of course we may have analogies. Analogies may be quoted from parallel systems of Government in other countries. Parrot-like we should not copy the systems of Government in other countries. We have to be broad-based in our outlook. We stand to-day for a good system of society. We should have a democratic state and we should be efficient. There may be American and the Canadian systems of Government. They may not suit the needs, the necessities and circumstances of our country. We must have a model state of democracy where the individual is given real freedom. We are against the totalitarian systems of Government in Europe. In a democratic system of Government let it not be subject to party politics. Let it not be said that the party in power controls the system of justice. An hon. Member from the opposite side rightly referred to the ban on the Madras (Rashtra Seva Dal) organization. It happens to be an organization intended to do social service. Till yesterday it was an organization within the Congress. It took part in the elections on the side of the Congress. Unfortunately it is following a socialist policy now. For that reason it has been treated as a communal organization. It has been treated similar to the Muslim League organization. To whom can the R.S.D. organization represent their grievances? To which tribunal of justice can it appeal against the ban of the Government? Our interests are at stake. Therefore I think it is necessary that the judiciary should be independent of the executive. The executive and judicial functions should be separated at once. Otherwise there will not be freedom for the people.

"I wish to refer next to some administrative functions of the courts. The courts are there for dispensation of justice. What are the facilities that we give to the litigant public coming to the courts, or even to the bar that works in these courts? No amenities or facilities are provided. They have to be in the verandahs until they are called by the Judge or the Magistrate, or until their case is called for. At other times they have to be sitting on pials. The clientele have to be waiting under the Sun. No sitting accommodation—either verandahs or sheds—is provided for them. Their case is very miserable. The Government should provide them sufficient facilities. The Government must be prepared to spend a reasonable sum for this purpose. We are maintaining the administration of justice from the money coming from the purse of the poor litigants.

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" There is a copyist branch in each court. Its work is like job work. It is only on their turn-over that the copyists are paid. The copyists are permanently attached to each court. The court cannot exist without these copyists. The copyists are not engrafted into the regular establishment. They are not placed on a salary system. Dearness allowance which is given to other people is not given to the copyists. Their case seems to be still under consideration. They are living upon the commission they get on their turn-over. This staff should be made a part of the permanent staff, and they should be placed on a regular cadre.

" The last point—but not the least—is this. We want dress regulations to be changed. The gown that the advocate or the Crown Prosecutor wears and the ties they are having round their necks are quite unsuitable to our climate and are quite irksome. For maintaining decency we may have a uniform dress. The members of the Bar may appear in a decent dress to keep up decorum. Dress regulations should be suitably modified."

* M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, several hon. Members who have preceded me have already spoken on the question of the independence of the judiciary. Therefore I do not propose to waste the time of the hon. Members by elaborating on that question. However, I may be permitted to make the remark (and in doing so I am only voicing the noble sentiments expressed by my hon. Friend. the Yuvaraja of Pithapuram) that the bastion of justice should not be violated even by the highest authority in the State. A powerful king like Henry VIII once violated the sacred precincts of a church with his armed forces simply to satisfy his personal whims and fancies. That was considered to be a sacrilegious act. The violation of the sacred precincts of the courts of justice by executive authority is the greatest sacrilegious act. By interference with the judiciary, the prestige of the present Government is very much lowered and I must say without any fear of contradiction that to-day it stands condemned before the bar of public opinion. All freedom-loving people and people who stand for civil liberties must resist the interference of the judiciary by the executive. Member after Member even from the other side of the House not only to-day but on several occasions—I may say in season and out of season—have insisted upon the separation of the judiciary from the executive. The only thing we have been made to understand is that a committee has been sitting and is seized of this matter. It is deliberating. It is considering; it has been receiving written memoranda of evidence. But till now, nothing tangible has been done. I should think that the committee is still in its birth-pangs and the long-awaited child has not yet arrived. If we want that the rule of law should prevail, I am sure that the Hon. Home Minister who has got great faith in the rule of law will see that the judiciary is separated from the executive.

" Another matter to which I would like to refer is the question of justice being made available to the people of the Province who

you know, are very very poor and are very much poverty-stricken. The Court-Fees Act is working at present as a great hardship to the poor people. Litigants have been agitating and lawyers in the province have been agitating for the amendment of this Act so that they could lessen the burden of the fees on the poor litigant public. By amending the Act, you can make justice available to the poorest of the poor.

" It has been brought to the notice of this hon. House that the regional language should be the language of the courts. Before making the regional language as the compulsory language of the courts I would urge on the Government to set up a committee to go into the question to draw up a list of the legal terms and technicalities. An expert committee should draw up a list of equivalent terms in the regional language for legal terms. Sir, the last point to which I would refer on this occasion is the question of capital punishment. I assert that this capital punishment is a heritage of the laws of the jungle and I should also say that we have outgrown the Mosaic Laws—' eye for an eye and tooth for a tooth.' We are in a civilised society. In civilized society this relic of the past, this relic of the primitive age should not exist. Therefore, we should make haste to remove capital punishment from our own Criminal Procedure Code, which, incidentally I may say, requires a lot of amendments. This question, viz., the amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code has often been brought before this House and the only answer that we could get from the Treasury Bench is ' it is a matter entirely in the hands of the Government of India '. The Criminal Procedure Code requires considerable amendments, and I hope, Sir, that this Government will use their good offices with the Government of India to amend it. 12-15 p.m

" Speaking on the main point, viz., the question of capital punishment, it may be argued that capital punishment exists even in other civilized countries. You are aware, Sir, and I am sure all hon. Members are also aware, that in our other activities we do not follow other Governments. What about Prohibition? What about legislation regarding the abolition of wagering and betting on horses? Therefore I only wish that a legislation which will put an end to this capital punishment be introduced as quickly as possible.

" With these few words I support the cut motion."

SRIMATHI K. LAKSHMI AMMAL:—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, நீதி பரிபாலனத்திற்காக ஒதுக்கிவைத்திருக்கும் மான்யத்தை ஆதரித்து சில வார்த்தைகள் பேச விரும்புகிறேன்.

" நீதி முறை நிலவியிருந்தால் சமூகத்திலும் அரசாங்கத்திலும் அமைதியும் ஒழுங்கும் நிலவி இருக்கும். உலகிலுள்ள எல்லா சர்க்கார்களுடைய அடிப்படையானதும் முக்யமானதுமாக இரு கடமைகள் கருதப்படுகின்றன. அவை (1) நீதி அதாவது அறம் வேணும் சட்டங்கள், (2) அமைதி (Law and Order) நியாயமான சட்டங்களினால் ஒரு அரசாங்கத்தில் நீதி முறை பரிபாலிக்கா விட்டால் அங்கே வெறும் படைகளைக் கொண்டும், போலீஸ்காரர்களைக் கொண்டும் அமைதியைக் காப்பது எவ்வளவு கஷ்டமான காரியமென்பது எல்லோருக்கும் தெரிந்த விஷயம். நமது நாட்டில் இப் பொழுது எல்லோருக்கும் சமத்துவமான உரிமைகள் அந்தஸ்தின் அடிப் படையில் ஏற்படவில்லை. நடை முறையில் எல்லா மக்களுக்கும் நியாய

மான சட்டங்கள் மூலமாகவும், அவற்றை பரிபாலனம் செய்கின்ற கோர்ட்டுகள் மூலமாகக் கூட நியாயம் இடைக்கிறதாகச் சொல்வதற்கு இல்லை. வாழ்க்கையையே பாதிக்கின்ற மண முறை, குடும்ப உரிமைகள், கடமைகள், வாரிசு முறை, சொத்துரிமை, ஜீவிய விஷயங்களில வகுப்புக்கு வகுப்பு, ஆணுக்குப் பெண், ஆணுக்குத் தகுந்தபடி நடுநிலைமையின்றி சட்டத்திலேயே அநீதியான வித்யாசங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. இன்னும் சட்டங்கள் வழங்குகின்ற கோர்ட்டுகளிலும் நீதிபதிகள் அவரவர்கள் வகுப்பு, ஜாதி உணர்ச்சிகளினால் சிறிது பாதிக்கப்பட்டு வழக்குகளில் தீர்ப்பு அளிக்கின்ற நிலைமை நம் நாட்டில் இருந்து வருகிறது. எனவே சட்டம், கோர்ட்டுகள், போலீஸ் முதலிய இலாக்காக்களுக்கு மந்திரியாக இருப்பவர் இவ்விஷயங்களில் முனைந்து நின்று சகலருக்கும் நீதியை நியாயமான முறையில் இடைப்பதற்கு நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். உதாரணமாக இந்த மாகாண சட்டசபைகளிலும், பத்திரிகைகளிலும், இந்திய பார்லிமெண்டிலும்கூட வகுப்புகளைக் கருதி நீதி இலாகாவிலும், இதர உத்யோகங்களிலும், கலாசாலைகளிலும், பிரதிநிதித்வம் கொடுப்பதைப்பற்றி ஆட்சேபிக்கப்படுகிறது. எனவே இதை ஆட்சேபிக்கிறவர்கள் இத்தகைய ஜாதிகளும், வகுப்புகளும் இல்லாமல் ஒழிந்து போவதற்கு உழைக்கவேண்டும்.

"ஜாதி வகுப்பு வித்யாசங்களுக்கு சட்டங்களிலும் நாட்டிலுமே இடமில்லாமல் செய்யவேண்டும். ஆனால் அதற்கான காரியங்கள் ஒன்றும் செய்கிறதாகக் காணோம். அதற்கு பதிலாக இத்தகைய சலுகைகளை ஒழிக்க வேண்டுமென்று அதிகமான கூச்சல் போடுகிறவர்கள்தான் பெரும்பாலும் ஜாதிப்பற்றுதல் உடையவர்களாகவும் ஜாதிக்கொரு நீதியை விரும்புகிறவர்களாகவும் சீர்திருத்தச் சட்டத்தை எதிர்க்கிறவர்களாகவும் காணப்படுகிறார்கள். எனவே இத்தகைய சுயநலமிகளுடைய கூப்பாடுகளும் செய்கைகளும் பார்த்து பொது மக்களிடையே அதிருப்தியையும் ஆத்திரத்தையும் உண்டு பண்ணுகிறது.

"இந்திய பார்லிமெண்டில் இம்மாகாண பிரதிநிதியான ஓர் அம்மையார் உத்யோகங்களிலும் உணவு பங்கீடு முறையிலும் தனது வகுப்பான பிராமணர்களுக்குத் திறமைக்கேற்றவாறு பங்கு இடையாவிட்டாலும் கலாசாலைகளில் அவர்களுடைய மார்க்குகளைக்கொண்டு அவர்களைச் சேர்த்துக் கொள்ளவேண்டும். சென்னை மாகாணத்தில் அப்படிச் செய்யாமல் வட இந்தியாவில் காணும் ஹிந்து முஸ்லீம் வித்யாசத்தைவிடக்கூட ஒரு கொடிய பயங்கரமான பூதம் தாண்டவமாடுகிறது என்று பேசியிருப்பது மிகவும் வருந்தத்தக்கது. எனென்றால் உத்யோகங்களைவிட, இன்னும் மற்ற எல்லா வற்றையும் விட, சட்டங்களின்முன் சம அந்தஸ்துகளும் உரிமைகளும் பெற்று மக்களுக்கு கோர்ட்டுகளிலும் நீதி ஸ்தலங்களிலுமாவது நியாயம் வழங்குவது முக்கியமல்லவா?

"கல்வி அந்தந்த மாகாண விஷயமென்று 'கவர்ன்மெண்டு அப் இந்தியா ஆக்டில்' விளக்கமாக கண்டிருக்கிறது. அப்படி இருந்தும் சட்டம் படித்துள்ள அம்மையார் இந்த மாகாண கல்வி விஷயத்தை அங்கு பேசி இருப்பது பொருத்தமற்றது. அது சொம்பவும் வருந்தத்தக்க விஷயமாகும்.

"சட்ட நிபுணர்கள் தயார் செய்துள்ள புது constitution-லே ஆரம்பத்தில் justice தான் குறிப்பிடப்படுகிறது. தான் பொறுப்பாளி இல்லாத பிறப்பைக் காரணமாகக் கொண்டு நியாயம் வழங்குவது எவ்வளவு படுமோசமானது. அதிலும் அதன்மூலம் மக்களுடைய, இன்னும் பெண்களுடைய மானமே பாதிக்கப்படுமானால் அது எவ்வளவு அநீதியானது. இதை உடனே கவனிக்கவேண்டிய விஷயமல்லவா? இதற்கு உதாரணமாக ஒரு கேஸ் விஷயத்தை சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். 1941-ம் வருஷத்தில் சென்னை உயர்தர மன்றத்தில் இரு நீதிபதிகள் ஒரு பிராமணர் பிராமணரல்லாத வகுப்பைச்சேர்ந்த ஒரு பெண்ணை கலியாணம் செய்து இருந்தது செல்லுமா என்ற வழக்கில் அத்தகையை கல்யாணங்கள் ஸ்மிரிதிகள் அனுமதித்தாலும் அவைகளை பின் வந்த எழுத்தாளர்கள் கண்டித்தார்கள் என்றும் காரணம் காட்டி கல்யாணம் சட்டப்படி

செல்லாது என்றும் அவளுக்கு அபிமான ஸ்திரீ என்ற அந்தஸ்து தான் உண்டென்றும் அவர்களுக்கு பிறந்த குழந்தைகளுக்கும் அத்தகைய ஒழுங்கற்ற அந்தஸ்துதான் உண்டென்றும் தீர்ப்பளிக்கவில்லையா? இந்தத் தீர்ப்பு ஸ்மிரிதிகளில் சொல்லப்பட்ட சட்டத்திற்கும் பம்பாய் மாகாண தீர்ப்புகளுக்கும் இன்னும் சென்னை மாகாணத்திலேயே பிரதம நீதிபதியாக இருந்த மிஸ்டர் வெங்கடசுப்பராவ் அவர்கள் தீர்ப்பிற்கும் விரோதமாக தாங்கள் செய்கிறோம் என்று அப்பொழுது தீர்ப்பு சொல்லிய Judges சொல்லவில்லையா? அவர்களுடைய பெயர்களை வேண்டுமானாலும் சொல்லுகிறேன். அப்பொழுது இருந்த ஜட்ஜ்கள் இரண்டுபேரும் பெயர்கள் மிஸ்டர் பாண்டுரங்கராவும், மிஸ்டர் சோமய்யாவும். அந்த இரண்டு நீதிபதிகளும் பிராமண வகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்த ஜட்ஜ்கள். பிறப்பு காரணமாகக் கொண்டு கல்யாணம் செல்லாது என்று தீர்ப்புச் சொல்லி அந்தப்பெண்ணுடைய உரிமையும், மானமும் பரிபோகவில்லையா? இத்தகைய நிலைமைகளில் கனம் வெங்கடசுப்பராவ் போன்ற பிராமணரல்லாத நீதிபதிகள் இருந்தால் பொதுவான, நியாயமான தீர்ப்புகள் கிடைக்குமென்று பொது மக்கள் நம்பினால் நாம் குறை கூற முடியுமா? ஆகையால் பல வகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்த எல்லா மக்களுக்கும் நியாயம் கிடைப்பதற்காக எல்லாத்துரைகளிலும் எல்லா வகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்தவர்களும் இருக்கப்படவேண்டுமென்று கேட்கப்படுகிறதேயல்லாமல் கேவலம் உத்யோகங்களையும் அவற்றின் ஊதியத்தையும் கருதி அல்ல நலத்தினால் இம்முறை அறிவுடையவர்களால் ஆதரிக்கப்படவில்லை என்பதை சர்க்காரும், இம்முறையைப் பழிக்கிறவர்களும் உணர்ந்து கொள்ளவேண்டும். மேலும் கலாசாலை வகுப்புக்களுக்கோ உத்யோகங்களுக்கோ, நீதி ஸ்தலங்களுக்கோ, எல்லா வகுப்புகளிலிருந்தும் தகுதி என்று தீர்மானிக்கப்பட்டவர்கள் தான் எடுக்கப்படுகிறார்கள். ஒரு குறிப்பிட்ட பரீட்சையில் தேற்சிபெற்றவர்களே மேல் வகுப்பில் சேர்வதற்கு உரிமை பெற்றவர்களாகிறார்கள். இதற்கு மேல் திறமை என்கிற பெயரைச் சொல்லி எல்லா உத்யோகங்களையும், ஸ்தானங்களையும் மிகக் குறைந்த எண்ணிக்கையுள்ள ஒரு வகுப்பார் பெற்றுக்கொள்வதற்கேற்றவாறு அவர்கள் நடக்கவேண்டுமென்று சத்தம் போடுவது நமது நாட்டில் இப்பொழுது இருக்கிற நிலைமையில் அமைதிக்குபதில் கேட்டையே விளைவிக்கும். ஆகையால் சர்க்கார் இக்கூச்சல்களுக்கு பயப்படாமல் கோர்ட்டுகளிலும் நீதி ஸ்தலங்களிலும் எல்லா வகுப்புகளிலிருந்தும் தகுதியுள்ளவர்களை நியமித்து பொது மக்களுக்கு நீதி கிடைக்குமென்ற நம்பிக்கையை உண்டுபண்ண வேண்டும். கூடிய விரைவில் ஜாதி, வகுப்பு வித்யாசங்களை இல்லாமல் ஒழிந்துபோகக்கூடிய சட்டங்களையும் செய்யவேண்டும். அகில இந்திய சட்டத்திறகாக காத்துக்கொண்டிராமல் ஜாதி மத வித்யாசங்களினால் திருமணங்கள் செல்லாது என்று சொல்லக்கூடிய நிலைமையை மாற்றியமைக்க வேண்டும். ஜாதி, மதக்கலப்பு, கல்யாணங்கள் மாகாணத்தில் நடந்தால் அது நியாயம் என்றும் அதனால் அவமானம் வராமல் இருக்கும்படியும், அந்த மதத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் சொல்ல முடியாத நிலைமையில், இந்தியா சட்டத்தை திருத்தியமைக்கவேண்டும். இம்மாகாணத்தில் எல்லா விஷயங்களிலும் நாம் முன்னேற்றமடைந்து கொண்டிருக்கிறோம். முதலாவதாக இம்மாகாணத்தில் பூர்ண மது விலக்கு செய்திருக்கிறோம். வெளி நாட்டைவிட முதன் முதலாக நன்மையான சட்டங்களை இயற்றிக்கொண்டிருக்கும்போது இந்த ஹிந்துமத சட்டத்தையும் முதன் முதலாக திருத்தி விரைவில் அமைக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இந்த ஜாதி மத வித்யாசங்கள் ஒழியவேண்டுமென்று நமது தலைவர் அவர்களே பேசி இருக்கிறார்கள். வெறும் பொது ஜன சாப்பாட்டினாலும் மற்ற விஷயங்களினாலும் ஜாதி வித்யாசத்தை ஒழிக்க முடியாது. கலப்பு மணம் செய்கிறோம் என்று முன் வருகிறவர்களைத் தடுக்கும் எண்ணத்தை ஒழிக்க வேண்டும். இதையே தலைவர் அவர்கள் பேசி இருக்கிறார்கள். அப்படி இருக்கும்போது கலப்பு மணம் செல்லாது என்று சொல்லும் ஹிந்து சட்டத்தை திருத்தியமைத்து இதிலும் சென்னை மாகாணம் வழி காட்ட வேண்டுமென்று சட்ட மந்திரியைக் கேட்டுக்கொண்டு என்னுடைய வார்த்தையை முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

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* MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, in support of the cut motion I wish to say a few words about the question of separation of judiciary from the executive. We find that Government are not at all earnest, but half-hearted in enforcing this separation, as otherwise it would have, by this time, become an accomplished fact. Sir, I learn that the Committtee that has been appointed for this purpose has almost completed its work. I also understand that a separate department of second-class magistrates, first-class magistrates and district magistrates under the control and supervision of the High Court is to be constituted. Sir, I wish to point out that if this is made, it will only be a multiplication of the departments of Government. I would suggest a very sound proposition which will not only economise but will also be conducive to the working of the judiciary. You can retain second-class magistrates under the control and supervision of district judges, giving first-class magistrate's powers to the district munsifs and then the district magistrate's power to the subordinate judges to whom we usually give the assistant sessions judge's powers. In that case another department will not also be necessary and at the same time the district munsifs will also have opportunities to train themselves in this branch of law, viz., the Criminal
12-30 p.m. Law of Procedure and also the Substantive Law. Then, Sir, it will help them a great deal when they are promoted to be sub-judges, and when the assistant sessions judges' power is conferred upon them, but in the circumstances that obtain to-day, the sub-judge, has, all of a sudden, to undertake the responsibility of exercising the powers of an assistant sessions judge. Certainly, Sir, one will be in a fix at the very first moment when he is asked to exercise such powers. I, therefore, request the Government to consider whether this proposal, namely, of retaining the second-class magistracy under the control of the district judge and also conferring first-class magistrate's powers on district munsifs and district collectors' appeal and revisionary powers to the Sub-Judge's, will not be a proper proposal to adopt. Sir, this will also help in unifying the judiciary and there will also be no need to have two parallel judicial departments, one the magistracy and the other the civil judiciary. Therefore, Sir, I request the Government that when they consider the proposal that is going to be submitted to the Government by this committee that was specially appointed, to give due consideration to this idea also.

" Now, Sir, I wish to say a word about the very vicious rule, known as one year's disposal of cases. Sir, this rule is mainly responsible for enforcing the judges to be actuated by the disposal mania and they are not free to consider the cases on their merits, on points of law and on points of fact calmly and coolly before they deliver their judgments. Sir, it is said that delay in justice will be equivalent to denying justice. I ask the Government, Sir, to appoint the necessary number of judges wherever it is necessary. Previously there were 16 Judges on the Bench of the High Court of Madras but it has now been reduced to a very ridiculous number of 6 and 8. I saw an announcement in the press to-day morning that five Judges have been appointed to the High Court. Of course, three of them are already on the Bench and they have now

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been confirmed and two have been appointed from the Bar. Well, Sir, even if these appointments are taken into consideration, the total number of Judges in the High Court is only 8 in the place of 16. But, Sir, if you agree that delay in the disposal of cases amounts to denying justice, then I say, it is you who are responsible in not having appointed the required number of Judges. In addition to that, there is also this vicious rule of one year's disposal. Do you expect that this will help in the dispensation of justice impartially and adequately? Surely, hasty decision of cases will result in faulty conclusions. Therefore, this one year rule of disposal must be done away with and side by side with it, you must also appoint more number of Judges, not only in the High Court but also in the mufassal courts.

" Sir, I hear that the Government are considering the abolition of some district munsifs' courts where there are not the minimum number of cases filed during a particular period. But, my suggestion is, if you confer magisterial powers also on the district munsifs, I am sure, this want of work will be solved and there will also be no necessity for this one year rule of disposal.

" Now, Sir, I wish to deal with the independence of the judiciary which has now-a-days been made a mockery. Sir, there have been complaints from every quarter of this House that this Government have been unnecessarily and unduly interfering with the independence of the judiciary, not only by sending directives to the magistracy but also in the matter of the appointment of judges. Sir, while there has been for a very long time a time-honoured rule of the Chief Justice suggesting names of persons for appointments as High Court Judges to the Governor-General for his approval, why should they now introduce a new practice that it should pass through the Premier. Sir, we know that the Hon. Premier is a good gentleman, but whatever it may be, why should there be such a desire on the part of the Premier, on the part of the head of the Government, to have some say over the selection of the personnel to the High Court Bench. Sir, does this not show that the Ministry wants to have a hold or some control even over the judiciary whose independence is being acclaimed in every nook and corner of the world but is now sought to be destroyed under the present regime. Is it what you want to do now? I, therefore, request you to do away, at the earliest possible moment, with this ambition on your part that you should interfere even in the very selection of the judges. You know, Sir, there have been Ordinances and hasty legislative measures which ought to be administered by the High Court tribunal, if not by the mufassal judges. Sir, if they feel that their appointment and confirmation lie in the hands of the Government, how can they be expected to discharge their work in an independent manner, especially when these Ordinances and faulty, hasty or *ultra vires* legislation have to be argued before such judges? I ask you to be introspective and to see whether you are true to what you say before this House. I, therefore, request the Government through you, Sir, to follow the old and time-honoured practice of the highest executive authority

[Muhammad Hussain Sahib Bahadur] [20th March 1948

of this Province not interfering in the selection of the personnel of the judges on the High Court Bench or in the matter of their confirmation.

"Sir, I wish now to pass on to another point . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has already exceeded his time. He will now resume his seat."

SRI A. SUBRAMANIAN:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கொண்டுவந்திருக்கும் நீதி மான்யத்தை நான் முழுமனதுடன் ஆதரிக்கிறேன். ஆனால் அதில் இன்னும் சில குறைபாடுகள் இருக்கிறது என்பதை நாம் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். இந்த மாகாணத்தில் மொத்த ஜனத்தொகையில் நூறுக்கு 14 பேர்களே படித்திருக்கிறார்கள். படித்தவர்களில் பார்க்கும்போது இம்மாகாணத்தின் மொத்த ஜனத் தொகையில் இரண்டில் ஒரு பங்கு கொண்ட பிற்போக்கு வகுப்பில் லட்சத்தில் ஒருவர் கூட படித்திருக்கமுடியாது. அப்படி படித்திருக்கிறவர்களில் ஒன்றிரண்டு பேர்கள் இருப்பார்களானால் அவர்களுக்கு உத்யோகம் கிடைப்பது குதிரைக் கொம்பாக இருக்கிறது. அதுவும் நீதி மன்றங்களில் கண்டிப்பாக கவனிப்பதே இல்லை. உதாரணமாகச் சொல்லுகிறேன். பல ஜில்லாக்களில் பல உத்யோகஸ்தர்கள் அதாவது பிற்போக்கு வகுப்பை சேர்ந்தவர்கள் இன்னும் சப் ஜட்ஜாக இருந்தால் சப் ஜட்ஜ் ஆகவும், முன்சீப்பாக இருந்தால் முன்சீப்பாகவும் மாஜிஸ்டிரேட்டாக இருந்தால் மாஜிஸ்டிரேட்டாகவும் இருக்கிறார்கள். உயர்ந்த பதவிக்கு வருவதற்கு மார்க்கம் இல்லாத நிலைமையில் அவர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். அதற்குக் காரணம் அவர்களுக்குத்தக்கபடி மேலிருந்து சிபார்சு கிடையாது. சிபார்சு இருக்கக்கூடியவர்களுக்குத் தான் இப்பொழுது நீதி மன்றங்களில் உத்யோகங்கள் வழங்கப்பட்டுவருகிறது. இதை நிச்சயமாக நான் சொல்வேன். எனென்றால் அங்கே இருக்கக்கூடிய வர்கள் இங்கிருக்கும் மந்திரிகளுக்கு நெருங்கிய உறவினராகவோ அல்லது தூர பந்துவாகவோ இருந்தால்தான் அங்கே இருக்கக்கூடிய மேல் அதிகாரிகள் சிபார்சு செய்கிறார்கள். மந்திரிகளுடைய தூண்டுதலால் அப்படி சிபார்சு செய்கிறார்கள் என்று நான் சொல்லவில்லை. அவரவர்களுடைய பந்துக்கள் மந்திரிகளாக இருக்கிறார்கள் என்று பயந்துகொண்டு அவர்களாகவே அப்படி சிபார்சு செய்துவருகிறார்கள். அந்த முறையை கவனிக்கும்போது நான் கூட ஒரு மந்திரியாக இல்லையே என்று கவலைப்படுகிறேன். அல்லது, நான் ஒரு பிரதமமந்திரியாக இருந்தாலும் இந்த பிற்போக்கு வகுப்பினருக்கு உதவிபுரியக்கூடிய ஒரு அறிகுறியாக இருந்துகொண்டு உண்மையாகவே இந்த பிற்போக்கு வகுப்பினருக்கு சலுகைகாட்ட உழைப்பேன். அதன்படி உழைத்து என்னுடைய கடமையை நெலுத்துவேன். இப்பொழுது நடப்பது பொது ஜன அரசாங்கம். அதில் பிற்போக்கு சமூகத்திற்கு சலுகை காட்டப்படவில்லை. ஆனால் கனம் உள் நாட்டு மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொல்லுகிறார்கள் நீதி மன்றத்தில் ஆற்றலுடையவர்களையும், ஆர்வமுள்ளவர்களையும், அறிவுள்ளவர்களையும் தான் நியமிப்போம் என்று. அது வாஸ்தவம்தான். அதையே நானும் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். நீதி மன்றத்தையெல்லாம் நாம் சரியாக அமைக்கவேண்டுமென்பதை ஒப்புக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். அது காட்சி சாலையாக இருக்கவேண்டுமென்பதை நானும் விரும்பவில்லை. படித்தவர்களையும், உத்யோகத்தில் தேர்ச்சிபெற்றவர்களையும், அனுபவம் இருக்கக்கூடியவர்களையும்தான் அந்த உத்யோகங்களில் நியமிக்கவேண்டும் என்பதை மனப்பூர்வமாக ஒப்புக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆனால் அப்படி இருக்கும் நிலைமையில் பார்க்கும்போது ஒரு பிராமணர் பி.எ., பி.எல்., பட்டம் பெற்றிருக்கிறார், ஒரு பிராமணரல்லாதவர் பி.எ.,பி.எல்., பட்டம் பெற்று தேர்ச்சிபெற்று அனுபவம் பெற்றிருக்கிறார், ஒரு முதலியார் பி.எ., பி.எல். பட்டம் பெற்று தேர்ச்சிபெற்று, அனுபவம் பெற்றிருக்கிறார், ஒரு நாயுடு பி.எ., பி.எல். பட்டம் பெற்று தேர்ச்சிபெற்று, அனுபவம்பெற்றிருக்கிறார், ஒரு மலையாளி பி.எ., பி.எல்., பட்டம்பெற்று, தேர்ச்சிபெற்று, அனுபவம் பெற்றிருக்கிறார், ஒரு பிற்போக்கு வகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்தவர், பி.எ., பி.எல்., பட்டம் பெற்று, தேர்ச்சிபெற்று, அனுபவம் பெற்றிருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதாக வைத்துக்கொள்வோம், மேலும்,

20th March 1948] [Sri A. Subramanian]

எல்லோருக்கும் 10 வருஷம் அனுபவம் இருக்கிறதாகவும் வைத்துக்கொள்வோம் அந்த முறையில் யாருக்கு உத்யோகங்களில் முதல் சலுகை காட்டவேண்டுமென்று கவனிக்கவேண்டும். எல்லோருக்கும் ஒரே அனுபவம் இருக்கிறது. அப்படி இருக்கும்போது கடைசியில் இருக்கக்கூடிய பிற்போக்குவகுப்பாளருக்கு மிகவும் அவசியமாக சலுகை காட்டப்படவேண்டும் அப்படி காட்டுகிறார்களாவென்று பார்த்தால் அரசாங்கம் இதர கடைசி பிற்போக்கு வகுப்பினருக்கு சலுகைகள் காட்டுவதே கிடையாது. அவர்களுக்கு சலுகை காண்பித்து அரசாங்கம் நன்மை செய்ய முன்வருமானால் அரசாட்சிக்கு நல்ல பெயர் உண்டு. பொதுஜன அரசாட்சிக்கும் இன்னும் நல்ல பெருமை ஏற்படும். இப்பொழுது இருப்பதைவிட இன்னும் நல்ல பெயர் வாங்கிக்கொள்ள மார்க்கம் இருக்கிறது. நான் இப்பொழுது இன்னுமொரு விஷயத்தை எடுத்துச் சொல்ல ஆசைப்படுகிறேன். இப்பொழுது கடலூரில் ஸ்ரீ கஜபதி நாயக்கர் என்று ஒருவர். Sub-Judge-ஆக இருக்கிறார். வெகு நாட்களாக அவர் அப்படியே இருந்து வருகிறார். அவரை உயர்த்துவது குதிரைக்கொம்பாக இருக்கிறது. அவரைப்பற்றி யாரும் சிபார்சு செய்ய இல்லை. அவர் ஒரு நீதி அறிஞர், நல்ல புத்திசாலி, நல்ல பேச்சுள்ளவர், சட்டஞானம் படைத்தவர் அப்பேர்ப்பட்டவரை சிபார்சு செய்வதற்கு ஒரு உத்தியோகஸ்தரும் முன்வரவில்லை. காரணம், அவர் மிகவும் பிற்போக்கு வகுப்பைச்சேர்ந்தவராய் இருப்பதால்தான். அவரை அரசாங்கமே பார்த்து ஜில்லா ஜட்ஜாக நியமிக்கின்றதா? என்று பார்த்தால் அதுவும் கிடையாது. அவரை அரசாங்கம் கவனிக்காமலிருந்தால் அவருடைய கதிதான் என்ன? (a voice: நீங்கள்தான் சொல்லவேண்டும்) நானே சொல்லுகிறேன். ஒரு நண்பர் நான் சொல்லவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறார். அந்த உத்யோகஸ்தர் ஒரு பிற்போக்கான வகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்தவர் அவரைப்போல் இன்னும் எத்தனையோ பிற்போக்கு வகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் உத்யோகத்திலிருக்கிறார்கள். மிகவும் ஆற்றலுடையவர்களும் அறிவுடையவர்களும் மிகுந்த சட்ட ஞானம் படைத்தவர்களும் இருக்கிறார்கள். பேச்சு அனுபவமுள்ளவர்களும் இந்த பிற்போக்கு வகுப்பில் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களை கவனிப்பது இல்லை. உடனடியாக கனம் நீதி மந்திரி அவர்கள் இதை கவனிக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"இன்னும் அநேகர் கௌரவ மாஜிஸ்திரேட்களாகவும், ஜில்லா முன்சீப்களாகவும், சப்-ஜட்ஜுகளாகவும் கெவர்ன்மெண்ட் பிளீடர்களாகவும், சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட்களாகவும் உத்தியோகத்தை பெறக்கூடிய பிற்போக்கு வகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். இவர்களை உத்யோகங்களில் உயர் பதவிக்கு நியமிப்பதில் சலுகை காட்டுவதில் முதல் ஸ்தானம் வழங்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இதைச் செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு நான் என்னுடைய வார்த்தையை முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, if I intervene in this debate, it is in order to, once again, emphasise, the need for the separation of the judiciary from the executive. Much suspicion exists in the land on account of certain acts of the Government with regard to the interference with justice being done in this country. Justice must be pure and uninfluenced by even the highest authorities of the Government. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary that the judiciary, as soon as it can be done, must be separated from the executive. The executive also will feel relieved, if the responsibility of the justice being under their control, is removed from their hands. 12-45 p.m.

"Sir, I would also like to state that the old, old rule must be continued, viz., that the appointment of the High Court Judges should not under any circumstances be in the hands of the highest authority in the local Provincial Government. The Premier of the Province, whether this Province or any other Provinces, should not

[Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur] [20th March 1948

have a voice in the selection of the judges for appointment in the High Court, for it will interfere with the purity of justice. Persons will look to the Premier or the Government of a province for being raised either from the district judges' position or from the position of members of the Bar to the position of the judges of the High Court. Thus, they will certainly be looking up to the Government for such beneficent actions on the part of the Government. The district judges also who are anxious to come to the Bench, will be endeavouring to influence the Government that their cases must be considered by the Government-of-the-day. Therefore, Sir, on that account, it is necessary that even the district judges should be free from being influenced by the Government of the Province.

"And then, Sir, so far as our Province is concerned, the district judges, sub-judges and the judges in the service of the Province will certainly look to the Government of the Province for the position and status of the High Court Judge and will expect that it should be given to them also. The rule that is now observed in regard to the promotion of these district judges, or persons recruited from the Bar is that they should not expect to be promoted High Court judges from the position of district judges, by the Government themselves.

"Then, Sir, there is another thing. With regard to the appointment of permanent judges in the High Court, the present method that is followed is that there are three or four categories of the judges of the High Court and each category seems to be different from the other. Judges recruited from the Civil Service seem to form a separate cadre and separate category of judges from those who are recruited from the Bar or from the district judges cadre. I suggest that there must be one category of judges so that the persons who are senior among the High Court judges would be made permanent in the order of seniority. That does not obtain now. This causes much heart-burning and it ends in injustice to the senior judges themselves. That should be prevented. And then, some of the sub-judges, as a matter of fact, are not promoted on account of certain defects in the matter of age requirement as district judges. That rule, I understand, was sent down from the Government of India to the Provincial Governments in regard to promoting sub-judges to the position of district judges.

"Sir, I conclude by saying this. In the Judicial service there are people who have not been made permanent for years together. There are many officers, district judges and others who are on a temporary basis for a number of years without being made permanent: Sir, the plea that is offered is that there are no places. But, I do not know how vacancies have not arisen for years together. I know one or two persons who are there for four or five years in a temporary capacity. Therefore, I request the Hon. Minister for Law to take into consideration these defects that are found in the administration of justice."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—"Mr. Speaker, to speak on this Demand without referring to the much needed reform

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of the separation of the judiciary from the executive, is to miss a very vital aspect of the proper dispensation of justice in this province. But as the time at my disposal is short and as member after member has stressed the point, I do not wish to dwell on that point at any great length. Suffice to say, though the Government have assured us that they are committed to this reform and though they assured us that they would speedily implement it, it is still to come. I only request the Government to bring it into effect or force immediately.

"Now, Sir, I wish to refer to another very important matter from the point of view of Guntur district people. We are agitating for a long time for a Subordinate Judge's Court at Narasaraopet. I request the Hon. Home Minister to lend me his ears. During his recent tour in that area, we tried to impress upon him the need and the urgent necessity for the location of a Subordinate Judge's Court at Narasaraopet. I may remind the Government of the promise made by his predecessor, Mr. Bhashyam, when I raised this point during the debate on the budget. In his reply he told me, rather assured me, that ere long a Subordinate Judge's Court will be located there. It is not only wanted by the people of the district but I say that a strong case is made out for the location of a Court there and is recommended by not only the Members of the Legislative Assembly of the district but judicial officers as well. If I have got a map here and I am allowed the opportunity to explain the position of Narasaraopet in Guntur district, you would immediately realize the very urgent necessity of locating a Subordinate Judge's Court there. I request, Sir, that because courts open in June and that date is not far off, the Government have to make up their minds now and take a decision on the matter. I may also tell the Government that the location of a court there would not mean any extra cost to Government. On the other hand, it will be affording additional facilities to the litigant public. I may also tell the Home Minister that now, to file an appeal at Guntur, a member of the public would have to go as many as hundred miles to reach Guntur from one part of the area to the headquarters Subordinate Judge's Court. So, I earnestly request the Government to give an assurance on this matter.

"Sir, there is another matter over which I feel strongly and that is, the pay of the Judges of the High Court should be reduced to Rs. 2,500 and the pay of the Chief Justice should be reduced to Rs. 3,000. My hon. Friend, Mr. Muthiah Chettiar, is telling me that it should not be done. But I will give the reasons and he will be convinced about it. My point of view is this. Your only possible objection to such a course is that it will impair the efficiency and you will be putting him within temptations. Let my hon. Friend, Mr. Mathiah Chettiar kindly wait for my reasoning."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has got only one minute more."

* SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—"Sir, please extend my 'life' by one more minute.

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" If the Subordinate Judiciary and the District Judges who deal with all matters of importance, in the first instance, are expected to mete out justice with a pay of Rs. 800 or Rs, 500, I do not see any reason, why you cannot expect fair justice at the hands of the High Court Judge who is to be paid Rs. 2,500 per month. If Rs. 2,500 is not sufficient in this poor country to keep a man above temptations, I do not know how even Rs. 4,000 would keep him above temptations. Apart from it, Sir, the other argument raised is that we cannot get men of efficiency. I certainly submit that we will get men of efficiency within that Rs. 2,500. What is required of a judge is a mere level-head of a particular calibre with ordinary intelligence and ordinary common sense. He would be a better judge than a very high intellectual bordering on perversity. My submission is that for a lawyer it may be necessary that a man should be an intellectual. But in my opinion, a man with a sound common sense should be a better judge than a man with a very high intellect. Therefore, I do not see any reason why the pay of the High Court Judges should not be reduced and I can assure the Government that the efficiency or the impartiality of the administration of justice will not be impaired on that score."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Mr. Speaker, I shall straightaway deal with the question of the separation of the judicial and executive functions. My Friend, the learned Member for the University, referred to it and said that the report was ready; but I may say that there are always two personalities in a person; when he is in office he thinks one way and when out of office, criticism becomes more imminent. He knows as well as I do the difficulties that confront the administrators. I can assure hon. Members that the present Legal Secretary has dealt with this matter as expeditiously as could be done and I am here to pay my tribute to my Secretary whose work has been of such a high standard that I cannot imagine that the work could have come to this stage that it has come to-day if it were not for the way in which he has hustled me himself. Therefore, hon. Members will understand that all that could be done is being done to bring the separation into effective operation in the course of a month or two. In fact we have had to obtain information from every district officer what are the Revenue Divisions that might be retrenched if there is the separation between the judiciary and the executive and we have done, owing to the ability of this officer, work which might have taken nearly six or seven months in about three or four months' time. Therefore, hon. Members may rest assured that it is the definite policy of the present Government to separate the judiciary from the executive and bring it into effect as early as we possibly can subject to what I have said, but things have got to be examined; the District Officers have got to have their say; the Board of Revenue have got to have their say and the Hon. Judges of the High Court have got to have their say. I am only sorry that my hon. Friend for the University is not present here but he knows the difficulties as well as I do and how I can be a carping critic of what the Members on the Treasury Bench do or not if I have the freedom to do so. My only justification for

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the delay that has been caused is the examination and the very careful examination that is necessary before the policy—and it is the definite policy of Government—can be put into effect, because once it is put into effect we want it to run smoothly without any trouble whatever.

" The other point referred to was with reference to delay in the appointment of High Court Judges and the method of their appointment, to which the hon. Member for Kurnool referred to just before he sat down. He said the Government of the day should have nothing to do with the appointment of judges. I would quote to him the precedent of the British practice. Judges of the High Court in Great Britain are appointed on the recommendation of the Lord Chancellor who is a member of the Cabinet and he usually makes the recommendation in consultation with the Prime Minister of the day and what is being done in this country is to bring our practice more in consonance with what obtains in Great Britain. "

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" May I know what is the procedure that is followed in America? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I am not prepared to go to America because I am adopting the British practice.

" Before the Independence Act, the Governor in his discretion was the person who recommended for the appointment of High Court Judges. The word ' discretion ' has now gone out of the Act and what is more, under the rules that were made, taking the British practice into consideration, the Governor-General, who made these rules, came to the conclusion that the British practice might well be followed in this country. And this does not mean that because a person has been recommended and got into the Bench, his liberty of action as a Judge is curtailed because he has been recommended for such appointment by a particular person. It is a well-known fact that when Lord Halsbury was the Lord Chancellor not a single person who did not belong to the Conservative persuation ever got on the Bench in England. It does not mean that political considerations are going to affect the Judicial temparament of a particular person nominated to the Bench because once on the Bench, there will be no question of Conservatism or Liberalism in the administration of justice and I hope in future our judges will be of the same calibre and no question of party politics will ever arise in the administration of justice or in dealing out judgments. Therefore, hon. Members need not be nervous about the appointing authority with regard to Judges. I admit, Sir, there has been considerable delay in the appointment of Judges and that is because considerations have got to be given to various claims and there has been naturally some delay. But I want to tell hon. Members that I am of the view that in matters of appointment to the highest tribunal in this land, no communal considerations whatever should come into play because we should get the best available talent on the High Court Bench. My hon. Friend, Mr. Murthi, says this is communal but I deny this; so long as I

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am responsible for recommendations and the Government as a whole understand it no communal considerations can come in, in respect of appointments to the High Court Bench."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—"To any Bench whatever?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am afraid that with regard to appointment of District Judges the communal Government orders come into play; though situated as we are to-day I am looking as my friend does to a casteless society which, I hope, will come in the near future and there will be no claims of backward and non-backward communities, the educated and the uneducated communities which I hear so often from hon. Members on our side of the House, particularly the Member representing Tiruvadanai and the Member representing Athur from Salem district.

"Mr. Raza Khan seemed to know more than I did with regard to the resignation of my friend Sir Frederick Gentle. I can assure him that when I mentioned that I did not know the causes of the resignation of the Chief Justice, I really did not know; nor did I possess any letter in my hands which Mr. Raza Khan thought I had. I want to nail this terminological inexactitude to the counter."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"May I take it then, Sir, that the resignation letter was in the hands of the Premier . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Order; order. The Hon. Minister is not yielding."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"All I said was that the letter of resignation was not in my hands when I said so on the floor of the House. Since then, I have seen the letter and it is of such a confidential nature that I am not prepared to divulge the reasons which made my friend, Sir Frederick Gentle, give up his appointment. But I can assure hon. Members that as far as it lay in my power I did meet Sir Frederick Gentle and I asked him whether it would not be possible for him to continue in office, but he had made up his mind.

"A lot of furore has been caused for what I said in the Council and I do not mean to withdraw from the position I took up in the Council. I am entirely for the independence of the Judiciary. There is no question of the executive giving particular instructions to the Judiciary with regard to matters that are before them; but there are certain responsibilities in the executive which they must always exercise. There are cases taken under what I would call the executive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code and situations might arise when the executive feels it is no longer necessary to proceed with such cases, cases I mean from sections 107 to 110 of the Criminal Procedure Code. On those matters, the Government are at perfect liberty to withdraw from the position they have taken up and withdraw such cases and such withdrawals are in no sense interference with the independence of

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the Judiciary. Besides, it is always open to Government through the persons who conduct the prosecutions on their behalf to ask for a lighter sentence if they so wish because that does not in any way interfere with the independence of the Judiciary because the Public Prosecutor or the Crown Prosecutor who appears on behalf of the Government has got a right to say that in his opinion a lighter sentence may be given and this by no means is interference with the judiciary. Apart from the powers vested in the Government as Executive carrying out the decision of the Legislature, I can assure hon. Members that as long as I am responsible for Law and Order, there will be no question of interference with the administration of justice. It is entirely for the Judges to come to conclusions on facts placed before them.

"One of the points raised by the hon. Member representing Tiruchengode Rural was that there has been delay in the matter of disposal of criminal cases because the number of magistrates is small. I shall examine this question and will strengthen the magistracy if necessary. I agree with the hon. Member that it is only right that the man should not be in peril of his liberty because there has been delay in the trial of a particular case. He referred to the Hindu-Muslim trouble which has recently taken place in two places of which he is well aware, that is at Edappadi and Erode. As far as Erode is concerned all the people that had been charged have been released because a particular Muslim gentleman had the generosity to come forward and say: 'We do not want any of these prosecutions because the feelings between the communities will become worse if there are trials and convictions.' And taking his word we decided that on the whole for the sake of maintenance of peace it will be in the interest of justice if we withdraw the charges that were about to be laid before the magistrates. But there are others, Sir, who feel that the Government have been rather liberal in this matter. Therefore in cases where no Muslim gentleman has come forward to say that such a thing should be withdrawn they had to be carefully seen before Government came to the conclusion whether they should withdraw the prosecution that might have been launched. 1-1 p.m.

"Coming to my hon. Muslim Friend from Guntur, he always brings King Charles' head. (Laughter.) He referred to the letter of Mr. Konda Venkatappayya. It is a pity on almost every Demand he brought this; and I hope that now he has had his say; that head of King Charles will disappear hereafter. But I have got to say this: there might have been mistakes, and I am one of those who have the greatest respect for a leader of Mr. Konda Venkatappayya's standing; and I know very well, that he will not say anything unless he was convinced that what he said was true, and perhaps lessons will be taken from what he has said, and things will adjust themselves in future, and there will be no cause for complaint on the part of the hon. Member, and it, I hope, will cease to be King Charles' head.

"My hon. Friend, if I may call him with no disrespect, the Yanadi Member—I do not know whether he is present in the

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House—was rather annoyed at some of the answers I gave to questions. Might I tell him that I have given him all the information that was in my possession and was not trying to parry the question at all. On the other hand, I know he was concerned with the conduct of the police. I can assure him that suitable inquiries are being made, and if there is anything that is found to be wrong action would be taken speedily.

"My hon. Friend representing Arni constituency said that people with legal training should be put in as magistrates. When separation comes it is the intention of Government to try to see that these posts are filled by persons with legal qualification, so that application of law might be properly made. At the same time I would like to tell the hon. Member that the administration of criminal justice in this Province is of a very high standard, and magistrates who have tried cases have rendered satisfactory work. When separation comes some of them might have to be retained as magistrates because of the ability they have shown in dealing with cases that have come up before them.

"My hon. Friend from South Malabar is not here. He talked of a slur on the Government because of the separation of the judiciary and the executive not being done speedily. I have already dealt with that matter; and I cannot see where there is slur when the work is being done as speedily as possible. He referred to adjournments being taken by Public Prosecutors. This often happens because particular witnesses who are important witnesses in particular cases are not present owing to some difficulties. But as I said I admit there should be no delay in the matter, and particularly, I would assure my hon. Friend that I will bring to the notice of the Public Prosecutors of the district concerned, that it is better to go on with cases day by day when any particular criminal case comes and they should not ask for adjournment so that there can be speedy disposal of criminal cases.

"I do not know how, again, Malabar Tenancy legislation comes in under this Demand. As I said, in replying to the Demand on General Administration and Legislative Bodies, this is a matter which is engaging the attention of my Hon. Colleague, who is in charge of this particular legislation, and sooner or later the Bill will be presented to this House.

"Sir, my hon. Friend representing South Kanara wants panchayats should be vested with judicial powers. (Interruption.) My Friend opposite says: 'Woe unto them!' I don't go as far as that. (Laughter.) I feel that the present educational standard is not so high as to enable village people to tackle questions of that form. Till we know exacty whether there are persons fit for that as it obtains in England where there are Justices of the Peace and Honorary Stipendiary Magistrates, who are even trying cases of a very serious nature, nothing can be done.

"Another matter referred to by the hon. Member in charge of Yenadis (Laughter) is this. He wanted to know whether I had any experience of criminal courts. I admit that I was not a

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criminal (laughter) when I was in active practice. But I know how criminal cases have been conducted and I have known how magistrates dispose of such cases. As I said, if there is delay, the Government would see that such delays are obviated in dealing with justice.

"And now I come to a matter which is a hard thing to say and which I do not want to be repeated. I am referring to my hon. Member representing North Arcot Muslim constituency. He said, administration of justice was mere maladministration. This is arrant nonsense, if I may say so. Because administration of justice in this Province has been praised everywhere; and in spite of all talk of corruption being rife in departments it is extraordinary the Judiciary as a whole, from the District Munsif up to the judges of the highest judiciary, has been, known for their fair-mindedness and for dealing out justice evenly in this Province, and that is a record which any administration may be proud of. And to talk of maladministration of justice only shows that my hon. Friend should not go beyond the subject, of which he is supposed to be competent, namely, management of educational affairs."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Sir. The Hon. Home Minister said: 'this is arrant nonsense.' May I know whether it is a parliamentary term to use, so that we can also use that when we think fit."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think I have already given my ruling on that once. I hope you remember, when the words 'Cheap Jack nonsense' were used by a Member, the Speaker did not take notice of it. But another time Mr. Gully, the Speaker, ruled 'nonsense' as unparliamentary."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"But the phrase used here is 'arrant nonsense.' Is it parliamentary?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think it is unparliamentary."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"If you think so, I withdraw it; but I will use another expression. The hon. Member drew a long bow when he said that there is maladministration, because there was no question of maladministration. I have fully explained and satisfied Members who understand, what is meant by administration.

"Coming now to the hon. Member from Dindigul Women's representative, she talked of distinction of communities with regard to admission to educational institutions. I do not know how this matter comes under the Administration of Justice. But I can assure her that I feel as strongly as she does, that there should be no communal consideration in the matter of even education; because we must get the best brain we can; especially now, in an independent country like ours, there should be no discount of intellect, because to-morrow industrial scientists, engineers,

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inventors and people who can contribute by new methods, can only come if we can take in the best men into our educational institutions.

"Regarding the particular case referred to by the hon. Member representing Athur Rural constituency—he raised a particular case of a particular Subordinate Judge not being made District Judge. I am afraid that may never come; poor man! (Laughter.) Because I do not think any particular person should be given particular consideration. The only consideration for appointment for Judges either district or High Court is once they have come into the service, the capacity of the person to prove himself worthy of the office is going to solve it, and I will not take the matter any further than that.

"Lastly, there is the point which my hon. Friend representing Narasaraopet raised, and that is the question of opening a Subordinate Judge's Court in Narasaraopet. I can assure the hon. Gentleman, that since I came into office, I have tried to persuade the authorities that there might be a solution if the court at Guntur was transferred to Narasaraopet. But after carefully considering the matter, the authorities who are responsible, have come to the conclusion that the time has not yet arisen for the establishment of a Subordinate Judge's Court at Narasaraopet. I have not given up hopes of persuading those peoples that it is perhaps not right and proper to deny a Subordinate Judge's Court at Narasaraopet. I can assure the hon. Gentleman that I will do all in my power to convert those who are still unconverted.

"Finally, I request the hon. Member, representing the City Muslim Women constituency to withdraw her cut motion."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"Sir, a number of requests were made regarding the release of several R.S.S. men and Muslim National Guards, particularly those who assured Government that they have ceased to have connexion with those bodies. May I know what the Government are going to do?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am sorry I missed the point in my anxiety to finish my speech within time. With regard to R.S.S. men and Muslim National Guards detained in prison, Government do not want to keep any one of them one minute more than is necessary. Their cases are being carefully considered, and I can assure hon. Members that quick decisions will be arrived at. We are in correspondence with District Magistrates. As long as we feel there will be no danger to public peace if some of these are set at liberty, I can assure hon. Members, they will be set at liberty."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"In view of the assurances given by the Hon. Home Minister with reference to Administration of Justice, I wish to withdraw my cut motion."

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of information தென்ன ஆந்காடு ஜில்லாவைச் சேர்ந்த Sub-Judge விஷயமாக

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சொன்னபோது அவர் நெடு நாளாக Sub-Judge ஆகவே இருக்கிறார். அவருக்கு தேர்ச்சி இருக்கிறது, அனுபவம் இருக்கிறது. சட்ட திட்டங்களில் நல்ல தேர்ச்சி இருக்கிறது . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"நீங்கள் சொல்லவேண்டியதை மட்டும் சொல்ல வேண்டும்."

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM:—"அதற்கு கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் பதில் சொல்லவில்லை என்று நினைக்கிறேன்."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"அவர் சொன்ன விஷயத் 1-30 p.m.
தைப்பற்றி நான் சொன்னது எனவென்றால் அவர் District Judge-க்கு தகுதியுள்ளவராக இருந்தால் கண்டிப்பாக அவர் District Judge-ஆக ஆவார் என்பது"

The cut motion was by leave of the House withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

IV.—STATEMENT BY LEADER OF THE HOUSE.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, one thing before we adjourn for lunch. I am rather sorry evidently both of us lost temper this morning when I raised the question under rules 40 and 41. Rule 41 says, the debate on a motion to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, if not earlier concluded, shall automatically terminate at 6 p.m., and thereafter no question can be put. So, Sir, if you commence the debate at 5 p.m., you cannot have full two hours' discussion."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Might I make a submission, Sir; the Hon. Minister for Law is mistaken in suggesting that rule 41 is independent of rule 40. Rule 40 precedes rule 41. Only if you begin at 4 p.m. should the debate conclude at 6 p.m. If you don't begin at 4 p.m., you need not conclude at 6 p.m."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Home Minister came and told me in private that the adjournment motion should be taken up at 4 p.m. Though the Chair has got enough power, I did not want to take it up at 4 o'clock, because this is a Budget session. I am going to take it up at 5 and so arrange the debate that it will finish at 6 o'clock."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I submit, that, if only one hour is allowed, it will not only go against the spirit of rules 40 and 41 but will also prevent a full discussion which is very necessary in this very important matter?"

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"In view of the controversy that was raised this morning and in the interests of the good relationship that exists between the various communities, I do hope that you will be gracious enough to reconsider the position. It is within your discretion to fix any time and even to curtail the time for budget discussion. May I submit that this is a fit occasion for you to show your graciousness? Many Members are anxious to take part in the debate. I

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also think that it is an important matter. So I request you to allow two hours for this debate and I am very glad that the Hon. Leader of the House also is willing to allow two hours."

MR. SPEAKER:—" It is not possible; we will begin at 5 and finish at 6 o'clock."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 2-30 p.m.

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

III.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—*cont.*

DEMAND XXI—INDUSTRIES.

* THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,08,86,100 under Demand XXI—Industries.'

I should like to mention briefly the policy and the programme of the Government in the matter of industries. Rapid industrialization of this Province is the cherished aim of the Government of Madras and with this end in view we have initiated a vigorous policy. Industries have been classified into various types, some of which are wholly financed, controlled and managed by the Government, some in which the Government take a majority of shares, some in which the Government take a fraction of the shares and have representation on the directorate of the board, and some to which Government give advice, technical aid and assistance. The Government have been assisting the industrialists in getting sanction for capital issues and registration for import of capital goods. A wide range of industries which have approached this Government for aid have been recommended to the Government of India, viz., cement, textiles, chemicals, drugs, rayons, glass, cigarettes, oil-milling, radios, manufacture of brushes, soaps and several other industries.

" With a view to help the industrialists with technical assistance and advice, the Department of Industries and Commerce has equipped itself with a number of experts. Besides, Government have been establishing polytechnics and industrial schools spread over the Province on a regional basis to help the various industries. I know that there is one region which has not yet got a polytechnic and the Government are doing their best to see that a polytechnic is established there as early as possible.

" Several questions have been put and frequent reference has been made in this House regarding the need for nationalization of industries. Therefore I should like to say a few words about it. I cannot help saying that the assumption that nationalization is a panacea for all ills arises from an adherence to slogans. Industries are not an end in themselves. They are only a means to an end, viz., the improvement of the condition of the masses.

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The need for nationalisation or State ownership arises in cases where the products of industry are vital for the safety of the State. Such industries are arms and ammunition, power production, transport, posts and telegraphs, ports and the like. These are State-owned or will soon be completely State-owned. Certain other industries like iron and steel, heavy chemicals and fertilizers cannot ordinarily be left to private enterprise either because of the heavy initial investment required or because it is undesirable to create monopolies. They must therefore either be State owned or State controlled. Other industries should ordinarily be under private management unless perhaps, for ideological reasons, sanity gives way to slogans. That, in brief, is my view of a democratic State's policy in regard to industry. I do not contemplate, even in respect of industries left to private enterprise, that they should be run for the profit of a few people, even if they benefit the community at large. The time has come for industrialists to realize that industries are meant primarily for the benefit of the community and that their profits are incidental and should be shared equitably with the principal agents of production. These are the aims of this Government and of the Government of India. These aims were clarified at the Industries Ministers' Conference where the employers present ratified the views. The Government have proposals under consideration for implementing these aims and hope to give effect to them before long. The Government of India are still considering the policy to be pursued in the matter of industries and they are expected to issue a statement in the near future. It is quite probable that it will be issued very soon. After the policy of the Government of India is known, naturally this Government perhaps may have to adjust their policy in some respects, if necessary. Judging from the discussion in the Industries Ministers' Conference where I was present, I expect that there may not be much difference. The most important decision may perhaps be about the participation of foreign capital. That is a matter which is naturally and legitimately within the sphere of the Government of India, because, it affects the interests of the Indian Union as a whole.

" Before I leave this question of nationalization, I must draw pointed attention to one glaring anomaly in the campaign for nationalization. Most of the ardent supporters of this campaign are bitter opponents of the Government machinery and lose no opportunity to condemn Government officers. Do they realize, I wonder, that nationalization means further control by the Government, i.e., by their officers. I have been told that after nationalization, workers may not demand privileges or rights like bonus and higher emoluments. My experience, however, is that, in the few State-owned industries, demands usually put forward in private enterprise invariably arise. And if the protagonists of nationalization think that nationalization would result in the workers' millennium, there again I must differ. The experience of other countries and the compelling course of logic inevitably

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force us to recognize that nationalization would lead to regimentation of labour to which I am totally opposed. I therefore prefer an intermediary course where only such industries as must be State-owned are nationalized.

"On the basis of partial nationalization, therefore, our industrial edifice will have to be built. We all admit that our Province is backward in industries. We have therefore taken special steps to accelerate our industrialization. Yet the results achieved are still so unsubstantial that, for the uninitiated, the pace of industrialization must seem slow. To those critics of the Government who have in and out of season complained against our lack of spectacular success, I can give only a counsel of caution. I would ask them to ascertain from industrialists undertaking a new scheme whether the Government and their officers have not offered them the utmost assistance. But, for reasons beyond their and our control, we are unable to move ahead as fast as we like. Since we took charge, we sponsored various units for sugar, cement, caustic soda, soda ash, sulphuric acid, fertilizers, paper, cardboards, batteries, glass, ceramics, paints and varnishes, automobile assembly plant, etc. The Government also propose to take over the Rajahmundry Paper Mills. We have tendered along with others and the matter has to be disposed of by the Liquidator appointed by the High Court. If our tender is accepted, I am sure it is possible to develop paper industry on a large scale with the Rajahmundry Paper Mills as a nucleus. We are awaiting a decision in the matter.

"The promoters have to face various difficulties. The market conditions make the collection of capital almost impossible. To assuage this situation, the Government are using the State Aid to Industries Act liberally. They also propose to set up at an early date an Industrial Finance Corporation as a Joint Stock Company with a capital of 2 crores, 51 per cent of which will be held as shares by the Government. The exact set-up of the Corporation will be discussed shortly with those interested, but in the meantime, the Government of India have been addressed to sanction the issue of capital.

"Another difficulty is the non-availability and slow deliveries of capital goods from abroad. Judging from the recent announcement by the President of the American Union and the reaction to it that has been reported from Delhi, it is likely that the arrival of capital goods from the U.S.A. will be further delayed. That will add to the difficulties which the industrialists have already to face both in this Province and in the rest of India. We have few sources of supply and they are heavily committed to various users. Unless the delivery is certain, building materials like iron and steel cannot be made available. It is not in our power to give this iron and steel, as these materials are distributed direct by the Government of India and repeated representations for decentralization have produced no useful results. Shortage of

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technical personnel is not the least of our troubles, but many men have been deputed for specialization abroad. We expect that some of them will be returning to India in the course of next year.

"We have just received the recommendations of the Industrial Planning Committee appointed by the Government to draw up long and short-term plans for the industrialization of the Province and to advise us on other matters connected with the industries. I was hoping to have this report printed and circulated to Members by the time this Demand came up, but unfortunately, I could not get it done, because there has been some delay in the printing of this report due to heavy work in the Government Press. Suitable action will be taken on these recommendations in due course, as soon as the report is available and after examination is made of them by the Government.

"I must make special mention at this stage of our efforts to exploit the iron ores of Salem and the lignite of South Arcot. Several hon. Members have been anxious to know what exactly has been done in this matter and I should like to say what we have done up till now. Although the existence of iron ores in Salem has been known for a long time and in fact the ore was exploited in a small way, no concerted efforts appear to have been made for manufacturing iron and steel on a very large scale in this Province. We have now interested the Government of India in these ores and are happy to have received their co-operation and assurance of further support. I cannot but acknowledge in this connexion my gratitude to the Hon. Minister in charge of Industry and Supply, in the Government of India and to the Secretary and other officers concerned for their sympathetic approach to a problem which we thought was bound to be frowned upon by the Centre in view of the Report of the Iron and Steel Panel against the installation of a steel industry in the south. The fact that lignite or brown coal is available in practically inexhaustible quantities in the neighbourhood, has been a source of great consolation to us as otherwise, we would have found it difficult to secure suitable substitutes to coal for working the iron ores. Negotiations are going on regarding the best type of machinery for smelting and for steel production, while investigations are proceeding at as quick a pace as possible for exploiting lignite. We are hopeful of the Central Government's support in the manufacture of aluminium from Salem bauxite and magnesium from Salem magnesite.

"Recently I have had occasion to discuss with an officer of the Government of India and they are agreeable to set up a pilot plant for the extraction of magnesite from the Salem ores. I wish to warn everyone that in the case of industries of this magnitude, it is impossible to achieve results overnight. I can assure everyone that I am as enthusiastic about these schemes as anybody else and that our untiring efforts would be directed to the exploitation of these very valuable minerals in this Province. What is more, we are endeavouring to secure the co-operation of the Works

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Ministry of the Centre, to reinforce the Geological staff already working in this Province and to intensify geological work all over the Province and especially in Rayalaseema.

"To facilitate mineralogical work, proposals have been approved by the Centre for starting a higher Institute of Electro-Technology in this Province. The Government of India have also agreed to start an Institute of Leather Research in Guindy. We expect that one of the higher Polytechnics contemplated by the Government of India will also be allotted to this Province. This Government has offered to place at the disposal of the Government of India the entire land that is required for the location of these Institutes and it may be that lands to the extent of nearly 1,000 acres will be set apart at their disposal, and these will be given free of cost. We have also proposed to give other facilities for the starting of these Institutes, so that we will have in Madras separate Research Institutes, which will serve not only our Province, but also the other parts of India as well.

"In the Provincial field, the Government have sanctioned a hydrogenation factory in Calicut and an Institute of Oil Technology in Anantapur. In view of the existence of excellent raw material around Gudur, a ceramic factory and Institute have been started there, and are expected to begin work very shortly.

"Apart from these direct efforts of the Government, private enterprise has been given every possible assistance by us. Efforts have been made to speed up the delivery of machinery by contacting suppliers through the Government of India. Prospective Industrialists have been furnished with information regarding textile suppliers and have in some cases been actually put in touch with the suppliers. Frequently, the Government have also endeavoured to secure supplies of essential materials for building purposes from the Government of India. We have recently heard that some of the industrialists of our Province were able to secure a part of the spindleage that is expected from the Government of India. This is a broad outline. The programme of this Government, and I move the Demand standing in my name."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"On a point of information, Mr. Speaker, I want to know whether you are aware of the fact that there is a demonstration going on in front of the Chamber. About 15 textile workers from Coimbatore are sitting in front of the portico in order to draw the attention of the Government to their grievances."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am not aware of it."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"I submit, Sir, that it seems that they want to see the Hon. Minister for Labour to listen to their grievances and to settle certain matters, but since they are not able to convince the Minister about their stand, they are going to resort to hunger strike. May I therefore request the Hon. Minister for Labour to interfere in this matter and see that their grievances are settled?"

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I may just inform the hon. Member that I have already seen them, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The motion before the House is that—

'under Demand XXI—Industries, the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,08,86,100'."

* M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, I move that—

'the Demand for Rs. 1,08,86,100 *under "Industries" be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

In moving this cut motion I have to point out at the outset that the amount assigned for Industries is really very meagre. It is not even 3 per cent of the total Provincial expenditure. While it is announced by this Government from housetops that they are interested in the welfare of the common man, the efforts which they are making at present will not achieve that ideal. It is my earnest belief, Sir, that unless we venture further into the field of intensive industrialization, the lot of the common man will not be improved and he must continue to lead a life of toil and suffering. Therefore I cannot but feel disheartened when I find that no provision has been made for the Industrial and Finance Corporation in the present budget. It is said in the Budget Memorandum that this is due to the fact that no definite proposals have yet been formulated by the Government. I realy do not know whether it is due to the lack of enthusiasm on the part of the Hon. Minister for Industries, who, I know, is a gentleman having unbounded enthusiasm for industrial enterprise and expansion. At the same time, Sir, I cannot help congratulating him for the very lucid, illuminating and instructive speech which he has just delivered in moving this Demand. I quite realise with him that we cannot achieve the ideal within a short space of time; but at the same time I would only point out to him that unless we spread out at least the plinth of our industrial ideals even to-day, we will not be able to raise that structure of Industries and Commerce, which we are yearning to build. In the field of industries there are several things to be done and the field is very extensive. Therefore, it may not be possible for me within the time assigned to me to move my cut motion to cover the whole range of industrial activities and offer my criticisms on the schemes undertaken by the Government.

"Coming to the question of industries as such, I should like to take up, first the question of the cottage industries. I have repeated on the floor of this Assembly time and again that the Madras Province is the home of cottage industries. These cottage industries have been in existence from time immemorial and they have been helping and assisting the poor labourers and workers of this Province for the last several centuries. You are aware, Sir, that it was by taking the scientific knowledge of the present day to the very doors of the cottage industries, that Japan was able to produce all her products and to compete successfully with the far

advanced countries of the West like the United Kingdom and the United States of America, and was also about to beat them. Unless we also follow the same lines and take scientific knowledge to the very doors of these poor and ignorant people who are to-day engaged in industries, it will not be possible for us to develop our cottage industries to the extent to which Japan and other countries have developed them. It is not necessary that I should place before you or before the Hon. Minister for Industries a catalogue of the several hundreds of cottage industries that are thriving to-day in this Province. But I say that these industries are really very important industries and I would therefore request that the Hon. Minister be pleased to organize a separate Cottage Industries' Directorate, with a separate full-time Director to be in charge.

" Sir, in this connexion, I should like to make a reference to the District Industries Officers that are working to-day. There are only nine officers for a Province like Madras which is supposed to be one of the biggest Provinces in this country. Nine district Industries Officers are not sufficient. I should wish that the Hon. Minister for Industries should appoint at least one District Industries Officer for every district. He might say that we have not industrially advanced to such an extent as to warrant the creation of an administrative machinery on such a large scale. He has himself admitted in his own speech that complete industrialization of this Province is the cherished goal of this Government and the Government of India. In order to achieve that goal we must have a department competent and sufficient to deal with all the industrial problems of this Province. Only then can we reach the ideal which the Hon. Minister has at heart.

" Coming to the large scale industries the Hon. the Minister has made a reference to the iron and steel industry, the heavy chemical industry, and the textile industry. I do not think it is necessary that I should go into the details of these various large scale industries. As I am one who is deeply interested in the textile industry of this province I wish to make a few remarks on that particular industry. Taking the textile industry as such, Sir, I wish to say that it is not receiving as much help and assistance as it ought to receive from the Government. Speaking of the new textile mills which have come into existence or are coming into existence, I have to point out the various disabilities and difficulties they are experiencing to-day. These new textile mills were organized at a time when we had sufficient capital in this province. But unfortunately at a time when the organizers of these new textile mills were prepared to collect large capital they could not even complete the authorized capital of those companies, as the then Government had a textile policy which was not able to help those people. They had to keep quiet for months and months and when the Government actually revised their textile policy they almost got into a period when such capital became shy to come out. Therefore, Sir, several of the textile mills that were recently organized, to-day find themselves in a very difficult position for collecting the share capital itself and

the Hon. the Minister has himself conceded that the time is really bad and that the industries will not be able to make much headway. But with regard to these new textile allottees, I find, Sir, that the Government are sending notice after notice to these people; saying " Why have you not collected the share-capital? Why have you not erected the mill and if you continue to do like that, we will withdraw your import licence for machinery which we have given you." Sir, it is really a hardship. Therefore, I would only request the Hon. Minister for Industries that he could allow these newly organized mills some more time so that they may be in a better position to collect the share capital required. Besides, Sir, there is the question of importation of machinery from foreign countries. At present we are able to get our spindles and other accessories for the textile mills only from the United Kingdom and the cost of the machinery manufactured in the United Kingdom is very high and besides they have not got sufficient machinery to supply. Added to this, is the dollar difficulty. It is impossible for us to get anything from America or from any other country in view of the regulations governing dollar exchanges. I know, Sir, when I raised this question during the question-hour the Hon. the Minister gave an assurance that he would write to the Government of India in this matter and see that facilities were afforded to people to import machinery from other countries like America. Besides I understand, Sir, that the Government of India have recently placed an order for one lakh of spindles with Japan and I only wish that our own Hon. Minister for Industries will make haste to see that a large portion of the spindles that are coming from Japan is allotted to Madras Province.

" With regard to the existing mills, Sir, there is the question of strikes. How these constant strikes are affecting production the Hon. the Minister knows and the hon. Members of this House also know. We really sympathize with the lot of the labourers in these industries. But at the same time, Sir, let us make every effort to see that people do not make use of these labourers to injure the very interests of this Province. The Prime Minister of India, Panditji, has made an appeal over and over again to the people of this country to increase production. How can we increase production, Sir, when these strikes are going on? . . . I have got several points and I am not able to finish."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Because the hon. Member moved the cut motion I have allowed him 14 minutes."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Only 14 minutes, Sir? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I will allow the hon. Member 2 more minutes because he has moved the cut motion."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Then, I come to the question of decontrol of yarn. As a result of strikes the mills are not able to produce yarn and hand-loom weavers are

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to-day actually suffering. Added to that suffering is the thing that comes out of the decontrol of yarn. The yarn merchants are trying to resort to their old methods of black-marketing and the weavers are to-day to a lot of difficulties. Therefore, Sir, I would make a request to the Hon. the Minister to look into this matter and see that hand-loom weavers get their yarn without any difficulty. Have I to finish, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yes.".

*SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the subject 'Industry' happens to be a complicated one. Sir, I say this because later on I may be misunderstood and I may be disturbed in the middle of the speech."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I will see that the hon. Member is not disturbed during his speech."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"We cannot think of industry without labour. With labour comes trade, commerce, factory and all such things. So, this happens to be a very complicated subject. At the same time I have to finish within 15 minutes."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has only 10 minutes. (Laughter.)"

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I have to finish within 10 minutes. Sir, it was very pleasant and interesting to hear from the Hon. Minister a long list of future progressive programmes of work and at the same time it was a sudden shock to hear from him about so many other handicaps. Sir, he is having gigantic schemes but at the same time he pleads want of technical hands and non-availability of machinery and all these things. Sir, I am certain you are not going to get any machinery from outside either from Great Britain or America for they are to-day engaged in preparing for World War No. III. It may be wishful thinking; but if you want to carry out successfully your schemes, I am sure and I also tell you, that you will take at least hundred years for it. I am not able to agree with my hon. Friend Mr. Majid and his anti-deluvian and pre-historic schemes of cottage industry. Now, the world is moving fast, and we have to move fast and live fast too to do more things. I only request you, Sir, to see that you protect and promote the existing industries. We have won freedom. You may not practically do anything new. Please consider and protect the existing industries. Now, I tell you this as a sort of advice. A peaceful atmosphere, and maintenance of law and order are pre-requisites for the advancement and development of industries. That is what we are not having to-day. Sir, can you imagine in a land of Ahimsa a man should assasinate Gandhiji? Where is law and order and where is peace?

"Day in and day out there are strikes from the kitchen women onwards. The coffee-hotel-walla, the milk-vendor, the

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office clerks and finally the Non-Gazetted Officers have got the strike fever. From the papers what did we see? We are really unfortunate to live at a time like this. From the papers I saw that there is strike in the Buckingham Palace. The strike has gone from here to Buckingham Palace. (Laughter.) This is the condition that is prevailing. One thing, Sir, without the co-operation of labour your attempts for the development of industries will be like aspiring for a child without marrying a wife. It will be asking for a legitimate child, Sir, without marrying a wife. Without the co-operation of labour development of industries will be a body without life and meat and without salt."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker. . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have promised the hon. Member that I won't allow anybody to disturb him."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is not yielding."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, we got independence at a very bad time (laughter); it was a good time for them to quit India, but it was bad time for us to get independence for India. There is a Tamil proverb which means that a heron swallowed a fish full of thorns. (Laughter.) 'சனியன்பிடித்த நாரை கெளுத்தியை முழுங்கினது. We got independence at a very bad time. You may ask 'how'? When they quitted India what did they leave behind them—want of cloth, want of food and want of everything and apart from that internal disturbances and all these things. I ask, Sir, what did they do to the Coimbatore Mills which have been shut out for the past two months? What did you do to the Raja Mills of Madura? Are you going to protect the existing industries by thus allowing strikes and lock-outs?

"In this connexion I should like to say another thing, Sir. The labour is the chief thing, and willing workers alone will be helpful in promoting industry. It is very easily said that this labour trouble is created by the Communists. But that is not the real fact. The Communists are not my friends. But when we say these things we must be outspoken, fair and just. The Buckingham Palace employees are not Communists, the Non-Gazetted Officers are not Communists, the Congress kisans, are not also Communists. Why do they go on strike then? If you do not give pocket money to your own son he will revolt against you; if you do not give money to your wife for domestic expenses she will revolt against you. It is not a thing set up by Communists or Socialists. It is a fight between the 'haves' and 'have nots.' Unless you find the root cause of all these troubles, unless you bring stability into the land and unless you secure peaceful atmosphere and willing workers, even though you may have all the machineries from Germany and America and

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3-15 p.m. from all parts of the world, you cannot develop industry. That is the chief thing. I do not want you to export all the mill owners and capitalists to Andamans. There must be some *via media*. As Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said in effecting certain reforms and in carrying out our industrialization and nationalization policy, let us not make the rich poor and poor rich. If we do so the same situation will be there. We want to make the poor richer and we also want to keep the rich as rich. But your present policy happens to make the rich richer and poor poorer. This should be avoided. We see with our own eyes that you are not able to enforce your own law, you are not adamant and you are not strict. What is the fate of your award regarding the Coimbatore and Madura Raja Mills lock-outs? The mill owners did not honour it. What did you do? Those labourers have come here now, and I am told they are going to start hunger-strike. The only possible thing to do now is to adopt a *via media*, that is, all those who are interested in production should have an equitable and proportionate share in the profit. (Muslim Benches: 'Hear, hear.') Until then, this fight is not going to end. Further whenever I hear from you about the policy of industrialization, I see your views are—please excuse me, Sir—always perverted and inverted. (Laughter.) Why do you lay your hands on poor bus owners? If you want fish, go to the ocean. Can you catch fish from gutters? Why not you aim at higher things like ship building and mining, aviation, etc. After all you touched only these bus owners. I do not like that. You may even nationalize all the bus services, but I ask why not aim at higher things? Try to get more things and more profit, and then you can go to the bus owners.

"The mill owners also say that you have not been doing justice. This is a fact. The Hon. Minister also was not bold enough to effect a compromise between the labourers and the mill owners, and thus so many mills remain closed, and production is suffering.

"Sir, the wages of labourers should be fixed by Legislature. Agriculture also comes within the meaning of industries. What about the kisan trouble and their movement? Their wages also should be fixed likewise.

"Finally, Sir, as I have told you already, please see that the existing industries are properly protected and promoted. Then you can aim at higher things. It will take 100 years to accomplish your schemes. You and I are not going to get the benefit of those things and your grandsons and my grandsons will get it."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is that the allotment for Rs. 1,08,86,100 under 'Industries' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*SRI V. S. SANKARASUBRAMANIA MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demand made by the Hon. Minister for Industries. In doing so, I wish to point out the rather serious difficulties in which the handloom weavers of

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this Province are put to. Three millions of people are engaged in this profitable trade which is the most ancient cottage industry of this country. Before stabilizing any new industry in this country, I would implore the Government to see that this ancient cottage industry is stabilized first. Three millions of people are suffering now. There were about 3½ lakhs of handlooms in this Province, when in 1942, the Fact Finding Committee went round the country to find out the conditions of the handloom workers. Now, Sir, the number of handlooms has increased from three lakhs to six and a half lakhs. That shows that given sufficient protection this industry is capable of immense possibilities of expansion. It has already expanded during the past four or five years. During the war period when there were no imports from outside and when a large portion of the weaving section of the mills were switched on to the production of war materials, handlooms throve, and they throve so fairly well that the number of looms rose from three lakhs to six and a half lakhs. Now, Sir, the war is over, and foreign imports are gradually trying to come into this country—both yarn and cloth. The weavers now find they are reverted to their old position. They are now put to serious difficulties. They do not have enough yarn. They do not have a good market, and they are not able to sell their goods. They do not have proper protection also. I wish to impress upon the Government that it is high time that this Government recommend to the Central Government to cancel the All-India yarn pooling system by which they are taking away a large portion of the yarn that is produced in this Province. Though more than one-fifth of the total number of handlooms in the whole of India are in Madras Province, a large portion, more than a half, of the yarn that is spun in this Province is taken away to other parts of the country. I would request the Hon. Minister to recommend to the Central Government to cancel the All-India yarn pooling system.

"Secondly, with regard to the finding of a market for the hadloom goods, I wish to congratulate the Minister on taking prompt action in allowing the free movement of handloom goods within the south deficit zone. That is not sufficient. The Hon. Minister must recommend to the Government of India to permit the export of handloom cloth from Madras Province not only to the two Dominions of India and Pakistan, but also outside. Then only our handloom goods will be able to capture its old market. Before 1939, we were sending handloom goods manufactured in this Province to South Africa, Aden, Malaya, Burma, and a portion of Australia. We are now gradually losing all these markets as a result of the stringent measures adopted by the Government of India with regard to the export of our handloom goods, with the result, to-day the handloom weavers are faced with a slump in the market, and they find it difficult to sell their goods. I would request this Government to recommend to the Central Government to encourage the export of handloom goods freely not only to Pakistan, but also to other countries without any export duty.

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"Thirdly, Sir, I want to impress on this Government the necessity of protection for handloom cloth both from foreign mill-made goods and Indian mill-made goods. The Indian mill-made goods are a menace so far as handloom goods are concerned. In spite of the repeated assurances given that so far as Madras Province is concerned no new weaving mills would be opened, and that the present weaving mills would not be allowed to expand their weaving sections, it is a noteworthy fact that all the 24 mills that are permitted to be erected in this Province have been asked to have weaving sections. This means a disastrous ruin to the handloom industry. I think it is the duty of this Government to point out to the Government of India that no extensions of powerloom weaving in mills must be permitted, and that it must be made a condition precedent for the erection of mills in this Province, that no powerloom weaving section should be opened in any such mill.

"Sir, this is an industry which is giving occupation to three million people. This is the largest cottage industry of this Province. It is the duty of this Government to see that this industry survives. The Government must appoint a committee to find out the necessary factors that will help in making the industry a steady one in this country. I think a Court of Inquiry has been appointed very recently, and that they have submitted a report. That report has not been placed on the table of the House. I hope the Hon. Minister will place it on the Table of the House and will try to carry out the suggestions that are made therein.

"With these words, Sir, I support the Demand."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, we in this country are really anxious to do all that lies in our power to improve production as far as we can so that not only this country should become self-sufficient but also should solve the most vexed problem of labour. Soon after the war, we know how we passed through a period in which labour in this country was completely disturbed, not on account of the activities of agencies who were interested in creating trouble or disturbances—not revolution—but on account of the restlessness on the part of labour. There were inherent difficulties which the poor labourer was experiencing so far as his own existence was concerned. On that account the labourer began to be restless, and he was fighting for his very existence. Naturally, the Government should not shut their eyes to all this. They had to come to their succour, but that succour was not satisfactory with the result we find even to-day that labour in so many industries—particularly the textile industry—is restless and agitated. The Minister in charge of Industries is very rightly in charge of labour also. He has to see that both these departments work together so that the one could help the other. Sir, it is only contented labour that can help to speed up production. Therefore, the first and primary duty of the Government is to see that labour is kept contented and satisfied. Particularly that labour which is engaged in

cottage industries—and among the cottage industries, in those industries which are run without power—should be kept contented. The non-power industries require the attention of Government. Sir, Government got through this House a measure giving relief to labour engaged in non-power factories.

"That Act, Sir, is meant to give relief to some extent to the labour engaged in these cottage industries. But, that is not enough because it does not satisfy the people concerned. Therefore, I request the Hon. the Minister to come forward with a measure which will satisfy the labour engaged in non-power factories to the fullest extent. Till now, nothing has been guaranteed. There is no guarantee of adequate wages. Nothing has been done till now to guarantee the conditions of work of the factory labourer. Therefore, I hope, Sir, that the Hon. the Minister will soon come forward with a measure which would give full satisfaction to the labour engaged in these non-power factories, so that they can also live as human beings and their interests will be safeguarded.

"Now, Sir, I want to refer particularly to the beedi industry and the cigar industry in our Province. The cigars which are produced in Madras, do find a market all over the world. But, the industry requires considerable aid from the Government and therefore all possible facilities should be given to that industry. So also the beedi industry. Both the cigar and the beedi industry must receive the Government's immediate attention and the labour that is engaged in those industries must get all facilities which the labour anywhere else enjoy.

"Then, Sir, the development of industries in our Province must receive the primary attention of the Government. For the development of our industries, we must produce the necessary articles in order to make the Province self-sufficient. We must not depend on Northern India or even other countries for various articles of necessity such as sugar, cement and cloth. Therefore, we must make our Province self-sufficient in articles like cloth, cement, sugar and such other things. If we do that, we will certainly be in a far better position. We will be able to raise the standard of living in this Province. We will also be able to employ a large number of people who are now unemployed. There is plenty of skilled labour as well as educated labour in this Province. There are a number of educated young men in this Province, who, though they cannot be employed on labour work, can be employed in technical work with a certain amount of training after they have completed their S.S.L.C. course. Even graduates can be trained in some industry or other and their knowledge can be put to proper use in industrial work. Sir, I am glad that the Government have given all possible facilities to the opening of science classes in applied chemistry, and that the development of science is being encouraged in this Province. Sir, polytechnics, applied chemistry and every other technical department ought to be encouraged. These things should be done by the Industries department. Sir, merely giving

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education in all the sciences is not enough. I know Government have started some polytechnic institutions in some parts of the Province but that is not enough. I hope that during the Budget year, the Hon. the Minister for Industries, who is very much interested in the development of industries in this Province, will be able to find the required personnel to man these industries. Without that personnel, it is not possible to start industries. Therefore, we want trained personnel and I suggest that we should introduce in our Province as many polytechnic courses as possible and train the people. When people acquire sufficiently high and specialized knowledge in applied chemistry and other branches of science, I am sure we will go far in advance of other Provinces in the development of our industries.

"Sir, our Province is really very peculiarly suited for industrial advance. We have got natural resources. We have got labour which is cheaper than elsewhere. Therefore, if the Hon. the Minister takes advantage of these natural facilities that are available in our Province and if the natural resources are utilized to the best possible extent, I am sure, we will be far ahead of other Provinces or even other countries in the matter of industrial development. If we develop such industries, we will not only be able to meet our own needs and requirements, but we will be even in a position to export goods from our Province.

"Then, Sir, I should like to refer to the tanning industry in our Province. Sir, the tanning industry is a very vital industry for our Province. That industry has been in a stage that requires much improvement. I am glad the Government have given their attention to the improvement of the tanning industry. The College of Technology that has been opened by the University for this purpose is doing a great deal of useful work in that direction. The students that go out of that college will really help in the advancement and improvement of the tanning industry in this Province. Sir, I believe that the Government ought to devote more and more attention to the development of the tanning industry.

"Lastly, Sir, I want to refer to the handloom industry in our Province. My hon. Friend, Mr. Majid, has referred to it in great detail. Sir, our Province is peculiarly unique in this respect. We have in this Province the handloom industry which we do not find anywhere else to the same extent. Sir, there are many difficulties experienced in this industry not on account of too much of competition from foreign cloth or mill-made cloth imported from outside but on account of the inherent defects in the internal administration of this industry by people who are running this industry. Sir, the industry depends on the supply of yarn. Unless the Government come forward to help them with the supply of sufficient yarn, this industry will suffer. They are really handicapped for want of this yarn. Sir, I do not wish to take up more time of the House. I would appeal to the Minister for Industries to give his attention to the various key industries in this Province. Even if he has to fight with the

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Government of India in this matter, he must see that our Province is not neglected and that he gets all possible help from the Government of India in developing these key industries. I request the Hon. Minister also to give his attention to the spread of these cottage industries, such as paper, smithy and other such industries, which will keep a large number of our people engaged and which, at the same time, will raise the standard of living in this Province and give employment to those who are unemployed. With these words, I support the cut motion."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO :—"అధ్యక్షా, మంత్రిగారికి తెలుగు తెలుగునుకనుక తెలుగులోనే మాట్లాడెదను.

"పరిశ్రమల అభివృద్ధికి ఆర్థ్యవసరమైనది మూలధనము, ముడిపదార్థములు. ఈ రాష్ట్రములో ముఖ్యముగా రాయలసీమలో పరిశ్రమల స్థాపనకు వలయు ముడిపదార్థములు ఉన్నవని మంత్రిగారికి తెలుపుదును. ఈ ముడిపదార్థములకు తోడు మూలధనమును సేకరించి తగిన కృషిచేసినప్పుడే పరిశ్రమలలో మద్రాసు రాష్ట్రము అన్ని విధముల అభివృద్ధిచెందుటకు కవకాశమున్నది.

"ఎన్నో పెద్ద పరిశ్రమలను జాతీయముచేసిన జాతీయ సంపద అభివృద్ధిచెందునని మంత్రిగారు వారి ఉపన్యాసములో తెలియజేసియున్నారు. ఏ పరిశ్రమనైనను జాతీయముచేసి తద్వారా జాతీయ సంపదను అభివృద్ధిపరచదలచినపుడు ముందుగా ప్రజా సామాన్యముయొక్క శీలమును అభివృద్ధిచేయు బాధ్యత ప్రజా ప్రభుత్వములవారిపైనున్నది. జాతీయ శీల సంపద ఉన్నప్పుడే జాతీయము చేసిన పరిశ్రమ లభివృద్ధి జరుగగలదు.

"ఈ నాడు ఏ పరిశ్రమాగారములలో చూచిన తగవులు, సమ్మెలు అధికముగనున్నవి. దీనికి ముఖ్యకారణములు ధనవంతుల దురాశ, కూలీల అజ్ఞానము. ధనవంతుల దురాశను, కూలి ప్రజల అజ్ఞానమును తగ్గించుటకు తగిన 'లాభములో కూలీలకు భాగమిచ్చు' పద్ధతిని ఏర్పాటుచేసి, తదనుగుణముగా ఒక చట్టమును నిర్మాణముచేసి, పరిశ్రమలను జాతీయముచేసినట్లయితే జాతీయ సంపదను అభివృద్ధిచేయుటకు వీలగునని మంత్రిగారికి నా మనవి.

"ఈ నాడు కూలి ప్రజల ఆరుపులు, కేకలు, సమ్మెలు, ఉన్నవారికి లేనివారికి మధ్యగల విభేదములు కారణములని యింతవరకు మాట్లాడిన మిత్రులు చెప్పియున్నారు. కాని వీటికి కారణములు కొన్ని రాజకీయపక్షములవారి దురూహలు, దుష్ప్రచారమేనని నా అభిప్రాయము. ఇట్టి దురూహలతో కూడిన దుష్ప్రచారమును అరికట్టి సామాన్య కూలి ప్రజానీకమును ఈనాడు వారు పడుచున్న అవస్థలనుంచి మారుచేయుటకు తగిన చట్టమును ప్రభుత్వమువారు వెంటనే చేయవలెను.

"ప్రతి పరిశ్రమలోను పనిచేయునటువంటి పారిశ్రామికులకు అన్ని విధములా విద్యా విశ్వాసములు కలుగుటకుగాను అవకాశములను కలిగించి తగు విద్యా బోధనొనగు చట్టము నొకదానిని చేయు బాధ్యత ప్రభుత్వముపైనున్నది.

"పరిశ్రమల అభివృద్ధికి నిపుణతగల మనుజులు ముఖ్యావసరము. నేటి దినము ఏ పరిశ్రమను తీసుకొనినప్పటికి శ్రద్ధతో శిక్షణతో పనిచేయు నిపుణులు లేరు. దీనికి ముఖ్య కారణము సాంకేతిక విద్యలలో శిక్షణ నొసగు విద్యాలయములు తగినన్ని లేకపోవుటయే. మంత్రిగారు తమ ఉపన్యాసములో రాష్ట్రములోని వివిధ ప్రాంతములలో ఇట్టి విద్యాలయములను ఏర్పాటు చేయదలచినట్లుగా చెప్పియున్నారు. ఏదో కొన్ని

ప్రదేశములలో మాత్రమే శాశ్వతమైన విధిగా ప్రతి జిల్లాకు ఒక పారిశ్రామిక పాఠశాలను ఏర్పాటుచేసి అనేకమంది విద్యార్థులనందు తర్ఫీదుచేసి వారిని నిపుణులనుగను, నీతి వంతులుగను చేయు బాధ్యత ప్రభుత్వమువారిపైన ఉన్నది

"మిత్రులు మజీదుగారు చెప్పినట్లు రాష్ట్రమంతటికిని జిల్లా పారిశ్రామిక శాఖాధికారులు (District Industries Officer) 9 మంది మాత్రమేగలరు. ప్రతి జిల్లాకును ఒక పారిశ్రామిక శాఖాధికారిని నియమించు అవసరము. అంతేకాక ప్రతి జిల్లాకు ఒక (Industrial Board పారిశ్రామికాభివృద్ధి సమితిని ఏర్పాటుచేసి ఆ జిల్లాలో ఏ ఏ ముడిపదార్థములు ఉన్నవో, వాటికి తగినటువంటి పరిశ్రమలేవి స్థాపింప వీలగునో పరిశీలన జేయించి ఒక రిపోర్టు (report)ను వ్రాయించి అనువగు ప్రణాళికలను తయారు చేయించి, వాటిని ఆచరణలో పెట్టవలసిన అవసరమున్నది.

"రాయలసీమలో అనేక రకముల ముడిపదార్థములున్నవి. రాయలసీమకు రత్నాలసీమయను పేరుగలదు. రాయలసీమలో ముగ్గురాయినుంచి మకుటమున ధరించు మరకతాలు అనగా వజ్రములు గలవని ప్రతీతి. కాని ఇంతవరకును ఈ విషయముల నన్నింటిని సక్రమముగా భూగర్భ పరిశీలనలు చేయించే మంత్రులుగాని, ప్రభుత్వములుగాని రాలేదు. ఇప్పుడైనను ప్రభుత్వమువారు తగిన శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొని రాయలసీమ యొక్క ఖనిజ సంపదను సక్రమముగా పరిశోధన చేయించు ఏర్పాటులు చేయవలెను.

"ముఖ్యముగా రాయలసీమలో మద్రాసు కోస్తాలో పడెడి పద్ధతిలో మూడవ ఎంతు పత్తి పండుచున్నది. కాని ఆక్కడ తగిన యంత్రశాలలు లేవు. స్థాపి పదల చిన యంత్రములు ఏనాడు అమెరికా, ఇంగ్లండు దేశములనుంచి వచ్చునో తెలియదు. కాబట్టి వెంటనే మంత్రిగారు మంచి నిపుణులచేత కృషి చేయించి ఒక చక్కని చిన్న నూలు యంత్రమును తయారు చేయించవలయును. మహాత్మ గాంధిగారు కూడా ఒక చిన్న చక్కని నూలు యంత్రమును తయారుచేసిన వానికి ఒక లక్ష రూపాయలు బహుమతి ఇవ్వదలచినట్లు ఇదివరలో చెప్పియున్నారు. మద్రాసు ప్రభుత్వమువారు ప్రయత్నపడి దినమునకు రెండు పౌనుల నూలును తయారుచేయగ ఒక చిన్న నూలు యంత్రమును తయారు చేయించి, ఆ రాట్నములను రాయలసీమలోను, ఇతర ప్రాంతములలోను ప్రతి ఇంటికి ఒక్కొక్కటి సరఫరా చేయించవలెను. పెద్ద పెద్ద యంత్ర ములకుగాను ఖర్చు చేయదలచిన మొత్తములలోనుంచి ఈ చిన్న యంత్రమును తయారు చేయించుటకు కొంతభాగమును ఖర్చు చేయవలసినదని ప్రభుత్వము వారికి మనవి చేయు చున్నాను.

"పరిశ్రమల అభివృద్ధికి పెట్రోలు, బొగ్గు ముఖ్యము. మన మద్రాసు రాష్ట్రంలో నల్లమల మరి యితర అడవి ప్రదేశములలో కట్టెలబొగ్గు తయారుచేయనవకాశమున్నది. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వమువారే ఆ ప్రదేశములలోని పెట్ల మొదళ్లను కొట్టించి ఎంతబొగ్గు తయారగు అవకాశమున్నదో పరిశీలనలు చేయించవలసినది.

"కుటీర పరిశ్రమలు.—మన కాంగ్రెస్ ప్రభుత్వమువారు రాష్ట్రములలోని కుటీర పరిశ్రమలను అభివృద్ధి పరచుటకుగాను 2 ప్రణాళికలను తయారుచేసి వాటిని కొన్ని ఫిర్కాలలో (Firka Development Scheme) విస్తరింపజేసి ఉన్నారు. కాని ఇవి ఇంకను ఒక రూపమును చాల్చలేదు, కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వమువారు తగిన శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొని ఆ ఫిర్కా (firka) లలో సాధ్యమైనంత త్వరలో వ్యవసాయదారులకు కావలసిన పనిముట్లను ఇతర వస్తు సామగ్రిని తయారుచేయు ఉత్పత్తి కేంద్రములను విస్తరింపచేయవలెను.

"ఈ పాడు వివిధ పరిశ్రమలను స్థాపించుటకుగాను అనేకులు మూలధనమును సేకరించుచున్నారు. మూలధనము నిమిత్తము అనేక లక్షల రూపాయిలను సేకరించిన తరువాత యంత్రాగారములను నిర్మించుటకుగాను కావలసిన ఇనుము దొరుకక అనేక పరిశ్రమలు కూడ పడే పరిస్థితిలో ఉన్నవి, కాబట్టి మంత్రిగారు మద్రాసు కోస్తాకు కేంద్ర ప్రభుత్వమువారు పరిశ్రమలకుగాను ఎంత ఇనుమును ఇవ్వజూచిరో దానిని సేకరించి ఈ పరిశ్రమలకు (supply) కుచించెట్టవలెను. ఈనాడు 30 టన్నుల ఇనుము కొరకు రెండుమాట్లు డిల్లీకి పోయి ఎన్ని తంటాలు పడినను లభ్యముకాని పరిస్థితులు ఏర్పడి ఉన్నవి. అంతే కాకుండా ఈ ఇనుము supply విషయములో అన్యాయాలు జరుగుచున్నవి.

"ఇప్పుడు ఇనుము వ్యాపారస్థులకు వారికి నిర్ణయించిన మంచి రకపు ఇనుమే కాకుండా defectives అనే పేర తక్కువ రకపు ఇనుమును కంపెనీలవారు ప్రత్యేకముగా ఇస్తున్నారు. ఈ defectives ఇనుములో వ్యవసాయదారులకు తయారీవచ్చు అనేక పనిముట్లను తయారుచేయవచ్చు. ఈ వ్యాపారస్థులు ఈ ఇనుమును Black Market లో ఎక్కువ లాభమునకు విక్రయించుచున్నారు. అందువలన సామాన్య రైతుకు వ్యవసాయమునకు అవసరమగు పనిముట్లు లభించక కాల కాభపడుతున్నాడు. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వమువారు మన మద్రాసు కోస్తాకు కేంద్ర ప్రభుత్వమువారు కేటాయించిన మంచిరకపు ఇనుమును, defectives ఇనుమును కోస్తా ప్రభుత్వములే స్వాధీనము చేసుకొని పారిశ్రామికులకు, వ్యవసాయదారులకు అందు కాటులో మండునట్లు విస్తరించుటయు మంచిది.

"ఆనంతపురంలో వచ్చే సంవత్సరం ఒక Oil Technological Institute ను విస్తరించుటయదలచినట్లు మంత్రిగారు వారి ఉపన్యాసములో చెప్పియున్నారు. ఇందు లకు వారిని అభినందించుచున్నాను. సాధ్యమైనంత త్వరలో ఈ విద్యాలయాన్ని స్థాపించి విద్యార్థులను నిపుణులుగా తయారుచేయించవలసినది.

"ఆనంతపురం జిల్లాలోని హిందూపురంలో కేంద్ర ప్రభుత్వమువారు విస్తరించేసినటువంటి ఒక పారిశ్రామిక శాల ఉండినది. దీనికిగాను కొన్ని భవనము (Building) లను కట్టించిరి. కాని ఈ building లకు అధికారులు మద్రాసు గవర్నమెంటువారో, ఇండియా గవర్నమెంటువారో అక్కడ ఉన్నటువంటివారెవరికి తెలియదు. ఈ భవనములు ఇండియా ప్రభుత్వమువారి లెక్కలలోగాని, మద్రాసు ప్రభుత్వమువారి లెక్కలలోగాని లేవని వదంతి. ఎవరికి చెందినను లక్షలద్ది ధనమును ఖర్చుపెట్టి కట్టించిన ఈ building లను వృథాగా ఉంచక చక్కని పారిశ్రామిక గారిమనకో, పాఠశాలకో ఉపయోగించుకొను ఏర్పాటులు మన మద్రాసు ప్రభుత్వము వారు చేయవలెను.

"శ్రీ గాంధీగారు అనేకసార్లు మన దేశములో కుటీర పరిశ్రమలకు ఎక్కువ ప్రోత్సాహమియ్యవలయునని చెప్పియున్నారు. పాలకులు ఈ విషయంలో హెచ్చు శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొన్నట్లు కనిపించుటలేదు. కాబట్టి వెంటనే వీటికి తగినంత సహాయము చేయవలసినదిగా ప్రభుత్వమువారిని కోరుచూ ఇంతటితో విరమించుచున్నాను."

SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM :—"கனம் தலிவர் அவர்களே நேற்று இந்திய அரசாங்கத்தின் தொழில் மந்திரி கனம் ஜகஜீவன்ராம் டொமினியன் பார்லிமெண்டில் கைத்தொழில் சட்டம் கொண்டுவந்து பாஸ்பண்ணி இருக்கிறார். தொழிலாளிகளுக்கு குறைந்தபட்ச கூலி நிர்ணயம் செய்த சட்டத்தை கனம் கவர்னர்-ஜெனரலும் அங்கீகாரம் செய்திருக்கிறார்.

"தொழிற் சாலைகளில் வேலை செய்யும் தொழிலாளர்கள் லட்சக் கணக்காக இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் நிலமில்லாத விவசாயத் தொழிலாளர்

தள் தொடிக்கணக்காக இருக்கிறார்கள். இவர்கள் விஷயங்களை கவனிப்பதும் மிகவும் முக்கியமாகும். இவர்கள் நிலைமைகளைத் தெரிந்துகொள்ள கேள்வித் தாள்கள் தயாரித்து மாகாண அரசாங்கங்களுக்கு அனுப்பியுள்ளதாக தெரிவித்தார். மேலும், தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு எற்படுத்திய சட்டம் இவர் தலுக்கும் பொருந்தும் என்று கூறியுள்ளார்.

" நிலமில்லாத விவசாயத் தொழிலாளர்கள் நிலைமை மிகவும் பரிதாபகரமாக இருக்கிறது. தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவிலும், சிதம்பரம் தாலூகாவிலும் நிலைமை மிகவும் மோசமாக இருப்பதாகத் தலைவர்கள் கூட்டங்கள் கூடி கூச்சலிட்டுவருவது பத்திரிகைகள் மூலம் வெளிவந்துள்ளது. 1948-ம் வது மார்ச்சுமீ 19உயில் சென்னை கோகலே ஹாலில் கூடிய தென்னிந்திய விவசாயத் தொழிலாளர் சம்மேளன பொதுக்கூட்டத்தில் விவசாயிகள் விஷயமாக சர்க்கார் கொண்டுள்ள கொள்கைகளைக் கண்டித்து பேசியுள்ளார்கள். முக்கூட்டு ஒப்பந்தம் மூலம் தொழிலாளர் சம்பளங்களை நிச்சயிக்கலாமென்று கூறியுள்ளார். சென்ற வருஷம் ஜூலை மாதத்திலேயே தஞ்சை ஜில்லா கலெக்டர் முக்கூட்டு ஒப்பந்தமாக ஓர் அறிக்கை வெளியிட்டார். சிதம்பரம் தாலூகாவிலும் 1947-ம்வது ஜூலைமீ 1உயில் சிதம்பரம் டிப்டி கலெக்டர், தாசில்தார், மிராசுதார்கள், தொழிலாளர் தலைவர்கள் இவர்களை வைத்துக்கொண்டு எனது நண்பர் கனம் பரமானந்தராயர் தலைமையில் முடிவு செய்தோம். அதன்படி கொடுப்பதாக மிராசுதார் சங்கமும் மிராசுதார்களும் ஒத்துக்கொண்டார்கள். அது வெறும் வேண்டுகோளாயிருந்தால், மிராசுதார்கள் எழைகளின் வரும்படியை வைத்துத் கொண்டு தொல்லைகொடுத்து வருகிறார்கள். இந்திய அரசாங்க தொழில் மந்திரி அவர்கள் பிரதேச முக்கூட்டு ஒப்பந்தப்படி நிலச்சுவான்கள் கூலி கொடுக்கவேண்டும், தவறினால் அவ்விஷயம் சர்க்காருக்கு அறிவித்தால் சம்பளம் கொடுக்க தவரியவருக்கு முதலில் 100 ரூபாய்கள் அபராதமும் மறுபடியும் தவரினால் 500 ரூபாய்கள் அபராதமும், சிறைவாசமும் கொடுக்கலாமென்றார். இப்பொழுது மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தில் சட்டமாகிவிட்டதால் அதன்படி இந்த அரசாங்கம் உடனே சட்டம் கொண்டுவரவேண்டும். சட்டம் வரும்வரையில் ஒரு அவசர உத்திரவு பிறப்பிக்கவேண்டும். இது வரைக்கும் சட்டமின்மையால் ஜில்லா அதிகாரிகள் நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க முடியவில்லை. உடனே சட்டம் போடவேண்டும் ரிவினியு மந்திரியும் விவசாய மந்திரியும் எனக்கு பதிலளிக்கும்போது லேபர் மந்திரி பதிலளிக்கவேண்டுமென்று கூறினார்கள் ஆதலால் கனம் தொழில் மந்திரி பதிலளிக்க வேண்டுகிறேன் உடனே சட்டம் போடவேண்டும்.

" 1948-ம் வது மார்ச்சுமீ 19உயில் கோகலே ஹாலில் கூடிய தென்னிந்திய விவசாய தொழிலாள சம்மேளன கூட்டத்தில் அதன் தலைவர் பேசியது என்னவென்றால் அடுத்த அறுவடைக்கு துரிதமாக ஏற்பாடுகள் நடைபெற வேண்டிய இச்சமயத்தில் மிராசுதார்களும் குடிவாரக்காரர்களும் விவசாயத் தொழிலாளர்களும் சென்ற அறுவடையில் கிடைத்த தான்யத்தை எவ்வாறு பங்கு வைத்துக்கொள்வது என்பது பற்றி இன்னும் சச்சரவு செய்து கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். மிராசுதார்கள் தமது விவசாயத் தொழிலாளர்களின் நியாயமான கோரிக்கைகளுக்கு இணங்க மறுக்கிறார்கள். இவ்விஷயத்தில் சர்க்காரும் மௌனம் சாதிக்கிறது. அமைதியாக போராட்டத்தை நடத்திய இசான் காங்கிரஸ் ஊழியர்களை அதிகாரிகள் கைது செய்து காவலில் வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். உடன்படிக்கைக்கிணங்க விவசாயத் தொழிலாளர் கோறும் சம்பளம் இப்பொழுதுள்ள சம்பளத்தைப் பார்க்கிலும் வருஷம் முழுவதும் சேர்ந்து ரூ. 25-க்கு அதிகமாக இருக்காது. இப்பொழுதுள்ள கஷ்டமான நிலைமையை சமாளிப்பதற்கு விவசாயத் தொழிலாளர்கள் தொழிற்சங்க ரீதியில் போராட்டத்தை நடத்தவேண்டும். எக்காரணம் கொண்டும் பலாத்காரத்தில் இறங்கக்கூடாது. பலாத்காரத்தினால் அவர்களுக்குத்தான் கேடு ஏற்படும். (At this stage Madam Deputy Speaker took the Chair).

" பயிர்த் தொழிலாளருக்கு ஆறுமாதங்களாக வேலை இல்லையாதலால் கிராமங்களில் நூல் நூற்றல், ஆடை நெய்தல், பாய் நெய்தல், கூடை முடைதல் படி செய்வது முதலிய இரும்பு தொழில் செய்தல் முதலியவற்றைப் பரப்ப வேண்டுகிறேன், அப்படிச் செய்தால் ஏழை தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு

வேலை கிடைக்கும். ஆகையால் தொழில் மந்திரி அவர்கள் இந்தச் சட்டத்தைப்போடுவதன் மூலம் குடிசைத் தொழிலை அபிவிருத்தி செய்யும்படியாக கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

3-45 p.m.

• Sri B. ANANTHACHAR:—" Madam Deputy Speaker, let me first congratulate the Hon. Minister for Industries on the proposals he has brought forward for the improvement of Industries in this province. Of course there is an appreciable increase in the grant over last year, but the question is whether this grant is enough, enough particularly for the undeveloped and neglected areas of Rayalaseema.

" Madam, the Hon. Minister for Industries knows that our districts have been neglected for long. There has not been any proper geological survey of the districts. The industries that were sought to be started were nipped in the bud for various reasons such as shyness of capital, difficulty of labour, technical skill which face a new industry. Therefore let me offer a small suggestion for the best consideration of the Government. At least in respect of these neglected areas, let the industries be started by the State with the small contribution the people of the area may be able to render. Unless this is done, it would be impossible to start any kind of industry, big or small in the immediate future. Therefore I request the Government to pay special attention to the starting of these small or big industries in these neglected districts.

" Madam, the Hon. Minister knows particularly the fate of our raw products. We grow groundnut and cotton in plenty but all these are not used in our own districts for industrial purposes, but they have to be taken far away to other industrial centres. If industries are undertaken by private enterprise, capital is difficult and even if capital is raised, there is not enough assistance and encouragement from the Central or the Provincial Government to step up the establishment of factories. Therefore let me implore the Hon. Minister for Industries to do his best to start some industries as early as possible.

" Madam, I want to say one word with regard to sugar industry. Sugarcane is produced in large quantities in our district. But as the Government are aware, the price of jaggery has fallen abnormally low and this has caused a great loss to the sugarcane grower. There is only one factory in the district. It is private-managed and controlled. The Government have no power to interfere with the management of the factory, except with regard to the regulation and fixing of minimum prices for the sugarcane. Madam, if a resistant veriety of sugarcane is introduced in the area, there may be an increase in the area of sugarcane cultivation. And there should be one more factory in the Bellary district.

" Madam, some years ago, in 1938 or 1939, an attempt was made to start a co-operative sugar factory at Kampli in Bellary district. The attempt failed, because there was not enough response from the people. Now with the greater financial aid from

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the Government, there would be a very good prospect of starting the new factory at Hospet or some other place in the centre of the sugarcane area.

" Madam, I want to say one word about Vanaspathi. I am afraid the Central Government is coming out with certain statements which bodes no good for the future of the Vanaspathi industry. I request our Government to make our position quite clear. The Central Government off and on states that on the basis of some technical information Vanaspathi is bad. If that is so, let those who start these Vanaspathi factories realize whether they are on the right track, whether they are investing their money in the right direction and whether they have a chance of realizing the money they spend on these factories.

" If the Central Government vacillates, our Government who p m. are really interested in the industrialization of the country should take necessary and speedy action and see that our Vanaspathi factories compete with those of Bombay and other provinces of the Indian unit.

" With regard to jaggery manufacture, let me request the Hon. Minister for Industries to give us more crushers. Without them we cannot manufacture jaggery. The manufacture of jaggery was stopped during war-time. After the removal of the control, sugarcane-growers have been permitted to convert the surplus sugarcane into jaggery. Crushers have yet to come. We have been demanding power crushers also. If they are not available, at least ordinary crushers might be supplied to the sugarcane-growers. They are very much handicapped. I hope that this difficulty would be removed before the next crushing season. The sugarcane-growers require also the pans. I would request the Government to supply pans of the correct size in sufficient quantities. The pan should be of the size in vogue in the districts. Power crushers or ordinary crushers may be made available to the sugarcane-grower at the proper time.

" The Hon. Minister for Industries as well as I. know how cottage industries can be made to thrive in every village in our district. In fact the Bellary district is specially equipped for cottage industries. Khadi scheme can be intensively worked in the Bellary district, because we produce cotton and we have tradition for spinning. The spinning wheel is still in existence in many villages. There is no use trying in Khadi production in one or two centres. I request the Government to spread the khadi cult and to extend the scheme to more places in the districts wherever conditions are suitable.

"There are other cottage industries. They are sericulture and ericulture. The attempts in the direction is not enough. Sericulture is in its infant stage. Ericulture is yet to begin. Sericulture and ericulture should be coupled. If one is made complementary to the other, they can be worked satisfactorily. I request the Hon. Minister to make real advance in the matter of sericulture and ericulture."

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MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Madam, the ex-promoter of companies and industries, as soon as power is given to him—the Hon. Minister for industries of our province—has been tried and found wanting, either with regard to the long-term or short-term plans. Nothing has been done. Village industries and firka development are perhaps under the charge of our invisible Premier and so we cannot speak about them. The report that was given by the Hon. Minister here is only empty talk and the arguments advanced by him only showed that everything was under preparation. Nothing has been done and there have been only tall promises. The Ministry is tackling many matters. I shall take only one or two of them and show that the Ministry of Industries has not justified itself.

" The part played by this Government in the matter of the Andhra Paper Mills when they were struggling, has not been commendable. Questions were raised in this House. Even then the Government did not interfere. Interpellations, demands, and requests were made and deputations waited on the Hon. Minister. I do not know why the Minister was adamant. Perhaps there is power politics in this matter also. Perhaps there are the questions of Circars versus some other parts of Andhradesa, finance, etc. I am not going into all these details for want of time. In spite of the shortage of paper, in spite of the fact that foreign talent was available and other provinces were willing to help us, our Industries Minister has not found enough reasons to interfere in the matter. Very late in the day he finds that the matter is pending in the court. He says now that he has given a tender. Liquidation proceedings are going on, receivers have been appointed and property worth several lakhs of rupees was being sold for Rs. 20,000. The High Court had to interfere in the matter. Only now the Hon. Minister has given his tender. Perhaps it is too late now. We can judge the work of the Minister from the way in which he took action with regard to this matter. He has done nothing at all.

" Now I come to the long-term and short-term plans. One wonderful man, Mr. Parthasarathy has been appointed to go into the question. I do not know what his qualifications are. He is appointed perhaps to draw travelling allowance. He is in Coonoor and Ootacamund in the month of December. His report is not forthcoming. I do not know the reason why. The Minister was saying that it was pending in the Press. I understand that there was an interim report. There has been no implementation of that report even.

" The Government have made many promises about the Commercial Corporation. The promises are there always. But nothing has been done. If I remember right, even in this budget only a token grant has been asked for. The Government has not allotted any money. There seems to be the question of big companies swallowing all the amount that is available. There is the question of Ceded districts *versus* the Circars. There seems to be some cliques also. These difficulties

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are there always. There is a rumour that the Government are holding up the amount and that the amount will be made available only if some companies come forward. Situations were created in the last few days. The present Minister has made many promises. There are speculators also. Even to-day no company has successfully collected the necessary shares to work the Mills. There was a critical stage in the last days of the last ministry. The present ministry actively took part in the matter. Even though the present Ministry took active steps in the matter, even though they have been in power for the last one year, though they made many promises and though their motives appear to be good, they have not made any progress in the matter. Machinery is not forthcoming. The promoters of the company have not collected necessary shares. The Government have not done anything in the matter. Since the Hon. Premier is not here, now the Minister for Industries may say that he is not in charge of the firka development schemes, village reconstruction and cottage industries. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Majid Sahib said, please open your eyes and see what Japan has done. Please see other countries. In the past you have spent some money. You sent somebody to Japan. You have taken some steps in the matter. I understand that Mr. Krishnaswami, an I.C.S. officer, Secretary of the Development Department was asked to make a special study of the matter. He prepared a report. As soon as he finished writing his report and after some money was spent in the matter, he went away to Delhi. What happened then? What reply does the Hon. Minister give now? He says that a Planning Committee with Mr. S. Parthasarathi with all his qualifications has been appointed to go into the matter.

"I am told that some of the appointments made by the Hon. Minister were not made on the advice of the Services Commission. He has chosen to make some appointments himself. Many mills are not working in the south, in Coimbatore. Lot of time and other things are being wasted simply because the Government is incapable of setting the dispute. It is capable of appointing only tribunals with retired judges. If any questions are asked about labour, the Hon. Minister says the matter is under adjudication; the matter is under consideration; a report has been submitted; the Government have accepted the report or adjudication; or, they have not accepted the adjudication. Nothing except these has been done. This is the state of affairs. The mills in the south are not working. This clearly shows that this Government is not capable of handling the situation.

"The fact that they have selected bus transport for nationalization shows that the Government are incapable of nationalizing the bigger industries. Their mind is not working in that direction. They do not work in the direction in which they ought to work. They are unable and incapable to visualize great industries. India is industrially developed somewhat. It has developed lopsidedly. Many industries have been started in Bengal. Lot of money is invested in business in Bombay. We know that in Madras

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capital is shy. People who took up to promotion of industries in the past were not worthy persons. We have now a lot of prejudice against such companies. Fortunately or unfortunately the Minister in charge of Industries is a person who was a promoter of companies in Madras. When the Minister is about to reply, will he tell us whether he has satisfied himself that it is not power politics that is at work and whether help will be forthcoming from the Government for either small or big industries? Will he tell us how many persons have come forward to start industries in this province? We have to tap the minerals in the province. We have to develop mills. For everything a committee is appointed. We have got so many committees. The other day the Hon. Finance Minister was telling me that not less than half a dozen committees were touring and drawing travelling allowance. Mr. Kaleswara Rao's committee for drinking-water, the committees of Mr. Bapineedu and Mr. Varadachari . . ."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"Are all these committees appointed in connexion with the development of industries?"

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"There is the Parthasarathi Committee for Industries. This committee has not considered even the requests made and petitions sent to the Government for financial and other help for starting companies. These requests and petitions are pending in the Minister's office.

"The State Aid to Industries Act was amended recently. The Government wanted that the Act might be amended so that more help could be given to industries. This House gave its assent to that Bill. Questions were asked in this House as to the result of that Act. Relatives of Ministers got help. Any man who can get the signatures of ten Members, any man who knew the Minister, got help from that wonderful Act—the State Aid to Industries Act. That is not the way in which industries should be promoted. Instead of the Government not taking any useful action, it is better if they at least examine the petitions they get from the public. Let the Government see how far they are prepared to help people. In justification of what the Minister did, he said that he was not for certain proposals. We are not here to hear his opinions in the matter. The only action he has to take is to see what demands there are from the public and to accept such of them as are good."

SRI R. KUPPUSWAMI:—"கனம் சபாநாயகி அவர்களே, இன்றைய தினம் தொழிற்சாலை விஷயம் பற்றி முக்யமாக என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயத்தைச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். நம் நாட்டில் தொழிற்சாலை வளர்ச்சி, அந்த வளர்ச்சி எந்த முறையில் இருக்க வேண்டும் என்பதைப் பற்றி நாம் அடிப்படையாக கவனம் செலுத்திப் பார்த்தால் இந்நாட்டில் இருக்கக் கூடிய அத்தனை தொழிற்சாலைகளும் லாபத்தை அடிப்படையாகக் கொண்டே முதலாளித்வத்தை வளர்த்தக்கூடிய தொழிற் சாலைகளாக இருக்கிறதே யொழிய தொழிலை வளர்ச்சி செய்து சமூகத்திற்கு வேண்டியவைகளை உற்பத்தி செய்யவில்லை. தொழிலாளிகளுக்கு வேண்டிய சௌகர்யங்களைச் செய்யவேண்டும் என்கின்ற நோக்கத்தில் தொழிற் சாலைகளை நடத்துவது கிடையாது. தொழிற்சாலைகளுக்கு எந்த முறையில் பாதுகாப்பு அளிக்கவேண்டுமோ அந்த முறையில் தொழிலாளிகளுக்கும்

4-15 p.m.

பாதுகாப்பு அளிக்கவேண்டும். அந்த முறையில் அவர்களுக்கு சௌகர்யத்தைக் கொடுத்தால் இந்த தேசத்தின் தொழிற்சாலைகள் அபிவிருத்தியடையும். இன்று நாம் பேசுகிற முறையில் அவ்விதம் இருக்கிறதா என்று பார்க்கவேண்டும். இந்த தேசம் சுதந்திரம் அடைந்த பிற்பாடு நமது நாட்டு மக்களும் நமது தேசமும் சுபிட்சமாக இருக்கவேண்டுமென்றால் தேசம் செல்வ நிலையில் உயரவேண்டும். தேசத்தின் செல்வ நிலை உயரவேண்டுமென்றால் நாட்டிலிருக்கிற தொழிற்சாலைகள் முன்னேற்றமடையவேண்டும். தொழிற்சாலைகளிலுள்ள தொழிலாளிகளுக்கு செல்வ நிலை உயராவிட்டால் தொழிற்சாலையின் செல்வ அபிவிருத்தி காணமுடியாது. ஆகவே தொழிற்சாலைகளை அபிவிருத்தி செய்ய வேண்டுமென்றாலும் தொழிலை பாதுகாக்கவேண்டுமென்றிருந்தாலும் தொழிலாளர்களின் வளர்ச்சியை மனதில் வைத்திருக்கவேண்டும். தொழிலையும்பாதுகாக்கவேண்டும். தொழிலாளர்களையும் பாதுகாக்கவேண்டும்.

"இப்பொழுது சர்க்காருக்கு தொழிற்சாலைகளை தேசிய மயமாக்குவது என்பது அவர்களுடைய கொள்கையாக இருக்கிறது. அது அகில இந்திய ரீதியில் அமைந்தால்தான் முடியும் என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. ஒரு மாகாணம் பூராவும் தேசியமயமாக்க வேண்டுமென்றாலும், அகில இந்திய ரீதியில் தேசியமயமாக்க வேண்டுமென்றிருந்தாலும் தொழில்களை மட்டும் தேசியமயமாக்கினால் போதாது. தொழில்களுக்கு வேண்டிய மூலதன பொருள்களையும் அந்த மூலதன பொருள்களை உற்பத்தியாகும் அந்த சாதனங்களையும் தேசிய மயமாக்கப்பட்டால்தான் தொழிற்சாலைகள் அபிவிருத்தியடையும் என்பது என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயம். பொதுவாக இன்றையதினம் சர்க்கார் மிக முக்யமாக கவனிக்கவேண்டியது என்னவென்றால் இன்றைய தினம் தொழிற்சாலைகளில் முதலாளிகள் எவ்விதம் நடந்து கொள்ளுகிறார்கள் என்பதையும் தொழிலை அபிவிருத்தி செய்வதற்கு மனதில் உத்தேசம் இருக்கிறதா என்பதையும் பார்க்கவேண்டும். இப்பொழுது தொழிற்சாலைகளை முதலாளிகள் எப்படி நடத்துகிறார்கள் என்பதையும் பார்த்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். அவர்கள் இப்பொழுது லாபத்தை உத்தேசித்துதான் தொழிற்சாலைகளை நடத்துகிறார்கள். இதை சர்க்கார் நன்றாக பரிசீலனை செய்து பார்க்கவேண்டும். உதாரணமாக பஞ்சாலையை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் 1,000 தொழிலாளிகள் ஒரு மாதத்தில் எத்தனை சம்பளம் பெருகிறார்களோ அதற்கு சமமான தொகையை ஒரு மானேஜிங் ஏஜண்டு கமிஷனாக அடைகிறார். முதலாளிகள் தொழில் அபிவிருத்தியை மனதில் வைத்துக்கொள்ளாமல் தாங்கள் போட்ட பணத்தையும் தாங்கள் போட்ட மூலதனம் ஒன்றையுமே மனதில் வைத்துக்கொண்டு லாபம் ஒன்றுதான் பிரதானமாகக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த முறையில்தான் இப்பொழுது தொழிற்சாலைகளை நடத்தி வருகிறார்கள். லாபத்தையே பிரதானமாகக் கொண்டு நடத்திவருகிறார்கள். தொழிலாளர்களுடைய சௌகர்யத்தை கவனிப்பது இல்லை. இந்த மாதிரி லாபத்தையே அடிப்படையாகக் கொண்டு தொழிற்சாலைகளை நடத்தினால் தொழில் வளர்ச்சி அடையாது என்பதில் சர்க்கார் கவனம் செலுத்த வேண்டும். அதோடு கூட தொழிற்சாலைகள் எப்படி இருக்கவேண்டுமென்பதை மகாத்மா காந்தி சொன்ன அபிப்பிராயத்தை கவனித்துப்பார்க்க வேண்டும். நமது தேசம் பொருத்தவரைக்கும் தொழிற்சாலைகளை பாதிக்காமல் பார்த்துக் கொள்ளும்படி நன்றாக பரிசீலனை செய்யவேண்டும். தொழிற்சாலைகளை மகாத்மா காந்தியின் கொள்கைப்படி பரவல் முறையில் அமைத்தால்தான் நாட்டின் செல்வ நிலை அபிவிருத்தியடையும். பொதுவாக குவியல் முறையில் தொழிற்சாலைகளை நடத்தினால் தொழிற்சாலைகளை வளர்க்க முடியாது. ஆகையால் தொழிற்சாலைகளை வளர்க்கவேண்டுமென்றால் பரவல் முறையில்தான் அமைக்கவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இன்றையதினம் பார்த்தால் தொழிற்சாலைகள் இரண்டு முறையில் நடைபெற்று வருகிறது. குவியல் முறை ஒன்று பரவல் முறை ஒன்று. இப்பொழுது உள்ள சிரமங்களெல்லாம் குவியல் முறையை பாதுகாக்கத்தான் இருக்கிறது. அதற்கு தாராள உதவியும் பந்தோபஸ்தும் இருக்கிறது. பரவல் முறைக்கு அப்படி

இல்லை. அதைப் பற்றி சர்க்கார் [illegible]த்துப் பார்க்கவேண்டும். இன்னும் கவனம் செலுத்தி நாட்டில் [illegible] பஞ்சத்தால் [illegible]வதிப்படும் மக்களின் வாழ்க்கையை கவனி[illegible]பார்க்கவேண்டும்.

"இன்றைய தினம் முக்கியமாக குடிசைத் தொழிலாளிகளைத் தரி நெசவைப்பற்றி பேசும்போது அவர்களுடைய வாழ்க்கை மிகவும் கஷ்ட நிலையில் இருக்கிறது. அவர்களை [illegible]காக்கவேண்டியது [illegible]காருடைய கடமையாக இருக்கிறது. இன்றை[illegible] லட்சக்கணக்[illegible]கைத்தொழி லாளர்கள் வேலைசெய்யாமலிருக்கி[illegible]வர்களுக்கு [illegible]க்கவேண்டிய தாக இருக்கிறது. மகாத்மா காந்தியடிகள் மூலம் பிரித்தனமெல்லாம் தேசத்தில் கைத்தரியும் கதரையும் உற்பத்தி[illegible]வேண்டுமென்பதுதான். ஒரு மனிதன் அவனுடைய அன்றாட தேவையை செய்துகொள்ளக்கூடிய தொழில்களை அபிவிருத்தி செய்யவேண்டும். அதற்குத் தகுந்தாற்போல் கைத் தொழில் அபிவிருத்தி அடையவேண்டும் என்று போதித்து வந்திருக்கிறார். அப்படி பார்க்கும்போது காங்கிரஸ் சர்க்கார், மக்கள் சர்க்கார், மகாத்மா காந்தியின் கொள்கையையுடைய சர்க்காரால் இன்று நாட்டில் குவியல் முறையை ஆதரிக்காமல் பரவல் முறையை ஆதரித்தால் லட்சக்கணக்கான மக்களுக்கு வேலை இல்லா திண்டாட்டம் நீங்கும். ஆகையால் பரவல் முறையில் தொழிற்சாலைகளை நடத்தும்படியும் அதற்கு வேண்டிய மூலதன பொருள்களை அமைத்து மக்களுக்கு வேலை கிடைக்கும்படியும் செய்யவேண்டும். வேலையில்லா திண்டாட்டத்தை ஒழிக்கக்கூடிய கருத்தை மனதில் வைத்துக்கொண்டு நடக்கவேண்டும். அதோடுகூட இன்னும் கைத் தொழிலுக்கு சர்க்கார் ஆதரவு கொடுக்கும்படியாக கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். எவ்வளவு சீக்கிரம் குவியல் முறை சாதனங்களை குறைக்கமுடியுமோ அவ்வளவு சீக்கிரம் குறைக்கவேண்டும். அதற்கு வேண்டிய சட்டங்களை நாம் செய்தால்தான் அந்த முறையில் வேலைசெய்யக்கூடிய தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு பாதுகாப்பு அளிப்பதாகும். அதனுடைய அவசியத்தைக் குறித்து உடனடியாக அதற்குத் தகுந்த சட்டங்களைச் செய்யவேண்டும் என்று சர்க்காரை கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இன்னும் சாதாரணமாக மூலதன பொருள் உற்பத்தியில் பார்க்கும்போது அநேகம் ஊழல்கள் மறைந்து கிடக்கிறது. சாதாரணமாக பஞ்சாலையில் உற்பத்திசெய்யக்கூடிய நூல் உற்பத்தியாவதற்குமுன் காட்டில் பருத்தியாக விளைந்து பஞ்சாலைக்கு பஞ்சாக வருகிறது. பின்பு நூலாக வருகிறவரைக்கும் ஊழல்கள் எவ்வளவோ இருக்கின்றன. எவ்வளவோ திருட்டுத்தனம் இருக்கிறது. அங்கே சர்க்காருக்கு எடுத்துக் காட்டக்கூடிய கணக்கு சரியாக இல்லை. பஞ்சாலையில் பஞ்சு வாங்கும்போது ஒரு விலை. அதையே மில்லில் கொண்டு வந்து நூலாக நூற்று கணக்குவைப்பது வேறு ஒரு விலை. இம்மாதிரி பார்க்கும்போது முதலாளிகள் தங்களுடைய கணக்குகளை சரியாக வைத்துக்கொள்ளவே இல்லை. தொழிலாளர்களை ஏமாற்றக்கூடியதான முறையில் இன்று கணக்குகளை வைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். கடைசியில் கேட்டால் நஷ்டம் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். இவைகளிலெல்லாம் சர்க்கார் கவனம் செலுத்தி தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு சௌகர்யம் செய்யவேண்டும். இன்னும் எல்லாவிதமான நன்மைகளையும் செய்யவேண்டும்.

"வேலை நிறுத்தம் பற்றி சில விஷயம் சொல்லவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. கோயமுத்தூரில் இரண்டு மாத காலமாக மில்லுகள் சாத்தி கிடக்கின்றன. மதுரையிலும் தொழிலாளர்கள் மீது வேலைபளுசுமத்தும் விஷயம் இன்னும் பிரசினையில் இருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது வேலை பளுவை சர்க்காரால் கொண்டுவரப்பட்ட சிபார்சை பார்க்கும்போது சுமார் 11,000 தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு வேலையில்லாமல் போகிறது . . ."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"Madam Deputy Speaker, we do appreciate in spite of what has been said by various speakers with regard to the industrial development of this Province, particularly when it is so backward, that our Hon. Minister for Industries is anxious to see that during his regime, he should do as much as possible for the industrial development of this Province. It is no use crying that we are industrially backward. The 4-30 p.m.

only question that we should put ourselves is 'to what extent we are going to help and to what extent we are going to subscribe for the industrial development'. Of course so far as our Province is concerned the capital necessary for starting industries is there, but people see often to the return they will get on the capital they invest and say 'will I get 5 or 6 per cent interest on the capital I invest?' Sir, there should be a change in our mental attitude because we have attained independence. The Hon. Minister has said that whatever they have done for the industrial development of this Province they have not done purely out of a profit motive. Well, surely I would admit that every individual ought to have a profitable motive in investing his money. But that apart one must have the interest of the Province as a whole at his heart and see whether he can contribute anything for the industrialization of this Province. It is high time that the people of this Province realize this and instead of crying hoarse about the industrialization of this Province they take lessons from what people have done in other parts of India and come forward to do their utmost. It is only then they will be doing their mite for the industrial advancement of this Province. When people come forward it must be the duty of the Government to help them and afford them all the information and help that is necessary. I know that we cannot demand too much from the Government, but I can say that our Minister for Industries is really anxious to help the people to go forward in the matter of industries.

"Now, Madam Deputy Speaker, I would like to say one or two words on the report which has been published and also on the replies given by the Hon. Minister to our questions. From these we understand that there are large deposits of lignite, coke, iron, etc., in South Arcot, Salem and other districts. I do admit that there are large deposits of these metals, but they are underground. It is the duty of the Government to come forward and explain to the people and assist them as much as possible in working out these industries. In this connexion is it too much for me to say that he should have a separate department so that these matters may be explored and surveys made by this Government. Well, the Government of India will still take a long time before which these things, viz., survey, etc., can be made by our own Department, so that people may come forward to invest their money in these industries. The resources are there in good quantity. If Government come forward to render all possible help for starting these industries and are prepared to take a risk in starting them, the people also must be prepared to take a larger risk. Even at a very low value, all the resources now available would come to more than 1 crore of rupees. Our wealth of Rs. 1 crore is there near Madras, viz., in Salem, South Arcot, etc. With new discovery, and with the machinery which we can get in spite of various difficulties our Province, I think, should go a long way in this direction.

4-30 p.m. "Another point which I would like to mention here is with regard to cottage industries and handloom industries. I do admit that while it should be the policy of the Government to help these heavy and medium industries, at the same time, India being what

it is to-day—an agricultural country—we cannot forget our cottage industries, because they are the real wealth of the country. They have been in existence since hundreds of years past and now it is the duty of the Government to extend all possible help to these industries. Madam, I do not want to dilate much on that subject, because other hon. Members who preceded me have already spoken on it. Now with regard to the handloom industry also, it is an important industry in our province, because our handloom goods are being exported to all the provinces of India and to far off countries like Malaya and other places. I think they have now decontrolled cloth, but that is not enough and they should do something more than that. Even now there seems to be restriction on inter-provincial trade and therefore people in Madras who want to send handloom goods to other provinces, cannot do so without getting a permit for it. I do not see any logic in imposing such conditions when once you have withdrawn the control of cloth. I am sure, the Hon. Minister for Industries will go into the matter. Of course there may be some difficulties in the way, but I request the Hon. Minister for Industries to go into the matter.

"There is another thing, Madam, in connexion with the handloom industry. The other day, I was reading the report of Dr. B. V. Narayanaswami Nayudu. No doubt, he is one of the greatest economists of our country. At the same time, I cannot say, as a layman, that whatever is contained in that report should be taken as perfect. He has made some suggestions and in one of the paragraphs of the report, he says that our handloom weavers should be forced or compelled or even coerced to join the co-operative movement. I do admit and maintain that we should develop the co-operative movement, because in spite of all that has been done by the Government and the people in the past it is yet in an infant stage, but what I am respectfully submitting is, it is the people that should come forward and take up this movement, whatever you may want to do for the movement, because it should be working very well. But, if you are going to force or compel them, it will not work well. The way in which the producer-cum-consumer societies have failed in certain parts of the country, is an instance in point. If the Government want to compel the people to do it, they may not do it. In this connexion, I may say by way of caution, because I do not want to use the word 'warning' and caution is a mild term, that Government should not use compulsion but should give a chance and time to the people concerned. Of course, you can tell them, it is very good and you should leave it at that rather than force them.

"With regard to the other aspect of it, Madam, namely industrialization of the country, I should say, before we think of heavy industries—I mean chemical industries and others—you should have a proper machinery at your disposal. I think, it was only in recent years, i.e., during 1940-41 that our Industries department has began to develop. This Government should see that this department develops still more. When once you take up the question of industrial development of the province, you should see that you have a proper machinery to take up the matter. Then I am

[Muhammad Raza Khan Sahib] [20th March 1948

sure, more people will come forward to help the Government in spite of the difficulties and shortcomings. But, we should have the necessary staff and the necessary department at our disposal, so that we can help our industrialists and capitalists. I should say that in this matter the Government of Madras, the present Government and even the Advisers' regime have, to some extent, done very well by opening industrial schools. It is indeed a great need in our country. But, whenever we want to take up such a thing, we must have the proper personnel to manage them. The other day, the Hon. Mr. Bhaktavatsalam said that we have got a number of projects afoot, money is there and is forthcoming and in spite of the fact that our Province is far ahead of other provinces in the matter of engineering, still we are short of personnel. Madam, it is really a revelation to us. Therefore, I say that when we are embarking on the industrial development of our Province, we should not fall short of personnel. Therefore, we would be doing a good thing if we open more industrial schools. I do not think it will be too much if I ask the Minister, that there should be industrial schools in every district of the province, so that people may take to these things. I do not believe in younsgters going in for pass courses in arts colleges, but once they finish their courses, it is well to put them in the right direction. I do not want our young men to get arts degrees and then become clerks. We have plenty of clerks and we have to divert them to better purposes, that is towards the industrial development of the country. I hope, therefore, the Hon. Minister for Industries will do very well to see that he opens industrial schools in every district very soon. I do not say that it should be done all at once.

"Now, Madam, with regard to the other matter, namely, polytechnics, no doubt, the Government have done very well. They have opened polytechnic schools, one in South Kanara and another in Coimbatore, I think. Particularly now that we want to do something for the backward area, namely, Rayalaseema, I think, Government will do very well to have another polytechnic school in Rayalaseema as well. In this connection, as was rightly pointed out by my hon. Friend, Mr. Salam, Chittoor is also a part of Rayalaseema, and I say that Government will do very well to have another polytechnic school, if they so desire, in my district of Chittoor."

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN :—"கனம் தலைவி அவர்களே, இன்றய தினம் தொழிற்சாலைகள் விஷயமாக பேசவேண்டிய இடத்தில் சில விஷயங்களைக் குறித்து நான் பேச பிரியப்படுகிறேன். இன்று நம் மாகாணத்தில் தொழிற்சாலைகளை அதிகமாக உற்பத்தி செய்யவேண்டும். அப்படி உற்பத்தி செய்வதற்கு வேண்டிய மூலதன பொருள்கள் நம் நாட்டில் ஒருப்பதாக சமீபத்தில் ஆராய்ச்சிக்காரர்கள் தெரிவித்திருக்கிறார்கள். இனிமேல் அந்நிய நாட்டு இரும்பை எடுத்துக் கொண்டு வாவேண்டியதில்லை. சேலம் ஜில்லாவில் இரும்பு இருப்பதாக சொல்லப்படுகிறது. உடனடியாக இரும்பை எடுத்து உருக்கி இந் நாட்டில் கைத் தொழிலை விருத்தி செய்ய வேண்டும். அதைப் போலவே தென் ஆற்காடு ஜில்லாவில் நிலக்கரி இருப்பதாக சொல்லப்படுகிறது. அதை உடனடியாக எடுத்தால் கூடிய சீக்கிரம் பெரிய கைத் தொழிற்சாலைகளை உண்டாக்கிவிட முடியும். அதற்கு வேண்டிய மூலதன பொருள்கள் இருக்கிறது.

20th March 1948] [Sri M. Kanniyappan]

"இன்னும் நம் நாட்டிலுள்ள குடிசைத் தொழிலை எடுத்துக் கொள்வோம். குடிசைத் தொழிலைப் பற்றி பலர் பேசினர்கள். இப்பொழுது பேசினபோது பலர் பேசினர்கள். கைத்தரி என்ற தொழிற் சாலைகளைப் பற்றி நான் சொல்லுகிறேன். கைத்தரி விஷயமாக இன்று குடிசைத் தொழிலில் ஈடுபட்டிருக்கிற பாமர நெசவு தொழிலாளர்கள் எந்த முறையில் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள் என்பது அரசாங்கத்திற்கு தெரியும். மதுரையில் 16,000 நெசவு தொழிலாளர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். அங்கே நூல் கிடைக்கவில்லை என்று எனக்கு தந்தி கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். கனம் என். எம். ஆர். சுப்பராமன் அவர்களுக்கும் தந்தி கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். என்ன செய்வது என்றுகூட கேட்கிறார்கள். நாம் அதற்கு வேண்டியதை உடனடியாக செய்யவேண்டும். அதற்கு காரணம் நான் கலெக்டரை கேட்டபோது கோயமுத்தூர் மில்லைக் குறிப்பிட்டு அங்கேயிருந்து நூல் வரவில்லை, நூல் வந்தால் நெசவு தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய நூல் கிடைத்து விடும் என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. நான் சொல்லுகிறேன் கோயமுத்தூர் ஸ்ட்ரைக் ஆரம்பித்து இரண்டு மாத காலமாகிறது. இன்னும் நடைப் பெற்று வருகிறது. அதை உடனடியாக நிறுத்திவைக்கவேண்டியது நம் அரசாங்கத்தினுடைய கடமையல்லவா ? அந்தக் கடமையை ஏன் இன்னும் செய்யவில்லை ? இன்றைய தினம் கூட நம் முன்னால் பல தொழிலாளர்கள் நம் கோட்டையின் முன்னால் உண்ணாவிரதம் இருப்பதாக உட்கார்ந்து கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்தக் காரியத்தில் அவர்கள் ஜாக்கிரதையாக இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு உடனே ஏதாவது செய்யவேண்டும். மானேஜ்மெண்டை உடனே எடுத்துக் கொள்ளவேண்டும். முதலாளிகளுக்கு அதிகமான லாபம் கிடைக்கிறது. அலவன்ஸ் வேறு கிடைக்கிறது. அதைக் குறைப்பதற்கு நமக்கு அதிகாரம் கிடையாது என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஆனால் தொழிலாளர்களுடைய வேலை பளுவை அதிகரிக்கவேண்டும் என்று சொல்லுவது நியாயமா என்று கேட்கிறேன். இங்கே இப்பொழுது ஸ்ரீமான் கோதண்டராமன் தலைமையில் அநேகம்பேர்களை விசாரணை செய்வதற்கு அனுப்பியிருக்கிறார்கள். ஒரு ஆயிரம்பேர்களை வேலையிலிருந்து எடுத்துவிட்டால் 11,000 பேர்கள் எப்படி வேலை செய்ய முடியும். அந்தப்படி தீர்ப்பு செய்ததால் இந்த தொழிலாளர்கள அப்படி வேலை செய்ய முடியாதென்று தெரிவித்து விட்டார்கள். இந்நாளில் உற்பத்திக்காக வேண்டியதையெல்லாம் நாம் செய்துக் கொள்வது நமது கடமை. கோயமுத்தூர் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு எந்த வசதி செய்து கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதை நாம் பார்க்கவேண்டும். இங்கே, சென்னையில் இருக்கும் தொழில் சாலைகளில் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய வசதி இருக்கின்றன. கோயமுத்தூரைப் பொருத்த வரையில் அங்கே ஆஸ்பத்திரி கிடையாது. குடி இருப்பதற்கு வீடு கிடையாது. வண்டி கிடையாது. குறைந்த சம்பளத்தில் வேலை செய்கிறார்கள். இன்னும் மில்களில் வேலை செய்தால் போதுமான வசதி இல்லாத நிலைமையில் இருக்கிறார்கள். இதை மிகவும் முக்கியமாக கவனிக்கவேண்டும். கோயமுத்தூர் விஷயமாக உடனடியாக தலையிட்டு தொழிலாளிகள் திருப்தியடையும்படி சமரசம் உண்டு பண்ணி வைக்கவேண்டுமென்று நான் கனம் தொழில் மந்திரி அவர்களைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். நாம் இப்பொழுது உற்பத்தியைப் பெருக்க வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லும்போது நாம் உற்பத்தியைப் பெறுக்குவதற்கு சௌகர்யம் செய்யாமலிருக்கிறது எங்கு பார்த்தாலும். ஸ்ட்ரைக் நடக்கிறது. அது ஒரு பெரும் புரட்சிகரம் என்கிற காரணத்தையொட்டிதான் நம்மூடைய தொழிலாளர்களின் நன்மைகளை முக்கியமாக கவனிக்கவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. உடனே சமரசம் செய்ய வேண்டும். இது காங்கிரஸ் அரசாங்கம். மகாத்மா காந்தியின் ஆசீர்வாதத்தாலும் நாம் அவரைபின் பற்றி வருவதாலும் நாம் பலாத்கார முறையில் போகவே கூடாது. இதை எதற்காகச் சொல்லுகிறேன் என்றால் இந்த முறை சில இடங்களில் நடைபெருகிறது என்பதையும் இந்த நேரத்தில் சர்க்கார் கவனத்திற்கு கொண்டு வரவேண்டுமென்று விரும்புகிறேன். அது மாத்திரம் அல்ல. காங்கிரஸ் ஊழியரும் சிலான தலைவருமான தலைவர் ஜி. நாராயணசாமி நாயுடு கைது செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிறார். எல்லோராலும் அவரை விடுதலை செய்யவேண்டுமென்று தந்தி கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அங்கேயுள்ள தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு அவர் எப்படி வேலை செய்து வந்தார் என்பதை இங்கேயுள்ள

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மந்திரிகள் பார்த்திருக்கிறார்கள். பல அரசாங்கத்தினரும் சென்று பார்த்திருக்கிறார்கள். அஹிம்சை முறையில் நல்ல முறையை ஆதரித்து தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய சௌகர்யம் செய்துவந்த இஸ்ரான் தலைவரை கைது செய்து சிறையில் அடைக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்றால் அது எவ்விதம் இருக்கிறது என்று . . . "

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER :—" அதற்கும் இப்பொழுது விவாதத்தில் இருப்பதற்கும் என்ன சம்பந்தம்."

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN :—" கைத் தொழில் என்கிற முறையில் உணவு உற்பத்தியை பிரதானமாகக் கொண்ட தலைவரை கைது செய்திருப்பது ரொம்பவும் பாதிக்கப்படுகிறது என்பதைத்தான் சொல்லுகிறேன். என்னுடைய லட்சியத்தையே எல்லாரும் சொன்னார்கள். தொழிலாளர்களைப் பாதுகாக்க வந்ததற்காக அவரைக் கைது செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். இன்னும் அவரோடுகூட இரண்டுபேர்களையும் 'அரஸ்ட்' பண்ணியிருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களை உடனடியாக விடுதலை செய்யவேண்டும். இது விஷயத்தைப் பற்றி நான் பேசாமல் விட்டு விடுகிறேன், தலைவர் அவர்கள் உத்தரவு பிரகாரம். ஆனால் இந்த விஷயத்தை முக்கியமாக கவனத்தில் வைத்துக் கொண்டு விடுதலை செய்யவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இன்று நம்முடைய நாட்டில் அநேக விதமான தொழிற் சாலைகளை உற்பத்தி செய்யவேண்டும். அந்நிய நாட்டிலிருந்து பஸ்களும் அந்நிய நாடுகளிலிருந்து இன்னும் பல சாமான்களும் கொண்டு வரப்படுகிறது. அப்படிச் செய்வதால் இந்த நாட்டிலுள்ள தொழில் ஸ்தாபனங்களுக்கு வேலையில்லாமல் போய் விடுகிறது. வேலை இல்லாமல் போய்விடுவதோடு இந்த நாட்டில் விருத்தி செய்ய முடியாமலும் போய் விடுகிறது. அதற்காக பல எஞ்சினியர்களைக் கொண்டு இன்னும் அதிகமான இடங்களில் முதலாளிகளை அழைத்து நாம் சரியான முறையில் நம் இந்திய கைத் தொழில்களை விருத்தி செய்ய வேண்டும். அதற்கு வேண்டிய மூலதன பொருள்கள் இருக்கிறது என்பதை முதலிலேயே தெரிவித்திருக்கிறேன். அதற்கு வேண்டியவைகளை அரசாங்கம் உடனடியாக எடுத்துக் கொள்ளவேண்டும். இப்பொழுது பஸ்களை எடுத்துக்கொண்டார்கள். 'வர்க்ஷாப்' நடத்துகிறார்கள். வெளியில் நடத்துகிற பஸ் வேலைகளைவிட அரசாங்கம் நடத்துகிற பஸ் ரொம்பவும் கெட்டியாக இருக்கிறது. பாடி செய்வது கூட குறைந்த பணத்தில் செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. வேறு இடத்தில் செய்தால் அதிகப் பணம் ஆகிறது. ஆகையால் நாட்டில் எல்லா தொழில்களையும் தேசிய மயமாக்குவது நம் அரசாங்கத்தினுடைய கடமை. அந்தக் கடமையைச் செய்ய வேண்டும். அப்படி செய்தால்தான் (நம்முடைய அரசாங்கம் பொறுப்புள்ள அரசாங்கம் என்று தலைவர்கள் சொல்லிக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள்). அதற்கு ஏற்றவாறு நம் அரசாங்கம் கைத் தொழிலை விருத்தி செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அதோடு கூட சமரசம் பண்ணுவதற்கு கோயமுத்தூரிலிருந்து வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். எப்படியாவது மில்கள் ஓடவேண்டும். மில்கள் ஓடி தொழிலாளர்கள் திருப்தியடைய வேண்டும். தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு பிழைப்பு இருக்கும்படி சமரசக் கமிட்டி என்று ஒரு கமிட்டியை கோயமுத்தூரில் தொழிலாளர்கள் ஏற்பாடு செய்து நம்முடைய சட்டசபை அங்கத்தினர் கனம் ஆர். குப்புசாமி தலைமையில் வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் சொல்லுகிற வார்த்தைகளை அரசாங்கம் கேட்கவேண்டும். ஏனென்றால் அவர்கள் அங்கிருந்து வருவதால் அவர்கள் அங்கிருக்கும் நிலைமை தெரிந்தவர்களாக இருப்பார்கள். ஆகையால் அவர்களோடு உடனடியாக சமரசம் செய்ய வேண்டும். தமிழ் நாட்டு காங்கிரஸ் தலைவர் ஸ்ரீ காமராஜ நாடார்கூட இதுவிஷயத்தில் தலையிட்டிருக்கிறார். அவருக்கு அதற்காக வந்தனத்தைச் செலுத்துகிறேன். அவருடைய பேச்சைக் கேட்டு இன்னும் இரண்டு தினங்களுக்குள்ளாக சமரசம் ஏற்பட்டு தொழிலாளர்கள் வேலைக்குப் போகவேண்டிய முறையைச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு நான் நிறுத்திக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

4-45 p.m. • SRI PYDAH VENKATANARAYANA :—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, our Province is backward industrially, much more so the Andhra area from which I come. Government have in and out of

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season outlined their policy of rapid industrialisation of our province, but I am sorry to say that they have not taken any steps to achieve that end. I hope the Hon. Minister will hereafter move quickly in the matter and take immediate steps to develop industries in this province. As has been said by the Hon. Minister, in view of the attitude of President Truman for conscription military training and for implementation of the economic recovery plan of the European nations, the capital machinery that will be manufactured in the western countries will be consumed by them and there will be little chance for this country to import capital goods. Unless the Government put in a determined effort, I am afraid the programme and policy just now outlined by the Minister will be difficult to put through.

" Madam, I am glad that the Hon. Minister made a reference to the Andhra Paper Mills at Rajahmundry. I brought to the notice of the Hon. Minister more than once when a creditor had applied for the liquidation of that Company that the Government should take it. They have been very slow in the matter and the whole thing is undergoing the usual red tapism even in a very urgent and important matter like this. The Hon. Minister just now said that he has sent an offer to the liquidator. I understand, subject to correction by the Hon. Minister, that the Government had merely intimated to the liquidator of their intention to purchase the Mill and that is all. I also understand that they have not made any definite offer in the matter of the Proceedings in the High Court. Unless Government come forward with a definite offer to purchase, nothing will be done in the court of law. It is now too late for the Government to approach the court, because many of the spare parts and other necessaries, such as chemicals, chlorine and caustic soda and other things have been sold out and it is very difficult to get them at this stage, even if Government would take over the management of that concern. I met the Minister some time ago and submitted to him an alternative proposal to the effect that the Government will be pleased to purchase it through private negotiations or to subscribe a part of the share capital so that several industrialists who are anxious to get into the business may come in with optimism. Though it is late, it is not too late. If they move quickly they can save that concern. It is not possible for the Government to compete with private bidders in a public auction. Naturally, this open offer will not be considered by the High Court. I understand that from the 25th of this month, no more offer will be received by the court and—this being the only paper mill of this sort in the whole of the province and paper is a matter of absolute necessity not only for the Government but also for merchants—even the pan-wallahs require it,—I request Government to move quickly in the matter and see that this concern is taken over.

" Madam, I wanted to speak in respect of general industrial development of our province, but since several of our hon. Members have enlightened the House on this question, I with these words support the Demand moved by the Hon. Minister."

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SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, I rise to support the Demand moved by the Hon. Minister for Industries. In doing so, I would like to suggest a few points for his favourable consideration. (At this stage the Hon. Speaker occupied the Chair.)

" The first thing, I would like to mention, is, if you want to start light industries, you must have heavy industries in the province, so that through one or two heavy industries, you will be able to produce machinery necessary for starting small-scale industries. Without that, you cannot depend upon imports from Great Britain and America. You know, the world is divided into two spheres, that is the Dollar sphere and the sterling sphere and they are trying to support only the Western countries and China and not India. Because they have interest in China, they are supporting China, and so India is practically left in the lurch and will be left. If we do not stand on our own legs and start heavy industries, nothing can be achieved but for that, you also need technicians. You can send young men to America and get them back duly trained. It will take some years. While doing so, you can import the best of technicians and start heavy industries in one or two parts of the province where you have got plenty of coal or iron. Even if heavy industries are started, you must pay particular attention to the conditions of labour. People are pleading for industrial truce. But truce at whose cost, Sir? Is it at the cost of the labourer who is paid very niggardly and is treated like a slave? Is it at the cost of labour that there should be industrial truce? No, Sir. More and more amenities must be given to the labourer. He must be treated as a human being. He must be treated as a skilled labourer. He gives you food; he gives you clothing; he gives you houses; he gives everything you want; and he gives cars to enable you to go about rolling in luxury. It is not proper that, at his cost, there should be industrial truce.

" Sir, I want to plead for the Cigarette factory at Guntur. Tobacco is being grown in the Guntur district. It is the best quality that is available in the world. Probably we stand second or third in the world next to Rhodesia. Virginia tobacco is available. That tobacco has to go to France, Rotterdam or Belgium. It is not consumed in India. A small quantity is consumed by the National Tobacco Company and the Imperial Tobacco Company who are manufacturing cigarettes. Practically, much of the tobacco goes out of India. If this material is used in the place where it is produced, i.e., if you can start a factory which may not cost more than fifty lakhs, you will be simply minting money from the industry. It is bought at a cheap rate here and after paying customs fee, reaches the foreign country. But when it comes back as a finished product, you know what the cost is. If it is manufactured at the place where raw materials are produced, you can imagine what the rate of profit will be. I would like to suggest to the Hon. Minister that it is not only necessary that he must try to utilize raw materials available in the districts but he must also try to give he best facilities to our young men to become technicians. There are no proper schools and there is not enough

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money with parents to send their boys to other countries for training. You must concentrate on industrial schools being started in the districts. For instance, my hon. Friend Mr. Chandramouli, when he was the President of the District Board, started an Industrial School in Macherla where slabs were available, but as soon as he was jailed in 1942 the school had gone and the building is lying vacant. That building is in a nook and corner of that district but all the same, it is one of the best places where you get the best marble and there you can even start a cement factory as you have raw material available. For that plenty of resources are required, not only resources and money but a resourceful brain which must exercise itself how to get funds to encourage these industries. If the Government takes up the industry or a share in the industry and floats companies, a lot of money will come in. You know private people are floating companies with ten or fifteen lakhs of rupees. They get licences and capital. Many of them are swallowing that money and such industrial concerns are going to dogs. I suggest that there must be control by the Government over all the industrial concerns.

" Sir, my hon. Friend the Minister for Industries said that he is against nationalization. I protest. It is wrong to say that. The slogan of the day and the order of the day nationalization and planning. Unless productive forces are nationalized, how are you going to improve the nation. Unless means of production are nationalized, unless basic industries are nationalized, how are you going to improve the nation, how are you going to raise the standards of the people and how are you going to make this nation strong and self-sufficient. You must be strong to-day, in this world. Otherwise, you will be nowhere. You will be caught between the Big Powers. You must become the biggest power. Then only we shall be able to stand on our own legs. For that, you must provide more in your budget, instead of this pittance of one crore and ten lakhs. I would like to see in our Provincial Budget next year, under Industries, a provision of ten crores and this to be increased yearly by leaps and bounds. The Hon. Minister said that nationalization will lead us to a regimentation of labour and so, he said, he was against nationalization. I am very sorry, Sir, he is trying to put the clock back and he is not moving with the progressive forces of the time. That is why, he has not been able to extend his vision a little further. The Hon. Minister is in charge of both Labour and Industry and that is why, I appeal to him, for Heaven's sake, do not neglect organized labour. There must be State control over industrialists. They are very clever. They want overnight to become Birlas, Rockfellers and Morgans. They are trying to exploit and loot the innocent people who are selling their labour power to them for the sake of the nation and to keep their family alive. But for them, we will be nowhere. We will not be sitting even here, in this Assembly. I am sure whether you do it or not, there will be a day when the whole world will establish the Socialist order and there will be nationalization and planning of all industries and the labour will play a most important part. With these words, I support the Demand."

II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS—*cont.*

5 p.m. MR. SPEAKER:—"Now the adjournment motion will be taken up. Before the hon. Lady Member moves the motion, the Hon. Minister for Education wishes to make a statement; and if the hon. Member is not satisfied with that statement she can move the adjournment motion."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Sir, I have several points to mention. I, therefore, request that I may be permitted to move the motion first. After that the Hon. Minister may reply. If his reply is satisfactory I shall not press my motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have allotted fifteen minutes for the hon. Lady Member."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move that—

> *'the business of the House be now adjourned to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the proposal of the Government to close down a number of women's educational institutions in the Province, to wit a number of high schools including the Muslim Girls' Secondary School at Georgetown and also the Muslim Women's College, Madras, as this proposal is most detrimental to women's education; and to urge upon the Government to reconsider their proposal'."*

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, may I submit that the subject of closure of Muslim Women's College has already been discussed the other day; so there is no question of urgency about it. The hon. Lady Member may therefor confine her remarks to the other things."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The motion having been allowed by the Chair, the hon. Member is entitled to move the entire resolution."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will continue her speech."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"We have now assembled to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the proposal of the Government to close down a number of women's institutions in the Province including the Muslim Girls' Secondary School at Georgetown and the Muslim Women's College at Royapettah, Madras. Sir, this is a matter of urgent public importance because it affects half the section of the population, namely, women, and is a question which is considerably agitating the public mind. This is evident from the fact that yesterday this question was raised in the Upper House. It is further evident from the fact that at a public meeting held about two days ago at Rajaji Hall organised under the auspices of the Madras branch of the All-India Women's Conference, which is the representative women's organization for the whole country, resolutions

were passed strongly condemning the proposed action of the Government. Sir, the proposal of the Government to close down a number of girls' schools. I may point out, will be detrimental not merely to the interests of women, but also to those of the nation as a whole; for it must be remembered that women's education is the basis on which ultimately the success of men's education depends. Is not the hon. Minister aware that eminent educationists like the late Sir Philip Hartog and the late Meverille Statham emphasised the need for priority being given in regard to girls' education? It has been rightly pointed out that if you educate a boy, you educate only a single individual, but if you educate a girl you educate a whole family. In order to give this House an idea as to the extent to which the women of this Province are agitated. I wish to read out a resolution—I shall not read all the resolutions but only one (laughter) of the resolutions that were passed at the women's meeting, which were moved by Mrs. Radhabhai Subbarayan. This resolution ran as follows:—

'This Conference expresses the anxiety of women at the reports that the Government of Madras proposes to close down or hand over to private persons certain Government high schools for girls and condemns that policy as retrogade, and doing harm to the cause of girls' education.'

"I would like the Hon. Minister to listen carefully to what follows. (Laughter.)

'This policy is also contrary to the assurances of the Congress (laughter), which have laid emphasis on the importance of girls' education and calls upon the Government to desist from such a policy and take steps to improve and increase the number of schools for girls.'

Well, Sir, this resolution makes it abundantly clear that the women of the land, not merely Muslim women, but the entire womenhood are agitated over this matter.

"I understand that the Government intend to close down a number of girls' schools. I have received representations from Mayavaram, Chidambaram, Namakkal and Madras regarding this matter. I believe many more schools than those in the abovementioned places are affected. The Hon. Minister acknowledged yesterday in the other House that notices had been sent to as many as 18 schools till now. In the face of this to contend that there was no ground for the adjournment motion as it did not deal with a matter of recent occurrence was indeed amazing. Of what avail would an adjournment motion be after the axe had been laid on the institutions and they had been actually closed down? Of what use would it be to a patient to bring in a doctor after life had become extinct in his body? I understand that it is in pursuance of the recommendation of the retrenchment and reorganization committee,—which unfortunately was composed entirely of men—that the Government are taking steps to close down girls' schools. Sometime ago I had requested the Government to appoint

woman on every committee and the Hon. Food Minister on behalf of the Government, assured me that this would be done. But the promise is not being implemented. If there had been a woman in the retrenchment and reorganization committee, girls' education would not have been subjected to the tremendous setbacks it is receiving to-day. The recommendations of the above committee are based on what is stated to be an economic proposition. But I fail to understand how education can be viewed from the standpoint of monetary gain. Schools are not business concerns to yield profit to the Government in the shape of money. The Government should dismiss from their mind the idea that the Education Department can prove remunerative. The Government must grow alive to the fact that the child is a national asset and the money spent on his education is the best investment for national well-being. Who knows that the so-called uneconomic schools that are sought to be abolished might produce a Raman, a Tagore, a Radhakrishnan? I do not know why it is that the term ' uneconomic ' has been emphasized by the reorganization and retrenchment Committee with reference to education. It may be that Mr. Suryanarayana Rao, one of the members of this committee who is fond of probing into old reports came across the Champion Scheme, and the term ' uneconomic ' caught his imagination without his realising the serious implications thereof. I am sorry to find that he has left the Assembly now. I tackled him this morning for all the havoc that he and his colleagues have done. It must be remembered that the Champion Scheme was one of the most unpopular of educational schemes, which was condemned on all sides. I would request the Hon. Minister to call to mind the severe criticisms that were levelled against this scheme and not to follow in the wake of the much condemned policy of Mr. Champion. With reference to education it will be disastrous to be governed by the slogan of ' uneconomic ' and by narrow considerations.

" Another point which the Hon. Minister should bear in mind is that it will be unfair to deal with girls' education in the same manner as with boys' education. He should remember that girls have come into the field later than boys, hence they need special consideration. In the words of the late Sir Meverille Statham, the education of girls for many decades will have to be treated as a special problem and will require the special attention of educationists. It seems the retrenchment and reorganization committee has recommended that unless a school has the strength of 20 pupils in each class on an average it should be closed down. I may point out that if this is insisted upon most of the girls' high schools in the Province will cease to exist except perhaps in Malabar and South Kanara. I know from experience how backward women are in the districts, and it will be impossible for most of the girls' schools to fulfil this condition. I submit if this rule is enforced and if the opportunity for education is denied to those that come forward for it, there is no hope for the progress of the women of this Province.

" Coming now to the Muslim Girls' Secondary School at Georgetown, I wish to inform the Hon. Minister that this is a new institution, which was started during the days of the scare of a Japanese invasion of Madras in 1942. In spite of the fact that this school was established during those difficult times and in spite of several handicaps, particularly lack of accommodation, it has been most popular, and has been making steady progress. Though, it does not have as many as 20 pupils in each class on an average, it is not correct to say that it is not flourishing. The Inspectress of Girls' Schools, Fourth Circle, is satisfied with the progress of this school and has stated that it would be a pity to close it down for it is an absolute necessity for the education of Muslim girls in the Georgetown area. Thus the Government will not be justified in closing down this institution. Moreover this act of the Government will be in contravention of G.O. Ms. No. 266, Education, dated 7th February 1948, where it is provided that ' while the Government are against the starting and maintenance of separate schools as a policy, the present separate schools may be continued for the next five years but without any commitment to continue them after the period.'' So if the Government abolish this school, they will be violating their promise. There is a great demand for education among Muslim girls in the Georgetown area but as the school is a new institution and it is only a year since the high school classes were started, the Hon. Minister cannot expect large numbers in those classes at present. So I hope the Hon. Minister will revise his proposal to close down that school from the next school year 1948–49, about which notice has been served.

" Coming to the Muslim Women's College, I wish to state that not merely Muslim women but also the generality of womanhood strongly disapprove of the proposal of the Government to abolish this institution. The other day, I think, it was Mr. Bapineedu, who shouted ' question ' when I observed that Hindu women were also against this proposal. The resolution passed thereafter by the Madras branch of the All-India Women's Conference condemning the action of the Government in handing over the College to a private individual supports my contention. The ladies observed at the meeting that it was difficult for them to believe that Ministers in a National Government could act in this manner. I therefore urge upon the Government not to hand over the College to a private individual but to continue to run it themselves. The Government are not justified in handing over to Mr. Ethiraj, the building in which the college is located for it does not belong to the college but is part and parcel of the Hobart High School for Muslim Girls which was started by the endowment of the Muslim public. I do not know whether the Hon. Minister is aware of this fact. I wish to inform him that after the death of Lord Hobart . . . ''

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member has two minutes more. The motion should be put to vote before six o'clock unless the hon. Member wishes it to be talked out.''

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" After the death of Lord Hobart the Muslim public collected Rs. 75,000 and handed it over to the Government for establishing a school for Muslim girls to be named after Lord Hobart. So the building of the Hobart High School does not belong entirely to Government. As such the Government are not justified in dealing with it as they like. The building in which the Muslim Women's College is now housed should be returned to the Hobart High School, for the pupils of this school are subjected to great hardships and difficulties for lack of accommodation. The Government should continue to maintain the Muslim Women's College themselves unless they are on the verge of bankruptcy. In that case instead of handing over the institution to Mr. Ethiraj, they may hand it to the Muslim
5-15 p.m. Educational Association which has passed a resolution to take over this college if the Government decide to close it down. It is better that the college is made over to a public body than to a private individual; Muslims feel that there is great need for a Muslim Women's College so as to guarantee opportunities for the higher education of Muslim women which otherwise would not be available to them. The above Association has written a letter to the Hon. Minister for Education requesting him to fix a date for receiving a deputation but the Hon. Minister has adopted an evasive policy in this regard also and has not replied to that letter. I wish to know from him what will be the use of his fixing a date for receiving the deputation after the 5th of April, which is the date fixed for Mr. Ethiraj to take possession of the College. I may state that the Muslim Educational Association are really anxious to take over the College if the Government feel that they are on the verge of bankruptcy and cannot run the institution themselves.

" One more point and with that I shall conclude and that is that the policy of the Government will result not only in a tremendous setback to women's education but will also create an unemployment problem because a large number of women teachers will be deprived of their jobs. I do not think it is at all desirable to add to the misery of the poor teachers in these hard days.

" I therefore request the Hon. Minister to reconsider his proposal as regards the closure of the High Schools in the Province as also of the Muslim Women's College."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, while seconding the adjournment motion moved by the hon. Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin, I should like to stress a few points for the consideration of not only the Hon. Minister for Education but also the Government as a whole. In any country which has among its population various sections of people, sections which are advanced, moderately advanced, less advanced, and backward in education, it is the sacred duty of the Government of that country to do their utmost irrespective of what it costs them to give special facilities for promoting the education of the less advanced and the backward sections. That, Sir, is the

primary duty of any civilized government who realize their responsibility to the fullest extent. If the Hon. Minister for Education is a self-centred gentleman with a very narrow outlook on education and with predilections and prejudices who always counts rupees, annas and pies, who thinks that his fads must be gone through to his full satisfaction, to whom whatever wisdom suggests is taboo, and who makes up his mind from the very beginning and says that Muslim women's education is advanced, we have only to break our heads against a stone wall. Any number of adjournment motions and speeches will be of no avail if the Hon. Minister has made up his mind against the educational advancement of backward communities. The hon. Lady Member who moved the motion spoke on behalf of the women. Perhaps I may not claim that I represent them. But I am seconding the motion inasmuch as a man has to perform his duty to the womanhood of the Province. So far as my Hon. Friend is concerned, there is just reason for his being not considerate to the education of women. Perhaps he thinks that women do not exist; so far as he is concerned I know that they do not exist. Apart from him, he must remember that there are women in this Province and that he, as the Education Minister, has a duty to cater to the educational needs of not only men but also women. That is his responsibility, whatever his prejudices against women might be. I call upon him to not only realize his responsibility but also discharge his duty to the womanhood of the Province. If he concedes that responsibility, I cannot understand why he should be thinking of closing the institutions intended for the education of women, particularly Muslim women. He has taken up women's schools to see which are economic and which are not economic. He has got hold of the Champion Report which was condemned from one end of the Province to the other when it was placed before the legislature of those days. It was not found possible for the Government of the day to put that report into effect although the legislature considered the report. But the gentleman Mr. Champion, who was the Director of Public Instruction at that time, had already done some damage to education. That was under a different government. To-day we have a popular government to administer the Province. As I have always said, the responsibility of a popular government is much greater. The Hon. Minister for Education must remember that he should not look at this question as in the olden days when we were governed by people other than our own. He must realize that he has a more serious responsibility and free himself from prejudices, widen his outlook and take a liberal view of education. Perhaps he may reply that it is neither his intention nor that of the Education Department to close down any school. It is too late in the day for him to come forward with such an explanation, having done the mischief, having put into effect a policy of destruction of education particularly education of backward communities. I cannot understand if he comes forward and says that he never meant to close down any school. Everything, I understand, has been done. Otherwise I don't think the ladies of our Province would

have bestirred themselves and got up a meeting to pass a resolution in a serious and responsible manner in proper time as they have done. When it was intended that an adjournment motion should be moved, the Hon. Minister said that it was too early to move a motion for no damage had been done to education, and that it was only after the damage that an adjournment motion could be moved. He takes a very wonderful view of the purpose of an adjournment motion. The adjournment motion is intended to prevent the Hon. Minister from doing damage to the education of women, particularly women belonging to a backward community like the Muslims who have to be given all possible facilities to come up to the level of their sisters in the Province side by side with the education of those sisters. So far as the Government Secondary School for Muslim Girls, Georgetown, is concerned, I know its history. Formerly there was no school for Muslim girls in North Madras and the girl students who wanted to prosecute higher studies had to come all the way to the Hobart School in Royapettah. To cater to the needs of the Muslim girl students of that locality, the Secondary School was started after a great deal of difficulty. The Hon. Minister for Education must know that, to start with, any school will have only a very limited number of pupils. With more and more facilities, the school gradually grows and the strength increases. Instead of furthering the advancement of the school by affording more and more facilities, my Hon. Friend comes forward to close down the school and also the Muslim Women's College on the plea that the number of students studying in them is very small and that they are uneconomic. Take for instance the Muslim Women's College itself. When it started, it had only 28 students on its roll. Because that facility was given for the promotion of Muslim education, we know what the number of Muslim students attending that College at present is. He pursues a very wrong policy in thinking that the institutions should be nipped in the bud on the plea that the number of Muslim students in them is small, that they are uneconomic and that therefore they should be closed down. I therefore plead with my Hon. Friend the Minister for Education to take a liberal view of things and realize his duty to the backward communities. I understand that the Government are giving extra facilities for European education and the education of Scheduled Castes and the backward communities in this Province. In the same way the Government must give special facilities to the 50 lakhs of Muslims in this Province who are backward in education. It is his duty to give to every child, to whichever community he or she may belong, equal opportunities and more facilities for those who lag behind in education.

"With these words I second the adjournment motion."

*N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the adjournment motion moved by the hon. Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin. Let it not be said that it was left to a lady member to champion the cause of women's rights. Let it not also be understood that the Hon. Minister for

Education who is, I understand, a Brahmachari neglects the interests of women. No doubt he has got many schemes for the spread of education in our Province. But let me entreat him that in the matter of education of women, let him not be guided by the principle of rupees, annas and pies. Let me remind him of what the Simon Commission had said years ago and I am sure that everybody will agree with that statement: 'It is the women that hold the key to our progress.' I know for certain that whoever is speaking in support of the motion to-day is championing the cause of the education of girls who are the mothers of tomorrow. If you are going to deny facilities for women's education, I am sure the women have every right to condemn us in every sense of the term that we belong to an unfair sex and that they belong to a fair sex. (Laughter.)

"Let it not be said also against the Hon. Minister for Education that he is against their entire sex. 5-30 p m.

"Mr. Speaker, this subject of girls' education reminds me of the yeoman service which Sir Meverel Statham has done as Director of Public Instruction. He did provide the highest priority for girls' education in this Province. He went out of the way many times to see that the doors of schools and colleges were opened to girls even against rules. The hon. the Lady Member Begum Amiruddin has referred to the observations of the hon. Mrs. Radhabai Subbarayan. I am glad she had done so at this moment. It used to be said of the late Lord Willingdon, when he was the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, that it was the petty-coat Government of Lady Willingdon that ruled India. I hope that the same thing can be said of the Hon. Leader of the House too, for, from behind and from within, it is the petty-coat Government that rules the day. If really Mrs. Radhabai Subbarayan carries any weight with the Hon. Leader of the House, let him prove it on the floor of this House. For one cannot understand the division of responsibility between husband and wife. But this is a subject which the Hon. Minister for Education who is a Brahmachari cannot understand, although he may dispute it. So, let the Hon. Leader of the House who is carrying so much of the affairs of this Province, at least set an example that he is wiser under the influence of the petty-coat Government which Mrs. Subbarayan represents." (Laughter.)

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"Mr. Speaker, this morning the Hon. Leader of the House, while replying to the demand under 'Administration of Justice' referred to the speech of Mr. Anwar and said that he had stated that there was maladministration of justice in this Province, and made certain remarks against him. On a reference to the record of his speech from the proceedings of the Assembly, we find that he never said any such thing. What he has reported to have said, was that that remark had been made by other hon. Members . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may raise his point of order as soon as the debate on the Adjournment Motion is finished."

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MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—" My anxiety is that the Hon. Leader of the House would go away by that time, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Then he can raise it on Monday. "

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" On a point of information, Sir, since the question has been raised now, and one or two minutes have been taken upon it, can we not settle it now and then proceed, if the Hon. Leader of the House has no objection ?"

MR. SPEAKER:—" It is most improper for the hon. Member to raise a point of order in the middle of a debate on an entirely different subject. It may be raised as soon as the debate on the adjournment motion is over. "

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I do not think there will be any controversy over this, Sir. Let the time already taken be put to use, and let us not take more time of the House by raising it afresh later, Sir. "

MR. SPEAKER:—" It will become a bad precedent."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, in further supporting the adjournment motion, I have to say this. The hon. Lady Member Begum Amiruddin has very clearly proved by facts and figures that somehow or other our Minister for Education is not in favour of women's education. It cannot be that he will be otherwise, because, you will agree with me when I say that he, being a bachelor will not be able to appreciate the difference between educated and uneducated women. That being the case, he has taken up that attitude. It has become a fashion with our Hon. Minister that whenever they want to do a particular thing, what they do is that they will appoint a committee and that committee will not at all be representative of anybody and will not be approved by this House and for reasons known to itself, will make certain recommendations and the Minister will begin to implement them. In the same way, the Hon, Minister for Education has come forward to implement the recommendations of the reorganisation and retrenchment committee. That committee has not been approved by this House and it consists of members of doubtful qualifications and its recommendations are not before the House. The Hon. Minister says that the committee has made certain recommendations as if they were binding upon him, or as if he himself was not in favour of them, but that because the committee has recommended like that, he has to implement those recommendations. As I said, it has become a fashion nowadays that every Minister has begun to appoint a committee like that and throw the entire blame upon the committee for all his actions. Because the Hon. Minister has come from the Chetty community, he begins to see everything from the business point of view."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member should not bring in communities and make personal remarks. The debate will then become communal. I hope the hon. Member will not pursue that point further. "

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" It is not proper for any civilized Government to view everything from a business point of view. Sir, the only qualification that was canvassed in favour of the present Minister for the post of Education Minister was that once upon a time, in some corner of the Presidency, he had maintained a school. (The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan: 'He still maintains it.') That is the only qualification that was canvassed in his favour. But may I ask him, for maintaining that school, did he not go on collecting funds? Was the school economic even from the very beginning? Has he published any balance sheet? "

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—" Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I want to know what is the subject we are discussing, whether we are discussing the adjournment motion of the hon. Begum Mir Amiruddin or about the qualification of the Hon. Minister to be a Minister for Education. I want to know whether Mr. Salam is entitled to bring in these irrelevant matters into this debate. "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member will confine himself to the subject under debate."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, the question is whether any Government can take refuge upon the catchword 'uneconomic' and go on abolishing all schools. That is the question, Sir, and I am only speaking upon that question. Sir, may I ask the Hon. Minister for Education whether the school which he had started and which according to the Hon. Leader of the House is still maintained by him, had been economic from the very beginning? In the same way, some schools will have to be maintained even though they are uneconomic, as for instance, schools for backward communities schools for research, etc., and for various other similar purposes. It is the duty of the Government to maintain such uneconomic schools. I ask why has the Government come forward to take up the management of the Guntur College, even though it was under private management. Surely there was a better proposal than this from a private mission. The Hon. Minister was not able to give any reason for this step. He simply stated, 'What business has the mission got to maintain colleges in Circars?' So this college was taken by the Government from a private agency, in spite of the fact that it was uneconomic and in spite of the fact that there was a better offer from another private agency. The Hon. Minister cannot hoodwink us by giving such unconvincing reasons. Let the Hon. Minister come forward with all facts and figures and also the terms offered by the mission and say whether it is economic or not. He says that he must give effect to the recommendation of the Committee in this case.

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Sir, let him go on doing whatever he likes and let him come out and say whatever he has got to say; but I am sure the future historian will write that his *portfolio* is the blackest of all in this Province."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad to have this opportunity to clear certain misconceptions. While doing so, I have just to address a few words about the speech of the last hon. Member. I must remind him, Sir, very respectfully through you, that abuse is no argument. It is not once, it is not twice, but it seems to be the nature of certain people that if they cannot argue cogently or bring in facts cogently, they simply indulge in abuses. To say of certain people who have had experience richer in their own lives than others, who have done much greater service to the community and who are far nobler and possess far more wisdom than the hon. Member presumes, that such members of the committee are of doubtful qualifications is, to say the least, not only to show disrespect to those people, but to the very hon. Member himself. Sir, public life must command a little more courtesy, a little more respect for each other and a little more gratitude and I must warn hon. Members of the House through you, Sir, that we must choose our words at least in speaking about people who are not present in the House and treat them with the courtesy and respect they deserve. I am not here, Sir, to plead about my qualifications or the qualifications of the Members of the committee or of my colleagues, it is for other people, it is for the Province and it is for the people who have the intelligence to sit and judge. I do not want to say more.

" Now, Sir, coming to the merits of the motion under discussion, let me first of all disabuse you and the hon. Members of the House, of the position. A retrenchment and reorganization committee was appointed by this Government. That committee recommended, rightly or wrongly,—I am not trying to go into the merits of that recommendation—that all uneconomic schools, be they aided or Government, girls or boys, with less than 20 pupils on the average should be closed, and that if local bodies or private agencies come forward to take them over, they should be enabled to do so. This was their recommendation and it was forwarded automatically to the heads of departments."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Who are the members of that committee, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" The hon. Member may put a separate question on this point.

" Sir, that recommendation was forwarded to the heads of departments. The Director of Public Instruction, on his own initiative, picked out certain schools which he thought were working uneconomically and which he thought might be handed over to private agencies. He also made certain enquiries into the matter and forwarded to the Government a list of such schools and he has also sent along with it a note, stating that he would

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forward the result of his enquiries later on. Therefore, it must be clearly understood that there are no proposals at present that any of the schools should be closed down. The Government have not ordered the closure of any of these schools. On the other hand, considering the number of schools involved, the Government have issued orders on the following lines: 'We cannot allow orders like these to be issued closing *en masse* eighteen schools throughout the Presidency, and most of them girls' schools. The Director of Public Instruction may be asked not to pursue the matter of closing down the schools or handing them over to other parties. The Government will go into the matter in greater leisure and issue orders as to how the strength of these uneconomic schools can be improved '.

" That represents the present situation, Sir. No orders have been issued for the closure of any of these schools. That is what I said yesterday in the Council when the same question was raised there also, and the same answer was given by me this morning also in this House. On the other hand, the Director of Public Instruction has been asked to examine how the strength in these schools can be improved. So, Sir, I do not think there is any reason or purpose in bringing forward this adjournment motion.

" If I may add a few words more, the Government are in wholehearted agreement with my hon. Friend, the Lady Member, Begum Mir Amiruddin, that women's education is of the greatest importance and are anxious to promote it by all means in their power. I have said more than once in many places that when you educate a man, you educate him to earn a living, but when you educate a woman, you educate her not only to run the family, but to educate the family as a whole. I have always believed in the great cultural heritage of the womanhood of our land which we have cherished from ancient times. I have always believed that women's education must receive the highest priority and hon. Members, if they would go carefully through our Part II schemes, will find that provisions have been made to start girls' schools both through private agencies and by the Government.

" Might I add a few words more, Sir. Certain references have been made to me personally. Some of them are made, perhaps in joke. (An hon. Member: 'They are made in joke.') I take it that they are made in joke. But whatever it is, I must appeal to them and I must impress upon them that the man who considers a woman as a mother is by far a greater man, and he has by far a greater value of life and by far a greater respect for woman than the man who considers a woman as his wife. I visualize the great men from the history, Sir. The greatest men of the world, Christ and Ramakrishna, have throughout their life respected women as their mothers or as daughters. So, let me point out to the hon. Members of this House, who may not see any ideal for women except the wifehood, that there is a much greater thing, a much nobler thing and a much purer and a much higher vision and that is to look upon her as the mother and the goddess. Sir, I have the honour and the pride to look upon

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women in that attitude. Therefore, Sir, if anybody could understand and save them, I may, with all humility, claim that I have the honour and only I have the honour. (Hear, hear.) I do not want to say much, Sir, on this and carry the discussion much further than it is necessary for me to do. I do not think I need say much more than what I have said. I think they will satisfy my hon. Friend, the Lady Member, and I hope she will withdraw the adjournment motion."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" On a point of information, Sir. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether in regard to these eighteen schools he has already come to the decision that none of these schools would be closed or whether he is keeping still an open mind."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" I have already stated, Sir, what the orders issued are. We can always talk only for the present, Sir."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I would request the Hon. Minister, Sir, to enlighten us with regard to certain remarks which he made when reading from the file which he has got in his hand. He said that the Government were taking steps to strengthen those schools which were considered uneconomical. I want him to confirm those words, Sir, whether the Government are taking steps to see that these schools are being strengthened and that they will continue to exist."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Yes, Sir. There are certain schools short of children. It is up to the Government to see that more girls join the schools. The Government are taking steps to see that the money spent on the schools are well utilized by taking in the maximum number of girls."

*N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, speaking on behalf of the married men, I must say one thing. I cannot accept the position taken by the Hon. Minister, Sir, that he and he alone has respect for motherhood. (Laughter.) I would say, while speaking for myself, I have got the highest regard for one whom I consider my sweetheart, that is my wife (laughter); and I am sure everybody will agree with me that in respect of our married experience, we are treating all women except our wives as mothers or sisters, or as daughters and that we give them the highest regard. It is only for that we are championing their rights here." (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—" I hope the hon. Lady Member is withdrawing the adjournment motion."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir. I am very glad to learn from the Hon. Minister that he is not ill-disposed towards women's education and am gratified at the observation he has made with reference to women's progress. Sir, it is heartening to learn that the Government have passed no orders

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with regard to the abolition of the high schools, and that they now intend to strengthen the uneconomic schools. If it is the policy of the Government not to close down schools, I wish to know why the Inspectress of Girls' Schools, IV Circle, sent a notice to the Muslim Girls' Secondary School at Georgetown stating that the school would be closed from the next school year 1948-49. Will the Hon. Minister enlighten me as to why such notices have been sent to schools?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" I do not think that it is necessary, Sir, to carry it further, after I have told the House as to what the orders passed by the Government are."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" The position seems to be that the Government have revised their opinion and now realize that the policy of closing down girls' schools is wrong. In view of this and of the statement of the Hon. Minister that the schools will not be closed down, I do not wish to press my motion."

The motion was by leave of the House withdrawn.

V.—REQUEST FOR EXPUNCTION OF A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDINGS.

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir. On a point of order. Just a few minutes more, Sir. It seems that our Hon. the Leader of the House made a statement when my colleague Mr. Anwar was not present. He has been held to have said that there has been maladministration of justice in the Province. He never said so. I shall read out what he said, Sir, from our report. He is reported to have said:

'Our greatest inheritance from the British Regime is the respect for the rule of law. How there has been this administration of justice in this Province is not for me to say, because we have heard from almost every section of the House how there has been much of maladministration in this regard, etc.'

Some Members are reported to have said so, Sir, and he only made a reference to them. He never said so. So, I request you, Sir, to expunge the reference to Mr. Anwar from the report in this regard."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I shall explain, Sir. I am aware he said that there has been a lot of talk about maladministration. He did not say he did not agree with them. The word having come from him, I had to defend the administration of justice against that and I had to say all that. There is no question of maladministration of justice here because this Province is well-known for its administration being pure. I don't think there is need for expunging and all that. That, I say, must remain."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Let me point out, Sir, that I am not the author of the remark, as alleged by the Leader of the House. I am really sorry, Sir, that I could

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not be present in the House while he was replying to the debate and I should not involve other Members of the House who have made that remark. All the same, I must say, while I have the highest respect and regard for the administration of justice, all that I said was that different sections here have referred to maladministration. I only appealed to the Leader of the House to go incognito round the courts in the mufassal and also round the corridors of the High Court and requested him to know for himself in what respect and esteem the portfolio of the administration of justice is being held by the powers that are in charge of the administration of justice."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I know all that, Sir. I need not go round the courts. I know the courts better than my hon. Friend, because he has been a mere teacher whereas . . . "

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I challenge that statement, Sir. I may be a mere teacher but the hon. Gentleman is a mere lawyer and a lawyer is not better than a teacher."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I need not get huffy over that. What I said was that he does not know the courts as I do being a mere teacher. I am not a mere lawyer, Sir, I am a little better than a lawyer. I have gone a little round the world, Sir, and I have been a Member of the Syndicate of the University of Madras and in contact with education. All that I said was that there was no question of maladministration of justice in the Province. It so happens the hon gentleman referred at length to maladministration in his speech. Though he may not have said it by himself it occurs in his speech."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I submit one thing, Sir. The point here is whether Mr. Anwar was the author . . . "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Perhaps he has not understood what I said, Sir. What I said was that there was no question of maladministration of justice. It occurs in his speech that several members referred to maladministration of justice. It was no reflection on the hon. Member at all. I do not know what objection the Leader of the Opposition can have."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" What I wanted to say was this, Sir. Mr. Anwar, even when he speaks of maladministration, does not speak of maladministration of justice. He refers to maladministration 'in this regard'. That is how he has been reported. . . (Interruption.) I am on my legs, Sir. I am not yielding. Here he does not refer to maladministration of justice but the Hon. Leader of the House seems to have been under the impression that Mr. Anwar has been making the statement alleging maladministration of justice. So he has made certain remarks and what Mr. Anwar and other Friends have been

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asking and what I am also asking is to see that those remarks were withdrawn, because those remarks were made on the assumption that Mr. Anwar alleged maladministration of justice in this Province. That is all the question."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The Hon. the Leader of the House has told the House that it was not his intention, to cast a reflection on anyone. I am going to adjourn the House."

The House is adjourned to meet again on Monday, the 22nd March 1948, at 11 o'clock.

APPENDIX

[Vide answer to starred question No. 199 asked by M A. Muhammad Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 20th March 1948, page 436 supra.]

(*a*) *Actual expenditure in* 1946-47 *on establishment, tools and plant and works outlay of the Public Works and Highways Departments.*

	Expenditure in the Highways Department.	Expenditure in the Public Works Department.
	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.
1. Establishment	36·10	66·91
2. Tools and plant	29·11	10·51
3. Works outlay—		
(*a*) 50. Civil Works—		
Original Works	51·50	23·75
Repairs	184·58	23·13
(*b*) 81. Capital account of Civil Works—		
Original Works	..	9·41
(*c*) Irrigation Works executed by the Public Works Staff	..	171·93
(*d*) District Board Works executed by the Highways Department Staff.	96·37	..
Total works outlay ..	332·45	228·22

Of the expenditure of Rs. 36·10 lakhs on establishment for the Highways Department, about Rs. 4·17 lakhs has to be borne by the district boards on account of the district board works mentioned under works outlay executed by the Highways Department on behalf of district boards. Similarly out of the expenditure of Rs. 66·91 lakhs on establishment for the Public Works Department Rs. 34·99 lakhs was recovered as centage charges for local fund deposit and other works executed by that department. The total cost of such works is not readily available.

(*b*) *Reasons for creating a separate department as Highways Department.*

The Government considered that the district boards with their limited inelastic resources could not maintain the important through roads of inter-district or Provincial importance up to the requisite modern standard, that uniformity in standard could not be expected if the road system continued in charge of several local bodies having different degrees of efficiency and that the transfer of these roads to a Government agency would greatly facilitate the execution of the Post-war Road Development Programme which, on account of its magnitude and importance, called for centralized administration of roads. Hence, a separate Highways Department was formed from 1st April 1946 with the Engineers then in charge of Government roads and the District Board Engineering establishment who were attending to district board works.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, the 22nd March 1948.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Arrests of certain Kisan Congress leaders.

*206-B *Q.*—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM (on behalf of Sri M. Kanniyappan): Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state whether the Kisan Congress leaders and Provincial Congress Working Committee member Sri G. Narayanaswami Nayudu, Secretary, Sri Angappan and Harijan Pichai were arrested on 13th March 1948 at Mayavaram?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Orders for the detention of the three persons have been issued by the District Magistrate, Tanjore. All the three have been transferred to the Central Jail, Vellore."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"Mr. G. நாராயணசாமி நாயுடுவை உடனே விடுதலை செய்யவேண்டும், இல்லாவிட்டால் agrarian trouble அதிகமாகி விடும் என்று தமிழ்நாட்டு காங்கிரஸ் கமிட்டி லீடர் வெங்கட்ராமன் அவர்களும் ஜில்லா காங்கிரஸ் கமிட்டி தலைவர் திரு ஸ்ரீநிவாசன் அவர்களும் கனம் பிரதம மந்திரியிடத்திலும் கனம் ஹோம் மந்திரியிடத்திலும் வந்து represent பண்ணி இருக்கிறார்களா?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Yes, they have made representations."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"அந்த representation மீது சர்க்கார் என்ன செய்யப்போகிறார்கள்,"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The matter is under consideration."

SRI T. S. PATTABHIRAMAN:—"Is it a fact, Sir, that these detentions have taken place on the recommendations of the zamindars of the district?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"For the hon. Gentleman's information, I may say, Sir, that there are no zamindars in Tanjore district where this agrarian trouble is taking place."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"May I know, Sir, what are the reasons that led to the arrest and detention of these three gentlemen?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I have already said, Sir, that these three persons are detained under the orders

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of the District Magistrate, Tanjore. District Magistrates have been empowered under the Public Safety Act to detain those whom they think may cause agrarian trouble."

SRI T. S. PATTABHIRAMAN:—" Is it a fact, Sir, that the above detentions have taken place on the recommendations of the landed aristocracy in that district? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Well, Sir, I do not know what moved the District Magistrate's mind."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—" In view of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, may I know, Sir, whether the Government will take necessary steps to get a report from the District Magistrate to see on what grounds these people are arrested? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Yes, Sir. That is what is being done."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" இந்த சபையிலுள்ள சுமார் 60 சட்டசபை அங்கத்தினர்கள் ஸ்ரீ G. நாராயணசாமி நாயுடுவை உடனே விடுதலை செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று மந்திரியிடத்தில் representation கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்களா? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The hon. Gentleman is rather wrong in his quotation of the number. Forty-four members have given such a representation."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—" Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, may I enquire, Sir, whether it is not the duty of the Hon. Home Minister to ascertain all the facts from the District Magistrate before replying to the short notice question on the floor of this House? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I have already said, Sir, that I have called for information."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—" Is it a fact, Sir, that these three gentlemen have been taking up the cause of the agricultural labourers in that place? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Sir, they are Kisan leaders."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—" May I know, Sir, what steps the Government are going to take on the representation of the 44 Members of this House regarding this matter? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I have already said that the matter is under consideration."

SRI T. S. PATTABHIRAMAN:—" Are the Government aware, Sir, that Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu has been carrying on the agrarian struggle on strictly non-violent lines? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I am not prepared to assert on this matter, Sir. As far as I know, Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu has been trying to be non-violent."

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Is it the intention of Government, Sir, instead of helping agricultural labourers, to nip in the bud this organization by arresting its leaders? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I do not grant the hon. Gentleman's premises, Sir."

Price of paddy in the Tinnevelly district.

*206-C *Q.*—SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that in the Tinnevelly district the price of paddy has gone up so high that poor people are not able to buy food at such high rates; and

(*b*) what steps the Government are taking in the matter?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (*a*) The price of paddy which stood at Rs. 100 per kottah (112 Madras measures) in January last came down to Rs. 45 to Rs. 60 afer the commencement of the harvest in the month of '*Thái*' and continued to be at that level till about 10th March 1948. The tendency for the price to rise has been observed only recently and at present the price is reported to vary between Rs. 50 and Rs. 80 per kottah in the different parts of the district.

" (*b*) The Collector has already opened 327 relief shops in the various parts of the district for distributing foodgrains to the poor people. More relief shops will be opened by the Collector whenever necessity is felt. These measures may be expected to bring down the prices."

SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL (rose up to put a question).

MR. SPEAKER.—" நீங்கள் தமிழிலேயே கேளுங்கள்."

SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL:—" வியாபாரிகள் தாங்களே அதிகமான விலைகள் கொடுப்பதாக சொல்லி நில சுவாந்தார்களே அதிக விலைக்கு விற்க ஆசை காட்டுகிறார்கள். அதனால் அங்குள்ளவர்களுக்கு நெல் இல்லாமல் பூராவையும் advance பண்ணி வாங்கிவிடுகிறார்கள். இதற்கு கவர்ன்மெண்டார் என்ன முயற்சி எடுக்க நினைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள் என்று கேட்கிறேன்? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" வியாபாரத்துரையில் தலையிடுவது கவர்ன்மெண்டாருக்கு முடியாது. எனென்றால் திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவில் தான்யத்தை decontrol செய்தாய்விட்டது. ஆகையால் வியாபாரிகள் தங்கள் ஆசையாத்பதம் லாபத்தை நினைத்து விலையை ஏற்றலாம். அவர்களை சட்டத்தின் மூலம் ஒன்றும் செய்ய முடியாது. ஆனால் எங்கே விலை ரொம்பவும் அதிகமாக இருக்கிறதோ அந்தந்த இடங்களில் குறிப்பிட்ட விலைக்கு குறைத்து விற்க relief shop களை கலெக்டர் திரந்திருக்கிறார்கள். இன்னும் தேவையாக இருந்தால் அதிகம் திரப்பார்கள். திரப்பதற்கும் அதிகாரம் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது."

SRI D. DORAIRAJA PANDIAN:—" Are the Government aware, Sir, that prices have gone up so high due to the fact that big merchants and landholders are holding up large quantities of paddy? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" It may be so, Sir."

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SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL :—" Relief shops திரந்திருந்தா லும் கூட எல்லோருக்கும் கிடைப்பதில்லே. அந்தமாதிரி அதிகமான விலே இருப்பதினுல் தான்யம் விளேந்த ஊர்களில் தான்யத்தை அவர்கள் வாங்க முடியாமலிருக்கிறார்கள் கவர்ன்மெண்டு இதற்கு என்ன வழி செய்யப் போகிறார்கள்."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" எழைகளுக்குக் கிடைப்பதற்காக Relief shops ஏற்படுத்தி வைக்கப்பட்டு வருகிறது. எழைகள் இன்னும் கிடைக்கவில்லே என்று சொன்னுல் அதிக Relief shops திரப்பதற்கு கலெக்ட்டருக்கு அதிகாரம் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது."

SRI D. DORAIRAJA PANDIAN :—" **May I ask, Sir, what steps the Government propose to take to release this hoarded stock from the merchants and landholders?** "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" At present the Government have no machinery to requisition all the hoarded stocks. But if the crisis comes to a pitch, the Government will not hesitate to take such powers as may be necessary to divest these hoarders of the grains which they have in their possession."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM :—" தங்கள் தேவைக்கு அதிகமாக நெல் வைத்திருக்கும் வியாபாரிகளிடத்திலோ நிலச்சுவாந்தார்களிடத்திலோ அதிகமாக நெல் வைத்திருந்தால் அந்த நெல்லே confiscate பண்ண சர்க்கார் உடனே நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கப்போகிறார்களா ?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—"அவசியமானுல் சர்க்கார் செய் வார்கள்."

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN :—" அரசாங்கம் வைத்து நடத்தக்கூடிய கடைகளில் அரிசி நாத்தம் அடிக்கிறது என்பது தெரியுமா ?"

MR. SPEAKER :—" நீங்கள் பொதுவாக கேட்கிறீர்களா, திருநெல் வேலி ஜில்லாவைப்பற்றி கேட்கிறீர்களா ?"

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN :—" அதே ஊரில்தான்."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It is not a supplementary question arising out of this question, Sir."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, the Hon. Minister said that Government cannot check the prices soaring high, but at the same time, he has also stated that arrangements are being made to sell rice through relief shops at reasonable or controlled prices. May I know, Sir, how the Government are able to procure paddy for these relief shops, and may I ask whether the Government will undertake to supply all the requirements of the people through these relief shops? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, the Government cannot now disclose categorically how they get grains for the relief shops. The fact is that the Government have undertaken to supply the relief shops with grains for sale to the poor people at controlled prices. As far as there is necessity to do so, the Government shall do it."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" May I ask, Sir, if the Government are not prepared to confiscate the grain from the hoarders, will

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they at least give the hoarders a warning that they should not hoard stocks when the food situation is so critical in that place? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The suggestion will be considered, Sir."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH :—" Sir, do the Government realize that by their policy of ' wait and see ' in this urgent matter, the country is heading towards a disaster of famine in the southern districts? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I may inform the hon. Member that the Government are well aware of the famine conditions and they are taking the necessary precautions to deal with them."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Government are prepared to give a categorical assurance to the people that they need not be afraid of famine and that all their requirements will be met by Government? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I do not know what the hon. Gentleman means by ' categorical statement ', Sir."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, I want to know whether the Government will remove the fear from the minds of the people by telling them definitely that they need not be afraid of any scarcity of foodgrains or famine, and whether the Government will see that the people get their requirements of food? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, it is the primary duty of the Government to discharge this responsibility, and the Government are well aware of it."

SRI V. S. SANKARASUBRAHMANYA MUDALIYAR :—" Are the Government aware that the Co-operative Stores at Vikramasingapuram, are purchasing paddy at the rate of Rs. 60 per kottah for 10,000 labourers to keep a six months stock and that they are purchasing this paddy at an unduly high price? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" If the hon. Member puts down a specific question, I shall make enquiries."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN :—" May I ask the Government whether the Government knows that large quantities of paddy are available in some taluks of the Tanjore District at a rate which is much lower than what the Government is paying? "

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

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN :—" Are the Government prepared to purchase this surplus paddy from these taluks and take them over to the Tinnevelly and Ramnad districts? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It cannot be done, Sir."

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SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" As the food position has reached a crisis in the Tinnevelly district, will the Government take immediate action to prevent hoarding both by dealers and also by the producers? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The question of hoarding has no relation to the threatened famine."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" With reference to the answer given by the Hon. the Minister that paddy cannot be taken from the Tanjore district to the Tinnevelly and Ramnad districts, may I know the reason for the inability of the Government to take this available paddy to those districts? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Paddy is available in some surplus districts. But, under the control system and procurement system, Government should have some reserve in the surplus districts, so that they may lay by sufficient stock in order to meet emergencies. Tanjore district is one of the districts wherefrom we cannot drain all our reserve stock."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—" What action have the Government taken in regard to the removal of rationing in Kurnool and Nandyal municipalities which they promised? "

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

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—" What action have the Government taken against the co-operative societies cornering all the stocks of paddy in the district of Tinnevelly? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" If specific inforation is brought to my notice and if specific statement is handed over to me, I shall call for a report and will then be able to answer the hon. Member."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" May I know from the Government whether they have made proper arrangements to keep sufficient foodgrains in these relief shops? A number of these relief shops are without foodgrains."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" That is another piece of information which I have got just now. As far as I am aware, every relief shop is supplied with sufficient foodgrains. Also more ration shops are being opened wherever it is necessary."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is it not a fact that there is scarcity in the district of Tinnevelly and the people of that district are not able to get foodgrains at reasonable prices, prices which are within the reach of the poor? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" This does not necessarily follow my answer."

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SRI P. M. VELAYUDAPANI:—" இந்த relief shop கள் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கப்படுகிறதா ? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" ஹரிஜனங்கள் என்று தனியாக கவனிப்பது இல்லை. ஏழைகள் எல்லோரையும் கவனிப்பதற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. யாராக இருந்தாலும் வாங்க முடியாமல் இருந்தால் அவாகளுக்காக அங்கே ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிருக்கிறது."

SRI P. M. VELAYUDAPANI:—" ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு ration shop கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதைப்பற்றி கேட்கிறேன். அதைப்போல் இப்பொழுது ஸ்லஸென்ஸ் கொடுக்கப்படுகிறதா ? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு என்று தனியாக இப்பொழுது shop கிடையாது. எல்லா ஏழைகளுக்கும் relief shops மூலமாக கொடுக்கப்பட்டுவருகிறது."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Central Stores in the deficit districts are not also getting their stocks from the stores in the surplus districts? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" With regard to the supply of foodgrains from the surplus districts to the deficit districts, Government move the foodstuffs according to the information at their disposal, that is, from the information which they get from the local authorities. As soon as they receive information, the surplus paddy in the surplus districts is transferred to the deficit districts and the foodgrains are distributed either through ration shops or if necessary, through relief shops, as the case may be."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" In view of the admitted fact that there is scarcity of foodgrains in the Tinnevelly district and that foodgrains are not available at reasonable prices, may I know from the Government whether they are satisfied that the supply of foodgrains which they have made will meet the situation and that people can rest content that they will get their foodgrains at reasonable prices? That is what I want to know and that is what the people are anxious about'.

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" A number of statements with regard to the food situation have been issued daily both by the Madras Government and by the Government of India and people are in a position to know these facts. Then, with regard to the dealing with these deficit districts, the Government have more than once replied in this House as well as in the other House and I have dealt at great length and with all the details with regard to the measures which we have taken so far day by day. If the hon. Member was not present when those discussions took place, it is up to him to go through those statements. But, for the information of the hon. Member, I am glad to give this information. Government are taking all necessary precautions to see that foodgrains are made available in all places. Both the Government of Madras and the Government of India are doing

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everything possible in this matter and if there is any threat of famine anywhere, they have absolutely provided themselves with all the wherewithals to meet the situation."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM :—" Relief shops இருக்கும் இடத்தில் வாரத்திற்கு எத்தனை நாட்களுக்கு எவ்வளவு அரிசி கொடுப்பது, எவ்வளவு நவதான்யம் கொடுப்பது என்று சர்க்கார் உத்திரவு போட்டிருக்கிறார்களா என்று கேட்க விரும்புகிறேன்."

THE HON. DR. T. S S. RAJAN :—" கனம் மெம்பர் கொண்டு வந்திருக்கும் adjournment motion-ல் கவனமாகச் சொல்லுகிறேன்."

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN :—" ஒவ்வொரு ரேஷன் ஷாப்புகளிலும் 3 அவுன்ஸ் ரேஷன்தான் கிடைக்கிறது. இன்னும் எழைகள் அதை வாங்க முடியாமல் இருக்கிறார்களா என்று கேட்கிறேன்."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Adjournment motion கொடுத்திருக்கிறார். அதில் பதில் சொல்லப்போகிறேன். அதில் விவரம் கண்டிருக்கிறது. Hon. Member தயவு செய்து பொறுத்திருக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, in spite of the assurances given by the Hon. the Minister and also by the Government of India, I want the Madras Government to realize this fact, which I am sorry to say, the Hon. the Minister ignores. There is an uneasiness in the minds of the people about the supply of foodgrains and I want the Minister to say categorically that there is no necessity for such uneasiness. In spite of the statements and assurances which the Hon. the Minister has given hitherto, I think the uneasiness is there and I therefore want the Government to say categorically that there is no ground for such uneasiness."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I have all along repeated and I have made too many statements with regard to this subject. If the hon. Member still persists in putting the same question, I cannot take the matter any further."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Sri K. T. Kosalram has given notice of an adjournment motion. Probably, the Hon. the Minister for Food wishes to make a statement then. In view of that, we shall pass on to the next question."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR :—" On a matter of personal explanation, Sir. In spite of all the statements, which the Hon. Minister has made, the question before the House is that there is still an uneasiness in the minds of the people and in view of that, I categorically ask him to say that there is no necessity or ground for such uneasiness. If the Hon. Minister gives a simple answer to this question, it will satisfy the House."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member, Sri K. T. Kosalram, has given notice of an adjournment motion. I think, probably, at that time, the Hon. the Minister wants to make a statement. He will then give the assurance asked for by the Leader of the Opposition."

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Creation of the post of Deputy Commissioner of Labour.

*206-D *Q.*—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government proposed to create an office of Deputy Commissioner of Labour;

(*b*) whether the Government intends to promote the present Assistant Commissioner of Labour to the office;

(*c*) whether the Government are aware of deep dissatisfaction among the trade unionists against the said officer particularly in connexion with the report of the Standardization Committee; and

(*d*) whether the Government will consider the advisability of appointing experienced trade unionists in the Province to such offices instead of promoting Revenue officials to Labour department?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" (*a*) & (*b*) A post of Deputy Commissioner of Labour has been sanctioned recently and Sri A. Uthandarama Pillai, the present Assistant Commissioner of Labour, appointed to the post.

" (*c*) No, Sir.

" (*d*) For such administrative posts, the Government do not find any necessity to appoint experienced trade unionists."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM :—" May I ask the Hon. the Minister whether it is a fact that the above Assistant Commissioner of Labour, Sri Uthandarama, has been solely responsible for trouble in the textile industry of the Province, especially in Coimbatore? "

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

MR. SPEAKER :—" We have ten more questions and we should cover them in half an hour."

SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" Is the Hon. the Minister aware that one officer, Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of Labour, has been deputed to England to undergo studies in textile labour and he is now available for this post. He being an Harijan, may I ask the Government why his claims have been neglected by the Government? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I have had no information about it. I shall look into the matter."

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN :—" Mr. கோதண்டராமனைப்பற்றி அதிகமான புகார்கள் அரசாங்கத்திற்கு வந்திருக்கிறதா என்று கேட்கிறேன். அதோடு தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு lockout தீர்மானம் போட்டு அனுப்பப்பட்டிருக்கிறது அதுவும் தெரியுமா என்று கேட்கிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" இல்லை."

Abolition of certain girls' schools in the Province.

*206-E *Q.*—SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to abolish certain girls' schools in this Province; and if so, how many and in what districts;

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(*b*) what alternate proposals the Government have to run girls' schools in their stead; and

(*c*) the reasons that led the Government to suggest abolition of certain girls' schools?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee has recommended that all uneconomic schools, be they Government or aided, for boys or girls which have less than 20 pupils per class on the average should be closed and that if a local body or private agency comes forward to start or run a school or is prepared to manage an existing Government school, it should be enabled to do so. This recommendation was forwarded to the Director of Public Instruction and the Director of Public Instruction has suggested that certain schools may be closed or transferred to other managements in view of this recommendation. The Government have issued orders to the Director of Public Instruction that closure of schools need not be undertaken just now before exploring the possibilities of improving the strength in these schools."

Government Secondary School for Muslim Girls, Georgetown.

*206-F *Q.*—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government are closing down the Government Secondary School for Muslim Girls at Georgetown, Madras?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"No."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Is the Hon. the Minister aware that the Inspectress of Girls' Schools, Fourth Circle, has reported thus about this school:

'The school has made a steady headway from the date of its inception July 1942 . . . Its strength and efficiency has been on a uniform upward course . . . It is a pity to close down the school.'

Such being the report of the Inspectress of Girls' Schools, is the Minister aware that this school cannot be classed as uneconomic?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am not aware of that report, Sir."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"In view of the fact that this school cannot be classed as uneconomic, is the Minister aware that any proposal to close it down will be in contravention of the promise made by the Government which was confirmed by G.O. Ms. No. 266, Education, dated 7th February 1948, that the *status quo* would be maintained with reference to separate schools for Muslims for a period of five years?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am afraid, the hon. the Lady Member is trying to bring in extraneous circumstances. I have already stated the position day before yesterday with regard to the closure of these schools and Government are devoting their attention as to how best they can improve the strength of these uneconomic schools and in this matter, the circumstances of each school will be gone into. I cannot give any further assurance than what I have already stated on that day."

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Special Officer (Departmental Enquiries).

* 207 *Q.*—

[MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is not in his place. The answer will be printed in the proceedings."]

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the term of the Special Officer to conduct departmental enquiries is appointed on a contract basis and whether he is to retire in March 1948;

(*b*) if so, whether he has applied for extension of his term;

(*c*) if so, whether any such proposal is pending before the Government; and

(*d*) whether the Government consider the necessity to appoint an officer in service?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—"(*a*) The term for which the existing incumbent of the post of Special Officer (Departmental Enquiries) has been employed expires on 30th June 1948. The appointment is on the following basis:—

(i) continued efficiency and fitness for duty,

(ii) service liable to be terminated at one month's notice on either side,

(iii) pension applicable to the officer is to be allowed and in addition a pay of Rs. 1,800 per month,

(iv) for the purposes of travelling allowance the officer is treated as Grade I officer.

"(*b*) The answer is in the negative.

"(*c*) & (*d*) The questions do not arise."

Discrimination in distribution of rations.

* 208 *Q.*—SRI D. DORAIRAJA PANDIAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any discrimination is shown in distribution of rations in quality and in quantity between Government and non-Government servants and also between people living in urban areas and those living in rural areas; and

(*b*) if so, what these differences are, and why?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"(*a*) & (*b*) No such discrimination is made; but there are slight differences in the

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scale and composition of rations between statutorily rationed areas, areas under informal rationing and other areas where distribution is made through relief shops. The scale and composition of rations are as follows in rationed areas:—

Rice eaters	..	8 oz. of rice.
Mixed diet eaters	..	3 oz. of rice and 5 oz. of millets, maize, etc.
Millet eaters	..	1 oz. of rice and 7 oz. of millets, maize, etc.

But in the rural areas of Malabar, 6 oz. of rice and 2 oz. of millets, maize, etc., have been ordered to be given with effect from 7th March 1948.

Non-rationed areas.—In the non-rationed areas of deficit districts, wherever relief shops have been opened, rations are distributed through such shops on the following scale and composition:—

Rice eaters	..	3 oz. of rice plus 3 oz. of millets, maize, etc.
Mixed diet eaters	..	2 oz. of rice plus 4 oz. of millets, maize, etc.
Millet eaters	..	1 oz. of rice plus 5 oz. of millets, maize, etc.

This scale and composition of rations apply equally to Government servants and non-Government servants. Three days' ration may be given at a time. The rations can be supplemented by purchases in the open market. The Government have, however, vested discretion in Collectors to show any concession that may be found necessary to essential services for special reasons subject to the condition that the scale and composition of the ration prescribed by Government are adhered to."

SRI D. DORAIRAJA PANDIAN:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that only millets are given to those in the villages who produce rice and rice is given to those in the urban areas?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"If the hon. Gentleman had listened to my long report, he would have noticed that no millet as such is given to anybody. Even for pure millet eaters, one ounce of rice is given. For non-millet eaters rice is given. They may be in the cities or in rural areas."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that in many places where the Harijans are accustomed to rice only they are forced to take mixed diet?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"There is no such force. The available quantity of foodgrains is distributed according to the classification given in the table. Even the Harijans who are only millet eaters are entitled to one ounce of rice ration."

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SRI K. RAGHAVAN:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that in Malabar only six ounces per head per day are given while in other districts eight ounces are given?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have stated that six ounces of rice are given in Malabar. The available stock on hand is distributed and this is the minimum rice ration that is given. If a man who gets this six ounces of rice wants more he can get two ounces of millets."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Government are aware that the extra four ounces intended for hard manual labourers are not in fact given to them?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"They must be hard manual labourers as classified by the Collector of the district. Then the extra ration, whatever is recommended, is given."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"When the Government have undertaken rationing, is it not necessary that they should see that they distribute equally whatever is available to all the people in the province?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The hon. Gentleman evidently presumes that the Government ought to give the people whatever they want in whatever form they want without any consideration whatsoever to what the Government secure, how they secure and how it is made available. As far as stocks are available, just consideration is given to the habits of the people and the food they are used to. To that extent ration is given to all alike without reference to any grade or qualifications."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not the fundamental basis of rationing, particularly when the Government have undertaken the duty of feeding the people, that the people of Malabar should get as much per head as the people of the deltas?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Fortunately, Sir, I may inform the hon. Member that the people in the deltas do not get any ration at all. The people of Malabar are constrained to look to the Government for their rations on account of their special situation. In the surplus areas, the Government have divested themselves of their responsibility of feeding the people."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Are the Government aware, Sir, that a hard manual labourer has to undergo many difficulties to prove that he is a hard manual labourer? In view of that fact, will the Government consider the desirability of issuing the extra four ounces to all the mixed diet eaters?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Such a thing cannot be done in the present food situation. It must be within the reach of such a person to declare to the authorities concerned

the nature of the food that he is used to. Nothing more is required. The village officer nearby can certify that the person is a hard manual labourer and that he is entitled to extra rations. That should be done in justice to the rest of the population for whom also the Government is securing the foodgrains and distributing them at great cost."

Construction of a regulator across Kurnool-Cuddapah Canal.

* 209 *Q.*—SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) what action the Government have taken on the representations to have a regulator constructed across the Kurnool-Cuddapah Canal to divert water into Nandyal tanks;

(*b*) whether the Hon. the Minister visited the spot where the regulator was proposed to be constructed when he was in Nandyal in January 1947; and

(*c*) what action has so far been taken in the matter and when the regulator would be constructed?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" (*a*) The representation received has been forwarded to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation and he has been asked to look into the matter.

" (*b*) Perhaps, yes.

" (*c*) The Chief Engineer for Irrigation is considering measures to ensure adequate supplies to Nandyal tanks. It cannot be said now whether and if so when the regulator would be constructed."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—" Sir, is it not a fact that agitation in this respect has been going on for the last 25 years and any delay in undertaking this will be misconstrued and will injure the crops which have been badly in need of water during the second crop season? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" We have examined that proposal and we found that it would affect irrigation lower down. In fact we have seen that even temporary cross-bunding has affected irrigation lower down to the extent of 300 acres. The Chief Engineer has been examining an alternative proposal in order to ensure the necessary water facilities."

SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" Sir, are not fifteen months a pretty long period for consideration? Will consideration go on eternally, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" We considered one proposal and it was found that it affected interests lower down. So we have to examine an alternative proposal. That naturally takes some more time."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" Will the Government assure us that at least this proposal will be finalized and that no other proposal will take its place? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" This proposal may be finalized provided it would not affect other interests."

Disciplinary action against organizers of the Teachers' Federation.

* 210 *Q.*—SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA (on behalf of Sri K. Anandan Nambiyar): Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Sri W. Jayarama Rao, a District Board Elementary School teacher, is suspended from service for organizing the Teachers' Union at Rayadrug, Bellary district;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that G.O. Ms. No. 416 of 24th February 1939 is being used by the departmental officers to take disciplinary action against the organizers of the Teachers' Federation; and

(*c*) whether the Government will be pleased to place the abovesaid Government Order on the table of the House?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" (*a*) The teacher was suspended from service not for organizing the teachers union at Rayadrug but for doing propaganda for teachers' strike in the departmental teachers association meant for the dissemination of literacy and professional knowledge amongst teachers.

" (*b*) No.

" (*c*) Two copies of the Government Order have been placed in the Library of the Legislature."

Storage of groundnut cakes in Tanjore.

* 211 *Q.*—SRI P. VENKATARAMA AYYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether groundnut cakes have been stored by the Agricultural department in the Tanjore Palace;

(*b*) if so, how many bags were so stored;

(*c*) for how long they have been stored;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the cakes have deteriorated in quality because of the unusually long storage and they have lost their manurial value;

(*e*) if so, whether the Government will take steps not to compel the landowners to purchase these deteriorated cakes with their bonus coupons; and

(*f*) the causes for the delay in the distribution of the cakes while there has been a great demand for them?

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

"(*b*) & (*c*) The rooms are being used as godowns from June 1947. Receipts and disposals are taking place simultaneously. A statement * is placed on the table showing the stock position from July to November 1947, with details of receipts and disposals.

"(*d*) The answer is in the negative.

"(*e*) Does not arise.

"(*f*) Land owners were waiting for the paddy bonus coupons. Hence there was some delay in the disposal."

SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"Sir, when the ryots are badly in need of manures, may I know why there is so much stock pending in every godown?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I am not aware of so much stock in every godown. The question relates to the Tanjore Palace godown and the statement shows that the pendency is very little."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"From the statement placed on the table of the House, I find that the opening balance for the month of July was 18,032 bags, the receipts were 2,002 bags, the disposals were only 5,656 bags leaving a balance of 14,378 bags May I ask the Government why they have been withholding a large quantity of stock when the people have been struggling to get manure?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The Government have not withheld any quantity. Fourteen thousand bags for Tanjore district are nothing. The Tanjore ryots were waiting for the issue of the bonus coupons thinking they need not pay for the manure."

Destruction of crops by pests in Kavali taluk, Nellore district.

*212 *Q.*—SRI G. KUMARASWAMI (on behalf of Sri V. Raghavayya): Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that crops over 30,000 acres of land were destroyed in Kavali taluk this year by a crop disease;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that there is no provision for remission in case of destruction by pests; and

(*c*) what steps the Government propose to take to give relief to the ryots?

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"(*a*) The Government understand that there was a reduction in yield of paddy crops in Kavali taluk, Nellore district, owing to damage by insect pest and poor monsoon rains.

* Printed as Appendix on page 601 infra.

"(*b*) Remission is permissible for local calamities under the provisions of Boards Standing Order No. 14.

"(*c*) The question of granting relief will be considered on receipt of remissions proposals from the Board of Revenue."

Medical aid to certain villages in Kasaragod taluk, South Kanara.

*213 *Q.*—MAHIN SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether the Government have received any proposal to open a dispensary and to keep a midwife at Paramanaokai in Chammanad village, Kasaragod taluk, South Kanara district, to the east of Kasaragod town on the other side of Chandragiri river?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"No proposal has so far been received."

MAHIN SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, are the Government aware of the difficulties of the people in the interior villages for want of a dispensary and midwife, especially when the river is in floods in the rainy season?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"If any proposal comes from the district board, it will be considered, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Sir, in view of the fact that most of the villages are not provided with trained midwives, will the Government collect all the existing midwives and give them training before they practise midwifery?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The Government have a proposal to train a larger number of midwives in the coming year."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Sir, is it a fact that the Government have a scheme to train male midwives?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I am not aware of such a proposal so far. If the hon. Member puts up a scheme, it will be considered." (Laughter.)

Protected water-supply to Peddapuram Municipality.

*214 *Q.*—S. MUHAMMED ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is a scheme, under consideration, to supply protected water to the Peddapuram Municipality in East Godavari district; and

(*b*) if so, when will that scheme come into operation and what is the cost estimated?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"(*a*) Yes.

"(*b*) Plans and estimates for the scheme are expected from the Chief Engineer in the course of about six months. It is not

possible to say now when the scheme will come into operation. The scheme is now roughly estimated to cost rupees 5·7 lakhs to instal and Rs. 10,000 annually to maintain."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Questions are over."

SRI R. VENKATA REDDI:—"Sir, on a point of information. On the 6th of this month, I gave notice of a short notice question regarding the plague situation in Chittoor district and you were pleased to admit it. I also reminded the Hon. Minister for Public Health afterwards twice. I should like to know whether it will ever see the light of day. The situation is very serious there."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think the Hon. Minister for Public Health may be able to say something on this."

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The question will be answered to-morrow."

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

II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION ON FAMINE CONDITIONS IN TINNEVELLY DISTRICT.

11-45 a.m. MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member, Mr. Kosalram, has given notice of an adjournment motion and it reads thus: 'The House do stand adjourned to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the famine conditions in the Tinnevelly district, especially in Tiruchendur, Srivaikuntam and Nanguneri taluks, due to soaring prices of paddy and other foodgrains.

"I wish to know what the Hon. Minister has to say in the matter before I admit the adjournment motion."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, I have got the necessary information. I shall give all the information at my disposal to hon. Members. After hearing my statement, I hope the hon. Member will withdraw his adjournment motion . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question of withdrawing the motion does not arise now. It has not been moved at all. I have not admitted the motion yet. I wish to know what the Hon. Minister has to say with regard to the motion."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I shall make a statement now."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"May I know whether the portfolio of famine is in charge of the Food Minister?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Famine is due to want of food."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"May I know whether famine and food mean the same thing?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"When people have no food, then famine automatically comes in."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister will now make the statement."

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, I was able to get into contact with the Collector of the Tinnevelly district over the phone yesterday in connexion with this adjournment motion and I got such information as he could give me. I shall supply hon. Members the information I have with me.

"The statement below will show that the Collector of Tinnevelly has opened relief shops in all the taluks and he has already been instructed to open as many as may be necessary with reference to local condtions. At one stage, that is, immediately on decontrol about the end of December last, he had about 500 relief shops but after the commencement of the harvest, he closed down some of the shops in the area where paddy was under harvest, as foodgrains were freely available and as there is need for conserving our slender stocks. The number of relief shops now existing is 327.

Statement showing food position in Tinnevelly district.

	Number of relief shops.	Offtake.		Stock on 13th March 1948.	
		Rice.	Millets.	Rice.	Millets.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
		TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.
Tenkasi	34	28	52	507	766
Srivaikuntam	23	46	52	324	717
Tiruchendur	31	42	69	312	842
Sankarankoil	55	25	40	119	1,110
Koilpatti	53	17	111	384	1,329
Tinnevelly rural	30	9	22	338	513
Ambasamudram ..	27	63	58	439	414
Nanguneri	72	87	151	190	540
Anjengo	2	8	10	32	75
Total ..	327	325	565	2,645	6,306
Statutorily rationed area	..	..	..	3,309	..

"The reason why the number of relief shops was reduced was that paddy was freely available. Relief shops are not necessary in areas where there is plenty of foodgrains. Therefore relief shops were cut down in number. The number of such shops then existing was 327.

"The statement will also show that the weekly offtake amounted to 325 tons of rice and 565 tons of millets in the rural areas and the stocks amounted to 2,645 and 6,306 tons respectively on 13th March 1948. This means that on the present basis of offtake, the Collector has got about 8 weeks' stocks of rice and 11 weeks' stocks of millets. There can be therefore no fear of starvation for want of stocks. The district was given a rice quota of 4,500, 5,000 and 6,500 tons of rice from Tanjore for January, February and March respectively and the January and February quotas have been moved in full in due time and 3,327 tons out of the March quota had also been moved up to 17th March 1948. The balance will be moved before the end of the month. There is therefore nothing wanting on the part of Government either in appreciating the position or in making arrangements for meeting

the situation. The Nutrition Officer also toured in Tinnevelly district recently and he found that the situation was better than what it was in December last.

"As regards the price of paddy, the Collector says that it was something like Rs. 80 per kottah (112 Madras measure) before decontrol, that it shot up to Rs. 100 immediately after decontrol but before the harvest and that it now ranges between Rs. 60 and Rs. 80. The recognised wholesale price of paddy is Rs. 8 a maund, which seems to give about Rs. 30 per kottah. The retail price which includes transport charges within the district and some margin of profit to the dealer will be more than Rs. 30 per kottah and will differ from place to place. This will apply only to trade and does not govern direct transactions between producers and consumers. It will not also be possible to enforce any price restriction between the producer and the consumer from the practical point of view, when we are finding it difficult to enforce the price even against merchants, who are required to maintain accounts and submit returns, etc. As a matter of fact, even when we had all the controls, the price was about Rs. 80 per kottah. As things stand, the paddy price seems to be about double or in some cases a little more than double. The only method by which we could control the price effectively after decontrol is by opening relief shops, whose object is two-fold. One is to render relief to the needy by making foodgrains available to them and the other is to bring down the market price by offering foodgrains to them at the controlled price. As mentioned already, the Collector has been asked to open as many relief shops as are considered necessary. The Collector has got full discretion in regard to this matter. Members of the Legislature can also suggest to the Collector places where they consider such shops necessary and I am sure the Collector will give due weight to their suggestions.

"I shall circulate to hon. Members a list of persons and associations from the Tinnevelly district who asked for decontrol.

"A demi-official, dated 19th March 1948, has been received from the Collector of Tinnevelly which shows that as a result of the compulsory issue of maize as part of the rations, villagers are inclined to avoid relief shops and are prepared to pay double the price for paddy instead of accepting rice and millets including maize from relief shops at the controlled prices. This seems to imply that they want the entire quantity of rations to be given in the shape of rice. This is, however, not possible partly because our rice position is not satisfactory and partly because our imports through the Government of India are largely in the shape of maize which will have to be consumed.

"The fact that there is famine is not substantiated by the figures at my disposal. If hon. Members are nervous about starvation prevailing in that district, I may assure hon. Members on behalf of the Government that we have at our disposal as much as

11 weeks' stock. There is no fear of any famine coming at all in the Tinnevelly district. I may also assure the House that there is movement of food into this Province from various parts of the world, from Argentina, from other Provinces in India, from East Punjab, and from Central Provinces and Bihar. The surplus stock in those Provinces is being collected, is earmarked and moved to the Madras Province. I may also state that nearly 100 wagons have been kept ready by the Government of India for movement of food-stuffs to any part of South India which may require foodgrains for meeting famine situation. I wish to inform hon. Members that the Food Minister of the Government of India has made a statement before the Indian Parliament that in the event of scarcity still continuing, he will personally come and stay in Madras for two months and see that starvation is averted by procuring necessary foodgrains and by moving the foodgrains to places where they are required. I have given the House all the assurances necessary and I cannot go beyond that. I can assure hon. Members from Tinnevelly, Ramnad and Madura that the Government of Madras are aware of the conditions in those places. We have informed the Government of India the correct state of affairs in those districts. I might also state that only yesterday the Civil Supplies Commissioner of this Province who went to Delhi to arrange for further stocks of rice, etc., told me yesterday that 1½ lakhs of tons of rice has been arranged to be moved from other Provinces to this Province for distribution in this Province. In the face of these facts I do not see any reason why anybody should be afraid. I give the assurance which the Leader of the Opposition wanted so badly. He need not be worried over the matter. Enough quantity of foodgrains is in stock in the districts and the Collectors concerned will order the movement of the foodgrains to whichever places it is necessary to do so."

MR. SPEAKER:—"In view of the statement made by the Hon. Minister, I wish to ask whether the hon. Member wishes to press his adjournment motion."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"நான் இது சம்மந்தமாக என்றிரண்டு சந்தேகங்களை மட்டும் கேட்டுவிட்டு press பண்ணுமல் விட்டுவிடுகிறேன். அநேகம் relief shops ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்று கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். சாதாரணமாக சில கடைகளிலிருந்து எனக்கு தந்தி வந்திருக்கிறது. 'Completely stopped paddy kottah 95 per cent people starving pray steps' இம்மாதிரியாக பல relief shops இருக்கு மிடங்களிலிருந்து தந்திகள் வந்திருக்கின்றன. ஆகையால் அவைகளை உடனே கவனிக்கவேண்டுமென்று கலெக்டருக்குச் சொல்வதோடு, இப் பொழுது தான்யம் மூன்று நாட்களுக்குத்தான் கொடுப்பதாக உத்திரவு கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள், ஒரு வார முழுமையும் கொடுக்கலாமா என்பதையும் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொல்லவேண்டும். இப்பொழுது 112 படி கொண்ட கோட்டை நெல் ரூ. 80 என்று விற்கப்படுகிறது என்று கலெக்டர் சொல்லி யிருப்பது சரி இல்லை. அது சம்மந்தமாக ஜனங்களிடத்திலிருந்து வரும் தந்தியிலிருந்து 112 படி கொண்ட கோட்டை 95 ரூபாய் முதல் 100 வரை விற்பதாக . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"நீங்கள் தனித்தனியாக சொல்லவேண்டும்."

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The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" நான் சொல்லிய statementஐ கவனித்துப் பார்த்தால் இதற்கு பதில் தெரியும். கலெக்டர் என்ன சொல்லி இருக்கிறார் என்பது அதில் விளங்கும். ரேஷன் ஷாப்புக்குத் தேவையான நெல் கிடைப்பது இல்லை. நெல் அதிகமாக விலைக்கு விற்கப்படுகிறது. அங்கங்கே relief shops ஏற்படுத்தி கட்டுப்பாடு விலைக்கு விற்றுவருகிறார்கள். ஏழை ஜனங்களுக்கும் தான்யம் கிடைக்காதவர்களுக்கும் குறைந்த விலைக்கும் கட்டுப்பாட்டு விலைக்கும் கொடுத்து வருகிறார்கள். நெல்லோடு புஞ்சை தான்யங்களையும் கொடுத்துவருவதால் அதை வாங்குவதில்லை. அதற்காக நெல்லைக்கூட வாங்கமாட்டேன் என்கிறார்கள் என்று தெரிய வருகிறது. அவர்களுக்கு அந்த கட்டுப்பாடு விலையில் பூரா நெல்லும் வேண்டுமென்றால் அப்படி கவர்ன்மெண்டால் கொடுக்கமுடியாது. அதற்கு வேண்டிய உணவு தான்யம் இல்லை. மத்ய அரசாங்கத்திலிருந்து புஞ்சை தான்யம் உள்பட தான் நமக்குக் கிடைக்கிறது. ஆகையால் அதையும் சேர்த்துதான் வாங்கி சாப்பிடும்படியான நிலைமையில் இருக்கிறார்கள். இன்னும் ஏழைகளுக்கு 3 நாட்களுக்கு தான் கொடுக்கிறோம். ஒரு வாரத்திற்கு கொடுக்கவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டால் அப்படி கொடுக்க முடியாது. எனென்றால் அதற்கு வேண்டிய கையிருப்பு இல்லை. பட்டினிக்கு விடாமல் எல்லோருக்கும் கொடுக்கும்படியாக ஒரே சீராக கொடுத்து வருகிறோம். பட்டினிக்கு விடாமல் எல்லோருக்கும் கிடைப்பதற்காக இந்த விதமாக கொடுத்துவரப்படுகிறது. அதற்குமேல் கொடுக்கமுடியாது. அதைத் தவிர அதற்கு மேல் கொடுத்தால் ஜனங்கள் சேகரித்து வைத்துக்கொள்ள வழி ஏற்படும். பிறகு ஏழைகளுக்கு பசியை தீர்க்க தான்யம் இருக்காது. அதிக விலைக்கு விற்பதால் அந்த விலையை குறைப்பதற்கு குறைந்த விலையில் சர்க்கார் 3 நாட்களுக்கு கட்டுப்பாடு விலைக்கு கொடுத்துவருகிறார்கள். இப்பொழுது எல்லோருக்கும் நெல் வேண்டுமென்கிறார்கள். அப்படி பூராவும் நெல் கொடுக்க முடியாமல் இருக்கிறோம். அதனால் அவர்கள் வெளியில் பூரா நெல்லையும் அதிக விலை கொடுத்து வாங்கிவருகிறார்கள். எல்லோருக்கும் தான்யம் கிடைப்பதற்காகத்தான் இந்த முறையில் கொடுத்துவருகிறார்கள். இப்படி கொடுப்பதையும் கவர்ன்மெண்டு கையிலிருக்கும் வரையில்தான் கொடுப்பார்கள்."

Sri K. T. KOSALRAM :—" மதுரை, இராமனாதபுரம், திருநெல்வேலி இந்த மூன்று ஜில்லா உணவு கமிட்டிகளும் ஏகோபித்து இந்த மூன்று ஜில்லாக்களிலும் inter-district controlஐ cancel செய்யவேண்டி ஒரு தீர்மானம் வந்தால் அப்படியே cancel செய்துவிடுகிறோம் என்று சொன்னார்கள். அப்படி inter-district movement controlஐ ரத்து செய்வதைப்பற்றி அரசாங்கம் என்ன முயற்சி எடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள் என்று சொல்ல வேண்டும். நான் இந்த motionஐ வாபீஸ் வாங்கிக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

The Hon. Dr. T.S.S. RAJAN :—" கனம் நண்பர் சொன்ன பிரச்னையைப் பற்றி கலெக்டர்களுடைய கூட்டத்தில் போன வாரத்தில் விவாதிக்கப்பட்டது. அப்படி செய்தால் அபாயத்தை தான் உண்டுபண்ணும் என்று சொன்னார்கள். ஜில்லாவுக்கு ஜில்லா நகர்ந்துபோகும் பிரச்னை ஏற்பட்டால் அதில் எல்லோருக்கும் அதிலும் முக்யமாக மதுரை, இராமனாதபுரம், திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாக்களுக்கு மிகவும் அபாயம் ஏற்படும் என்று சொன்னார்கள். அப்படிச் செய்தால் கொஞ்சம் கொஞ்சம் இருக்கும் இடத்திலிருந்து வெளியூருக்குப் போய்விடும் என்றும் வியாபாரிகள் அதிக விலை கொடுத்து வாங்கி அள்ளிக்கொண்டுபோய் விடுவார்கள் என்றும் சொன்னார்கள். இப்பொழுது இருப்பதுபோல் இருந்தால் ஒரே சீராக எல்லா இடங்களுக்கும் கொண்டுபோக முடியும் என்றும், பரவலாக எல்லா ஏழைகளுக்கும் தான்யம் கொடுக்கமுடியும் என்றும், அப்படி கொடுத்தால்தான் ஏழைகளின் பட்டினிக்கு விடாமலிருக்கலாம் என்றும் சொன்னார்கள். இன்னும் நெருக்கடி தீரும் வரையில் ஜில்லாவுக்கு ஜில்லா தான்யங்கள் போகும்படி வழி செய்யக்கூடாது என்றும் சொன்னார்கள். இல்லாவிட்டால் பஞ்சம் வந்துவிடும் என்றும் சொன்னார்கள். ஆகையால் அபாயம்வரும் என்று கலெக்டர்கள் அபிப்பிராயப்படுவதால் அப்படி செய்ய முடியாமல் இருக்கிறோம்."

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Srimathi V. LAKSHMI AMMAL :—" மந்திரி அவர்கள் எல்லா இடங்களிலும் relief shops open பண்ணி இருப்பதாக சொன்னார்கள். ஒவ்வொரு தாலூகாவிலும் 30, 27 shops open பண்ணி இருப்பதாக ரிப்போர்ட்டிலிருந்து சொன்னார்கள். அங்குள்ள ஜனங்கள் எல்லோருக்கும் அந்த relief shopsலிருந்து உணவு கிடைப்பது இல்லை. அதுபோக பாக்கிப் பேர்களுக்கு உணவு வேண்டுமென்றால் அவர்கள் எங்கே போய் வாங்குவது என்று அவர்களைக் கேட்கிறேன். மற்ற தான்யங்களை ஜனங்கள் வாங்கவில்லையென்று மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். மற்ற தான்யங்களையும் கவர்ன்மெண்டு control விலைக்கு வாங்க எல்லோரும் தயாராக இருக்கிறார்கள். எல்லோருக்கும் சரியாக . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" நீங்கள் சந்தேகத்தை மட்டும்தான் கேட்கலாம்."

Srimathi V. LAKSHMI AMMAL :—" எல்லோருக்கும் உணவு அங்கே கிடைப்பதாக இல்லை. வியாபாரிகள் தான்யத்தை கமித்துவைத்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இன்னும் ஜூன் மாதம், ஆகஸ்ட் மாதங்களில் இரண்டு மடங்குக்கு விற்பதற்காக சேர்த்துவைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். ஒரு ஜில்லாவிலிருந்து மற்றொரு ஜில்லாவிற்குக் கொண்டுபோக வசதி இருக்கவேண்டும். இப்பொழுது மதுரையிலிருந்து ஏராளமான தான்யங்களை வாங்கிக்கொண்டு வந்து ரூபாய்க்கு ½ படி என்று விற்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால் எல்லா இடத்திலும் ஒரே மாதிரியாக decontrol செய்தால் சௌகர்யமாக இருக்கும். இன்னும் relief shops அதிகமாக ஏற்படுத்தி ஜனங்கள் வாங்கிக்கொள்வதற்கு சௌகர்யம் செய்யவேண்டும். இதற்கு கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் அபிப்பிராயம் கூறவேண்டும் ".

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" இவ்வளவு நேரம் நான் இதைத் தான் வெகு விவரமாகச் சொன்னேன."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" நீங்கள் இங்கிலீஷில் சொன்னீர்கள். What I said was that the statement of the Hon. Minister was in English. That is why the hon. Lady Member was not able to follow the statement and I sympathize with her. "

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, in reply to Mr. Kosalram, I made a statement in Tamil. Although I read this report in English as it was reported to me, in my reply to Mr. Kosalram in Tamil I thought I made the point sufficiently clear. I am quite prepared to repeat what I said, not once but a number of times even, if the Speaker asks me to do. It is not my intention to prevent anybody from understanding what I said in English, but they should understand what the Government have done to relieve the situation. I have not yet replied the lady member. Shall I answer her in Tamil or English, Sir? "

* **Sri P. NATESAN** :—" Sir, the statement has been so long that it has not been possible for the hon. Lady Member to follow what the Hon. Minister has read. I, therefore, request you to see if you can induce the Hon. Minister to place the statement on the table of the House along with a Tamil or Telugu translation if possible, because it is a very important matter dealing with the people and people would like to know it and there are also some hon. Members who cannot understand English. I would therefore suggest that the statement may be translated in both Tamil and Telugu and placed in the hands of hon. Members."

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I have no objection to translate it. If only hon. Members will give me time, I can

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have it cyclostyled in as many languages as the House may require and submit copies to members. I hope to be able to place it on the table of the House by to-morrow morning, and such member will receive a copy of the whole thing."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Sir, it is a very complicated matter. The Hon. Minister has stated that the three District Collectors of Ramnad, Madura and Tinnevelly were against the removal of inter-district restrictions. I want to know whether the Collector of Ramnad also was against it, because he himself presided over a meeting which voted for the removal of restrictions. I therefore ask the Hon. Minister to let me know whether he is also against it."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I cannot divulge what happened at the Collectors' meeting."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Lady Member asked for a point of information."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I shall reply her in Tamil."

* * * *

" நான் எதில் வேண்டுமானலும் சொல்லுகிறேன். முழுதும் controlஐ எடுக்கக்கூடாது என்று ஆட்சேபணை பண்ணி இருந்தால் controlஐ எடுத்திருக்கவேண்டிய அவசியம் இல்லே. ஆனல் திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவிலிருந்து என்னிடத்தில் வந்திருக்கிற பெடிஷன் மொத்தம் கணக்கு எடுக்கும்போது எவ்வளவோ முனிசிபாலிடியிலிருந்தும் எத்தனையோ பேர்களிடமிருந்தும் எவ்வளவோ கமிட்டிகளிடமிருந்தும் எல்லோரும் எடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று வற்புறுத்தி கட்டாயப்படுத்தினர்கள். கீழ்க்கண்டவர்கள் தீர்மானங்கள் அனுப்பி இருக்கிறார்கள் :

" P. சொக்கலிங்கம், அம்பாசமுத்திரம் பூரா ஜில்லாவும், திருநெல்வேலியில் அநேகம் பேர்கள் கையெழுத்திட்ட மகஜர் பூரா ஜில்லாவும், சேத்தூர் P. குருசாமி பூரா ஜில்லாவும், கையெழுத்தில்லாத மனு ஒன்று பூரா ஜில்லாவும், பாபனசம் ஒஹட்ரோ எலெக்டிரிக் தொழிலாளர்கள் யூனியன் தீர்மானம் பூரா Province, கோவில்பட்டி லாயல் டெக்ஸ்டைல் மில்ஸ் லேபர் யூனியன், கோவில்பட்டியில், நாங்குனேரி தாலூகா P. வெங்கடேசம் பிள்ளே நாங்குனேரி தாலூகாவில், கோவில்பட்டி பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டு எக்ஸிகூடிவ் ஆபீசர், கோவில்பட்டி அர்பன் வரியாவில் மட்டில், கோவில்பட்டி பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டின் 26—12—1947 தேதி நடவடிக்கைப்படி கோவில்பட்டி அர்பன் வரியாவில் மட்டில், திருநெல்வேலி எ. எஸ். குப்புசாமி அய்யரும், ஜனப் ராவுத்தரும் பூரா ஜில்லாவிலும் partial control வேண்டுமென்று, President, Rationing Committee, Tinnevellyயும், திருநெல்வேலி வீரபாகுவும், திருநெல்வேலியில் பாளையங்கோட்டை முனிசிபல் சேர்மன் பாளையங்கோட்டை டவுனில், புதுக்கோட்டை ஸ்ரீராம காங்ரஸ் கமிட்டி பூரா ஜில்லாவிலும், தூத்துக்குடி K. சுப்பிரமணியன், தூத்துக்குடி டவுனில். இவ்வளவு பேர்களும் எடுத்துவிட வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லி இருக்கிறார்கள். வராளமான பொதுஜன அபிப்பிராயத்தின்படி எடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதற்குத் தகுந்தபடி relief shops கொடுக்கிறேரும் என்றும் சொல்லி இருக்கிறேரும். கனம் லெட்சுமி அம்மாள் 25, 30 கடைகள்தானு என்று கேட்கிறார்கள். இன்னும் அதிகம் வேண்டுமானலும் ஏற்படுத்துகிறேரும். 30 இல்லே, 370 இல்லே, 3,700 relief shops வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டாலும் நாங்கள் ஏற்படுத்த தயாராக இருக்கிறேரும். அவர்கள் எங்கெங்கு தேவையாக இருக்கிறது என்று கலெக்டருக்கு எழுதினலும் உடனே அவர் ஏற்படுத்திக் கொடுப்பார்கள் என்பதை தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

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* SRI P. NATESAN:—" Sir, the hon. Member, Mr. Batchelor is not able to understand what the hon. Member said in Tamil and he has been asking me what he said. That is why I suggested that the statement may be furnished in English, Tamil and Telugu."

MR. B. W. BATCHELOR:—" On a point of information, Sir, அது மெய்யல்ல. எனக்குத் தமிழ் நன்றாய் தெரியும்."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Mover is not pressing his motion."

III.—MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL.

MR. SPEAKER:—" I have to announce to the House that I have received the following message from the Hon. the President of the Legislative Council:—

' that in accordance with rule 108 *of the Council Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras Prohibition (Amendment) Bill,* 1948, *as agreed to by the Council without any amendment and signed by me.'* "

IV.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—*cont.*

DEMAND XXI—INDUSTRIES—*cont.*

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" On a point of information, Sir, I wish to know whether the medical demand will be reached, because it is very low down in the list, I am afraid, it may not be reached, unless the order is changed."

MR. SPEAKER:—" It is in the hands of the Hon. Leader of the House and as soon as he comes I shall inform him of the request."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Since Medical is an important demand, I request that the order may be changed so that it can be discussed."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I wish to inform the House that if hon. Members follow my suggestion, namely, if one or two speakers on this side and one or two on the other side, take part in each demand, it is possible to discuss all the demands. But, I see a number of members want to take part in the debates under each demand and I do not think it is possible to finish all the demands. I am afraid, some of them will have to be guillotined, unless hon. Members co-operate with me and see that not more than five members speak on each demand, i.e., three on the Opposition side and two on the other side."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—" Sir, we are supposed to be the Opposition here and the Government are bringing forward Bills and resolutions and all sorts of things. The Ministerialists have plenty of opportunity of taking part in the discussion of these things at their party meeting and also talking to individual Ministers. I therefore suggest that half-a-dozen members of the Opposition and one member from the other side may be allowed to speak on each motion, so that more opportunity may be given to the Opposition to represent their grievances."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" It has been the custom here to allow more members of the Opposition side than of the Ministerial side. This is the custom that I have been following."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" The trouble, Sir, is that so much time is taken by the members on the other side on speaking without restraint, so that we are not able to speak as much as we would like. Of course, you can certainly limit the time for speaking in accordance with your desire. The fact is that since the other side takes part in the debates, we cannot speak."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The other side cannot be prevented from taking part in debates, though it is open to the hon. Member to ask that some more time may be given to the Members of the Opposition."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" Of course, they can take as much time as they like, but my personal request to you, Sir, is that we, being in a hopeless minority, should be given some more time to talk than the members on the other side."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The practice in the House of Commons is that more time is given to the Opposition and that is what I am following here."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—" On a point of order, Sir. I handed over an adjournment motion to you, Sir, and I do not know what has happened to it?"

MR. SPEAKER:—" I want the House to understand the position. The hon. Member gave notice of an adjournment motion. He came to me and I told him it would be taken up to-morrow. He agreed to that. Now, he comes forward and asks me what I have done with it. I may inform the hon. Member that the Hon. the Leader of the House has consented in writing to its being taken up to-morrow and I accordingly advise the hon. Member. I am sure the Hon. Leader of the House would have also informed the member that it would be taken up to-morrow. In spite of all this, I cannot understand the hon. Member standing up now and openly raising a point of order and asking me what is being done with it."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—" No, no, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Order, order. The House will now proceed with the next item on the agenda."

12-15 p.m. M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Minister for Industries in commending the Demand for the acceptance of the House said that in spite of the efforts of Government for accelerating the pace of industrialisation of the Province, the result has been very unsubstantial and that the pace is slow. I admit, Sir, they have got difficulties. But what I want to urge is that there is room for more enthusiasm on the part of Government. One of the ways, a much easier way than in England, for accelerating industrialisation of the Province is to pay more attention to the mining industry. Time and again, Sir, I have been prompting the Government to take steps to pay more attention

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to this part of industrialisation of the Province. I ask him whether Government feel satisfied that the present Geological Survey of the Province is satisfactory and efficient and is such that it will meet the needs of the industrialisation of the Province. In answer to one of my questions he said that there is a Report of the Geological Survey of India, thereby giving the impression that what is to be done in this connection has been done. I want to tell him how that is not the case. Of course the Geological Survey of India publish reports from time to time but the reports from a lay man's point of view are of a very meagre and cursory nature. Once I asked during question time whether he thinks that those reports will serve as a starting point for mining industry in the Province but he said that he could not answer that question. The impression which has been unfortunately created is that there are sufficient materials for the mining industry to go upon. As I have already told you, Sir, it is not the case. The Geologists were responsible for a theory which has been since exploded that South India being the most ancient land part of the earth, all minerals such as reserves of oil, coal, mica, etc., have got burnt up. This theory has been exploded by the discovery long ago of mica in this Province and of the discovery of lignite recently in very large quantities in South Arcot. Sir, my point is that the present Reports of Geologists have been based on such theories and there is not much use in carrying on an intensive or extensive survey of this part of the country. I want to disabuse the mind of the Hon. Minister of the fad of the Geologists; there are other theories in the field and there are these facts which disprove such theories. Government must really pay more attention to this side of industrialization and it will pay them more and more. Though the Government have not been paying proper attention to the mining industry, they accidentally discovered a large deposit of lignite in South Arcot; that came in their way by accident, Sir, but even then, I say that the Government have not been taking suitable and efficient steps to exploit this huge deposit for enhancing the wealth of the Province. This is a very important item and is a source of wealth to the Province. It is said that there are 500 million tons of deposits of lignite in South Arcot; this is nothing but a modest estimate and I am sure if you investigate it further the deposit will be larger in quantity than has been estimated at present. Even assuming that it is only 500 million tons of lignite I shall show what it means to the Province. The price of coal is Rs. 50 per ton; let us put the value of this brown coal at half that value, or even less than that, namely Rs. 20, it comes to 10,000 millions of rupees and that amount will be added to the wealth of the Province on account of this one item of mining industry alone; that is to say, it will add Rs. 200 per head of the population, child, male and female, all the population of the Province. That is the average increase of wealth per head. This is only so far as all the people are concerned but if you take only the labourers and the people engaged in exploiting the deposit, it will go to thousands and therefore, it is a pity that the Government has not been giving due attention to this item of industry. I have been asking, Sir, what steps they were taking in the field next year. This year I find they have provided 538,000

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for investigation. I do not know what kind of investigation they are going to make and the public are wondering whether sufficient and necessary steps are being taken to exploit the important source of wealth. That is what I want to impress upon the Government. The Government have been neglecting the mining side of the industry of the Province.

"I find from the Budget that a provision of Rs. 1,000 has been made for scholarship available for students who go to the Dhanbad School of Mines. That school as I said once before on the floor of the House is the only school of its kind east of the Suez Canal and a somewhat similar training is being given in the Benares University. Apart from these institutions, we have no other training centres for mining engineers and geologists and yet we find that the Government of Madras have made only a provision of scholarship of Rs. 1,000 per annum available at Dhanbad and Rs. 600 at Benares University. That shows the measure of interest which the Government takes in this respect.

"Last year they had a provision for the grading of mica but this year, Sir, there is no provision at all. I do not know whether the provision they had been previously making under this head was intended as a war measure. If they think so, I say they are mistaken. Because of the slackness in grading our mica industry suffers in the world markets in the matter of value. The Government must help the industry in keeping up the standard of the mica that is supplied from this Province. It is a very valuable article and it is very important in the matter of defence of the country. Government must take all necessary steps to see that this industry is kept up to date.

"I find that a provision of Rs. 12,800 has been made for the investigation of minerals; this amount is being provided for chemists. I searched the Budget to find whether they have made any provision for geological work in this field. I think some items might have escaped my notice but I may say with some amount of certainty, Sir, that they have not paid any attention to this side of the industry, that is, geological survey and geological work, that is so necessary for exploiting the resources of this Province.

"The Hon. Minister in his speech commending the Demand referred to nationalization of industries and he said that Government's idea is only to nationalize what he calls defence industries and certain heavy industries. Then in the course of his statement, he says that Government want to impress upon the industrialists to realize that industries were meant primarily for the benefit of the community at large and profits were incidental and should be shared equitably between all the people who had been the agents of production and that certain proposals were under the consideration of Government which would be implemented very soon. This is a very important matter. I do not know whether it is a state secret but Government might well have given an inkling or an indication of what these proposals are. Sir, the people of the country are vitally interested in such proposals and it is due to this House that Government should have given more information on this subject.

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"The Hon. Minister proposed to prevent the formation of monopolies in the chemical and heavy industries of the Province; I would go further and say that it is the duty of the Government to see that no monopoly exists whatever and that Government should take every step to see that monopolies are broken and no new monopolies are formed in any sphere of the industries in the Province. Human beings must not be exploited by human beings and any advantage that accrues from industrial development must, even as the Government have said, be shared by the people as agents of production in an equitable manner and that is why I said the House would be very pleased to know what the steps to be taken were for implementing their proposals in this regard.

"I wish to refer to one small administrative matter. I find that the fish liver oil industry receives Rs. 110 thousands for tools, materials and stores—the total expenditure under this head being Rs. 2,92,900. For such an industry as this they have provided a Business Manager. I find—I do not understand their logic—that they have not provided a Business Manager for the Kerala Soap Institute. I do not know, Sir, if the Business Manager has been removed this year. The total expenditure that has been budgetted for this Institute is 1,488 thousands as compared with about 3 lakhs of rupees for the fish liver oil industry. And yet the Government have not realized the importance of providing a Business Manager for this Soap Institute. Soap industry is a very important industry having a big future before it. Government must see to it that it is developed and is not retarded in any way. 12-30 p.m.

"Coming to the Industrial Planning Committee of which I was a member, that committee has submitted its report. But the report has not been published. Meanwhile certan criticisms have been made about the report. I request our friends to wait until the report is published. I request them to reserve their criticism until they know what the report is. I myself was a member of the committee, and I have written a minute of dissent along with some others. I hope Government will consider the recommendations of that committee and will take necessary steps to implement the recommendations as quickly as possible and thereby develop the Province industrially, a Province which is described as backward till now. There is no justification for this Province to be backward industrially. I say there is practically no room for it. If only our Ministers wish it our Province can at least be abreast of the other Provinces industrially, if not ahead of them. With these words, Sir, I commend the cut motion."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me congratulate the Hon. Minister for Industries on the well-reasoned speech he has made while moving this Demand. Sir, if I take part in this debate, it is of course to bring to the notice of the hon. Members of this House how thoroughly confused ideas are in regard to what is called 'nationalization'. For one thing, Sir, regarding the taking over of private electric supply companies a statement appeared in the newspapers the other day as to how Government are drafting a Bill to facilitate the nationalization of such schemes.

The result of that announcement was that frantic letters are pouring in from all the shareholders of those companies asking what the policy of the Government is and also what the reaction of the company is on that. So I simply want the Government that this word 'nationalization' ought not to be used for a considerable time until the all-India policy is known.

"Coming to this Province, I want to invite the attention of the Hon. Minister to a firm which exists here known as 'Radio Electrical Engineering Company'. This company has a lot of money by way of public shares, and the Government have taken shares in it to the extent of two or three lakhs to-day. Owing to mismanagement, Government have taken over the running of the company and have appointed an Engineer to be in charge of it to run the show. Now, I ask, is it Government business to get into private ventures? Again, Sir, the component parts of a radio are all being ordered through a foreign firm. Why? Because, the Engineer,—I do not know the person myself—evidently is not in a position to frame circuit diagrams. He wants the help of a technical man. He goes to the Philip's people who are dealing in radio parts from a foreign firm, and asks them to help him in framing circuit diagrams and in return, he says, 'you will get orders from the Government of Madras for all the component parts.' Now, I ask, is this fair? I learn the Tatas have begun to manufacture the component parts. Why should we not get knowledge from them; why should we go to a foreign company? I do not know whether I am right or wrong in my information.

"Then, Sir, I find the Government of Madras have put in a tender for taking over the Andhra Paper Mills. The mills have obsolete machinery; a number of managers have mismanaged the mills; it is all a failure. Who is going to run the mills on behalf of the Government? Who is to take charge of the concern? I have been complaining that the radio parts are all being purchased from a foreign firm; now the same thing will happen in the mills also. Government will put the money; all the machinery and accessories will be purchased from a foreign firm; and ultimately it will be a failure. Now, why should Government venture in taking part in commercial activities? We people who are in charge of firms, have a salary for us, we have a commission for our work, we know unless we work hard we cannot earn profit. If you appoint a Government servant and pay him Rs. 1,500, he will come at 11 a.m. remain there till 1 p.m., go for lunch at 1 p.m., then come back at 2 p.m., and go home at 5 p.m. (Laughter.) At the end of the month he will draw his salary. He is there in charge of the Government fund; and as long as he is there, he will see no defalcation, no misappropriation takes place. But a commercial man's position is different. My appeal to the Hon. Minister is to allow private enterprise to come in. Give them money and let them do business.

"Sir, this takes me on to the Industrial and Financial Corporation. Out of the capital of two crores, 51 per cent of it is to come from Government. I ask the Hon. Minister, who is to contribute the remaining 49 per cent? Is the Government going to get it from

the public? Or is it only a plan or announcement to the Assembly that the Industrial and Financial Corporation is to come into being shortly? If it is so, may I ask him when it is to come through? If it is to come within twelve months from this date, I may tell you, you will never get the 49 per cent.

"Then, Sir, I want the cottage industries to be developed. Heavy industries it is difficult to develop now for the simple reason that we find it difficult to get the materials. Even if we get funds and place them with the big manufacturers in England and America they won't be able to furnish the machinery within the time specified. So till that time, we have to develop cottage industries wherever there is electricity available. I wish Government take some expert assistance. One or two years ago in this House I was speaking about manufacture of small things, particularly electrical accessories, such as plugs and other component parts, the details of which, I do not want to weary the House. They can all be manufactured in this land itself. If only Government put a special officer in charge to study them there is a very big business for Government. There are meters for measuring supply of energy in the case of domestic services. That is a specialist's job. I wish the Hon. Minister takes special interest in trying to manufacture this. I am now talking of industries which can come into being as soon as possible. If it is a question of electrical industry, I would suggest to the Hon. Minister for Industries and the Hon. Minister for Public Works this: if you want a technical expert to advise Government in electricity there is none better than Sir Henry Howard, a man of sterling character who has done much to develop your electrical resources, and due to untiring efforts, go where you like in South India, you can see electricity there. You give Sir Henry Howard this idea and he will give a beautiful programme and he will find also necessary officials in the department to take up this programme. If you start to-day it will begin to work in two years, and the materials not available now will be very easily available then.

"I wish to put before the Hon. Minister the method of Ascu preservation of wood. The Government of Madras have got this formula. I suggest they begin treating the jungle wood and timber in this way, and utilize them in house construction. This preservative is being used in foreign countries. This small industry can be well taken up by Government. Any chemical engineer in Government department can handle it. The recipe is in the form of powder. I suggest the manufacture of powder be undertaken on a wide scale and made available for the construction of houses.

"Sir, I come now to the labour policy. Only I find in the newspapers to-day that the textile mills in Coimbatore are going to work from to-day onwards. For the last two months they have been idle. That means so much loss in production, so much loss in wealth and so much bitterness for the people. I want the Hon. Minister to see that he gets the co-operation of labour. It is all right to say that the days of capitalists are gone; they cannot make

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any profit. But I would like to say this: the capitalist does not want to make profit; he wants only some fair wages for the trouble he takes in furnishing the capital and what you get out of capital. Labour cannot earn wages without the help of capital. Each is interdependent on the other; it is a sort of vicious circle. Arrangements must be made with labour to see that strikes and lock-outs do not recur frequently, which have been interfering with production. It is no good grumbling that things are not satisfactory. One thing about our Labour. Labour wants less work and more wages. The labour leaders always make it a point to say, 'look to England, look at America, how much wages they are paid, how many hours they work?' But the leaders forget the fact that in England and America labour is turning out five times more work than is done here in India; and so no wonder they get better wages! If only our labour leaders are induced to talk to labour and ask them to produce more, strikes and lock-outs won't recur.

12-45 p.m. "Sir, there is a great disparity between agricultural income and industrial income. Unless you are going to see that sufficient employment is found for people in villages you cannot solve this labour trouble, because they all come away from village to town; they are neither here nor there, and so agriculture suffers. This can be arrested by employing labour available in villages in cottage industries. I want Government to realise that employers are not tyrannical towards the employees. I want the Hon. Minister to realise that it is not correct to say that everything is not right with the employer. I want a minimum basic wage to be given to the labourers, and there is plenty of man-power now available, but we are not using it satisfactorily. As I said, higher wages for fewer men with a high degree of efficiency is all right. It is no good simply asking for higher wages and shorter hours without doing work. It is no good comparing ourselves with England or America where conditions are better.

"I wish that the points I have mentioned receive the personal attention of the Hon. Minister. I would particularly like to know why the Government have tendered for the Andhra Paper Mills and what arrangements have been made should the tender be accepted by the Liquidator appointed by the High Court. I want the Hon. Minister to explain also how the Radio and Electrical Company is working now under the Government auspices, what those engineers are doing, and why all those things could not be purchased from the local manufacturers.

"With these words, I support the Demand."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the cut motion.

"It was perhaps during the previous Congress regime that the idea of an Industrial Finance Corporation was mooted. I do not know how far it has developed. As far as I know, no progress has been made till now in that respect.

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"I remember pretty well that in the previous budget, the then Finance Minister held out a promise that the Government would start cement and other industries. But till to-day we do not find any attempt on the part of the Government to start industries. In moving the Demand, the Hon. Minister for Industries dwelt at length on the question of nationalization versus private enterprise. Even though he paid lip sympathy to the idea of nationalization, he made it quite clear that he was out and out for private enterprise and he gave a promise that the Government would support those who would start industries. This is what he said:

> Most of the ardent supporters of this campaign are bitter opponents of the Government machinery and lose no opportunity to condemn Government officers. Do they realise, I wonder, that nationalisation means further control by the Government, i.e., by their officers.

The Government are being criticized because nowadays their officers are almost inefficient. Here I should like to point out what my idea of nationalization is. Nationalization does not consist of merely taking over private enterprises. Then the State itself will turn into a private capitalist. The underlying principle is that the people should get things at a cheaper rate and the working classes should get higher wages. Unless we have complete control over power producing plants and electrical corporations, we cannot control private enterprises effectively. So the most important thing in the scheme of nationalization is that all key industries should be nationalised.

"Textile industry is a major industry in our Province to-day. In war time the mill-owners minted money like anything both in the blackmarket and in the fair market. They have exploited not only the working classes but also the consumers and earned crores and crores of rupees. We find that there is much labour trouble in textile industry. Whenever an adjudicator recommends an increase in the minimum wage and other facilities to the workers, the capitalists come forward with retrenchment and increase the workload. It is unfortunate that a popular Government should support the capitalists in increasing the workload. The Government must realize how impossible it is for the labour to carry on with the increased workload. By retrenching staff, unemployment is created. Without solving that problem, the Government go to the rescue of the capitalists and effectively snub the working classes by issuing orders under section 144 and adopting repressive measures. The Government openly go to the rescue of the Coimbatore mill magnates. If the Hon. Minister means to settle the industrial disputes, there is no use of saying that the workers must accept the increased workload. On the other hand, he must guarantee to the workers their job, minimum wage and other facilities. I suggest that the textile industry should be nationalized without further delay. In taking over the mills, the owners need not be paid any compensation because they have already earned crores and crores of rupees quite disproportionate to their investment. Until our Government nationalise that industry, the financial position of this Province will be weak.

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"The hon. Mr. P. Natesan referred to the dearth of expert technical personnel with reference to the taking over of the paper industry. If the Government have not got technical experts, they can train such experts. In the meantime, they can utilise the experts who have been serving the private capitalists. Efficiency is not the monopoly of private capitalists alone. If the Government take it seriously, they can easily run the industries more efficiently than any individual capitalist."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has got one more minute."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Mine is the only opposition so far as this Demand is concerned. So I request that I may be allowed some more time."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Simply because the hon. Member is in opposition, he should not think that he can speak at any length. Because he represents a party I have allowed him to speak."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I will simply mention the points, as I have no time to dilate on them.

"The Non-Power Factories Act has not been given effect to as yet. As you, Mr. Speaker, know, we debated the Bill for a number of days and it allows the workers 36 days of leave with pay.

"The previous Minister for Labour, the Hon. Dr. Rajan, promised that there would be a tripartite conference. With his giving up the portfolio, I do not know whether the idea of the conference also has been given up. I do not know what the Government are going to do in this matter.

"Lastly, I refer to the functioning of the adjudicators and the Conciliation Boards. The way in which they work has become a public scandal. They will take one year to submit their report and another year will be taken to implement it. Meanwhile the industrialists will close down the factory concerned and discharge the labourers. Whenever an adjudicator gives an award, the capitalists immediately cry that it is impossible to carry on any further under the terms of the award and the Government give them protection. Whenever the workers resort to strike, the Government act only in the interests of the capitalists."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for allowing me an opportunity to say a few words as the last Speaker on this Demand.

"I have great pleasure in congratulating the Hon. Minister for Industries on his speech in moving the Demand. I am very glad to know that he has a proposal to start iron industry in Salem because plenty of iron ore is available there. Every industry requires raw materials, capital, and expert technicians. Raw materials are already there. There will be no dearth of capital when the Government start an industry. But no industry can be run without technical experts. Therefore I expected some provision in the budget for training experts either by sending our men

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to foreign countries to learn the technique of industries so that, when they return, they may help to effectively organize our industries, or by making some other arrangement. Besides iron ore, several raw materials are available in plenty in South India. Magnesite is available in plenty very near Salem. A foreign company, the Magnesite Syndicate, is making a huge profit. Though the company gets huge profit, the labourers are not well paid and well looked after. In the interests of the public as well as the labourers now employed in that industry, I think that the Government must take over the concern and manage it themselves.

"Textile industry is a major industry of this Province. Though Madras is producing surplus yarn, yet the handloom weavers of this Province are suffering from scarcity of yarn for their looms. Therefore I urge upon the Government to make necessary arrangements with the Central Government to retain the yarn that is required for use in this Province and export only the surplus to other provinces.

"The agency for working controls is highly unsatisfactory. The Textile Commissioner's Office is not at all working satisfactorily. That office has disobeyed the orders of the Government in various cases. They never interpret the orders correctly; they interpret them only in their own interests and issue instructions accordingly. The result is that the poor merchants and weavers suffer. The Government must take note of the misconduct of the staff in the Textile Commissioner's Office from the highest officer to the lowest peon and prevent it. I am prepared to prove such misconduct even in a court of law.

"Therefore I would request the Hon. Minister, that if the Government are going to re-introduce rationing under any circumstances, they should fix the price and allow free trade to go on, and they should also take precaution against hoarding and excess profiteering.

"Then again, Sir, one word about labour conditions. Though 1 p.m. there is enough capital and though there are enough raw materials and expert advisers, still the problem of labour is very difficult indeed in South India. Unfortunately some of the labourers are under the influence of the Communists and are resorting to strikes at any time. These Communists do not care either for the interests of the people or of the country. They simply want to spread the gospel of communism and spread discontent among labour. Therefore they simply tempt the individual labourers with all sorts of false hopes. Suppose for instance there is a labourer working in a mill. The Communist goes to him and tells him that he should not be content with whatever wages he is paid but agitate for more. He induces him with all sorts of temptations and inculcates the doctrine of communism. The poor ignorant labourer falls a pray to these machinations and sooner or later, he joins the communist movement and resorts to strike and bring about all sorts of troubles. That is the communist gospel. I would request the

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Government to take strong precautions against the intrusion of these communists and see that no industrial or labour troubles occur anywhere.

"With these words, I once again thank the Hon. Minister for Industries for the schemes he has placed before the House and for moving the Demand and I support it."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad that hon. Members have been very generous in their criticisms against some of the provisions under this head and they have also been very kind and have made very useful and constructive suggestions for the Government to consider.

"Sir, I should like first to take up the question of nationalization. My hon. Friend, Mr. Venkateswarlu, said that the Government are only for private enterprises. If he had carefully followed what I said in my opening speech, he would not have said like that. It was definitely stated that the policy of this Government and that of the Government of India is to see that such of those industries which are necessary for the safety of the country are State-owned, State-managed and State-controlled. I also said that such heavy industries like iron, steel, fertilisers, chemicals and other similar industries, which for want of capital could not be started by private enterprise and in which it is not desirable to create a monopoly in the interests of the State, should be State-owned and State-controlled. Industries other than these may be privately owned and privately managed and even in such cases, I said, that the industrialists or shareholders should not think that they are run for their individual benefit alone, and that the workers and the producers should have equal rights to the profits of the industry. In the face of all these statements, I am surprised that my hon. Friend should have made the statement he did. I can tell him, Sir,—and I have already said it before—that at the Industries Conference certain decisions were taken and they are being examined by the Government of India and a statement of policy is soon expected to be issued by them and naturally this Government will have to align itself with the Central Government's policy in these matters. There cannot be any difference between the policy of this Government and that of the Government of India in regard to this matter. Then he elaborated his theory of nationalization, wherein he said that the profit motive will be completely eliminated and that the industries will be run for the benefit of the people and for the workers and the producers. I have already said, Sir, that the policy of the Government in regard to the nationalization is to see that no particular party or group is exploited and that the entire industry is run for the benefit of the people as a whole. I do not see, what difference there is between what he wants and what I have enunciated as our policy in this matter.

"Sir, certain criticisms have been made about the lack of scope for private enterprise by one or two friends. I have also

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stated that there will be enough scope for private enterprise in our industrial set up in the Province, and there need not be any hesitation on the part of industrialists to come forward and start such industries which are not likely to be nationalised. Then Mr. Venkateswarlu suggested that the textile industry must be one of the industries that ought to be nationalised. He is not here now, Sir, but I should like to inform the House that it is an industry which has not been nationalized even in England under the present Socialist Government. This is an industry which has not been thought of as being suitable for nationalization even in England. Only coal and certain other industries have been nationalized there and I should say that it is too soon, at least in this Province, to think of nationalizing the textile industry. Nor is it any use in nationalising it in this Province alone. It should be done so, on an all-India basis and as I said, it is for the Government of India to decide which are the particular industries that are fit for nationalization as an all-India policy, and I believe that the textile industry is not the one that is now under the contemplation of the Government of India for the purpose of nationalisation.

"Sir, the question of cottage industries was very much mentioned and several members made very useful suggestions about what the Government must do to encourage cottage industries, to start new cottage industries and also to train people for cottage industries. As the House knows, in the Madras Province, the biggest cottage industry is handloom weaving. I should like to bring to the notice of the House, what measures the Government of Madras have taken in the matter of protecting, encouraging and helping handloom weavers in this Province. There are about 120,000 weavers to-day in the co-operative field and the Madras Provincial Handloom Weavers Co-operative Society is supplying a large number of them with yarn. I think that if the figures as reported by the Fact-Finding Committee are taken as the basis, nearly one-third of the handlooms in the Province are in the co-operative field. Though certain controls have been removed over the distribution and movement of yarn, the handloom weavers' co-operative societies are assured of their quota of yarn and not only that, the Government have been trying to help the industry by granting spceial permits on *ad hoc* allotments in the matter of exports of their products to Burma, Malaya and Ceylon. On a recommendation made to the Government of India, the Provincial Handloom Co-operative Society was able to obtain permits recently for about 3,750 bales of cloth to be exported to other countries to relieve the pressure of accumulation of stocks in the handloom weavers' societies. In addition to this, recently when I had an occasion to discuss some of the matters with the Australian High Commissioner, I talked about the question of export of our handloom fabrics, especially of the finest fabrics, like the prints and other varieties, to the Australian markets. There is no doubt that Australia is a good market for some of our goods, and I expect from the correspondence that is now going on between our Government and the High Commissioner

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of Australia, that our handloom weavers will be enabled to export some of their products to Australia. That is how, Sir, this Government is helping our biggest cottage industry in the Province.

" Regarding other cottage industries, my hon. Friend Mr. P. Natesan suggested that electricity could be usefully taken into service in expanding our cottage industries in this Province. He also made a suggestion about the manufacture of some of the electrical parts, such as switches, plugs and other things. It is a very good suggestion no doubt, and I shall have it examined. The whole trouble seems to be the non-availability of necessary machinery. When we give orders for machinery from other countries, whether they be for small scale industries or for large scale industries, or even certain machinery for our workshops, we find that the manufacturing firms are suggesting long delivery dates, and therefore naturally our friends are dissatisfied with the progress that has been made in the matter of industrialization of the Province. Let me tell the House that I am equally anxious like them and that I am not also very much satisfied with the progress made. But as I have already said, the delay is not due to the lack of enthusiasm on the part of the Government, but it is due to causes which I have just now enumerated. We are very anxious and we have been trying our very best to contact with various countries in regard to the matter of supply of capital machinery and whenever we meet representatives of other countries, we always discuss with them how to get some machinery or other at the earliest possible date, but the handicap, as I said above, has been the long delivery dates which they insist upon for the supply of those capital goods. Such of those hon. Members who have business connexions with foreign countries outside know how many difficulties they themselves have to face in getting machinery for their workshops. Recently I have had some personal discussions with one of the Madras firms about the starting of a watch and clock factory in Madras. While discussing the question, the company said that the difficulty was about the availability of precision tools. In fact, I suggested to the people who came in this connexion that they could examine some of the machinery that is available with the Disposals section of the Army and that I would give them all the necessary help and assistance, in the matter. This is the kind of help that we can possibly give to establish industries. So far as the Government industries are concerned, such of those industries which cannot be started by private individuals, will be taken up and we are examining all these questions.

" Sir, a suggestion was made by the hon. Member who moved the cut motion that there might be a separate directorate for cottage industries. Sir, I should like to inform him that we have now got a Deputy Director of Cottage Industries who is looking after this branch of activities and if it is found that a separate Director is necessary, after certain developments had taken place, the Government would not hesitate to create a directorate. At present I find there is no need for a special Directorate and we will be able to handle the situation with the existing staff. If the work increases, then we shall consider the question.

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" Sir, certain difficulties were mentioned by the hon. Member Mr. Abdul Majid about the new textile mills and he also criticised the Government for having issued notices to some of the people saying that there was the possibility of their licences being cancelled. Certainly, Sir, we cannot allow people to have permits in their hands sitting quiet. Several hon. Members have been saying that the Government must move quickly in the matter of industrialization. With that policy in view, our department have been asking hose people who have had permits to start textile and other industries and issued notices to them to see that those industries are quickly started. It is not with a view to hamper their activities but only to spur them. Recently, the Director of Industries has been instructed to contact every licensee who has taken a licence for the starting of industry or people who are already in charge of industrial concern to find out the nature of the help that they require from the Industries Department. They have sent out a questionnaire and several of these companies have responded to the questionnaire and I have been asking the Director of Industries, whenever he goes to a district, to contact various industrialists and find out their needs and try to help them as much as possible. That way, we have been helping industrialists by finding out their difficulties and doing our best to help them. 1-15 p.m.

" Sir, about the Industrial Finance Corporation, certain remarks have been made. It was felt that Government have delayed in the matter. I must admit that there has been some delay. An Industrial Planning Committee was appointed. After appointing that Committee, we thought that it would not be right for us to take up this question without knowing the opinion of the Industrial Planning Committee. The Committee has submitted its interim report which recommended that the Industrial Finance Corporation must be taken up. We have now come to a decision about the Industrial Finance Corporation. A provision has been made in the budget and the Government of India have been addressed for sanctioning the capital issues. As soon as the capital issues are received, we will go about collecting the 49 per cent. My hon. Friend Mr. Natesan has almost challenged the Government as to how they are going to get the 49 per cent. I expect the co-operation of the public in the matter. There is no use here, throwing a challenge."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" If I may be permitted to say, Sir, I never wanted to challenge the Hon. Minister, much less the Government of Madras which is a very powerful body too. What I am telling is whether he is honestly convinced that he is going to get public subscriptions and if this venture is going to come through this year or the next."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Sir, my hon. Friend says that it is not a challenge. I take it, he is prepared to co-operate fully with the Government to raise the 49 per cent. I am sure, with the co-operation of the hon. Members of this House and the goodwill of the people, it will be possible to collect. We will do our best and I have every hope that we will be able to

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collect the necessary amount in spite of the pessimism of my hon. Friend and I shall be very happy to tell him that the Madras Government have been able to collect not only what they want but also a little more. With that hope, we will proceed to the constitution of the Finance Corporation.

" Sir, I propose to call a small conference of bankers, insurance people, and commercial people and discuss with them about the raising of the necessary money and I am sure, my hon. Friend will then have a lot to say about it an dalso help in getting the necessary capital.

" Then, Sir, I should like to mention about the geological survey, about which the Leader of the Opposition and several other friends said a lot. It is a very important subject and I know that it is natural that every Member is anxious to know what the Government of Madras is doing in the matter. So far as the geological survey is concerned, the Madras Government have been considering the question for a long time. I should say, during the last two or three years, this matter has been taken up actively by the Government. A lot of correspondence has been passing between the Government of India and the Government of Madras in this matter. This Government and my predecessors have taken a very active interest in the matter and the Government of India at one time assured that they would place the necessary personnel and that there was no need for the Provincial Government to constitute a separate geological survey party for the Madras Presidency. Then the matter was deferred. Recently, I have had an occasion to discuss the matter with the hon. Member with the Government of India in charge of Works, Mines and Power, and I received a letter recently from him saying that the geological survey party for Madras would be strengthened and he has assured me that he would send some experts and some geologists to help to survey this Province and especially the Ceded districts. There has been a lot of correspondence about the exploitation and survey of the minerals in the Ceded districts. The Works Member of the Government of India also told me that they have received several representations from the Ceded districts about the availability of very important minerals in the Ceded districts and he told me that with a view to early survey of these minerals a special party of geologists will be sent and I am looking forward to the arrival of those people to take up these things. In this connexion, I should like to mention that the one bottleneck in the matter of geological survey has been and is the availability of necessary machinery and special kind of instruments. While one of the Government of India officials was in America, this Government had occasion to write to him to find out whether we can get machinery and instruments specially for Madras, and we were not able to get them even there. The difficulty is that the dates of delivery are very far off, not within months but years. So, Sir, I can only assure that we are very eager to see that geological survey is conducted on a large scale and as quickly as possible and I can only give this assurance to the hon. Members that we are very keen about it and if it is necessary and if it is going to be useful, we are prepared to have

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our own party of geologists to survey the mineral resources of our Province. The desire is there but the only limitation, as I have said, is the machinery and perhaps personnel also.

" Sir, certain Members made some reference about the distribution of steel and specially my hon. Friend Mr. Kalluri Subbarao spoke about the passing of defective steel as standard steel in some places which is leading to a lot of difficulties. It is true that there is a lot of difficulty even in regard to the distribution of defective steel. I can tell the House that recently the Government of India have passed orders authorising the Government of Madras to distribute not only standard iron and steel but defectives also and the distribution of defective iron and steel is now in the hands of the Madras Government and I hope that the complaints that were previously there, will be very much minimised. I cannot say that we can eliminate them. It is possible, when material is short and the number of people asking for it is large, there is bound to be a little trouble. I hope that, with the co-operation of the public and the Members of this House, we will be able to distribute as equitably as possible the material that we get. We are also trying to get more of iron and steel for our Province and efforts are being made in that direction.

" Sir, mention was made about the Andhra Paper Mills. My hon. Friend Mr. Natesan criticised about the taking over of the Andhra Paper Mills by the Government. The Madras Government have very carefully gone into the question. The Director of Industries, and the Secretary to Government, Development Department, have had occasion to go to Rajahmundry and take the opinion of several people there. There is a strong feeling in the Andhra area that Andhra Paper Mills must be taken over by the Government and run by the Government. I know this feeling is very strong. It is not merely the feeling of Andhras but of others also. The Government have examined it very carefully and we are convinced that it can be done very efficiently and economically and the Government propose to take it over if they can get it from the liquidator."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" Sir, since the Hon. Minister tells me that the Director of Industries and the Secretary to the Development Department went to Rajahmundry, I would like to know from the Hon. Minster if he has received any expert opinion in the matter. I wish to know if it is not a fact that the machinery is obsolete and that it cannot be used. I hardly expect I.C.S. Officers like the Secretary to the Development Department or the Director of Industries to understand what this machinery is, and whether it will be a commercial proposition to take it over. It is a very important point on which my Chamber feels strongly and I wish to know if the aspects I have mentioned have been gone into."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Sir, let me assure my hon. Friend that I have taken every step to find out that it is

going to be an economic one. Let me assure him that it can be run efficiently and profitably and the Government propose to do everything if it is going to come into the hands of the Government.

"So far as Radio and Electricals are concerned, I think my hon. Friend is labouring under a misapprehension. It is true that the Madras Government have put in two lakhs of money into it. They lent the service of one of their engineers on the request of the said company. That does not mean that Government is managing the company. The Madras Government have put some money into it by way of shares, and people have also put money into it believing that the concern was a good one as the Government of Madras themselves have taken shares in it. Therefore, it is the duty of the Government to see that they lend the services of a good man who is wanted by the company. That is how the Madras Government is interested in the company.

"Sir, my hon. Friend from Guntur was mentioning about a cigarette factory for Guntur and the large quantities of fine tobacco available there. I can only suggest to the hon. Member that there are very rich people here in Guntur and if they come forward with any proposal to start a cigarette factory, the Government will be only too willing to do all that is possible to help the starting of a new industry. It is for the local people to come forward and put up the proposition of starting a cigarette factory in that place.

"Lastly, Sir, hon. Members spoke about labour and then one hon. Member said that capital is oppressing labour. Mr. Kuppuswamy, an M.L.A. from Coimbatore, said that capital is oppressing labour and that it is necessary that something must be done. I can assure him that this Government will not allow one set of people to oppress another. It will not and shall not be allowed.

"He mentioned about the managing agents keeping false accounts. Unfortunately we have no powers to go into the accounts of managing agents. The shareholders have got the power to do it. If any shareholder brings to the notice of the Government that certain frauds are going on, there is power under the Indian Companies Act to intervene at that stage. I would only suggest that if there are any such frauds the shareholders would bring it to the notice of the Government and the Government would not hesitate to intervene and set right the matter.

"So far as the question of labour is concerned, as I have already said, it is the policy of the Government to see that labour is given its privileges and does not suffer and, to see that, at the same time, the consumer is not affected by differences arising between labour and capital. Sir, I do not like to say more about this, because I dealt with it already when I spoke about the views of the Government on labour problems.

"One more point, Sir. The hon. Member Mr. Salam made a reference about two appointments made in the department connected with me. I can give this assurance to the hon. Member that

if there has been any such mistake, it will be corrected and I can assure him that there is no desire on the part of this Government to circumvent the Public Services Commission and I can assure him that every appointment, even though it may be made temporarily for a few months, will go before the Public Services Commission and it will have the seal of the Public Services Commission. With these words, I request my hon. Friend Mr. Abdul Majid to withdraw his cut motion."

SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—"விவசாயிகளுடைய சம்பளத்தைப் பற்றி சொல்லி இருக்கிறேன். அதற்கு பதில் சொல்லவேண்டும்." 1-30 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER:—"அவர் ஆங்கிலத்தில் பதில் சொல்லிவிட்டார்.

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, in view of the assurances given by the Hon. Minister for Industries, I beg the leave of the House to withdraw it."

The cut motion was by leave of the House withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

The House then adjourned for lunch to meet again at 2-30 p.m.

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

DEMAND XXVII—ELECTRICITY

*THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,33,36,700 under Demand XXVII—Electricity.'

"Sir, this relates to expenditure regarding maintenance, ordinary extension and improvements. Hon. Members would have noticed that there is another Demand under Capital Head for Rs. 4,93,72,700. That relates to major schemes and major extensions and improvements. Government are fully aware of the importance of development of electricity. This is vitally connected with the industrial and agricultural development of this country and I can assure this House that, with all the limitations under which this Government have to labour, they have been doing their very best to expand and extend electricity to the various areas in this Province. We have got three hydro-electric scheme works—Pykara, Mettur and Papanasam. We have five thermal stations working in Vizagapatam, Bezwada, Cocanada, Kurnool and the electric system in Madras City. Government have recently taken the Cuddapah concern. We have a scheme to extend the Cuddapah station so as to be able to meet the supply within the Cuddapah municipal area and also extend it to rural areas for agricultural purposes. The Nellore Thermal Station, as hon. Members are aware, Government have recently sanctioned and we have taken up the execution of that work. There are a few major schemes which have already been sanctioned and which are under construction. We have taken up 60 K.W. extension from Papanasam to Tinnevelly and the West Godavari Scheme—Gudivada-Vuyyur Extensions. These are also under execution. We have

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also taken up for execution certain bigger schemes as the Moyar Extension to Rayalaseema under which we have to take bulk power from Mysore which could be placed at Ujjaina where we could build our station and take power to different areas in Rayalaseema. We have been corresponding with the Government of Mysore for the supply of more power than what they have agreed to, so that we may be able to cater to areas which are not now covered in Rayalaseema. We propose also to take power from Mysore for distribution to areas in South Kanara district. I am proposing to take this matter further with the concerned Ministers in Mysore when I shall be meeting them some time in April. Then, we have the Kurnool Thermal Station which has been taken over from the municipality recently and we have proposals to extend that station. Then again, there is the Hindupur Scheme. We have taken over that concern some time back and we propose to take power from Mysore for distribution in that area. Again there is the Kollegal Scheme which has been sanctioned. There is the Conjeevaram-Arkonam Extension, there is the Erode-Salem 110 K.W. and there is the Erode-Dalmia 110 K.W. lines. We are also contemplating the installation of additional diesal alternative sets and extensions at Cocanada. Then we have a number of major schemes which have already been sanctioned like the Machkund Scheme details of which I have given to this House in answering certain questions and supplementary questions. We are constructing the Moyar Extension connecting it with the Pykara and the Madras Extensions. We are on the execution of the second stage of the Papanasam. We are extending the Thermal Station at Madura in order to supplement the supply from Papanasam. We have the Madras-Mettur inter-connexion and extension schemes, and the Bezwada-Samalkot Extension Schemes. The Visagapatam Thermal Station is also being extended. We are also extending the Tiruppathur-Kuppam 33 K.W. extension which will cover some areas in Chittoor district. The total capacity of power production through Government power plant now come to 153,000 K.W. and the capital invested on this is 9 crores of rupees. Besides the Government undertakings, there are 78 private undertakings including the undertakings by the local bodies in this Presidency. The amount invested on these is about 3 crores of rupees. Out of 78 undertakings only 18 concerns produce power and that to the extent of 2,000 K.Ws. Thus hon. Members will see the Government already manage 98 per cent of the total production in this Province. I would point out that this Province is comparatively poor in hydro-electric power. But still we have 84 sites that can be examined. We have taken up investigation of some of these sites, but shortage of technical staff stands in the way of simultaneous investigation of the various sites where there are possibilities of power development. Among the sites we propose to investigate, mention may be made of (1) Kundle falls in the Nilgiris, (2) the falls in Palni, (3) The Meghaduta falls in which Mysore also is interested. There are two falls in South Kanara where we have seen possibilities of power development. We propose to take up the detailed investigation of the sites in this district very soon.

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"Then, again, there is the possibility of developing power from the falls in the river Kistna at Srisailum in Kurnool district. There are also possibilities of developing power under the irrigation projects. The Tungabhadra Project is already under execution and even before the irrigation project is completed we shall be taking up power development. As hon. Members are aware the Ramapadasagar Project which we shall be taking up very soon has large possibilities of development of power.

"Then, again, the Government have proposals to start thermal stations in Nandyal, Tadpatri and at Kasaragode. Wherever there are no possibilities of development of hydro-electric power we shall have to rely on thermal stations. It is with that view we are considering the starting of thermal stations in parts of Rayalaseema, in Nandyal and Tadpatri. But still when we take up the Kistna-Pennar Project and when the Tungabhadra Project is completed we shall be able to serve rather fully the areas of Rayalaseema with power. I said, Sir, that including certain municipalities there are as many as 78 non-Government undertakings which either generate power or distribute power in particular areas. Some of these undertakings are not working satisfactorily and there is agitation all round that Government should take over these undertakings. In some cases these concerns themselves have proposed that the Government might take them over. But regarding the terms of acquisition we are now governed by the provisions of the Indian Electricity Act of 1910 and those provisions are not quite advantageous to the Government. Therefore we are examining new legislation under which we can take up and acquire these private undertakings on terms favourable to the Government. We propose to bring forward legislation some time during the next sessions of the Assembly, which might be after the summer vacation. The Government have already decided to take over all the non-Government undertakings and completely nationalize the electricity system in the Province. The idea behind such nationalization is that we should be able to cater to the needs of the people whether industrial or agricultural, more satisfactorily than what is being done now. As has been pointed out already 98 per cent of the production of power is with the Government and therefore we need take over only the other 2 per cent of power development. 2-45 p.m.

"There is a demand everywhere in the rural areas for power for agricultural purposes. It is really very gratifying to note that people in the villages have become electricity-minded and everywhere people are anxious and press for more extensions. Their demand is so insistent that Government are not be able to satisfy them. The demands are so many and therefore whatever we have been able to give, whatever we were able to do, looks like nothing. Therefore it is that we hear complaints everywhere that agricultural purposes have not been attended to by the Government and that they are not properly catered for. I can assure this House that we

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have been giving preferences and we have been showing all concessions for agricultural purposes and we have been doing our best in the matter of extensions to rural areas.

"Again, we have to face a very serious shortage of necessary materials. The orders that were placed in 1945 have just now been fulfilled. It takes more than two years for us to get things which we indent for. Therefore we have to resort to a kind of rationing in the matter of extensions. We prefer agricultural purposes and we also show priority to extensions within a distance of three miles so that with the limited materials available we shall be able to give as many extensions for agricultural purposes as possible. Over 1,100 villages are receiving supplies in this Province and over 8,000 agricultural pump sets have been fitted in. But we propose to have these doubled before long. About a thousand rural industries are being served in the villages by power which we are able to supply. (Hear, hear.)

"I would like to give a few figures to show what progress we have been making and are trying to make. In 1945-46 there were only 427 agricultural pump sets serving in the Province. In 1946-47 we had 822 pump sets. Again in 1947-48, between April and September the pump sets that were given connexions were 602. This was within a period of about six months. This is all that the Government have been able to do. Private undertakings have also been giving connexions and they have also been asked to show every kind of priority and preference for agricultural purposes.

"At the Pykara system the full load capacity in 1946-47 was only 22,700 K.W. The present load capacity is 32,000 and odd K.W. In 1946 we were able to purchase line materials to the extent of Rs. 24 lakhs but in 1947 we purchased line materials to the extent of Rs. 170 lakhs. The rural extensions which we have sanctioned already are estimated to cost Rs. 2 crores. From April 1946 to September 1947 rural extensions amounting to Rs. 135 lakhs covering a supply of about 40,000 h.p. have been sanctioned and taken up. We have been able to secure materials not only from foreign countries where we have indented for but also from the military surplus. All that are available from the Military surplus have been taken over and we have been able to give large extensions so far. But we do hope that the supply position is improving and our extensions too—we do hope—will be more rapid and satisfactory. But even when we have given connexions, the agriculturists are not able to get pump sets. So it has been arranged that the Central Agricultural Engineering Stores should plan to stock 2,500 pump sets and 3,00,000 pipes and other materials to be sold to ryots who are in need of them. We have thus a programme of expansion and development which could be estimated at Rs. 15 crores. The Government are preparing a comprehensive Press Note which will be issued shortly and that will explain in detail the position relating to the development and

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extensions of power in various areas. I move, Sir, that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,33,36,700 under Demand XXVII—Electricity."

SRI B. S. MALLIKARJUNA RAO:—"On a point of information, Sir. Every scheme has been mentioned by the Hon. Minister, Sir. I wish to know from him why the Machkund Anicut Scheme failed to get a mention from him."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Perhaps, the hon. Member was not listening to what I said. I did mention it at the beginning, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that under Demand XXVII—Electricity the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,33,36,700.'"

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,33,36,700 *for Demand XXVII—Electricity be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

"Sir, the Hon. Minister for Electricity has given us a lot of information and painted a rosy picture. It appears as though the future is going to be very bright. What is going to happen in the future, all depends upon how we are going to make it. (An hon. Member: 'Upon you'.) Only upon us. But, Sir, I should like to point out to you how our Madras Government in taking over the Madras Electric Supply Corporation were forced to pay Rs. 1,32,00,000 and odd to a foreign white bureaucractic company. Were we serious about the matter? Did we have the strength to withstand the pressure of the white bureaucrats? If we had we would not have had to pay a pie to the company and at the same time we would have taken away this system without paying any compensation.

"As a matter of fact we lack money for so many of our plans. They are being delayed for lack of finance. At the same time our Government never hesitated to pay this one crore and odd rupees to a foreign company. Even now I thought that the Hon. the Minister for Electricity and Public Works would come forward with a statement as to how much we are going to pay to the company. We don't know whether it has been decided. I want the information from the Hon. Minister.

"Another point, Mr. Speaker, with which I myself agree is that they are going to take on private electricity companies. In the beginning let me point out that a company in Guntur, namely, the Chari Chari Company is exploiting and charging abnormal rates even to-day. Because of a dispute that arose some years back between the Chari Chari Company and the Tenali Municipality, Tenali is suffering for lack of electricity. The Chari Chari Company were given some priority and the Tenali Municipality was not allowed to construct another plant there to produce electricity. Because the Chari Chari Company wanted more money, the Tenali Municipality was unable to take up the supply and Tenali

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was forced to suffer. May I request the Hon. Minister, Sir, to take up the Chari Chari Company immediately without further delay. As they have already charged much from the people they need not be paid even a single pie for being taken up.

"Another point regarding which I want to speak is about the employees in this Electricity department. If my information is correct I think they are Government or quasi-Government employees. But they are not treated as Government servants and the N.G.Os. Their demand is that they should also be treated as the N.G.Os. and they should receive all facilities afforded to the N.G.Os. I remember pretty well that they approached the Hon. Minister for Public Works and presented a memorandum to him and before he became the Minister for Public Works he has agreed to the principle but till to-day it is being delayed.

"My reaction to the Machkund Pykara scheme is that they are being unnecessarily delayed. They have to be expedited. As the Hon. Minister for Public Works has told us our Province is very poor in hydro-electric power and we are not able to develop the schemes whatever might be the reason.

"Then, Sir, with regard to the supply of electric power to agricultural purposes, there is a great demand from the ordinary peasants that they should be supplied with electric power. It is becoming hard for them to have these demands fulfilled and they are made to undergo so many difficulties. They have even to go to the blackmarket to have their demands fulfilled at times. It has been agreed that there is lot of corruption among the staff. That is prevalent in this department also. I hope Government will take steps to see that these loopholes are closed.

3 p.m. "One more point, Sir, and that is this. Electricity must be supplied at the cheapest rate possible. Nowadays private companies are charging abnormal rates. In Bezwada, as it is to-day, many of the people are unable to pay for the electricity. Government must see that by nationalizing the industry—as the Hon. Minister has said that the Government are going to nationalise the industry itself—people get cheap electricity, and also the employees serving in the department get better facilities and better wages, so that people will be made to feel that at least in this department, there are facilities for the people as well as the employees.

"With these words, Sir, I move the cut motion."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"Sir, I second the cut motion. This is only a very rare occasion when I have to support my hon. Friend Mr. Venkateswarlu when he said that all the electrical schemes in this province should be nationalized. In fact, Sir, I have seen a report in the Press that the Madras Government will very soon bring in a Bill empowering Government to undertake all the electric concerns which are now run by private companies. I say, Sir, it is really a step in the right direction, because as long as you have certain concerns run by the Government and others run by private companies,

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you cannot have a well-laid out policy in this Province. Therefore, the Government's proposal is one which we should all welcome. It has been the policy of the Government to take up all the electrical concerns and electrical schemes and run them themselves. Here I should like to give a warning and caution to the Government. It has been the experience that whenever Government take up a scheme that scheme does not work so efficiently or it does not produce so much results or profit as it does when it is run by a private company. My friend, Mr. Venkateswarlu, just now made a reference to the Madras Electric Supply Corporation, Limited. I can never agree to his proposition that this Government should simply take away the whole concern without paying any compensation. It is not a matter for us to decide. The present Government are not for expropriatory measures. People have got their interests: they have spent all their capital; they have built up this concern after decades. There is no point in any Government, particularly a civilized Government as ours, saying 'you walk out without getting any compensation'. Let me not debate that point any more. What the Government felt was due was paid by the Government. But, there seems to be a feeling—subject to correction by the Hon. Minister—that since the Government have taken up this concern, its affairs are not all right, or that they are not as satisfactory as they ought to be. The general complaint is that efficiency has gone down very much, and that it is not so efficient in its working as it was at the time when it was run by a private company.

"Sir, in the City of Madras, you will naturally have a number of complaints about breakdown in supply, etc. I am told, Sir, that whenever complaints are made, they are not immediately attended to. What I say may not be wholly correct. But there is the feeling in the public mind, and I am sure the Hon. Minister will look into this matter. When the concern was under company management, they were very vigilant in seeing that they collected all their bills. But now bills are pending collection for many months—six months and eight months. There seems to be no anxiety on the part of the officials concerned to collect the amount. Previously, I know, Sir, that whenever one is in arrears for two months, the company will send a notice saying that they will disconnect current within a week or ten days. In the notice you will find the total amount you will have to pay. The people who are using electricity will also be very vigilant to pay the bills to the company. Now, I am told that collection of bills is in arrears. If this is going to be the state of affairs simply because it is run by Government, I feel really very pessimistic about the concerns which Government may yet take over. I am sure the Hon. Minister is bestowing his thought and attention on this matter. But I say this by way of caution or warning, because the Government have paid Rs. 1,33,33,333—a very good figure which was compiled by the Hon. Minister. The facsimile that appeared in the Press was also good. That apart, the point is that Government cannot forget the fact that they have given so much money. They have got two purposes. One is to see

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which are still worse. For the last 15 years people have applied for electric supply for irrigation purposes. But these corporations were evading them, because they get four annas per unit for purposes other than irrigation, and for irrigation they get one anna per unit. Therefore, they put all sorts of impediments in the way and they evaded. In the end, they were asking Rs. 500 as deposit.

2-15 p.m. "Sir, these private companies wanted a guarantee amount of Rs. 500 to be paid by the people of the village for giving connections. They have even got some agreements signed by people that Rs. 500 would be given as guarantee amount. But, still, these private companies did not give connection to those villages in the Vellore taluk and in the Wallajah taluk.

"Sir, in so many places in the Vellore taluk and other taluks in the North Arcot district, Government have not at all extended electricity for irrigation purposes with the result that those villages are suffering owing to the failure of the monsoon. I therefore request the Government to take up the matter as early as possible. It is better Government themselves take up the matter very early instead of leaving it to private companies. Because the people of those villages do not make any agitation about it, they should not be neglected by the Government.

"Then, Sir, in the Palar river, there is no water-supply at all. There is a vast extent of cultivable land in the North Arcot district but the poor people are suffering for want of water. If provision is made for the supply of water with the help of electricity, then those people will be able to utilize that water in irrigating the vast extent of land. The sub-soil in those lands is sandy and unless they get enough water-supply, they will not be able to cultivate those lands. If water-supply is ensured, then they will be able to grow more food in those areas, especially in these days when the country is faced with famine.

"Sir, in the Arkonam taluk also, the soil is sandy and the water is very near the surface. The electric line also goes that way. Many people have applied for connection many years ago but they are not given the connection. Sir, I know, in the North Arcot district, it is not at all costly to give the connection because the main line passes through that district. It passes through almost all the taluks and therefore, it is not very costly to extend electricity in that district. Sir, with the extension of electricity here and there and on all sides, I say, the North Arcot district which is now a deficit district may become a surplus district in no time. If only electricity is supplied, it would become a surplus district.

"One more point, I want to represent to the Government and that is about the electricity department being manned by a large number of people who are on work-charged establishment. These persons do not have any permanent tenure. Simply, they are taken in and they are liable to be dismissed or discharged at the sweet will and pleasure of the Government. Sir, these persons

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are doing a most dangerous work and in that work they are risking their very lives. [At this stage, Madam Deputy Speaker occupied the Chair.] Sometimes, Madam, they meet with instantaneous death. Sometimes, they are working in such places where there are no transport facilities such as bus services with the result that they cannot be taken even to hospitals in case of accidents. They have been agitating for a long time but till now, nothing has been done to treat their service as regular Government service with all its pensionary and other benefits. Madam, many people employed on such work-charged establishments have represented the matter to the Government. The Hon. the Minister was kind enough to take proper steps in the matter and I think he has sanctioned the provincialisation of those services. But, the pity is that the officials who are in the lower rungs in the Department are not disposed to provincialize the services and they are delaying the matter. I understand that they are putting forth the plea that if the work-charged services are provincialized, they will join together and bring in some strike. On the other hand, Madam, what I feel is that if it is not provincialized, the strike may happen. I request the Government to give all facilities of Government service to this class of persons and I hope, the Hon. the Minister will ask the Engineers and others who are against the scheme of provincialization, to see that this service is provincialized as early as possible. These people are waiting for a long time and therefore, if they get the concession, they will enjoy it better and they will work better.

"Lastly, in the North Arcot district, there is no water-supply facility for the people. We could have got some supply of water from the Palar Project but on account of the negligence of the previous Governments this project has been handed over to the Mysore Government and the people of North Arcot are not able to get any water, because the Mysore Government impounded all the waters of Palar to themselves. I therefore request the Government to look into the matter and see that electricity is supplied as early as possible throughout our district, so that it will hlep the people of that district for irrigational purposes and thus assist in the grow more food campaign and avoid famine in our district. With these words, I oppose the cut motion and support the Demand."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, perhaps you will agree with me when I say—I have repeated it many times during the discussions and I will repeat it many more times—that this Government has no policy at all regarding any matter. They are incapable of having any policy or programme because they are so engrossed with the Leader's election every year with the result that for two months before the election and for three months afterwards . . ."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member said: 'Perhaps you will agree with me.' I cannot agree or disagree. That is not the way to put it."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I have given my opinion, Madam. I think you have heard it also

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repeated here, whether it is agreed by you or not.. Madam, I say that this Government is incapable of having any long term policy in any matter, much less in electricity. Unfortunately, the Minister in charge of this portfolio of electricity seems to have that policy which is well-known as the ' Dog in the manger ' policy. This Government neither spends on nor draws from schemes of electricity and they continue the same ' Dog in the manger ' policy for the last two years. I have myself put about half a dozen questions. I asked that if the Government is slow to take up this matter of nationalizing the electric schemes and if they find any difficulties, they could at least consider the applications from private companies in this matter, because, Madam, this Province is most backward in industrial development. Therefore, I asked whether the Government would be prepared to consider applications from private companies and other interested persons; but they replied in the negative. I also asked the Hon. the Minister in charge whether he has not received any applications from certain persons on behalf of certain companies stating that they are ready and willing to spend money. to import the machinery and to take the responsibility. Very often, the reply was that this Government was finding it difficult to get the machinery either from America or England. I know, Madam, certain persons who have applied to the Government are prepared to take up the responsibility, and they are prepared to import the required machinery from America but still, the Government said, no. Of course they have a policy. But, I would only say that they are making a mistake. In view of the fact that the Government are considering the nationalization of all transport in this Presidency, in the matter of electricity also, they should take up the schemes immediately. If they are not capable of doing it, then, they should allow private companies to undertake the work on such terms on which they are willing to take up the industry. According to the scheme, if Government should take up this industry, it may take even four or five years. Therefore, if they can allow industrialists, and private companies to take up this work of generating electricity, it will be good for the development of industry in this Province. These private companies have the capacity to take up the work. But, the fact that the Hon. the Minister said categorically that the Government would not allow these private companies clearly shows the bankruptcy of imagination on the part of this Government in such matters. In spite of the fact that Government realize that electricity will go a long way in developing the agriculture in this Province, in spite of the fact that they know that electricity is the only source of developing our Province industrially, they have not done anything in this matter.

" Madam, the fact how the Madras Electric Supply Corporation when it was under a private management, was better managed than when it is working under the Government clearly shows that private companies may be entrusted with this work. Madam, I do not have details to show how it is now mismanaged after it came under Government control, but I know that several complaints are being received. Formerly, because they were Company's

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employees, they used to attend to those complaints immediately but now because they are Government servants they do not respect the consumers. That is the report we are receiving. Therefore, Madam, because the Government have taken the management of the Madras Electric Supply Corporation, we find a great change. Some dignity perhaps is attached to this Government service but the fact is they are not properly attending to the needs of the public.

" Madam, for various reasons which I cannot here describe, Tamilnad is more electrified than Andhradesa. Tamilnad has the Mettur Project, the Pykara Project and other Projects. I am not going to blame this Government or the previous Government. Whether they are due to want of natural resources or due to other reasons, I am not going into those questions. But, neither this House nor the Hon. the Minister will deny that Tamilnad is better electrified than poor Andhradesa. I am not going into the reasons."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—" On a point of information, Madam. Do you question the statement that Tamilnad is more enlightened than Andhradesa? " (Laughter.)

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" It is only lighted and not enlightened."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—" Because Mr. Anwar belongs to the Tamilnad he may say so."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" My point, Madam, is this; whatever the reasons are, the fact is that there are more schemes which have fructified in Tamilnad than in Andhradesa. The schemes in Andhradesa are not properly worked. I am not complaining, Madam, but the only question is that for the proper development of the Province, all the districts and all the regional parts of it should be fully developed. I hope the Hon. the Minister will devote some attention for Andhra Projects also and that he will be able to tell us in his reply what schemes he is taking up in the Andhradesa and how far he is going to give effect to the promises he has made to the Andhras for the last one or two years. Even though the Government is taking over the management of the supply of electricity in some of these districts like Nellore and Guntur, still, the detailed working is in the hands of the private companies and they are showing a lot of favouritism in the granting of these licences to private consumers. I know of certain cases where favouritism is shown. I understand that even after the Government has taken over this matter, some private companies are still getting commissions. I ask, if the Government has taken the matter, why should they get those commissions? Government could say, ' good-bye,' to those private promoters of these companies. Instead of this, these private companies are still having a hand in the management and these private promoters who have started those companies are still getting

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some commissions even after the Government have taken over the management and they still have got opportunities to show favouritism to certain consumers.

3-30 p.m. "I know certain cases, Madam, and I am prepared to place them before the Hon. Minister. They are cases where favouritism has been shown. Electricity has been given to mills and not to private houses where people are sick and are in need of fans. The Chief Inspector of Electricity has granted connexions for oil mills and refused house connexions in the same locality although the applicants stated in their petitions that there were sick people in their houses who badly required electricity for fans. When I approached him he told me to get a medical certificate to the effect that persons were sick in the house. I ask, Sir, 'When you can give connexions to machines in mills, why should you not give electric connexions to residentials houses for human beings especially when they are sick? Why do you want a doctor's certificate for this? Is this not enough to show that some favouritism is shown? There should be a change of policy in this matter.

"Madam, in spite of the fact that this Government are trying to industrialize the Province, they have not devoted any attention to the manufacture of electrical materials. The Hon. Minister in charge has not been able to come forward and say that he has spent so much money and that he is going to manufacture all these things."

SRI K. A. NACHIAPPA GOUNDER:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I have much pleasure in supporting the main Demand and in doing so I should like to place a few facts before the Hon. Minister. Electricity can be taken advantage of to a great extent, because it not only provides facilities to the people, but it also brings in money to the State. There should not be any difficulty in pushing through a programme of electricity. Some hydro-electric schemes have been started in the southern part of the Province. It has been stated that the development of electricity in the northern area has not been attempted as much as in the southern area. Though we have not got hydro-electric projects in the north I think that some thermal schemes have been sanctioned already. When the new projects such as the Tungabhadra Project, the Ramapadasagar Project and Kistna-Pennar Reservoir Project come in, there will be very large scope for the development of electricity and as such there need not be any sort of controversy between Tamilnad and Andhra in this respect. That is what I want to tell my hon. Friend, Mr. Salam.

"Madam, in the matter of the development of electricity, the great handicap seems to be want of materials. I may suggest that the Government may try to secure the materials not simply by correspondence with foreign countries but by deputing an engineer to those countries to make purchases in the open market. In that way they will be able to do the work expeditiously.

"Madam, electricity is a thing which is greatly needed by the agriculturists to-day because the cost of production in agriculture

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has gone abnormally high. The amount to be spent for baling water adds much to the burden. If electricity is extended to the rural areas and if the agriculturists are given the benefit of it, they will be able to economise their expenditure on food production by taking to pumping sets and this will go a long way in solving the food problem. Much action has to be taken in that direction.

"I have to point out that in Salem district, unfortunately for us the programme of extending electricity to the rural areas for agricultural purposes has not made much headway. This was due to the fact that at the outset of the operation of the Pykara Hydro Electric system, the contract to take electricity to Salem and the area in its way was given to a company and the company confined its attention only to supplying electricity for domestic purposes which earned a good return. It did not pay any great attention to the extension of electricity for agricultural purposes. Luckily for us the company is ending its term of contract and the Government are going to take over the distribution. The Government would do well to secure the materials and extend the supply of electricity to the rural areas particularly to my village, viz., Konganapuram about which there is a long pending proposal.

"Madam, as regards the high-tension line, there seems to be a difficulty. I am told that the line between Erode and Salem has to be renewed. If that is to be taken up, much time will be involved. Salem district has suffered greatly on account of the Mettur Dam and has had no irrigation facilities from the dam. At least in the matter of electricity, the district should be given some priority. In the south-western portion of the district adjoining the Cauvery we have a high tension line running to Trichinopoly in the south. Energy will have to be tapped from that line. From Karur it is possible to take electricity to Jedarpalayam and further north to Elampalli. In the other side of the portion, because the maximum load has already been obtained, they are not able to extend it. If they can open a sub-station at Kodumudi, it will be possible to undertake that work. In that way Salem district can be benefitted. Our district has already suffered in the matter of extension of electricity to rural areas because of the Company's contract, and so it must be given preference in this matter with the available materials.

"In the matter of lighting, there are two taluk headquarters —Hosur and Harur—which have not got the benefit of electricity. Hosur is three miles from the Mysore border. Electricity has come to the border 20 or 25 years ago and yet this town of Hosur has not got the advantage of it. I am told that the Hon. Minister is negotiating with the Mysore State. Now that the Mysore State has got popular Government, it will be possible for us to come to some sort of understanding and get the benefit of electric energy to Hosur. With regard to Harur, there is the biggest sub-station at Singarapet and yet that taluk headquarters has not got the advantage of having electric supply. I urge that these things must be given some special consideration.

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"Madam, in this connexion I want to say a few words about the employees also. The employees have been organising some strike because they have been kept as work-charged establishment and have not been given any advantage. There is heart-burning. It is very necessary that the Government should treat them like other establishments. As the employees in this department have to undergo great risks unlike in other departments, they deserve better consideration. They must be given all facilities in the matter of service conditions.

"While talking about the extension of electricity for agricultural purposes, I heard the Hon. Minister say that there were 400 pump sets in the year before and that it came to 800 sets last year. But I must say that taking into consideration the number of wells and the number of agriculturists who are in need of pump sets, we cannot boast of this increase. Greater strides will have to be made, because there are many thousands of agriculturists awaiting to get this benefit.

"I also hasten to suggest to the Government that they should think of tapping the Hogenakal falls for the generation of electricity, if it is possible to do so. At Mettur, the Government are generating electricity from the water stored in the lake. At Hogenakal, we have got good water-falls where the river falls from the plateau. If it is possible to generate current there, it will be advantageous to the State also. The question may be examined, if it has not been already done. With these few words, I again request the Hon. Minister to expedite the securing of materials, and take the lines to the rural areas particularly in Salem district which is greatly in need of electric supply for the many wells there and in so doing. I support the Demand that has been moved."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I rise to support the cut motion. At the outset I may say that I do not agree with my hon. Friend Mr. Salam, who is not here just at present, that the generation of electric power should be entrusted to private hands. Although I have been one of those who have been supporting him in the matter of individual enterprises, I should say that with regard to large scale industries and particularly with regard to generation of electric power, the work should be undertaken by the Government and Government alone.

"Madam, when the Hon. Minister spoke on this demand he placed before us a list of schemes that the Government are going to undertake in the near future. They are all what are to be hereafter. I am really sorry that there are no schemes to be put into effect immediately. There is this question of decentralisation of power. Centralization of power meant centralization of industries. You are aware, Madam, that centralization of industries in western countries has spelt disaster to the life of the people there. I wish that we here do not centralize power in a particular area and create centralization of industries. The

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centralisation of industries is causing great havoc among the people. We are witnessing the increasing desertion of villages and overcrowding of towns with the consequent formation of slums and the creation of vexatious labour problems. Therefore I would urge that the Government must create power in such a manner that it can be distributed throughout the province and dispersal of industries might take place. The Hon. Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar who was Member in charge of Industries and Supplies in the former Government of India has been urging dispersal of industries, because concentration of industries in particular places is really doing great harm to the economic interests of the country.

3-45 p.m.

"With regard to the question of the generation of power, the Hon. Minister himself in his speech has pointed out that the water resources available here are not sufficient to create more power. Electric power is usually generated, by burning coal or oil or by using the water-power. When water-power and water-resources are not available, the Government must think of other ways of generating power. There is no doubt the question of organizing more thermal stations. At the same time there is also the question of finding power from coal. Under the Demand for Industries we on this side of the House have pointed out the large discovery of lignite in South Arcot, which is nothing but brown coal. I ask the Government whether they have seriously thought about this question and they have investigated into the methods by which they can extract power from lignite. Although we may not have big rivers in this country, although we may not have much water-resources, there are other resources and other raw materials that lie buried in the very earth of this province and it is upto the Government to go into the question and bring the latent power out, so that they can take it to the poor people. So long as electric power is not distributed throughout the length and breadth of this Province, and so long as we cannot take power as I have pointed out to the very doors of cottage industries, it will not be possible for us to raise the average level of the people. It has already been pointed out on the floor of this House by several speakers that the average income of the people in this province is very low and the average income of people in other countries like America and England are nearly 30 to 40 times higher than ours. In order that we may raise the average income, we must take power to the people and see that our people use this power for betterment of their economic condition. With these words, Madam, I support the cut motion."

SRI K. LINGA RAJU:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, in supporting this Demand I would like to make a few observations regarding the policy of the Government and with particular reference to the needs of my district. Electricity is no more considered as a commodity of luxury intended for the rich only.

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had occasion to visit both Russia and America and to see for himself what progress these countries have made with electricity for agricultural operations.

"I do not think much use has been made of electricity for industrial purposes, apart from what is being done in the mills. If Coimbatore mills are existing to-day, it is due to the supply of electricity produced in the Nilgiris. To that extent we are satisfied. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Majid Sahib, observed, there are many cottage industries which can be improved by the use of electricity.

"I wish to refer to another point. The Hon. Minister in his speech referred to proper staff to be in charge of electric operations. I think it is high time that the Government have a training school or college for training all men required for this department. With several hydro-electric schemes on hand, I think the Government has to face the very big problem of having enough human material for running various schemes. I know as a matter of fact when the electricty department was started originally, people who had no qualifications were taken into service. Though they did not have the requisite qualifications, knowing as they did to handle the machinery, at a later date they were confirmed in their posts. Before the Government take up big electricity schemes, I would urge upon them to consider this point. Even in the matter of running railways, the other day, when the question was taken up in the Central Assembly, it was pointed out
4 p.m. 'why not our railways be run with electricity.' Now we know many trains are not running to time due to want of proper coal or some other cause. The finding of enough coal has become a great problem. I urge upon the Government to examine this question and see that wherever electricity can be got for running trains it may be utilized with advantage. Moreover, the Hon. Minister observed that the dearth of electricity materials has been responsible for not giving greater scope for the use of electricity. I know, as a matter of fact, in Coimbatore, one, Mr. G. D. Naidu, who had been to America and learnt something about radio and other things began to produce or rather make all these minor things in Coimbatore itself. If the Government is in a position to create such a factory, I would urge upon them to take non-officials into confidence so that poorer people can get some electricity for their daily use.

"One other thing I would like to urge upon the Hon. Minister is that the electricity scheme in the Nilgiris is assuming large proportions and the Wenlock Downs covering about 30 thousand acres form the catchment area. When the dam comes up a large tract of land will be submerged. Recently the Forest department found that due to erosion and lack of attention to the conservation of soil in another 10 years there will be dearth of rain and even the water-supply from the existing springs that is now available will shrink. I want the Hon. Minister to take proper steps as otherwise there will be erosion by assigning lands here and there. If the Government are anxious to get much electric

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power as will enable them to run the turbine in the power stations, the catchment area must be well preserved. The first and foremost thing is conservation of soil. I am sure the Hon. Minister who visited all these places saw for himself the rot that has been set in by soil erosion. That is a very important factor in the matter of producing electricity in the Nilgiris and I wish the Government will take due notice. With these words, I support the Demand."

*N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, my friends have spoken enough about the nationalization of electricity and you would have really seen, Madam, that there is a concensus of opinion so ar as natonalization of electricity is concerned. Both sides of the House will look forward to the day when the entire Province is working with schemes of nationalization all round. It was gratifying to see that the Hon. Minister for Public Works assured us that very soon he will come out with the schemes that he has now on hand by which power schemes will be set up in different areas of our Province. Already, you have seen how our friends have started inter-district jealousies over Tamil and Telugu parts of our Province. I should not like to say anything about them. The use of electric power is a problem which should not admit of such a friction although I know electricity itself has got many types—frictional electricity and thermal electricity. (Laughter.) If our Andhra friends want to have frictional electricity, let them have it. We do not want to deny them that facility. We know that every part of our Province is in need of electricity at the earliest possible moment. Let our Government, popular that it claims to be, set in motion electricity schemes which will really add not only to the industrial and agricultural resources of our Province but also even to our enlightenment in the literal sense of the term.

"Madam, reference was made by my friend, Mr. Srinivasa Rao, regarding facilities of electricity in North Arcot. Really, there we have certain corporations at work and it is not fair on my part to go into their finances. Already the powers that be know that representations have been made to them that these corporations, particularly the North Arcot Electric Supply Corporation, have not been quite busy in providing facilities in the different parts of my district. The most neglected part of that district happens to be my own taluk, Gudiyattam, and for three years there has been ample correspondence and there has been agitation for the extension of electricity to my place Valathoor but to this day, it has all been a cry in the wilderness. I do not say much about it except to ask the Hon. the Minister for Public Works to make a note of this grievance of ours. Flowing as the river Palar does through our district (which means a river full of milk and honey) it is a pity that my district goes without electricity. Even my own name 'Anwar' means 'Light' and yet in my own place Valathoor, Government have not been able to introduce light-giving power, viz., electricity, however much my name 'Anwar' which means light may stand

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for the spread of light. I am reminded of a certain anecdote from that master of human psychology Shakespeare: 'When a mob is in wild fury, it murdered "Cinna" the poet for "Cinna" the conspirator in the tragedy of Julius Caesar. What is there in a name? Yes, there is everything tragic when the masses turn up against you. If there is no "light" for long in my place, they may as well see that I don't exist. (Laughter.) My fear is that my belief that electricity will sooner or later come to my place will even vanish in spite of my name suggesting 'light' and in spite of the fact that we are agitating for the expansion of electricity in my district. I only wish that the Hon. Minister who claims to be my good neighbour would try and devise ways and means to extend electricity in my district."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I wish to offer a few remarks upon this grant and I shall not take up much of the time of the House. I shall confine myself to my district. In Vizagapatam we have got a thermal station but the supply of electricity is absolutely inadequate to the growing needs of the town. It is often said 'this is all due to want of materials.' Whenever we want extension and whenever we approach the authorities, it is always said that want of materials is the chief cause for the non-extension of electricity. In this town, I would draw the attention of the Hon. Minster, to the fact, that there is a great dropping down of voltage, especially in the mornings and in the evenings when the supply is not at all adequate for the needs of the people. In this connexion I would just draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to one or two facts. Some of our friends have already said about distinctions—Andhra and Tamil areas. Madam, I am one of those who do not believe that such distinctions are made by the Government. I would however just draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to some figures. For example, for Vizagapatam the amount allotted in the budget for 1947–48 according to budget estimate is Rs. 14,85,000. According to revised estimate it is Rs. 1,63,700. Perhaps the whole money allotted could not be spent on this work. Possibly they may say it is due to want of materials. For Cocanada thermal station, the budget estimate was 3 lakhs, whereas the revised estimate is Rs. 600. I know it would be wrong to make any comparison. However, I would refer now to the Papanasam Hydro-Electric Scheme. According to the budget estimate for 1947–48, the budgetted amount was Rs. 15 lakhs, whereas the revised estimate is Rs. 13 lakhs, for Madura the budget estimate was something like Rs. 22 lakhs, whereas the revised estimate is Rs. 25 lakhs, and for Machkund the budget estimate was Rs. 43 lakhs, whereas the revised estimate is Rs. 11 lakhs.

"I am not reading these figures just to draw comparisons or to show that there was any partiality in these matters, but I want to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to show that there is some snag somewhere and money has not been spent in certain areas, whereas money has been spent in certain other areas. How is it possible for an ordinary lay man to believe that it is all due to want of materials. The excuse that materials are not available

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and we are awaiting imports from foreign countries is a big pill to swallow, when we see consistently that in some cases the amounts allotted have been consistently spent, while in others they have not been spent. I am not quoting these figures in order to blame the Hon. Minister. By the answers given to certain interpellations by the Hon. Minister, yesterday, I clearly understood that the Hon. Minister replied somewhat as follows:—

"The schemes are under progress; the schemes are under investigation; the materials are not available."

May I ask, Madam, whether materials are available for schemes in certain areas and are not available for those in certain other areas?

"With regard to Machkund Project, I would like to say that when so much was allotted, only so little has been spent. The Hon. Minister was pleased to say regarding this scheme that it was still proceeding. May I ask the Hon. Minister whether it is only due to want of machinery that the progress had been delayed? If the materials were made available, all these schemes could have been speeded up much earlier than was expected. Allotments are being made year after year but are not spent in the same year and Government are coming forward with explanations such as 'Labour is not available, material is not available' and so on.

"Sir, for a long time it has been my experience that expenditure incurred by Government for electric schemes in the southern districts is greater than what it is in the north. In the light of these remarks, I hope the Hon. Minister will look into this matter very closely and see that this important commodity of electricity is supplied to us also without any further delay. I also hope that the Hon. Minister will see to it that the allotments made for particular year are spent in the same year and not carried over to the next year."

* SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, it was Lenin that said that socialism means electricity; electrify every village and every home and that should be the aim of any enlightened Government. Of course, the Government of Madras has been doing something since the days of Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar and several important electrical schemes were taken up at that time. (At this stage Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.) They have expanded but the pace has been rather slow and the development has been going in a snail's pace and that is the complaint. I do not want to say anything about the need for electricity for agricultural development and for cottage industries. Government should not say that they are having financial difficulties; it is a thing that pays; if they want money, they can borrow and it is one of the things that not only will pay itself but also yield profits to Government. The only difficulty that faces us is the shortage of materials and machinery. Since the advent of the Congress Ministry two years have elapsed and what serious attempts have been made by Government to procure machinery in large quantities from America or Great Britain? Important areas in the north like Vijayavada are deficit in electricity. It is admitted to be the most rapidly growing city in

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the Andhra and these even portions of the municipality are not served by electricity after the Government have taken up the electric scheme from the hands of the municipality. The thermal scheme is not expanding. When I was talking to the Superintending Engineer he says that materials have yet to come and except for four or five places to the east of Vijayavada in Kistna district, most of the places in central districts in the Andhra not supplied with electricity. The dry districts have no electricity and ryots are eagerly expecting it in order to dig wells and have electric pumps and machinery to raise garden crops and even delta ryots are eagerly expecting it. The thermal stations at Cocanada, Vizagapatam and Nellore have not been improved for all practical purposes. The Rayalaseema which is still more backward requires electricity more than the other parts of Andhra and they have not got big rivers as we have and wells are not dug and gardens could not be raised and they are suffering a lot of handicaps. I live on the banks of the Kistna, one of the biggest rivers of India and I do not know what use the Government have made so far of it; but they have not produced any hydro-electric schemes. Only two schemes have been mentioned—the Ramapadasagar Project—God knows when it will come; sometimes it goes slowly; sometimes it goes back and sometimes it goes forward, that is the fate of that project. Some people say that there are still hurdles and there are still practical difficulties and there has been a provision of Rs. 100 only. Regarding Machkund Scheme, there is a lot of controversy and dispute. I must join in the chorus with my hon. Friend, Mr. Salam, as was also shown with facts and figures clearly by my hon. Friend Mr. Viswanatham that the Telugu districts have been neglected and they have been steeped in darkness. I support the Government's view that there should be nationalization of electric schemes. I do not like that private firms should be given contracts and I support the Government in that matter. I only want the Hon. Minister who has been here all these two years to speed up the schemes of electricity in the Province, particularly in the Andhra area. I wish to say that the theory that there should be a separate department of Electricity with a separate head of the department for the Andhra districts, is correct. There should be immediately appointed a Special Andhra Chief Engineer for Electricity, who will be in charge of the Andhra districts. The Andhra Province is bound to come very soon and it is time that in every department bifurcation of the heads of departments including Electric Engineers and Chief Engineers for Irrigation takes place. With these words, I support the demand moved by the Government."

Sri A. DEVANAYAGA IYAH :—" சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, இந்த Electric supply யாதை நம் ஜில்லாவில் விவசாயிகளுக்கு வைத்திருப்பது மிகவும் கஷ்டமாக இருக்கிறது. நீண்ட காலமாக விவசாயிகள் கம்பெனிக்காரர்களை எதிர் பார்த்திருந்தார்கள். அரசாங்கமும் கம்பெனியார்களும் விவசாயத்திற்கு Electric supply செய்வதற்கு தகுந்த நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொண்டதாக தெரியவில்லை. அநேக சந்தர்ப்பங்களில் கம்பெனிக்காரர்களை கேட்கும்போது அவர்கள் சாமான்கள் கிடைக்கவில்லை, கிடைத்தவுடனே சப்ளை செய்வதற்கு வேண்டிய ஏற்பாடு செய்கிறோம்

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என்று பதில் எழுதிவிட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அரசாங்கத்தைக் கேட்டாலும் அவர்களும் அதே மாதிரி கம்பெனிக்காரர்களுக்கு எழுதி இருக்கிறோம், சாமான் கிடைக்கவில்லை என்று எழுதி விட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். எலக்டிரிக் இஞ்சினியர் மூலமாக வேண்டிய சாமான்களுக்காக மத்ய அரசாங்கத்திற்கு மனுச் செய்து கொண்டிருக்கிறோம், அதைப்பற்றி யோசித்துக்கொண்டு வருகிறோம் சீக்கிரத்தில் வரும், வந்தவுடனே உங்களுக்குக் கொடுப்போம் என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். இப்படி சொல்லிக்கொண்டிருந்தாலும் உணவை பெருக்கவேண்டுமென்றாலும் எப்படி பெருக்க முடியும். பஞ்சம் ஏற்பட்டு பட்டினியால் மக்கள் மடியக்கூடிய நிலைமை ஏற்பட்டுவிடும். இப்படி யுணவுப்பஞ்சகாலத்தில்கூட விவசாயத்திற்கு Electric supply செய்யாவிட்டால் உணவை எப்படி பெருக்கமுடியும். எங்கள் ஜில்லாவில் 8 தாலூகாக்கள் இருக்கின்றன. அதில் நான்கு தாலூகாக்களுக்கு சப்ளை கிடைப்பது கடுமையாக இருக்கிறது. முக்யமாக விழுப்புரம்,, கடலூர் தாலூகாக்களுக்குப் பக்கத்திலிருக்கும் பிரஞ்சு இராமங்களுக்கு Electricity அனுப்பி இருக்கிறார்கள். அந்த பிரஞ்சு இராமங்களுக்கு பக்கத்திலுள்ள பிரிட்டிஷ் தாலூகாக்களின் வழியாகத்தான் இந்த சப்ளையை அனுப்பப் படுகிறது. அந்த சப்ளையை வாங்கிக் கொண்டு அவர்களுக்கு கொடுக்கிறார்கள். அப்படி போகும்போது அடுத்த எல்லையில் இருக்கிற இந்த இரண்டு, மூன்று தாலூகாக்களுக்கு Electric supply இல்லாமலிருக்கிறது. அதற்கு சமீபத்தில் இரண்டொரு போஸ்டுகளை நட்டு wire-ஐ கொண்டு போனால் இந்த தாலூகாக்களுக்கும் supply ஆகும். அதனால், விவசாயத்திற்கு சௌகர்யமாக இருக்கும். அதன் மூலமாக இந்த இரண்டு மூன்று தாலூகாக்களுக்கும் தொடர்பு கொடுத்துவிடலாம். அதைச் செய்து கொடுப்பதற்கு முடியவில்லை. ஏதோ வீட்டிற்குக் கொடுப்பதால் கம்பெனிக்காரர்களுக்கு லாபம் கிடைக்கிறது. விவசாயத்திற்கு கொடுத்தால் லாபம் கிடைக்கவில்லை. அதனால்தான் வீட்டிற்கும் city-க்கு அலங்காரம் செய்வதற்கும் கொடுக்கிறார்கள் என்று முன் பேசிய நண்பர் சொன்னார். அதைப்போலவேதான் கம்பெனிக்காரர்கள் வீடுகளுக்கும் நகரங்களை அலங்காரம் செய்வதற்கும் முதலாவதாக கவனம் செலுத்தியிருக்கிறார்கள். இராமங்களில் விவசாயத்திற்கு உதவி செய்யவில்லை.

" அது மாதிரம் இல்லை. பொதுவாகப் பார்க்கப்போனால் இதற்கு முன்னால் டிசம்பர் மாதம் நான் இதைப்பற்றி கேள்வி கேட்டபோது அரசாங்கத்தார் இதற்கு சீக்கிரத்தில் நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொள்வோம் என்று சொன்னார்கள். இன்று வரையில் அதற்கு வேண்டிய வசதி செய்து கொடுக்கப்படவில்லை.

" இன்னும் சில இடங்களில் Electric supply பகலில் கொடுத்தால் இரவில் சப்ளை கொடுப்பது இல்லை. அதனால் பகலில் வேலை செய்தால் இரவில் வேலை செய்யமுடியவில்லை. அதுவும் பூராவுமாக இரவிலோ பகலிலோ சப்ளை கொடுக்கப்படவில்லை. அதனால் விவசாயிகள் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இவற்றையெல்லாம் பார்க்கும்போது உணவை உற்பத்தி செய் என்றால் எப்படி செய்யமுடியும். உணவை மாத்திரம் உற்பத்தி செய் என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டிருந்தால் போதாது. அதற்கு வேண்டிய Electric supply வசதி செய்துகொடுக்கவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது.

" இன்னும் கைத் தொழிலை அபிவிருத்தி செய்யவேண்டுமென்கிறார்கள். பொருளாதாரத்துரையில் மக்கள் முன்னுக்கு வந்தால்தான் குடிசைத் தொழிலை முன்னுக்கு கொண்டுவர முடியும். இதற்காக Electric supply ஐ அதிகரிக்கவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. குடிசைத் தொழிலை அபிவிருத்தி செய்தாலொழிய பொருளாதாரத்துரையில் நாம் அபிவிருத்தி காண்முடியாது. ஆகையால் அதற்குவேண்டிய எல்லா முயற்சிகளையும் சீக்கிரம் அவசியம் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். இதற்கு முன் இருந்த அரசாங்கம் ஜவாப் சொன்னதுபோல் சொல்லக்கூடாது. இப்பொழுது இருக்கும் சர்க்கார் அப்படி சொல்ல மாட்டார்கள் என்று நம்புகிறேன். இதுவரையில் இருந்த அரசாங்கம் சண்டையின் காரணமாக வெளி நாட்டிலிருந்து சாமான்கள் வரமுடியவில்லை என்று சொல்லிவந்தார்கள். இனி மேலாவது நமது அரசாங்கம் சீக்கிரத்தில் நமக்கு வேண்டிய சாமான்களை தருவித்துக் கொடுக்கும்படி வேலை செய்வார்கள் என்று நிச்சயமாக

நம்புகிறேன். இதை விவசாயத்தில் ஈடுபட்டவர்கள் பொம்பவும் நம்பி இருக்கிறார்கள். விவசாயத்தில் அனுபவமுள்ள நமது பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்கள் இருக்கும்போதும் மினாமத்து இலாகா மந்திரி கனி பக்தவத்சலம் இருக்கும்போதும் இதற்குவேண்டிய சரியான வழியை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும்.

"இதைத் தவிர எவ்வு பார்த்தாலும் விவசாயத்தை பெருக்கவேண்டு மென்றும் உணவு உற்பத்தி செய்யவேண்டுமென்றும் சொல்லி வருகிறார் கள். ஆனால் அதற்கு வேண்டிய எரு கிடையாது. வேண்டிய எரு எப்பொழுதும் கிடைப்பது இல்லை. இன்னும் விவசாயத்திற்கு வேண்டிய மிஷின்களுக்கு என்ஜினைகூட கொடுப்பது இல்லை. இவைகள் கிடைக் காதபோது உணவு உற்பத்தியை எப்படி செய்யமுடியும். Electric current கிடையாது, எருவும் கிடையாது, என்ஜினும் கிடையாது என்றால் எப்படி விவசாயம் செய்யமுடியும். அரசாங்கம் இந்தக் குறைகளை கவனித்தாலொழிய உணவு உற்பத்தியை பெருக்க முடியாது. ஜனங்களின் குறைகளை கவனிக்கவேண்டுமென்று தந்திகள் வந்துகொண்டிருக்கின்றன. Current கிடைக்கவில்லையே என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். சீக்கிரத்தில் இதற்கு வேண்டிய நடவடிக்கைகளை அரசாங்கம் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டு மென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு நான் இந்த டிமாண்டை ஆதரிக்கிறேன்."

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Mr. Speaker, I am very thankful to hon. Members who have taken part in this discussion for their valuable suggestions and helpful criticism. The hon. Member of the Communist Party has again taken up the question of the acquisition of the M.E.S.C. I have more than once explained to this House, Sir, the circumstances under which the terms of acquisition of the M.E.S.C. were settled. In the matter of acquisition of private electricity concerns, we are governed by the provisions of the Indian Electricity Act. Under that Act two years before the expiry of the licence, if the Government propose to take over the undertaking, notice has to be issued to the company. Under the provisions of that Act, the Advisers' Government issued the notice to the M.E.S.C., that they proposed to take over the concern. If such notice had not been issued, the licence would automatically be deemed to have been extended for a period of another ten years so that in this matter, the Advisers' Government rightly took care to issue the notice. When we took office, we found there was no other way but to be governed by the provisions of the Indian Electricity Act and the licence was expiring sometime in August, and if we did not take it over, the City of Madras would have been steeped in darkness. Without renewal of licence the company could not run the concern and we could not take it without acquiring it and paying the price. Therefore, there was no other way but to agree to refer the matter to a valuer, an expert valuer and also there is a provision under the terms of our agreement that if either of the parties would not agree to the basis of valuation decided upon by the valuer appointed by both the parties, the matter would go to an arbitration. Under those terms we took over the concern and under the provisions of the Act, we had no other way but to agree to pay the market price of the concern. It is only the assessment of the market value that is now being examined; and Government were advised that they could safely pay the amount which we have paid towards the market value that should be finally assessed. There is also a

provision that if there is overpayment, when the assessment has been finalised, the company should pay back the excess amount with interest. It is under these terms that we took over the Madras Electric Supply system, and therefore hon. Members would kindly see that there is no purpose in persistently criticising Government for payment of money which we had to pay for taking over the system. When the valuer finally assesses, if either party does not agree, the matter will go to arbitration, and whatever the arbitrator decides we have to pay. I have to mention to this House that it is not possible for the Government to accept the hon. Communist Member's suggestion, not to pay anything further in the matter. We are governed by law, and by the provisions of the Act which is in force. The hon. Communist Member referred to a private concern in Guntur and he complained that it is not catering satisfactorily. I have already stated that we are examining the undertaking of legislation which should enable us to purchase these concerns, not at market value but at a reasonable price, say, the book value. We were enabled to purchase the Cuddapah concern, because the management was reasonable enough to agree in spite of the provisions of the Indian Electricity Act to the assessment on the book value basis—the principle in accordance with which we propose to bring forward legislation. But in the absence of legislation, the board of management of the Cuddapah concern have agreed to accept any reasonable terms which would be proposed by Government. That is how we have been enabled to take over the Cuddapah concern. But there are other concerns which are not satisfactory but they like to insist on their pound of flesh and payment of market value which we cannot do. Therefore we have to wait till the proposed legislation is passed into Act. The Communist Member referred to the conditions of employees under the Electricity department of the Government. The hon. Member from Arni also referred to the conditions of the workcharged establishments. I can at once tell my friend from Arni that the officers do not stand in the way of our proceeding with the provincialisation, and they cannot stand in the way. Government have already decided on provincialization. We shall be absorbing not less than 90 per cent of the existing employees under provincialisation, which means a substantial additional commitment to Government. We have already passed orders and the details are being worked out and that is the delay in bringing it into force. Under our decision to provincialize the workcharged, they will get all the new privileges which were referred to by hon. Members of this House. There was a reference to the Machkund scheme. The hon. Communist Member said it was unnecessarily delayed. The hon. Member from Visagapatam said the allotment for the last year on the Machkund project had not been fully spent. The hon. Member from Bezwada pointed out that there were still disputes and differences over the construction of the project. We are on the construction of this project; there is no question of investigation now. Although it is a joint enterprise between Orissa and Madras, I am not aware of any dispute

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"As the hon. Mr. Nachiappa Gounder pointed out, it is true that Salem is not very well served with electricity, though substantial power is developed within the district. As he himself explained, there is a private concern and perhaps it is not interested in giving extensions and new connexions. As I have said, we do propose to take over all private concerns after passing the necessary legislation. Then, I believe, it will be possible to give substantial supply of power to areas in Salem district.

"The hon. Member from Namakkal made certain suggestions regarding generation of power and I shall have them examined. Regarding the suggestion to get power for Hosur area from Mysore, the Government have been dealing with this matter in consultation with the Government of Mysore as he himself admitted.

"The hon. Mr. Majid put in a plea for decentralization of power. In one sense, if the distribution is to be efficient, power has to be inter-connected. I would however accept what he said in another sense. We do need more thermal stations and with that end in view we are examining possibilities.

"The hon. Member representing Rajahmundry made a suggestion to appoint some officer to survey the possibilities of developing electric power in the Province. We have the advice of the best and the most efficient technical personnel available in India and we have also a Consulting Engineer in Sir Henry Heward, who has been a pioneer in the development of electricity in this Province. Therefore, I do not see any necessity to appointing an officer to go into that question. He also made a novel suggestion that electricity could be produced even from running water. I shall have that suggestion duly examined. About the inadequacy of supply to Rajahmundry, as the hon. Member himself admitted, a private concern is managing the affair. When we take it over, I do hope that the position will considerably improve.

"The hon. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillay referred to the need for supplying electricity cheaply to the common man. I accept what he has said. I can at once assure him that Government would be prepared to supply electricity to the poor man at the cheapest rate provided the Government do not incur any loss on that account. He made a suggestion that there must be a training school for electricians. But my trouble relates to the shortage of civil engineers. That is the main trouble. We have enough electrical engineers, but we want more civil engineers as we require them for highways and for irrigation. That problem cannot be solved by having a separate training school for electricians.

"As for making electrical materials, the quantity that we require is so large that the Government of India alone can tackle the problem. But I accept the suggestion put forward by the hon. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillay and we shall certainly give all possible encouragement and support to private enterprise in this country which come forward to manufacture these materials and make them available to us.

"He made a reference to soil erosion which affects adversely possibilities of electrical development. I shall bear that in mind.

"The hon. Member from Vizagapatam referred to the unsatisfactory condition of the Vizagapatam thermal station. He quoted certain figures from the Budget. I shall look into them. I am not able to tell this House exactly how allotments for schemes in certain areas were more or less spent and how allotments for schemes in certain other areas were not spent. But I can assure my hon. Friend and this House that so far as the Government are concerned, there is no question of discrimination between one area and another. It is true that Andhra area has been very poorly served with electricity and it is also true that Rayalaseema area does not have any electricity at all compared to the Circars. Only a handful of villages in Rayalaseema are being supplied with electricity. While moving the Demand, I have already said that we are looking into the whole question and the Government will be issuing a press note which would explain fully the position regarding the different areas. But regarding how the allotment for the Papanasam Extension Scheme referred to by hon. Member from Vizagapatam, I can say that that is a hydro-electric project which was sanctioned some time before. Materials required for that scheme had been ordered in 1945, i.e., two years ago, and that was how the Government were able to get those materials and it was possible to spend substantially from out of the allotment. It does happen not only in this department but in various departments that the provision made is not fully spent and there are several reasons for not being able to spend the entire allotment.

"Regarding the progress about the Machkund Project, I can once again assure the House that, with all the difficulties, we have been making satisfactory progress and we hope to complete the project within the scheduled time.

"The hon. Member from Bezwada described the development of electricity as proceeding at a snail's pace. Yes, Sir, the expectations are so many, the demands and needs are so many that whatever progress we make naturally looks like a snail's pace. We have been making every possible attempt, we have been contacting High Commissioners, Ambassadors and others to secure our requirements of machinery and materials and I am glad to say that the position regarding the securing of materials has considerably improved recently. Therefore, I do hope that Government would be able to show considerable progress regarding the various schemes which we have taken on hand and which we propose to take.

"He made a suggestion regarding the creation of a separate Department of Electricity for the Andhra area. He has been

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entertaining that there should be separate departments for Police, Irrigation and ever so many things. You will agree with me, Sir, that I am not competent to deal with this question. That is a larger question which has to be tackled by the Government as such.

"With these words, I request the hon. Member who moved the cut motion to withdraw it."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"After hearing the reply of the Hon. Minister and the explanation he has offered, I beg leave of the House to withdraw the cut motion."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, we would like to know the future programme. There are several Demands and we do not know whether all of them will be reached or whether some of them will have to be guillotined."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I will announce the programme to-morrow."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

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APPENDIX.

[vide answer to starred question No. 211 asked by Sri P. Venkatarama Ayyar at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 22nd March 1948, page 542 supra.]

Statement showing the stock position of groundnut cake stored in Tanjore Palace.

Month.	Opening balance.	Receipts.	Disposals.	Closing balance.
	BAGS.	BAGS.	BAGS.	BAGS.
July	18,032	2,002	5,656	14,378
August	14,378	1,428	6,888	8,918
September	8,918	1,862	2,464	8,316
October	8,316	1,386	2,926	6,776
November	6,776	1,442	4,214	4,004

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" I am not aware of any such representation, Sir."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—" May I enquire whether the Government are extending any help to the poor people who like to leave the place and stay outside owing to the prevalence of plague in Punganur by supply of zinc sheets, etc.? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" No such efforts have so far been made."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know whether the Government are taking any preventive measures as regards the incidence of plague, such as the provision of rat-proof dwellings and rat-proof stores for grains and other articles of food? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The provision of rat-proof dwellings and rat-proof godowns will be a necessary measure for the prevention of plague, Sir, but the Government have not taken up the responsibility for doing it themselves."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I enquire whether the Hon. Minister is aware that annually there is a loss of foodgrains to the extent of Rs. 800 crores throughout India as a result of the depredation of rats. May I request the Hon. Minister to consider the desirability of providing rat-proof stores for grains, which will be a preventive measure against the incidence of plauge? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The Health staff can only make the people know what type of houses would be rat-proof. The Government cannot undertake this work. Private people themselves will have to construct rat-proof buildings."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I enquire whether Mr. Venkata Reddi and Mr. Raza Khan who are coming from the plague spots have been duly inoculated? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The question may be addressed to them, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Will the Hon. Minister state whether the Government have any special officers always ready to deal with situations like this whenever they arise in the whole of the Province as in Punganur? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Whenever there is an outbreak of plague extra staff is employed and as I have already stated in this case three Health Inspectors, 12 maistries and 24 coolies have been appointed to combat the epidemic."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" Are the Government aware that there was a reference in yesterday's papers about an American drug which is a great cure for this and other typhoid diseases and that it is on its way to India in large quantities sent by the Government of United States of America? "

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Yes, Sir. Any new drug coming with sufficient credentials will be tried."

SRI R. VENKATA REDDI:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that from 1946 plague has been constantly in evidence in several places in the Chittoor district, like Madanapalle, Palmaner, Kuppam and in the Chittoor taluk and whether it is not necessary for the Government to order an investigation of the causes and to find out remedial measures? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" In all areas bordering on Mysore, every year we get plague cases. I do not know what exactly are the measures which we can take to prevent outbreaks of plague in those places. It will be a difficult proposition as the plague epidemic has been going on for a number of years. The matter will be investigated."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" My question was, Sir, whether there is any officer at the centre here in Madras, who is solely in charge of plague, because plague is prevalent in some parts of the districts and it becomes an epidemic here and there in the course of the year? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Yes, Sir. One Assistant Director of Public Health is in charge of the control of epidemics. He went to the place last week and gave the necessary directions to the staff there."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—" May I enquire whether such of the poor people who may like to leave such areas like Punganur are extended any help and allowed to occupy open areas like the fields, etc.? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" As I have already said, Sir, as many as 1,800 houses have been vacated out of a total of 2,398 houses in the place. The people are staying in temporary sheds provided by themselves."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—" May I know, Sir, if people have been inoculated on a large scale and if so the percentage of the population inoculated? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Out of 9,395 people, 6,560 have been inoculated."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—" May I know, Sir, from the Hon. Minister whether he knows that the Collectors are given some discretionary grants for distribution to the poor people whenever there is plague in any part of the district? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" May be, Sir."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware that plague is rare in places where chillies are consumed in large quantities? Especially in the Andhra, plague has not been experienced for a very long time. Will he try to know whether chilly eating has got any effect or influence in the prevention of plague? "

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Plague infections begin with the rats. Therefore the destruction of the rats is the best method of preventing plague spreading to men."

SRI R. VENKATA REDDI:—" In view of the admission of the Hon. Minister that there is constant danger from the Mysore frontier, may I know, if that is not sufficient reason to take special measures to prevent a recurrence? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Systematic Cyanogas fumigation has been found to be the only feasible method of destroying the rats. The best thing to do is to have rat-proof dwellings and godowns."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—" May I know what the Government are doing to destroy the rats? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member wants to know the steps taken by the Government to destroy rats."

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The step taken at present is the Cyanogas fumigation of rat-holes."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—" Arising from the reply given by the Hon. Minister that owing to the existence of too many rats plague is spreading, is the Hon. Minister aware that there are too many rats in the North Arcot district wherefrom plague starts and spreads to other adjacent districts? "

(No answer.)

Promotion of cottage industries.

* 215 *Q.*—SRI G. KUMARASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) the steps the Government have so far taken for promoting cottage industries in our Province since 1st May 1946; and

(*b*) the industries that have been started, and at what centres?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—" (*a*) A scheme for the development of cottage and village industries on intensive lines as part of Firka Development Scheme was sanctioned in December 1946. So far 43 demonstration and training units for imparting training in different cottage industries, namely, blacksmithy, woodwork, pottery, sheet metal work, light metal casting, boat building, tanning and leather goods manufacture, rattan and bamboo work, toys and lacquer work, handmade paper have been started in the selected firkas. This scheme is also intended to provide all facilities to trainees and others to develop the cottage industries after training.

" (*b*) A list [a] showing the items of cottage industries for which training units have been started and the centres where the units are located is placed on the table of the House."

[a] Printed as Appendix on page 646i infra.

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SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—" Will the Government take steps to see whether there are possibilities of starting any further cottage industries outside the Development Firkas in each district of the Province? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" When results are known and we are able to know how things are progressing with regard to the schemes that have been taken on hand, they will naturally be extended to other centres."

SRI P. KANDASWAMY PILLAI:—" In view of the fact that sugar is the most essential commodity may I know from the Government whether they are going to include sugar industry also among the cottage industries? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" That will be a difficult matter to decide. An examination will have to be made."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" May I know why in the Kanupoor Development area in the Nellore district, a pottery section has been opened without supplying the pottery experts with wheels and stipendiaries have been invited without stipends being granted for the past six months? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" This refers to a particular case of which I am not aware. I would advise my hon. Friend to put a separate question. It looks rather bad if potter's wheels are not supplied where potteries are to be made."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTY:—" May I know how many cottage industries experts have been appointed under the scheme and is there any special officer appointed for promoting these cottage industries? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Notice, Sir."

SRI P. KANDASWAMY PILLAI:—" In view of the answer given by the Hon. Minister for Home, may I know whether the Government are inclined to consult the experts for including sugar also in the cottage industries? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" We shall see how it progresses, Sir, before we launch on other schemes."

SRI B. S. MALLIKARJUNA RAO:—" Are the Government taking care to see that the people who are put in charge of cottage industries evince real interest in the development of the industries? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The hon. Gentleman may rest assured that when the Government undertake a work they will also see that the experts who are appointed in connection with the work know their business."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know whether the Government will consider the desirability of marketing the goods that have been produced by way of these cottage industries, such as ropes, mats, etc., manufactured by the Yerukulas? "

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"All that are produced under the scheme are naturally to be marketed."

11-15 a.m. SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the officers who are appointed are trained in any of the cottage industries already?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"They would not be there, Sir, if they had not been trained."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know, Sir, whether tanning is given full support in the cottage industries scheme in all these firka development areas?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Where such work is undertaken, naturally every facility is given."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"May I know, Sir, the reason why the tanning expert superintendent has been dispensed with?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am afraid I have not examined this question. I would like to have notice."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Are the Government giving these trainees any stipend, and, if so, how much per head?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Notice."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that recently an officer for this firka development has been appointed without advertising the post in the papers and also without giving notice to all people to apply for the post?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"An officer was appointed and he is capable of undertaking the task for which he has been appointed."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government have prepared a list of cottage industries and, if so, will they place the list on the table of the House?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The cottage industries that are now being undertaken in these firkas are given in answer to clause (*a*)."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"What I want, Sir, is a list of industries that are considered to be cottage industries in this Province."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The list as given is the one that is being undertaken now, Sir."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Government be pleased to advertise the posts for which men are required, so that the best available men may accept the jobs?"

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THE HON. DR. P .SUBBARAYAN:—"I do not give any undertaking. The Government devise every method to get the experts they want."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government intend to employ some experts from China and Japan to train the people here in cottage industries?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"That matter has not been considered, yet."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"Sir, with a view to develop the cottage industries in this Province, will it not be advisable to have this department under the Minister for Industries and Commerce rather than under the Premier?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The Premier is really interested in cottage industries, and he is taking every possible effort to develop it."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister, Sir, whether the present Director of Industries has reported to the Government that all these cottage industries firka development areas must be converted into production centres?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I have no information to that effect."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—"Judging from the list placed on the table of the House, I find that the items chosen for training in various centres do not conform to the conditions actually prevailing there, for instance, leather work and wood-work have been chosen in places where other more profitable cottage industries could have been chosen. Was this aspect considered before deciding the items for various centres?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Now that the hon. Gentleman has given this information, the Government will examine and see how it can be fitted into the habits and customs of the people."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether any experts are trained at the cost of this Government in leather tanning work and whether they have been deputed to other Provinces for working there?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Notice."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Sir, the Hon. Minister said that Government are doing everything possible to improve cottage industries. I would like to know from him how the tanning industry by Harijans can improve if the Superintendent is sent away for tanning demonstrations."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"If other Governments want him, he has to go. He said he will be back again to do his work here."

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MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Arising out of the various answers given by the Hon. Minister, Sir, does it not follow that the Premier is interested only in firka development and in no other subjects?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"That certainly does not follow, Sir."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Sir, is the Minister aware that the Superintendent of tanning demonstrations in the firka development scheme has been reduced to a lower status, and that he is a Harijan who has been trained in Calcutta and Wardha? I want to know what reasons have prompted the Government to reduce the only Harijan officer in this firka development in charge of the industry of Harijans?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I will have this matter carefully examined."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government have taken the advice of the All-India Village Industries' Association in this matter?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Yes, Sir. We are in touch with the All-India Village Industries' Association."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government have given any encouragement of exemption from taxes, either local or provincial, to promote cottage industries in this Province?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"This is a very large problem and I would have it considered by my colleagues as well."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"Sir, in view of the general complaint made by the Premier on the floor of the House that he is too busy with Government work, will it not be advisable for him to transfer this department to the Minister for Industries and Commerce so that he may be free to devote his attention to other more important works?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am afraid the hon. Member is going much beyond his province."

M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, from the Government whether it will not be better or advisable for them to place before the House a comprehensive list of cottage industries, their possibilities of development, their marketing facilities, etc., before they launch upon those schemes?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The House has every opportunity of considering this matter during the Budget demands."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government will consider the desirability of starting a research institute for cottage industries?"

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"That is a matter which requires deeper consideration, Sir."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"May I know, Sir, why Cuddapah district has been omitted from this list, and may I request the Hon. Minister to consider the desirability of starting a centre in that district also?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am sure, Sir, the Premier will consider the suggestion made by the hon. Member."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—"May I ask the Government, Sir, whether they would consider now at least the need for securing the services of expert from China and Japan?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"This is a matter which requires deeper consideration, as I have said before."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"May I know, Sir, why Tanjore district has been omitted from the list placed on the table of the House."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am rather pleased to see that there is rivalry between districts."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTY:—"Is it a fact, Sir, that some qualified and competent cottage industries' experts have been served with notices for the termination of their services and, if so, is it the method by which the Government propose to promote cottage industries?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am afraid, Sir, I have no information on this point. I would advise the hon. Gentleman to put down a separate question."

SRI B. S. MALLIKARJUNA RAO:—"Sir, Pendurthi in Vizagapatam district has been fixed as a cottage industry centre. May I ask, Sir, why nothing has been started in that centre?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I will have to call for this information, Sir."

SRI P. KANDASWAMY PILLAI:—"In view of the fact that button-making industry is the foremost cottage industry, will the Government consider including it in cottage industries?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, every Member seems to have his own opinion of cottage industries. If Government went on in the manner suggested by Members, perhaps they would have to exhaust their whole Budget on these things."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Sir, will the Government consider the desirability of allowing the raw materials that are used for tanning, etc., and which are available in the local firkas, to be collected by the people who are taking to cottage industries in firkas?"

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I am afraid, Sir, all these questions are going much beyond what I find in the question put down. I have no more information on this."

Handwriting expert.

* 216 *Q.*—SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government of Madras contemplated securing the services of a competent handwriting expert in 1946, for assisting in the work of investigation in criminal and civil cases;

(*b*) what steps the Government have taken in that regard up to date; and

(*c*) what is the expenditure incurred annually for the past five years, in securing the services of an expert from outside Madras Province?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (*a*) Yes; it was in 1946 that the Government first took up for consideration the question of creating a post of handwriting expert.

" (*b*) The Government have decided to create a post of Examiner of Questioned Documents for this Province. Orders sanctioning the post will be issued shortly.

" (*c*) The information is available readily only in respect of the fees paid during 1944 to 1946 which were as follows:—

		Rs.
1944	... ...	1,295
1945	... ...	1,630
1946	... ...	2,035

These figures relate only to cases which emanated from the Police department. The fees paid in respect of cases referred by civil and criminal courts are not known."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that Sri K. S. Ramamurthi, expert in handwriting, whose several cases have been appreciated by the High Court, Madras, offered his services, and, if so, what is the difficulty for the Government in accepting his services?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I am not prepared to discuss the case of individual officers on the floor of the House."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" Sir, does it not involve a lot of avoidable expenditure if we constantly have to requisition the services of outsiders for the purpose of taking expert evidence in handwriting?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" That is the reason why the Government have now decided to have a handwriting expert for this Province."

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SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have called for any information regarding the handwriting experts in the Presidency?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" When the appointment is to be made, the Government will devise methods by which this handwriting expert could be found."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" Sir, in view of the fabulous charges made by the handwriting and finger-print experts, may I know whether the Government have made arrangements for giving training to some people in this Province so that they may be useful to Government in these matters?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The hon. Gentleman knows that we have been getting our handwriting expert from the Government of India. But as the distance is longer and the sums paid are great, we have decided to have a handwriting expert. We will see how he gets on before we get others."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" What are the regulations prescribed for the expert in handwriting and what is the basis by which the Government are going to find out whether the gentleman is really an expert?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" That is beyond the Government's power. The hon. Gentleman knows that as I do. Suppose his writing be forged by somebody else and he says that it is not his handwriting, by a comparison of his handwriting with the writing on the paper, the expert will be able to say whether his signature is true or not."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Before the gentleman is appointed, what is the test that the Government have in view to find out whether that gentleman is really an expert?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The test is whether he is capable of doing this job, because we know what the job is. Whether he is capable of that or not will be the test."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Instead of following any other method, will the Government consider the best method of advertising the post and then only make the appointments?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I am not prepared to give any undertaking."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware that even some forged exhibits have been declared by handwriting experts as true?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Handwriting experts make mistakes sometimes like the hon. Gentleman himself who makes mistakes at times."

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SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—"Sir, as several disputed documents of enormous value go to the experts for examination, would the Government see that the pay and allowances of these experts are put sufficiently high?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"That will be taken into consideration, because it will be a very delicate job he will have to do."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"May I know, Sir, whether the appointment will be made by the Public Service Commission or by the Government of Madras?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"As I told you, Sir, we have not yet come to any decision."

Newspapers supplied to the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.

*217 *Q.*—SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that several newspapers, daily and weekly, are supplied to the Office of the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards at Government cost; if so, what is the total amount paid by the Government for the newspapers during the period from 1944–47 and whether the newspapers are made available daily for the office staff or for the members of the public visiting the Office of the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the old or used newspapers are sold and the amount realized by sale of used newspapers during each of the years 1944, 1945, 1946 and 1947 credited to the Government, and, if so, the dates of credit of sale-proceeds during the same period?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"(*a*) Dailies but no weeklies were subscribed for by the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards at Government cost during the period 1944–47 for official reference by himself and also by the office staff as and when required. The total amount paid from 1944 to 1947 was Rs. 384. The dailies are not intended for being read by members of the public visiting the office.

"(*b*) The old papers are sold. Some of them were lost through theft which occurred at the end of 1944. The remaining papers and those of 1945 and 1946 were sold to the Salvation Army at concessional rates. The proceeds, namely, Rs. 6–1–0 was credited to Government on 1st October 1947. The other old papers are pending sale from 6th January 1948, since the Government contractor has not yet turned up in spite of notice."

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SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTY:—"Is it a fact that only records that are intended for destruction are sold to the Salvation Army and not old newspapers which must be sold in the market and the amount credited to the Government?" 11-30 a.m

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"These papers were sold to the Salvation Army with the consent of the Government at concessional rates."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"Will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to state what are the newspapers that are supplied to the Inspector of Local Boards and who selects these papers?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"Notice, Sir."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, what are the references for which this officer requires these daily newspapers in the discharge of his duties?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"News relating to local administration matters or matters connected with local bodies, advertisement and other things."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Is it not the practice for the Government to supply all the daily newspapers to all the Provincial officers, Sir?"

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

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTY:—"May I ask the Government whether they have given a general direction that all such offices and officers who are supplied with these daily newspapers should sell these old newspapers to the Salvation Army at concessional rates?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"Notice, Sir."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I take it, Sir, arising out of the answer of the Hon. the Minister, that it is for the advertisements and other things that the newspapers are being supplied to these officers?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"I have already stated that the newspapers are supplied to the Inspector to refer to matters relating to local administration and if some district boards are slack in their work and if there is something wrong, the Inspector will see to it. That is all what I said."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not the duty of the Director of Publicity in our Province to have this news supplied to the officers of the several departments on matters relating to them instead of the Secretary or the Presidency officer reading these papers himself?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"I think that is being done in the Secretariat."

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Accommodation for students in middle and high schools.

* 218 *Q.*—SRI P. R. KANDASWAMI GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) what is the increase in the number of students attending middle and high schools in this Province during the last five years;

(*b*) the number of middle and high schools newly started during the said period;

(*c*) whether a large number of students are being refused admission for want of accommodation;

(*d*) whether local bodies have applied for building grants for high school buildings during the above period;

(*e*) whether any such grants were made to any of them; and

(*f*) whether Government have any idea to give liberal grants for the purpose in the near future?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"(*a*) The figures are—

1942–43	..	12014
1943–44	..	36281
1944–45	..	35122
1945–46	..	45162
1946–47	..	48977

"(*b*) The number of schools newly started is—

1942–43	..	18 middle schools and 1 high school.
1943–44	..	19 middle schools and 4 high schools.
1944–45	..	41 middle schools and 5 high schools.
1945–46	..	40 middle schools and 11 high schools.
1946–47	..	33 middle schools and 72 high schools.

"(*c*) Representations have been received from certain places that some children could not be accommodated. To facilitate more admissions, more schools and classes have been opened and some schools have been permitted to work in shifts. Special Officers of District Boards and Executive Authorities of Municipalities were also instructed to provide temporary sheds, if necessary, in the schools to accommodate the large number of students seeking admission into the schools.

"(*d*) Yes.

"(*e*) Yes.

"(*f*) The matter is under consideration."

SRI M. S. PATTABIRAMIAH:—"Are the Government aware, Sir, that a school building which began in the year 1942 for housing a very popular high school at Uttamapalayam in Madura district, has not yet been finished and the walls are standing without roof?"

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am not aware of it, Sir. The hon. Member may put a separate question."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"I want to know, Sir, what final action have been taken by the Government with regard to clauses (*d*), (*e*) and (*f*) of the question. The Hon. Minister said in answer 'yes.' It is not sufficient. I want to know what definite action has been taken by the Government?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"If the hon. Member puts a pointed question, I will be able to give a more definite answer."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"I want to have from the Hon. the Minister a specific answer for clauses (*d*), (*e*) and (*f*) of the question. I want to know what action Government have taken over it."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, during the last five years, a number of applications have been received from local bodies for building grants. But the number of cases which came under the consideration of Government was small when compared to previous years because in G.O. No. 1915 of 1941, certain restrictions were placed by Government in the matter of these grants as well as in the use of building materials and so, the applications in these years were not many. A few applications were considered and certain grants were sanctioned. With regard to the Board High School at Uthamapalayam, about which my hon. Friend, Mr. Pattabhiramiah, put a question just now, the total estimates amounted to Rs. 32,000. In respect of that school, a grant of Rs. 16,000 was sanctioned and I think, the work has been partly executed. An amount of Rs. 8,753 has already been disbursed. In the same way, the Board High School at Chodavaram, the Board High School at Hobathalai, and the Board High School at Kamuthi have all been sanctioned building grants. There are certain other schools also to which these building grants have been sanctioned, but I cannot mention all of them just now in answer to a supplementary question."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Do the Government realize that for a long time, they have not given grants for school buildings?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"It is true, Sir, that adequate grants were not given to the aided schools for a long time."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Sir, the Hon. Minister has stated that adequate grants have not been given for buildings for a long time. If that is so, may I ask the Hon. the Minister to reconsider his answer and accept the position that no money has been given as grant for constructions of school buildings ever since that famous G.O. of 1941 came into force?"

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I may point out that every year grants were made to a few institutions but the grants were not adequate. I use the word 'adequate'."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to place on the table of the House a list of grants given to schools as building grants ever since that famous G.O. of 1941 up to now, at least in the next session of the Assembly?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"The hon. Member may put a separate question."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Will the Hon. the Minister consider a change in the policy of the Government in being liberal by giving more grants for these school buildings?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I have already answered that question that the matter is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I ask the Government whether they consider the removal of the restriction in the matter of building grants?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I have already said that the matter is under the consideration of the Government."

BEGAM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Since the Hon. the Minister has acknowledged that there is an increasing demand for education, will the Government establish more schools, both High schools and Middle schools, and give priority to women's education in view of their backwardness in education?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I have already stated in my reply that the number of schools newly started in the year 1946-47 is 33 middle schools and 72 high schools. The figures are the highest for the last many many years. That only shows how much encouragement has been given for establishing new schools."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"May I ask the Government how many of these new schools are provided with buildings and for how many Government are going to provide buildings?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"There are buildings for all the high schools. Otherwise, they cannot exist."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the acknowledgment that there is a shortage of accommodation for high schools and colleges, will the Hon. the Minister take into consideration such managements as have provided for themselves

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accommodation during recent years and consider giving retrospective effect so that they may get liberal grants for their buildings also especially in view of the fact that the Government are going to revise their policy shortly in regard to this matter?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"That question does not arise. Let us think about the future instead of thinking of giving grants retrospectively."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—"May I ask the Government that if there are district boards which are to receive these grants, the allocation of grants in their case will be in the inverse proportion of their resources?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I very much appreciate the suggestion of the hon. Member. I have already said that Government are anxious that buildings should be constructed for school purposes and that is why they are reconsidering the matter."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. the Minister regarding the number of schools, may I know how many of them are Government-managed, how many private managed and how many of them are managed by local bodies?"

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

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know whether it is a fact and whether it is in the knowledge of the Government that parents who admit their children in many of the high schools are asked to pay a certain amount of money for building accommodation for the school?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I have not had any complaints about it."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Consistent with the policy of the Government, why should not the Government conduct these schools under trees and shades?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"The Government have their own policy. They do not follow the policy dictated by my hon. Friend, Mr. Salam."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Since there is a proposal that in lieu of grants, loans may be granted to private agencies if they come forward to construct buildings, may I request the Government to state that if those managements that have put up buildings apply for such loans, will Government give due consideration to their applications?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"The Government are not contemplating giving loans. There is a proposal to give grants out of the loans borrowed by the Government and that matter is under consideration."

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SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" May I ask the Government how many out of the 72 high schools that are opened, received building grants from the Government? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" The hon. Member may put a separate question."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—" What is the difficulty for the Government in arranging the shift system in high schools and colleges immediately? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" If the hon. Member has listened to the answer, he would have seen that in certain schools shift system has been resorted to."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. the Minister that 72 high schools have been opened, will the Hon. Minister consider the desirability of taking up such districts which are poor and which have not come forward to increase the number of high schools or the number of schoolgoing children, and also considering the backwardness of such districts, will the Government start Government schools in those areas? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" The hon. Member may put a separate question."

11-45 a.m. SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" Arising out of the answer to clauses (*d*) and (*e*), may I ask whether it is not better to give them grants in the shape of cement and iron than in the shape of cash? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" I am not able to appreciate this question. I suppose the hon. Member's suggestion is that the Government should give the schools cement and iron. I do not think the managements will appreciate it."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Does the Hon. Minister realise that the policy of the Government in withholding grants even for legitimate demands is retarding education and not promoting education? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" The Government do want to encourage education in all possible ways. They have been doing it in the past, they are doing it to-day and they will do it in future also."

The Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, 1930.

* 219 *Q.*—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government intend to amend in a comprehensive manner the Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, 1930, which has become antiquated; and

(*b*) if the answer is in the affirmative, whether steps will be taken at an early date for this purpose?

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The matter is under the consideration of the Government."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I ask when the Government will arrive at a decision in the matter in view of the fact that unless and until section 4 of this Act is suitably amended this Act can be of little avail in suppressing immoral traffic? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Steps have already been taken to effect the amendment suggested by the hon. Member and also various other amendments. But we are so much pressed with other legislative matters that it will take a little more time."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May we hope that the matter will be taken up during this session, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I cannot promise, that, Sir."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister if this Act which came into force in 1930 has been effectively worked for the last 18 years? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" It has been working for the last 18 years, but I cannot say how far it has been effective. But considerable work has been done under that Act."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTY:—" In view of the fact that we claim to be a secular State, can we take cognizance of the ethical aspect of such traffic, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" It is not the ethical aspect. It is the public danger that we have to guard against."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know whether there are any cases where this Act has been misapplied? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" If the hon. Member has any instances in his view, I shall be glad to have them from him."

Penalty imposed on the ryots under the Owk tank in Kurnool district.

* 220 *Q.*—SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA: "Will the Hon. Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the ryots under Owk tank (Kurnool district) have been penalized heavily for taking water by cross-bunding to save their crops;

(*b*) whether any representations have been received from them for the cancellation of the penalties, and if so, from whom; and

(*c*) what action the Government have taken on these representations?

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THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"(*a*) The Government have no information, but have called for a report.

"(*b*) *&* (*c*) In his letter, dated 21st July 1947, the hon. Member made a representation on behalf of the ryots under the Owk tank in Koilkuntla taluk, Kurnool district. Reports have been called for from the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) and the Collector of Kurnool, on the points referred to in the hon. Member's letter. The receipt of the report is awaited."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—"May I point out, Sir, that such heavy penalties will hit the Grow More Food Campaign as it would discourage the ryots from growing paddy at a time when we require foodgrains very much."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Absence of penalty will give an opportunity for anybody to go and occupy others lands."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—"It is not a question of occupation of land. I want to clear that misapprehension. The ryots used water for their own land by cross-bunding the channel and they are heavily penalized. I want those penalties to be removed and not for any unauthorized occupation of lands as the Hon. Minister has misconstrued."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Even if it was only the bunding across the channels, the riparian rights of ryots lower down the channel are affected."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is stated here: 'Ryots under Owk tank.' May I know whether these ryots are living under the tank, and if so, how they can be penalized for taking water by cross-bunding the tank?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Every tank has got a channel. I hope my hon. Friend has seen tanks and channels. If he has seen them, this question will not arise."

M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, is it not desirable to maintain the rule of law in all these matters also instead of allowing the ryots to have their own way?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"All will agree on that point, Sir."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—"The position is this, Sir. The lands are situated on a higher level. The remodelling work of the lands was badly executed and the ryots were forced to cross-bund the channel to make the water flow into the channel. I want the penalties to be removed. There is no question of riparian rights."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Even if it is so, there must be some authority for doing it. Everybody cannot do as he likes."

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SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Sir, inasmuch as these ryots have helped the Grow More Food Campaign, may I request the Hon. the Revenue Minister to please see that these heavy penalties are not levied?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"It is evident from the question that these lands were begun to be cultivated long before the Grow More Food Campaign was thought of."

Location of the office of the District Medical Officer, Vizagapatam.

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

(*a*) when the office of the District Medical Officer, Vizagapatam, was located at Chicacole, and for what reasons;

(*b*) whether there is a proposal now to shift it from Chicacole; and

(*c*) if so, on what grounds?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"(*a*) The office of the District Medical Officer, Vizagapatam, was located at Chicacole from 15th March 1946 in order to facilitate the control of relief measures in North Vizagapatam.

"(*b*) *&* (*c*) The Government have issued orders on 12th March 1948 to shift the headquarters of the District Medical Officer, Vizagapatam, from Chicacole to Vizagapatam, as the necessity for locating the headquarters at Chicacole no longer exists."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—"In view of the fact, Sir, that the Government have already decided to bifurcate the district of Vizagapatam and that Chicacole will be made the headquarters of the North Vizagapatam district, will the Government consider the desirability of appointing another District Medical Officer for North Vizagapatam and locate the office of the District Medical Officer at Chicacole?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"After bifurcation is effected, this matter may be considered, Sir."

The Protected Water-supply Scheme for Courtallam.

* 222 *Q.*—SRI D. DORAIRAJA PANDIAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state at what stage is the Protected Water-supply Scheme of Courtallam Panchayat Board, Tenkasi taluk, Tinnevelly district?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The investigation of a combined water-supply scheme for Courtallam and three other panchayats in the Tinnevelly district was commenced in December 1947 and it is now in active progress. It is expected that the investigation will be completed before the end of June this year."

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SRI D. DORAIRAJA PANDIAN:—"In view of the fact, Sir, that Courtallam is a health resort and a sanatorium which is visited by people from all over the Presidency, will the Government consider the desirability of giving the scheme top priority?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"When the report of the investigation is received, the matter will be considered."

SRI D. DORAIRAJA PANDIAN:—"Are the Government aware, Sir, that during the Rajaji Ministry when the Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi was Minister in charge of Local Administration, a scheme was prepared to declare Courtallam a sanatorium?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"No such scheme was prepared during those days, Sir." (Laughter.)

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Government have not evolved a five or ten year programme of rural water-supply and drainage schemes?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"There are post-war schemes regarding these matters."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"When are they actually started, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Some rural water-supply schemes are being executed."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"So far as drainage schemes are concerned, are any post-war schemes undertaken by the Government each year, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"A number of drainage schemes are also under execution. Some are awaiting sanction. I have repeatedly stated that the recommendations of the Water-supply and Drainage Committee will be examined by the Government and a programme of works will be undertaken."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Questions are over."

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

II.—HALF-HOUR DEBATE ON GRANTS TO SCHOOLS.

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, in view of the fact that the answers to question No. 218 regarding building grants for schools are not satisfactory, may I request you to allow under rule 14 a half-hour debate on the subject at 1 p.m. to-day, as we are rising at 1-30?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have no objection to allow a half-hour debate. But I can allow it only after 1-30 p.m. I want to know whether the Minister will be able to be here, because the other House meets at 2-30 p.m."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I should like to point out for your consideration that the Council is to meet at 2-30 p.m. and there will be hardly any time and it may not be possible for the Minister concerned with all the willingness in the world to accede to the request. That is what I want to point out."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"I hope the hon. Member, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan, will not press it."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"We are aware of the fact that the Council is meeting at 2-30 p.m. But only one of the Ministers will have to be here. I do not think we need trouble the Leader of the House to be here then."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"It will be inconvenient to-day, Sir. As far as the subject-matter is concerned, all that I can say is that the matter is under consideration. I will have nothing more to say."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have got another suggestion. We have the Supplementary Budget to-morrow. Hon. Members can raise the question then."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Can we have the half-hour debate to-morrow, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I cannot promise. There may be adjournment motions or some other thing. The hon. Members may raise this question on the Supplementary Budget."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"This is a very important subject which has been agitating the minds of the people. I submit to you, Sir, that it is a very urgent matter and should be taken up."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"This matter may be discussed on the Supplementary Budget, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"This is a question of policy, Sir. I would request you, Mr. Speaker, to see that the Hon. the Premier also is present."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I entirely sympathise with the hon. Member, Mr. Hameed Khan. But the Hon. Ministers have to attend the Council at 2-30 p.m. If this House sits till 2 p.m. the Ministers will hardly have any time for their tiffin and other business. I hope the hon. Member, Mr. Hameed Khan, will realise this and not press his request."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"If the Government are anxious to serve the Province, half an hour delay in this matter should not matter much to them, I am sure, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I want to know whether the Hon. Minister can be here till 2 o'clock to-day."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Not to-day, Sir."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"This debate may be allowed to take place to-morrow after 4-30 p.m." 12 noon.

MR. SPEAKER:—"We can have the debate only after 5 o'clock."

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"May I point out that there will be a huge financial commitment if the motion is carried? We are considering the proposal. We have nothing more to add to what we have stated already. We have to pass through many hurdles."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Allowing half-an-hour debate is entirely in the hands of the Speaker. If necessary, I am prepared to allow it. The only difficulty is we may not be able to have the debate to-day as the hon. Member Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib wishes to. We shall have this debate to-morrow after 5 o'clock."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"On a point of information, Sir. I gave notice of a question in the month of January regarding Mettur Water-supply Schemes. I got a reply from the Secretary to the Legislative Assembly that my question has been admitted. Now it is the end of March and my question has not been answered yet. When I sent notice of a similar question to the Legislative Assembly Secretary, he replied that it was not necessary to give notice of such a question as my previous question had already been admitted. May I know from the Hon. Health Minister when I can get a reply to that question of mine?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I have no information now. I require notice of the question."

III.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* FAILURE OF THE GOVERNMENT TO PREVENT RECENT INCIDENTS ALONG THE NIZAM'S BORDER.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member, Mr. Venkata Subbayya, has given notice of an adjournment motion under rule 36 of the Assembly Rules. The motion runs as follows: 'I move that the business of the Assembly do stand adjourned to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, viz. the failure of the Government to take adequate steps to prevent recent incidents along the Nizam's border involving raids on the villages of our Union by armed Muslim goondas, Police, etc., looting and plunder, killing and abucting people and creating a state of insecurity to life and property, and to impress on the Government the need for more stringent and vigorous action to render adequate protection and restore confidence among the people.'

"I wish to know what the Hon. Home Minister has to say with regard to this motion."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, I make a personal request to the hon. Member not to press this adjournment motion, because the situation is very delicate and the States Ministry of the Government of India are doing their best to try and see that this matter is settled by negotiations. Owing to the illness of the Hon. Minister of the Government of India for States, negotiations have been interrupted at the present time. But I am sure it will be continued in the near future. It is my

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duty as a Member of this Provincial Government to try and see that nothing is done on the floor of this House which will make it difficult for the States Minister of the Government of India to carry on negotiations to a finish. As I have explained to the hon. Member, what is possible by the Provincial Government, with regard to the safeguarding of the borders is being done. In spite of every attempt that has been made by the Government of Madras, the Nizam's Government seem to have lost grip over the problem of administration. So far as we are concerned, these incidents are becoming more frequent. I have reported both to the Agent-General of the Government of India and to the Hyderabad States Minister. It will be impossible for our people to put up with what is happening on account of these incidents, the frequency of which is increasing day after day. Only to-day, my hon. Friend representing Bezwada-Masulipatam Urban Constituency showed me a telegram which says clearly that Razakhars have got out of hand altogether. Mr. Razvi makes things more difficult for us. He does not know what is happening with regard to the negotiations. He seems to think that he is a dictator. As Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru stated in his speech at a public meeting in Vizagapatam, men like Mr. Razvi make it impossible for any peace to be maintained. I can assure hon. Members that the Government have got the situation on hand; they know exactly what is happening there. Our police are giving us all the information that is required. The debate will only lead to acrimonious sayings which may not eventually help the Hon. Minister for States. My intention is that, as far as possible, it is the duty of the Government of Madras to do everything that lies in their power to make negotiations that are still afoot, to run in a smooth manner, so that the situation may be brought to an end. I still hope, trust and believe that it will be possible to put an end to the situation because of the strength of the States Ministry. I have every sympathy with my hon. Friend's intention. I know he comes from a district on the borders of which these incidents are becoming more frequent. He is responsible to his constituency and wants to show to them that he has done all he can to bring home to the Government the difficulties under which people living in the borders undergo. At the same time I would ask him with all the emphasis I can command, that in the interest of the Union of India, for the present, he must carry on as I have carried on with regard to border incidents. If this matter is to be debated upon, I would prefer this motion to that given notice of by the hon. Member representing the Guntur Labour Constituency, because he is bound to make extreme statements criticising the Government which will make the negotations more difficult. Still I have every hope that what I have said will influence even the hon. Gentleman representing the Guntur Labour Constituency not to press his motion, because I take it that he is also interested in the Union of India and its prosperity. Nothing should be done in a manner which will

affect the future set-up of this country. I would ask both the hon. Members not to press their motions."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—" Sir, I may be permitted to speak on one or two points in reply to what the Hon. Home Minister has stated. Let me assure him that I do realize the delicacy of the matter involved in the adjournment motion, politically and diplomatically . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—" If the hon. Member wants to speak, I shall admit the motion. I take it he is not pressing it."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—" I want to raise two or three points."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I wish to know, Sir, whether the hon. Member can speak on the motion."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The hon. Member may try to get further information from me so that people in the border areas may be satisfied with what is being done. I think the hon. Gentleman ought to be allowed to put his point of view so that I can meet it if there is any necessity to do so. He may be allowed to state what he has in his mind."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, the wording of the resolution is objectionable. It refers to Muslim goondas. I think the Hon. Speaker should ask the hon. Member first of all to amend his motion before he moves it."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I am afraid I must protest against the remarks of the hon. Muslim Member representing Kurnool. There are goondas in all communities. The hon. Member refers to Muslim Goondas by which he means Razakhars."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I do not want that there should be trouble to the Muslim community by this motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The motion refers to Muslim goondas, not to all Muslims generally."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" How can the hon. Member know that they are Muslim goondas? ".

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" It only shows that the hon. Muslim Member representing Kurnool district is not wide awake to the problem that is troubling us to-day."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I take it the hon. Member is not pressing his motion. If he wants to make a speech, I will have to admit the motion."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—" I want, Sir, clarification on two or three points. While I appreciate the diplomatic and political nature of the question involved in the adjournment motion, what is more important is the maintenance of law and

order and to ensure the safety of life of person and of property . . . "

SRI P. NATESAN:—" It looks as if a discussion is taking place. The hon. Member is speaking on the motion by way of clarification of so many points. It may lead to a controversy."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member may ask for any information necessary."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Sir, in spite of what the hon. Member representing the South Indian Chamber of Commerce has stated, the intention of the hon. Member representing Nandyal is to infuse confidence among the poor people. They might like to know what the Provincial Government are doing in the matter of maintaining law and order and taking care of the safety of person and property of the people in the border areas. Those people may be anxious to get a statement from me. I do not see that any controversial point is raised, as is observed by the hon. Member representing the Southern India Chamber of Commerce."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" As a Member of this House I have to offer these remarks. If the hon. Member moving the motion and the Leader of the House want to have their say fully in the matter, the motion may be admitted and then we can have a full debate."

MR. SPEAKER:—" If the Government have to say anything more, they may issue a Press Communiqué."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I shall discuss the matter personally if necessary with the hon. Member representing Nandyal. I shall also issue a Press Communiqué, if necessary."

MR. SPEAKER:—" It will be a bad precedent if I allow the hon. Member moving the motion, to speak on it. If there is to be a debate, I shall admit the motion and have a full-dress debate. I do not object to such a course. I am not going to allow the hon. Member to make a speech. Is he pressing his motion? "

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—" I wish to raise one or two points."

MR. SPEAKER:—" If the Government are going to issue a press communiqué, hon. Members may put fresh questions and we can have an half-an-hour debate also if necessary."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—" There are some questions arising out of the statement made by the Hon. Minister. May I know whether Home Guards have been formed in those border areas and if not, when they are going to be formed and what further steps the Government are taking in the matter? The statement made is of a general nature."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I am considering what reply I should give the hon. Member. If I give my reply,

it may amount to a debate. I therefore request the hon. Member not to press his motion."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—"I wish to ask another question, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am not going to allow further questions to be put."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—"Sir, in view of the assurance given by the Hon. Minister, I am not pressing my motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"There is another adjournment motion given notice of by the hon. Member, Sri Pillalamarri Venkateswarlu. It is as follows: 'I hereby give notice to adjourn the House to discuss a matter of urgent public importance:—To discuss the situation created by our Special Police by assisting and actively taking part in the raids carried on by the Nizam Military on some villages in Nizam's Dominion bordering Kistna district.'"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, I deny what the hon. Member says. If the motion is going to be admitted, I propose to oppose it."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I admit the motion."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I oppose it."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is the hon. Member pressing it?"

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Yes, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—(The hon. Member moving the motion alone stood in favour of the motion.) "The hon. Member has not got the permission of the House to move his motion.

"Order, order. Hon. Members must be aware that when the Speaker stands, they should not speak."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I rise on a point of order, Sir. Just now, when answering a previous adjournment motion, the Hon. the Leader of the House made a speech in which he has cast certain aspersions on me personally and my Party while explaining his position, anticipating that I was going to move another adjournment motion. If you want, Mr. Speaker, to varify my statement, you may kindly call for the reports taken down by your official reporters and satisfy yourself. Particularly he said that it would be more dangerous to allow the adjournment motion in the form proposed by me. It is nothing but misleading the House. That is why I demand I must be given a few minutes to explain my position."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am not going to allow the hon. Member to speak. If I do so, it will become a debate."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I mentioned like that because the motion was worded in a manner which made me feel

that a discussion on it would make matters more difficult. The wording of the motion is: 'To discuss the situation created by our special police in assisting and actively taking part in the ryots.' Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a most defamatory statement on our police force. That is why I was denying an opportunity of discussion on it as it would make things worse."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"The Hon. the Leader of the House has particularly referred to me when he was replying to another adjournment motion. My point is this . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"But the House has not given the hon. Member permission to move the motion any way."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Mr. Speaker, my submission is that my point of order refers to the statement made by the Hon. Leader of the House when he was speaking on the other adjournment motion . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Order, order. That is no point of order. Hon. Member will not disturb the House again. Now I will take up discussion on Demands."

IV.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1948-49—*cont.*

DEMAND XXVIII—FAMINE.

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"I beg to move—

'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rupees 5,00,000 under Demand XXVIII—Famine.'

"Mr. Speaker, Sir, Madras Famine Relief Fund Act, 1936, provides for the establishment and maintenance of Madras Famine Relief Fund. The main provisions of the Act are—

'(1) Assets of the Fund—

(i) The balance at the credit of the previous Famine Fund when it was wound up on 31st March 1936.

(ii) Contributions from the revenues of the Province.

(iii) Interest accruing from time to time on the securities of the Central or the Provincial Government in which all sums due to the credit of the Fund not immediately required for expenditure have to be invested.

(2) Purposes for which the Fund may be utilized—

(i) Relief of serious famine.

(ii) Relief of distress caused by serious drought, flood or other natural calamities.

(iii) When the fund exceeds 40 lakhs of rupees, the excess may be utilized to meet expenditure on protective irrigation works and other works for the prevention of famine.

(3) Contributions to the fund from revenues—The accounts of the fund have to be made up as on the 31st March each year

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the securities belonging to it being valued at their market value on that day. Should the valuation in any year show that the balance in the fund fell short of 60 lakhs on that day, contributions from Provincial Revenues have to be made to make up the deficiency. If the deficiency exceeds 5 lakhs it may be made up in annual instalments, each of such instalments except the last being not less than 5 lakhs. Contributions may also be made otherwise, e.g., by crediting the fund with the sale-proceeds of famine tools and surplus materials remaining unutilised after a famine, etc.

" A statement showing the transactions relating to the Madras Famine Relief Fund from the year 1944–45 will be found in Appendix III to the Budget Memorandum for 1948–49.

" During 1948–49 it is proposed to draw from the Fund Rs. 50·00 lakhs for expenditure on famine relief in terms of paragraph 1 (2) (iii) above and to contribute from the revenues to the fund a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs with reference to paragraph 1 (3) above. At the end of 1948–49, the Fund is expected to have a cash balance of Rs. ·04 lakh and securities of the value of Rs. 44·30 lakhs (purchase price).'

" That is the position, Sir. There are a number of cut motions and if hon. Members raise their points, I shall be very glad to answer."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that under Demand XXVIII—Famine that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,00,000 '."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" I beg to move—

' that the allotment of Rs. 5,00,000 *under Famine Relief be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

Sir, while moving the cut motion, let me point out that the conditions of famine are still prevalent. Because the Government have given up their policy of controlled economy and rationing we are reduced to this state. Even though there is still rationing, I find many people are unable to get their rations. Conditions in surplus districts are in no way better. People at least get something in surplus districts and this cannot be for all time. Unless proper measures are taken now, even surplus districts will be facing famine very soon. Whatever may be the condition in the Tamil districts, the effect of famine is being felt in Rayalaseema districts. Famine conditions do prevail in this Province. I know the Central Government itself has directed this Government to give up controls and rationing. Both the Central and Provincial Governments have failed in their duty towards the people.

" Sir, there is only one possibility of getting away with famine, i.e., by having controlled economy and by strict rationing. If these two conditions cannot be fulfilled, Government cannot get over the situation. We are now told that unless there

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is more production, we cannot get over the food situation. For increased production we are now told that Government have got a policy of bringing more lands under cultivation. So many applications have been placed before the Government, but for some reason or another all those application have been rejected. Under ' Grow More Food ' campaign for cultivation of certain lands permission was given, but afterwards those lands were resumed by Government. Sir, Government have no settled policy in this direction. The policy of the Government is not in the interests of the people. We have got the problem of land and land revenue and unless this problem is solved completely, there is no possibility of increased production.

" With these few words, I move the cut motion."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, speaker after speaker were saying ' What have the Government done to meet the food situation, have they done this or have they done that and what is the policy that they have ' and so on and so forth. (At this stage Madam Deputy Speaker occupied the Chair.) Madam Deputy Speaker, I ask ' Have they been sleeping all these days? ' No. They have been doing something. Sir, now it reminds me of the story of a camel. A man met a camel and asked her ' How is it that your neck is so crooked '? The camel replied ' You, fool, why do you question me like that? Which other part of my body is not crooked '? Likewise, here our Government do things in all crooked ways. Their policy is inverted or perverted. Sir, famine condition in this Province is very acute. India is free, but Indians are slaves. India is rich, but Indians are poor. That is the case. Famine is already there. If famine and food had been put in charge of one Minister it would have been allright. Of course the Hon. Minister says that there is the supply of horsegram to the Ramnad people and he also adds that there is more caloric value in horsegram. But he seems to forget the fact how poor children will be able to take this food becasue they will not be able to digest it.

" Now, I want to ask another thing, Madam. All these relief measures will not do, but we want to see that famine is driven out of the country altogether. We want to avoid famine at all cost. How to do it? Madam, you must know how to do it. Why do you ask me when you are having your own cars and petrol to go wherever you like; and wherever you go, you are profusely garlanded. So, Madam, the remedy is in your hands and what we want is food and it is your responsibility to give us food. When during the last war Hitler took tanks from Germany to Egypt by air, could you not bring bags of rice from Burmah or other places to India. It could easily be done. As I told you it is all due to the perverted policy of the Government. Let us see how far this perverted policy goes. In spite of all your efforts, we are starving and people are dying in certain places and we have no cloth to clothe ourselves. You talk of post-war development, or your Charka

12-30 p.m.

[S. A. F. Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur] [23rd March 1948

development or the Rural development. Who wants all these things when we are actually starving and have nothing to eat and famine is staring us in the face? This again reminds me of another story. Two friends were going along a street and unfortunately one man had a long beard and the other was clean shaven. The man with the long beard had a match box with him while the other man had a cigarette with him and when he lit the cigarette, his long beard caught fire. While he was engaged in putting out the fire from his burning beard the other man without the beard said, please be good enough to let me light my cigarette. It is this policy of the man without the beard that you are following, i.e., asking the man with the beard to wait till the other man lit his cigarette."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Famine is a natural consequence of certain conditions and burning of the beard cannot be cited as an analogy here."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"There is nothing in this world which cannot be overcome. It is said that during the last war Hitler manufactured biscuits from straw and sugar from nightsoil. (Laughter.) So, Madam, unless you make up your mind and endeavour in every way you can, you cannot save us from famine. That is what I say. I ask you, Madam, not only in the interests of the people, but in your own interests also, have you forgotten what Konda Venkatapayya has said, i.e., 'is self-Government a substitute for good Government'? During war-time the then Adviser Government with four members said, there was no famine and now we are having 13 Ministers—one dozen and one Ministers—everyday growing fat with travelling allowance and an unlimited quantity of petrol and in addition to these they have free Government cars. And what are they doing, Madam? (The Hon. Sri Kala Venkata Rao: 'We supply coupons to members also'.) Please see that people do not live to eat but eat to live. That should be your policy.

"As I have already told you, Madam . . ."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has exceeded the time. The question is—

'that under Demand XXVIII—Famine, a sum of Rs. 100 *be reduced.'*"

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I do not want to take part in the proceedings, particularly in view of the fact that this demand is under the head 'Famine'. It is a well-known fact that famine is declared usually by a notification of the Government but it has of late become the policy of the Government not to declare areas under famine on the pretext that they are doing their best to avert famine conditions. We no doubt sympathize with the attempts of the Government to provide food and relieve the scarcity of food. It has been brought to the notice of the Government on the floor of this House, particularly at question time that there are various parts of this Presidency which are suffering from acute

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food scarcity. As a matter of fact, it is very difficult to differentiate between the demand Famine and the demand under Food Department and might I say, the Irrigation Portfolio also. I should have been very happy, Madam, if in addition to the Hon. Minister for Public Works, who is very ably assisting the Hon. Minister for Famine just now on the floor of this House, the Hon. Food Minister also were present here, for I should say that it is the responsibility of these 3 Ministers and also the Hon. Minister for Agriculture put together, to see that famine conditions are averted. It is no use the Government replying at the end of the debate that most of the references made by hon. Members of this House with reference to famine do not relate to the actual administration of the Famine fund, or the Famine Code or the Demand under Famine. It would be unreal if the Hon. Minister, not realizing the conditions in the Province, merely takes up that technical position but I hope he will see his way, as far as he can, to meet the arguments placed before him and if he is not able to solve the food problem, at least he will do well to take note of the points raised in the debate, on to the Food demand. That is the correct way of describing the debate on this occasion and may I further state that there are laws dealing with permanent famine conditions. It is a matter of good luck that the Ceded districts are free from famine this year. It is a notorious fact that the Ceded districts meet with famine conditions very often. This year, it has been brought to the notice of the Government that certain tracts in Ramnad, Tinnevelly and Madura districts are suffering from famine conditions. If people are not able to get enough food, it is true to say that they are suffering from famine conditions. As a matter of fact, when the poor man does not get his food, he does not say famine, i.e., பஞ்சம் but சாப்பாடு இல்லை. That is the way in which the food scarcity is described by the common man. I do hope that the Government will take note of it seriously and let them not be parochial in this matter. I beg leave to mention in this connection the distressing conditions under which the people of the Ramnad district, particularly two or three taluks round about the area are suffering. When the matter was brought to the notice of the Hon. Food Minister, he promised to make detailed enquiries about the conditions in Tiruvadanai, Devakottai and Tirupattur and since these are dry taluks in the area, unless the Irrigation Minister—who was good enough to say that he would again examine the possibility of taking water from the Cauvery by digging a canal—comes forward with a scheme, there is no possibility of averting famine in these areas. I remember the Minister for Public Works mentioning a year ago that he would consider the matter and later he gave a reply that the Chief Engineer said there was not enough water to go on. My own view is that if they cannot water all the areas continually, it does not matter, but at least once in four or five years you can make efforts to save the people in those areas by bringing water by means of a canal and enrich the three taluks I have mentioned. I hope the Hon. Minister for Public Works will continue his efforts in this direction, because it is by such methods that famine conditions could be relieved. So, Madam,

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unless Government have a bold plan straightaway to relieve the recurring famine conditions by means of more irrigation facilities, it may not be possible to solve the problem. Madam, the immediate problem is to import food and send it to the distressed areas and avert famine conditions, but a long range policy should also be seriously taken into consideration in order to solve the problem permanently."

* SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Madam Deputy Speaker, I rise to support the Demand moved by the Hon. the Revenue Minister and in doing so, I would like to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister that I come from one of the famine districts. I say that not only my district is famine-stricken, but the whole of the Rayalaseema is suffering from famine. I need not tell you and I am sure the whole House knows and the Hon. Minister knows much better than I do, about the conditions there. I say, what is the good of knowing all this if they do not act quickly and see that the famine is prevented. After all, how long the Government want us to go on crying and saying, we come from a famine area, our districts are famine-stricken, we want relief works should be started, remission should be given and so on. How long you want to keep us in such a begging state, I ask the Government? No doubt during the Adviser regime, they thought that Rayalaseema could be made the industrial centre of the Madras Presidency and I do not know when this will be put into practice and when really Rayalaseema is going to become the industrial hub of the Madras Presidency. Madam, God only knows. You know that the Advisers' Government appointed a committee called the Rayalaseema Economic Development Board in the year 1940 and to-day we are in the year 1948 and though eight years have since elapsed, nothing has been done. Still the Board is there, still their meetings are going on and I do not know if the Board takes so many years to formulate a scheme for developing that area of five districts. I do not know when their recommendations are going to be put in the hands of the Ministers and how they are going to understand the recommendations and translate them into action. And, when they actually intend translating them into action wherefrom are they going to get the necessary funds for the purpose? There is no use merely saying that you are every year making demands and that you want so many lakhs for the purpose, and that you want to get rid of this famine from this area altogether. But nothing has been done. So, Madam, I would request the Minister concerned to expedite giving effect to the recommendations of the Economic Development Board at an early date. I come to understand that the Economic Development Board of Rayalaseema has recommended an expenditure of ten crores. For a Provincial Government, a popular Government which thinks of the people always and who want the people to be healthy everywhere, if they cannot spend ten crores to carry out the recommendations of the Committee, I do not think this sort of sympathy, lip sympathy will help the people of Rayalaseema any further. I would therefore, suggest, Madam, that the Famine Code has to be revised. Most of the members,

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especially those coming from other districts may not know what the Famine Code is. Supposing there is a famine, particular methods have to be followed, particular amounts have to be spent on the particular reliefs to the people of the areas affected by famine. In order to go into the details of this Famine Code, there was a committee appointed in the year 1938 while my hon. Friend, Mr. Prakasam was the Revenue Minister. The Committee toured from place to place, collected data and all the information they wanted and submitted their report. It has been the practice, Madam that whenever members press for anything, the Government find out a convenient method of appointing committees, which are asked to investigate into matters. Of course, they take their own time to go about their business, tour places and investigate matters and finally formulate their ideas and submit reports to the Government and finally they are simply shelved. There they rest for all time. I ask, Madam, what is the purpose of appointing such committees? The purpose is really lost when the recommendations of a committee are not carried out. So, Madam, I urge on the Government to take early steps to see, what are the recommendations of the Famine Code Revision Committee, when they submitted their report, what the Government proposed to do with those recommendations and why the Government have failed to carry out those recommendations. Otherwise it is merely a waste of public funds, if you merely appoint a committee and not give effect to their recommendations. But, if on the other hand, you want to do anything tangible, you must act according to the decisions or the recommendations of the committee, because there is no use wasting public money for no purpose.

" The Hon. Sri H. Sitarama Reddi, representing the Rayalaseema, happens to be the Minister for Industries; I do not know whether he has taken into consideration the recommendations either of the Economic Development Board or the Famine Committee. He was himself one of the members of the Famine Committee and I think that he himself was responsible for a good number of recommendations and I do not know whether now that he is on the treasury benches, he has forgotten the recommendations of that Committee. I do not know what is the good of making recommendations and expressing sympathy with the Rayalaseema. We want something substantial to be done and we have been agitating for this for the last so many years. Now they point out to the Tungabhadra Project but I do not see what this particular Government have done. In fact they have not moved an inch beyond what the Adviser Government have done. How can they call themselves a popular Government? My own fear is that they are going to take their own time to complete the Project; even in the present Budget I do not find any provision and my fear is that they may be thinking: ' We do not see whether this scheme serves the purpose of the Rayalaseema; as it is not going to serve the Rayalaseema, we need not bother; we shall take the high level or the low level channel; let it take its own time; let it be completed in 1956, if not in 1952. If they were eager to finish the scheme early, they would have provided more funds in this year's Budget

12-45 p.m.

[H. S. Hussain Sahib Bahadur] [23rd March 1948

As the Hon. Minister for Revenue has said, there is already, what is called, a Famine Relief Fund. If possible, this fund could be utilized for certain purposes in the famine areas for improving the conditions there.

" Madam, electricity can play a great part in avoiding famine. Electricity, I feel sure, will play its due part in the national life of our country for increasing its productive capacity. We have seen what has been done in the neighbouring State of Mysore. They have got the Kannambadi Dam and they have got the *Irwin* Canal. Millions of acres of land which was a waste land some years ago, have been brought under the plough and production has been considerably increased. They have also the Jog Falls, from where it is possible to get cheap electricity. These are two examples which I might cite to this Government so that this Government may apply its mind and concentrate its attention on this problem immediately. Therefore, there are ways and means and it is for the Government to think about it, plan about it and come to a definite conclusion. The sooner the Government does it the better."

1 p.m. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, we are coming to the end of the budget session. At this stage we have come to the Demand of Famine. I thought I might say a few words before we conclude the session. Famine is not a state of affairs that arises merely from the failure of the monsoon or floods or other causes. Famine conditions arise from various circumstances which make it impossible for people to carry on their ordinary avocations, carry on the ploughing of the land and the sowing of the seeds. What is the stage in which we are to-day? When we consider the question of famine here now, at the end of March, in what stage do we stand, do people stand and how are we to judge whether there is famine or not? There may be no famine in certain delta areas where everything goes on well. If you go a little further up, you may find people starving not being able to get anything to eat or to carry on their work. For any government it becomes a very difficult task to find out and declare correctly, to what extent there is famine and to what extent there is no famine. What are the present conditions?

" Madam, take the Hyderabad situation. What is going on inside Hyderabad and what is going on on the border line? Two adjournment motions were attempted this morning before this House. One was withdrawn on a statement made by the Home Minister and the other was ruled out because a sufficient number did not rise to back it up. It is a long history so far as Hyderabad is concerned. We are here, running a Government, a Legislature commanding such a large majority to back up the Government. While we are sitting here, while we are doing our business, the stories of the atrocities committed there by one section or other, by one group or other, have been reaching us. Can we say that we are really functioning? If we are really so helpless as to say that nothing could be done,

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because of the negotiations going on between the representatives of the Hyderabad State and the Union Government, it is a tragedy in spite of all efforts that are being made by the Union Government, that such things are happening. They are far away from the Hyderabad State. We are close to the Hyderabad State and the atrocities or the offences committed are not in the interior of the Hyderabad State exclusively but on the border line and in the villages that belong to us, to our Government, on our own people. Can anybody say that everything is going on without the famine conditions forcing themselves upon the unfortunate people? I have got a big story on this matter. I do not wish to trouble the House on this occasion by going over in detail. It is enough to say that unless and until all the Members of this Assembly which is a body invested with great powers and authority, all the Members of this Government and everyone for that matter, make a supreme effort to tackle this Hyderabad question and unless and until we can make it impossible for the raiders to go about in our villages, to kill our people, to loot their properties in lakhs and lakhs and disapppear, we cannot claim to be really doing our duty. It is a very painful thing for us and we have to tackle it. Therefore, when you think of famine, and when you discuss any other matter, you must always keep in mind, to what extent we have been doing our duty and to what extent we have failed in discharging this duty. That is one item.

" Madam, what is the condition of people in the districts of Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Madura or Malabar or in the district in the north of Madras? Have they got security of person, or security of property? I feel I have been avoiding reference to these things deliberately in the course of this budget session, because mere discussions will not help; mere words will not help; and a particular course of action should be adopted, even while the Union Government is negotiating with the Hyderabad State, to see that our own people do not suffer before our own eyes. We are here governing and carrying on the administration of the people. A very serious situation has arisen. If we are only following what is going on in the outside world everyone of us will have to halt a bit and say, how long can we be free in this country, how long have we got freedom in our own house, in our own town, in our own village, in our own province and what is going on in other parts of the world and how long would it require the same situation to overtake us. A very grave situation has come not only in our own Presidency, Madam. It is a situation that has come to the whole of India, and if other friends in other provinces do not take proper care in time to prevent this disorder, we would all be losing the complete ground and the people will be left to themselves to live, not in peace in our name but in misery as they have been doing in various parts. Let us go to Tanjore district. There, the crops are lying on the floor, the owner, not being able to take away and to convert

them into paddy for his own use. To-day, if that is the state of affairs, how can you go on saying that there is no famine merely because there was a bumper crop and the whole thing was good there whereas, owners are not able to carry and use them for themselves. How can we say that everything is going on well. So, I say the conditions of famine depend upon so many circumstances. The famine has started with the end of the war. This time, we have been continuously in famine in one form or another. Already the Food Minister was good enough to say to-day that there is no trouble for food and there is no food famine in our area. Very rarely he makes his statement like that. A short while ago, he had to admit that everything had gone out of hand and it was not possible for him to have production and distribution among the people. If there is production, there must be distribution. If there is production and paddy is produced in large quantities, it is lying on the floor. If it is not distributed to the people, what is the use of saying that there is good crop. In that way we are in a very difficult position and above all, this famine does not seem to come to an end in a year or two. As I pointed out, the other day inflation has overtaken this whole country, we are not inclined to go into the details and understand the consequences of this inflation. We are not in a position to checkmate this inflation and cut short the whole business by one bold stroke just as it had been done in Russia. There, the people are very clever and very vigilant. At the proper time, they take the whole thing on hand. Our Governments both in the Centre and here will have to be very careful in regard to that matter. Until that is done, it will not be possible. We are lost here over trivialities as it were, over small matters and continuous strifes will be going on over this or that matter for nothing which will produce no good result and under such conditions what are we to do now?

"Linguistic areas, linguistic divisions, Tamil, Andhra, Malayalam and Kanarese—all these differences have crept in and they have landed us in endless controversies. It is said that there would be a big difficulty in solving these linguistic differences. On the 28th of January I saw Mahatma Gandhi. The next day I left for Madras and came here. On the third day, he was shot
1-15 p.m. dead in Delhi. What did he tell me, when I was talking to him. Another friend, a Member of the Upper House was also present with me. He is a man whose vision will not be confined to the House in which he is living or to the city in which he is living or to the province in which he is living; always his vision extends over the whole country. He said, referring to the proposed separation of the Andhra province from the rest, 'close up your ranks, Prakasam, and see, that differences, if any, with regard to demarcation of boundaries, are determined by agreement and not by appointment of a boundary commission. Settlement through boundary commission is not in keeping with the independence which we have established.' (At this stage Mr. Speaker occupied the Chair.) Although I have been endeavouring to follow him to the extent to which I could, I was surprised when he said 'close up your ranks.' Because what was the condition of our Province during the last two or three years. I was wondering how to close up the difference. Anyhow I promised him to do it. I saw how thoroughly conditions due to famine have deteriorated in the country, how people have become helpless, and how the organization has become useless. After coming here I made proposals, not to the one Province to which I belong technically, but to all of us declaring that unless the condition improves within the next twelve months, unless there is a change, within the next 24 months, everything will be changed and cannot be identified, there will be no legislature, no Speaker, and all of us will not be there. What happened in Czechoslavakia? In what time did it happen? Country after country underwent change like that. Like that in China also things happened. When things go wrong, overnight they bring about changes. Therefore it is the duty of everyone of us to forget the past and not adopt old methods or create difficulties. I knew if I am to approach some friends on this matter they would misunderstand me. Why should they misunderstand me? Due to ignorance. If a man in my position should attach value to that, nothing would be possible. I am glad conditions in our Province have greatly improved now. I really feel proud of the way in which hon. Members of this Legislature and people outside this House approach the question now. That is the advantage in which we are to-day. I wanted the boundary dispute even with regard to the Madras City to be settled according to Mahatma Gandhi's suggestion. But it is a matter that would be settled by a boundary commission that would be appointed not by this Government or by this Legislature but by the Union Government. It is Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the Prime Minister of the Union Government who told the other day that he was appointing such a commission. Mahatma Gandhi advised us to settle it among ourselves, and if there is any difficulty in solving it he asked me to refer it to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. That is what we are now going to do. So let us not waste our time any more. Famine is an important thing to be dealt with. It is not entirely due to the failure of the monsoon. In Tinnevelly due to the failure of the monsoon people are dying. If people like Mr. Kosalram say that people are dying there from starvation, the Hon. Food Minister will reply, 'no doubt there was death but it is not due to starvation.' (Laughter.) Government should not take up the situation in that way. It is for them to rise to the occasion and set it right. Sir, I do not want to take up the time of the House any further; so I resume my seat."

* M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the cut motion. In doing so, I would like to show to the House how Government could manipulate their Budget and that particularly under this Demand. When we go through the Budget memorandum we find that the Government

have actually taken away nearly 50 lakhs. That is the amount transferred from famine relief fund, and what is returned is only five lakhs. I do not really understand why this heavy sum should be taken away from this amount, which can be used for better purposes. (The Hon. Sri Kala Venkata Rao: 'Only by way of precaution'.) The Hon. Revenue Minister has said in his opening remarks that he has done it with the idea of improving relief works. Even when I go through the figures with regard to that, I find towards gratuitous relief, they have allotted nearly seven lakhs as against 29 lakhs allotted for relief work. I am really sorry that more money is being spent particuarly under the revised Budget towards gratuitous relief. Because you are aware, Sir, as also hon. Members of the House, that money spent in gratuitous relief is money wasted. I wish Government come forward with relief work, where they can spend more money, which will ultimately reduce famine conditions in this Province and help to develop our own irrigation and other facilities urgently required for this Province. I would wish that revenue producing work should be undertaken and that capital work should be executed expeditiously. Unfortunately the Tungabhadra Project and the Ramapadasagar Project are still like dreams; people are going through the estimates and revised estimates while districts in Rayalaseema and other parts are actually facing famine conditions. Mr. Prakasam in his lucid speech has explained how this famine condition is prevailing in this Province, and unless Government take serious steps to prevent this deterioration we will be creating untold sufferings.

"Again, Sir, large amounts have been spent by way of grants or bonuses given to people to sink wells. I would wish that the Government take upon themselves the task of sinking wells instead of handing it over to the people. It has often been pointed out to the Government by several members on the floor of the House how this bonus is being wasted or misused. Therefore instead of allowing such valuable money to be wasted Government themselves should sink wells. They have got their experts, and with their help they can find water sources and sink wells. The complaint is that people who dig wells find no water. That only redounds to the discredit of the Government. Therefore instead of allowing people to carry on this work Government themselves must undertake this work. Collectors of districts have been asked to take up repairs and also construction of spring ponds and channels. Several Members of this House have pointed out how spring ponds and channels are merely going to waste, how Government have not taken up any schemes of utilizing this available water which is so urgently required for the development of our agriculture. I would only earnestly request the Hon. Minister that instead of merely asking the Collectors to look after the work, he makes his own department as also the Public Works Department take up this work seriously. In the North Arcot district, in the constituency from where my hon. Friend, Mr. Anwar, comes, there are several

such spring ponds and channels which can be usefully utilized. Similarly, in South Arcot, there are several such springs. Unless and until these springs are developed conditions arising out of drought cannot be solved. It is no use hon. Members making long and windy speeches on the floor of the House when people outside are actually suffering for want of several things."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may continue his speech day after to-morrow. To-morrow the House will debate on the Demands for Supplementary Grants.

"I adjourn the House till 11 a.m. to-morrow."

APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 215 asked by Sri G. Kumaraswami the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 23rd March 194 page 606 supra.]

List showing the items of cottage industries for which training units have been started and the centres where the units are located.

District.	Name of firka.	Name of village in which the unit is working.	Cottage industry.
Anantapur	Hindupur	Hindupur (Sevamandir).	Toys and lacquer work.
Do.	Do.	Lepakshi	Blacksmithy.
Guntur	Ongole	Alur (near Kottapatnam).	Pottery.
Do.	Do.	Bandalamitta	Blaksmithy.
Do.	Do.	Tangatur	Woodwork.
Kistna	Bezwada	Woodpet (near to Patamata).	Leather goods manufacture.
Kurnool	Kurnool	Joharapuram	Pottery.
Do.	Do.	Do.	Tanning and leather goo manufacture.
Do.	Do.	Do.	Blacksmithy.
Madura	Tirumangalam.	Tirumangalam	Do.
Do.	Do.	Do.	Woodwork.
Malabar	Tellicherry	Vedakambad	Blacksmithy.
Do.	Do.	Do.	Woodwork.
Do.	Do.	Do.	Bamboo and rattan work.
Do.	Do.	Kodiyeri	Pottery.
Nellore	Ranupur	Manubolu	Do.
North Arcot	Kalasapakam	Melreni	Do.
Do.	Do.	Do.	Woodwork.
Do.	Do.	Kappalur	Blacksmithy.
Ramnad	Malli	Nachiarpatti	Lightmetal casting and bell met work.
Do.	Do.	Do.	Blacksmithy.
South Kanara	Kumla	Bela	Woodwork.
Do.	Do.	Do.	Pottery.
Do.	Do.	Kumbla	Lightmetal casting and bell met work.
Tinnevelly	Shermadevi	Kuniyur	Blacksmithy.
Do.	Do.	Do.	Sheet metal work.
Do.	Do.	Do.	Pottery.
Trichinopoly	Musiri	Musiri	Blacksmithy.
Do.	Do.	Jambunathapuram.	Lightmetal casting and bell meta work.
Do.	Do.	Thiruvengimalai	Handmade paper.
Vizagapatam (N).	Gara	Calingapatam	Blacksmithy.
Do.	Do.	Do.	Boat building.
Do.	Do.	Do.	Woodwork.
West Godavari	Dendalur	Jogannapalam	Rattan and bamboo work.
Do.	Do.	Dendalur	Leather goods manufacture.
Do.	Do.	Pothanur	Blacksmithy.
Bellary	Alur	Alur	Woodwork.
Chittoor	Nagari	....	Do.
Do.	Do.	Chavarambakkam	Blacksmithy.
Do.	Do.	Nagari	Pottery.
Chingleput	Tiruvallur	Kakalur	Do.
Coimbatore	Palladam	Palladam	Woodwork.
Do.	Do.	Do.	Blacksmithy.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, the 24th March 1948.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Price of coffee seeds.

* 222-A *Q.*—SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether coffee seeds have trebled in price after removal of the controls;

(*b*) what are the reasons therefor; and

(*c*) what steps the Government have taken to prevent the rise in price?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"(*a*) The price of coffee seeds has increased but as far as the Government are aware the commodity has not trebled in price. The announcement regarding withdrawal of statutory control of coffee prices was made on 18th February. The wholesale price of coffee seeds, Plantation 'OO' variety in Madras City was Rs. 72-1-0 per imperial maund on 14th February 1948 and the price of the same variety on 15th March 1948 was Rs. 146-3-0 per imperial maund which represents an increase of 103 per cent.

"(*b*) The reasons seem to be mainly short supply and decontrol of prices.

"(*c*) The Government have already taken up the matter with the Chief Coffee Marketing Officer and the Government of India and the hon. Member may rest assured that all possible steps will be taken to ensure that this Province obtains adequate supplies of coffee seeds at reasonable prices to meet its normal requirements. The Chief Coffee Marketing Officer has sent a telegram on 22nd March 1948 to the effect that he is making arrangements to supply all Madras wants."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Have the Government under contemplation the opening of fair-price shops pending fixation of wholesale prices?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"No, Sir."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the benefit of the increased price, which is about 103 per cent according to the Government figure, has gone to the planters who produce coffee or into the pockets of the middlemen?"

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I cannot say to whom it went; but presumably it went into the pockets of middlemen, Sir."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" Is not this commodity very essential for the poor and the rich, and the young and the old, and if so, may I know whether the Government will procure the seeds from the wholesalers or producers and sell them through co-operative societies as a rationed article? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" There is no need to do any such thing, Sir. Coffee seeds are available in the market at ordinary prices and they are also made available to the hotel proprietors and to many other coffee dealers."

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—" May I know what is the production of coffee crop this year, as compared with previous years, Sir? "

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

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask, in view of the statement that the full benefit has not gone on to the coffee planters, whether the Government will consider the desirability and feasibility of importing coffee seeds and regulate its market price? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Coffee is not a rationed article, Sir, and as such the Government do not see how they could interfere in the business. They have got to allow it through the normal trade channels. I did not say definitely that the profit went into either the pockets of the producers or the middlemen. I said, ' presumably ' it went into the pockets of middlemen."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" Was the attention of the Government drawn to the recent press reports, including the one which appeared in to-day's papers, that the students swooned and the women wailed, because coffee was not supplied to them in time? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" We are not aware, Sir, of the wailing of any women or any students fainting so far."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" In view of the fact mentioned by the Hon. Minister, that one of the reasons for the rise of price in coffee is decontrol, may I know whether the Government will consider the question of imposing control again? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I do not see there is any necessity to impose any control. Coffee was never controlled at any time. I do not see why it should be done now, particularly in view of the fact that it has been made available in large quantities, and the Coffee Controller has intimated to this Government that large supply has been made available to the City of Madras."

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SRI T. S. PATTABIRAMAN:—" May I know whether the Government are aware that the price of milk has considerably fallen throughout the Province, much to the advantage of the poor people, because of the rise in the price of coffee seeds? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" This does not arise out of the main question, Sir."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government of India has put any ban on the import of coffee from outside countries? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" No, Sir, except that the coffee that is produced here is controlled by the Coffee Board and the coffee that is available is pooled together and it is made available to the dealers, merchants, hotel-keepers and those who run coffee stalls."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Arising from the answer of the Hon. Minister, may I know when coffee seeds were made available to the stockists and dealers in the Madras City? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" They have been made available all through, Sir, and if the hon. Member wants further information, I can tell him that from 2nd March 1948, the date of auction, coffee was made available, and the quantity auctioned was as follows:—

	CWT.
Madras Coffee Retail Merchants' Association.	20
Ganesh & Co., coffee seeds dealers ..	5
Nehru Tea Works, Audiyappan Naicken Street.	2
Madras Hotels' Association	2
Do.	2
Swami & Co., coffee dealers	6
S. M. Balasundaram & Co.	1
Madras Hotels' Association	1
Do.	1
National Coffee Works	6 lbs.
Ganesh & Co.	10
Madras Retail Coffee Merchants' Association.	128 "

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" While such is the case, how will the Hon. Minister account for the number of people who are standing in queues before shops selling coffee seeds throughout the City? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Evidently there has been some trick in the trade, Sir, and that is responsible for it."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—" My question was, whether there is any ban on the import of coffee from outside countries, like Argentine, Brazil, etc.? "

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"As far as I know, there is no such ban on the import of coffee from other countries, Sir."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Are the Government aware that the price of coffee is fixed by the All-India Coffee Board, and that exorbitant rates are charged in Madras and the profit derived therefrom is borne by the dealers here?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is very difficult to say who bears it. That the coffee is selling at a particular rate, we know. In between, somebody is gaining, but who it is, it is difficult to say."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that in many of the shops the dealers are saying that coffee is not available, though the Hon. Minister has stated that coffee is available with several dealers in the City of Madras?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It may be so, Sir,"

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know what the Government propose to do in order to make available sufficient quantity of coffee for the consumers?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Necessary arrangments have been made, Sir. The Government have received intimation from the President of the Coffee Board that sufficient quantity of coffee has been made available for Madras."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"It is not a question of the availability of sufficient quantity of coffee with the dealers, Sir. But the question is that hundreds of people are standing in queues before these shops and most of them do not get it, and that is why I want to know from the Hon. Minister, what arrangements the Government are going to make so that the consumers may get their supply of coffee? The complaint is that coffee seeds are not available to the people?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The Government have seen that sufficient amount of coffee is made available with the dealers, and if the dealers refuse to sell it to the people, then it is time enough to take action."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether there is any necessity to encourage coffee, Sir?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is a matter of opinion, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that the rate at which the coffee is to be sold, is fixed by the Coffee Board, and if that is so, what exactly does the Hon. Minister mean by saying that the merchant gets all the profit."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I never said like that, Sir. But I said that somebody makes the profit and evidently, it is the trader."

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N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I enquire the personal views of the Hon. Dr. Rajan, whether tea or coffee is better in view of the scarcity of coffee?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I can tell my hon. Friend that both the things are bad."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister whether he is aware that even the Indian Coffee Board which has got a Coffee House in the Mount Road is not able to supply coffee to the Deputy Speaker, and that she came away with empty hands?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I am very sorry to hear that news, Sir."

SRI M. S. PATTABIRAMAN:—"Is it not a fact that the Madras Province is producing more coffee than the people of the Province consume and is able to export also?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The statistics are not available, Sir."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"In view of the present situation, will the Government consider the desirability of banning the export of coffee, either seeds or powder, to outside this Province?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The sale is held at the auction pool and it is made available to all and I have read, Sir, just now the names of companies who have bought coffee at the pool prices in the auction."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"கனம் உணவு மந்திரி அவர்களுடைய அபிப்பிராயம் காப்பியும் டீயும் bad என்று சொனனர்கள். அப்படி இருந்தால் காப்பியும் டீயும் குடிக்கக்கூடாது என்று அவர்கள் மதுவிலக்கு மசோதா கொண்டு வந்த மாதிரி என் இதற்கு ஒரு மசோதா கொண்டு வரக்கூடாது?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"அவசியமானால் கொண்டு வரலாம்."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTY:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that the Indian Coffee Board have stated in their report that the Yankees and Madrasis are coffee drunkards and the inference is that coffee-drinking produces more intellectual and cultured people?" 11-15 a.m.

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is a matter of opinion, Sir. I am not prepared to discuss it on the floor of the House."

MR. L. C. PAIS:—"Are the Government aware that on account of the restrictions in the supply of petrol to motor lorries, it has been found very difficult to bring down coffee from the cultured people?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"That has nothing to do with the price of coffee. The hon. Gentleman evidently wants more petrol to be supplied to all those lorries. That questions should be directed to my Hon. Colleague."

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SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—" In view of the fact that the supply of coffee seeds to the various merchants contained in the list read out by the Hon. Minister is very meagre, will the Government see that the merchants get more allocation so that they can distribute coffee without difficulty? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Coffee is a trade, Sir, and the sale of the seeds are made through auction. All people who want to deal in coffee can bid at the auction."

SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that coffee seeds is selling at Rs. 9-8-0 per viss in the City? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" It may be so, Sir, I do not know."

Alleged police excesses at Naduveerapattu.

* 222-B *Q.*—SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state in view of the answer given to question No. 198 on 20th March 1948, against whom the case stands in the Court?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" As already mentioned in answer to clause (*b*) of question No. 198, the persons against whom the charge-sheet has been laid in the Court are mainly Padayachis."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I have placed fifteen questions for to-day. I want to finish all the questions before time."

SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR:—" Is it not true that Sub-Inspector Hameed was the arch perpetrator of shameful deeds of molestation of womenfolk by dragging them by their saries and asking them to run in the public path and that they were raped with the assistance of other policemen? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I have already stated, Sir, that because of the complaint made there is a departmental inquiry taking place. A report will be submitted to the Government through the Inspector-General in due course. Till that is over, I am not in a position to give any further information because I do not possess the information which the hon. Member possesses."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I remember that a few days ago, the Hon. Leader of the House told us that the case was before a court and that was being enquired into. In view of that fact I told the House that they need not put supplementary questions because it would prejudice the matter which was *sub judice*. Therefore I am not going to allow supplementary questions on this."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" The question put by the hon. Member was this: On the 20th of March 1948 the hon. Member asked the Minister whether any action was taken against the police officers who misbehaved with the people. The Hon. Minister replied that action had been taken against 23 people. I

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want to know how it is relevant. When we ask what action has been taken against the police, he says that action has been taken against 23 people? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I am sorry, Sir, that the hon. Gentleman has again not followed what was said. I said there was a prosecution against 23 people mainly with regard to the complaint. Against the police a departmental inquiry is being made."

Oath of allegiance by Government servants.

* 223 *Q.*—SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether all the Government servants in the Province have taken the oath of allegiance to the Indian Union Government; and

(*b*) if not, what action has been taken against those officers who have not taken the oath?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Premier):—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know by whom the oath of allegiance was administered for each category of the service? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Sir, it will take a long time if I am going to detail by whom these were administered to the various officers concerned. For instance, in the Secretariat it was administered by the Chief Secretary and in the districts by the District Magistrates and so on down to the small taluk offices."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is Hon. the Home Minister aware that members of this House have not yet taken the new oath of allegiance? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I have already given a ruling on the matter."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, whether the village officers are included in the category and if so, by whom was the oath of allegiance administered in these cases? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" We have not gone as far as the village officers, Sir."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know the form of the oath of allegiance administered to the officers? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" It is the same as I took on the floor of the House."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know if the Hon. Minister has not gone as far as the village officers, how far he has gone? "

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I would advise the hon. Member to put a separate question so that I may cause an equiry to be made. Even that I am afraid may not be practicable because it may mean a waste of time."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, whether a direction was given to this Provincial Government by the Central Government to have this new oath of allegiance administered to all the officers? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The hon. Gentleman's presumption is correct." (Laughter.)

Appointment of ex-service men in Government service.

* 224 *Q.*—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many ex-service men have been taken in for Government service whose scales start on or above Rs. 200; and

(*b*) whether they were appointed directly by Government or on the recommendation of the Provincial Service Commission?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The information has been called for from the departments of the Secretariat and heads of departments concerned and will, on receipt, be placed on the table of the House."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" May I know, Sir, when the information will be available? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" It will be made available as soon as I receive it."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, what is the percentage that has been reserved for the ex-military people and what is the percentage reserved for civilians? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I have not got the information ready. If the hon. Member will put down a separate question, I shall call for the information."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Will the Government take this as notice for another question and supply the information required? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" When they say that the hon. Member may put a separate question, he should put a separate question."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" Is it a fact that some of the sudden 'upstart' of some of ex-servicemen who have got so undue a lift in the jobs, they were found to be misfits particularly in places where intellect is needed rather than the force of muscles? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" This is not a question for decision of a fight between the muscles and the brains. The question is about giving these brave men who have fought the war and defended the country a just recognition of the services they have rendered. According to their capacity they are given such sort of work that they will be able to discharge satisfactorily. At the same time I may inform the hon. Gentleman that these ex-servicemen are specially trained for particular jobs to which they are drafted."

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P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, if the information asked for is not available why is this question put for answer to-day? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" If questions are put, they have got to go to the departments to get an answer. It does not necessarily mean that answers are always ready. There are questions and questions which have to be answered. When statistics are wanted the information will have to be called for and by no stretch of imagination will it be possible to answer questions straightway."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know, Sir, whether the information is being collected by the Services Commission or by the Government? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The information is gathered by the Ex-servicemen's Re-settlement Department."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" Will the Government place the information as soon as it is available without waiting for another question to be put? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I thought, Sir, I had made the point very very clear and I answered more than once that the answer will be made available the moment it is received."

SRI D. DURAIRAJA PANDIAN:—" May I enquire whether I.N.A. men come under the category of ex-servicemen? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" They are being considered as ex-servicemen if they apply."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTY:—" Does the Hon. Minister know that a number of I.N.A. men have been refused appointments because they are I.N.A. men and they have not been taken even as Home Guards inspite of the fact that they possess the adequate qualification? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" That has nothing to do with the Ex-servicemen's Department. The Ex-servicemen's Department are taking all applications even of I.N.A. men provided they are found suitable and fit for the jobs for which they apply."

SRI B. S. MALLIKARJUNA RAO:—" What is the opinion of the Government with regard to those who have participated in the last war, are they considered to have done some services for the country? "

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I cannot give an opinion. A matter of opinion cannot be interpellated by a supplementary question."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"May I know whether the Government will consider the desirability of solving the question of recruitment of I.N.A. officers, as the Government of India are just now considering the question of passing final orders on the question?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"If the matter comes before this Government we shall consider it."

M. MOHAMED ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"One of my hon. Friends asked a question why the Government put on the paper questions for which answers are not ready. I do not think the Hon. Minister gave a satisfactory answer. I want to know the procedure that is being adopted in preparing answers to be put on the paper. Do they put the questions as and when they are received or are they placed on the paper when the answers are ready to be given to the House?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Generally, Sir, only ten days' time are given for answering questions. Since the session is about to end evidently a number of questions have been put so that they might be answered. Some of them have probably been put even before the answers are got ready. It means that we have taken cognizance of the question and it has been communicated to the departments considered. Because it is not ready to-day we will take it up as soon as the answers are ready. I do not know whether there has been any confusion in my answer."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"If the Hon. Minister is aware that in several previous cases of appointment of ex-servicemen the Madras Services Commission has done injustice to the ex-service Harijans and in view of this will the Government please take sufficient care to see that hereafter the Madras Services Commission which is now manned by persons who have no love for the Harijans will not do injustice to the Harijans?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The Resettlement Department has nothing to do with the Public Services Commission, Sir."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTY:—"Is it a fact that because the Hon. Minister for Food was pro-British and anti-Indian Freedom Movement in 1942 he is opposed to the I.N.A. men being drafted to the Government services as is evidenced in Madras that no I.N.A. man was appointed in high posts whereas in Bombay the Director of Information is an I.N.A. man?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I repudiate vehemently this insinuation made by the hon. Member."

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Grants from the Government of India for post-war reconstruction in the Province.

*225 *Q.*—SRI G. KUMARASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state— 11-30 a.m.

(*a*) the total amounts expected from the Government of India in the shape of grants for measures of Post-war Reconstruction in our Province;

(*b*) what the schemes are;

(*c*) whether any schemes have been started; and

(*d*) if so, the progress made so far in that direction?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"(*a*) The hon. Member's attention is drawn to the answers given in the Legislative Assembly to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of question No. 9 asked by Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin, M.L.A., on 15th September 1947.

"(*b*) *to* (*d*) The information is furnished in the statement[a] appended to this answer."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"How is it, Sir, that the Guntur Water-works Scheme does not find a place in the post-war reconstruction schemes?"

(No answer.)

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Sir, the answer of the Hon. Minister is not very satisfactory, because he tells us to go and refer to something that happened in 1947. Is it practicable, Sir? On the other hand, hon. Members would like to know from time to time what has happened and what is now happening. But if the Hon. Minister is going to refer us to 1947, it is absolutely unfair and impossible for hon. Members to understand."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I said, with reference to clause (*a*), the hon. Member may refer to the answer given on 15th September 1947. With reference to clauses (*b*), (*c*) and (*d*), the answer is placed on the table."

(Several hon. Members desired that this question should be taken up on the next day.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"This question will be taken up tomorrow."

Handlooms in Salem district.

*226 *Q.*—SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many handlooms are there in Salem district and how many of them are in Salem town;

(*b*) what is the reaction among the weavers of Salem district after the decontrol of handloom cloth;

[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 740–747 infra.

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(*c*) whether the Government are aware that large quantities of stock are kept by the merchants for want of permits to export handloom cloth to States;

(*d*) whether the Government are aware that by the import of mill cloth and yarn from foreign countries, the weavers are afraid very much about the prospects of handloom industry in future; and

(*e*) what steps the Government are going to take to give protection for this industry against the foreign aggression?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"(*a*) There are about 72,000 handlooms in the Salem district out of which 23,200 looms are in the Salem town.

"(*b*) Decontrol of handloom cloth resulted in a sudden fall in prices of handloom cloth but it was not very appreciable. The weavers were not affected on this account because they had no accumulation of stocks with them. The repeal of the Madras Handloom Cloth (Control) Order, 1947, gave a feeling of relief to the weavers as they would not be subjected to regid rules such as maintenance of pass books for yarn, getting the cloth price marked, etc.

"(*c*) The Salem district is producing mostly utility varieties of cloth. There was no accumulation of non-utility varieties. As regards utility varieties, there was some stagnation till recently. From the middle of February 1948 the market in the Salem district has been brisk and the prices of finer varieties have gone up. There is at present no accumulation of utility varieties except sarees of finer counts with lace border and headings which are costly and which are always slow selling varieties. Proposals for giving facilities to such of the districts which are producing mostly utility varieties and making free the movement of handloom cloth within the South Zone including Coorg, and the States of Mysore, Travancore, Cochin, and Sandur have been considered by the Government and orders have been recently passed.

"(*d*) There is a very limited supply of imported cloth the prices of which are higher than those of the handloom cloth. The import of mill cloth had not affected the handloom weavers. As regards yarn, only finer counts the production of which in India is limited are imported from foreign countries. They are in great demand by weavers in certain districts including Salem. The weavers in the Salem district seem to welcome the import of such yarn.

"(*e*) There is no need to consider the question now."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAY:—"In view of the fact that weavers do not have sufficient quantity of yarn for their looms, will the Government make necessary arrangements to retain the yarn produced in this Province for the use of handloom weavers in this Province first and then make available the remaining portion for export outside this Province?"

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"As long as the All-India pooling of yarn continues, that cannot be done, Sir. We have addressed the Government of India in the matter of lifting the control over distribution of yarn, and we have suggested that the control over yarn may be restricted to the same extent as cloth."

SRI T. S. PATTABHIRAMAN:—"Are the Government aware of the fact, Sir, that weavers in Salem district in general, and Tiruchengode in particular, have not received their yarn quota for the last five months?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I have no information that they have not got yarn for the last five months."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—"Sir, is the Hon. Minister aware that the foreign imported yarn of 40s and 60s are 300 per cent costlier than the Indian made yarn and, if so, would he be sanctioning the stamping of the yarn of the South Indian mills at much above the cost price?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The hon. Member knows that it is a question which ought to be put to the Government of India and not to me."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether free export is allowed for handloom cloth to Ceylon?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Export to Ceylon is allowed under permits, and there have not been difficulties in getting permits for the export of handloom cloth to Ceylon."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—"Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister, Sir, may I know whether there was any petition to him to approach the Textile Control Board to increase the rate of 60s and 80s so that the mills can manufacture more of yarn?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I should like to have notice, Sir."

SRI V. S. SANKARASUBRAHMANYA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government have got any proposal for cheapening the price of handloom cloth?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"If there is a large quantity of yarn available, the price of cloth would naturally go down. As my hon. Friend knows the quantity of yarn that is available for weavers is limited and naturally the price cannot be easily lowered."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, the Hon. Minister said that they had removed all restrictions on the export of handloom cloth to neighbouring States like Travancore, Cochin and Mysore. Will the Government consider the question of removing all the restrictions now imposed on export to places like Bengal and Bombay?"

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

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SRI K. SUBRAHMANYAM:—"Sir, are the Government aware of the special variety of cloth produced in Coimbatore for consumption in North India and that the removal of all the restrictions on the export of this variety will prevent unemployment of handloom weavers and facilitate the handloom industry . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is about Salem and not Coimbatore."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—"Sir, the Hon. Minister has been evading reply by asking for notice. Notice has already been given to the Hon. Minister that at the present rates of stamping yarn, yarn of 60s and 80s is not possible to be manufactured by the mills. Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to answer me whether he has taken any action for the revision of the stamping of prices?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I should like to draw the hon. Member's attention to this question. The question is about Salem and handloom cloth. If my hon. Friend wants me to answer questions off-hand about the stamping of prices on mill yarn, he should appreciate my difficulty in the matter."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister has examined the question of the effect of decontrol of yarn from the 16th of this month on the price of handloom cloth produced in Salem district and other places?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"It is too early to say that. It is only just a few days ago that the restriction on the internal distribution alone has been removed, while there is control over the distribution from mills to the quota holders. The effect of the removal of restriction on internal distribution has to be watched for some time."

SRI K. A. NACHIAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister, Sir, whether representations have been received from Omalur taluk of Salem district in the matter of inadequate supply of yarn for weaving, and, if so, what the Government propose to do in the matter?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The yarn that has been received in the various districts up to the 16th January have been asked to be declared. The Collector has got a list of merchants with whom yarn is available. The Collectors of districts have been asked to distribute, as usual, the quantity of yarn that has been received in each district up to the 16th March."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAY:—"In view of the fact that yarn control is under the Central Government, may I know, Sir, whether this Government will make strenuous efforts to exempt

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the Madras Presidency from that control and facilitate weavers to get more yarn so that they may get on with their profession well?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I have already said what this Government have done. We addressed the Government of India in this matter, and we are awaiting their reply."

SRI V. RAGAVAYYA:—"Sir, will not the removal of even the existing controls on mills tend to lower the prices and bring down the demand for yarn?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Sir, it is a question of opinion."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether it is not a fact that after decontrol of yarn blackmarketing of yarn, manufactured in local mills (and not imported foreign yarn) takes place?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"There is no price control over yarn, and there is no question of blackmarketing at all."

Lock-out in Messrs. Vummidi Ramiah Chetty and Guruswami Chetty & Co., Madras.

*227 *Q.*—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU (on behalf of Sri K. Anandan Nambiar): Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that about 200 workers of Messrs. Vummidi Ramiah Chetty and Guruswami Chetty & Co., Madras, have been locked-out from 1st May 1947;

(*b*) whether this lock-out continues still and that all these 200 workers are not yet employed by the above company;

(*c*) whether an Adjudicator was appointed to enquire into the disputes between the above company and the Madras Jewellery (Gold and Silverware) Employees' Union;

(*d*) what are the terms of the Adjudicator's Award; and

(*e*) whether the Government have declared this as an illegal lock-out and if not, why not?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"(*a*) & (*b*) Yes, Sir.

"(*c*) An Industrial Tribunal was constituted.

"(*d*) A copy of the award [a] is placed on the table.

"(*e*) In view of the findings of the Tribunal that the closure of the factory was justified, this question does not arise."

[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 747-751 infra.

Local Fund dispensaries without labour or emergency wards.

* 228 *Q.*—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state the number and names of Local Fund dispensaries without labour or emergency wards district-war?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"A statement [a] is laid on the table."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Sir, in view of the fact that most of the dispensaries are not having emergency wards or labour wards, will the Government consider, at least in the case of backward districts, where people have been facing innumerable difficulties to get the patients to headquarters hospital, providing the dispensaries with two beds for emergency purposes and two beds for labour ward?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Sir, Government are every year increasing the number of maternity beds in places where there is need for such beds."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"As regards the dispensaries which are not having even a single bed either for emergency purposes or for labour wards, will the Government consider the desirability of providing one or two beds in them?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I have already answered this question, Sir."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—"Sir, may I point out that in the Madura district, the dispensaries at Batlagundu and Sholavandan do have these wards. Are the Government aware that the Sholavandan ward which was constructed some six or seven years ago is not now being used, because the lady doctor who was there before had resigned and gone away. Is it not because of the criminal or callous negligence of the district board to replace that doctor, that ward is not being used now?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I shall enquire into the matter, Sir."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister, Sir, whether it is not a fact that a number of local fund dispensaries in this Province suffer for want of doctors with the result, ultimately they had to be closed?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"No local fund regular dispensaries have been closed for want of doctors."

Declaration of industrial areas.

* 229 *Q.*—MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have strictly enforced the conditions that govern an industrial area and a residential area;

[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 751–753 infra.

(*b*) whether the Government dismissed an appeal from a bus company called Rama Vilas Bus Service Company, who appealed to Government to permit them to remain in a place declared as a residential area in Mount Road;

(*c*) if so, what the reasons are for the Government to refuse this and allow the Swadeshi Type Foundry in a residential area in Chintadripet, where there are numerous petitions to Government to remove it; and

(*d*) what the reasons are for the Government not following an uniform policy in such matters?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"(*a*) The question of fixing Industrial Areas and notifying Residential areas and of enforcing the conditions that govern them is a matter for the local authorities concerned.

"(*b*) Yes.

"(*c*) The site occupied by Sri Rama Vilas Bus Service Company was reserved for residential purposes under the Town-Planning Schemes sanctioned in 1940 for the Thousand Lights Area. As there was objection to the site being used for the workshops and garage under the Town-Planning Scheme, the Commissioner, Corporation of Madras, took action to prevent the use of the site for industrial purposes. On an appeal to Government by the Company against the action of the Commissioner, Corporation of Madras, the Government called for reports from the Commissioner, Corporation of Madras, and the Director of Town-Planning. The Government were satisfied that there was no reason to interfere in the matter. The question of permitting the Swadeshi Type Foundry in its existing place was considered in an entirely different light. Residential areas and Industrial areas have not yet been fixed by the Corporation. Certain objection petitions were received by Government that the operations carried on in the foundry affected the health of the residents in the surrounding locality. After personal inspection of the foundry, the Commissioner, Corporation of Madras, and the Health Officer, reported that the allegations made against the foundry were not true. The Government therefore declined to interfere in the matter.

"(*d*) The question does not arise."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know why the Government have not fixed what are residential areas and what are industrial areas?" 11-45 a.m.

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I have already said it is not a matter for the Government. The local bodies have to do it."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that this institution, the Swadeshi Type Foundry, has

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been in existence for thirty years in this particular locality and therefore, it is necessary that the institution should not be interfered in fixing localities as industrial and residential areas?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The Government are aware that the institution has been in existence for more than twenty-five years."

Petition from the Harijans of Pedda Malapalli hamlet.

*230 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has received any petition, dated 27th September 1947, from the Harijans of Pedda Malapalli, hamlet of Attili, Tanuku taluk, West Godavari district; and

(*b*) if so, what are the contents of it and what action the Government have taken?

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"A petition without any date was received by Government from the Harijans of Pedda Malapalli, hamlet of Attili, complaining about harassment by the village munsif. The petition was referred to the District Collector for report. The District Magistrate reported that the allegations made in the petition are false. The contents of the petition are that the Harijans were harassed and ill-treated by the village munsif and twelve of them are arrested and remanded. The District Magistrate reported that the allegations are false, and that due to factious spirit prevalent in the village, such allegations are made in the petition."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Sir, may I know whether the Government will consider the desirability of the Harijan Sevak Sangh enquiring into that matter in view of the fact that the Government channels have stated that there is no truth in the allegation contained in the petition?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Government do not see any need to instruct the Harijan Sevak Sangh to enquire into the matter because the Harijans themselves have made necessary arrangements to prevent such things."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know, Sir, which officer has actually gone to this Pedda Malapalli, hamlet of Attili, to conduct the enquiry?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"The Revenue Divisional Officer of the place has conducted the enquiry, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I ask the Government whether any undue pressure was brought on these poor Harijans and whether any confessional statements have been taken by the Government and if so, will the Government order a re-enquiry by a non-official body set up by the Government themselves?"

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THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"The enquiry is made by the Revenue Divisional Officer of the place and the President of the Town Congress Committee, Attili. Several Harijans were also present at the enquiry. The enquiry showed that the allegation was made due to factions in the village. One party is under the village munsif and the other party is under the President, Town Congress Committee of Attili."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Is the Hon. the Minister aware that the enquiry was conducted in the house of the village munsif where several Harijans were not able to go?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"I am not aware of the place where the enquiry was conducted. The report of the Revenue Divisional Officer says that many Harijans attended and that eleven persons out of the twelve who were arrested were examined and evidence was got. Some caste Hindus also were present."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether the Government are aware that the Revenue Divisional Officer was interested in the village munsif, who was the cause for all this harassment?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member should not speak very near the mike."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether the Government are aware that the Revenue Divisional Officer himself was interested in the village munsif who was at the bottom of the mischief?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"I refute the allegation of the hon. Member. The Revenue Divisional Officer belonged to the Muslim community and not to the Hindu community." (Laughter.)

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"If nothing had happened, may I ask the Government why twelve persons were arrested and put into lock-up and why the Revenue Divisional Officer was asked to conduct the enquiry?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"There was a report by the village munsif to the Sub-Inspector that there was rioting in that place. The Sub-Inspector with the head constable and four or five constables went to that place and made enquiries. He also found that some persons were having injuries and were bleeding. They were all taken to the station and after conducting an enquiry, these people were released immediately after a bail was given by the President of the Town Congress Committee."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have got half a dozen questions and I have got ten minutes more and I wish to finish all the questions within the ten minutes."

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Representation from Mr. D. T. Rajan.

*231 *Q.*—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation from Mr. D. T. Rajan, General Secretary, District Scheduled Castes Federation, Trichinopoly;

(*b*) if so, what is the representation;

(*c*) what action the Government have taken on it;

(*d*) if not, why not; and

(*e*) if so, when?

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"(*a*) *to* (*e*) A petition dated 4th February 1948, was received by Government from Sri D. T. Rajan in which it was alleged that the Caste Hindu Reddiyars of Kolakudi and Muthurajas of Ammangudy villages, Musiri taluk, Trichinopoly district, were harassing the Harijans of the villages. A report has been called for from the Collector of Trichinopoly."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I ask the Government, Sir, whether they will consider the desirability of giving proper protection for these Harijans and that when an enquiry is conducted justice will come out?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Government are trying to see that proper justice is done in each case."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"In view of the fact that the 'Harijan Uplift and Harijan Welfare' is an important subject, may I request the Hon. the Speaker to allow an half an hour debate to-day on this?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"To-day, we have got another half an hour debate at 5 o'clock and that is about Education."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"I support the motion of my hon. Friend, Sri Kameswara Rao."

MR. SPEAKER:—"To-day we have got the half an hour debate on Education. Therefore, we shall have an half an hour debate on this subject to-morrow at 5 p.m."

Abolition of rationing in the Statutory Rationing Area, Chicacole.

*231-A *Q.*—SRI G. KUMARASWAMI: Will the Hon. Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation from the people of Chicacole regarding the abolition of rationing in the statutory rationing area of Chicacole; if so, what they are;

(*b*) what the recommendations are of the Rationing Advisory Board there regarding the withdrawal of rationing; and

(*c*) what the Government propose to do in this respect?

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"(*a*) & (*b*) Yes; resolutions recommending the abolition of the rationing in Chicacole Municipality were received from the Bar Association, Chicacole, Municipal Council, Chicacole, the Rationing Advisory Committee, Chicacole, and from citizens of Chicacole.

"(*c*) Rationing has been abolished in Chicacole with effect from 14th March 1948."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—"Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state whether there are still any municipal areas in Vizagapatam district where statutory rationing is still in existence?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Statutory rationing is still in existence in those areas where it has not been removed."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Sir, in view of the serious situation that is experienced in certain districts of our Province, may I ask whether the Government will consider re-introducing rural rationing in certain districts?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"No, Sir."

Construction of a dam across the Sathiar river.

*231-B *Q.*—SRI K. P. KAMAKSHI CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) at what stage the proposal of constructing a dam across the Sathiar river in Palamedu Firka of Nilakkottai taluk, Madura district, is; and

(*b*) when the work will be taken up for execution?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"(*a*) The proposal is under consideration of the local officers.

"(*b*) Not known at present."

Free grant of nanja lands to political sufferers.

*231-C *Q.*—SRI P. R. KANDASWAMI GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have decided to make a free grant of 5 acres of *nanja* lands to the political sufferers, and

(*b*) if so, what steps have been taken by the Government in that direction?

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"(*a*) Yes. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Press Note No. 305 issued on 23rd December 1947. The extent admissible is 5 acres of wet or its equivalent in any single case.

"(*b*) The orders have been communicated to all Collectors. Applications should be made to the Collectors of the districts where the lands applied for are located. The last date for the receipt of applications by the Collectors is 29th February 1948. Instructions have also been issued to

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Collectors to direct their Revenue subordinates including village officers to furnish details of waste lands available if political sufferers approach them for such information."

SRI P. R. KANDASWAMI GOUNDER:—"In view of the answer given by the Hon. the Minister, may I know who is to locate the land, whether it is the political sufferers or the Government officials?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"The political sufferer should detail in his application the land that he wants and if he is unable to secure that land, the Government may give the land to him wherever it is available."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Sir, in view of the fact that several political sufferers are not able to locate the land and therefore their applications become out of date, may I know whether the Government will be pleased to extend the date of receipt of these applications from these political sufferers?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Already there is criticism that we are delaying the matter and therefore the request of the hon. Member is rather strange?"

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask what is the definition of a 'political sufferer' according to the Hon. Revenue Minister?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"The hon. Member might have read it in the communiqué published in the newspapers."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"What is the definition according to him? That is what I am asking?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"A political sufferer is one who has suffered for the cause of Indian independence in a non-violent manner in a movement inaugurated by the Indian National Congress."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask whether the Hon. the Minister comes under this category?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Certainly, Sir."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"In view of the previous answer given by the Hon. the Revenue Minister that a political sufferer is one who has suffered for the cause of Indian independence, in a non-violent manner, may I ask whether those who have taken part in the freedom movement in 1921 or thereabouts, will also be treated as political sufferers? If so, may I know whether Gantam Bojjudora, Gantam Malludora and Alluri Sitharamaraju and others who took part in that freedom movement will be treated as political prisoners for the purpose of relief?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"According to the communiqué, it is for the Government to declare anyone as a political sufferer. Apart from the definition which I have given, if the gentlemen mentioned by the hon. Member send their applications, I will consider them."

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SRI U. P. MALLAYYA:—"May I know, Sir, whether a non-official committee will be appointed to go into this question?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"The Government have decided to appoint a non-official committee in each district so as to facilitate distribution of land to the political sufferers. The Committee will act as a liaison between the Collector and the political sufferers."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTY:—"Under the category of political sufferers, may I know whether the Hon. Minister has got in view only Congressmen or non-Congressmen also? If so, under the category of Congressmen, may I know whether he has got in view all sections of Congressmen within the Congress?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Anybody who is a member of the Congress and who has taken part in any movement inaugurated by the Congress, whatever his political philosophy might be, will be eligible for it."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. the Minister, may I know, if he himself will be eligible to get the land in case he makes an application, because he happens to be a political sufferer?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"I am also entitled to get the land but I have not made the application."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether a landlord who is a political sufferer can apply and get some more land simply because he happened to go to jail in those days?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"As a matter of fact, originally, we issued the first communiqué in which it was stated that those who owned more than five acres should not be made eligible for this grant. But, later on, we found that many of the political sufferers, or at least a good percentage of them, did not own any lands and that only two per cent of them own land of any good extent. Therefore, we did not like to place any such restriction and it was removed in the second communiqué which we have issued."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—"Arising out of the definition of 'political sufferer' given by the Hon. the Minister, may I know whether businessmen also who have suffered are eligible for these lands?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"If businessmen had gone to jail and suffered for the cause of the country, they are eligible for this grant."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, the Hon. the Home Minister does not look like a political sufferer. I want to know whether he also comes under the definition of the Hon. the Revenue Minister."

12 noon.

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" He is also a pair tical sufferer. Mr. Anwar has forgotten that he has also gone to jail."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister for Revenue that those who took part in the non-violent movement would get grants of land, may I know, Sir, whether he is aware of the fact that certain Congressmen took part in the violent as well as the non-violent movement and if so, whether they would get lands? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" If they left the violent movement and joined the non-violent movement, they will be eligible for the grants, Sir."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the ex-Secretary of the Provincial Congress Committee, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan, will be eligible for the grant? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" No, Sir, Mr. Hameed Khan is not entitled to the concession."

[On a motion made by Hon. Dr. Subbarayan and accepted by the House, certain supplementary questions of Sri P. Natesan and others were expunged from the proceedings.]

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Government will consider relaxing the time-limit originally fixed for the receipt of applications at the end of February? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" I understand, Sir, that almost all the political sufferers have applied for lands. If there are any omissions, even though there is no extension of time, the Government will certainly entertain applications from such people. There is no dead line with regard to the date already fixed."

Inspection of local bodies in the Tinnevelly district.

231-D *Q.*—SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many times did the present Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils visit Tinnevelly district for inspection of local bodies; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Tenkasi Panchayat Board in Tinnevelly district was inspected by the present Inspector and, if so, on what date or dates?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" (*a*) Four times during the period from 1944 to 1948.

" (*b*) Yes—on the 24th September 1944."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The next question in the name of Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin will be taken up to-morrow."

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

II.—DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR FURTHER EXPENDITURE IN THE YEAR 1947-48.

DEMAND I—LAND REVENUE.

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" Sir, I beg to move on the recommendation of His Excellnecy the Governor—

'*that Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 1,35,700 *under Demand I—Land Revenue.*' "

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. Under the provisions of the Government of India Act, it is the Legislative Assembly that is seized of financial matters. We read in the papers that these supplementary demands had already been discussed in the Legislative Council yesterday. I have great respect for the Legislative Council. But, as it is, we are governed by certain provisions of the Act. Also the Legislative Assembly better reflects the opinion in the country.

" Sir, section 78 (1) of the Government of India Act says—

'78. (1) The Governor shall in respect of every financial year, cause to be laid before the Chamber or Chambers of the Legislature a statement of the estimated receipts and expenditure of the Province for that year . . .'

Thus is the first stage. The second stage is referred to in section 79 (1):

'79. (1) So much of the estimates of expenditure as relates to expenditure charged upon the revenues of a Province shall not be submitted to the vote of the Legislative Assembly. . . .'

" The section 79 (2) says—

'So much of the said estimates as relates to other expenditure shall be submitted in the form of demands for grants to the Legislative Assembly, and the Legislative Assembly shall have power to assent, or to refuse to assent, to any demand, or to assent to a demand subject to a reduction of the amount specified therein.'

" Then section 80 says—

'80. (1) The Governor shall authenticate by his signature a schedule specifying—

(a) the grants made by the Assembly under the last preceding section . . .

* * * * *

(2) The schedule so authenticated shall be laid before the Assembly but shall not be open to discussion or vote in the Legislature, . . .'

" My submission, Sir, is that the Government of India Act contemplates only the Legislative Assembly in these financial matters. As I have already submitted, these Demands have been discussed in the Legislative Council already. It is the privilege of this House to discuss these financial matters first.

" Then, Sir, section 82 contains special provisions as to financial Bills. It says that a Bill or amendment making provision for imposing or increasing any tax, etc., shall not be introduced or moved except on the recommendation of the Governor, and a Bill making such provision shall not be introduced in a Legislative Council. The scheme of the Act is that in all financial matters

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connexion with the incidents on the Nizam Dominion's borders. They are responsible for the mischief. We must bring these facts to the notice of the High Commissioner.

"The post of the High Commissioner clearly indicates that we are still in British Dominion and it is an unfortunate fact. We must declare ourselves independent and see all the British officers are driven out of our country. My conscience revolts if I vote for the High Commissioner.

"Let me bring to the notice of the House how these British officers had actually helped in leading the raiders in Kashmir struggle. It had been raised even on the floor of the Dominion Assembly. But, till now, the British Government took no action against such officers. I do not know with what face the Government could come forward with this Demand. As a protest against the action of the British Government, we must suggest to the Dominion Government that the Dominion Government should call off the High Commissioner.

"I should like to refer the question of lanka lands in Kistna district. It had been agreed that the zamindar had no right over these lanka lands. Even the leader of the House when he toured that part of our Province declared in a public meeting that the ryots have got the legal rights over these lanka lands and the zamindar has no right over these lands. It is I who had translated his speech. Previously, even the District Magistrate had to side with the ryots. But, all on a sudden, we find the Government taking sides with the zamindar.

"Section 144 was promulgated against the ryots and zamindars. Goondas are allowed to take possession of the produce. All the kisan leaders and even ordinary kisans who dared to stand by their rights which were recognized as just even by the Leader of the House were arrested under Public Safety Act. I like to know if the Government propose to give any protection to the ryots at all. The Government is openly siding with the zamindars and I like to know if this is the policy the Government intends to follow. With these words, I move the cut motion."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"Sir, I second the cut motion moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkateswarlu. I do not have much to say on this matter. This money seems to have been spent already by the Government. They want that we should sanction the expenditure they have incurred already in the year 1947-48. From the way in which the Government are proceeding, I do not think the work will be completed in the near future. I feel that it will result in postponing the work of abolishing the zamindari system. The abolition of the zamindari system will depend on the completion of the survey of the zamindari estates. The Hon. Minister himself stated on a previous occasion that no survey was conducted at all in the zamindari areas. I am sure that this work will be taken up at the earliest period so that we might proceed with the work of abolishing the zamindari system."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,35,700 for Land Revenue be reduced by Rs. 100.'"

SRI M. NAGESWARA RAO:—"అధ్యక్షా, ఈ నాడు రాష్ట్రంలో ప్రజలు జమీందారీ ఎబోలిషన్ బిల్లు (Zamindari Abolition Bill) వస్తుందా, రాదా అని సందేహపడుతున్నారు. ఇటువంటి సందేహాలకు కారణం ముఖ్యంగా రాష్ట్ర నాయకులలో ఉండేటటువంటి భేదాభిప్రాయాలే. కాని ఈ supplementary budget లో జమీందారీ ఎబోలిషన్‌కు అవసరమైన సిబ్బందిని నియమించుటకు కావలసిన డబ్బును provide చేసియున్నారు. ఇది ఈ ప్రభుత్వమువారు జమీందారీలను తప్పక రద్దుచేస్తారనే దానికి ప్రత్యక్ష నిదర్శనము. ఈ విషయంలో రెవిన్యూ శాఖా మాత్యులు చూపించుచున్న కర్తవ్యనిర్వహణాశక్తత, జమీందారీ రైతుల శ్రేయస్సు కోసము, ప్రధానంగా వారు చేస్తున్న కృషి ఎంతో ప్రశంసనీయమైనటువంటివని అనుటకు ఎంతమాత్రము సందేహము లేదు.

"ఇప్పుడు జమీందారీ విరియాలలో survey, settlementలు చేయించుటకుగాను రెండు వందలకు పైగా ఆఫీసరులను నియమించి పనిని ప్రారంభించినందులకు రెవిన్యూ శాఖామాత్యులను అభినందించుచున్నాను.

"ఈ నాడు జమీందారీ గ్రామములలోవలెనే రైత్వారీ గ్రామములలోకూడా రైతులకు అనేక రకముల బాధలు ఉన్నవి. ప్రస్తుతం రైత్వారీ గ్రామాలలో రైతుకు కాను సాగుచేసేటటువంటి భూమికి ప్రభుత్వంవారికి ఎంత పన్ను చెల్లించాలో సరిగా తెలియదు. ఏ భూమి ఎవరిదో తెలియజేయుటకుగాను సరిఅయిన demarcations లేవు. ఒక నెంబరులో 50 ఎకరముల భూమి ఉంటే ఆ భూమి ఏ 40 మంది పట్టాదారులతో చెందిఉంటోంది. ఈ నెంబరు భూమి అంతకూ ఏ రూ. 100 లో పన్ను ఉంటే ఇప్పుడు రైతులవద్దనుంచి గ్రామోద్యోగులు సుమారు రూ. 125 వరకు వసూలు చేస్తున్న దౌర్భాగ్యపరిస్థితులు విర్రవీగుతున్నాయి. కనుక ఏ ఏ రైతుకు ఎంతెంత భూమి ఉన్నదో, దానికి ఆతనికి ఒక ప్రత్యేక పట్టా ఇచ్చి, ఆ భూమికి ఎంత పన్ను కట్టవలయునో ఆ రైతుకు తెలియచేయుటకు కావలసిన ఏర్పాటులు చేయించవలసినదిగా రెవిన్యూ శాఖామాత్యులను కోరుచున్నాను.

"ఈ విషయాన్ని గురించి ఆంధ్ర రాష్ట్ర గ్రామోద్యోగుల సంఘము ప్రభుత్వము వారికి ఒక memorandum ను సమర్పించియున్నది. ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఈ సంఘము వారి సలహాలను పరిశీలన చేయించి ప్రతి రైతుకు వేరు వేరు పట్టాలను ఇచ్చే ఏర్పాటులు చేయించవలసిందిగా కోరుచున్నాను.

"ఇప్పుడు Grow More Food campaign అంటే no more way అనే campaign లా ఉన్నది. ఈ Grow More Food campaign క్రింద కొంతమందికి పుంతలుకూడా వ్యవసాయం చేయటానికి ఇచ్చినారు. దీనివల్ల రైతులు తమ పొలాల నుంచి ఫలసాయం తెచ్చుకునే మార్గాలు లేకుండపోయినాయి. అఖరుకు రైతు పొలానికి ఆరకాలు తీసుకొని వెళ్లటానికికూడా త్రోవలు లేకుండా ఉన్నది. జమీందారీ రైతుల కష్టాలను గుర్తించి వివిధంగా ప్రభుత్వంవారు పుంతలు ముదలైనటువంటి వాటిని ఆన్యాక్రాంతము చేయకూడదని నిషేధించారో, అదేవిధంగా రైత్వారీ గ్రామాలలో కూడా పుంతలను ఆన్యాక్రాంతం చేయకుండ అరికట్టవలసినదని ప్రభుత్వము వారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

[Sri M. Nageswara Rao] [24th March 1948

" ఈనాడు గ్రామాలలోని పేదలకుగాను ప్రభుత్వమువారు కొన్ని వినోద స్థలములను ఇచ్చుచున్నారు, యదార్థము గమనించి చూచినట్లయితే ఈ స్థలములను ఎవరికైతే ఇవ్వాలో వారు ఉపయోగించుకోలేని పరిస్థితిలో ఉన్నారు. ఈ స్థలములను ఆ పురాలోని పెత్తందారులో లేక గ్రామోద్యోగులో ఉపయోగించుకుంటున్నారు. ఇది చాలా అక్రమము. ఇటువంటివాటిని నిరోధించడానికి ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఏ విధమైన విధానాన్ని విధ్వరచలేదు. ఈ విషయమై జమాబందీ లెక్కలలో ఏమీ ఉండదు. ఈ విషయాన్ని ప్రభుత్వమువారు గుర్తించి ఇటువంటి అక్రమాలను నిరోధించుటకుగాను, జమాబందీ లెక్కల తనిఖీ కాలంలో దరఖాస్తులమీద ఇచ్చిన భూములు ఎవరి స్వాధీనరలో ఉన్నవో మొదలగు విషయాలనుకూడా పరిశీలించు విధానములు చేయించవలసినదని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. ఈనాడు ఈ దరఖాస్తు స్థలములలో సుమారుకి 70 వంతులు వాటిని ప్రభుత్వము ఎవరికైతే ఉద్దేశించి ఇచ్చినదో అటువంటి పేదవారికి కాక ఆగ్రామ పెత్తందారుల, గ్రామోద్యోగుల హస్తగతమయి ఉన్నాయి. ఈ దురాగతాలని వెంటనే నివారణచేయడం చాలా అవసరము.

" ఈనాడు మనకు స్వరాజ్యం సిద్ధించినదని, ఇంక సుఖపడతామని ప్రజలు అనుకుంటున్నారు. కాని ఇటువంటి దుర్ఘటనలు పెరిగిపోతున్నాయి. కాబట్టి వీటిని నివారించడానికి సక్రమమైన చర్య సాధ్యమైనంత త్వరలో తీసుకొనవలసినదని నేను రెవిన్యూ శాఖామాత్యులకు మనవిచేస్తున్నాను.

" నేను ఇంతకుముందు చెప్పినట్లుగా ప్రతి రైతు తనభూమి ఎంతో, పన్ను ఎంత చెల్లించాలో మొదలగు విషయాలను తెలుసుకొనేటట్లుగా పట్టాలు ఇప్పిస్తారని, నివేశ స్థలముల అన్యాక్రాంతము ఆరికడతారని విశ్వసిస్తు ప్రభుత్వమువారు తెచ్చిన ఈ supplementary ఆయవ్యయపట్టికను బలపరుస్తున్నాను. "

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, in rising to support this cut motion, I just want to bring to the notice of the Government one important matter, though it may not come exactly under this Demand. It may come under Land Revenue. Since I have not had the opportunity of drawing the attention of the Government to this matter under the Land Revenue Demand, I wish to refer to it now. I refer to the general failure of crops especially in the district of Malabar. It is generally expected that this year the second crop will fail completely.

2-30 p.m. " When questions were asked on the floor of this House, replies were given on behalf of Government that Government had already called for reports from the heads of the districts. I find from the reports published in the newspapers that the Collector of Malabar has reported that there has not been a failure of crops as to warrant any remission."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" Sir, I must ask my hon. Friend Mr. Moideen Kutty to make a distinction between remission and postponement. What the Collector of Malabar reported was about the postponement of the kist. About remission he reported that it might be given."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I stand corrected, Sir. I have nothing more to say except that Government should move very quickly and see that these remissions are

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given because in many parts I know personally crops have failed miserably. I am told that the Collector has issued instructions to expedite collecting land revenue and therefore it is that I want the Government to make a final decision in the matter and see that justice is done."

SRIMATHI V. SEETHAMAHALAKSHMAMMA:—" అధ్యక్ష, supplemental budget లోని Revenue demand ను నేను బలపరుస్తు కొన్ని సలహాలు చేయదలచినాను.

" ఈనాడు ఆమతులో ఉన్న భూమి పన్ను విధానంలో చాలా లోటులున్నవి. వ్యాపారస్తుడు సంవత్సరమునకు రూ 2,000 ల ఆదాయము సంపాదించినను అతడు గవర్నమెంటువారికి పన్ను చెల్లించ నవసరములేదు. కాని వ్యవసాయదారుడు ఒక పుట్టెడు ధాన్యం పండించినా ప్రభుత్వంవారికి పన్ను చెల్లించాలి. ఇటువంటి విధానము మన దేశము ఒక్కచానిలోనే ఉన్నట్లున్నది. దీనివలన వ్యవసాయ పరిశ్రమ రైతుకు ప్రోత్సాహకరముగాలేదు; దేశంలో కరువు, కాటకము పిర్రుడుటకు అవకాశము కలుగు తోంది. మన రెవిన్యూ మంత్రిగారు ఇప్పుడు మన రాష్ట్రంలో జమీందారీలను రద్దుచేసి రాష్ట్రమంతటిలో ఒక్క రైత్వారీవిధానాన్నే అమలుచేయదలచినారు కాబట్టి, ఈనాడు రైత్వారీపన్ను విధానంలో ఉన్న లోటులను సంస్కరించి, 5 ఎకరముల భూమికి లోపున ఉండే రైతు పన్ను చెల్లించనక్కరలేకుండగను, ఆంతకుపైన భూమి ఉన్న రైతులు వారి ఆదాయమునుబట్టి పన్ను చెల్లించునట్లుగను చేసినట్లైతే చిన్నరైతులమీద పన్నుభారము తగ్గుతుంది; వారు వ్యవసాయమునందు జయప్రదముగా కొనసాగించుటకు అవకాశము కలుగుతుంది.

" ఈమధ్యన మా జిల్లాలో జరిగిన ఒక సంఘటన విషయమై మనవిచేస్తాను. నేను కొన్ని ఆవశ్యకతలవల్ల మా జిల్లాకు వెళ్లినాను. అప్పుడు కలెక్టరుగారిని చూడడానికి నేను వారు వీరంకిలాగు బంగాళాలో మకాము చేస్తున్నారంటే అక్కడకు వెళ్లినాను. నేను వీరంకిలాగు బంగాళా దగ్గరికు వెళ్లుటప్పటికి కలెక్టరుగారు అక్కడలేరు. అక్కడివారిని అడుగగా వారు కలెక్టరుగారు అక్కడకు 4 మైళ్లో దూరములోఉన్న కృష్ణాపురం అనే గ్రామానికి రైతులవద్దనుంచి ధాన్యము సేకరించటానికి (procurement కు) వెళ్లారని తెలియజేశారు. నేను కలెక్టరుగారిని కృష్ణాపురంలోనే కలుసుకొనే ఉద్దేశంతో అక్కడకు బయలుదేరినాను. కొంతదూరము వెళ్లిన తరువాతచూస్తే ఇదివరకు ఆ road కు ఉండే పంటెనలులేవు. ఆదారిలో ఉండే 6 పంటెనలను రైతులు తెగ్గొట్టేశారు. మా కారువెళ్లటానికి అభ్యంతరం కలిగింది సమీపములో ఉండే గ్రామంలోని రైతుని పంటెనలను ఈ విధంగా తెగగొట్టడానికి కారణమేమని అడుగగా వారు ఈ రోజున జిల్లా కలెక్టరుగారు ప్రొక్యూర్‌మెంటు చేయటానికి కృష్ణాపురం వెళ్లారని, రైతులు స్వకమగా వారికి ధాన్యం ఇవ్వరనే అభిప్రాయంతో వారు 20 మంది reserve policeల తోను, లారీలతోను అక్కడకు వస్తారని రైతులకు తెలిసి వారిని అక్కడకురాకుండా చేయాలనే ఉద్దేశంతో దారిలోవుండే పంటెనలను తెగగొట్టేశారని చెప్పారు. నేను అప్పుడు కృష్ణాపురంలో వారికి, వీరికి చెబ్బలాట ఇరుగుతుందనే అభిప్రాయంతో వెంటనే మా కారును అక్కడ వదలివేసి కృష్ణాపురానికి నడచివెళ్లాను. నేను అక్కడకు వెళ్లేటప్పటికి కలెక్టరుగారు ఒక భూరిబట్టించారు. మరొకపూరి పట్టించడానికి సిద్ధంగావున్నారు. రైతులు ఈ విధంగా కలెక్టరుగారు బలవంతంగా ధాన్యం తీసుకొనిపోవటం ఏ విధంగానైనా నిరోధించాలని పట్టుదలతో వున్నట్లు కనిపించారు. వారు వారి సహాయంకొరకు చుట్టుప్రక్కల వున్నటువంటి 5, 6 గ్రామాలలోనివారిని

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తీసుకొనివచ్చారు కూడాను. వారి సంరంభమంతాచూస్తే ఎదో పెద్ద ఎత్తున యుద్ధం చేయటానికి సన్నద్ధులవుతున్నట్లు కనిపించారు నేను అప్పుడు ఆ రైతులవద్దకువెళ్లి ఈ విధంగా వారు పోవటానికి దిగటానికి కారణమేమిటని అడిగాను. దానికి వారు సమాధానంగా, "ఈ కలెక్టర్లు, తహసీల్దార్లు, ప్రొహ్యూర్‌మెంటు ఆఫీసర్లు, సుదర్శనరకు ధాన్యసేకరణ (procurement) కోసమై మూత్రమేవస్తారుకాని, మూ బాధలేమిటో మూ కష్టాలేమిటో వారికేమీ అవసరంలేదు. మాకు వ్యవసాయానికి కావలసిన బండి పట్టాలు, పారలు, పళ్ళెములు మొదలైన పనిముట్లు ఏమీ దొరకటం లేదు. ఎన్నిసార్లు ఈ ఆఫీసర్లను అడిగినా వారికి మూ అలనా, పాలనా ఉన్నట్లు కనిపించడంలేదు. ఇంతేకాకుండా నిరుడు అమ్మిన ధాన్యానికి ఇంతవరకు బోనస్ ఇవ్వలేదు. మాకు బోనస్ ఇప్పించవలసినదని వీరిని ఎన్నిసార్లు ప్రార్థించినా వారు వివిధమైన శ్రద్ధ చూపించరు. ఎన్నిసార్లో తాలూకా ఆఫీసుల చుట్టు తిరిగినా ప్రయోజనంలేకుండా ఉన్నది. కాని మమ్మల్ని ధాన్యం ఇవ్వవలసిన దని వీరు నిర్బంధిస్తున్నారని ఆ రైతులు చెప్పారు. దానికి బదులుగా వారిని ఓర్పు వహించవలసినదని, వ్యవసాయి పనిముట్లు వ్యవసాయశాఖ (Agricultural department) వారిని అడిగి తీసుకొనవలసినదని, ఈ విషయంలో కలెక్టరుగారిని అడిగిన లాభంలేదని, ఇప్పుడు మన రాష్ట్రంలో కరువు పీర్వడిఉన్నదని, ఇటువంటి పరిస్థితులలో ప్రభుత్వమువారికి ధాన్యమును ఇవ్వక ఒత్తిడిచేయడం మంచిదికాదని వారితో చెప్పినాము. కలెక్టరుగారు ఆ రైతులవద్దనుంచి 6,000 బస్తాల ధాన్యము కావాలని అన్నారు. కాని రైతులు 1,500 బస్తాలకన్న హెచ్చు ఇవ్వలేమని చెప్పారు. కలెక్టరుగారు ఇందుకు ఒప్పుకోలేదు. రైతులు అంతధాన్యాన్ని ఇవ్వలేమని, ఇప్పుడు ధాన్యము అమ్మితే వారికి తరుగువల్ల నష్టం కలుగుతుందని చెప్పారు.

"ఇంతేకాకుండా ఇప్పుడు ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఈ మార్చి 1 వ తేదినుంచి, ఏప్రిల్ 15 వ తేదీలోపున ప్రొహ్యూర్‌మెంటు పూర్తిగా జరగాలని ఈ విధంగా ప్రొహ్యూర్ చేసినటువంటి ధాన్యానికి బస్తాకు రూ. 0-12-0 తగ్గించి ఇవ్వవలసినదని ఆర్డర్లు ఇచ్చారని వారు చెప్పారు. ఇది చాలాఅన్యాయము. ఎందువల్లనంటే మొదటి సంవత్సరంలో శ్రీ ప్రకాశం పంతులుగారు రైతులకు రూ 2 లు, రూ 4 లు బోనస్ ఇచ్చాడు. ఈ జరిగిన సంవత్సరంలో కూడా శ్రీ రామస్వామి రెడ్డియారు, నవంబరు, డిసంబరు నెలలో అమ్మినవాటికి కూడా బోనస్ ఇప్పించారు ఈ విధంగా రైతులకు బోనస్ ఇవ్వటానికి కారణం వారు రైతుల ధాన్యానికి సరిఅయిన ధర రాలేదనే అభిప్రాయముతోనేనని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. కాని ఇప్పుడు బస్తాకు రూ. 0-12-0 తగ్గించబడలచడము చాలాఅన్యాయము. రైతులకు చాలానష్టం సంభవిస్తుంది. ఈ కరువురోజులలో రైతుకు సరసమైన ధర ఇవ్వకపోతే అతడు వ్యవసాయంచేయలేడు. రైతుకు అవసరమైన వస్తువులు అతనికి న్యాయమయిన ధరలకు దొరుకునట్లు చేయకుండా, పైగా అతనిమీద జబర్దస్తిచేస్తుంటే, రైతాంగంలో చాలా అసంతృప్తి ప్రబలిపోతుంది. ఈనాడు రైతు ప్రభుత్వము తనమీద దౌర్జన్యవిధానాన్ని అవలంభిస్తోందని బాధపడుతున్నాడు. ఈ విధంగా రైతులను అసంతృప్తిపరచడం మంచిదికాదు."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :— "మీరు చెప్పేటటువంటి విషయాలు ఈ డిమాండుకు సంబంధించినవికావు."

SRIMATHI V. SEETHAMAHALAKSHMAMMA :—"అయినప్పటికి ఈ నాడు రైతులపడ్డ బాధలను గురించి మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. ఈ విషయాలను మంత్రిగారు గమనించి రైతులకు ఉపకారంచేయించవలసినదని నా కోరిక."

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THE HON: SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—"ఈ డిమాండుకు సంబంధములేని విషయాలను గురించి మాట్లాడితే సమాధానం ఇవ్వడం సాధ్యంకాదు."

SRIMATHI V. SEETHAMAHALAKSHMAMMA :—"స్పీకరుగారు నాకు ఇంకో 2 నిముషాల వ్యవధి ఇస్తే నేను ముగిస్తాను.

"ఈ విధంగా కృష్ణాపుంలో రైతులకు, కలెక్టరుగారి సిబ్బందికి మధ్యన ఘర్షణ వస్తుందని భయపడి నేను రైతువద్దకువెళ్లి వారు ఏవిధంగానైనా కలెక్టరుగారికి ధాన్యము ఇచ్చి వారిని పంపించివేయాలని చెప్పాను. ఆఖరుకు వారు 3,000 బస్తాలు ఇవ్వటానికి ఒప్పుకున్నారు. కలెక్టరుగారు ఆధాన్యాన్ని లారీలలోకి ఎక్కించుకుని బయలుదేరబోతుంటే, ఆ గ్రామరైతులకు సహాయముగా ఇతర గ్రామములనుంచి వచ్చినవారు లారీలను, పోలీసువారిని కర్రలతోను, రాళ్లతోను ఎదిరించారు. రిజర్వ్ పోలీసులను కలెక్టరుగారు తుపాకులను లోడ్ (load) చెయ్యవలసిందిగా ఆర్డరు చేశారు. ఆ పరిస్థితులను చూస్తే ఆ వేళ అక్కడ కొన్ని శవములు వెల్లిపోతాయని నేను చాలా భయపడ్డాను. రైతులలో చాలా అసంతృప్తి ఏర్పడినది వారు సర్వవిధాలా ప్రభుత్వం వారి జబర్దస్తీను ప్రతిఘటింప నిశ్చయించారు నేను వెంటనే వారి మధ్యకు వెళ్లి ఇది మన ప్రజాప్రభుత్వము, దేశంలో ఈనాడు కరువు పరిస్థితులు ఏర్పడిఉన్నాయి, మీరు ఈ విధంగా ప్రభుత్వము వారిని ఎదిరించడం మంచిదికాదని వారికి నచ్చచెప్పి వారివద్దనున్న కర్రలను మాఇ ఇచ్చి వేయమని అడిగినాను. వారు అందుకు అంగీకరించి వారివద్ద నున్న కర్రలకన్నింటిని మాకు ఇచ్చివేసినారు. తరువాత మేము కలెక్టరుగారు వారి సిబ్బంది అంతా కలసి భుయ్యూరు బంగాళాకు వచ్చినాము.

"ఈనాడు రాష్ట్రంలోగల రైతాంగంలో ప్రభుత్వ నిర్బంధ ధాన్యసేకర విధానం వలన, ప్రభుత్వోద్యోగుల జబర్దస్తీవల్ల అసంతృప్తి ఏర్పడినది. ఈ విషయములన్నింటిని ప్రభుత్వమువారు గుర్తించి రైతులకు మేలుకలుగునట్లుగా చేయవలసినదని వారిని కోరుతున్నాను.

"ఇప్పుడు మలబారు వర్తకులను సరాసరి ధాన్యమును రైతుల దగ్గరనుంచి తెచ్చుకోమనడము వల్ల . . ."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—"In supporting the demand moved by the Hon. the Revenue Minister I would like to bring to the notice of Government that in the matter of land revenue policy of the Government, even a man owning one or two acres is being penalized to pay. I think the previous speaker was trying to explain to the Government that any business or any method of earning up to two thousand rupees is exempted from even income-tax. Here, if the agricultural labourer or a poor agriculturist is having one or two acres . . ." 12-45 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER :—"The hon. Member is probably thinking that we are on the general discussion of the demands. He must limit himself to the note that is supplied."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—"Mr. Speaker, Sir. when survey is being done a certain amount has to be incurred. Now after all what the Government are going to spend during the next few days will be very small. When they undertake the survey they must take up the zamindari areas and see that the land that they

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survey is brought under the plough as early as possible. They must consider the case of the landless labourers of that area and if possible form them into a co-operative society."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think, probably, the hon. Member has not gone through the explanatory note that has been supplied."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In regard to the question of training surveyors I think the Government have already spent much of the amount and some more time will also be taken in training them . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I find that the hon. Member is now turning over the pages."

*THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Sir, when a supplementary demand is made it is because there is a new scheme to be executed during the year. In this case, after the last year's budget was sanctioned the question of abolishing the zamindaris was taken up and we have decided to abolish them and to abolish them in a particular way. The whole House knows the scheme, though I am very sorry that one or two hon. Members did not care to know the procedure that we are going to adopt in regard to the abolition of the zamindaris. For example, the hon. Member, Mr. Raza Khan, has been repeating the same argument that had been answered more than five times on the floor of the House. He said that survey and settlement will take a long time. That is true. But the abolition of zamindaris will not be delayed on that account. We are going to take charge of the zamindaris and only after that carry out a survey. Therefore, the period of survey only succeeds the abolition of zamindaris and does not precede it. This point I have explained more than once and there is no reason why my friend, Mr. Raza Khan, should think that there is going to be a long delay in the matter.

"Then, Sir, the hon. Member, Mr. Venkateswarlu, in moving the cut motion has not taken into account the limited nature of this demand. This demand is only to ask the approval of the House to train surveyors so as to keep them ready before the work is started, i.e., soon after the zamindaris are abolished and the estates are taken charge of by the Government. If we do not begin to train them now, say in May or June, when actually the abolition comes into effect, it will take some three months or more to send them to the field. The idea is that the surveyors, after training may commence their work immediately the estates are taken over by Government. I am glad to say that over 200 surveyors are going to be trained now and got ready before the estates are taken over.

"Then, Sir, the hon. Member, Mr. Venkateswarlu, also spoke about Hyderabad. Because he wanted to speak something about Hyderabad that is perturbing his mind he referred to it in this connexion. It is only a small provision of 9,000 rupees which we have got to pay to the pensioners who retired from service and

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who are now in England to-day and neither Mr. Venkateswarlu nor myself nor the Government can think of abrogating this charge. This also has no reference to the present demand.

"Sri Nageswara Rao wants certain reforms in jamabandi, and in the classification of pattas, etc. I may tell him that these things will be taken up at the time of the codification of the Land Revenue Law.

"The suggestion of Srimathi Seethamahalakshmamma, with reference to the levy of an agricultural income-tax on people who have got the capacity to pay higher tax, is already receiving the attention of the Government and I do hope the future policy of Government is to mulct more from the richer man than from the poorer man. Since no other particular point has been raised on the floor of this House and further this demand is of a limited nature, I request the House to give its approval. I would request Mr. Venkateswarlu to withdraw his cut motion."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I withdraw the cut motion, Sir."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND III—STAMPS.

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 3,45,200 under Demand III—Stamps.'

"I see there is no cut motion under this demand. This is only a formal demand and the purpose of this demand is to give additional allowances to the staff under the revised rules and also to give more commission to the Stamp Vendors because the limit of their holding has been increased from Rs. 200 to Rs. 400. We hope to get larger income from this and the expenditure is only small and, therefore, I am certain, we are not going to lose anything at all. I hope the demand will be approved."

The Demand was put and carried.

DEMAND IV—FOREST.

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 13,64,300 under Demand IV—Forest.'

"The details of this demand are given in the Explanatory note and no particular elucidation is necessary."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 13,64,300 under Demand IV—Forest'."

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SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given notice of a cut motion and also advance notice of it to the Hon. Minister so that he may have certain facts and information ready from his department. I am interested only in two items referred to therein, namely (i) and (iii) on page 5 of the Note. In regard to item (i) it is said that in order to meet certain urgent demands with regard to house-building schemes and for the Madras House Construction scheme, advance felling of forests is being made. I would invite hon. Members' attention that apart from giving assistance to co-operative building societies, who are for the present catering to the rich and upper middle classes, nothing is being done either for the lower middle classes or the lower classes who can invest from Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 5,000 on houses. I would like Government to consider the supply of timber direct to such poor classes of people who want to build houses and who want to invest money genuinely for the purpose of building houses for themselves. At present they are in a most hopeless position; they cannot get cement or bricks at reasonable prices, nor timber at reasonable rates. Prices of all building materials are rocketed sky high. I therefore want the Hon. Minister to consider the feasibility of making some arrangement for providing such genuine builders of small houses—not those who want to invest on buildings but those who want to build houses for their own occupation—facilities for the supply of timber, etc.

" The next item is in regard to metalling the Mannarghat-Attapadi road, i.e., item (iii) (*b*). This road, I undrstand, is going to develop a very rich forest area on the eastern slopes of the Western Ghats. It has a total length of 37 miles. I understand that it was constructed at one stretch and it is now proposed to metal it at a cost of Rs. 15,400 as mentioned in the Explanatory Note. The next stage is the Attapadi-Chinnathadagam road and that portion of the road has to be constructed. The plans for this have been prepared as early as 1945, but the work has been held up. I very much wish that in view of the urgency, the Hon. Minister will try and make the best use of our forests and to make supplies available it is necessary to open this area also. I believe that even in 1935 under the Vipen Scheme there was a proposal to connect this Mannarghat road in Walluvanad taluk with Chinnathadagam in the Coimbatore district and out of which only 12 miles at one stage and 10 miles between Coimbatore and Chinnathadagam have been constructed, leaving a gap in the middle of 15 miles from Attapadi to Chinnathadagam. I want the Government to see to the early expedition of the construction of this section of the road of 15 miles. Otherwise, it will be useless, because the inter-district connexion between Walluvanad in the Malabar district and Chinnathadagam in the Coimbatore district will not be covered. I also want to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to this fact. It is said that this road between Attapadi and Chinnathadagam could not be constructed because there are no contractors coming forward to take up the

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work at the estimated cost. Sir, the estimate is ready and the plans are also ready, but it is only the lack of contractors, I understand, that stands in the way. Sir, I understand that a limited company which wants to develop this area and which has got certain leasehold interest in the area round about this, has now come forward to complete this road at the estimated cost. I hope the Government will be in a position to accept the offer made by that limited company for the construction of this road. If this is done, I think, it will be a double advantage to us, because we can complete the road and we can have also timber available for the much-needed urgent requirements of house construction. There will also be this additional advantage,—in view of the fertility of the soil and plenty of rainfall—in that the virgin soil will be available for paddy cultivation. Sir, it is only for this purpose that I have given notice of the cut motion and I hope the Government will consider the proposition I have put forward."

SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—" Mr. Speaker, in supporting the Demand, I wish to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I wish to know from the hon. Member if he is seconding the cut motion."

SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—" I can support the Demand and also 1 p.m. speak on the cut motion."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I second the cut motion."

SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—" In supporting the Demand, I wish to invite the attention of the Hon. Minister to the fact that a number of forest panchayats have been transferred to Government. I wish to know whether this is because the forest panchayats did not work well or it is because the Government wanted to take over the particular areas for purposes of raising casuarina. If it is the former, I am afraid that the system of election to the forest panchayats is not satisfactory. What happens is that a number of villagers are gathered at a particular place and the Deputy Tahsildar or the Tahsildar goes there and asks there to raise their hands in favour of one or the other panchayatdars who have been already selected either by the officials or by some influential man. The result is that the villagers do not take any interest in the panchayats and the panchayats are not doing their work properly for the purpose of benefiting the village and the Government seems to be under the impression that the forest panchayats are not working well. An attempt has been made to take over as many forest panchayats as possible. I want the Hon. Minister to investigate into that question and see whether a better system of election could not be adopted.

" The second point is with regard to the provision of rupees 50,000 to be spent for wire-netting casuarina plantations. It cannot be for preventing goats from straying into the plantations and eating the plants for I know that goats do not eat casuarina

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plants. If it is only for purposes of preventing people from entering the plantations and committing theft, it cannot be useful. It is pennies that make the pounds and Rs. 50,000 is a fairly large amount. If it is after all necessary, I wish to ask if one or two watchmen could not be appointed for the purpose. I want the Hon. Minister to take proper steps in future to prevent this sort of extra expenditure which will not be necessary.

"In this connexion, I wish to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the money that is spent for laying roads in forests. I believe the Hon. Minister has heard of the accident which took place on the Nallamalai Hills; the road was narrow and the carts slipped down a precipice and dropped to a depth of 50 feet; eight pilgrims were killed. A number of pilgrims go to Srisailam in connexion with the Mahasivarathri and I myself travelled last year to that place and all through the road I was trembling in my mind as to what accident might happen; hundreds of carts, all of them start in the evening from Peecheruvu either because it is hot during the day or they want to save time and during the dark night—as Mahasivarathri is on a New Moon day—they go up; I am sure the Hon. Minister's attention has been drawn to the accident on that road and I plead that it must be widened. The forest is a very valuable one and there is very great chance of the Government deriving income from working the forests. About 100 to 150 people were involved in the accident but fortunately only 8 died but the bulls fortunately were saved. I therefore, appeal to the Hon. Minister to take up the question of widening the road so that at least in future such accidents may be prevented."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the Demand. In doing so, I would like to address my remarks on a few things that appear in the Memorandum submitted to us. The first thing is that Government propose to create 8 temporary posts of Assistant Conservators. During the years 1937 to 1939 I remember that a despatch was sent to England pointing out to the Secretary of State the excess strength in the Forest Services and suggesting retrenchment in the personnel of the Forest department. I do not know in what stage the matter is now. On the 15th August 1947 there have been some releases from the I.F.S. and to replace them I think the present Government are trying to create new posts. During the war, several Assistant Conservators were deputed to various districts either for soil conservation, or for pyrethrum or for the creation of fuel forests. I would like the Hon. Minister to examine whether we could not centralize the various activities in each district so that the various processes could be brought under one Assistant Conservator and the work could be efficiently carried out and at the same time there may be savings for the Government.

"I think, Sir, that the Government have done well in taking over 24 forest panchayats. It is within the knowledge of those who are living in forest areas how the forest panchayats are managed and forests have been denuded. In my district of Nilgiris, I may tell you that due to the grow more food drive,

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nearly four thousand acres have been taken over from forest area for cultivation and as a result many of the hills have been denuded and much of the soil has been wasted. Recently the Forest department circulated to the members of the Soil Conservation Board the alarming situation created by losing the surface soil and the present condition of the cultivable lands. I think the Hon. Minister has taken timely action in bringing into existence the Conservation Board and doing something so that the people of Nilgiris may not migrate from the place after one or two decades. I think it is a very wise arrangement that the Hon. Minister has made and I suggest that a separate Assistant Conservator may be deputed for this purpose. Otherwise the work that has been so well started may not come to fruition to our satisfaction.

"I also support the proposal made by my hon. Friend Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar regarding linking the road between Attapadi and Thandagam. This is very necessary and is also in the interests of the hill-tribes living there. It will open up a very big area thereby and the Irulars and other hill tribes will get some work and it will be possible for them to come to Coimbatore and other places with ease. With these observations, I support the Demand."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"Mr. Speaker, in supporting the Demand, I am very glad that my hon. Friend Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliar has brought before the Government the necessity for opening the Attapadi–Chinnathadagam road connecting Coimbatore town with Walluvanad. The formation of the road has been hanging fire for so many years and it came before the Coimbatore District Board and it took this scheme under consideration and perhaps for want of funds, the scheme was delayed. It has got vast potentialities. The Attapadi valley is a very fertile valley and as my hon. Friend Mr. Muniswami Pillay mentioned, a large number of Irulars are settled there. It is mainly owned by the jenmis of Malabar and they have no interest in the preservation of forests so much so the area is gradually being denuded of reserve forests, and erosion of the virgin soil is allowed with the result we are losing the fertility of valuable lands. It is high time that the Forest department takes this area under the Forest Act and protects it. If Attapadi valley is connected with Coimbatore town, it will bring large amount of green manure and farm-yard manure as the cattle wealth in that area is considerable and this is going to waste now. Garden land owners in Coimbatore are very much handicapped in the transport of this manure to their gardens and if this road is opened up, I am sure it will greatly help the garden cultivation and it will go a long way to solve the problem of shortage of food."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—"Mr. Speaker, in this debate, I wish to put before the Government two matters for their consideration. One is with regard to forest panchayats. If in the opinion of Government the forest panchayats are administering properly, it is up to them to revise the existing orders and made the forest panchayat administration real; if they do not

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think so, it is better that forest panchayats are merged in the regular Forest department. The Hon. Minister may be aware that the preparation of the electoral rolls, and the system of election are giving rise to serious allegations. Unless the electoral rolls are prepared months before the election and every man is given an opportunity of preferring claims and objections and the list finalised after taking these into consideration and then the election held—not by the show of hands but preferably by the ballot system—unless all these are done the election will not be satisfactory. If Government decide against entrusting the matter any further to panchayats, I have no objection to Government taking them under the regular Forest department.

" There are large areas in those forests which are not in my opinion regular forests at all they being mere shrubby growth which could be alienated to poor people for the purposes of cultivation. Of course the point is being raised by the head of the department saying that you cannot give away any lands from that area for cultivation as it would affect rainfall. I doubt very much if a small area with shrubby growth with little or no trees will really contribute to rainfall and that is an aspect which Government will have to consider. Especially in my constituency there are thousands and thousands of areas which cannot be really called forests at all; it is an uncultivated area with some plants here and there and shrubs; Government do not rear trees there either and make them regular forests but merely keep quiet. It is neither fit to be forests nor fit for cultivation. If only Government make up their minds to alienate them to poor people, whoever it may be, then they may bring them under cultivation. Then they will be of real value. These are the suggestions that I wish to place before the Government and I support the Demand."

1-15 p.m. * THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the cut motion of Sri V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliar, he had not given me notice of the matter on the supply of timber to poor people, other than co-operative societies, who can invest Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 6,000, and so I am not in a position to reply to him. The main point he raised and about which he had given me notice was, why not the Mannarghat-Attapadi road be extended to Coimbatore district to connect with Chinnathadagam. That road is already in existence; but it is not a metalled road. So during the monsoon the road is almost washed away, and so to make it a permanent road we are metalling it. The Southern India Planting and Industries Co., Ltd., applied to undertake the extension of the road. The matter was referred to the Chief Conservator for his remarks and he reported that the construction of the road would be entirely outside the forest area and would be of no use to the Forest department. The general policy of the Forest department is that they do not undertake construction of roads outside the forest area, and they extend roads only up to the public road for bringing forest produce. The Chief Conservator is of the opinion that this road is absolutely of no use for the department, and he suggested that if necessary the extension of the road from Attapadi to Chinnathadagam may be undertaken by the P.W.D. The

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matter has been referred to the P.W.D. The fact that the scheme has been included in the Vipan's scheme shows that it is not a matter of national highways and of district boards."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister, whether, if this road is not beneficial to the Forest Department, the Government will come forward to take it up on contribution basis? "

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" We have referred the matter to the P.W.D. and we feel it may take it up, so that the question of doing that work on contribution basis will come in only if Government or district board want it on the ground of supplying timber. Timber is always available for purchase in the forest timber depot by any person rich or poor. (Sri V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliar: ' Poor people who have applied for timber for house-building have been refused timber.') There has been no such application by the poor people for timber at concession rates. If such applications for timber for house-building purposes had been received, such help would have been rendered.

" Mr. Koti Reddi and Mr. Brahmanandam Reddi spoke about forest panchayats. Mr. Koti Reddi asked what was the reason for taking over the forest panchayats. He asked, ' is it because of inefficiency? ' Sir, the inefficiency of the forest panchayats has become so notorious that as Mr. Brahmanandam Reddi said, it is not possible to mend it; it has to be ended. So the forest panchayat areas in Rayalaseema have been converted into reserve forests making sufficient provision for providing grazing facilities to cattle. There has been no attempt at regeneration of forests by the forest panchayats so far. The only attempt made was to raise the grazing fees. The voters' list referred to by Mr. Brahmandam Reddi is prepared as per ownership of cattle. But the difficulty is that three or four or five villages are combined together to form a forest panchayat and so there is a regular scramble for membership, which is taken to be a privilege rather than to do service, and it is because of their inefficiency that to-day some of those areas are more bald than some of the shining bald heads that we see here.

" Regarding the wire netting for casuarina topes, Mr. Koti Reddi asked whether it was the idea of Government to put up such nets wherever casuarina topes exist. Sir, in Chingleput district lakhs of rupees were spent for rearing casuarina plantations, most of which have failed for want of protection against being trampled by stray cattle. Instead of completely giving up those plantations, we thought, we could by providing wire-netting, save the remnant casuarina and make some money out of it. Hence we have provided for wire-netting.

" The same hon. Member referred to the road to Srisailam and the accident that took place recently there. I have read that report of the accident. I take it, it is a forest road. The accident happened not merely because that road is narrow. On bigger roads I had recently an accident in Nandyal. This is the first instance of accident in that Srisailam road. Generally there is no heavy

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traffic in that road. The only heavy traffic is during Sivarathri festival. For the rest of the year it is only forest traffic there. Anyhow I shall see that there are no dangerous corners, and that they are all widened.

"My Friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillay, referred to the number of Assistant Conservators' posts. This is intended only to provide for the leave reserve. As several Indian Forest Service officers have gone on leave, this is made only to provide for their leave vacancies. I shall certainly bear in mind the suggestion of the hon. Member and try to work them.

"Regarding soil conservation scheme, I am very much concerned with soil erosion, and this is particularly so in Rayalaseema, and in the Nilgiris it has assumed large proportions. Not only an Assistant Conservator should be appointed, but a separate division should be created to look into the matter. The suggestion of the Board will certainly be given effect to.

"Mr. Brahmanandam Reddi suggested that large shrubby areas in Guntur may be alienated as they are not forests at all. Applications are coming in for such alienations. I have myself seen large areas like that. But I must remind my friend it is because of the loss of trees in these areas we are suffering to-day. It is our duty to plant trees in these areas. I want kumri cultivation to be done there; but the applicants are not willing to take it up. We wanted to plant casuarina there, but as the water facility is very little, it does not thrive there. Whenever applications for alienation are received they are referred to the Collector for his opinion, and they are given if there is no objection by the Forest Department or the Revenue Department. But the object of the department is to convert these areas into forests. Finally, Sir, I request the hon. Member to withdraw his cut motion."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—"Sir, the Hon. Minister, in his reply said that the forest panchayat areas in Rayalaseema have been taken over by the Government. May I know, what about the other forest panchayat areas in other parts of the Province?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The proposal is to take it up by turn because of the establishment charges, which cost two lakhs of rupees. The whole thing will be done in the course of five or six years."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Sir, in connexion with forest panchayat areas, the Hon. Minister replied that in cases where objection is not raised by the department the areas will be alienated. May I tell him due to redtapism obtaining to-day, immediately, the paper is received, due to the hurry for disposal, they simply say 'objectionable.' May I ask the Hon. Minister to issue instructions that the Forest department need not be punctilious about their pound of flesh but allow such proposals."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I am requesting kumri cultivation may be carried on in such areas. It has to be

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sanctioned by the Forest department. From my experience of Guntur only five per cent of the applicants are willing to take it up. There is no scope for redtapism there."

The cut motion was by leave of the House withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

The House then adjourned for lunch.

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

II.—DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR FURTHER EXPENDITURE IN THE YEAR 1947-48—*cont.*

DEMAND V—REGISTRATION.

* THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 3,76,200 *under Demand V—Registration.'*

This sum represents the extra expenditure incurred by the Government due to the revision of salaries of the officers of the Registration department sanctioned last year."

The Demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND VI—MOTOR VEHICLES ACT.

* THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 95,000 *under Demand VI—Motor Vehicles Act.'*

This sum represents the increased expenditure due to the appointment of the Transport Commissioner, enhanced dearness allowance to the staff of the department, purchase of wheel weighers and traffic signs, and so on."

M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, in speaking on this motion, I want to place certain facts before the House. This Demand for a supplementary grant is to meet the increased expenditure due to the appointment of the Transport Commissioner, the payment of travelling allowance to the non-official members and so on. Under the Motor Vehicles Acts, the Government have created agencies like the Central Road Traffic Board and Regional Transport Authorities. I want to know whether the Transport Commissioner will act as a liaison officer between the Central Road Traffic Board and the Government, or whether he will be an independent officer. I also want to know whether he will exercise control over the Transport Officer who is appointed to look after the running of State buses in the City of Madras, and if so, whether this will not result in dual control in the administration of the Motor Vehicles Act and the Motor Taxation Act in the Madras City. I want a clear statement as to

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whether the appointment of a Transport Commissioner at this juncture will help in the administration of the Motor Vehicles Act and the Motor Taxation Act."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" Sir, in speaking on this Demand, I wish to bring a few points to the notice of the Hon. Minister.

" In the mufassal places, bus-owners insist upon the passengers alighting at the intermediate stations to pay fare up to the destination and they are not prepared to sell tickets for intermediate stations. This is a great hardship for the intermediate passengers. I had occasion to try to check this practice several times and every time some explanation or other was offered. It is well known that the bus-owners throughout the Province have made tons of money by questionable means. This blackmarketing in tickets has been going on to such an extent that there are brokers at certain bus-stands. I suppose the Government would have been fully apprised of this nuisance and I hope that they will take immediate steps to put an end to this.

" The second thing that I want to point out is the prevalence of the very bad practice of policemen claiming the front seat in the buses. Many a dignitary has been put to shame. I know that several lawyers have been indecently brushed aside and relegated to the back seat to yield the front seat to a head constable with his most disgusting and offensive red turban. It has come to be felt that the front seat is the monoply of official dignitaries.

" The third thing that I wish to point out is that most of the bus-owners are still following the old ways. The bus-owners do not recognize anybody below the rank of a Deputy Collector in the Revenue Department, and if it is the Police Department, even a head constable will do. The bus is taken to the very doors of the house of the Deputy Collector or the head constable whenever he wants and made to wait for the officer, and to carry his load, both animate and inanimate, wherever he likes. This sort of discrimination is being shown during days when we are breathing or at least supposed to breathe free air. This should not be allowed any longer.

" The seats in the City buses are comfortable. But in mufassal buses, they are very uncomfortable. The roof is at a very low level. When I enquired about the cause for this, the manufacturers said that the roofs were low so that they may not strike against the branches of trees on the roads. It does not mean that the heads of the passengers should strike against the roofs of the buses. Some comforts should be given to the passengers and the sooner it is done the better.

" Another thing which I wish to point out is that the bus fares are abnormal and not commensurate with the comforts provided for the passengers. It is high time that the Government cause an investigation to be made in the mileage that is demanded and so revise the rates that they are commensurate with the comforts provided and do not go to swell the money bags of the owners.

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" I would like to put in a plea on behalf of the poor employees. Till now motor transport has been the monopoly of a few big magnates. We know of cases where drivers have become millionaires and millionaires have become crorepathis. At last nationalization has come in good time to check this. The Government should also organize transport co-operative societies. I know that they were willing to help one or two companies but the Co-operative Department itself must take it into its head to organize them."

MR. SPEAKER:—" It looks as though the hon. Member is speaking on a original demand."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" I take the caution.

" The Hon. Minister may take the suggestion for what it is worth and try to fix a minimum wage for the transport employees so that friction between the employers and the employees may be minimised.

" The police zoolum over the buses must be reduced without any delay. The Motor Vehicles Act is a weapon in the hands of the Police enabling them to stop a bus, to run a bus, to deprive a driver or conductor of his licence and even to restore it to him the very next morning. Such wide powers under the Motor Vehicles Act should not be vested in the autocratic police.

" Further, whenever the Government make laws, they should see that they are such as can be enforced without much autocracy from the officials. I know that under the Motor Vehicles Act there is no rule prescribing that so much fine should be imposed for overloading by such and such number of passengers. But the District Magistrates have been issuing what are called District Magisterial Orders. They do clearly say that if it is a case of overloading by one passenger, a fine of Rs. 100 should be imposed; if it is overloading by two passengers, a fine of Rs. 200 should be imposed and so on. These Magisterial Orders are an insult and stigma to the independence of the judiciary, despite the frequent assurances given by the Hon. Home Minister that the Government would not like to interfere with the Magistrates. I hope steps will be taken to put an end to the issuing of such orders."

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—" On a point of order, Sir. In his speech on the original Demand under this Head, Mr. Raghavayya made several serious allegations but he was not present to hear the reply of the Hon. Minister. May I know whether the Hon. Minister cannot give a suitable reply to Mr. Raghavayya now? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" This is no point of order."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the payment of quarterly tax, car and bus-owners are put to unnecessary trouble. The registration certificates have to be sent to the taluk office and the owners have to wait there for hours and even days together to get them back. The Government have not made adequate arrangements to receive the taxes promptly and

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return the registration certificates then and there. It is a well-known fact that at the close of every quarter, the taluk office is overcrowded with chauffeurs as well as bus-owners. The Government have not got enough staff to cope with the work. I request the Government to remedy this state of affairs.

"I understand that the Government have not passed a schedule of passenger fares. Bus-owners are collecting excessive rates and if the excess collection is brought to the notice of authorities, it is contended that no action can be taken because there are no statutory rates. It is high time that a schedule of passenger fares is passed by the Government.

"With these words, I support the Demand."

2-45 p.m. SRI K. A. NACHIAPPA GOUNDER:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I should like to say something about the Central Road Traffic Board. In the matter of granting of timings to buses and other matters, the District Traffic Board invariably runs to the Central Road Traffic Board and it grants injunctions . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I must point out that in discussing the Supplementary Demands, hon. Members should confine themselves to the particular items for which the demand is sought for and the explanatory note under each head will indicate the purpose of the demand. They should not speak as if this is a general discussion on the original demand."

SRI K. A. NACHIAPPA GOUNDER:—"Sir, this supplementary demand deals with the increased expenditure connected with the Central Road Traffic Board."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister has come forward with this supplementary demand for an increase in expenditure due to the appointment of the Transport Commissioner and certain other contingencies. The hon. Member should confine his criticism only to these items."

SRI K. A. NACHIAPPA GOUNDER:—"Sir, as I said, this demand also deals with the Central Road Traffic Board and I think I am at liberty to criticise the actions of the Board also in this connexion, because the Transport Commissioner comes in only there. My point is that the Central Road Traffic Board is interfering with the work of the Regional Traffic Boards and this causes much inconvenience and sufferings to the public. That is the point I wish to impress upon, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is not in order in his criticism. The Government have come forward for a supplementary grant for the appointment of the Transport Commissioner and for the travelling allowance of non-official members, etc. Let the hon. Member confine himself to these two points."

M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I think the hon. Member is in order, Sir. On page 6 of the Supplementary Estimate, under the Demand 'Motor Vehicles Acts', against the third column, 'Sub-head of appropriation' is mentioned the item, 'Central Road Traffic Board,' for which a sum of

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Rs. 36,400 has been provided for, and it is for this supplementary expenditure that we are called upon to vote. The appointment of the Transport Commissioner and the payment of travelling allowance to non-official members, etc., generally refer to the Central Road Traffic Board and therefore, I think, my hon. Friend is perfectly in order, when he wants to criticise the actions of the Central Road Traffic Board."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member must make it clear."

SRI K. A. NACHIAPPA GOUNDER:—"Under the travelling allowance of members, I can naturally criticise the conduct of the Board as a whole. That is what I want to submit, Sir. The Central Road Traffic Board invariably intereferes with the orders of the District Road Traffic Board, so much so, that what is desired by the District Traffic Board to be done in the interests of the district is being marred by the interference of the Central Road Traffic Board. Even in the office of the District Traffic Board, quick work is not transacted, because there is only one officer for three districts."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, my hon. Friend mentioned that the Central Road Traffic Board interferes with the actions of the Regional Traffic Board. I want to know whether it is the Board or the Secretary to the Board."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is a point of information, and not a point of order."

SRI K. A. NACHIAPPA GOUNDER:—"Sir, I should say that it is the Secretary that interferes, when any matter comes before the Board. I am not here to separate the Secretary from the Board, in making my criticism."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"Sir, under the rules, the Secretary is given special powers while the members have got certain other distinctive powers. As a member of the Road Board, I want to say that we have never interfered in any case, Sir."

SRI K. A. NACHIAPPA GOUNDER:—"I submit, Sir, that in the interests of the public, no sort of interference should be made and all facilities and conveniences should be afforded to the public in the matter of transport in the districts.

"Then, Sir, with regard to traffic signals also, I should like to say that they are not put in properly. While the Local Bodies were in charge of this work, they have been looking after these things perfectly well. But when the work was transferred to the Traffic Department, the signals are not placed in order. For instance, in areas where there are schools, it is very necessary that such signals should be put up, as otherwise accidents are likely to occur frequently. Hitherto the local bodies were attending to these things, but now that the Road Traffic Department are in charge of the work, they are not attended to properly. It is only to stress these two points that I got up, Sir."

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MR. L. C. PAIS:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the demand and in doing so, I should like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister, to only one point, namely the difficulties that are experienced to-day by coffee planters to bring coffee from their estates which are in the Hills above Mysore down to the plains to the curing yards, on account of the want of sufficient supply of petrol for their lorries. It would be impossible to bring down the coffee after the rains set in and it is therefore very necessary that all the stocks in the estates should be brought down within a month; but on account of the restrictions placed upon the supply of petrol, these planters are experiencing very great difficulties in the matter. If the coffee is not brought down before the rains set in, it would not only be a great loss to the planters, but also to the public, who are already suffering from want of adequate supply of coffee. Repeated representations have been made to the Government and also to the authorities concerned, but the only reply that we got so far to all our communications is that the matter is under consideration. Sir, the situation is critical. The lorries are at a standstill and large stocks have accumulated in the estates in the ghats and if rains are to set in next week or month, it will certainly entail serious loss, because there is storage facilities in the ghats. Therefore my submission is that the Hon. Minister must kindly take note of this request and see that petrol ration is increased immediately in the case of the planters so as to enable them to move their stocks down to the plains."

*THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to the various hon. Members who have participated in the discussion, for bringing out the various aspects of the administration of the Central Traffic Board and the Regional Traffic Boards. So far as the appointment of the Provincial Motor Transport Commissioner is concerned, my hon. Friend asked whether it is necessary that such an appointment should be made in view of the fact that various officers were being appointed in connexion with the Government's nationalization scheme. I would submit, Sir, that the nationalization scheme is something different from the administration of the Road Traffic Board and the District Traffic Boards and the Provincial Transport Commissioner's work was temporarily being attended to by the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras. It is not possible for him to attend to this additional function in addition to his own work satisfactorily, and therefore it is, that a separate officer has to be appointed. I submit therefore that the appointment is necessary. He is to be the head of the Provincial Motor Transport Department as well as the nationalization scheme and he will co-ordinate the transport services throughout the Province.

" My hon. Friend Mr. Raghavayya has referred to the various defects in the matter of the transport services. He said that there is blackmarketing in tickets and that excessive charges are levied by certain motor conductors on passengers in some of the routes. I submit, Sir, that it has been our unfortunate experience that wherever the supply runs short of the demand, there has been blackmarketing and that is the case not only in this, but in all

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other spheres also. It is an admitted fact that throughout the Province, traffic is increasing and the activities of the people are also increasing, but the railways, the buses and other transport services are not able to cope with the actual needs of the situation. That is why we see that in certain routes there has been this levying of excessive fares by private bus operators. Certain individual cases have been brought to the notice of the Government and enquiries have been made and the companies have been warned that such extra levies ought not to be made.

" My hon. Friend also suggested that if rates of fares are fixed and published by the Government, then any private operators violating these rules, could be brought to book and complaints in regard to these things could be avoided. Sir, I may inform my hon. Friend that from November 1947 onwards rates of fares throughout the Province have been fixed definitely and published by the Government and the bus companies have been directed to carry out these rules and instructions and therefore any complaints against any bus company violating these rules will certainly be enquired into and dealt with. Therefore, the difficulties which the hon. Member has pointed out will no longer arise.

" Then, Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Raghavayya also referred to the reservation of the front seats for the Police and other officers of Government. That is a thing, Sir, which I think, did prevail for a long time in the past. Recently a case of that sort was brought to the notice of the Government where a police officer asked a certain passenger to get back to the rear seat and forcibly occupied the front seat. That matter was enquired into and necessary action was taken against the police officer concerned. The Government have also issued a G.O. that no longer are Government servants and particularly police officers entitled to occupy front seats in public buses and if any breach of these rules were brought to the notice of the Government, severe action would be taken against the officer concerned.

" Then, Sir, as regards the complaint about the want of adequate height in the buses, the nationalization scheme which the Government have undertaken will, to a large extent, obviate these difficulties. No doubt, buses of various types are running in the Province. For instance, we have recently imported certain Diessel oil-engine buses from Italy which were also exhibited to some of the hon. Members of the Assembly. It is found that those buses are shorter in height, that is about 5 feet 9 inches or thereabouts, and because the Italians are apparently a shorter race, perhaps they have built them according to their ideas. Therefore only seating accommodations are provided therein and no passengers could stand. Normally, we Indians are about 5 feet 9 inches on the average, and if friends like my hon. Friend the Finance Minister were to get into such buses, naturally they will have to strike their heads against the ceiling, if they stand in those buses. That is why, as I have said, only seating accommodations have been provided in Diessel oil engine buses. An hon. Member: 'Let them stand on the top.') The Government have no objection if they do so.

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" Then, Sir, so far as the question of salaries and other service conditions in respect of workers in private bus companies are concerned, no doubt it is a difficult matter, and the Government cannot lay down any special conditions or rules in this regard. Even if the Government lay down any standards of pay and other conditions of service, it is doubtful whether private operators would adopt them, and it is difficult for the Government to enforce such conditions. But in view of the Government scheme of nationalization of the transport service throughout the Province within the next five years, I submit, Sir, that this question will no longer exist. I would also submit, Sir, that so far as the Government transport workers are concerned, they have done everything possible for them and have laid down fair wages and standardized scales of pay, daily allowances, etc., and they have also provided such other amenities as are needed for the convenience and comforts of their workers.

" Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Nachiappa Gounder referred to certain grievances and difficulties experienced by the Regional Traffic Boards and by the public on account of the interference of the Provincial Transport authorities in their proceedings. I would ask my hon. Friend to remember that the Motor Vehicles Act which is an Act of the Government of India has provided for the constitution of the Central Road Traffic Board and the Regional Transport Boards and the powers of both these authorities are laid down therein. Whenever an appeal is made against the orders of the Regional Transport Officer to the Central Road Traffic Board, in the exercise of its appellate powers, it can revise or modify the orders passed by the Regional Transport Officer and it has also powers to pass interim orders. That is a statutory power vesting with the Central Road Traffic Board and unless the Act is amended, we cannot do anything in the matter. Only after the new legislation that is now under the consideration of the Legislature is passed, can the Government have powers of revision of the proceedings of the Central Road Traffic Board and until then it is improper for the Government to interfere with their proceedings. It has also been mentioned that the Secretary of the Central Road Traffic Board is interfering on his own initiative. I would submit that the Act provides for the delegation of certain of the powers of the Central Road Traffic Board to its Secretary. Whenever such powers are delegated the Secretary will be entitled to exercise the delegated powers on behalf of the Central Road Traffic Board. Instances have been brought to the notice of the Government where there has been interference by the Secretary even beyond the delegations made by the Central Road Traffic Board. The Government have issued instructions that the exercise of such powers by the Secretary should not go outside those delegated to him by the Central Road Traffic Board.

" My hon. Friend Mr. Pais referred to the question of petrol. Of course it is a matter of headache to the Provincial Government. The supply to this Province has been reduced considerably from 41 lakhs to 37 lakhs of gallons and the demand for

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petrol has been very much on the increase, for transport of food, fuel and various other things. I know that the coffee growers in South Kanara are labouring under a very great difficulty but the trouble is that so far as we are concerned the supply is short and we are not able to give more than what we have been allotted. I would submit, Sir, in this connexion that the Government have adopted different scales of rations for different types of vehicles . . ."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" On a point of information, Sir. Will the Hon. Minister take a trip to Delhi and impress upon the Central Government the need for more petrol that would be required here on account of election o Leaders, etc." (Laughter.)

SRI B. ANANTACHAR:—" May I submit, Sir, that high priority may be given in the case of coffee, treating it as a food article and placing it on the same level as any other foodgrain? If we give high priority like this it will solve the problem."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" The trouble is not about priority, Sir. It is about the class of vehicle used. The Government have divided the vehicles into several classes, namely, essential service vehicles, controlled vehicles and ex-military vehicles. Many of these coffee estates are using only ex-military vehicles and in the allotment of petrol for these ex-military vehicles the Government have no obligation. . . ."

MR. L. C. PAIS:—" By way of information, Sir, I wish to inform the Hon. Minister that it is not only in the case of ex-military lorries, but in the case of the old lorries also the petrol given is so little that it is impossible to have a sufficient number of trips to bring down the coffee from the estates to the coast. What I suggest is this. If necessary, after the season is over they can cut down the supply, say after 2 months. For at least two months during the season there must be a little extra supply of petrol, so that the coffee may not be wasted in the plantations. Otherwise it will be a great loss to the coffee planters."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" We shall give the best consideration to the suggestion of the hon. Member, Mr. Pais, representing South Kanara. But the difficulty is that we have not got enough of petrol. The hon. Member knows, Sir, that we have got to maintain the existing ration of petrol till the end of April 1948. It is not as if we have extra stock of petrol to give extra allowance and then reimburse. The question is whether we have got enough supplies of petrol to maintain the ration. Demands are so great that we find it difficult to give any extra petrol for any purpose whatsoever. At the same time, Sir, I would ask the Provincial Rationing Officer to examine the suggestion made by the hon. Member and see whether it will be possible to increase the ration for this quarter and cut down the rations for the succeeding quarters. That can only be done on the footing that enough petrol would be available to spare even for making this adjustment. I shall see what can be done in the matter. I have submitted my explanations, Sir, on the various points raised and I would request that the grant may be made."

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Mr. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 95,000 under Demand VI—Motor Vehicles Act .' "

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND VII—OTHER TAXES AND DUTIES.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

' that under Demand VII—Other taxes and duties, the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 18,62,600.'

" Sir, the bulk of this is to be given to local bodies because our revenue from the Entertainments Tax is very much higher than it was anticipated to be. For the last quarter of 1945–46 and the first three-quarters of 1947–48 the money that has to be distributed to the local bodies comes to Rs. 13 lakhs and odd under that item and other small items. I hope, Sir, the grant will be made."

M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" In supporting the motion, I want to place one aspect of the case before the Government for consideration. They give 90 per cent of the Entertainments Tax to the local bodies and it nearly works out to 14 lakhs of rupees. I find from the Entertainments Tax Act that there is scope for two kinds of exemptions. One is entertainment of a literary or educational character. And the other is that the Government can exempt liability for the tax on any ground, even on general grounds or on specified grounds. I say that at present that exemption is not necessary for this reason. During the war time the Government were taking precautions and they were taking such powers for exemption from the payment of Entertainment Tax for the benefit of the troops. I feel that the Government need not have such powers now. Therefore they may bring a suitable amendment for the Act and till then they need not act under section 82 of the Act for granting exemptions. By such non-use of the powers there will be an increase in the Entertainment Tax revenue and the local boards also will be benefitted to that extent."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" இந்த உபரி மான்யத்தை ஆதரிக்கையில் சில விஷயங்களை சர்க்காருடைய கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டுவர வேண்டுமென்று விரும்புகிறேன். விற்பனை வரி ஆபீசிலிருந்து வியாபாரிகளுக்கு குறிப்பிட்ட தேதியில் கணக்குகள் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று அறிக்கை வருகிறது. ஆனால் அந்த அறிக்கை அந்த குறிப்பிட்ட தேதிக்கு ஒன்றிரண்டு நாட்களுக்கு முன்தான் வருகிறது. பெரும்பாலும் ஒன்றிரண்டு நாட்களில் கணக்குகளை தயார் செய்து அனுப்ப முடியாது. ஆகவே வியாபாரிகள் தங்களால் அந்த குறிப்பிட்ட நாட்களுக்குள் கணக்கு எடுத்துக்கொண்டுவர முடியாது இன்னும் கொஞ்சம் காலம் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கடிதம் அனுப்பினால் பதில் கடிதம் வருவது இல்லை. அந்த கடிதத்தை சர்க்கார் விற்பனை ஆபீசில் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப்படுவதும் இல்லை. எனவே அந்தக் கடிதத்தை **Register**-ல் தான் அனுப்பவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. **Register** போய்ச் சேருவதற்கு 2, 3 நாட்களாகிறது. குறிப்பிட்ட நாட்களுக்குள் போய்ச் சேருவதில்லை. இவ்விதம் 2, 3 நாளில் கடிதம் போய்ச் சேராமல் இருப்பதால் அதற்குள் விற்பனை ஆபீசில் மேற்கொண்டு நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளுகிறார்கள்.

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" குறிப்பிடப்பட்ட நாளில் வியாபாரிகள் கணக்குகளை உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களிடம் கொண்டுபோனால் அங்கே உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் இருப்பது இல்லை. ஆபீசில் 11-மணி முதற்கொண்டே வந்து இருந்த போதிலும் சாயங்காலம் 4 மணிக்கு முந்தி கூட வருவதில்லை. அதோடுகூட பல தடவைகளில் வியாபாரிகள் அந்த ஆபீசர்களிடம் போனால் அவர்களுக்கு உட்காருவதற்கு கூட இடம் கொடுப்பது இல்லை. இந்த மாதிரி குறைகள் இருப்பதனால் வியாபாரிகள் அதிருப்தியுடன் இருக்கிறார்கள். வரியை இன்னும் அதிகமாக போட்டாலும் வியாபாரிகள் கொடுக்கத் தயாராக இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் அவர்களுக்குக் காட்டும் அவமரியாதையை அவர்கள் ரொம்பவும் ஆட்சேபிக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால் இவ்விதமான குறைகளை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் நிவர்த்திக்குமாறு கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" இன்றைய தினம் பொதுவாக அநேகம் உத்யோகஸ்தர்களை இந்த விற்பனை இலாகாவிற்கு எடுத்துக்கொள்ளுகிறார்கள். அவ்விதம் எடுப்பவர்களை ரெவினியு இலாகாவிலிருந்து எடுக்கிறார்கள். ரெவினியு இலாக்காதான் முக்கியமான இலாகா. அதில்தான் ரொம்பவும் திறமைசாலிகள் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. அந்த அபிப்பிராயத்தை மாற்றிக் கொள்ளவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ரெவினியு இலாகாவில் மட்டும் இல்லை, மற்ற எல்லா இலாகாவிலும் மிகவும் திறமைசாலிகள் இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால் விற்பனை வரி இலாகாவிற்காக எந்த இலாகாவானாலும் சரி திறமைசாலிகள் இருந்தால் அவர்கள் யாவரையும் எடுத்துக் கொள்ளவேண்டும் என்ற ஒரு முறையை கையாளவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு நான் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

SRI K. A. NACHIAPPA GOUNDER:—" Mr. Speaker, as far as I can see the Government are taking hands for appointments in the Commercial Taxes department only from one department, namely the Revenue Department, and only they are said to be fit for this work. Invariably they do not have any previous experience in this line and their work is not done quite efficiently. We must see that the main revenue-making department has some duly trained people. I understand that in the Incometax department of the Government of India they are giving special training to their officers, so much so, they are able to attend to their work in the most efficient manner. I would suggest to the Hon. Minister that some of our officers might be deputed to undergo some special training so that they might work smartly and efficiently and make more revenue for the Province. I only want to stress this point and bring it to the notice of the Government so that they might find out a remedy for it."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Sir, previously the department was purely a temporary one. It was not made permanent. Steps are being taken now to make it permanent from 1st April 1948. Hereafter the question of taking the officers from other departments will not very much arise because it will be a self-sufficient department. In future in the case of Assistant Commercial Tax Officers, 40 per cent will be by direct recruitment and 60 per cent either by promotion or by transfer from other departments. I can assure my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiappa Gounder, that they will be given good training as in the Income-tax department before they are put on the work so that there may not be any evasion of tax and our main source of revenue will get the fullest benefit from the recent amendment.

" With regard to the complaint made by Mr. N. M. R. Subbaraman that there must be a provision for taking in people from all

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departments including the Registration and the Education departments and all others, I do not know whether it is desirable to take the services of these officers because they must have some revenue experience. Until now people from the Revenue Department alone and some people from the Excise department also were being taken. These rules were made in 1939 and officrs from the Revenue and Excise departments were drafted to the Commercial Tax Department and the rule has stood there very well. I do not know if there is any necessity now to change especially in view of the fact that we are making it a permanent department. I do not think that suggestion can work well, Sir. I may also tell the hon. Members that various other hon. Members have suggested to me that people from the Registration and other departments may be taken. I got those proposals examined and ultimately I found that it was not desirable to amend the rule which was made in 1939 or so.

"With regard to the various inconveniences that the assessees are put to by the Commercial Tax Officers, I do not know what could be done. If a mere instruction from the Board of Revenue could be of any use, of course, I have no objection to get it done. But I would request my hon. Friends in the various districts, Sir, to impress upon the officers not only in the Commercial Taxes department but on all officers to see that they treat the general public in a very courteous manner. It is absolutely necessary that the public must get the utmost courteous treatment from the officers concerned, and if there is anything that we from the Secretariat can do, certainly, I will be willing to do whatever is necessary and whatever is possible.

3-15 p.m.

"With regard to the objection raised by Mr. M. A. Ibrahim I may tell him, Sir, that his question regarding the number of cases where exemption had been given, etc., could not be answered because he was not in his seat when the question was taken up. Otherwise, I could have given him the entire information. It is not a fact that the Government or the Commercial Tax Officers are giving very many exemptions under section 82 of the Entertainments Tax Act. Only in very deserving cases, that is, cases where performances are for the benefit of educational institutions, or maternity hospitals, etc., officers give exemption. Government also do not give exemption in very many cases. I could have given all this information in full detail, but the hon. Member was not in his seat when this question was taken up. On the other hand, there are friends who come to me and say that these exemptions should be given in a very liberal manner. Utmost care is being taken to see that only in deserving cases, exemption is given. In other cases exemption is refused. I do not know what cases the hon. Member has in his mind. If he has any particular case, I tell him that I have no objection to consider that case. I can assure him that Government are very reluctant to grant exemption. In this Madras Presidency only in 52 cases exemptions have been given. I do not think there is much substance in that criticism. So, Sir, I move that the Demand be granted."

The Demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

24th March 1948]

DEMAND VIII—IRRIGATION.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 59,50,600.'

The Explanatory Note gives the particulars of the items of expenditure, and hon. Members would have noticed that several of these items relate to Grow-more-Food schemes which were taken up during the course of the year as and when they were got ready."

* SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have nothing but praise for the Hon. Minister for Irrigation for the way in which he has been carrying out the very many schemes. In this connexion, I want to give him a piece of advice, which I think he would have by this time come to know. Sir, parties are sent out to investigate various projects without necessary comforts for them. For instance, these tools and plants are ordered to be purchased. But how are they to go to the place of inspection unless the roads are in good repair. Secondly, Sir, people are sent over to long distances. A man of Tanjore has to go and pitch his hut somewhere in Nellore, and he has to make arrangements for his residence, for his officer's residence and for his superior's inspection. He has to get on in that wilderness where nobody has got any mercy for him. Recently I came across a case where wonderful non-co-operation between the various departments was exhibited. A party came to Someshwaram. I went and saw that they were in a wilderness. I went to the Collector and asked him to give them some tents. The Collector said that he had no objection provided the rules permitted it. The rules did not permit it and therefore no tents were given. Again I went to the Collector. He issued orders to the bus owners. The bus owners did not carry it out till now. Sir, a stranger comes to a place which is a wilderness, and he has to carry on his work. Why not the Government make some arrangements for him? I am told that there is a rule which lays down that capital expenditure cannot be incurred until the preliminary investigation is over. This rule, if insisted on, will only delay investigation. Unless you provide creature comforts to the staff who go there, nothing tangible can be achieved. Sir, the way in which the departments are co-operating with each other in this Province is really very sickening. I do not know about other Provinces. If one department (Waterways) should go and gave a suggestion to the Highways department, they say 'Who are you to give us suggestions?' They simply taunt the other department. If the Highways department should give any suggestion to the Waterways department, the latter department simply taunts the Highways department. This is simply disgusting. The head of a department recently had occasion to say that the various departments worked as if they were the co-wives of the same husband. (Laughter.) This bigamous relationship between the departments has been delaying investigations. In fact, this has

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been the lot of those people about whom our revered friend spoke the other day. Therefore, my suggestion is that for the investigation of these important projects, which have been taken up with the noblest of motives and with the best of objects, particularly by an enthusiastic Minister, who is in charge of these, and who has, to my knowledge, not spared any pains to give all that is necessary for speeding up all these investigations, Government should come to the rescue of these investigation parties and they should pull up all the various departments and tell them that when a particular investigation is going on, be it Irrigation, or any other thing, all the various departments in that place should co-operate as if they are members of the same family. The present attitude—handed down from the Advisers' Government to the present Government—has not chastened the spirit of the officials. Further, I can tell you, Sir, however much you may dislike it, the officials are unpatriotic. The Demand is for a large amount for Grow-More-Food schemes. How can the food grow, how can more food grow, and how can these schemes multiply unless care is taken to provide the necessary comforts and necessary facilities for the staff who are working there. For instance, the Someswaram investigation party are put to several difficulties. I wanted to get a jeep for them. They themselves wrote about that, and they got hte reply that no jeeps were aavilable. No tents and no houses are available, and no capital expenditure also should be incurred. I ask, Sir, what are they to do? They are compelled to ask for leave and after the leave is granted they leave the place."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB Bahadur:—"On a point of information, Sir. The hon. Member said that all the officers are unpatriotic. Will he please say what he means by that?"

Sri V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"They do not feel that they are the servants of a patriotic Government. They feel that they are strangers."

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have nothing to say except to thank my friend for the compliments he has very kindly showered on me. I can assure him that Government are already examining the points raised by him, although I do not accept his statement that all the officers are unpatriotic. I can also assure him that Government are arranging to give all necessary facilities to enable the investigating staff to complete their work at the earliest possible time."

The Demand was then put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND IX—HEADS OF PROVINCES, MINISTERS AND HEADQUARTERS STAFF.

The Hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'That the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 4,60,100.'"

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• Sri PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Sir, some of my friends feel that the Leader of the House has not explained the purpose of the Demand."

The Hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, it is all found in the Explanatory Note and it is not necessary for me to explain."

• Sri PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 4,60,100 *for Heads of Provinces, Ministers and Headquarters Staff be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

In this connexion, I like to bring to the notice of the Leader of the House the policy of the Government as regards retrenchment. Even on the main Budget demand, I brought that to the notice of the Leader of the House. I should like to have some reply from him in this matter. I have referred in my previous speeches to the Retrenchment Committee that had been appointed by the Cabinet itself, without the knowledge or consent of this House, under the guidance of one Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar. If that Committee's recommendations are to be carried out, Government will be saving a sum of Rs. 2 crores. That means that a substantial portion of the Government staff is going to be retrenched. While on the one hand Government intend to effect retrenchment, on the other they are appointing a number of officers on Rs. 300, Rs. 400 and so on in the offices of Heads of Departments. While officers are being increased in number, low paid clerks are going to be retrenched. It will not be out of place if I now bring it to the notice of the Leader of the House that in one of his replies the Hon. Minister for Education has said that the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee are that unprofitable or uneconomic educational institutions should be closed or should be given to private individuals for management. In other countries—perhaps the Leader of the House knows better—if the Government find that the educational institutions are uneconomic or unprofitable or that they are unable to run the institutions efficiently, they (the Government) take over such educational institutions. But here in Madras Presidency we find all such educational institutions are being handed over, one by one, to private individuals on the pretext that they are uneconomic. I would like a clarification of the policy of the Government in this matter. I demand the proposals of the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee be placed on the table.

"Sir, even previously, I have brought it to the notice of the House that the conduct rules and service rules of Government servants should be radically changed, because they were framed before none of us were born."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"All these points should be discussed in the general discussion."

• Sri PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I leave it there, Sir. I ask Government to enunciate their policy with regard to the repeal of the Arms Act. I can bring to the notice

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therefore, Sir, this expenditure is a clear waste. It is not proper for the Government to come forward with such demands and ask us to pay more money for their special staff.

"Then, Sir, coming to the special Development Department, I want to state that appointments have been made in this department according as the Government pleased without having any regard to rules or regulations or any standard. Sir, the Hon. the Home Minister is sitting here to defend ably the Hon. the Premier, even though the Premier has not chosen to be present here. I ask whether all these officers have not been appointed without having any regard to rules or regulations or qualifications. Let the Hon. the Home Minister deny if he wants. We have often said that that they are persons of doubtful qualifications, and I may repeat that oft-quoted statement. I ask, whether these special officers have any special qualifications to hold those posts, and whether the Service Commission have recommended these officers.

"Then, Sir, I must state that our Budget discussion in this Province is becoming really a farce. It always synchronises with the Leader's election. The leader's election which is coming in our Province on the 26th of this month is going to be a real Kumbha Mela and the leaders will be obliged to ask the Minister for Transport more petrol because they are likely to spend more petrol on these two days. With the election of the leader coming every year, these Ministers are not to be found in their seats. You know very well, Mr. Speaker, how the treasury Benches are empty and how the hon. Members are more active in the lobbies. What work can be expected of the Ministers who do not know whether they will be Ministers after two days? Therefore, my suggestion—I am giving it in the interests of the Province—is that we need not have the election of this Leader every year. Let us have it once in three years or once in five years.

"Sir, it is the people of this Province who are asked to pay for these special staff. What I say is, let them not have this luxury of the special staff. If they are not capable of personally doing the business, they have no place here and let them get away. Sir, Ministers should be persons who will not be lacking in any talents or capacity. If I am to be a Minister in charge of electricity (laughter), of course, I can do the job, provided I am given a good Engineer to assist me. But, am I fit to be a Minister in charge of electricity in that case? No. Unless I have got a special and particular knowledge of the portfolio, I should not be a Minister. Therefore, Sir, let not the Minister come forward with a demand for more money for their special staff in a supplementary budget like this. It is really strange that such a demand should be made. Sir, I think, throughout India, in no other Province have the Government come forward with such a strange request saying that they want this Secretary and that Secretary. No other Premier in no other Province has asked such a strange thing and come forward with such a request for more grants for his special staff. Sir, the attitude of the other Ministers towards this

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House is well-known. I have already referred to the Leader's election. If at all they want this Leader's election every year, let them have it in the month of December or January and not at the time of the discussion of the Budget. Sir, it is a privilege of this House and you, Mr. Speaker, should at least speak to His Excellency to see that the discussion of the Budget is arranged in this Province in such a way that it will not synchronise with the Leader's election."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The official year begins in April and therefore, we are having the Budget discussion in March."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"If possible the election may be fixed up at some other time so that there will be a real debate on the Budget. Sir, I have got every right to ask the Ministers to devote more attention to what is going on here. Sir, the Hon. the Premier is a chronic absentee from this House and other Ministers of course there are—I am not speaking of all the other Ministers—who by coming here and taking part in the debate have really contributed to the parliamentary excellence of this Province. Apart from that, it is the duty of all the Ministers that they should devote more attention to what is going on in this House. Hence, I support the cut motion."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, with regard to the supplementary demand for the Firka Development Scheme, I have already stated in connexion with another demand that we attach much importance to this scheme. I therefore expected large benefits to come from this department. But, Sir, nothing tangible has really come out of this department. This scheme has been intended to develop all those areas in every direction. Sir, I am not very much opposed to giving some grants to those areas where there is this firka development scheme, but what we see is really nothing. Except the appointment of one or two officers, the actual scheme has not been taken in hand. Further, Sir, to work out this scheme—I saw at the time when the Hon. Mr. Prakasam was the Premier—one Mr. Chitra, who is an expert in these matters, was there but now his services have been terminated within the course of three months. Sir, there is no use simply giving lip sympathy. If you want to make the scheme really useful, you should show it by your action. Sir, till now, nothing actually has been done except the appointment of one or two persons to be in charge of Potteries, etc. Sir, some time ago, I made a suggestion that this Firka Development should really go to the Minister for Industries and that he should be in charge of it. Of course, the Hon. the Leader of the House very cleverly and very ably defended the Hon. the Premier by saying that the Hon. the Premier is very much interested in this programme. But, Sir, in spite of his interest, he has done practically nothing for this.

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" Then, Sir, another thing I want to refer to is this. Sir, we heard it some time ago in this House—I do not like to dilate upon it on this occasion—but yet, Sir, the Hon. the Premier has been speaking more often in this Assembly and even the other day in the Upper House and also in outside places that he is always busy and that therefore, he is not able to attend the meetings of the Legislature. Sir, I do not know the reason why when he is so much over-burdened with work, this firka development also should be entrusted to his charge. Therefore, I say, it is in the fitness of things that our Minister for Industries should be entrusted with this work of Firka Development.

" Well, Sir, regarding the second point—my hon. Friend Mr. Salam has already raised it—nowhere—in no other Province—have the Government come forward with demands for grants for the special staff of the Hon. the Premier and other Ministers both in the main demand and in the supplementary demand. We have already sanctioned the necessary funds to pay the salary of one Principal Secretary and another Private Secretary. In this connexion reference was made in the Upper House and the Leader of the House said that after the 15th of August, the responsibility of the Premier has really increased and most of the cases that used to be circulated to His Excellency have to be seen by the Hon. the Premier and that therefore there was a need for a Secretary to the Premier of the status of the Secretary to Government and that the Firka Development work is also entrusted to him. Sir, there seems to be no justification for having two officials as Secretaries to the Hon. the Premier. My hon. Friend, Mr. Salam, himself has pressed that question. I also ask, where is the necessity for these two officials and whether there is any provision under the Government of India Act for such appointments. But, Sir, the Leader of the House is there to defend the Hon. the Premier, whether there is any necessity for such posts or not. Sir, in no other Province in the Indian Union, a Premier is having, apart from a Private Secretary, a Principal Secretary of the gazetted rank. It is a rare phenomenon only to be seen in this Province. In fact, Sir, the Hon. the Premier of this Province is having a separate Secretariat of his own, which is not the case in any other Province. Sir, there is already the Chief Secretary to Government and there is a Secretary to each department to assist the Hon. the Premier and the Ministers. It is therefore strange that in this Province, the Hon. the Premier should have another Private Secretary or Principal Secretary or Special Secretary—by whatever name he is called. Where is the necessity for this? I say, Sir, it is all wrong to have so many Secretaries to the Hon. the Premier. Our Chief Secretary himself can assist him.

" Then, Sir, as my hon. Friend, Mr. Salam stated, there are certain files which the Hon. the Premier alone should see. I know, Sir, under the Government of India Act—of course, I mean the recent adaptation Act—there are so many things which are known as Cabinet secrets. Well, Sir, in this connexion, I want

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to give one instance. The other day, I asked the Hon. the Leader of the House whether he can place before the House the specific reasons for the resignation of the Hon'ble Chief Justice, Mr. Gentle, and the Hon. the Leader of the House replied that it is a confidential matter and that he is not in a position to divulge it. I concede there is force in that argument that nobody except the members of the Cabinet may know certain things.

" Sir, what my hon. Friend Mr. Salam objected to was this. Some Ministers may write certain confidential notes to the Premier. These notes will have to go through the Principal Private Secretary, the Private Secretary, the Assistant Secretary and God knows whom. Then where is the secrecy, Sir? " 3-45 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER:—" I am afraid this is more like a general discussion."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—" I am raising the question of the appointment of the Principal Private Secretary. I ask, Sir, ' Where is the secrecy? ' There are certain matters which hon. Members of the House may not know; there are matters which other officials may not know and nobody except the Premier and the Cabinet should know once the Minister has passed them. But if the files have to go through these Secretaries and ultimately to the Premier, where is the secrecy? The House is entitled to an explanation from the Hon. the Leader of the House. I sympathise with his difficulty because he is the spokesman of the Premier. I am not saying these simply to score a point over the Hon. the Leader of the House or the Hon. the Premier. I only want a certain amount of clarification and explanation from the Hon. the Leader of the House whether under the existing Act, such a thing could be done.

" Sir, with regard to the other matter, let me take this opportunity of clearing some doubts. Both at the question hour and at other times, there has been a general complaint that the Hon. the Premier is not present on the floor of the House. Speaking for myself and for other hon. Members, let me say that it is not in any spirit of discourtesy or disrespect or with the object of wounding anybody's feelings that we have raised this matter. It is only out of a feeling of anxiety to see that the Hon. the Premier is here when the debate is going on. The Hon. the Leader of the House is here and he contributes to our debates. Sometimes he is serious and sometimes he is light-hearted. His presence enhances the standard of the debate. We want, Sir, that the Hon. the Premier should be present here at least on important occasions. We respectfully submit that if the Hon. the Premier is here in the House he will have a better opportunity of knowing the conditions in the Province by hearing the speeches of 215 hon. Members who come from . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Only 212 members."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—" Yes, Sir, I thank you for the timely correction. Even that is a huge number and all

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of them speak of the various problems with their personal experience. So, Sir, if the Hon. the Premier and the Hon. Ministers are here, they will be better able to understand the problems than by going through the reports of debates. That was why, Sir, sometime back we protested that unless such and such a Minister was here we would not discuss the matter.

" Sir, leave alone our Premier. Can you tell me that there is any man in the Indian Union who is more busy than Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru? But in spite of his multifarious duties, he is invariably present in the Central Legislative Assembly, takes part in the debates and replies to questions. Even there, on one occasion when he happened to be absent the great leader of the Andhras, Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramiah protested: 'Is this the way to treat hon. Members of the House?' The other day Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was at Vizagapatam in the morning and on the same day he replied to some questions in the Central Assembly later on. That shows the man. When important subjects are discussed on the floor of the House, the purpose is to serve the people in the best manner possible. Therefore if we insist that either the Hon. the Premier or the Hon. the Leader of the House or some other Hon. Minister should be present here, they should take it in good spirit; they should not feel that we are trying to wound their feelings.

" The other day when the Demand for Heads of Provinces, etc., was under discussion, the Hon. the Premier was present. Then my good Friend the Hon. Dr. Subbarayan could not reply to the points raised. He evaded it very cleverly. He thought that the Premier should reply. Then the Hon. the Premier went to the extent of casting aspersion on us and in fact cast aspersions indirectly on the Chair also. You can go through the proceedings of the Assembly and find out, Sir. He said that Members of the Assembly were taking advantage of . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—" He ended his speech with an apology."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—" It is no use hitting a man 15 times, Sir, and then concluding it with a mild apology. I do not believe in such apologies, Sir, although I take them in good spirit. He said that the Members of the Assembly were taking advantage of . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member has raised this point previously. I told him that he should have raised it even at that time. I also reminded him that the Hon. Premier ended his speech with an apology."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—" Then let me not speak about it again, Sir. I do not want to dispute your ruling, Sir, but I only wish to say that at no time have we misused the liberty which is given to us to speak here. Whatever we have said, we have said in good spirit. It was not said in any bad

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spirit. After all, Sir, the very working of Parliamentary Government implies that the heads of departments, be he the Premier or other Ministers—should deem it their duty, sacred duty to be present in the Assembly when important questions are being discussed.

" Sir, with regard to another point, I am sure no hon. Member of the House would feel happy to speak in English which is really a foreign language to us. We are also waiting for the day when we can speak in our own language . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member has already taken more than 10 minutes. He should finish."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—" Then I have finished, Sir."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Sir, I want to make one observation with regard to the note appearing on page 12 of the statement regarding the Supplementary Demands. It says:

' Consequent on the adaptation to the Government of India Act, 1935, issued in the India (Provincial Constitution) Order, 1947, most of the cases that normally used to be circulated to His Excellency the Governor previously have to be seen by the Hon. the Premier. '

Sir, this is an astounding statement, a proposition for which there is absolutely no basis or warrant in the Government of India Act. I am only wondering how the Hon. the Leader of the House who is a great constitutional lawyer, and how the other Ministers, all agreed to such a proposition as that. Here they seem to have agreed to have what I may call an intermediate Governor between the Governor of the Province and the Cabinet.

" Sir, section 50 of the Act says—

' There shall be a council of ministers to aid and advise the Governor in the exercise of his functions. '

" Section 51 says—

' 51 (1) The Governor's ministers shall be chosen and summoned by him, shall be sworn as members of the council, and shall hold office during his pleasure . . . '

There is nothing else regarding this under the Government of India Act. Where is the provision in the Act regarding the circulation of these cases to the Premier? The provisions relating to individual judgment and discretion of the Governor have been taken away. But even under the original Act there was a question as to what were the cases that had to be circulated (to the Governor) and what were not? There was a constitutional tie. That point was not decided as between the Cabinet and the Governor. There was a pending file about it before 15th August 1947. The present Cabinet however seems to have agreed to the proposition, that as soon as the Indian Independence Act was passed, somehow or other the powers which were exercised by His Excellency the Governor all of a sudden devolved upon the Premier

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making him a sort of super-Minister and an intermediate Governor over the head of the Cabinet. There is no warrant for this. In the interests of constitutional propriety and correct governance of the province, this is a proposition which cannot go unchallenged. I draw the attention of the Hon. the Leader of the House and the Members of the Cabinet also to this. I do not go over the same ground as my predecessors have covered on the question of Premier's secretary. I am not in that mood or frame of mind to talk in the manner they have done. But it seems to me that the reason given for the appointment of the Secretary to the Premier is somewhat ingenious and absolutely wrong. It is creating a very wrong constitutional precedent. I would be very glad to know the views of the Hon. the Leader of the House in this matter."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member representing Guntur and some other hon. Members who have spoken have referred to the question of two officers working with the Premier—his private secretary and his principal private secretary. The private secretary was appointed as long ago as last year when we took office and I find it usual in most provinces for not merely the Premier of the Province but also for the other Ministers to have private secretaries besides having their staff. It is only the Premier who has got a private secretary in this province. My hon. Friend representing the Muslims of Chittoor asked a question whether there is any other Premier who has got a principal private secretary. If he had read the note, he would have found that the principal private secretary besides being the principal private secretary to the Premier is also the Secretary to the Government in the matter of Firka Development and Religious Endowments. So he holds the post of Secretary to Government besides being the principal private secretary.

" Sir, my hon. Friend representing Vizagapatam Urban referred to the question of how the constitutional position has changed after the Adaptation Act. It is changed to this extent. There has got to be some supervision and some sort of safeguard to officers in the various departments. Under the old Act, it was in His Excellency's discretion, and most files with regard to services were submitted to His Excellency. After the Adaptation Act came, the Government of India wrote and told us that it would be best to substitute the Premier in the place of His Excellency."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Where is the document? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" That is a private document which I am not prepared to publish."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" The usual shelter."

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Not the usual shelter. It is done for administrative convenience, in the course of transaction of Governmental business, which my hon. Friend representing Guntur Muslims will know when he has the good fortune to occupy these benches.

" Sir, I was glad to find my hon. Friend representing Chittoor Muslims paying his meed of tribute to the Prime Minister of India. Nobody deserves a better tribute, because to-day perhaps he is one of the tallest statesmen in the whole of the world. What is more, he is recognized as such. Might I tell him that even he has a principal private secretary getting a salary of a Secretary to the Government of India? (The Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi: 'Rs. 4,000'.) My Hon. Colleague reminds me that it is Rs. 4,000. It is going to be Rs. 3,000 hereafter, because they have been asked to agree to a voluntary cut in their salaries. Therefore even a man of such outstanding ability who is recognized as a foremost statesman not only by us but by the rest of the world has found it necessary to have a principal private secretary because of the work that is involved under the changed circumstances of our existence as an independent sovereign state. This province may be compared in a little way to the Dominion of India. I do not claim the same tallness for my leader, but at the same time he also has got to be assisted by a principal private secretary who has got other work to do besides being a principal private secretary.

" Sir, there was also a point raised whether confidence will be kept if confidential documents have got to pass through these private secretaries. The House may take it that these gentlemen are Government servants and are bound to keep secrecy under Government Servants' Conduct Rules. There are methods and ways by which they could be brought to book if confidences given to them are revealed.

" I think what is left over in the speeches that have been made is the reference made by my Friend, the Member for Guntur Labour."

(A voice: 'Why do you call him a friend? ')

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I recognize everybody as a friend of mine and so the hon. Member interrupting me need not worry himself about that."

(Another voice: 'Because he has got a vote in the elections.')

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" He has a vote in the elections too. So, the hon. Member who just interrupted me need not worry himself about that too.

" Now, to come to my subject the hon. Member for Guntur Labour referred to the Hyderabad incident but again stopped for a while because he felt that he might very well have raised it in the Police Demand, but still he persisted in the remark that the Special Police are aiding the Nizam's police in getting our people arrested

by the Nizam's Government. I emphatically deny this statement. Since he made this statement, I got into touch with the Inspector-General of Police and the District Superintendent of Police concerned and I can assure my hon. Friend that both the Police and the Madras Government know what their duties are; and they are fully alive to their sense of responsibility in this matter. I can also tell him that the Government of Madras have no intention of aiding the Nizam's Government to touch any of our people and so, if he thinks that our Special Police are aiding the Nizam's Government, perhaps he is drawing that upon his own imagination and not upon actual facts as are happening to-day.

"Then, Mr. Speaker, he raised the question of the number of Officers that are being appointed by this Government from time to time. You know, Mr. Speaker, administrative machinery is a very delicate one. As a matter of fact, it has been improved time and again and in all democratic countries where Governmental administration is carried on after full discussion in deliberative assemblies, the expenditure on administration tends to grow more than it goes down (as it happens often under dictatorship or even under proletarian Government to which my hon. Friend is accustomed), because things are not done by a mere fiat of one individual. Things have got to be gone into carefully and notes have to be put up and checked and we come to conclusions only after full deliberation so that injustice may not be done to any individual in our acts. That being so, naturally, administrative expenditure goes up in this Government too.

"Another point referred to was the remark contained in the reply given by my hon. Friend the Minister for Education—evidently my hon. Friend the Member for Guntur Labour was not present then—to an adjournment motion moved by the hon. Lady Member representing the Madras Muslims in which he (my hon. Friend the Minister for Education) said that in spite of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee he had decided not to close down the schools and had issued orders to that effect. If my hon. Friend was here, he would have known what has happened. He would have understood that in spite of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee Government propose not to withdraw such facilities as exist in the various places to which reference has been made.

"My hon. Friend tried to draw me out on the educational systems prevailing in England. I can assure him that I know all the systems they have got in England, viz., education received through public schools, education received from schools attached to such Universities as Oxford and Cambridge and so on. We have got nothing like public schools here as they exist in England and I can assure my hon. Friend that will not initiate a thing which would lead to intellectual aristocracy which I know he stoutly opposes. I feel sure he does not want those conditions repeated here, though there are certain points in the English

educational system which we can very well adopt, because our country being free we want administrators recruited from among boys belonging to schools and Universities whose educational system is based on the system of education prevailing in the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. It is from among the students belonging to these ancient Universities that a large proportion of administrative posts are filled in England. My hon. Friend will be surprised to learn that even in the present Labour Government which is supposed to be a Socialist Government, there are a number of Etonians most of whom happen to have been educated at these two Universities.

"I do not propose to take up any more time of the House. If my hon. Friend thinks that my answer is not satisfactory, he may press his motion to a division. I do not want to request him to withdraw his motion, because it would be bad precedent."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"The concensus of opinion of the Opposition is not to withdraw the motion. I will not withdraw it."

The cut motion was put to vote and declared lost.

Then the Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND X—LEGISLATIVE BODIES.

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

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,41,400 under Demand No. X—Legislative Bodies.'"

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I beg to move—

'that the sum of Rs. 1,41,400 under Demand X—Legislative Bodies be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"In moving this cut motion, I should like to bring to the notice of this House the reply given by the Hon. the Leader of the House in connexion with this self-same demand at the time of the general discussion of the budget when some hon. Members of the House raised the issue that their pay and allowances should be increased. Now I want to express my opposition to any increase in the pay or allowance to hon. Members. We all know that we are unable to pay dearness or house allowance even to our staff. On the other hand I am going to suggest that the salaries of Hon. Ministers should be cut. They must come forward with a voluntary cut so that they may set an example to the highly paid officers and so that our economies also may be balanced economy. Sir, it may all be very well for Members sitting here in the cushion benches to suggest an increase in their salaries and allowances. I strongly oppose this and I am sure that at least on this point some of the Congress Members of this Assembly will side me.

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" Then, Sir, I come to another point, viz., that whenever we put questions to the Hon. the Leader of the House so that we might get some information on them, he gives very unsatisfactory and evasive replies and even goes to the extent of insinuating opposition parties. Even when we tried to point out as to how those questions were essential and as to why we wanted answers to those questions, he always without listening to us insinuates not only myself but also the party to which I belong. That is not the way in which he should treat us. We are prepared to join issues with him either here or outside the House on very many questions and instead of facing them fairly and squarely he always takes undue advantage and attacks our party. If he is serious let him be prepared to meet us and we will show him where the Congress is leading the country."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The Hon. Leader of the House takes very little time."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" No, Sir, he takes more time.

" Sir, there is another point to which I would like to refer. Yesterday when replying to an adjournment motion, the Hon. Leader of the House referred to the Communist Party to which there was no occasion at all for him to refer. Had I been given an opportunity to reply I would have replied to it. Sir, why should he resort to such under-hand methods and refer to us in places where there was no warrant at all for him to do so? "

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" I rise to a point of order. The hon. Member from Guntur in his speech said ' under-hand methods ' with reference to what the Hon. Leader of the House said in reply to an adjournment motion. I want to know whether he is in order."

MR. SPEAKER:—" What does the hon. Member mean my ' under-hand method '. It is a grave reflection. I would ask the hon. Member to withdraw that expression."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" I withdraw it.

" Now coming to another point, viz., that the Hon. Minister says he is prepared to put forth his policies before the electorate, during the coming elections, nobody knows when the elections are going to be held. If the hon. Minister had put forward his policy of introducing the Public Safety Ordinance or Suppression of Disorders Act, I do not know what response he would have had from the electorate which returned him here. If at all the Hon. Minister wants to put forth his policies before the electorate, let him do so."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" May I rise to a point of order? Can items not found in the explanatory memorandum to the supplementary demand now presented be discussed now? "

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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" If the Hon. Minister for Education goes through the Explanatory Memorandum he will find ' Election for Legislature.' It would be better if the Hon. Minister for Education had followed me . . . (Cries of ' Go on.')

" Sir, if till now the Hon. Minister has not put forth his policies before the electorate, let him do so at least hereafter.

" Sir, elections to panchayat boards, municipalities and district boards have all been kept in abeyance. I request the Hon. Minister to hold the elections for these as early as possible. Even if other parties may not succeed and only the Congress party is going to win in those elections, it is better if people express their verdict.

" Sir, there is another matter to which I would like to refer. On very many previous occasions, I said that we have been treated as a separate party or a group. On so many occasions I have explained the necessity for a separate room for us. Whenever we rise for lunch, we have to roam in the verandahs. I would appeal to the Hon. Leader of the House to attend to this matter and make proper arrangements for satisfying our essential needs."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" On a point of information, Sir. I am not going to make a speech. But the hon. Member, Mr. Venkateswarlu, while speaking on his cut motion attacked the members for coming here and sitting on cushion benches. It seems he does not want to sit here on a cushion bench. I suggest that a rough wooden bench may be provided for the hon. Member alone." 4-15 p.m.

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—" Sir, I second the cut motion moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkateswarlu, and in doing so, I have to entirely disagree with some of the points which he raised. One of the points is, the salaries of Ministers, and I am sure it does not come under this demand, because there is no reference to it. Whatever may be our feelings and our views in the matter, let us be charitable to them also. Originally, according to the Act they were getting Rs. 1,000 and the present premier, when he assumed office, asked them for a voluntary cut and all of them agreed to a voluntary cut. Now they are getting only Rs. 850 and this is nothing but a mere pittance for the work they do. I know there are so many members in the Cabinet who otherwise would have got 4 or 5 times this amount if they had gone to practise as lawyers or entered business."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question of salaries of ministers does not come under this demand but it relates to the previous demand."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—" I am only replying to the point raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkateswarlu, that the salaries of Members should not be raised. I entirely agree with him. When there is so much demand for increasing the salaries of the non-gazetted officers, it may not be fair on our part to press for an increase in our salaries. Even though conditions may permit of an increase in our salaries, still when a request

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is made to all officials in the Indian Union for a voluntary cut, it is better we set an example in this direction. When we are asking our officials for a voluntary cut in their salaries, it may not be fair on our part to think of any increase for us, whatever may be the difficulties of the Members. I leave the point at that without going further into the matter.

" Now, Sir, under this demand, I find there is a provision for repairs to the Hon. Speaker's car. I do not know in what way your car was damaged. Thank God, you did not meet with any accident. Perhaps it is only a minor repair. If I am not putting you in an embarrassing position, in case your car is so bad, I think it is better you may go in for a new car instead of repairing an old car.

" Another thing I wish to mention in this connection, Sir. This demand deals with the legislative bodies and the question of Premier *versus* the Leader of the House comes in here. No doubt, your ruling is there and we have to obey your ruling, i.e., one Minister is entitled to reply on behalf of other Ministers or even the Premier. It is quite true and there is nothing wrong in it. I myself had occasion to go through the Government of India Act for some reference. Nobody disputes your ruling. But the real difficulty is this. When we insist on the Premier replying to the questions standing in his name, even here nobody says that the reply should be only in English or Tamil or Telugu but the question of language is left to him. It is in his entire discretion to speak in any language he pleases, according to your ruling. Nobody objects to that. But what we object to is this. There are so many matters on which we are putting questions to the Premier and the Hon. Leader of the House gives the reply to those questions and no doubt he ably replies to questions and nobody disputes it. But, my submission is, the Premier may feel in a particular way or may have particular ideas on questions put to him. Therefore, if the Leader of the House gives the reply on behalf of the Premier, he might put his idea in a different manner and his interpretation with regard to particular questions might be different from the interpretation of the Premier. Of course, there is nothing wrong in one Minister replying on behalf of another Minister or the Leader of the House on behalf of the Premier.

" Now, let us take the Firka Development. Of course it is a small matter. I am sure the Hon. the Leader of the House might not have visited any firka, and being Home Minister he might have had no occasion to do it. Now without even seeing a firka he is replying to questions relating to it. On the other hand, the Hon. Premier would have gone to the firkas, he knows the difficulties in the way of their progress and therefore when we confront him with questions, he will reply with all the authority and say, I have gone and seen them and so on. On the other hand, when the Leader of the House replies—and as I said there is nothing wrong in his replying on behalf of the Premier—he is not the proper man . . ."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member should not use the term ' man ' in the case of an Hon. Minister."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—" I am sorry, Sir. I say it is not proper on the part of the Leader of the House to reply to such questions, because he does not possess proper information at his disposal. Here, Sir, I do not like to enter into any controversy or join issues with the Leader of the House. I will only give one instance. As far as I know, when we speak in this House, it is always subject to correction—sometimes our information may be wrong, but it is always the duty of the Opposition, to whatever party they may belong, to give the information they have and when the information which they give is true and correct and when they are assured of it, they have to confront the Government saying, here is the information, you may deny it. It is a very important principle in the working of any democracy. We had some information at our disposal and we wanted to confront the Leader of the House with it the other day—I am referring to the resignation of the Hon. Chief Justice Mr. Gentle. While the Hon. Home Minister was replying to the question he said, he was not in possession of the resignation letter of the Chief Justice. No body asked whether, the Leader of the House was in possession of the letter of resignation on the day he replied to the question What we wanted to know was not whether the Government or the Premier or anybody else was in possession of the letter. My respectful submission is, really the Hon. Premier of the Madras Province might have been in possession of the letter of resignation of the Hon. Chief Justice, Mr. Gentle, on that day, but the Hon. Leader of the House in his reply said, I am not in possession of the letter. But, the Hon. Premier might have been in possession of the letter. Sir, the Leader of the House invariably replying on behalf of the Premier, is a thing which we find only in our Province. Of course, I do not like to cast any aspersion on the Leader of the House. My point is, there is practically no objection if the Premier replies in Tamil, Telugu or in Urdu on such questions which relate to his department and which are very important. Because it is the Premier who is responsible for enunciating policies in this province, I say it is his duty, it is his right to reply and I might even say, it is our right and duty to demand that the Premier and the Premier alone should reply to the questions that stand in his name. Therefore, I hope, that at least in the future the Hon. Leader of the House will take this into consideration."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, in further supporting the cut motion I may state that whatever I have said about the way in which our Premier has been answering questions or the way in which he has been treating this House, has been so unanswerable that the Hon. Leader of the House has not chosen to say a word about it. So, Sir, it stands.

" As regards the salaries of members, you know, Sir, that many members of this House who had the good fortune of being members of Select Committees and Joint Select Committees have

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been working here since 11 o'clock, and go to the Select Committees at 3 or 5 o'clock. Some of the Ministers are also on the Select Committees and even though they are attending the Select Committees, they are not given any allowance for it. I may say, Sir, that I am not a member of any Select Committees and so it does not refer to me. I think, however it is but proper that Government should take up the question of revising the salaries of members, because it has no relation to the present day circumstances, or they should give some allowance to members attending this House and also attending the Select Committees. Certain members have told me, I mean those members of the Select Committees that they are sitting even twice a day and even continuously for hours and days in addition to attending this House also. Sir, some of the members have got more important work at home than even the Ministers themselves. Simply because they are Ministers and we are members, they should not think that we are here to look after things, while the Ministers go about canvassing and attending to their portfolios and files. Sir, the Hon. Finance Minister of our Province who is always alert, has promised and some other Ministers also have promised to revise the salaries of Ministers and I am sure, he would in that connection, also consider the question of giving allowances to members sitting on Committees, even though they are attending meetings of the Assembly on those days.

" Sir, the question has been raised as to whether Rs. 2 should be collected as rent from members staying in the Government House hostel. It is not proper and it is not a difficult matter for the Government. It is not a question of a few rupees, but the question really is, whether Government should collect from the members something by way of rent. Even though the question was raised in this House many times and even though so many members represented the matter to the Premier—and the Revenue Minister also knows it—yet no reply is given. Sir, even though no special house rent allowance is given to Hon. Ministers, yet they have some accommodation given to them—perhaps some rent may be paid by them, but it may not be from their salaries. It is therefore but proper that members should be allowed to stay in the Government House without rent. After all, what they are collecting from members as rent has no comparison to the amount they are spending on the special staff and repairs to the quarters.

" Again, Sir, I want a categorical reply whether the Government have considered the question of revision of salaries of members, or as is usual with them to give the reply, that they are considering the question. I wish to repeat, Sir, for the information of the Hon. Finance Minister, so that he may consider the matter, that the members of this House have got even more important work in their own districts than the Ministers themselves before they became Ministers and it is therefore but proper that the Government should consider this aspect also and not simply say, we will consider and all that. After all, Sir, if I am asked to suggest—though nobody asks me to suggest—I think Rs. 500 should be the salary of the members of this House because

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we have got enough work at home. Sir, previously there was no salary for the members; then they gave Rs. 75 per mensem and now it is Rs. 150 per mensem. (Interruption.) Of course, hon. Members may laugh at it and we are not concerned with them. There are some hon. Members who are spending very much more than what they get, for taxis and other necessities connected with their work and it is but proper that their salaries should be raised to Rs. 500 per mensem. This is not the suggestion made on behalf of my section alone but it has been suggested by members of other sections of the House also and so, Sir, it may be favourably considered.

" In the matter of the daily allowance of Rs. 7-8-0 also, I may say that it is very inadequate and you know, Sir, that in these days how difficult it is for members to manage with Rs. 7–8–0 in this costly City. So, Sir, the daily allowance should be doubled at least and Rs. 15 per day I think, might be reasonable. I think the Hon. Finance Minister will take this aspect into consideration and not leave things to others as is usual with him. Whether he is prepared to enhance the daily allowance from Rs. 7–8–0 to Rs. 15 or the salary of members from Rs. 150 to Rs. 500, I hope he will consider the question of giving some extra allowance to members attending this House and the Select Committees. For instance, if you take the case of my hon. Friend, Mr. Nagappa, who has been asking so many questions in this House, he has to be here in this House and also in New Delhi. He is taking so much pains to study subjects connected with both this Assembly and the Constituent Assembly. I think, if I have got the power, at least in his case, I would have raised the rates. He is really an example to show how much pains one has to take to look after the legislative work in this House. Sir, it has become the fashion of the members of the Tresuary Bench, whenever difficulties are expressed, to say, why are you saying like that; our province is giving a lead in this and that and so on. Sir, may I ask, while our Province has given the lead to other provinces in many matters, what about paying the Leader of the Opposition? Is it not proper that in this matter our Province, apart from giving lead in so many other matters, should take the lead by paying a salary to the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, who is I think, devoting more time than some members themselves. With these remarks, Sir, I support the cut motion."

4-30 p.m.

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Mr. Speaker, I was not going to speak on this Demand but I want to reply to some of the remarks made by my hon. Friend Mr. Salam that the salary of the members of this House should be increased. In that connection, I want to remind my hon. Friend that on the occasion when the Salaries Bill of the Hon. Ministers and Members was before the House a couple of years ago, he and I were the two Members who vehemently opposed that proposition. Sir, I do not know how the hon. Member Mr. Salam is to-day consistent in demanding an increased salary for the Members of this House, especially having regard to the fact that ours is a poor Province and the financial commitments cannot permit an increased expenditure in

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this behalf. I quite realize that the Hon. Finance Minister has many commitments and I do not think it will be possible for Government to accept a salary of Rs. 500 for hon. Members. I feel that we, who are in the House, should be actuated by a real sense of sacrifice and service and those of us who can afford may forego their salaries in order to do service for the people. Of course, there may be some Members in this House who find it difficult in these hard days to make both ends meet. I think it would be better if such Members would be paid more than those who have the means. Those who are not well-off might be better paid. I believe in these days when there are Socialist tendencies prevalent in the world, the rich and the poor need not be treated alike. In respect of people who find it difficult to make both ends meet, the Government may find out what can be done for them."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, I submit for the information of the House that thirteen or fourteen Members of the Legislature have forgone their salaries altogether."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Sir, my point is that we should be actuated by a spirit of service and if the Government feel that certain Members deserve special consideration, consideration may be given to them in the manner I have suggested and it should not be done to all. Because I felt that Mr. Salam was not consistent in his attitude, I rose to put this point before the House."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir. I am not representing the City, but representing the people from the mufassal. Our position is different from those who come from the aristocratic classes and who have members of their families earning more than the salaries of Ministers. They will not realize the difficulties of other Members and in what I said, I was only giving expression to my experience."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Sir, the hon. Member has not followed my point. I suggested that those in better circumstances and those who are not so well-off should not be treated alike. To those who find it difficult to make both ends meet, special consideration may be given to them. That was my point."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Mr. Speaker, I wish to draw the attention of the Leader of the House, first of all, to the accommodation which we have at present here, in this oppressively small hall, and to point out to the Government that they must plan for a bigger and better hall consistent . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"This point has already been raised in connexion with the main Demand and it has been replied to by the Leader of the House."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"I should think, Sir, that it is a thing which is worth reminding twice as it is such a great necessity.

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"Sir, I will come to the Government House where the Members are lodged.

(The Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan: 'Coming nearer home!')

And I hope the Hon. Minister will kindly attend to our wants there.

"The Government House is not at all properly equipped for the lodging of the Members of the Legislature. Four or five cots are placed in the same room and they are more in the nature of dormitories for children than accommodation for Members of the Legislature. There is no privacy; distinguished members in whose hands revolve the destinies of this Province, are put there like children in dormitories.

"Sir, coming to roads in the Government House compound, they are full of dust and no department of the Government has ever thought of making them dustless and neat. The compound of the Government House is not pleasant to look at to say the least. It does not look like one which was once a residence left by the Governor for the use of Members of this Legislature. I do not wish to dilate upon this point.

"Sir, I was thinking of drawing the attention of the Hon. Finance Minister to the daily allowance, that is denied to the Deputy President of the Council and the Deputy Speaker of the Assembly."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"And the Speaker himself."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Sir, he is above all these things. He gets all allowances all right. Now, Members of this City get their daily allowance when they attend the Assembly. I only wish that the Deputy Speaker and the Deputy President would be treated on the same level and they should be given daily allowance as is being done in other provinces. I would once again request the Hon. Finance Minister to pay attention to this matter. Then Mr. Speaker, you say, 'We now adjourn and resume after lunch,' and when we re-assemble after an hour's interval, almost invariably there is no quorum and the bells are rung and then only there is quorum. That shows that the interval allotted for lunch is absolutely inadequate. I believe, from tomorrow you will be pleased to give at least quarter of an hour more for lunch.

"Then, Sir, I come to the Legislative Department itself. I think in 1937, it was a department by itself under the control of the Speaker of the House. It was only after 1937 it was made a part of the Government Secretariat. I believe, it will conduce to the dignity of the Legislative Assembly Secretariat, if it is made independent of the Government Secretariat.

"Sir, I wish just to refer to the Government House once more. There are many sporting Members there. The Hon. Home Minister is a sporting gentleman and he will understand what I am

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going to say. There are vast grounds there in the Government House. While we come in for a liberal dose of dust, we are not able to get either tennis courts or some such thing by way of recreation for Members. Tennis is very nice for hon. Members of the Legislature and I wish Government take some interest in this and make this Government House more useful and attractive to the Members of the Legislature. As it is, Members are going out of the Government House. My hon. Friend Mr. Salam was referring to Mr. Nagappa. I may tell him that he is not there, because there is no sufficient recreation but much inconvenience. We are all confined in fours and fives in a room—the rooms are overcrowded—and I request the Government to make the Government House put on a presentable appearance of a distinguished House for the legislators. These are some of the points which are uppermost in my mind and I would request the Hon. Home Minister and the Finance Minister and the Public Works Minister to see that they are attended to. Of course, the Chairman of the House Committee would have taken this matter in hand but the Finance Minister and the Public Works Minister must co-operate and see to the work being carried out. No work is done and I am sorry to say that it is not even contemplated. In the interests of the dignity of the Province and in the interests of the dignity of the Members of the Legislature the Government should attend to these minimum needs."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—" Mr. Speaker, I agree with my hon. Friend representing Vizagapatam that our daily allowance should be increased from Rs. 7-8-0 to Rs. 10."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Sir, I have not said so."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—" Sir, if he has not said so, I am saying. I am not in favour of increasing the salaries of Members. With regard to daily allowance, it is insufficient and it is not proper that we should be asked to pay from our own incomes. Secondly, I wish to draw the attention of the Public Works Minister to the unsatisfactory condition obtaining in the Government House. We are huddled, five or six of us, in one room and each one is keeping to his bed as if in the General Hospital."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mental Hospital?"

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—" Sir, accommodation is not sufficient. We have no time nor the occasion to think and work when we are in a crowded locality like that. So many people come to us to represent their grievances so that we may carry them to the Government and therefore better accommodation should be made available for Members. Of course, my hon. Friend representing Vizagapatam said that some provision should be made for games, outdoor games, and for improving the compound of the Government House.

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" Sir, with regard to the Madras Electoral Rolls, I wish to ask the Government whether there are any instructions from the Central Government to prepare the electoral rolls so that they might be useful for the future elections under the new Constitution that they ar egoing to adopt within a few months, or whether these electoral rolls are merely prepared on the old lines as if they were merely for the Corporation election purposes. In other words, I wish to ask whether these electoral rolls are based on adult universal franchise and whether in preparing the Madras Electoral Rolls, they will publish them in Telugu also which is a very important language in the City of Madras. I wish to have information on the point from the Government. With these observations, I support the Demand."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—" On a point of order, Sir. I would like to know from you whether it will be in order for such of those hon. Members who are dissatisfied with their salaries and allowances, to go on strike?"

MR. SPEAKER:—" It is not a point of order."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, whatever may be the attitude of hon. Members who are dissatisfied with their salaries and allowances, I for one, will speak for my party when I say that we are not interested in this question. We would like very much to say that we have not come here for salaries but for service to the people, and in that spirit, I venture to say, let us not make demands for increased allowances. That is not the spirit in which we have come here to speak on the floor of the House. We have no face to show to our people when we come here and agitate for our travelling allowances. But, Mr. Speaker, one thing I wish to stress upon and that is with regard to what has been said concerning facilities for legislators. Let the rooms which are allotted for Members be rent-free. Let the telephone calls be free. All these things I am agitating not so much because they are going to relieve us of our expenditure. No, not at all. It is a matter of privilege and a matter of pride. Whenever we are in the presence of our visitors or friends, let it not be said against us that we do not enjoy even those elementary rights of free telephone calls which we have inside the lobbies. But I do not know why it should be denied when we are in the Government House. Everybody knows that there are not enough amenities for legislators inside the Government House and even for what little we have there, I do not know why there should be collections not only of daily rents but even of arrears which accumulate pretty much. I only wish, Mr. Speaker, that in the interests of our privilege, let not our rooms be charged rent.

" As regards one thing to which my esteemed Friend, Mr. Raza Khan, has made a timely reference, i.e., with regard to your car, I wish, Mr. Speaker, that you must have a new car because we see that you are the protector of our rights and privileges here

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and we want to see that your car does not come in for damages. Let it be your privilege, even as it is the privilege of those of us who wish to see it, that you are going in a limousine."

4-45 p.m. SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, இதற்குமுன் பேசிய நண்பர்கள் பேசிய மாதிரி நான் பேசுவதற்கு வரவில்லை. நாம் இந்த மாகாணத்தில் சட்டசபை அங்கத்தினர்களாக வந்து மாகாணத்திற்கு என்ன செய்யவேண்டுமோ அதைச் செய்வதற்கும் பொதுஜனங்களுக்கு என்ன ஊழியம் செய்யவேண்டுமோ அதைச்செய்வதற்கும்தான் வந்திருக்கிறோம். ஆனால் அந்த நிலைமையில் நாம் இருக்கும்போது இந்த N.G.O.-க்கள் தங்களுக்கு சம்பளம் உயர்த்தவேண்டுமென்று கேட்கிறார்கள். அந்த நிலைமையில் நாட்டின் இந்த மாகாணத்தின் பொருளாதாரப் பிரச்னையைப் பொறுத்து சற்று பொறுத்து இருங்கள் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அதே சட்டசபையில் இந்தப் பிரச்னையைப்பற்றி பேசுவது என்றால் கேவலமாக இருக்கிறது. ஆனால் எதாவது கேட்கவேண்டுமென்று இருந்தால் ஒன்று இருக்கிறது. பொதுஜனங்களுக்கு சேவை செய்வதாக இருந்தால் ஒன்று இருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது ஜில்லா போர்டுகள் கலைக்கப்பட்டுவிட்டது. அதனால் அந்தந்த கிராமங்களிலிருந்து ரோடுகள் போடவேண்டுமென்றும் அந்தந்த கிராமங்களில் ஆஸ்பத்திரிகள் வைக்கவேண்டுமென்றும் அந்தந்த கிராமங்களில் என்னென்ன தேவைகள் இருக்கின்றனவோ அவைகள் வேண்டுமென்றும் சட்டசபை அங்கத்தினர்களுக்கு எழுதுகிறார்கள். அதற்கு சட்டசபை அங்கத்தினர்கள் பதில் கடிதம் எழுதவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. இன்னும் அது சம்பந்தமாக பப்ளிக் டிபார்ட்மெண்டுக்கும், ஹைவேஸ் டிபார்ட்மெண்டுக்கும், மெடிகல் டிபார்ட்மெண்டுக்கும் இன்னும் ஒவ்வொரு டிபார்ட்மெண்டுக்கும் கடிதங்கள் எழுத வேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. ஒரு கடிதம் வந்தால் அதற்கு பத்து கடிதங்கள் எழுத வேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. சட்டசபை அங்கத்தினர்களுக்கு எதாவது தேவை இருக்குமானால் அது service stamps கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்பதுதான். அப்படிக்கொடுத்து கடிதம் எழுதினால்தான அவரவர்கள் தொகுதியில் சரியாக வேலை செய்ய முடியும். கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் இதை உணர்ந்து சட்டசபை அங்கத்தினர்களுக்கு கொடுப்பதற்கு கடமைப்பட்டிருக்கிறார்கள் இதை அரசாங்கம் கொடுக்கவேண்டும்.

" இதைத் தவிர மற்றென்று வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டால் இன்னொன்று இருக்கிறது. இன்று கொளும்புவில் சட்டசபை அங்கத்தினர்கள் தங்களுடைய தொகுதியாகிய கொளும்பு நகரத்தை சுற்றிப்பார்க்கவேண்டுமென்றால் அவர்களுக்கு free paes கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஜனங்களுக்கு நன்மையைச் செய்வதற்கு நேரடியாகப் போய்ப்பார்த்து நன்மைகள் செய்யவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. அந்த வழியில் ஏதாவது நாம் கேட்டு செய்தால் இதற்கு அர்த்தம் உண்டு. மற்ற விஷயங்களையும் சம்பள விஷயங்களைப்பற்றியும் பேசிக்கொண்டிருந்தால் ஜனங்கள் நம்மை மிகவும் வெறுப்பார்கள் என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டு நிறுத்திக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA:—" Mr. Speaker, I have been trying to avoid availing myself of my privilege to speak as a Member because I feel that some of the Members really do not like my taking part in the debates."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. the lady Member is at liberty to take part in the debates."

SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA:—" Sir, it is a privilege which I am trying to avoid because somehow or other I seem to offend somebody or other, but generally I make some remarks on what I feel frankly and that seems to offend some hon. Members. Regarding amenities to Members, as Chairman of the

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House Committee, I think I have to offer some explanation. I have been telling the Public Works Minister to get the road inside the compounds of the Government House repaired. But I am sorry, it has not been done. Some two months ago, I told him that it is better to have some tennis courts laid out for the use of the Members in the Government House, because we are going to have a fairly long session, and they must have some recreation as well. After a week, the Hon. Minister told me that the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon wanted a court for himself and I put to him that preference should be given to the Members of the Legislature over private members who are supposed to stay there only temporarily, because they could not get houses outside. But he said they are also members staying there. Then, I suggested to him that he might at least lay out another court for the use of the Members of the Assembly. What I find is, two badmington courts and a tennis court have been got ready by the Public Works Minister at the request of some private members and it is called a club and nothing has been done so far, for the sake of Members of the Legislature. As per rules, originally when we took over the main building of the Government House, it was meant for the use of the Members of the Legislature. Later on, however, some Members were allowed to come in, because they were unable to get houses outside. But the Hon. Minister says, after all they are also Members and they must be given quarters. It is not as if I am trying to criticise anybody but I am only giving an explanation of my difficulties and if possible, disabuse the minds of hon. Members of any indifference on my part to their needs. I know so many of them are being put in one room—as many as three or four in the same room. It is really a source of much incenvenience. I should have liked that each one is given one room for himself. Even when I was in jail, I asked to be given a room all to myself, because we wish to have privacy and we have a lot of time there. The reason why we are not given single rooms is, that parts of the Government House have been taken up by other people.

" Sir, the other point I wish to suggest for the attention of the Government is that there must be a paid doctor staying in the Government House compound to attend to the medical needs of M.L.As. Members have been obliged to stay there for quite a long period of time—it is more than a month and a half since the Session has commenced and if anybody falls ill or anything happens, there must be somebody to attend to them immediately. The other need is a dhobi. Members must be able to give their clothes for cleaning. All these can be made only if there are rooms available. I somehow feel I am not able to have sufficient 'pull' with the Minister and that is why I am voicing the lack of amenities for hon. Members and I am compelled to draw the attention of the authorities to the fact that they should cater to the convenience of the Members."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Sir, there are not enough rooms."

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SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA:—" Sir, I am telling him about the Government House where there are many rooms and they can be placed at the disposal of the House Committee and that is what I wanted to say. After all, it is meant more for the sake of Members and they must be catered to than other private individuals staying in the Government House."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" That is why, Sir, I wanted the Hon. Minister for P.W.D. and myself to be nominated to the House Committee but the Deputy Speaker protested against our nominations."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Sir, does it mean that, because they have not been nominated, they will not pay attention to all these things."

SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, கனம் அங்கத்தினர்கள் கேட்கும் சம்பளம் படி முதலியவற்றை கவனித்து ஆவன செய்யவேண்டியது அவசியமாகிறது. முக்கியமாக

" ஜனப்பிரதிநிதி சபையின் தலைவர் அவர்களுடைய personal clerk-க்கு சம்பளம் ரூ. 100, ஆனல் கௌன்சில் தலைவரது Clerk-க்கு சம்பளம் ரூ. 150. ஆனல் அசெம்பிளி தலைவர் Clerk ஹரிஜன, கவுன்சில் தலைவர் Clerk முதலியார். ஜனப்பிரதிநிதித் தலைவர் இளார்கு ஹரிஜன ரையினும் அவர் பி.எ. பட்டதாரி அப்படியிருந்தும் இவருக்கு அவர் போல் சம்பளம் உயர்த்த பலமுறை கேட்டும் இவ்விஷயத்தில் சர்க்கார் அனுதாபம் காட்டவில்லை. இது விஷயத்தை கவனிக்கவேண்டும். ஆகையால் இந்த இடத்தில்கூட ஜாதி வித்தியாசம் பாராட்டுதல் நல்லதாக இல்லை."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Mr. Speaker, I will straightway deal with what fell from the hon. Member representing Chidambaram. I have examined this question and I am trying to do what I can for your Personal Assistant. But at the same time I would like to point out that prior to his appointment as Personal Assistant to the Hon. President, that gentleman was getting a basic salary of Rs. 140 and so he is just getting Rs. 10 more than what he got outside the Secretariat. The gentleman whom the Speaker has taken as his Personal Assistant has come newly and he was taken on the scale of Rs. 100 to 150 if I remember aright and therefore, he will get up to Rs. 150 in course of time. But in view of the representations made to me, I am considering what can be done to him considering that he is a Harijan and he might be helped. I leave the matter at that.

" There has been a lot of discussion over the salaries of members. As I said the other day, I have had reports from other Provinces and I find most of the Provinces have adopted a salary of Rs. 200 and Rs. 10 as daily allowance. But I suggest that considering the financial position the Government will examine this and see what can be done in the matter of at least the daily allowances.

" The question of rent-free quarters at the Government House for the members has been raised. I feel that will be satisfied if the daily allowance is increased because what we pay by one hand very lightly we take away with the other and this is quite a thing

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which is done in most cases. I would rather increase the daily allowance than give up the rent of quarters because legal complications might arise. If free quarters are given people know the law of squatting and hon. Members might well imagine what it might lead to; at least we will have to charge nominal rent to show the ownership of Government in the buildings.

" Regarding the complaint about roads, I think my Hon. Colleague the Minister in Charge of Public Works is trying to see what can be done; he will I believe tackle the dust nuisance as well. There are proposals that eventually proper buildings might be built which might accommodate members of the Assembly giving each of them a room instead of being put in dormitories as my hon. friend for Vizagapatam described. But might I tell the hon. Gentleman that the rooms in Government House are very large and I am sure if he is left alone in one of these rooms, he might feel lonely and he might complain that he wants company because you know. Mr. Speaker, human-beings like company and if they find themselves in a very large room all to themselves, they might want company. My hon. Friend representing the Nagarathar community wants to know what company;—he knows best.

" As I said, the question of daily allowance will be considered by Government considering that the prices of everything have gone up. The hon. the Lady Member representing the City Muslims, I am glad came to my rescue and answered some of the points raised by the hon. Muslim Member for Guntur, for which I am deeply grateful. But at the same time she in a way suggested differentiating between member and member; I think that is not a policy which I would support because it is very difficult to support it. It would have been like a sort of trying to be charitable to your poor brother when we are all colleagues in this Assembly. I think it will be wrong if we make distinctions with regard to salaries. As my Hon. Colleague the Finance Minister pointed out it should be quite easy for hon. Members who feel that they are not in need of salary to give it up and there are some Members who have done it as he has mentioned during the course of the debate.

" The question of a new House has been raised. I have already said we are really in a transition stage. There are demands for linguistic provinces and if the province is going to be cut up, it is more than likely that the House that we newly have to construct, might have to be constructed in a different manner. We have got on in this House for years now; no doubt there was an interval of nearly eight years when the section 93 rule was in vogue in this Province and having got on for two years—it may be 12 months or 18 months more before the new elections take place and perhaps it will be wiser not to expend money on buildings especially as the cost of materials and wage rates are high but to wait till conditions improve and we are able to settle on a type of legislative chambers that we require and for the Upper House because the constitution provides as far as this Province is concerned for an Upper House as well. It might be built in such a

way that you might get sea breeze where (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Hear, Hear) members might have a terrace like the House of Commons. These are all possibilities and I am dealing with vague generalities in spite of the compliment of 'Hear, Hear' from the hon. the Muslim Member for Kurnool; it might be it may not happen and my hon. Friend from Kurnool talks mostly on imagination and I think that I can claim that he has got better imagination than I possess."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Order, order."

(It being five of the clock, the Leader of the House resumed his seat.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is now 5 o'clock and I am going to apply the guillotine. I will put the remaining Demands to the vote of the House.

"The question is that under Demand X—Legislative Bodies the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 1,41,400."

The Demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XI—DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND MISCELLANEOUS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 1,24,32,000 under Demand XI—District Administration and Miscellaneous.'"

The Demand has put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XII—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 9,38,700 under Demand XII—Administration of Justice'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XIII—JAILS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 under Demand XIII—Jails'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XIV—POLICE.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 2,44,59,600 under Demand XIV—Police'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XV—EDUCATION.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 25,73,700 under Demand XV—Education'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XVI—MEDICAL.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 16,59,200 under Demand XVI—Medical'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XVII—PUBLIC HEALTH.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 98,51,800 under Demand XVII—Public Health'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XVIII—AGRICULTURE.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 25,17,100 under Demand XVIII—Agriculture'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XIX—VETERINARY.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 2,10,600 under Demand XIX—Veterinary'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XX—CO-OPERATION.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Demand XX—Co-operation'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXI—INDUSTRIES.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Demand XXI—Industries'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXII—CINCHONA AND FISHERIES.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 5,62,100 under Demand XXII—Cinchona and Fisheries'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXIII—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 26,05,400 *under Demand XXIII—Miscellaneous Departments'."*

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXIV—CIVIL WORKS—WORKS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 1,800 *under Demand XXIV—Civil Works—Works'."*

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXV—CIVIL WORKS—ESTABLISHMENT AND TOOLS AND PLANT.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 300 *under Demand XXV—Civil Works—Establishment and Tools and Plant'."*

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXVI—CIVIL WORKS—GRANTS-IN-AID.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 200 *under Demand XXVI—Civil Works—Grant-in-aid'."*

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXVII—ELECTRICITY.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 46,24,300 *under Demand XXVII—Electricity'."*

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXVIII—FAMINE.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 13,200 *under Demand XXVIII—Famine'."*

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXIX—PENSIONS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 8,51,000 *under Demand XXIX—Pensions'."*

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXX—STATIONERY AND PRINTING.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 10,13,100 *under Demand XXX—Stationery and Printing'."*

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXI—MISCELLANEOUS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 400 *under Demand XXXI—Miscellaneous'."*

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXIII—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON IRRIGATION.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 500 *under Demand XXXIII—Capital Outlay on Irrigation'."*

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXV—CIVIL WORKS OUTSIDE THE REVENUE ACCOUNT.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Goevrnment be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 200 *under Demand XXXV—Civil Works outside the Revenue Account'."*

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXVI—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON ELECTRICAL SCHEMES.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 33,75,000 *under Demand XXXVI—Capital Outlay on Electrical Schemes'."*

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made

DEMAND XXXVII—OTHER PROVINCIAL WORKS OUTSIDE THE REVENUE ACCOUNT.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 50,60,900 *under Demand XXXVII—Other Provincial Works outside the Revenue Account'."*

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXIX—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON PROVINCIAL SCHEMES OF STATE TRADING.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 *under Demand XXXIX—Capital Outlay on Provincial Schemes of State Trading'."*

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XL—INTEREST-FREE ADVANCES.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 11,74,300 *under Demand XL—Interest-Free Advances'*."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XLI—LOANS AND ADVANCES BEARING INTEREST.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Goevrnment be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 4,13,25,100 *under Demand XLI—Loans and Advances bearing Interest'*."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The House will now proceed to the half-hour debate on building grants for schools."

III.—HALF-HOUR DEBATE *RE* BUILDING GRANTS FOR SCHOOLS.

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are very grateful to you for giving us this opportunity to raise a debate on the Government policy regarding grants for buildings for high schools. Sir, I shall not take up the time of the House except for two or three minutes, as only half an hour is available for the whole debate and there will be several members who may wish to take part in the debate.

"Sir, however much the Hon. Minister for Education may be enthusiastic with regard to education and giving a new turn to his policy, I am afraid in practice it will not be possible for him to achieve anything unless he is able to persuade the Government as a whole to lay aside money for purposes that are mentioned in the question itself. There could not be any misconception so far as the policy of the Government is concerned regarding higher education and elementary education. In our enthusiasm to spread literacy throughout the country we should not lose sight of the correct perspective. How is it possible to spread education unless we have trained teachers. You cannot have trained teachers for nothing. You must have schools, high schools and colleges and training institutions to train these people to enable them to carry out their work efficiently. One trained teacher for every thousand students cannot spread literacy. If you want universal literacy it is absolutely necessary to have more high schools and colleges, and for that purpose you must provide money. Our policy with regard to universal education must go hand in hand with the scheme for higher education. The time will not be far off when the famous Government Order of 1940–41 will be abolished. Since 1940 the Advisers' Government have stopped many schemes for education as they put a ban on spending further moneys on buildings on account of war conditions. Now it is several years since the war is over and that ban will have to be removed. It is to build buildings for schools

that the Advisers' Government had left several crores to their successor's Government. The present Government will not be justified in spending that money for other purposes. I shall content myself by saying that the money still left is quite enough to support university education, high school education and technical institutions for training teachers. I am very happy to see that the Hon. Finance Minister is also present. He is a great supporter of education. I hope the two Ministers will consider the matter sympathetically, not for my sake or that of the House but in the interests of the nation, and if they do not do it, I will charge them with having failed to carry out their duty, namely, carrying out their election pledge. To-day public opinion demands Government spending crores and crores of money for educational institutions. I am also asking the Hon. Minister for Education not to wait for an interpellation to be given notice of and a reply given in the usual red tape procedure, but that he will lay on the table of the House, when we meet in the middle of April next, a statement showing how much money has been spent actually on building grants for Universities, high schools and colleges, the names of those institutions, the amount given to each of them and for what purpose. That will show what has been done and what remains to be done. I know there are several cases of students without hostel accommodation, but it is our duty to see that school buildings are provided first, and then hostels. I will conclude by saying that in the interest of spreading literacy it is essential to spread higher education in all forms."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in speaking on the question raised by the Leader of the Independent Group with regard to the paucity of high schools in our Province I would like to invite the attention of the Hon. Minister that we in this House have been demanding the enunciation of the policy of Government regarding higher education. Of course, the Hon. Minister has been thinking deeply of very novel methods of education, so far as he understood it. Government do have their own high schools, but even those high schools do not have accommodation for the needs of the times. As it is, the Government schools are not enough for our needs with the result that private people have been coming forward for building any number of high schools. After all, private enterprise wants help from Government also for the Government according to their rules are expected to give adequate building grants for the construction of buildings for high schools. But unfortunately Government have not been able to give adequate building grants to private enterprise. I know many schools have suffered because of that, and they are not able to cope with the demand. Of course we have recently referred to the position of women's education. Even there the help that has been expected of this popular Government has not been made. There are many schools to-day which are suffering for want of accommodation; the boys and girls who seek admission to high

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schools have been increasing by leaps and bounds, and the Government is marching on at snail's space so far as education is concerned. Perhaps the Hon. Minister for Education and the Hon. Minister for Finance might come forward and say that their finances are meagre, that they are not in a position to allot money by way of grant to private-managed high schools etc.

5-15 p.m. "Sir, my hon. Friend the Leader of the Party has said that the Government is not giving its best attention to higher education. The Hon. Minister for Finance as well as the Hon. Minister for Education might say that they are helpless, and that somebody else is standing in the way. How long is that somebody going to stand in the way? I would request the Government to afford sufficient financial facilities to enable high schools which have sufficient accommodation to open collegiate courses also, so that the need for higher education might be met adequately in this Province.

"Sir, I shall quote only one instance how these high schools are suffering for want of accommodation. Take for instance the Hobart High School for Girls. For want of sufficient accommodation for the new Muslim Women's College, the Hon. Minister for Education has ordered that the buildings belonging to the Hobart Girls' High School might be taken away, and so now, the classes of the Hobart High School are conducted outside the college under the shade of trees and in the verandahs. But now the Government are not going to run the college themselves, and they are going to give it to a private individual. It is impossible for anybody with a sense of responsibility and imagination to understand how, when the college itself is sought to be transferred to a private individual, even the buildings could be handed to that private gentleman for running the college, instead of asking him to find the necessary accommodation for his college. And this has resulted in detriment to the interests of the high school.

"Sir, we have not got enough hostels also. Unless the Government realize that and unless they provide sufficient hostel accommodation it will not be possible for them to spread education and that too, higher education, and without higher education they will not be able to increase the number of literate people in the Province. My hon. Friend the Minister of Education might come forward and say that he is concentrating on liquidating illiteracy in this Province as speedily as possible. But I do not think he realizes that without higher education, without sufficient teaching institution for training adequate number of teachers, it will not be possible to find enough number of teachers for liquidating illiteracy in the Province. Therefore the first and foremost thing that the Government should do is to try to get a large number of teachers and that can be done only by giving a fillip to high school education and University education and by opening more training schools and colleges throughout the Province. It is only then that he will be able to get sufficient number of teachers who could man the schools for liquidating illiteracy."

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* M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not want to take much of the time of the House. I just want to say this, that the policy of the Government, namely, not to sanction more than Rs. 30,000 for any estimate submitted by managements of schools, is working as a great hardship in the progress of these elementary schools and high schools conducted by private agencies. Here I must say that even during the Advisers' regime any estimates submitted by school authorities were accepted and though the full grant was not made, at least a promise was made that grants will be paid year after year until the full grant was completed. But the present Government are saying that they cannot grant more than Rs. 30,000 and this is a very great hardship to private agencies. Besides, Sir, you know that it would not be possible to collect any donations from people now-a-days, because there are already in the Province several funds, like the Provincial Welfare Fund, the Tamil Valarchi Kazhagam Fund, the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Fund, etc., and people who are generous and really interested in education will not be able to contribute to the building fund of private schools, in the midst of these ever so many demands. In view of this, I trust that the Hon. Minister for Education will revise his policy. Though he may not pay the full grant, he may at least make a promise to those people that grants will be made as usual but that they will be paid in yearly instalments."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I know I am only carrying coals to Newcastle when I appeal to the Hon. Minister for Education how this problem is so urgent and how it is that we have got to subsidise aided agencies who come forward for the spread of education. It is unfortunate, Sir, that in our Province in spite of our laudable claims for the spread of education, for some reason or other, we have denied our colleges and high schools the elementary facilities to which the aided management are entitled. They have been putting up, during these years of war, with all the formidable difficulties and yet the Government could not extend their helping hand for easing their difficulties by providing them with at least half the net cost. It is with feelings of utmost regret that I condemn this kind of indifference on the part of the Government towards aided management. I know that it is not possible for the Government to provide all the amenities and facilities for education by themselves alone in this Province. They want the assistance of aided management and it is very necessary, and it is also the duty of the Government to extend to them their helping hand; and while I see that they are going to revise their policy, I wish that they do so with retrospective effect. Every management that provide for the construction of buildings for schools and colleges must come in for considerable relief, because these schools and colleges are for the progress of the Province."

SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM.—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே தமிழ் நாட்டில் 100-க்கு 90 சத வீதம் ஹரிஜனங்கள் படிக்கும் ஹை ஸ்கூல் ஒதம்பரம் நந்தனர் ஹைஸ்கூல் ஒன்றே அதற்கு கட்டிடமில்லை. சர்க்கார் உடனே நல்ல கட்டிடம் கட்டிக்கொடுக்கவேண்டும்.

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"சிதம்பரம் நந்தனர் ஹாஸ்டலில் 300 பிள்ளைகள் இருக்கிறார்கள் அவ்வளவு பேரும் ஒலை குடிசையில் இருக்கிறார்கள். அடிக்கடி பிரித்து ரிப்பேர் செய்யவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. ஆபத்துகளும் ஏற்படலாம் ஆதலால் உடனே ஹாஸ்டல் கட்டிடம் கட்டிக்கொடுக்கப் பிரார்த்திக்கிறேன்.

"சர்க்கார் கல்வி இலாகா மான்யத்தில் இடந்தராவிட்டாலும ஹரிஜனங்களுக்காக ஒதுக்கி வைத்திருக்கும் ஒரு கோடி ரூபாயில் கொடுக்கலாம். கோடம்பாக்கம் ஹரிஜன பாடசாலைக்கு மேற்படி நிதியில் ரூ. 1,80,000-ம் கொடுத்துள்ளார்கள் அதுபோல் நந்தனர் பாடசாலைக்கும் ஹாஸ்டலுக்கும் கட்டிடங்கள் கட்டிக்கொடுக்க பணம் ஒதுக்க கனம் கல்வி இலாகா அமைச்சரைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, during the half an hour debate the other day, the Hon. Minister for Education was pleased to say that the Government have decided not to abolish uneconomic schools. We thank him for that assurance, Sir, and I suggest that the Government can borrow necessary funds from the Central Government and give liberal grants to aided schools and colleges for putting up buildings.

"Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, again raised the question that if the Government have decided to hand over the Government Muslim Women's College to Mr. Ethiraj, the building might at least be given back to the Hobart Girls' High School. I think, Sir, that it is proper that the school buildings which originally belonged to the high school should be given back to the school and I hope that the Hon. Minister who is going to reply just now, will assure us that he is agreeable to this suggestion."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members of the House for the various suggestions they have made on the subject. I know well the great help that has been given by these managements for the spread of education in this Province. As a matter of fact, a large number of high schools and colleges have taken root in this Presidency mainly due to the devoted help of private agencies. Even in the last two years, in spite of the fact that the Government have not come forward to the aid of these institutions by way of grants, education in high schools and colleges have spread phenominally. I must say that I am very grateful to the many philanthropists in this Province who have come forward to contribute their funds generously for the spread of education. The Government are not unaware of the need for help in this direction and they are very sympathetic in this matter.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, said that higher education has suffered seriously in the recent years. On the other hand, the strength in the various schools show that his statement is far from the truth and that it has nearly doubled during the last five years and that in the colleges it is now 150 per cent more than what it was during the last five years."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Hon. Minister satisfied with that progress?"

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Yes, Sir. If I am able to keep up the same progress, namely, getting double the strength within five years, I think it is a very good achievement indeed. Sir, I entirely agree with my hon. Friend that it is necessary that we should go to the help of these aided institutions by giving them both teaching grants as well as building grants. As I have said some time back, the Government are considering the matter. Unfortunately it takes some time for the Government to come to definite decisions. Suggestions have been made that loans could be floated for the purpose of giving capital grants to schools and colleges. That matter is also under consideration and we hope to come to an early decision. Hon. Members will remember that recently the Government introduced a Bill in this House prohibiting the transfer of properties belonging to educational institutions and it is because we are considering this very question that we thought it necessary to introduce a Bill like that. As soon as the Bill is passed, the Government will be able to do something in the matter.

"Sir, so far as the suggestion regarding the floatation of loans is concerned, I must point out that there are limitations to that also. Many of the Members who are financiers know well the rate at which Government bonds are selling to-day. Therefore for floating loans also, we will have to wait till the proper time comes and it is not also as if we can get indefinite amounts by way of loans. You may remember, in this connexion, Sir, that the Hon. Sir R. K. Shanmukham Chetti, the Finance Member of the Government of India, has also made certain provisions to meet the demands of provinces in this direction. He has helped the cause of education by allowing that a certain percentage of the profits will be allowed for income-tax purposes, if they are given as contributions to approved educational and medical institutions which will be determined in consultation with the Provincial Government. I have no doubt, Sir, that the Provincial Government will include all recognized educational and medical institutions for this purpose. As I said, Sir, the Government are thinking ways and means by which both private philanthropy and Governmental help can freely flow to these private and aided institutions who have come forward to help the cause of education. More than this, Sir, the Government are unable at present to say in this matter."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The House will now adjourn to meet again at 11 o'clock to-morrow."

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 225 asked by Sri G. Kumaraswami at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 24th March 1948, page 657 supra.]

Post-war Development Schemes started or proposed to be started in 1945-46 or 1946-47.

Serial number.	Number in the five-year plan.	Names of the schemes.	Whether the schemes have been started.	Progress made to end of 1946-47.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
		Forests.		
1	19	Re-opening of Madras Forest College.	Yes.	The purely educational part of the college has more or less been restored. Institution of the research section is under consideration.
2	78	Development of forest roads ..	Do.	Progressing satisfactorily.
3	75	Working Plans Circle	Do.	
		Irrigation.		
4	121	Cauvery delta—Drainage improvement.	Yes.	Several items of work have been completed. Some others are progressing.
5	122	Kistna delta—Improvements to the Romperu drain.	Do.	Work taken on hand and is in good progress.
6	122	Kistna delta—Improvements to Peddalanka drain.	Do.	Detailed estimates and plans submitted. Work on construction of under-tunnel in progress.
7	New	Shatiatope anicut system, Perumal tank—Provision of additional surplussing arrangements.	Do.	Work just started.
8	Do.	Sillaipillaiyar-Puthur channel diversion.	Do.	About 200 units of earthwork done. Foundation for syphon laid and masonry work completed. Masonry works for 3 pipe aqueducts out of 6 completed.
9	Do.	Kolinjivadi channel	Do.	Nearing completion.
		Education.		
10	34	Training of additional teachers ..	Yes.	Provision made to train 4,000 teachers during 1946-47.
11	88	Compulsory elementary education.	Do.	168,828 pupils of school-age approximately brought under instruction up to 31st December 1946. For 1946-47 completed figures are not yet available.

Serial number.	Number in the five-year plan.	Names of the schemes.	Whether the schemes have been started.	Progress made to end of 1946-47.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
		Education—cont.		
12	89	Provision of mid-day meals for school children.	Scheme introduced in 1945-46, but abolished from 1st April 1947.	134,000 pupils were proposed to be fed in 1945-46. The scheme continued in 1946-47 also, but discontinued from 1st April 1947.
13	New	Opening of an Engineering College at Coimbatore.	Yes.	The College has been working since 1945-46.
14	Do.	Opening of a new College for Muslim girls in Madras City.	Do.	Opened first and third University classes.
15	Do.	Grants to Madras University for a new College of Technology.	Do.	Main building operations just commenced.
		Grant to Annamalai University for a new College of Engineering.	Do.	Workshop survey stores, strength of materials. Laboratory and Technology Laboratory completed. One wing of Engineering and Technology College completed.
16	Do.	Building grant to the Loyola College for Chemistry Laboratory buildings.	Do.	Construction in progress.
17	Do.	Grant to Annamalai University for the construction of hostels.	Do.	Hostel extension and new block completed. Hostel for Engineering students built up to basement.
		Public Health.		
18	91	Malaria—Establishment of a Bureau and expansion of the regional centres.	Yes.	The whole scheme is making progress. Schemes for control of malaria in particular places being sanctioned whenever necessary and control measures taken.
19	94	Nutritional Research.	Do.	All sanctioned posts filled excepting that of Assistant Director of Public Health (Nutrition).
20	96	Public Health Propaganda and Publicity.	Do.	
21	97 98	Protected water-supply in villages. Water-supply drainage schemes ..	Do.	A portion of works scheduled under the five main schemes executed.
22	103	Anti-Leprosy campaign	Do.	Office of the Honorary Director, Leprosy Campaign established in January 1945. An ad hoc committee of officials and non-officials has been constituted and their report is awaited.
23	99	Expansion of medical relief ..	No.	
24	38	Medical College, Madura	Yes.	

Serial number.	Number in the five-year plan.	Names of the schemes.	Whether the schemes have been started.		Progress made to end of 1946-47.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)		(5)
		Agriculture.			
25	14 (*a*)	Establishment of a second Agricultural College, Bapatla.	Yes	..	Work in progress.
26	15	Investigation of cultivable waste.	No	..	....
27	53	Running of more agricultural stations.	Do.	..	....
28	54	Development of Research Institutions.	Yes	..	Cytogeneticists and physiologists appointed.
29	57	Expansion of staff at Headquarters.	Do.	..	....
30	58	Expansion of staff in the districts.	Do.	..	....
		Veterinary.			
31	67	Appointment of District Veterinary Officer for each district.	No	..	Scheme sanctioned but not given effect to pending return of officers undergoing training.
32	68	Appointment of two Deputy Directors of Veterinary Services.	Do.	..	....
33	..	Extension of cattle farm at Lam.	Do.	..	....
		Co-operation.			
34	47	Development of Co-operative Marketing of Agricultural produce.	No	..	....
35	..	Vocational training for serving soldiers in Co-operation.	Yes	..	*Serving Soldiers*—100 candidates in long course and 57 candidates in short course given training up to 31st March 1948. *Ex-servicemen*—100 candidates in long course and 88 candidates in short course given training. Another batch of 50 ex-servicemen are trained in the nine months' course at Madras from 1st February 1947.
		Industries.			
36	4	Industrial Education	No	..	....
37	New	Opening of Polytechnics	Do.	..	....
38	113	Development of Ceramic Industry as a small industry.	Yes	..	Training centre opened in Kalahasti—Fifteen candidates were selected and the course was started on 15th January 1947.
39	109	Expansion of leather trade institution.	Do.	..	Out of the five courses sanctioned, only three courses were started in July 1947. Diploma course in Leather Manufacture with eleven students and certificate course with seven students started. Research work also continued.
40	5	Industries—Expansion of Direct Organisation.	No	..	....

Serial number.	Number in the five-year plan.	Names of the schemes.	Whether the schemes have been started.		Progress made to end of 1946-47.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)		(5)
		Fisheries.			
41	153	Development of fisheries in Periyar System.	Yes	..	The initial stage of survey is completed.
42	24	Appointment of a Public Health Fish Farming Assistant.	Do.	..	Completed eighteen months' work of investigation.
43	23	Investigation of Hilsa fisheries ..	Do.	..	Preliminary data has been collected
44	30	Appointment of Fisheries Engineer.	Do.	..	Twelve items of works have been executed. Five works are in progress.
45	31	Appointment of Fishery propaganda unit.	Do.	..	Information Bureau set up—Provincial library organized—Fisheries Museum organized and new specimens being added.
		Roads.			
46	43	Road Works—Major bridges ..	Yes	..	Eighteen items of works have been sanctioned. Works are in progress.
47	New	Improvements to Kodaikanal Ghat Road.	Do.	..	(Included in item 46.)
		Buildings.			
48	98	Expansion of protected water-supply to all municipalities, etc.	Yes	..	Thirty-nine items of work are sanctioned. Some have been completed. Some are in progress. Still others have not yet been started.
49	14	Agricultural College, Bapatla ..	Do.	..	Nearing completion.
50	..	Production of more Agricultural graduates—Improvement to Agricultural College, Coimbatore.	Do.	..	Do.
51	17	Improvements to Madras Veterinary College.	No.	..	....
52	101	Improvements to District Headquarters hospitals.—			
		(*a*) Quarters for nursing staff, King George Hospital, Vizagapatam.	Yes	..	Partially completed.
		(*b*) Additions and alterations to King George Hospital, Vizagapatam.	No	..	....
		(*c*) Quarters for the nurses of the Government Headquarters Hospital, Coimbatore.	Yes	..	Almost completed.
		(*d*) Electric installation for Headquarters Hospital, Ellore.	Do.	..	Completed.
53	New	Buildings for the Government Secondary Training School for Women, Erode.	Do.	..	Work completed.
54	Do.	Buildings for Ceded Districts College, Anantapur.	Do.	..	Detailed plans and estimates prepared.
55	Do.	Natural science block for the Government College, Kumbakonam.	Do.	..	Work completed.

Serial number. (1)	Number in the five-year plan. (2)	Name of the schemes. (3)	Whether the schemes have been started. (4)	Progress made to end of 1946-47. (5)
		Buildings—cont.		
56	New	Construction of temporary buildings for the Queen Mary's College, Madras.	Yes ..	Work compled.et
57	Do.	Construction of buildings for the preliminary training of Nurses, Madras.	Do. ..	Do.
58	Do.	Home for Nursing staff, General Hospital, Madras.	Do. ..	Detailed estimates prepared
59	Do.	Improvements to the Government Headquarters Hospital, Ootacamund.	Do. ..	Work completed.
60	Do.	Acquisition of sites and construction of an infectious diseases ward in the District Headquarters Hospital, Madura.	No ..	....
61	Do.	Electrification of Headquarters Hospital, Chittoor.	Yes ..	Work completed.
62	Do.	Comprehensive drainage scheme for Mental Hospital, Madras.	Do. ..	Construction of manholes, laying of sewers and connecting the open drain and provision of urinals completed.
63	Do.	Construction of Anatomy, Physiology and Pharmacology block in Stanley College.	Do. ..	Concreting for Animal House has been completed. Excavation of foundation for main building in progress.
64	Do.	Construction of quarters for the nursing staff of the Headquarters Hospital, Palamcottah.	No ..	....
65	38	Construction of buildings for Madura Medical College.	Yes ..	Pre-registration students of the College underwent their course in Stanley Medical College, Madras. They are undergoing preclinical course in Madras Medical College.
66	New	Combined Laboratory seeds store room and thrashing floor for the Paddy Station, Mangalore.	Do. ..	Work completed.
67	Do.	Buildings for the opening of sheep farm at Karigupp1.	Do. ..	Proposal to open combined sheep and cattle farm under consideration. Some expenditure has already been incurred.
68	Do.	Extension of cattle farm at Lam.	Do. ..	Land acquired. Twenty Ongole cows and seven Ongole work cattle purchased. Preparatory cultivation in the new land is progressing.
69	Do.	Opening of a new college for Muslim girls, Madras.	No ..	....
70	Do.	New blocks and buildings for Vizagapatam Hospital.	Yes ..	Detailed estimate under consideration. Some expenditure has been incurred.
71	Do.	New buildings for the headquarters Hospital, Calicut.	No ..	....

Serial number. (1)	Number in the five-year plan. (2)	Names of the schemes. (3)	Whether the schemes have been started. (4)	Progress made to end of 1946-47. (5)
		Buildings—cont.		
72	New	Improvements to new Headquarters Hospital, Madura.	No. ..	Work deferred.
73	Do.	New Headquarters Hospital, Trichinopoly.	Yes ..	Some items of work done.
74	Do.	Construction of buildings for the Headquarters Hospital, Tuticorin.	Do. ..	All the buildings except nurses' quarters have been completed up to basement level.
75	Do.	Acquisition of site and construction of permanent building for the staff of Rice Research Station at Tirukuppam.	Do. ..	The work in foundations and basements completed.
76	....	Construction of new blocks with three class rooms in the Government Muslim Secondary School for Muslims, Kasaragode.	No ..	....
77	92 ..	Expansion of Public Health Service.	Do. ..	....
78	Pre-plan.	Construction of flood bank on the Vasishta Godavari.	Do. ..	....
79	....	Annamalai University—Building for College of Engineering.	Yes ..	....

Post-war Reconstruction Schemes newly started in 1947-48.

(NOTE.—Progress reports for 1947-48 have not yet been received. Indication has been given against each scheme whether it has been started or not. No further particulars are available at present.)

Serial number. (1)	Number in the five-year plan. (2)	Name of schemes. (3)	Whether the schemes have been started. (4)
		B. NEW SCHEMES.	
		Agriculture.	
50	14-A	Establishment of Second Agricultural College, Bapatla	Yes.
51	14-B	Production of Agricultural graduates	Do.
	55	Agricultural College and Central Farm	No.
52	56	Development of Demonstration and Propaganda	Do.
		Buildings.	
53	..	King George Hospital, Vizagapatam— (a) Out-patient Department, Maternity block .. .. .. (b) Irwin Operation Theatre .. .. (c) Reconstruction of Pre-Registration block .. .. (d) Shifting and incorporating the existing plant to new gas house.	Yes.
54	..	Raising the status of the Government Arts College, Coimbatore..	Do.
55	38	Medical College, Guntur	Do.
56	..	Headquarters Hospital, Gudalur .. .. Do. Kotagiri .. .. Do. Cochin	No.

Serial number.	Number in the five-year plan.	Names of the schemes.	Whether the schemes have been started.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
		B. New Schemes—*cont.*	
		Buildings—cont.	
57	..	Engineering College, Vizagapatam	No.
58	..	Arthur Hope College, Coimbatore	Do.
59	..	Government Training School for Muslim Women, Shevapet ..	Do.
60	103	Extension and improvement to Lady Willingdon Leprosy Sanatorium.	Do.
61	..	Engineering College to be opened at Anantapur	Do.
62	..	Quarters for additional midwives under training at the Head-quarters Hospital.	Do.
63	..	Construction of additional wards in Tuberculosis Ward, Perunthurai.	Do.
64	..	Construction of nurses' quarters in the compound of Tuberculosis Hospital, Royapetta, Madras.	Do.
65	..	A.C. College of Technology, Madras	Yes.
66	..	Construction of hostels (Annamalai University)	No.
		Food.	
67	..	Rural Reconstruction Schemes	Yes.
		Inland Waterways.	
68	132	East Coast Canals—Improvement to inland waterways—South Buckingham Canal.	No.
69	134	West Coast Canals—Improvements—Remodelling the Elathur Kalla Canal.	
70	136	North and South Buckingham Canals—Improvements	
71	135	East Coast Canals—North and South	
72	138	South Buckingham Canal—Improvements	
73	142	North and South Buckingham Canals—Improvements	
		Co-operation.	
74	..	Establishment of Cotton Ginning Factories like Co-operative Societies.	No.
		Roads.	
75	..	War arrear renewals	Yes.
76	..	Capital works	No.
77	..	Roads in charge of district boards	Do.
		Veterinary.	
78	..	Opening of a Combined Sheep and Cattle Farm at Kariguppi ..	No.
79	65	Appointment of Assistant Disease Investigation Officer	Yes.
80	71	Grant for the purchase of male breeding stock	Do.
81	62	Appointment of Stockmen Compounders	No.
82	69	Opening of live-stock farm for each district	Do.
		Industries.	
83	3	Polytechnic scheme	Yes.
84	108	Central Institute for Cottage Industries	No.
85	111	Establishment of Oil Technological Institute	Do.

Serial number.	Number in the five-year plan.	Names of the schemes.	Whether the schemes have been started.
		Education.	
86	26	Training Physical Training Instructors	No.
87	..	Introduction of a B. Sc. course in the Muslim College, Madras.	Do.
88	..	Raising of Government Arts College, Coimbatore, to I grade ..	Do.
		Medical and Public Health.	
89	90	Medical inspection of school children	No.
90	..	Provision of Mobile Medical Unit	Do.
91	38	Medical College, Guntur	Yes.
92	38	Coimbatore water-supply and drainage	Do.
93	..	Opening of itinerating dispensaries	No.
		Colonization Scheme.	
		Wynaad Colonization.	
94	Pre-Plan.	(*a*) Public Health	Yes.
		(*b*) Agriculture	
		(*c*) Communications	
95	„	Araku Valley Colonization	Do.
		Medical and Public Health.	
96	..	Wynaad Colonization Medical Relief	Yes.
97	..	Araku Valley Colonization Medical Relief	
		Colonization Schemes.	
98	..	Wynaad Colonization Scheme	Yes.
99	..	Araku Valley Colonization Scheme	
		Fishery.	
100	83	Purchase of motor fishing vessels	No information.
		Irrigation.	
101	121	Twelve key drainage scheme	Yes.
102	122	Improvements to Romperu drain	
103	122	Improvements to Peddalanka drain	
104	..	Sillaipillaiyar Puthur Channel	
105	..	Santhiatope Anicut System—South Arcot—Perumal tank—Provision of.	

Appendix II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 227 asked by Sri Pillalamarri Venkateswarlu (on behalf of Sri K. Anandan Nambiar) at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 24th March 1948, page 661 supra.]

G.O. Ms. No. 3243, Development, dated 24th July 1947.

[Labour—Disputes—Dispute between the workers and management of Vummidi Ramaiah Chetti and Guruswami Chetti, Jewellery and Silverware Workshop, Madras—Recommendations of the Industrial Tribunal—Orders passed.]

[24th March 1948

READ—the following papers :—

(i)

G.O. Ms. No. 2445, Development, dated 2nd June 1947.

(ii)

Letter from Sri Rao Bahadur M. VENKATARAMAYYA, B.A., B.L., Industrial Tribunal, Madras, to the Joint Secretary to Government, Development Department, dated 28th June 1947, No. L.D. 13/47.

[Dispute between the management and the workers in Vummidi Ramaiah Chetti Guruswami Chetti & Co., Madras—Award—Submitted. *Reference*—G.O. Ms. No. 2445, Development, dated 2nd June 1947.]

The above dispute was referred to this Tribunal for adjudication in G.O. Ms. No. 2445, Development, dated the 2nd June 1947.

2. Mr. R. Venkatraman, advocate, appeared for the Workers' Union and Mr. K. M. Bashyam, advocate, appeared for the Management.

3. Vummidi Ramiah Chetti Guruswami Chetti & Co. is a firm of manufacturers of jewellery and employs about 250 workers. The factory is located in Govindappa Naicken street, Georgetown, Madras, and the business has been going on for over 40 years. On the 2nd April 1947 the workers through their union made a number of demands on the management and the advice and help of the Commissioner of Labour was sought. He seems to have had a number of discussions with both parties but nothing tangible was done. While these discussions were going on on one side there was trouble brewing inside the factory which culminated on the 30th April 1947 in the incidents which happened on that date and which are the subject-matter of criminal complaints, one case being against worker Srinivasan and another by Srinivasan against one of the proprietors, Parthasarathi Chetti and Nilakantayya. Both the cases are pending.

4. The factory is closed down from 1st May 1947 and the workers were told to take 14 days' wages in lieu of notice and in addition to it 10 days' pay in lieu of recuperative leave. This led to further discussions and eventually adjudication was ordered on the 2nd June. The point which arises for determination is mainly whether the closure of the factory is mala fide and should be directed to be opened and the workers given employment therein.

5. Although it looks that the factory was closed abruptly in resentment of what happened on the 30th April the management has represented before me that there are several factors which led to it. The price of silver and gold has been going up throughout 1946 and it has reached a level beyond which, as experts

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in the line, they say it cannot rise higher with the result that should they continue the manufacturing business they are sure to sustain loss. The economic factors which bear on this are all unfavourable to business. Secondly it is represented that the business being one in precious metals the management has taken a great risk and it is noticeable that there exists bad blood between the management and the workers, so much so, that the confidence and trust in the workers, which is a sine qua non in business of this kind, is now absent. They say they are not in a mood to carry on this business any longer as it involves very great risk. Thirdly it is pointed out that there is a big drop in the quantum of business done in 1946–47, that is to say, whereas in 1945–46 "production in thousands of tolas was 504 in 1946–47 it came down so low as 351." The production in thousands of tolas in 1943–44 was 480 and in 1944–45 it was 483 and thus the fall is marked in 1946–47. For these reasons the management say that they feel compelled to close their factory and stop the manufacture of jewellery. I fail to see how under these circumstances any one can compel them to open the factory to give employment to workmen. To my question to find out the bona fides of this action Mr. V. Pandurangiah on behalf of the management said that they have definitely closed their factory and have no intention of opening it. I questioned him if he would open it after three months and he has given the assurance that he will not open the factory for at least six months. It is therefore futile to contend that the Tribunal should compel him to open the factory. All that I can say is that if the factory is to be opened and business commenced by the management within six months from now preference will be given to existing workmen when labour is recruited.

6. The above practically disposes of the matter in controversy as it will serve no useful purpose to consider what should be the terms of employment when there is no employment which can be offered. Subject to this I shall deal with the points raised :—

(1) Until now the workmen are paid daily wages and paid by the week. The union wants monthly payments to be substituted instead of weekly payments. This point should be considered only when the factory begins to work.

The workers demand that they should be given dearness allowance at 3 annas per point from 1st January 1946. They were paid at 50 per cent of the earned wages. I cannot say that this was inadequate especially when the average earning of a worker is nearly Rs. 1-8-0 a day.

(2) Another demand is that provision should be made for casual leave, festival holidays with pay and overtime pay and that Sundays should be given as day of rest. These are also matters to be considered only when a fresh contract of service is to be entered into after the factory reopens. Any opinion I may express now will be of no value as conditions may alter by the time the factory is reopened.

(3) One other demand is that eye glasses, gloves, etc., should be supplied and that compensation should be given to certain workers who met with accidents in the past. The management says that the things that are mentioned are actually being supplied and that the workers themselves are at fault in not making use of them. As for compensation for accidents, it is a matter to be laid before the Commissioner of Labour who administers the Workmen's Compensation Act.

7. Provident Fund and Gratuity are matters which have also to be settled later but the question of gratuity has a special importance now. It is obvious that in the case of those who are now thrown out of employment owing to the closure of the factory all of them should be paid gratuity. It is admitted at the same time that no rules for the payment of gratuity exist at present. I do not think it is proper on the part of a Tribunal to compel the management to frame rules relating to gratuity now and make the rules retrospective in effect and pay to these people. This demand comes rather too late. On behalf of the management a point was raised that bonus, gratuity, etc., are ex gratia payments and cannot be a subject-matter of adjudication. As I am not directing the payment of gratuity or bonus on the facts of the case the point of law raised does not arise for decision.

8. With regard to bonus the company emphatically says that they made the workers understand that no bonus would be paid. At the same time they have told me that in 1943–44 they paid one month's pay as bonus and in 1944–45, 15 days' pay, in 1945–1946, one month's pay and in 1946–47, 15 days pay. The accounting year is April to March and any bonus, if at all, could be paid after the 1st of April. In January 1947 all the workers were given 12½ per cent increase in their basic wages and 6¼ per cent of the basic wage as addition to the dearness allowance. Thus to the total emoluments of wage and dearness allowance an addition of 18¾ per cent of the basic wage was made When a person of the standing of Mr. V. Pandurangiah is prepared to take oath and say that he did this in lieu of bonus I do not think I will be justified in rejecting this testimony. He states that this addition was made to the basic wage and dearness allowance so that there may be no claim for bonus later on. It is also pointed out that in any event, notwithstanding the increase to basic wage and dearness allowance from 1st January 1947 if any bonus has to be paid, it would work out that the workers have already received owing to the extra payments to them in January, February, March and April four times 18¾ or 75 per cent of a month's wage and therefore more than 15 days' pay. On this point of view also the workers have been paid more than what they received as 15 days' bonus in 1946–47.

9. Two points remain for consideration—

(1) Whether the dearness allowance was cut off for more days than those in which a worker was absent. It was mentioned

by Mr. Varadachari on behalf of the union that an injustice is being done to the workers in this manner. If a worker was absent for two days he would not be paid his wage and dearness allowance. That is correct so far but although he works for the remaining four or five days in that week he will be paid his wages for those four or five days but not the dearness allowance. It seemed inequitable to do this and so the management was directed to produce the account books relating to the payment of wages to the workers. The union's advocate mentioned the names of three workmen, Subbarayalu, Sambandamurthi and Gurumurthi. The management produced their accounts which disproved the statement made by Mr. Varadachari. An extract from the statement is marked Exhibit I.

(2) The second point is that one worker by name Kannan died and some compassionate allowance may be given to his widow. Although I am unable to see how this can be a subject-matter for adjudication yet this was discussed and Mr. Pandurangiah was prepared to give four months' salary while the union's representative suggested it may be six months. I must appreciate the readiness with which the management has agreed to pay six months' salary of Kannan to his widow. I am sure the same will be paid by the management in the course of a month.

Order—No. 3243, *Development, dated 24th July* 1947.

Whereas the award of the Industrial Tribunal (Sri Rao Bahadur M. Venkataramayya, Retired District and Sessions Judge) constituted under G.O. Ms. No. 2445, Development, dated 2nd June 1947, to adjudicate in the industrial dispute existing between the workers and management of Vummidi Ramaiah Chetti and Guruswami Chetti, Jewellery and Silverware Workshop, Madras, has been received.

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 15 (2) read with section 19 (3) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 (Central Act XIV of 1947) His Excellency the Governor of Madras hereby declares that the said award shall be binding on the management of Vummidi Ramaiah Chetti and Guruswami Chetti, Jewellery and Silverware Workshop, Madras, and the employees working therein and directs that the said award shall come into operation on the 24th July 1947 and remain in operation for a period of one year.

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 228 asked by Sri S. Nagappa at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 24th March 1948, page 662 supra.]

Name of the district.	Name of Local Fund Dispensaries without labour or emergency wards.
Anantapur ..	1. Pamidi, 2. Tanakal, 3. Yadiki, 4. Amarapuram, 5. Bukkapatnam.
Arcot, North ..	1. Alangayam, 2. Arcot, 3. Desur.

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Name of the district.	Name of Local Fund Dispensaries without labour or emergency wards.
Arcot, South ..	1. Chinnasalem, 2. Kattumannarkoil, 3. Kurinjipadi. 4. Merkanam, 5. Nellikuppam, 6. Panruti, 7. Porto Novo, 8. Sankarapuram, 9. Srimushnam, 10. Tittagudi, 11. Tiruvennainallur, 12. Ulundurpettai, 13. Valavanur, 14. Vanur.
Bellary	1. Hadgalle, 2. Kampli, 3. Kanekal, 4. Kosigi, 5. Kudligi, 6. Kurugodu.
Chingleput ..	1. Alandur, 2. Arni, 3. Cheyyur, 4. Chunnampet, 5. Gummidipundi, 6. Nagalapuram, 7. Poonamallee, 8. Pulicat, 9. Satyavedu, 10. Sembiem, 11. Tiruvottiyur, 12. Tirupporur, 13. Uthiramerur, 14. Vengal.
Chittoor	1. Chendragiri, 2. Karvetnagar, 3. Kuppam, 4. Pallipet, 5. Piler, 6. Punganuru, 7. Puttur, 8. Vayalpad.
Coimbatore ..	1. Cowdahalli, 2. Hanur, 3. Palladam, 4. Porasagoundanpalayam, 5. Punjapuliyampatti, 6. Sulur, 7. Uthukuli, 8. Kottur, 9. Peelamedu.
Cuddapah ..	1. Rayachoti, 2. Sidhout, 3. Vonipenta.
Godavari, East ..	1. Addatigala, 2. Bendamurlanka, 3. Biccavolu, 4. Chintur, 5. Dangoru, 6. Dowlaishwaram, 7. Gokavaram, 8. Kapileswarapuram, 9. Korukonda, 10. Kothapeta, 11. Kunnavaram, 12. Mallam 13. Mandapeta, 14, Mummidivaram, 15. Prathipad, 16. Rampachodavaram, 17 Rayavaram, 18. Ryali, 19. Samalkot, 20. Tallarevu, 21. Velangi, 22. Yelleswaram.
Godavari, West ..	1. Attili, 2. Atchanta.
Guntur	1. Achampeta, 2. Chilakalurpeta, 3. Chinnaganjam, 4. Dachepalli, 5. Kolluru, 6. Macherla, 7. Mangalagiri, 8. Ponnur, 9. Repalle, 10. Vetapalem.
Kanara, South ..	1. Kadaba, 2. Barkur, 3. Shiwa.
Kistna	1. Bantumilli, 2. Gannavaram, 3. Mudinepalle, 4. Pamarru, 5. Pedakallepalli, 6. Vissannapeta.
Kurnool	1. Bethemcherla, 2. Chagalamarri, 3. Kodumur, 4. Owk, 5. Andravaram, 6. Yerrakondapalem.
Madura	1. Alanganallur, 2. Andipatti, 3. Cumbum, 4. Idaiyakottai, 5. Kannivadi, 6. Keeranur, 7. Natham, 8. Nilakottai, 9. Pannaikadu, 10. Saptur, 11. Thevaram, 12. Thiruparankundram, 13. Vedasandur, 14. Batlagundu, 15. Sholavandan, 16. Gudalur.
Malabar	1. Kaliravu, 2. Tirurangadi.
Nellore	1. Darsi, 2. Duggarajapatnam, 3. Indukurpet, 4. Kaluvaya, 5. Kota, 6. Kovur, 7. Pamur, 8. Podalakur, 9. Rapur, 10. Sriharikota, 11. Sulurpet, 12. Vinjamur, 13. Podili.
Nilgiris	1. Ketti, 2. Kilkotagiri.
Ramnad	1. Dhanushkodi, 2. Elayirampannai, 3. Kamuthi, 4. Kanadukathan, 5. Kali arkovil, 6. Keelakarai, 7. Kularajakularaman, 8. Manamadura, 9. Mandapam, 10. Nattarasankottai, 11. Rajasingamangalam, 12. Singampunari, 13. Thiruvadanai, 14. Thiruppavanam, 15. Tondi, 16. Watrap, 17. Illayangudi, 18. Women and Children Dispensary, Illayangudi, 19. Poolankurichi, 20. Women and Children Dispensary, Poolankurichi.
Salem	1. Ethapur, 2. Mohanur, 3. Peddanaickenpalayam, 4. Thammampatti, 5. Uttangarai, 6. Velur.
Tanjore	1. Adirampatnam, 2. Ammapet, 3. Arantangi, 4. Avadayarkoil, 5. Ayyampet, 6. Enangudi, 7. Gandharvakottai, 8. Kivalur, 9. Kodavasal, 10. Koothanallur, 11. Kuttalam, 12. Mimmisal, 13. Muthupet, 14. Nachiarkoil, 15. Nidamangalam, 16. Orathanad, 17. Papanasam, 18. Peralam, 19. Perumpannaiyur, 20. Swamimalai, 21. Thirukkattupalli, 22. Tiruvadi, 23. Tiruvadamarudur, 24. Vaitheeswaramkoil, 25. Valangiman, 26. Vallam, 27. Vedaranyam, 28. Tiruppanandal.

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Name of the district.	Name of Local Fund Dispensaries without labour or emergency wards.
Tinnevelly ..	1. Alwartirunagiri, 2. Ettiapuram, 3. Eruwadi, 4. Kadayam, 5. Kadayanallur, 6. Kallakad, 7. Kayathar, 8. Kulasekarapatnam, 9. Melapalayam, 10. Ottapidaram, 11. Panagudi, 12. Sattankulam, 13. Sendamaram, 14. Shermadevi, 15. Sivagiri, 16. Tiruchendur, 17. Veerakeeralampudur, 18. Veeravanallur, 19. Vilathikulam, 20. Kayalpatnam. 21. Sivagiri.
Trichinopoly ..	1. Illupur, 2. Kattuputhur, 3. Krishnarayapuram, 4. Manapparai, 5. Pallapatti, 6. Thathiengarpet, 7. Turaiyur, 8. Sendurai, 9. Jayakondansholapuram.
Vizagapatam ..	1. Calingapatam, 2. Hiramandalam, 3. Itchapuram, 4. Kaviti, 5. Kotaurathla, 6. Kothavalasa, 7. Madugole, 8. Palasa, 9. Pasapatirega, 10. Santhakaviti, 11. Saravakota, 12. Subbavaram, 13. Baruva, 14. Munagapaka, 15. Nakkapalli.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, the 25th March 1948.

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

MR. SPEAKER:—" Before taking up questions to-day, I request the co-operation of the House in finishing the questions within one hour."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" That would imply that you will allow us a little more time, Sir."

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Scales of pay of Pandits and Munshis.

* 231-E *Q.*—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the scales of pay of Pandits and Munshis who do not possess a Degree qualification have been reduced as compared to the scales in vogue prior to the issue of G.O. No. 587, Finance, dated 4th August 1947;

(*b*) if the answer is in the affirmative, the manner and extent to which the reduction has been made; and the reasons therefor; and

(*c*) whether those who were in receipt of a salary higher than that allowed under G.O. No. 587, Finance, dated 4th August 1947, have been exempted from the operation of the new scales, and whether the emoluments they are now drawing are equivalent to what they were drawing before the aforesaid Government Order?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" For Pandits and Munshis in Government Colleges, who did not possess the prescribed qualification, a new scale of Rs. 100—5—140 was sanctioned in the original G.O. No. 78, Finance, dated 6th February 1947. The scale was subsequently reduced to Rs. 70—5—130 in G.O. No. 587, Finance, dated 4th August 1947, at the instance of the Director of Public Instruction. Certain representations were received from Pandits with large experience that they may be given, by virtue of their service, the advantage of previous grade. As a result of the representations, orders in G.O. No. 587, Finance, dated 4th August 1947, were modified admitting the higher scale of Rs. 100—5—140 as a special case to all unqualified Pandits in the Government Colleges who had put in a service of 20 years or more on 31st December 1946. No exemption of the type referred to in clause (*c*) was given."

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask, Sir, what is the position now? A notification in to-day's paper says that hese Pandits and Munshis are allowed the same scales of pay as re being given to teachers in other subjects?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I understand there is some confusion in the mind of the hon. Member with regard to Pandits and Munshis in colleges and schools. These orders, refer to colleges. In the case of schools, Pandits and Munshis who have no other qualifications, and who have put in 15 years' service, will be treated on a par with L.Ts. Others are given different grades according to their qualifications."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"With reference to clause (c), the answer is 'no.' May I know, Sir, whether it is not a hardship on those who are permanent incumbents to receive a lower pay than they have been receiving hitherto by reason of the revision of the scales of pay?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"That would not arise at all, because they always have the right of option."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Sir, there are permanent incumbents who have been enjoying a higher scale of pay than the one fixed by the Government Order that I have mentioned. May I know, Sir, whether it is not a hardship on such persons to come under a new scale of pay which is lower than what they were getting before?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"No case of hardship has been pointed out to the Government, Sir."

Sale price of Hindustan-10-h.p. cars.

*231-F *Q.*—SRI M. BAPINEEDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he is aware of the Hindustan 10-h.p. cars being sold by Messrs. Lakshmana Prasad & Sons, Madras, for Rs. 9,650 in January 1948 when similar cars of same horse-power were sold at between 7 and 8 thousands;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the same car is now being offered for Rs. 7,700; and if so, what is the reason for fixing the price of the car at Rs. 9,650 in January last; and

(*c*) whether the Government received any reports about the black-market business carried out by this company?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"(*a*) On a verification of the accounts of the company it is found that in January 1948, ten cars have been sold at a price of Rs. 9,350 each exclusive of tax and other incidental charges.

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"(*b*) From an advertisement in the *Madras Mail*, dated 17th March 1948, it is found that the company are now offering Hindustan-10 cars at Rs. 7,700 and Rs. 7,850 for fixed and sliding heads respectively. By a memorandum of the Government, dated 6th June 1947, the maximum retail price of the Hindustan-10 cars was notified as follows: Fixed Head: Rs. 8,195; Sliding Head: Rs. 8,345. In August 1947 the Provincial Motor Transport Controller submitted proposals to revise the maximum retail price of the new Hindustan-10 cars in supersession of the prices notified in the above memorandum. In connexion with this proposal information was called for from the Hindustan Motors, Limited, Calcutta, but they claimed to be outside the jurisdiction of the Madras Province and did not care to furnish the information wanted. Thereupon the Provincial Motor Transport Controller issued a special order under clause 8 of the Madras Civil Motor Cars Control Order, 1947, directing Messrs. Lakshmana Prasad & Sons, the local dealers to furnish the necessary particulars. Certain particulars were furnished accordingly but those were found to be incomplete and the matter is still under consideration. The last memorandum, dated 6th June 1947, still stands and the sale of the cars in January for Rs. 9,350 was in violation of the terms of the notification.

"(*c*) Representations were received from the company just a few days back and the Government are taking necessary action in the matter."

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"In view of the long answer read by the Hon. Minister, may I request, Sir, that the answer might be placed on the table of the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"When?"

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"In April or May 1948."

MR. SPEAKER:—"By that time the proceedings would have been printed and if the hon. Member wants he can put a fresh question on the matter afterwards."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"In view of the answer given by the Hon. Minister some time before about the very company that the Government were contemplating some action, may I know, Sir, whether any action was taken on the previous enquiry?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Action was taken, Sir. But the necessary materials were not available and so nothing drastic could be done."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask, Sir, what action the Government propose to take in view of the attitude taken up by this company, first of all in not furnishing the information called for and secondly in having sold the cars in violation of the order issued in 1947 at a much higher price than that mentioned in the Government Order?"

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THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I should like to make a small correction in the supplementary question put by the hon. Member, Sir. Non-compliance to the requisition was not made by this company but by the Calcutta firm. So far as this firm is concerned the further procedure will be known on the materials we shall be able to get. We shall have to issue a notice to the company as to why their licence should not be cancelled, etc. We shall have to consider their explanation and take necessary action."

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government purchased the Hindustan-10 cars for the use of the Ministers before they knew that they were being sold at a much higher price and that the firm were indulging in black-marketing or after?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"So far as I am aware, Sir, certain Hindustan-10 cars were purchased for the use of the Ministers, so far back as April or May 1946. I am not aware, Sir, whether subsequently any Hindustan-10 cars were purchased for the Ministers. Anyway, as I have said in answer to clause (*c*), it will be seen that this representation about black-marketing was received only a few days back, i.e., on 17th March 1948."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Government are aware that this company is one of Birla's concerns?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I have no information, Sir."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Provincial Government have got any powers to ask the companies to fix the rates for the cars?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Yes, Sir."

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"In view of the high price charged from certain purchasers, will the Government see that the difference is paid to these persons?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"That would be considered, Sir, when final action is taken by the Government."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that the prices are fixed after seeing the invoices? May I know, whether the Government have actually seen the invoices of the firms before the prices were fixed by them?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I take it, Sir, that when the original memorandum was issued the invoices so far received then have been scrutinized by the Government. Subsequently the Government called for the invoices from the Calcutta firm and they did not comply with the requisition. Therefore, we have called for particulars from their local dealers and action is being taken."

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MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that the Stude-Baker cars are sold by this firm, three or four thousand rupees above the ceiling price?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I am sorry, Sir, that these general allegations are made. When we go into any particular case nobody is willing to come forward. In fact, I had information from a very respectable person of the Province saying that a demand was made on him by this firm, namely, Rs. 19,000 for a Stude-Baker car, seven or eight thousand rupees over the notified price. I asked these people about this and they denied it. Then I wrote to the gentleman concerned asking him to put in writing. There is no reply."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask, Sir, what is the margin of profit allowed over the invoice price in respect of motor cars?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I should like to have notice, Sir."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"In view of the large disparity between the prices fixed for the same cars during short intervals, may I know on what basis the Price Controller fixes the prices? Is it on the basis of the invoices received or is it on the basis of the cost of manufacture of the car?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I am not fully cognisant of the details in the matter, Sir. I take it that so far as the memorandum of the 6th June 1947 is concerned, the prices were fixed on a scrutiny of the invoices concerned."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Are the Government aware that these companies, because they are connected with the Birlas, are going about saying that they are immune from law and they do not care for the Provincial Government's Order because the Central Government are in their pockets?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I may assure you, Sir, that nobody is immune from the legal actions of this Provincial Government however high they may be supposed to be connected whether with the Central Government or with some celestial Government. I may assure the hon. Member that action has already been taken by putting a C.I.D. to watch the company."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that no definite complaint was made, may I ask whether any complaint is necessary when price disparity is so very obvious from the prices at which cars are being sold to-day and the prices at which cars were being sold some two months back?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"My general answer was with reference to the previous position, Sir. So far as

the present position is concerned the actual difference in price was with regard to the cars that were sold in January 1948 and the price fixed in the memorandum. So far as this period is concerned no further proof is necessary. We have asked for some explanation from the company. So far as the previous period is concerned the representations received are only of a general character."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know how the Government regard this as black-marketing in view of the fact that it is the Government who have fixed the price at Rs. 9,000 and odd? At the worst it would only be a mistake in calculation on the basis of the invoices that were supplied to them at that time."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I am afraid the hon. Member is under a misapprehension. The prices fixed by the Government are Rs. 8,195 and Rs. 8,345 for fixed heads and sliding heads respectively. We find from the account books that the company have sold the cars in January 1948 at a price of Rs. 9,350 each."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister, Sir, whether in view of this, his declaration that he has already posted a C.I.D., would be useless and that the C.I.D. might be withdrawn?"

(No Answer.)

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"May I know what are the qualifications of the Price Controller? What is his competence to fix prices and what are his experiences with regard to motor car trade?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"His qualifications are his competence as a civil servant of the Madras Province, Sir."

Alleged raid on Devamada village, Kurnool district.

* 231-G *Q.*—SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the village of Devamada in Kurnool district was raided on March 15th night by Muslim goondas from Hyderabad Territory armed with guns and other weapons and dressed in uniform;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that on entering the village they opened fire, and then looted the house of one Narayana and carried off cash and valuables;

(*c*) what is the amount of property stolen;

(*d*) whether any police or other protection was provided for this border village to prevent such raids; and, if so, what is the nature of protection given, and if not, why not;

(*e*) whether the Government raised Home Guards in this as well as other border villages in the district; and, if not, why not;

(*f*) after the daylight border incident on February 6th in Kondaprakatur village in the same district, what are the steps the Government took to prevent border raids and ensure safety of life and property; and if no steps have been taken, why not; and

(*g*) whether the Government are aware that the people have lost confidence in their ability and earnestness to protect the people; and if so, what measures they have taken to restore confidence?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"(*a*) Yes, but there is no information that the raiders were in uniform.

"(*b*) Yes. The raiders fired some shots in the air to scare away the people of the village.

"(*c*) Clothes and cash to the value of Rs. 1,000 were stolen.

"(*d*) No. It is not feasible to arrange for forces to be present at every village on the border.

"(*e*) No. The Government are issuing orders forming the District Recruitment Committees and they will recruit the required number of Home Guards shortly.

"(*f*) The Government are taking adequate steps to ensure safety of life and property along the border, but it is not in the public interest to disclose these measures.

"(*g*) The Government have received no such information. On the other hand, everything possible is being done by them and the District Authorities to protect the people of the border areas from such raids."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that there is an Arms Factory in the Nizam's Dominions and that arms are being supplied to these goondas for their raids?" 11-15 a.m.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"As far as I know, Sir, the Government of India are in touch with this. The Hon. Prime Minister of the Union of India announced in the Dominion Legislature the other day that he has had such information and that he is having it properly investigated by the Agent-General. As far as the Provincial Government are concerned they are not in touch with this problem except what they get through the sources which they have. But this is a matter entirely for the Government of India, and I am sure from what the Hon. Prime Minister has said on the floor of the Dominion Legislature, everything will be done to see that no harm is done to the Union of India."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"Sir, sometime before there was a report that very soon there would be a meeting betwen the Premier of Hyderabad and our Premier—our Premier may remember this—so that they may discuss matters and see that suitable steps were taken to put an end once for all to these raids which were being made into the Indian Union."

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Well, Sir, there were proposals of that kind. But on looking into the conditions of Hyderabad and the fact that Government did not seem to exist in certain parts of the Nizam's territory, the Government of Madras decided that there was nothing useful to be done at such a meeting."

SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—"Sir, in view of the continuous attacks and looting on the border, will the Government consider the desirability of arming at least some of the persons in whom they have got confidence in order to protect the lives of the innocent people on the border who are completely unprotected to-day?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, we are in correspondence with the Government of India with regard to arms, and as it stands to-day, we have not even got arms which we want for our Special Police. That must be given the first priority, because the Police Force under the Government will be more valuable than arming people who may have got no practice in the use of fire-arms. When these demands are satisfied, the Government will consider the question of arming some people whom they think can be safely entrusted with arms."

SRI BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—"Are the Government aware, Sir, of the news published in the Press to-day that the Bombay Government intend conducting Flag Marches in the villages bordering the Nizam's Dominions so as to inspire confidence in the people, and, if so, whether this Government intend to do the same?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I will consider the suggestion of the hon. Member, because something like that will have to be done if these raids on the border continue to be as constant as they are to-day."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"In view of the alarming reports continuously received from these border areas and the frequency of questions raised on the floor of this Assembly, may I know, Sir, if the Government have thought of having a Government bureau of information so that correct information may be disseminated on this side of the border for our use?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I would like to put a counter-question to the hon. Member. How does he know what we are doing?"

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government will consider the desirability of training people in the border districts, within a distance of 5 or 10 miles, as is done in the Central Provinces, and give them arms and ammunition for their self-defence?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"This question has already been put by Sri Alluri Satyanarayana Raju."

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MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Sir. Instead of the Hon. Minister answering questions, can he put counter-questions to hon. Members, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is no question at all."

SRI N. VENKATTA SUBBAYYA:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that the Ittehad-ul-Muslimeens brought pressure on the Nizam's Government to issue a circular that so far as border incidents are concerned the Nizam's Government are giving a free hand to the raiders? Has the Hon. Minister seen that circular? If not, I can give a copy of it to him."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I shall be obliged to the hon. Member if he gives me that copy he refers to. As far as we know, the Ittehad-ul-Muslimeens seem to be out of hand. Whether it is under the instructions of the Nizam's Government, I am not able to say."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"In view of the frequent raids on the border of our Presidency, will the Government be forming the Home Guards immediately without delay?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It is not as easy as the hon. Gentleman thinks. As quickly and as speedily as possible, they are being formed."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—"In view of the admitted shortage of arms, may I know, Sir, whether it is beyond the ability of this Government to start an Arms factory of their own?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"These are all confidential matters on which I am not prepared to give any information."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"Sir, how long will it take to form the Home Guards?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I cannot say how long because I am not a Prophet."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"May I know from the Government whether they are aware that Nallagonda Communists are supplying arms to Kistna district Communists so that they may prepare the Kistna district also one day as a field for their operations?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The hon. Gentleman seems to know a little more than I do."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"May I know, Sir, if the Government propose to use 'Madras Information' for giving us correct news about the border incidents in future?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I will convey this valuable suggestion to my Hon. Colleague in charge of Information."

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[* 225 *Q.*—(Answered by the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi on 24th March 1948.)]

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government have chalked out any definite plan of action and uniform policy in expediting the water works and drainage schemes in the municipalities of this Province where such schemes do not exist at present?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"This matter was definitely raised when the Public Works Demand was discussed. The Hon. Minister for Public Works assured the House that the Committee's report was being considered."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"In view of the fact tha a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs was sanctioned under post-war reconstruction by the Central Government for the construction of the Muslim Women's College, now that the Government of Madras intend to abolish this college, I wish to know whether this Government have addressed the Central Government with reference to this matter and obtained their consent?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"As far as I am aware, Sir, we have not addressed the Government of India in the matter."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know, Sir, whether, before abolishing the college, the Government of Madras will obtain the permission of the Central Government in regard to this matter, because the amount was sanctioned by the Central Government?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The permission of the Government of India is not at all necessary, because it is on our suggestion they accept or they do not accept. We do not need their prior approval for cancelling an item."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I ask the Hon. Minister whether it was not a real agreement between the Government of India and the Madras Government that that amount should be spent for this college, and when one party (the Madras Government) wish to do something, is it not necessary for them to get the consent of the other party to the agreement (the Government of India)?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"There is no such agreement, Sir. The Government of India opposed the starting of a communal college like this. They even suggested tha the method of scholarships may be resorted to, and no communal colleges need be started. That was their suggestion. The provision was fairly ready when the Congress took up office, and the Congress carried on the negotia ions, and they started the college. There was no grant ear-marked for the purpose by the Government of India. We need not ask the Government of India either."

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Selection of I.N.A. men for superior posts in the Special Police Force.

* 232 *Q.*—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that no I.N.A. man has been selected to the superior posts of the Special Police Force?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Yes."

Statement issued by Periyar E. V. Ramaswami.

* 233 *Q.*—MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the statement issued by Periyar E. V. Ramaswami, President, Dravidian Federation, on March 4 on the banning of the Blackshirts Organization;

(*b*) whether the Government are aware that a Blackshirts Organization does not exist; and

(*c*) if the answer to (*b*) is in the affirmative, why the Government have not given reasons for the banning of the organization simultaneously with the order banning the same?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"(*a*) The Government have seen the statement.

"(*b*) Information received by Government show that Blackshirt organizations exist in certain districts.

"(*c*) Does not arise."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, what is exactly the meaning of this organization?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It is a volunteer corps like any other private volunteer corps."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, what, according to Government, is the purpose of this organization?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I would refer the hon. Member to the organization itself."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—"Sir, is it based on non-violent or violent activities?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I do not know whether they believe in non-violence."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTY:—"Are the Government aware of the fact that the Blackshirts organization is not a volunteer corps coming under the category of any private army? They have only chosen the black colour in order to show their depressed condition."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am prepared to take this information, Sir."

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Hydro-Electric Scheme of Duduma Waterfalls.

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

(*a*) what progress has been made in the direction of executing the Hydro-Electric Scheme of Duduma Waterfalls; and

(*b*) how much money the Government have already invested there and how much more has yet to be invested for materializing the scheme?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"(*a*) & (*b*) Attention is invited to the paper[a] placed on the table of the House."

Lambadis in the North Arcot district.

*235 *Q.*—SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN (on behalf of Sri N. Annamalai Pillai): Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Lambadis in North Arcot district;

(*b*) how many of them are educated;

(*c*) what facilities are given to them for their uplift;

(*d*) whether the Government have given them representation in local bodies; and

(*e*) if not, whether the Government propose to give such representation?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"(*a*) There are about 1,000 Lambadis in Chengam taluk of the North Arcot district.

"(*b*) The number of persons educated is almost negligible.

"(*c*) They are given the same facilities as are given to Harijans by the Labour Department.

"(*d*) No seats have been reserved for them in local bodies.

"(*e*) There is no such proposal at present under consideration."

11-30 a.m. SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"Will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to state what is the profession of these Lambadis and whether it is a fact that most of them are engaged in illicit manufacture of arrack? If it is so, may I know whether the Government have got any proposal to prevent this evil?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not know their exact profession. They are a nomadic race and if they are indulging in illicit manufacture of toddy and arrack, they will certainly be prevented from doing it."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I enquire whether there is any scheme before the Government to establish centres for these Lambadis so that they can be made good agricultural labourers?"

[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 854–855 infra.

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Some experiment has been carried on but it was found to be futile because, they cannot settle themselves in colonies."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Are the Government prepared to consider giving representation to this community?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"There are so many nomadic races and so, they cannot be given representation in local bodies."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—"Arising out of the answer of the Hon. the Minister that some experiments were tried, may I ask whether they were scientific or non-scientific?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"They were very scientific experiments."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"Is the Finance Minister aware that the hon. Member representing the Muslims of North Arcot takes a good deal of interest in these Lambadis, for their development and advancement?"

(No answer.)

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Are the Government aware that these Lambadis are good at dairy-farming and if so, will the Government organize them into co-operative societies to see that they run dairy farms, as they are very good at it?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Their general tendency is to refuse to come into an organization and therefore, it is difficult to form them into co-operative societies for dairy farming."

SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN:—"Do they come in the list of backward communities or in the list of scheduled classes?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"They come under backward communities."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"May I ask the Government whether they are aware that the Aboriginal Tribes Enquiry Committee of the Madras Government recommended the starting of cattle co-operative societies for these people because they have got a special aptitude for cattle-breeding?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The various proposals suggested by the Committee are under the consideration of the Government. We are trying to publish the report. As soon as it is published, the report will be considered."

SRI P. R. KANDASWAMI GOUNDER:—"In view of the fact that the Lambadis are more backward than any other depressed class people, may I know whether the Government will make special arrangements for their education?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We have provided a lakh of rupees for all the backward communities and we will see that these Lambadis also get their due share in this one lakh of rupees."

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SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—"As the Lambadis are wandering tribes, have the Government tried to collect them and settle them in selected places and see that they are compulsorily educated?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"No, Sir, to my knowledge."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"From the numerous questions put on these Lambadis, it is evident that hon. Members are ignorant of the origin and the native talents of these Lambadis. Therefore, will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to provide a little sum to undertake research about the origin and native talents of these Lambadis?" (Laughter.)

(No answer.)

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I ask the Government whether the report of the Aborginal Tribes Enquiry Committee will be placed on the table of the House?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We have asked the Superintendent, Government Press, to publish it, but he pleads inability to undertake the work just now and he wants some time till the end of May. As soon as the report is published, it will be supplied to those Members who want it."

Revenue from the Nilgiris district.

*236 *Q.*—SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI (on behalf of Sri K. Bokkai Gowder): Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the revenue raised in the Nilgiris district from 1940 to 1947 from all sources; and

(*b*) the expenditure incurred on the administration of the district and the amount spent on ameliorative measures during the period?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"(*a*) & (*b*) Separate figures of the revenue raised in the Nilgiris district and the expenditure incurred on the administration of the district and the amount spent on ameliorative measures from 1940 to 1947 are not available with the Government. The Accountant-General furnishes the accounts figures to the Government only by each head of account for all the districts together. The Accountant-General was specially asked to compile and furnish figures for the revenue and expenditure of the Province for the year 1945–46, allocated by districts in respect of items which could be so allocated. This was done by a special staff paid for by the Madras Government. According to the figures so compiled, the total revenue from the Nilgiris district in 1945–46 was Rs. 49·91 lakhs and the total expenditure in the district (including administrative expenditure and expenditure on ameliorative measures but

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excluding transactions under debt and remittance heads) was Rs. 34·61 lakhs. These figures do not give a correct idea of the actual revenue and expenditure pertaining to the district as a major portion of the revenue and expenditure of the Province is not susceptible of allocation by districts. The transactions of the Forest and the Public Works Departments, and the transactions carried out in the Presidency town and in the Reserve Bank cannot be so allocated. Moreover, some of the transactions recorded in the treasury accounts of a particular district may relate to other districts."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"May I know from the Hon. the Finance Minister whether the cess charged on tea is being included in the revenues?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I have no information. If a separate question is put, them, I shall call for the information."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not feasible from the point of view of administration that the revenue and expenditure of the Province should be calculated district-war?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is not at all possible."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—"In view of the fact that there is an additional revenue of Rs. 15 lakhs available from the Nilgiris district, will the Hon. the Finance Minister be pleased to make Nilgiris a Tourist Centre and make it available for foreign travellers who come here?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is not a fact that we are making an additional revenue of Rs. 15 lakhs from the Nilgiris district. However, every effort will be made to make Nilgiris a beautiful Tourist Centre."

Magnesite works near Salem town.

*237 *Q.*—SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the existence of magnesite works, familiarly known as chalk hills, near Salem town;

(*b*) whether the Government are aware that a foreign company is taking away all the mine wealth of that place; and, if so, whether the Government will care to make an enquiry, for what purposes the manganese powder produced there will be useful and place their report on the table of the House;

(*c*) whether in view of the huge sum going out of our country as profit for a foreign company the Government will take up the management of the Magnesite Syndicate, to make it beneficial for this country; and

(*d*) whether the Government have any proposal to institute an enquiry about the condition of the labourers who are employed by the above Syndicate, and to take necessary steps to ameliorate the condition of the labourers?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"(*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) The Magnesite Syndicate, Ltd., is working the mines in Nallamuppampatti and Jagir Ammapalayam in Salem taluk. Magnesite ore extracted from the mines is exported to the United Kingdom, U.S.A. and Europe. Magnesite is used in the manufacture of epsom salt and other magnesium salts. It is also a source of magnesium and has several industrial applications, as in ceramic insulators, insulators for radio valves, filler in paper making, as a source of carbon dioxide, as a fertilizer in sugar refining, as a polishing medium, etc.

" (*c*) At present there are no facilities in this Province for utilising magnesite and hence it is exported. The Government have a proposal under consideration for putting up a pilot plant for extracting magnesium in Salem district in collaboration with the Government of India. When that proposal materialises, the possibility of starting other industries based on magnesium ore will be considered.

" (*d*) The Government have no reason to believe that the condition of the workers is unsatisfactory."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—" In view of the answer given by the Hon. the Minister, may I know whether the labourers who are working in the Magnesite works are getting proper treatment? In view of the fact that they are getting a treatment just like animals, will the Government make an enquiry regarding their conditions of labour? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" No complaint has so far been received till now regarding their conditions of labour. The Collector's letter also states that no complaints have been received. But, if the hon. Member writes to me about their difficulties, I shall make an enquiry in the matter."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—" May I know whether there is a lease given to the Magnesite Syndicate by the Government of Madras for prospecting magnesite under the control of the Government of Madras? "

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

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" Will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to state whether the Government have entered into some agreement with the Magnesite Syndicate and if so, whether the Government can terminate the contract if they desire to do so? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Sir, the existing lease was sanctioned in P.P.M. No. 1579, dated 30th May 1930. The lease in Government areas expires on 9th January 1959 and the lease in non-Government areas on 31st August 1971. There is no clause in the question regarding termination of the lease. If the hon. Member puts a specific question about the provision to terminate the lease, I shall have the matter examined."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know, Sir, whether any subsidy is given to the Magnesite Syndicate by this Government? "

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

Distribution of mill cloth.

* 238 *Q.*—SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Textile department directed in the course of the decontrol that wholesale dealers should deliver cloth to such retail dealers as have remitted the money for the goods;

(*b*) if so, the date fixed by the Government beyond which such payments need not be expected and goods need not be delivered by the wholesalers;

(*c*) whether the Government made any provision for the release of stocks from wholesalers to retailers, allotted prior to the decontrol order, but not paid for by the retailers, owing to their not having received the allotment order in time;

(*d*) whether the Government expressed a hope that the wholesalers would in the first instance offer to sell their goods to the picked retailers and would carry out the instructions of the Textile department prior to decontrol;

(*e*) whether this hope materialized at all;

(*f*) whether it was a fact that in Nellore nearly 8 lakhs of rupees worth of cloth was with the wholesalers on the date of decontrol;

(*g*) whether the wholesalers refused to deliver stocks allotted to retailers prior to the decontrol order but actually not paid for owing to delay in transmission of allotment orders;

(*h*) whether it is a fact that Nellore wholesale merchants sold away the cloth at 50 per cent more than the retail prices to whomsoever they liked;

(*i*) whether the attention of the Government was drawn to the above facts on 26th of this month; and

(*j*) what steps the Government have taken to rectify the above defects and prevent undue and exorbitant rise in prices?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" The answer [a] is placed on the table of the House."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" Is it true, Sir, that on account of the failure of the Government to take precautionary steps, several wholesalers refuse to deliver the allotted quotas to the retailers with the result that cloth is being sold at abnormal prices in the market? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I would suggest to the hon. Member to go through the answer carefully. In

[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 102 infra.

case there is a quota, the party cannot refuse to deliver the quota and in case there is no quota the wholesalers must as far as possible give the retailers who are accustomed to get the cloth from them. This is the procedure indicated in the Press Communiqué."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Sir, the Hon. Minister can give any oral answer to the question and at the same time place it on the table of the House instead of simply saying that the answer is laid on the table of the House. He must understand that the answers required are oral answers."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If the Hon. Minister should read a long answer, it will take time and therefore, he said that it was placed on the table of the House."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My submission is that the Minister may give the oral answer and at the same time place it on the table of the House because it will be convenient for the Members to raise further questions on the answer which is read, instead of simply saying that the answer is placed on the table of the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Minister can say that and there is no harm in it."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Then, can it be called strictly an oral answer?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"These answers are called oral answers even though they are placed on the table of the House."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Should they not be really oral?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Literally, they are not oral."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"But, really they are not oral and in practice also, they are not oral."

MR. SPEAKER:—"This is also the practice in other Legislatures."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I do not know whether it is right to call it an oral answer."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is it the Hon. Leader of the Opposition's contention that the answer should be read also? I think it is only a waste of time."

Unauthorized harvest of fields in Poovanur village, Tanjore district.

* 239 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether agricultural labourers have harvested the fields in the Poovanur village, Tanjore district, without the consent and knowledge of landowners; and

(*b*) the steps taken by the Government to ensure safe harvesting of the latest samba produce in the present food crisis?

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

"(*b*) An order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, was promulgated and a party of reserve police stationed to ensure safe harvesting."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"Will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to state whether in an adjacent village near Poovanoor in the Rayavaram hamlet, the agricultural labourers harvested the fields without the consent of the land-owners?"

THE HON. SRI. H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"In the adjacent village called Rayavaram, on 13th February 1948, 21 Harijan labourers interfered with the harvest. The local officials drove away the hired labourers and subsequently there has been no trouble. There has been peace after adequate steps were taken by the local officials."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"May I know whether the Government have got any proposal to take any action against those who are misguiding the poor kisans and exploiting them by giving them false hopes?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"If people are going to be misguided, we cannot help, Sir. We can only advise them not to be misled."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I ask, Sir, why these Harijan labourers were forced to interfere with the harvest? Was any justice done to them, Sir?"

THE HON SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"As I have already stated, the local officers intervened in the matter and it was amicably settled. But there has been trouble later on in that area."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Sir, in answer to clause (*a*) of the question the Government have replied that nothing happened; if so, why did the Government provide reserve police help?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"This clause (*a*) of the question referred to a particular village and the answer was given. But trouble occurred in the neighbouring village and the question was raised about the neighbouring village. The second question was about the general precautions taken and a general answer was given."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"May I know whether it is a fact that on account of the inducement given by the leaders, the kisans resorted to violence and a number of riotings took place in Tanjore district? If it is a fact, may I know what the Government propose to do to put an end to such actions, Sir?"

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THE HON. SRI. H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I have already stated, Sir, that in some places orders under section 144 have been promulgated and steps have been taken to see that such things do not happen. In those areas there is now peace. "

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Are the Government aware, Sir, that these labourers who have been working in the fields were not paid for over a month by the mirasdars? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I have no information with me. I take the information from the hon. Member. "

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—" Sir, will the Government be pleased to clarify the situation? Are they really agricultural labourers who harvested the land, or are they the tenants who were on those lands? I want to know, Sir, whether they were labourers who had no right over the land. "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I would suggest to the hon. Member to put a specific and separate question. The information that has been given is with regard to the question that has been specifically asked about agricultural labourers harvesting fields in a particular village. "

SRI. S. NAGAPPA:—" Sir, as the agrarian trouble is going from bad to worse day by day, what steps have been taken by the Government to apply the Minimum Wages Act to this Province? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I do not concede the premises of my hon. Friend."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—" Sir, the incident which was referred to by the Hon. Minister occurred near the village of Poovanoor. May I know whether those who harvested the produce were agricultural labourers or tenants on the land? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" My information is, Sir, that they were Harijan labourers. "

Reform of Tamil script.

* 240 *Q.*—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation about the reform of the Tamil script;

(*b*) if so, whether they are considering the matter; and

(*c*) if so, what their conclusion is?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" (*a*) *to* (*c*) Certain representations were received that the Tamil script may be reformed so that Lino printing may be introduced for Tamil printing. To consider this matter, Government appointed a Committee consisting of (1) Sri T. S. Chockalingam, Editor, 'Dhinasari' (Convenor), (2) Sri R. P. Sethu Pillai, Head of the Tamil Department, University of Madras, (3) Sri S. Gopalan, All-India Radio, and (4) Sri T. N. Subramaniam. The Committee have submitted their report. That report is under consideration."

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SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" Will the Government be pleased to place the report of the Committee on the table of the House? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" No Sir, not just now. It is just now under consideration. The Government have not decided what to do with it."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, will the Government include one or two Members of this House in the Committee? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" The report has already been submitted, Sir."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, may I know whether the Government is convinced that a reform is necessary so far as the Tamil script is concerned? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" The matter is under consideration."

Retirement of certain teachers in the Madura district.

* 241 *Q.*—SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that thirty-four teachers in Madura district were superannuated before the period of their retirement; and

(*b*) if so, what the reason was?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" (*a*) & (*b*) No; but it is reported that 34 unqualified and superannuated teachers were employed for want of trained teachers and that they were discharged from service as trained hands became available subsequently."

SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN:—" Sir, is it a fact that one was discharged before his retiring age even though he was a trained teacher? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" It is an individual case, Sir. The hon. Member may put a separate question. I will look into the matter."

Slaughter houses in the Province.

* 242 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of slaughter houses in this Province;

(*b*) the number of slaughter houses wherein cows and she-buffaloes and their calves are slaughtered for human consumption; and

(*c*) whether there is any proposal by the Government to ban the slaughter of cows and she-buffaloes and their calves?

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" (*a*) The total number of slaughter houses in this Province is 467.

" (*b*) The number is 67.

" (*c*) The question of prohibiting slaughter of cows by enacting legislation is under consideration."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" When is it proposed to bring forward legislation, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" We have not yet come to a decision in the matter. The question is under consideration."

Representations from Modukuru village, Guntur district.

* 243 *Q.*—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation from the Harijans and agricultural labourers who cultivated 40 acres of porambokes land on the banks of the Tungabhadra river, Modukuru village, Bapatla taluk, Guntur district;

(*b*) if so, what is the representation;

(*c*) whether the Government have taken any action on the representation; and

(*d*) if not, why not?

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" (*a*) Presumably the hon. Member refers to Modukuru village in Tenali taluk. No such representation has been received during the last six months.

" (*b*) *to* (*d*) Do not arise."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Sir, if any specific cases are brought to the notice of the Government, may I know whether they will consider the desirability of taking proper action against those who harass the poor Harijans? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" Certainly, Sir."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—" Is there any Tungabhadra river in Guntur district? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" The hon. Member who put the question has committed two mistakes, one in calling a drain a river and another in locating the Modukur village in Bapatla taluk instead of in Tenali taluk."

Complaints from Mr. Ebenezer against the Municipal Health Officer, Tiruppur.

* 244 *Q.*—SRI R. KUPPUSWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any complaints from Mr. Ebenezer have been received stating that the Police did not take any action on his complaint that his wife Dr. (Mrs.) Ebenezer was molested, and himself beaten by the Municipal Health Officer, Tiruppur; and

(*b*) what action has been taken on the same?

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" (*a*) No.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

Cholera in Tenkasi taluk.

* 245 *Q.*—SRI D. DORAIRAJA PANDIAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state the total number of cholera attacks in Tenkasi taluk during the last four months and the number of deaths due to cholera during the same period in the taluk?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" 666 attacks and 420 deaths."

SRI D. DORAIRAJA PANDIAN:—" Sir, are the Government aware that cholera subsided immediately when the people were prohibited from taking water from the local river? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" It may be, Sir."

SRI D. DORAIRAJA PANDIAN:—" Does it not arise from the answer of the Hon. Minister that the attack of cholera in Tenkasi was due to the people drinking the water of the local river? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" In most places, cholera is due to contaminated water-supply."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" Sir, arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister that there were 420 deaths in four months or 105 deaths each month, may I know from the Hon. Minister what preventive measures have been taken by the Government to save people from the cholera epidemic? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Cholera is subsiding there, Sir. From the beginning of February to March 20th, the total number of attacks and deaths were 44 and 30 respectively. Last week there were no deaths."

SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—" Sir, what is the percentage of people who have taken inoculation? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" More than 80,000 people have been inoculated, Sir."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, since it is admitted that cholera outbreak was due to the people taking the water from the river, what steps are the Government taking to purify the water of the river or prevent the people from taking that water in future? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Chlorination of the water-supply is done, Sir."

Development Firka of Gara.

* 246 *Q.*—SRI G. KUMARASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the Development Firka of Gara was started;

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(*b*) what the proposals of the Collector are towards the development;

(*c*) what new schemes there are for transport facilities;

(*d*) whether any industries were started; and, if so, what they are;

(*e*) the progress made so far in these industries;

(*f*) what facilities are proposed to be given in the matter of drinking water-supply;

(*g*) whether there are any proposals for the improvement of irrigation facilities; and

(*h*) what steps the Government have taken to see that more medical aid is given to the people?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—" (*a*) 27th September 1946.

" (*b*) The Collector of Vizagapatam has submitted a co-ordinated plan for the improvement of the firka. The plan deals with improvements under Water-Supply, Irrigation, Communications, Agricultural improvements, Timber and Fuel Supply, Sanitation, Medical Aid, Veterinary Aid, Education, Electricity, Village Industries, and other general improvements.

" (*c*) There are no schemes for regular transport facilities as such. However the question of repairs to certain existing roads and laying out of some or all of 18 new roads are being considered. The Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 50,000 for expenditure in this connexion with instructions to expedite the works.

" (*d*) Yes. As part of the Firka Development Scheme, three demonstration and training units have been started in this firka. The Cottage Industries taught are (1) Blacksmithy, (2) Woodwork and (3) Boat-building.

" (*e*) The period of the courses are 10 months each in blacksmithy and Woodwork and 6 months in Boat-building. Two batches of 20 trainees each have completed the prescribed course in the Boat-building unit. They have built and launched about 13 boats. Articles of utility have been manufactured in the other 2 units. Assistance in starting workshops of their own on the completion of the prescribed course will be afforded to the trainees, if necessary.

" (*f*) The proposals are to repair seven drinking water tanks and wells and to sink 29 new wells. The Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 50,000 and have directed the authorities concerned to do as much as can be done in the matter within the allotment.

" (*g*) Yes.

" (*h*) The matter is under the consideration of the Government."

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SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—" Sir, may I know whether the Government have already appointed any supervisors and overseers to assist the Firka Development Officer in laying out new roads? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Yes, Sir, the Public Works Department has been asked to select a suitable officer for it."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that recently the Director of Industries has sent up a proposal to Government to abandon all cottage industries schemes in the Firka Development areas and has also suspended the introduction of new schemes pending disposal of this proposal? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The matter is under consideration to make it more effective so that this firka development can go on in a better way than it has been going on till now."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know, Sir, why tanning has not been introduced as a cottage industry in this firka? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Sir, industries suitable to the locality have been introduced. Tanning might not be suitable for this particular firka."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, whether Mr. V. R. Chitra was in charge of this firka development and cottage industries and whether a notice has been served on him terminating his services? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The hon. Gentleman is right in his presumption."

MR. SPEAKER:—"* 247 Q. The hon. Member (Mr. Nagappa) is not in his place. The answer will be printed in the proceedings."

(Mr. Nagappa who was occupying a seat in some other bench rose up to put the question.)

MR. SPEAKER:—" I have already told the House that hon. Members should be in their places when they put their questions. This being the first time, I will allow the Hon. Minister to answer the question."

Representations from Process-servers' Organizations.

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

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representations from Process-servers' Organization during the last one year;

(*b*) if so, what the representations are;

(*c*) what action the Government have taken so far in the matter;

(*d*) if not, why not; and

(*e*) if so, when?

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) Their requests are—

(1) that the pay of the process-servers may be revised and fixed in the scale of Rs. 40—2/2—50;

(2) that they may be granted house rent allowance or rent free quarters;

(3) that they may be supplied with service uniforms or granted an allowance in lieu thereof;

(4) that they may be allowed travelling allowance under the Madras Travelling Allowance rules or granted a fixed travelling allowance of Rs. 15 per mensem;

(5) that facilities may be given for free education up to S.S.L.C. to the children of the members of the Presidency Civil Courts Process Servers' Union;

(6) that they may be treated as belonging to the superior service for all purposes and that those entertained subsequent to 1st September 1933 may be granted the same terms as those entertained prior to that date;

(7) that in the matter of appointment and discharge, preference may be given to approved probationers over new candidates with war service; and

(8) that they may be designated as bailiffs.

" (*c*) *to* (*e*)—*Request* (1)—The revised scale of pay of peons, namely, Rs. 16—25 was applied to the process-servers of the judicial department with effect from 1st January 1947.

Request (2)—Process-servers living in the areas specified in the Appendix[a] to G.O. No. 78, Finance, dated 6th February 1947, were declared eligible for the house rent allowance sanctioned in that Government Order.

Requests (3) *and* (7)—The Government declined to grant the requests.

Requests (4), (5) *and* (8)—These are under the consideration of the Government.

Request (6)—Orders have issued granting to permanent Government servants in inferior service, during periods of leave on average pay or earned leave, leave salary as is admissible to Government servants in superior service. The Government declined to grant any special concession to the process-servers in the matter of privileges under the old leave rules. The request for treating them as belonging to the superior service for other purposes is under consideration."

[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 858 *infra*.

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B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I request you, Mr. Speaker, to ask the Government to have the answers circulated to hon. Members and permit us to put supplementary questions? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" We are likely to adjourn to-day. Before we meet next the proceedings will be printed and copies will be distributed to hon. Members. They can give notice of fresh questions if necessary."

Arrest of Sri R. Sreenivasa Ayyar, Advocate, Trichinopoly.

* 248 *Q.*—SRI M. A. EASWARAN: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state whether one Sri R. Sreenivasa Ayyar, Advocate, Trichinopoly, was arrested because of his connexions with Rashtriya Sevak Sangam?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Yes. He has since been released after his giving an undertaking to sever his connexion with the Rashtriya Sevak Sangam."

Repairs to Shenbagavalli Dam.

* 249 *Q.*—SRI S. K. PALIYA KUDUMBAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state what action and steps have so far been taken by the Government in respect of the repeated representation made to the Government that the water in the Shenbagavalli Dam known as the ' Kanniyamadahu ' is going to waste beyond the Travancore border because the dam and canals are not repaired properly at present?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The Government have asked the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) to look into the matter and submit a detailed report to Government through the Board of Revenue. Necessary action will be taken on receipt of the Chief Engineer's report."

Retrenchment and Re-organization Committee.

* 250 *Q.*—M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) from what period the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee has been working;

(*b*) what is the work turned out by the Committee; and

(*c*) how far the Government have implemented their decisions in the matter of retrenchment and reorganization?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (*a*) The Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee was first constituted in G.O. No. 789, Finance, dated 28th October 1946, with five Hon. Ministers as Members. This Committee worked from 28th October 1946 till the resignation of the late Ministry in March 1947. The Committee was re-constituted in G.O.

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No. 794, Finance, dated 11th October 1947, with seven non-official members with Sri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar, M.C.A. as Chairman. The reconstituted committee has been working from 11th October 1947.

"(*b*) The Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee has so far examined the general working of the Civil Supplies, Education, Public Health, Medical, Agriculture, Police and Forest Departments and have made certain recommendations for retrenchment and reorganization of these Departments for the consideration of the Government. In addition to the above, the Committee has also dealt with and made recommendations in respect of several subjects, the most important of which are—

(1) Reduction in the number of Government holidays.

(2) Special pays.

(3) Conveyance allowances.

(4) Expenditure on development activities.

(5) Budget—Preparation for each district.

(6) Replacement of land revenue by Sales Tax on agricultural produce.

(7) Amalgamation of the Civil Supplies and Food Departments.

(8) Reorganization of the present system of Village Administration.

(9) Simplification of rules regulating the procedure in disciplinary action cases.

(10) Permanent retention of temporary posts after a prescribed period.

(11) Age of compulsory retirement of Government servants.

(12) Conditions of service of Local Board servants.

(13) Water Supply Schemes—Rural and urban.

(14) War time departments such as Directors of Resettlement and Employment, Motor Spirit Rationing and Motor Transport, Special Officer for training clerks and Women Welfare Department.

(15) Reduction in the number of menial establishments.

(16) Reorganization of the Madras Fire Services Department.

(17) Abolition of Regional Officers (i.e., intermediate officers between the Head of the Department and District Officer) in Excise, Commercial Taxes, Education, Public Health, Forest, Agriculture and Police Departments.

The Committee has also constituted among its members, sub-committees to examine the organization and detailed working of the Departments of Industries, Public Works, Agriculture, Forest, Veterinary and Labour and the necessity for the continuance of the several posts created in these departments after 1939-40. The report of the Sub-Committees when received will be considered by the full committee and recommendations made to Government.

"(*c*) The recommendations of the committee made so far have been remitted to the Departments of Secretariat for necessary action. They are now under the consideration of the Government and final orders have not yet been passed."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin wanted to put a supplementary question. If I allow the hon. Lady Member to put a supplementary question, I will have to allow other hon. Members also to do so. Although the question hour is over, I am allowing hon. Members to put their questions and to hear answers. Otherwise the answers will be printed along with the proceedings. In any case hon. Members can give notice of fresh questions."

Hill tribes in Javadi Hills in North Arcot district.

*251 *Q.*—SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN (on behalf of Sri N. Annamalai Pillai): Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the population of the hill tribes in Javadi Hills in North Arcot district;

(*b*) whether there are schools for their education; and

(*c*) if so, how many of the boys of these tribes are reading in schools and whether the Government have taken any steps to open schools for them?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"(*a*) The population of the hill tribes in Javadi Hills is about 23,000.

"(*b*) Yes.

"(*c*) Six schools were opened by the Government. A statement[a] showing the numbers of children attending these schools is placed on the table of the House."

Wells for cultivation purposes.

*252 *Q.*—SRI N. GOVINDASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether there are proposals under the consideration of the Government to dig wells where there are spring water supply for cultivation purposes on co-operative basis, and if so, what they are?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government."

The draft constitution of the Indian Union.

*253 *Q.*—MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether an opportunity will be given to both the Houses (Legislative Assembly and Council) to discuss the draft constitution of the Indian Union which is just now published; and

(*b*) if so, when, and if not, why not?

[a] Printed as Appendix IV on page 859 infra.

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THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMY REDDIYAR :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) Some time in April 1948."

State Bus Services.

* 254 *Q.*—SRI P. R. KANDASWAMI GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(*a*) the average gross earning per day per bus controlled by the Government;

(*b*) the average number of miles run per day per bus;

(*c*) the average number of hours per day per bus;

(*d*) the average expenses per bus per day including depreciation; and

(*e*) what arrangements are made by the Government to see that the bus service is not interrupted for want of spare parts, etc.?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" (*a*) *to* (*d*) The Government do not consider it desirable in the public interest to give financial figures for broken periods with reference to the Government Transport Department. They are, however, prepared to place on the table of the House in due course a balance-sheet of the Government Bus Service in the financial year based on preliminary accounts up to the end of March 1948.

With reference to the general position, I gave certain summarized figures in connexion with the discussion on the Motor Vehicles Bill on the floor of the Assembly. Those figures are as follows:—

	RS.
Total investment from March 1947 to the end of January 1948 for 158 buses	23,70,000
Total revenue from March to January end ...	14,02,772
Total expenditure for the same period	8,94,678

" (*e*) The Government have empowered officers of the Transport Department to purchase and stock spare parts, etc., required for the Government Bus Service as and when they are available in the market up to certain monetary limits. '

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

The salient features of the Tungabhadra and other projects.

12 *Q.*—SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to place on the table of the House a statement containing the salient features of (1) the Tungabhadra project as being executed, (2) the Gandikota project (in Cuddapah) which is being proposed, (3) the Pennar-Kumudavathi project, (4) the Mid-Pennar project, (5) the Upper Pennar project, (6) the Lower Pennar project, (7) the Gazudladinne project (Kurnool district), (8) Papaghni project, (9) Bhairavani Thippa project, (10) Lower Sagileru project, (11) Pullampet project, (12) West Canal project (Bellary district) and (13) the High Level channel under the Tungabhadra project?

A.—The papers setting out the salient features of the Tungabhadra project, the Pennar-Kumudavathi, the Upper Pennar and West Canal projects are placed on the table of the House.* There is no such scheme as Lower Pennar under consideration. The remaining schemes are at various stages of investigation and it is not possible to give their salient features at this stage.

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Information about the N.G.O.'s strike.

13 *Q.*—SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many N.G.Os. (i) participated in the recent strike and (ii) how many stuck to their post—districtwar;

(*b*) of the two categories—strikers and non-strikers—how many are—

(1) clerks, (2) Deputy Tahsildars, (3) Sub-Magistrates and (4) Tahsildars or of equal grade—districtwar;

(*c*) of those who struck work, how many—

(1) joined within 3 (three) days;

(2) how many thereafter; and

(3) how many did not rejoin at all under the categories of (i) clerks, (ii) Deputy Tahsildars, (iii) Sub-Magistrates and (iv) Tahsildars—districtwar;

(*d*) whether a list of the names of striking—

(1) Deputy Tahsildars, (2) Sub-Magistrates and (3) Tahsildars—districtwar—would be placed on the table of the House;

(*e*) as regards (1) Deputy Tahsildars, (2) Tahsildars and (3) Sub-Magistrates—for how many were (i) increments stopped, (ii) Magisterial powers taken away; and (iii) transfers made from out of their districts, together with their names—*districtwar*;

(*f*) during the period of strike, how many (1) clerks, (2) Deputy Tahsildars, (3) Sub-Magistrates and (4) Tahsildars—were suspended; and (ii) arrested and detained—*districtwar* together with their names *districtwar*;

(*g*) of those in each category under (*f*), (i) how many have since been dismissed or removed together with their names districtwar;

(*h*) of those who struck work, how many, (1) clerks and (2) higher officers, have been suspended or found guilty of intimidation, together with their names districtwar and how they have been dealt with; and

* Printed as Appendix V on pages 859-862 infra.

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(i) how many striking N.G.Os. defied and incited defiance of orders issued under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, together with their names—districtwar—and what action has been taken against them?

A.—Necessary information for answering the question is being collected. As the time and labour involved in collecting the information is considreable it is unlikely that complete information will be available before the end of the present session of the Legislature. As soon as complete information is collected, a statement will be placed on the table of the House.

Hospitals in Ernad and Walluvanad taluks.

14 *Q.*—K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many hospitals and dispensaries there are for the two taluks of Ernad and Walluvanad;

(*b*) where they are situated;

(*c*) whether representations have been received from the public for more hospitals and the improvement of the existing ones; and

(*d*) in what all hospitals maternity wards exist?

A.—(*a*) There are two hospitals and eight dispensaries inclusive of rural dispensaries in the Ernad taluk and one hospital and eight dispensaries inclusive of rural dispensaries in the Walluvanad taluk.

(*b*) They are situated at the following places:—

Ernad taluk:—Manjeri, Nilambur, Tirurangadi, Areacode, Kalikavu, Chaliaprom, Kondotti, Parappanangadi, Kottapadi and Nediyirup.

Walluvanad taluk:—Perintalmanna, Mannarghat, Cherpulcherry, Ottapalam, Mankata, Pattambi, Shoranur, Alanellur and Kolathur.

The rural dispensary at Alanellur is temporarily closed for want of a medical practitioner.

(*c*) Representations have not been received for more hospitals but representations have been received for more rural dispensaries, and for the improvement of the Local Fund Hospital, Perintalmanna.

(*d*) No separate maternity ward exists in the Local Fund Hospitals in Ernad and Walluvanad taluks.

Number of taxis in the Province.

15 *Q.*—SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of taxis for public hire permitted in the Province districtwar; and

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(*b*) whether the Government or the District Road Traffic Board have received any applications for taxi permits to ply them for public hire with Nandyal as headquarters and if so, how many have been given permits or what action has been taken thereon?

A.—(*a*) Please see the statement appended.[a]

(*b*) The Government have not received any such applications. But it is reported that in response to a notification of the Regional Transport Officer, Cuddapah, calling for applications to fill up one vacancy in the total sanctioned strength of taxis in the Kurnool district, 17 applications were received from various persons in the district, out of which six were from natives of Nandyal. One of the applicants from Nandyal wanted to run the taxi for hire, with Nandyal as headquarters. The Regional Transport Authority, Kurnool, did not grant the taxi permit to any of the applicants from Nandyal but confirmed the grant of a temporary permit to one B. Chinnoji Rao of Nandikotkur who had a car of the latest model.

Permits for iron.

16 *Q.*—SRI K. LINGARAJU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) the names of the persons and institutions to whom iron permits were granted since 1st March 1947; and

(*b*) the procedure and principles adopted in granting these permits?

A.—(*a*) About 37,178 persons and institutions were granted permits for steel up to 31st January 1948 by the Director of Industries and Commerce alone. It is not possible to furnish a list.

(*b*) The Government have ordered that out of the supplies of steel to this Province for every quarter, 50 per cent should be set apart for agricultural purposes and the other 50 per cent for non-agricultural purposes, such as, normal maintenance requirements of buildings and roads of the Public Works Department of the Government, Local Boards and Municipalities, for repairs to dust-bins, etc., and for the general public including small-scale manufacturers of consumer goods. Steel for agricultural purposes is distributed through the Agricultural Depots and that for non-agricultural purposes is issued on the recommendations of the Tahsildars or local officers of the Industries Department. The Government have directed that allotments for non-agricultural purposes should be restricted in a

[a] Printed as Appendix VI on page 863 infra.

quarter to 1 ton in the case of small fabricators of consumer goods, 2 tons in the case of private buildings and 5 tons in the case of public utility buildings and small-scale industrial establishments with preference to maintenance requirements over new constructions in the following order:—

(*a*) Public utility buildings,

(*b*) Small-scale industrial establishments,

(*c*) Private buildings.

The Director of Industries and Commerce has issued a press note in the matter for the guidance of the public.

The number of attacks and deaths by plague.

17 *Q.*—SRI P. R. KANDASWAMI GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of attacks and deaths by plague in this Province, districtwar, during the last five years;

(*b*) what steps are taken to eradicate the disease from this Province; and

(*c*) the number of attacks and deaths from cholera, districtwar, in the Province from January 1947?

A.—(*a*) The number of attacks and deaths for the five years from 1943 are as follows:—

	District.	1943.		1944.		1945.		1946.		1947.	
		Attacks.	Deaths.	Attacks.	Deaths.	Attacks.	Deaths.	Attacks.	Deaths.	Attacks.	Deaths.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
1	Kistna ..	..	..	..	..	12	4	..	..	..	..
2	Chingleput ..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	1	1
3	South Arcot ..	..	..	..	..	54	36	..	..	161	58
4	Trichinopoly ..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	16	9
5	Madura ..	15	14	20	18	8	3	14	6	574	272
6	Ramnad ..	6	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
7	Kurnool ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
8	Bellary ..	108	67	..	..	6	4	165	80	173	87
9	Anantapur ..	39	23	286	185	164	104	183	111	482	233
10	North Arcot ..	8	6	32	22	40	35	65	35	605	414
11	Chittoor ..	38	23	76	37	296	146	331	155	502	139
12	Salem ..	440	226	321	160	545	281	381	170	439	195
13	Coimbatore ..	8,084	4,905	1,973	1,351	1,885	1,030	3,714	2,006	2,680	1,441
14	Nilgiris ..	96	45	72	38	416	167	146	66	101	27
15	South Kanara.	1	1	45	31	14	10	5	4	2	2
16	Malabar ..	95	68	199	94	73	35	41	25	95	37

(*b*) Additional staff was appointed wherever necessary. Cyanogas fumigation of houses, godowns and other places which are likely to harbour rats and rat-fleas, disinfection of infected houses, cyanogas fumigation of all commodities that are likely to convey rat fleas to other places, anti-plague inoculation, evacuation of infected houses, etc., are the preventive measures adopted to control an outbreak of plague. 7·28 lakhs of persons were inoculated in 1946 and 9·66 lakhs in 1947.

The permanent measure against plague is the construction of rat-proof godowns and rat-free houses in places where the disease occurs year after year. The latter is intimately connected with housing schemes.

(*c*) The number of attacks and deaths from cholera from January to December 1947 is furnished below :—

District.	Attacks.	Deaths.
Vizagapatam	1,082	643
East Godavari	785	460
West Godavari	627	328
Kistna	345	203
Guntur	22	11
Nellore	137	72
Chingleput	46	19
South Arcot	1,539	942
Trichinopoly	3,528	1,897
Tanjore	3,614	2,113
Madura	4,877	2,239
Ramnad	3,151	1,499
Tinnevelly	3,398	2,141
Kurnool	268	103
Cuddapah	198	94
Bellary	50	26
Anantapur	21	9
North Arcot	288	148
Chittoor	91	32
Salem	617	322
Coimbatore	1,488	880
The Nilgiris	11	4
Malabar	13	10
Madras City	29	2
	26,225	14,197

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Abolition of taluk and district food committees.

18 *Q.*—SRI K. P. KAMAKSHI CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state whether the Government intend to abolish taluk and district food committees and if so, what the reasons are for abolition?

A.—Orders have already been issued directing the abolition of the taluk and district food committees in the surplus districts of East Godavari, West Godavari, Guntur, Kistna, Nellore and Tanjore as there is no need for them in these districts consequent on the policy of derationing and decontrol adopted by the Government. These committees are being continued for the present in the remaining districts and the question of their further continuance is under consideration.

Number of Sub-Inspectors and petty officers recruited after the introduction of prohibition.

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

(*a*) the number of Sub-Inspectors and petty officers that were recruited ever since the prohibition was introduced, districtwar and communitywar;

(*b*) their qualifications; and

(*c*) how many Prohibition Sub-Inspectors were promoted as Assistant Prohibition Officers ever since the introduction of Prohibition, districtwar and communitywar?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The information is given in the annexure. [a]

(*c*) None.

Agricultural improvements in Vizagapatam district.

20 *Q.*—SRI G. KUMARASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the schemes proposed to be taken up in relation to the agricultural improvement in the Vizagapatam district for the year 1947–48; and

(*b*) the schemes already under execution at present, and when they were started?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) A list of schemes in operation in the Vizagapatam district and continuing in 1947–48 and the dates of their introduction is given below:—

Name of the scheme.	*Date of introduction.*
(1) Compost making from waste vegetable matter in villages	October 1945.
(2) Compost making from town refuse (Bimlipatam Municipality) ..	1944
(3) Scheme for the multiplication and distribution of improved strains of paddy, millets, pulses, groundnut and green manure	July 1946.
(4) State Trading Scheme for the purchase and sale of manure, seed and iron and steel	1943–44.
(5) Scheme for the improvement of vegetable production	1944–45.
(6) Reclamation and colonization of the Araku Valley area	August 1945.
(7) Control of pests and diseases of crops.	1945.
(8) Free distribution of manure to poor and deserving ryots	February 1943.
(9) Employment of separate agricultural demonstrator for Seethampeta area and opening of two agricultural depots for the training of the aboriginals and backward communities in agricultural methods ..	December 1947.
(10) Establishment of a sub-station at Vizagapatam under the scheme of Research on pulses financed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research	1943.
(11) Conversion of the Agricultural Research Station at Anakapalle into a Sugarcane Research Station ..	June 1947.
(12) The accelerated well subsidy scheme.	February 1946 and ended by 15th June 1946.
(13) The New Well Subsidy Scheme ..	1st March 1947.

This list does not include irrigation schemes. As regards schemes proposed to be taken up, the following schemes to be taken up in 1948–49 are under consideration:—

(i) Appointment of a Special District Agricultural Officer to improve agriculture in the Agency tracts of Vizagapatam (and East and West Godavari districts).

(ii) Opening of exploratory tobacco station for the production of cigarette tobacco.

(iii) Opening of a coconut nursery at Anakapalle.

(iv) Sugarcane development in Bobbili and Veeravilli taluks.

[a] Printed as Appendix VII on pages 863–866 infra.

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Basic Training Schools.

21 *Q.*—SRI G. KUMARASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) what steps the Government have taken to give instruction to students in Basic Education;

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(*b*) in what districts Basic Education centres have been opened; and

(*c*) the progress shown so far?

A.—(*a*) Provision has been made for teaching Basic Education in 27 Basic schools in the Province.

(*b*) There are eight basic training schools in the following places:—

(1) Perianaickenpalayam (Coimbatore district),
(2) Vinayashramam (Guntur district),
(3) Cuddalore (South Arcot district),
(4) Palayad (Malabar district),
(5) Moodbidri (South Kanara district),
(6) Chinnalapatti (Madura district),
(7) Keelamoongiledi (South Arcot district),
(8) Sitanagaram (East Godavari district).

Nos. (6), (7) and (8) are under private management.

The conversion of seven ordinary training schools into basic training schools in 1948–49 has been provisionally approved.

(*c*) In the Vinayashramam Basic Training School, 70 teachers were retrained during 1946–47. Their services will be utilized for the opening of basic schools during 1948–49. Further, 60 teachers who are under retraining in the Government Basic Training Schools at Cuddalore and at Vinayashramam during 1947–48 will also be available for employment in basic schools during 1948–49. With the help of these 130 retrained teachers about 43 schools will be opened during 1948–49.

Students studying abroad with scholarships sanctioned by the Central Government.

22 *Q*.—SRI G. KUMARASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of students studying abroad in the various countries from our Province, who have been sanctioned scholarships by the Central Government, since 1st April 1946, and the various courses for which they are studying; and

(*b*) the various districts and places to which these students belong, and their courses?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) This Government has got particulars only about the scholarships awarded by this Government, in consultation with the Central Government, the particulars of which are given in the accompanying statement.[a]

[a] Printed as Appendix VIII on pages 867-870 infra.

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Trouble in the Annamalai University Hostel.

23 *Q*.—SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it was brought to the notice of the Government by the Chidambaram Police and the Annamalai University authorities that there was some serious trouble in the Annamalai University Hostel on 6th October 1947;

(*b*) whether any representation has been made by a body of students to the Government with regard to the trouble in the Annamalai University;

(*c*) what action the Government have taken in the matter; and

(*d*) what measures have been taken to safeguard the interests of the teachers and students of the University from the attack of goondas in the future?

A.—(*a*) Yes, by the Police; the University authorities reported only after a report was called for by Government.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Both the Police and the University authorities are taking action against the culprits. The Sub-Inspector of Police, Annamalainagar Police station, has been ordered to be transferred.

(*d*) If the criminal proceedings or the proceedings of the University authorities disclose the need for any special measures, the question will be considered.

Suply of manures.

24 *Q*.—SRI G. SANYASI RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to supply the necessary manures next year for use for the plantain and sugarcane crops which are entirely in need of manures like groundnut cake and sulphate of ammonio?

A.—Groundnut cake will not be supplied to sugarcane and plantain crops by the Agricultural department from stocks procured by the department on the basis of 60 per cent of the production of the mills. The growers of these crops can get their supply from the 40 per cent of the production that has been decontrolled. It is desirable that groundnut cake should be used as far as possible exclusively for paddy, and other oilcakes like castor used for sugarcane. As regards ammonium sulphate, a separate quota has been allotted for sugarcane to be used as straight fertilizer. No quota can be allowed for plantain.

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Selection of certain Deputy Collectors.

25 *Q.*—SRI B. S. MURTHI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether ten Deputy Collectors were recently selected by the Madras Public Service Commission from 'War Service' candidates; and

(*b*) whether any Harijan was selected; if not, why not?

A.—(*a*) Yes. Eight have actually been appointed. The appointment of the remaining two is under consideration.

(*b*) No Harijan was selected. Under rule 3 (1) (*b*) of the Madras Civil Services (War Service Personnel) Recruitment Rules, 1941, recruitment to the vacancies reserved for war service candidates has to be made irrespective of communal considerations. The selection was based on the results of a competitive examination held by the Madras Public Service Commission for the purpose. Apparently no Harijan secured a top rank in the examination.

Allotment of land for house construction in Chinnasalem.

26 *Q.*—SRI S. A. DEVANAYAGAIYAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any request from the public of Chinnasalem in Kallakurichi taluk, South Arcot, to allot 20 acres of land which are intended for house construction in Salem-Cuddalore Road to the west of the town proper;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Muslims of the village have fenced a portion of the site to be used for the religious purposes and the same was objected to by the Hindu population of the village; and

(*c*) what action do the Government propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) The Collector of South Arcot has received an application for assignment of a survey field measuring 9·50 acres for constructing houses. No application has been received by the Government.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) As the occupation is unauthorized, the Collector is taking action under the Land Encroachment Act, III of 1905.

Dismissal of certain police constables.

27 *Q.*—SRI S. A. DEVANAYAGAIYAH: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether 19 Reserve Constables attached to the South Arcot Reserve Police were dismissed in the beginning of 1947;

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(*b*) whether on appeal preferred by them, they were restored to their services and transferred to the regular police as constables;

(*c*) whether subsequently, the said orders have been withheld and not given effect to by Government, leaving the persons in great suspense; and

(*d*) if the orders have been so withheld, what are the grounds for so withholding?

A.—(*a*) Yes; they were dismissed in May 1947.

(*b*) & (*c*) No. On their representations to the Government these constables were no doubt ordered in the first instance to be reinstated but that order was subsequently kept in abeyance.

(*d*) The Government are reviewing the cases of these constables.

Licensing system in mica trade.

28 *Q.*—SRI B. VENKATANARAYANA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation from the Madras Mica Association to introduce licensing system in mica trade; and

(*b*) what action was taken by the Government on that representation?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government received in August last year a representation from the Madras Mica Association in the form of a resolution on this subject. Later in November the Association communicated another resolution rescinding the previous one. No further action was therefore taken.

Level-crossing near Tenkasi junction.

29 *Q.*—SRI D. DORAIRAJA PANDIAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there is no level-crossing gate at the place where the road from Nainaragaram to Urmenialagian cuts the railway line between Kadayanallur Railway station and Tenkasi junction, South Indian Railway; and

(*b*) the number of deaths caused by accidents in train collision at this spot during 1945, 1946 and 1947?

A.—(*a*) It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to the level-crossing at mile 404/14–15 between Kadayanallur station and the Tenkasi junction on the South Indian Railway. If so, it is a fact that no gate or gate lodge is provided at this unmanned level-crossing which is 11 feet wide and is provided with rail posts only.

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(*b*) Since 1st January 1945, there has been only one case of death of one cart-man and two bulls due to collision with train at this level-crossing.

Number of taluks where there is no high school.

30 *Q.*—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) in how many taluks there is not even a single high school;

(*b*) what are those taluks; and

(*c*) whether any step has been taken to start new high schools in those taluks?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The following taluks in the districts mentioned against them have no high schools:—

District.	*Taluk.*
Vizagapatam.	Pathapatnam.
	Chipurupalli.
West Godavari.	Chintalapudi.
Bellary.	Siruguppa.
Cuddapah.	Siddhavattam.
Nellore.	Podili.
	Udayagiri.
	Atmakur.
	Rapur.
	Darsi.
Chittoor.	Vayalpad.
South Arcot.	Gingee.
Tanjore.	Arantangi.
Tinnevelly.	Anjengo.
Salem.	Omalur and Yercaud.
Nilgiris.	Gudalur.

(*c*) With a view to encourage local bodies and private agencies to open schools in such taluks, the Government have decided to make teaching grants as a special case, towards the full net cost of maintenance of the schools subject to a maximum of Rs. 3,300 for a middle school and of Rs. 4,000 for a high school for a period of five years from the opening of the school and also a non-recurring grant towards the full cost of the initial equipment subject to a maximum of Rs. 3,000 for each school to be paid in two instalments in successive years. Under this scheme, three new middle schools for boys were opened and two middle schools were converted into high schools by the opening of higher forms in the current year. Provision has been included in the Budget Estimate for 1948-49 for the payment of grants for five new middle schools and two high schools for boys and three middle schools for girls to be opened by local bodies and four new middle schools and two high schools for boys and three middle schools for girls to be opened by private agencies. The middle schools will be converted into high schools later on if they are found to progress well.

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Working conditions of tanners in tanning industry.

31 *Q.*—SRI S. GURUVULU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government appointed a Court of Enquiry to investigate the working conditions of workers in tanning industry;

(*b*) what the recommendations are;

(*c*) whether the Government passed orders thereon;

(*d*) if not, why not; and

(*e*) whether it is a fact that some tannery owners closed their factories in order to avoid implementing the findings and recommendations of the officer?

A.—(*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) A summary of the recommendations is annexed.*

(*c*) Yes, Sir.

(*d*) Does not arise.

(*e*) Some tanneries have been closed but there can be no connexion between that and the Court as the findings of a Court of Enquiry are not binding on the parties.

Licences for cloth and yarn issued to Harijans.

32 *Q.*—SRI K. SHANMUGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of licences for cloth and yarn issued to Harijans in each district; and

(*b*) how many wholesale and retail yarn licences are given exclusively to Harijans including Christians?

A.—The system of licensing dealers in cloth has been abolished and the distribution of cloth has been left to normal trade channels. The system of licensing dealers in yarn will be abolished on and from the 16th March 1948 and the internal distribution of yarn will be left to trade channels. In view of this, it is not considered necessary by the Government to call for the statistics needed for answering the question.

* Printed as Appendix IX on pages 871-873 infra.

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Cultivation of lanka lands.

33 *Q.*—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Harijans who have been cultivating lanka lands in East Godavari, West Godavari, Kistna and Nellore with the Harijans Field Labour Co-operative Societies for the last 27 years are asked to pay five times and six times more than their original lease amount or vacate?

A.—There are no lanka lands in the Nellore district. It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to 'Guntur'. In view of the large increase in the price of agricultural produce, the existing rentals in the case of many lankas leased without auction to Field Labour Co-operative Societies were found to be much less than the economic rentals, that would be obtained if they were sold in auction. The Government, therefore, considered that there was a good case for enhancing the rentals at the time of renewal of lease. In September 1947, the Government ordered that the Collector should ask the societies, at the time of renewal of the lease of lankas, whether they would accept renewal at economic rentals to be fixed by him with reference to the probable rental that would be obtained if the lankas were sold in auction. The Government permitted the Collector to renew the lease, if the societies agreed. If the societies did not agree, the Collector should submit proposals to the Board of Revenue to withdraw the lankas from the lessees and to sell them in open auction. Representations have been made that the orders issued in September 1947 should be reconsidered. The question is under the consideration of the Government.

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

II.—INFORMATION *RE* CLOSURE OF GIRLS' SCHOOLS.

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Sir, on the assurance of the Hon. Minister for Education the other day that girls' schools would not be closed, I did not press my adjournment motion. But to my surprise I learnt yesterday from the *Hindu* that the Government have closed down the girls' school at Namakkal. I understand that the public of Namakkal and the panchayat board have protested against this. I request the Hon. Minister to explain the position with regard to this school."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"It is part of the old story."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"It was on the assurance that the girls' schools would not be closed, that I did not press my adjournment motion. I understood the Hon. Minister

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to say that the Government were not closing down girls' schools. Within a couple of days since the assurance was given, the Government have taken this step. I want to know how the Hon. the Minister reconciles the statement made by him on the floor of the House the other day and the step he has taken now."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"No orders were passed by the Government to close down the Namakkal Girls' School. This event happened perhaps 15 days ago. Newspapers are publishing the news now."

III.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* DEMAND OF SECURITY FROM *CHANDRIKA*.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Under rule 36 of the Assembly Rules, I have received notice of an adjournment motion from the hon. Member, Mr. Seethi Sahib. The motion runs thus—

> '*I (have the honour to) give you notice of my intention to move an adjournment motion at to-day's sitting of the Assembly to discuss an urgent matter of public importance, viz., the unwarranted interference with the freedom of the press by the recent order of the Government demanding a security of Rs.* 2,000 *from the* Chandrika, *the Malayalam daily newspaper of Calicut which, as the mouthpiece of the Muslim League, has stood consistently for the preservation of law and order and the cause of inter-communal harmony and peace while advocating the just and legitimate rights and interests of Muslims and other minorities.*'

I wish to know how this is a matter of urgent public importance, and how an hon. Member can bring forward an adjournment motion with regard to a matter of day-to-day administration of the Government. I think the order was passed under an emergency law. I think there is also a provision for an appeal against such an order. The hon. Member has to convince me that this is a matter of urgent public importance. I keep an open mind. If I am convinced, I shall admit the motion, otherwise I will rule it out of order."

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, freedom of the press is a very important matter. It is also a matter of public interest and importance. Any interference by executive orders with the freedom of the press, any direct or indirect curtailment of the freedom of the press is a matter of urgent public importance with which this House is concerned. If the position is taken that an administrative act cannot form the subject-matter of an adjournment motion and is pressed to its logical conclusion, there will hardly be a subject on which an adjournment motion can be moved. The point here is that this is a matter of urgent public importance. It is a definite matter also as the Government have called upon the paper to furnish a security of Rs. 2,000 . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is a matter of day-to-day administration. Can an adjournment motion be moved on such a matter?"

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K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Any action on the part of the Government with regard to the general public will form part of the day-to-day administration of the Government. If this is the criterion on which we should decide the admissibility of an adjournment motion, there will hardly be a matter on which we can move adjournment motions in this House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let me hear wha. the Hon. Leader of the House has to say."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, under the powers vested in the Government under the Emergency Press Laws, on a perusal of 2 or 3 articles of this particular paper, which incited communal hatred, the Government decided to call for a security. The paper has got its opportunity of proving in a court of law that it did not preach communal hatred as pointed out by the Government. I cannot see any urgency in the matter, neither can I take the point any further. If the hon. Gentleman wants a debate and if you are going to allow it, I object to it."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of submission, Sir. The privilege is there for the aggrieved party to take the matter to the court of law. You know, Sir, that this is a matter of urgency. Taking the matter to court will mean time and such action as this—the Government gagging a press—will create lot of misunderstanding and ill-will amongst people. It is to prevent that and in order that goodwill and harmony may continue in that part of the Province, this discussion, this debate is being asked for. Therefore I hope that the Hon. Leader of the House will agree to this adjournment motion and you will admit the motion . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"First I must give my consent to the motion."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"That is why I said that the Chair will please admit the motion."

12-15 p.m. MR. SPEAKER:—"In my opinion this is not a definite matter of urgent public importance. We are not dealing with affairs concerning day-to-day administration of the Government. The concerned press can resort to a court of law and have their remedy. I, therefore, rule this adjournment motion out of order."

IV.—VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—*cont.*

DEMAND XXVIII—FAMINE—*cont.*

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, while I was speaking under this Demand the other day I was trying to impress upon you and also on the hon. Members that the conditions prevailing outside the House—I mean the famine condition of the teeming millions of this Province—are really deplorable at present. Although the condition outside is so very depressing and deplorable, the Hon. Ministers were saying on

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the floor of this House that everything is all right. In this connexion I wish to make a reference to the speeches made by several Hon. Ministers. First I refer to the Hon. Minister for Food who has issued several statements and press communiqués stating that the food situation is—if I may use an American slang 'O.K.' Sir, you are aware that some Members of the Ministerial Party have tried to move adjournment motions on matters of urgent public importance, namely, the food situation in the Province. They have tried to impress upon this House that starvation, suffering and even deaths are occurring owing to famine. The Hon. the Food Minister with his usual jugglery of figures was trying to prove that matters were not so bad and that things are all right. Coming to the Minister for Revenue, he has stated that his Rent Reduction Bill and the Zamindari Abolition Bill are there to bring an era of prosperity and plenty to the people of this Province. Sir, I may not agree with him that prosperity and plenty may follow in the wake of the passing of these Bills but I should tell him that these are matters which are in the womb of the future; and we are concerned with the present. I put it to the Hon. Minister for Revenue whether the conditions prevailing in the Government controlled ryotwari areas are all right. The agrarian trouble is assuming proportions of the highest magnitude, there are kisan troubles and there are troubles created by other forms of labour. The Hon. Minister for Revenue may say that these troubles are created by Communists like Messrs. Venkateswarlu and Anandan Nambiyar. To the great discomfort of the Communists, I cannot but agree largely with the remarks of the Hon. Minister, but at the same time Government cannot but concede that there is considerable disaffection, dissatisfaction and discontent among the people working in the fields. And, because of this discontent and dissatisfaction among the labourers, there is agrarian trouble.

"Coming to the question of health in this Province, the Hon. Minister for Public Health has confessed on the floor of this House that the amount that has been allotted to him is not sufficient to grapple with the huge health problem. Plague, cholera, malaria and smallpox are taking a heavy toll of the people.

"Then, Sir, coming to finances, the Hon. the Finance Minister has shown that he has taken measures which could bring down prices of commodities, but, Sir, in spite of his assurances the prices are going up and inflation has again started. This rise in price is almost undermining the economic prosperity of this Province. If rise in prices is not controlled to-day, I am afraid, it will undermine the very fabric of society. Therefore, Sir, I wish to impress upon you that famine condition is increasing from day to day in the Province. Whatever the Government may say, the facts are there. They have got to face the realities and see that they take relief measures in the matter immediately. I am not trying to create a picture of desolation and a picture of unhappiness before this House. I am only trying to show to the

[M. S. Abdul Majid Sahib Bahadur] [25th March 1948

Hon. Minister a glimpse of the obvious which the Government are not able to see at present. What we get from the Government to-day is only a number of statements and communiqués in 'Madras Information'. We ask for bread and you give us stones. Cannot we on this side of the House say that prosperity and happiness should by some means or other be brought to the people of this Province who are suffering from famine, misery and sickness? It is usually said that a tail cannot wag the head. Fortunately or unfortunately we happen to be in the tail of the body politics of this House and we cannot shake the head, but, Sir, the wagging of the tail indicates what is happening in the very bowels of what this body politic is. I would tell the Hon. Minister in charge, that there is famine raging in this Province and unless you grapple with the problem and face the realities you cannot save the people from starvation and death. If you only listen to our words the glory will be yours. If you are not going to listen to our words, I wish to tell the Hon. Minister for Revenue and also other Ministers, the time will not be far off for this Ministry to go down unwept, unhonoured and unsung."

Sri D. DURAIRAJA PANDIAN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, இந்த பஞ்ச நிலைமையை தீர்ப்பதற்காக கனம் ரெவினியூ மந்திரி அவர்கள் கொண்டு வந்திருக்கும் இந்த Demand ஐ நான் ஆதரிக்கிறேன். அப்படி ஆதரிக்கும் பொழுது சில யோசனைகள் மாத்திரம் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். தற்சமயத்தில் அறுவடையான காலத்தில் கூட திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவில் 112 பட்டணம் படி கொண்ட ஒரு கோட்டை நெல்லானது ரூ. 80-க்கு விற்கப்படுகிறது. அதிலும் நிலசுவாந்தார்கள் இன்னும் விலை உயரும என்று எதிர்பார்த்துக்கொண்டு நெல் தானியத்தை வெளியில் விடாமலிருக்கிறார்கள். அதனால் பொது ஜனங்கள் மட்டும் அல்ல சர்க்கார் சிப்பந்திகளும்—போலீஸ் கான்ஸ்டபிள்கள் கூட—எல்லோரும் நெல் கிடைக்காமல் திண்டாடுகிறார்கள். வெளியில் விலை உயரும் என்ற காரணத்தாலோ அல்லது நெல் இல்லாமல் போய்விடும் என்ற காரணத்தாலோ இன்னும் விலையை உயர்த்திக்கொண்டு போகிறார்கள். ஆனால் இப்பொழுது அங்கு இருக்கும் பஞ்சத்தை நிவர்த்திக்கலாம். அதற்கு சில யோசனைகளைச் சொல்ல பிரியப்படுகிறேன். வெளி நாட்டிலிருந்து கோடிக்கணக்கான பணத்தைக் கொடுத்து தான்யங்களை வாங்கிவரவேண்டியதவசியமில்லை. இப்பொழுது எத்தனையோ சிறிய மராமத்துக்கள் செய்யவேண்டி இருக்கின்றன. பெரிய மராமத்துக்கு பெரிய scheme, estimate போட்டு தயார் பண்ண வேண்டியது அவசியமில்லை. இந்த சிறிய மராமத்துகளை உடனடியாக எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். அங்கங்கே குளங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. 50 ஏக்கர் 100 ஏக்கர் உள்ள minor irrigation வேலைகள் இருக்கின்றன. அவைகளை உடனே எடுத்துக்கொண்டு வேலை செய்ய வேண்டும். கனம் மந்திரி சுற்றுப்பிரயாணம் செய்த காலத்தில் சொன்ன பிரகாரம் இவைகளை உடனடியாகச் செய்ய ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அப்படி செய்தால் இந்த வருஷம் மகசூல் கிடைத்ததை விட அடுத்த வருஷம் இரண்டு மடங்கு மகசூலை அதிலிருந்து எதிர் பார்க்கலாம். அந்த ரீதியில் அவைகள் இப்பொழுது இருக்கிறது என்று எனக்குத் தோன்றுகிறது. ஆகையால் உடனடியாக minor irrigation வேலைகளை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு முடிக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" இன்னொரு யோசனையைச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இப்பொழுது நமது மாகாணத்தில் அநேகம் கோவில்களுக்கு அதிகமாக நிலம் இருக்கிறது. அந்த நிலங்களையெல்லாம் அந்தந்தக் கோவில் நிர்வாகஸ்தர்கள் நிர்வாகம் செய்து வருகிறார்கள். அவர்கள் அந்த நிலங்களை கட்டுக்குத்தகைக்கு விட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அப்படி விட்டிருப்பதால் அவர்களுக்கு அதிலிருந்தும் கிடைக்கும் குத்தகையை ரூபாயாகவும் தான்யமாகவும் வாங்கி வருகிறார்கள். கோவிலுக்கு வேண்டியதை அளந்து கொடுத்துவிட்டு பாக்கி தான்யத்தை அவர்கள் தங்களுடைய உபயோகத்திற்கு எடுத்துக்கொள்ளுகிறார்கள். அப்படி இருக்கும் நிலைமையில் அவர்கள் குத்தகைப் பத்திரங்களில் ரூபாயாவது அல்லது ரூபாய்க்கு தகுந்த தான்யமாவது கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று இருக்கிறது. இல்லாவிட்டால் தான்யத்திற்கு பதிலாக ரூபாயாகவும் கொடுத்து விடலாம் என்று ஒரு ஷரத்து அந்த பத்திரத்தில் எழுதி விடுகிறார்கள். அதனால் அந்த ஷரத்தை வைத்துக்கொண்டு இப்பொழுது தான்யத்தை கோவிலுக்குக் கொடுக்காமல் ரூபாயாக கொடுத்து விடுகிறார்கள் இப்பொழுது விலை அதிகமாக விற்பதால் அவர்கள் தான்யத்தைக் கொடுப்பது இல்லை. குற்றாலம் தாலூகாவில் ஒரு பெரிய தேவஸ்தானம் இருக்கிறது அதற்கு ஆயிரக்கணக்கான கோட்டை நெல் வருகிறது. அந்த தேவஸ்தானத்தின் நிர்வாகஸ்தர் இவ்விதம் செய்து வருகிறார்கள். ஆகையால் அந்த நிலங்களை அவர்கள் மூலம் கட்டுக்குத்தகைக்கு விடாமல் ஒரு கமிட்டியை நியமித்து அவர்களை மேல் பார்க்கச்சொல்ல வேண்டும். இப்பொழுது பி.எ. படித்தவர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள், எம். எ. பட்டம் பெற்றவர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்று சொல்லாமல் உணவு பஞ்சத்தைப் போக்குவதற்கு முன் வரும் ஊழியர்களையும் காங்கிரஸ் ஊழியர்களையும் நியமித்து இந்த நிலங்களை நிர்வாகம் செய்யச்சொன்னால் அதனால் சர்க்காருக்கும் லாபம் உண்டு, கோவிலுக்கும் தான்யங்கள் கிடைக்கும். இப்பொழுது அந்த குற்றாலம் தேவஸ்தான நிலத்தில் 1,000 கோட்டை நெல் வந்தாலும் தஸ்தாவேஜியில் கண்ட ஷரத்தை வைத்துக்கொண்டு ரூபாயாகத்தான் கொடுப்போம் என்று சொல்லி வருகிறார்கள். அதைத் தடுக்க கமிட்டிகளை நியமித்தாவது அல்லது விவசாய இலாகாவிலாவது வைத்து இந்த நிலங்களை நிர்வாகம் செய்தால் பஞ்சத்தை தவிர்த்து விடலாம். பஞ்சத்தையும் கொஞ்சம் சமாளிக்கலாம். இந்தக் கட்டுக்குத் தகையை எடுத்துவிடவேண்டும். இப்பொழுது கோவிலுக்கு இல்லாமல் நிர்வாகிகள் லாபத்தை அடித்துக்கொண்டு போகிறார்கள். உடனடியாக இந்த கட்டுக்குத்தகையை ரத்து செய்யவேண்டும். சர்க்கார் Agricultural department-ல் இதை வைத்து நிர்வகித்து வரலாம். இவ்விதம் செய்தால் சர்க்காருக்கு ஐந்து மடங்கு மகசூல் கிடைக்கும். நேரடியாக சர்க்கார் இதை கண்காணித்து வரவேண்டும்.

" இதற்கு அடுத்த படியாக திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவில் சர்க்கார் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களுக்கும் போலீஸ் கான்ஸ்டபிள்களுக்கும்கூட இப்பொழுது நெல் கிடைக்காமல் திண்டாடுகிறார்கள். இப்பொழுது விலை ஜாஸ்தியாக இருப்பதால் அவர்களால் வாங்க முடியவில்லை. அவர்கள் லஞ்சம் வாங்குகிறார்கள் என்று நாம் சொல்லுகிறோம். ஏன் அவர்கள் வாங்கமாட்டார்கள்! இப்பொழுது அவர்களுக்கு சம்பளம் ரூ. 25 ஆக இருந்தால் 80 ரூபாய் கொடுத்து எப்படி நெல் அவர்களால் வாங்கமுடியும். தென் காசியை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் ஒரு மனிதனுக்கு 4 குழந்தைகள் இருந்தால் அவன் 25 ரூபாய் சம்பளத்தில் எப்படி ஜீவிக்க முடியும். எவ்விதம் நெல் வாங்கி சாப்பிடமுடியும். அதற்காக அவர்களுக்கு Co-operative Society மூலமாக கொடுக்கவேண்டும். அந்த மாதிரி எல்லா சிப்பந்திகளுக்கும் கிடைக்கும்படி ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டும். அவ்விதம் செய்ய சர்க்காருக்கு உரிமை இருக்கிறது. எவ்வளவோ மூன்னால் நடந்திருக்கிறது. அதையெல்லாம் இப்பொழுது மறந்துவிட வேண்டும். இந்தக்காலத்தில் கவனிக்கவேண்டியது உணவு பிரச்னை ஒன்றுதான். அதற்கு எத்தனை கோடி ரூபாய் செலவு செய்யவேண்டுமானாலும் செலவு செய்யலாம் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். சர்க்காரிடம் அவர்களுக்கு பரிபூரண நம்பிக்கை இருக்கிறது. நல்ல எண்ணத்துடன் நம்மை இந்த சர்க்கார் நடத்தும் என்ற நம்பிக்கை ஜனங்களிடத்திலிருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் இந்த உணவு பிரச்னையை தீர்ப்பதற்கு மேற்கொண்டு சொன்ன யோசனைகளை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு நான் இந்த demand-ஐ ஆதரிக்கிறேன்."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB Bahadur:—" On a point of information, Sir. Is there any time-limit for 'famine' speches?" 12-30 p.m.

25th March 1948] [Sri D. Durairaja Pandian]

[25th March 1948

MR. SPEAKER:—" Yes, it is 10 minutes."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the demand made by the Hon. the Revenue Minister for a grant of Rs. 5,00,000 under the head ' Famine.' It is a just and reasonable demand indeed. There is of course provision for the construction of channels, for the construction of spring pools and repairs to channels and spring pools, etc., in the Budget. Sir, this is not enough. Provision for laying down new roads must also be made. The Budget this year is of course an improvement on the Budget that was presented last year. An amount of just a little less than Rs. 4,00,000 was sanctioned last time and now it is more than Rs. 5,00,000. There is also a provision for more relief measures to be started this year due to the failure of the north-east monsoon in 1947 and due to floods, etc. Sir, in my district of Vizagapatam there are three taluks where famine and pestilence always reign supreme; one is the taluk of Tekkali where famine visited, in the year 1936 when Mr. N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar was the Famine Commissioner, second, the taluk of Sompet and last but not least the taluk of Cheepirupalli which is a vast taluk consisting of a population of about three lakhs who are very poor. In these three taluks many roads which have been abandoned and which have been left unrepaired since a long time, have to be repaired. Many roads have to be newly constructed as famine relief works, and whether they come under the provisions of the Famine Code or not, the Government will do well to see that the abandoned roads are restored again and many new roads are also constructed.

" Now, Sir, these three taluks are zamindari taluks or are fairly in zamindari areas. The people there are looking forward to the day when the Zamindari Abolition Bill will be coming. The ryots of these places are of course very poor. Meanwhile, i.e., till the Zamindari Abolition Bill is passed and speedy measures are taken up, the Government will do well to construct many roads in those taluks. In the taluk of Patapatnam, for instance, there are as many as 23 roads which require immediate repairs. If one goes in a bullock bandy on any of these roads, unless he has already insured his life, I think, there will be every danger of losing his life. Such is the condition of the roads in Patapatnam taluk which is entirely a zamindari area. Of course, the Hon. Minister for Public Works was good enough to sanction a large amount for the construction of roads and I hope the Highways department will do well to immediately take up the work and construct the roads in this area. If we want to go into our constituencies—they are very big constituencies; for instance, I represent the Chicacole Constituency which consists of two or three taluks with a population of 5,20,000 and 1,200 to 1,300 villages including hamlets—it is impossible to undertake a tour in those places in view of the bad condition of the roads. Every day I am receiving applications from so many people and mass petitions from the people, saying that unless the roads there are repaired, it is impossible to carry on even ordinary transport. Therefore, Sir, I request that under the head ' Famine Relief '—or even outside

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the provisions of the Famine Code, if necessary—Government will do well to start the construction of new roads and the repair of old roads, etc. With these words, Sir, I wholeheartedly support the demand for a grant of Rs. 5,00,000 made by the Hon. Minister."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, in the course of the debates in this House, Member after Member attempted to prove that in some place or other in this Province, there is famine, but the Government was not able to see eye to eye with them and with the usual jugglery of their figures, they say, there is no famine at all. No less a person than the hon. Mr. Prakasam had given figures—as also other hon. Members—to prove that there was famine in so many districts. But, Sir, I do not know whether there is something radically wrong with this Government because they do not understand what famine means. I still doubt whether the Hon. Minister in charge of Famine, I mean the Hon. Revenue Minister, himself knows the meaning of the word ' Famine '. (Sri G. Rajamannar Chetti: ' The hon. Member may refer to the Oxford Dictionary.') I hear some murmurs. I ask the Hon. Revenue Minister to define what he means by ' Famine ', Sir. And, I ask the Government to define what they mean by ' Famine ', because they persist in saying, there is no famine at all. That is why I say they do not know what is meant by famine."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" I would refer the hon. Member to the Famine Code. He is a lawyer and is an expert on so many things and he also professes to know many things. He does not want information from an under-graduate. Let him read the Famine Code and if he does not still understand it, let him move with me in villages and see what famine is."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" There is nothing personal in this, Sir. It is because the Government are not prepared to accept the reports of members who say there is famine, I have asked that question. There is famine in this Province, but yet the Government are adament and since there is something radically wrong with the Government, they are not even appreciating the view points that have been expressed by Members here. Probably they are incapable of taking effective measures to prevent famine or do not see any reason for it even though it has been proved in this House that there is famine. Sir, there is famine in this Province, because this Government have failed to do anything in the matter. There is famine in the Government itself, because there is famine of ideas, there is famine of co-operation and there is famine of so many other things in the Government. Such being the case, how can we expect this Province to be rid of famine when there is famine in so many forms in the Government itself. May I know, Sir, whether the Government have come forward with any plan. Because every year there is election, they are more concerned about it."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" Sir, is the hon. Member speaking about famine or Government's difficulties. That subject was over even yesterday."

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MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, of course, famine depends upon the Government and I am speaking about the system that is followed by the Government in regard to this matter."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Everything depends upon the Government."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—" On a point of information, Sir. If it is not famine, at least their ideals have led to famine in this Province."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" It is the famine of ideas, it is the famine of other unlucky matters in this Ministry, which is likely to exist in the future also. We have to tackle that first and because we are here as members of this House, we are entitled to speak on it."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member is not right in speaking on it. He could have referred to the matter yesterday. Of course, he did speak yesterday and I allowed him to speak. This demand relates purely to famine."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Of course, it is purely famine. Sir, except coming forward before this House with a demand for granting money, they have not appreciated the importance of it because they are incapable of appreciating the difficulties of this problem. They have not come forward with any plan either. Probably their conception of famine is that people should die. That is why I wanted a definition of 'famine'. Famine, according to them is entirely different from what it actually means. (Interruption.) I am speaking about the Food Minister. Whenever hon. Members raise the question of famine, he says, people have not died on account of this famine. Do the Government think that people should die for want of food according to their belief? They ought to know whether people have died for want of food and they should have addressed the Collectors in regard to this. Sir, in the past, these people who now form the Government, were famous for decrying the reports of the Collectors, but now their Bible, the Government's Bible, is the Collector's report. Whenever questions are raised in this House, they say, the Collector's report shows that people have not died and even though they have died it was not due to want of food and all that. I say, Sir, let them think of the past and let the Hon. Revenue Minister think of the past and refer to the speeches he has himself made on this platform decrying this very thing; and so, in their answers let them not depend upon the reports of officials; on the other hand, let them have some confidence in the Members of this House instead of depending on the reports of their officials. They say, no man will die for want of food and it may be only a contributory factor. You know there is famine in this Province and to avoid that, you must have a long-range policy about the construction of roads and communications, houses and buildings, etc. Because

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the Government have failed to tackle all these problems, I have a right to say that this Government have not done anything sufficient to tackle the food problem and hence do not deserve to exist."

12-45 p.m.

* SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—" Mr. Speaker, this Demand for Famine is modest. It is only five lakhs of rupees. When you scrutinize it, you find that about fifty-six lakhs of rupees have been transferred from the Famine Relief Fund and it is after all, modest when we consider that the Budget is for seventy crores of rupees. The state of famine in our part of the Madras Province has become chronic and any amount of money could be spent if you are sure that you will succeed in preventing it. It is the dictum among medical practitioners that they should go to the cause of the disease and remove the disease. This chronic famine condition in our parts has become a disease and the Government, I am sorry to say, after coming to power, have not done anything to find out the cause of the diseases and to remedy it.

" Sir, famine is caused by scarcity of food and generally follows war or pestilence or failure of monsoon. In the present case, a totalitarian war has been waged and the result has been that artificial famine has been created. When there were large quantities of foodgrains everywhere, all foodgrains were commandeered if I may use that term, as there was no martial law and they paid enormous sums to the agents and contractors and they sent away all the grains to the theatres of war. Unfortunately most of the grains was wasted and thrown into the sea. There was no reserve left when the Congress Government came to power. After the Congress Government came to power, they could have tried to remedy the critical situation in which we have been placed but, I am sorry to confess, that they have done nothing in the matter. Disease follows famine. People dying of famine do not die absolutely of want of food or pure starvation. They put something in their stomach and they die from diseases such as malaria and cholera. It is said that malaria has been found to be a concomitant of famine. In the year 1922-23 when there was an epidemic of malaria in Russia, they said that it followed famine. And here, we find it is endemic in some parts of the land and not only that, but cholera and plague also. With all that, our Government have not been able to ward off this kind of artificial famine. There has been failure of monsoons last year. True, but this year has been the 'El Dorado' for blackmarketers and the Government has not done anything to wipe out blackmarketing in rice and paddy. It is known everywhere, the Government know and every Minister of the Government knows it. In all the surplus districts and surplus taluks in which I reside, paddy is selling at two measures per rupee. How can you expect poor people to pay for it; and there is going to be famine. The other day the Hon. Minister for Food said that they had taken measures to combat famine. In spite of that, many people are dying. As has been alluded to by the previous speakers, they say, they do not die of starvation but they die of different causes and they could not

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prevent death. This kind of reply shows the callousness and indifference of the Government. Our Government has not only failed to do its duty but has added to the miseries of the people of our Province. I will give you an instance.

"Sir, we know that protein calories are very necessary for our famished people in famine districts. Most people in our parts are not meat-eaters and they substitute pulses or gram for it as it gives them the protein necessary for their existence. There has been famine of these pulses—mostly artificial famine created by controls not being properly and efficiently exercised. Some importers, mostly wrong-doers and blackmarketers, exploited this deficiency by importing dhall from Northern India generally grown in forests and thousands and thousands of bags were imported in to the Madura district and the headquarters of these merchants were in Virudhunagar and Madura. It was found that as a result of eating these grams, many people died, some were incapacitated by paralysis and the Government came to know of it and ordered seizure of all the bags. Government did seize all the bags but afterwards, the bags were reissued and dumped in the market through wholesale dealers in the Madura district. They were asked to take them and distribute them to the ration shops. When it has been declared to be unfit for human consumption by the Government Analyst, how can these things be dumped to the ration shops for being eaten by the poor people. I will just read the Analyst's report in this connexion: 'Considering the detriment to health caused by the Kesari flour, under powers vested in me by the Public Health Act, 1935—under section 108 of the same Act—I order that Kesari flour should not be sold until further orders from the Collector of Madura. How in such circumstances, were those things which were once found to be detrimental to the health, later on shoved on to the market?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Sir, ration is a subject in charge of Dr. Rajan."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister is in charge of famine and not of food."

SRI M. S. PATTABIRAMIAH:—"Sir, it is a very relevant matter, in that it has been done while there was famine of pulses and pulses are very necessary for famished people. I do not know, Sir, if anything like this can happen in an independent country. I am sorry the Hon. Food Minister is not here and the self-righteous leader of the Assembly is not also here. It should have been of value, had he been here. I wish to say that any Government in any civilized country should not be a party to such things. If such scandalous things had been done, that Government would go down in a day. I do not know why that useless stuff had been foisted upon the people and no action has been taken by this Government."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"Mr. Speaker, having heard a number of speeches made to-day and the day-before, I find that it affords a great deal of elasticity and latitude

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because we have heard a number of political speeches about the capacity of the Government, the intelligence of the Government and linguistic matters and so on. I am really wondering what important point I should be able to bring before the House."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Famine debate, but no famine of speeches."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"As my hon. Friend Mr. Kumararaja of Chettinad remarks, there has been no famine of speeches; and I say there is as well no famine of intelligence as far as the Oppisition Members are concerned including the Kumararaja. My anxiety is to see that, in what we say, we do not want to exploit the difficulties of Government and whatever point we have made we made it from this side just to bring to the notice of the Government that there are certain shortcomings as we are fully aware of the havoc which famine has caused in Bengal and our province should not be a prey to it. Whatever may be the charges against this Government, this particular Ministry or the former Ministry, the fact remains that since 1946 the popular Government are functioning in our province and it has always been their anxiety to help food production in our province subject to the many difficulties which they are facing. It is also the desire of Government and of every Minister, be he Revenue or Food Minister, to see that they try to feed the people as far as it lies in their power. It is quite likely that they may not satisfy the complete demands but the fact remains that the Government gives top priority to this question compared with other questions. May be, they have not done the best. In spite of that, we are making certain observations and suggestions just, as I have said, to draw the attention of the Government, the Revenue Minister and the Food Minister, who is not here, to what has been done. You may remember that from last year from March up to now, if you skip through the proceedings of this House, this question has been raised by way of adjournment motions, short notice questions and ordinary notice questions and there was a good deal of complaints about famine conditions in the province, particularly in the districts of Ramnad, Tinnevelly, part of Madura and Rayalaseema. That really shows that the people residing in those areas are really nervous that if conditions do not improve, it will lead to famine. Only day-before yesterday, Mr. Kosalram, who represents the Ramnad district, wanted to move an adjournment motion. The idea was not to frighten the Government about the conditions existing there but to point out to the Government the need to tackle the food question. I fully agree with him that this question is not merely the responsibility of the Government but of everybody in this province to prevent famine. We cannot wait till it raises its ugly head, but it is better that we adopt preventive measures. But once when it comes, it will be difficult to tackle that question. Although there may be no famine, nobody feels that what is being done is in any way a preventive measure.

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1 p.m. "Sir, with regard to the question of food, if you take the statistics of production of food, you will find that it is really far, far behind the demands and the needs of the people. Of course, I know the Government have got certain schemes to increase production of food. My only complaint is that they have got very many good schemes on hand by way of irrigation schemes, and grow more food campaigns. My only charge is that these schemes are no good. They may look good on paper, but when are you going to put them into operation and when are you going to see results? Unless and until these things are pushed through—both the irrigation and the schemes connected with grow more food campaign—I am sure the result will not at all be satisfactory. If you wish to tackle the problem of food, it is necessary and urgent the Government should put through all the schemes early so that our production may go up. When once you are able to tackle that problem of production, that by itself will not solve the question, because right from the day the Hon. Minister introduced his speech, there has been a number of complaints from this side of the House that the Government is not very earnest with regard to tackling this problem of inflation. I maintain with all my emphasis—with the little emphasis that I command—that unless and until the Madras Government tackles the problem of inflation —it is part of their duty and responsibility and I am sure, in spite of the fact that two years have gone-by since the war ended the prices instead of coming down are going up to abnormal heights and it is very difficult for a poor man whose income remain stationary even in the case of a middleman, his income remains stationary, to pay such exorbitant prices—Government will not be able to tackle the problem of food. There may be food in abundance, food in plenty, but when people are not able to purchase as their purchasing power is far less, the question that we have plenty does not solve the problem and people suffer in the midst of plenty. It is not a right thing that the Madras Government should not tackle this problem under the plea that this is a matter which has to be dealt with by the Central Government. The Central Government is there, but it is also the duty—the responsibility—of this Government to see that in the matter of food prices, they would adopt all measures necessary so that the prices may come down and the articles may be within the reach of the poor. In this connexion, we have been hearing of Post-War Schemes.

"Sir, every day whether it be in connexion with the Demands for Grants or questions or in the speeches, not a day passes without mention being made of the Post-War Reconstruction Schemes. In this connexion, I wish simply to refer to an anecdote which happened before the Second World War. There was a good deal of talk about the Five-Year Plan for Russia, a Communist State. One non-Communist meeting a Communist in a spirit of sarcasm remarked: 'We are watching with interest your Five-Year Plan for the last fifteen years. When did it end and when did it commence?' It is no good, Government every day coming forward and talking about Post-War Schemes. It is all mere words and takes us nowhere. I am told, in this connexion,

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by the Hon. Minister for Revenue that the Post-War Reconstruction schemes will be financed by the Government of India or at least they will bear a good part of the expenditure. I feel in such areas, where there is likelihood of famine like Tinnevelly, Ramnad, parts of Madura and particularly the Rayalaseema, the post-war schemes must be taken up at a very early date so that those areas might be made self-sufficient in the matter of food. I feel that all the schemes should be given effect to. There may be certain difficulties, but these schemes should be immediately put through. We do not want that anybody should die for want of food. The little which we are getting is really insufficient and even if that is not available it may mean that we have failed to do our duty in the matter of food or famine. It is not a party question. It is a question on which all are interested. It is a duty which we owe to the Province. Particularly, this year the seasons have been unfavourable. It is not due to action or inaction of the Government or people. It is due to the failure of the monsoons or other factors over which this Government have no control. I am sure that next year when we meet we should be in a position to state that this Government have taken all the necessary measures so that the production of food is stepped up and not only we prevented famine which was threatening us but we got a reserve stock. It all depends on the attitude and the activities of the Government. If really they put through all their schemes on hand for which some sort of plans must be ready this year, and some sort of help from the Central Government will be forthcoming, we would feel that as far as Madras is concerned we have really faced that problem and come out successful. With these words, I support the cut motion."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—"Mr. Speaker, I come from the land of famine, the land where there is suffering, where there is perpetual starvation, misery and death. As I rise to speak, I am overcome by an oppressive sense of feeling, weighed down by a heavy sense of suffering and misery that I see everywhere in the part of the country from which I come. Various thoughts, various feelings and emotions cluster round my heart and I do not know really what to speak. Sir, if you are aware of the history of famine in the Ceded Districts, you will realize how people for decades together have been undergoing privation, suffering and misery as a result of famine and yet nothing has been done. You are probably aware of the Great Famine of 1876 and 1878 in which millions and millions of people had died. It was then that the Madras Government realized that there was, what is called the Ceded Districts area which was perpetually subject to famine. A Famine Enquiry Committee was set up to investigate into the causes and suggest remedies for the prevention of famine. They drew up a big report and submitted it to the Government but no action was taken on that report. Again, famine broke out in 1896–97. A similar famine committee was again appointed, and they drew up a report and that report was shelved. Again in 1902–3, an Indian Irrigation Commission was set up and it toured the Madras Presidency and also visited the Ceded Districts and they made some

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proposals for the irrigational development of that area. That report was also shelved. Again Mr. Mackenzie and many other engineers formulated various schemes regarding the irrigational development. Those schemes were not considered. In 1926 on the floor of the Legislative Council, a Member from the Ceded Districts brought in a resolution and in accordance with that resolution, a committee was set up to draw up a list of irrigaton works that would possibly be taken up immediately. That report was also shelved. In 1937–38 when the Congress Government first came into existence, they appointed another committee, the Famine Code Revision Committee as they called it. They drew up another report but the recommendations of that committee did not see the light of the day and no orders were passed on that report. Again in 1942 a Rayalaseema Co-operative Enquiry Committee was set up and they toured the Rayalaseema districts and said that, in order that famine may be prevented, they must take immediate remedial measures. That report also has not been considered so far. I submit to you, Sir, that this sort of lethargy; this sort of neglect is criminal. As I go from village to village, from hamlet to hamlet and from hut to hut, I see nothing but starvation and misery writ large on the faces of those people. If you would give me your personal indulgence I may relate to you an incident that comes to my mind just as I speak now. It was in 1934–35 when a big famine broke out in the Ceded Districts and we were asked to go out to the famine camps and work for the relief of the distressed. A friend of mine, a son of a High Court Judge, accompanied me in my tour. When we were going about villages and inspecting the famine camps that friend—who had seen the luxuries and miseries in the cities, having spent his life in the city, walked along the tarred roads, driven in luxurious cars and lived in palatial bungalows but had not visited villages nor seen what rural poverty is like—when he accompanied me to a village in a tonga, we saw a famine camp where children were playing in the hot sun where famine-stricken women and men were working on test works breaking stones for a pittance of half anna or one anna without shelter there and we saw a woman, in an advanced state of pregnancy. The sun was beating fiercely on her and the woman had hardly anything to cover. That woman was just then being delivered of a child. The women there tore a portion of their sarees, attached them together in order to provide her shelter. My friend looked at that, saw that scene with the sun beating fiercely on her. He stared at my face and said, 'So this is famine; this is Rayalaseema; this is suffering'; and tears trickled down from his eyes. Because he had not known what it is to suffer famine, what it is to undergo privation, what it is to undergo misery and destitution, he could hardly imagine that such a thing could exist under a Government. We came home, thought of what to do and we submitted a report. That report was not at all heard. It may be considered that I am too parochial that I am pleading for my portion of the Province. I would just read to you the opinions of some of these authorities who have stressed the need for special measures for relieving destitution and for preventing famine in the Ceded Districts. Mr. B. N. Ganguli, a Professor of Economics and an authority on the

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Rural Conditions in India, says: '*The Ceded Districts have always been one of the blackest spots in the famine map of India. The frequent occurrence of famine has completely crippled the peasantry and has reduced them to a state of abject poverty and dependence. The unfortunate ryot has hardly emerged from one famine before he is submerged in another*'.

"Then, again, Sir, the Co-operative Enquiry Committee to which I referred just now, says: '*In the last quarter of a century there has been on the average, a famine every third or fourth year—a fact which is conclusive evidence of the very bad economic condition of the people.*' The Famine Code Revision Committee says: '*Though there are other tracts in the Province, where the rainfall is deficient . . . the likelihood of abnormal seasonal variations on a scale sufficient to require special measures to deal with it exists only in the Ceded Districts.*' These quotations, I presume, are sufficient to impress on the Government the need for the creation of what I may say, a Rayalaseema Economic Development Fund. The then Premier, Mr. Prakasam, had referred to this aspect in his budget report and admitted that Rayalaseema had been neglected and promised special grants and separate executive staff. But that promise did not materialize. I would, therefore, place some suggestions for the consideration of the Hon. Minister. Firstly, you must set apart five or ten crores as a special fund for the development of the Rayalaseema."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is exceeding his time-limit."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—"I crave your personal indulgence, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I shall allow one or two minutes."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—"Sir, they must constitute this special fund and ask for a similar amount from the Central Government. They must sanction a special executive staff under the control of a statutory non-official committee and work must not be got through by the usual red-tapism, but decisions must be taken speedily and must be executed expeditiously—something on the lines of the Tennassee Valley Authority. If such a body is created and we entrust it with the development of the Ceded Districts or Rayalaseema, then that body or that committee will take care of the works that are to be undertaken. Otherwise if the works are sanctioned on the reports which are to go through the usual red-tapism, then they will never see the light of the day. The present Economic Development Board for Ceded Districts may be expanded and converted into such a body with a high-power executive staff to execute irrigational works, electrical works, works relating to agriculture and communications.

"Then, Sir, coming to the resources of Rayalaseema, you will be simply surprised if I tell you, that if these resources are properly developed and tapped, not only the Andhra area but the whole of the Madras Presidency will become a most wealthy and prosperous Province throughout the whole of India, because in the

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womb and heart lies untapped vast mineral resources. Minerals such as irone ore, coal, lignite and manganese ore found in unlimited quantities.

1-15 p.m. "Sir, though there are big rivers like the Kistna and the Tungabhadra flowing through the Ceded Districts, unfortunately the people on the banks of those rivers are dying of starvation and famine. The waters of those rivers are allowed to flow down to the sea without being utilized for the benefit of the people of those districts."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has exceeded his time-limit. Mr. Koti Reddi will now speak."

*SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting this Demand I would like to make a few suggestions to show how famine relief in future can be given better and secondly to suggest to Government to adopt some measures to prevent the recurrence of famine not only in the Ceded Districts but in the Province as a whole. The British Government were confining themselves to famine relief, and they did not bestow their attention to prevent famine altogether. We are thankful to them for what they did. Unfortunately crores and crores of rupees have been spent in the Ceded Districts only by way of relief of famine. To prevent famine I would request the Hon. Ministers for Revenue and Public Works to carry out the big schemes of the Kistna, Tungabhadra and Gandikota projects within as short a time as possible. There is well subsidy irrigation scheme prevailing in those districts. It is said that wells dry up overnight and no water could be found for irrigation. This can be partially rectified if only the wells are dug deep. When tanks dry up, the water from the wells can be made use of to supplement tank irrigation. From my own personal experience I am saying this.

"I wish to say also one more thing. The soil in the Ceded Districts is of three kinds—black cotton, red loam and grave soil. The black cotton soil requires very little of water. If there is too much of water the crops will fail. Some years ago I suggested to the Government—I read it somewhere. I don't remember where to have what is called overhead irrigation, it is just like having rain. This will benefit the ryot, there will be no waste of water, and the crop will be good. The Hon. Minister for Public Works and the Hon. Minister for Agriculture might well ponder over this. This country of ours is an agricultural country, and we have to depend mainly on agriculture however much it is industrialised.

"Sir, the Ceded Districts are a groundnut producing area. The price fixed for groundnut cake by Government is very low, and I do not know why the ryots should be losers. The groundnut cake is mainly used by the ryots of the wet area as manure for their crop. Thus the ryot of a dry area producing the cake for the ryot of a wet area has to suffer. I urge on Government to remove the fifty per cent control that still exists on groundnut cake.

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"Finally, Sir, I would urge on Government to create a reserve fund to develop this area. A certain portion of it should be contributed by the Local Government and the remaining portion by the Central Government. To make the Central Government contribute its quota the Local Government should first come forward with its quota."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"Sir, in rising to support the Demand I want to suggest to the Hon. Minister for Famine (Laughter) one or two points. To solve this famine question one should be a resourceful engineer like the one who built the Cumbum tank. That tank was constructed two hundred years ago and it is to-day irrigating hundreds of acres. In Kurnool district like that tank, there is the Mahanandi, and there is a bugga between Kurnool and Nandyal, whose waters are being wasted. Unless some engineer is able to harness the waters they will be only going to waste. The Tungabhadra scheme will benefit only some taluks of the Kurnool district. In this connection I would request Government to start a labour corps as it was done during the war in India and also in Russia. In Russia by this labour corps they were able to construct a big canal in three years. In it they employed political prisoners, big engineer-prisoners, etc. Merely tinkering with famine problem by undertaking road repairs and stone-breaking will not solve the question."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may continue his speech after lunch.

"I have to announce to the House there is a slight change in the budget programme. Hon. Members would be aware that it was announced that the authenticated schedule of expenditure would be placed on the table of the House on the 31st March 1948. It will not be placed on that date, but it will be laid on the next meeting day."

M. S. ATAULLAH SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, we Members of this House were informed some two months ago that the authenticated schedule . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Chair is in no way responsible for this change in the programme. It is His Excellency who has changed the programme under rule 18 of the Assembly Rules.

"The House will now adjourn for lunch and re-assemble at 2-30 p.m."

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was referring to the scheme of digging wells. I would like to suggest to my hon. Friend the Revenue Minister that the Madras Sappers and Miners, who earned a good name for doing very good work in the Military Department may be utilized for digging wells. The most scandalous part of the subsidy system has already been exposed. Many of those who availed themselves of the subsidy never dug any new wells or repaired old ones. Such a thing has

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occurred in the Guntur district also. One gentleman was given about Rs. 70,000 and I think the Government are recovering the amount from him. The Government themselves must undertake digging of wells."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" I would like to know from my hon. Friend how the Government can dig wells in another man's land and when the party himself has to bear three-fourths of the cost."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—" When the parties themselves apply for it, the Government can dig wells in others' land through the agency of the Revenue Department or the Public Works Department. They can also utilize the services of the Sappers and Miners and execute the work more quickly than under the present system which takes many months to complete the work. The Government can recover from the party that much of the cost which he has to bear. This is a very simple thing which can be understood by anybody.

"Road-repairing must be removed altogether from famine relief works. Instead of it, digging of wells and tanks may be included.

" In Rayalaseema and certain other tracts, cotton is grown in plenty. In such areas, the Government can start Khadi centres in as many places as possible and subsidize the poor people who are willing to do Khadi work. The Government themselves can purchase charkas and distribute them in the villages. Both the young and the old can ply the charkas and produce Khadi. This can be done as a famine relief work.

" In olden days there were no quick means for transporting food from one part of the country to the other and so people died of starvation. In these days food can be transported very quickly from one place to the other. The Government must try to import food into famine areas and distribute it to the people, and extract work from them. I would like to specially stress the point that in districts where famine is prevailing, the Government should organize big camps and utilize the men for doing work. I request the Hon. Minister to pay more attention to this, as the ghost of famine is haunting many of the districts in Rayalaseema. None of the past Governments have been able to devise methods to fight famine effectively. I hope that my young Friend will find out some radical method and I wish him all success.

" With these words, I support the Demand."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, unfortunately many friends have spoken on this Demand without contributing anything to the subject under discussion. Some friends have covered from Peru to China and have spoken about many things which are not at all connected with this Demand, as Mr. Raza Khan remarked. Linguistic Provinces, boundary commissions, conditions in Hyderabad border and many other things were referred to. I am not in a position to answer those criticisms under the Demand for Grant for Famine.

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" Hon. Mr. Salam is very free in his criticism and always disappears from the House whenever a reply is to be given. He wanted to know definitely what famine conditions were. I referred him to the Famine Code itself; it is a bulky volume and I cannot repeat all those details on the floor of the House."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" My hon. Friend the Revenue Minister has said that the Member has disappeared. I hold no brief for the Member who is not present. If the Minister concerned gives a fairly long notice that his reply would be at about such and such an hour, it may be possible for those who have taken part in the debate to be present. It is not always easy for Members to sit tight in their seats all through."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Hon. Members are expected to be present throughout the sitting. If any Member wants to go, he can inform the Chair and go.

" Hon. Members should know that during the 16th and 17th centuries, in the House of Commons absentee Members were called ' defaulters ' and ' deserters '. They were fined, their salaries were withheld, and they were even prosecuted."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" As experience has shown that these rigid rules are bad, they are not observed now.

" As I said, if the Hon. Ministers would give a fairly long notice as to when the reply is likely to be given Members who made criticisms will try to be present. That will be a good procedure."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I have already given a ruling."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" The Members of the Treasury Bench seem to think that if a Member, who raises an objection, is not present in the House at the time of the reply, the House is not entitled to a reply on that point. My submission is that when a Member makes a comment on the Government's policy, the House as a whole is seized of the matter and it is no longer an individual matter between the Member and the Government. If a Member who makes certain comments is not present at the time of the reply, I have no objection to the Hon. Speaker taking such action as he deems necessary. But on that ground no Member of the Treasury Bench can claim the privilege of not replying to the criticism of the hon. Member."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Regarding the absence of Members, it is the Chair that should take notice of it. Irrespective of whether a Member is present or not, it is the duty of the Members of the Treasury Bench to answer the points raised in the course of the discussion. Of course, it may not be possible to answer all the points, and they may leave out many points unanswered. But they should not say that they are not answering certain points on the ground that the Members who raised them are not present in the House."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" As a matter of fact, I never said that."

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SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" I am not referring to the Hon. Revenue Minister, but to the remarks of the Hon. Minister for Transport on a previous Demand."

*THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" Then the hon. Member should have raised the point when the Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas was speaking. There is no use of raising it now.

" What I was saying was that the hon. Gentleman, Mr. Abdul Salam, spoke at a tangent. He did not continue himself to famine, but referred to several other things. So I wanted to enjoy the joke with him or give it back to him. So I was regretting that that Gentleman is not present.

" One thing which indicates the coming of famine is migration of labour. The hon. Mr. Salam has started migration from the Muslim League Bench to the Independent Bench, and now he has migrated from this House. If there are famine conditions, they are not in the country but among the members opposite. I do not see a single member on the opposite bench and there are only one or two members on the Independent Bench. The other members sitting over there belong to my party. Therefore there is famine opposite to me.

" He criticized that there was lack of co-operation and goodwill among the Ministers. We do not lack in any one of these things.

2-45 p.m. " We have got co-operation among ourselves and we have got unity among ourselves and we are going to show that unity as well as that co-operation whenever it is necessary and wherever it is necessary. Therefore it is not the concern of Mr. Salam to preach us either politics or economics. Let him confine himself to the matter under discussion and not indulge in any talk of this nature.

" Then, Sir, about the conditions of famine, there seems to be some misapprehension. Conditions of famine are entirely different from the actual famine itself. Of course there is the other argument that even conditions of famine should not be allowed to appear in this country. That is the main aim of this Government. Not only should we see that proper remedial measures are taken to prevent famine visiting this country, but we should also take all steps to see that proper relief is given whenever famine is actually present. But this Demand is really concerned with the question of giving relief and not so much with the preventive measures. But under the changed conditions of to-day, we should do all that we can to see that famine never visits this country. Sir, certain hon. Friends referred to the past history of this country. I say that famines did not visit this country frequently before the 19th century, that it was only in the 19th century that famine began to increase in number and that in the 20th century, if we take the standard of nutrition of the people into consideration, we can say that famine is prevailing everywhere in the country day in and day out. You know, Sir, what these nutrition experts have laid down as the standard. Balanced diet for an average man in a tropical country according to them is that he should take 20 ounces of rice, two oranges or other fruits, 8 ounces of green vegetables

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and 8 ounces of milk, etc., every day and if you take this standard into consideration, I wonder whether even one of the members of the Treasury Benches is eating like that. Therefore we cannot take this ideal and technical standard. What we should see is whether people have got the necessary balanced diet and judged according to this standard, I should say, that there is famine everywhere in this country now, because there is under-nourishment everywhere and our country is not producing enough to feed her own population. This is a very large problem on which all our leaders and Governments are addressing themselves and this cannot be solved under the head ' Famine ' which we are discussing just now. We can only deal with the remedial as well as the relief measures under this head. That is my general answer to the trend of discussions that have taken place under this Demand.

" Now Sir, I should like to tell the House a few points about the Demand itself. One important question raised on the floor of the House is whether really any famine is prevailing in any portion of this Presidency to-day. As a matter of fact certain areas in the Province were also mentioned, as for instance Tinnevelly, portions of Ramnad and portions of Rayalaseema. I can tell the House that as soon as the news began to reach the Government, we took all precautions in the matter and I actually paid a visit to these places during the recent Pongal holidays. I also visited Chittoor and Anantapur and studied the conditions in all these places in detail. I can tell the House that in Mudukulathur and Aruppukkottai in the Ramnad district and certain taluks like Nanguneri in the Tinnevelly district, there is not actual famine, but conditions were bordering on famine. We took all precautions then and there to prevent the situation developing into actual famine and made all the necessary arrangements for rushing in stocks of foodgrains immediately."

SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL:—" In Nanguneri there is still famine."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" Sir, famine conditions, as I said, are entirely different from actual famines. Famine must be acute. Such conditions are not there at present, Sir, so far as I know. Perhaps there is not sufficient food to eat, but that does not mean that people are going without any food at all. Therefore it is not exactly famine. But we must see that even such conditions are not allowed to prevail. That is my main argument. We asked the Collectors to take immediate steps to see that the condition did not become worse. It was reported from the Tinnevelly and Ramnad districts, that a large number of labourers had already migrated to Tanjore and other surplus districts. We immediately started relief works in a number of places in those districts and nearly Rs. 10 lakhs were sanctioned to mitigate the situation.

" Later on I visited the Kalahasti taluk in the Chittoor district where similar conditions were reported and held consultations with the Collector and the Public Works Department officers with reference to the repair of certain minor and major irrigation works

there, and made necessary arrangements to execute those works. I may inform the House that both in Anantapur and Ramnad the general condition is this. In those two districts there are absolutely no water facilities, not only now, but even previously. The only alternative is to improve and repair the existing wells and tanks. Throughout the Ramnad district I found that all the tanks were breached. In the Anantapur district also there are many tanks which are in need of extensive repairs. As you will find from the Budget instead of Rs. 15 lakhs and Rs. 17 lakhs usually allotted for minor irrigation works, we have this year provided for Rs. 37 lakhs under minor irrigation. If famine conditions still persist in any part of the Presidency in spite of all these precautions, we have made a further supplimentary provision of Rs. 50 lakhs in this year's budget to meet any unforeseen emergency. If we are unable to make all these districts free from famine, at least we want to save the lives of the people by all means in our power. The Government are not nowadays directing the Collectors to open relief works such as laying of roads or breaking of stones and thus giving some little amounts by way of wages to the starving people, as they have been doing previously. We laid down a new policy recently. We told the Collectors definitely that they should undertake the repair of all tanks and other irrigation sources in famine-stricken areas, and this policy has been in force for the last two months.

"In this connexion, one difficulty arises and that is with reference to the zamin areas. In the zamin areas the Government cannot spend their own money for the repair of the irrigation sources. Under the existing Act, we will have to give notice to the zamindar and if he does not repair those tanks, then only could the Government step in and carry out the repairs, and recover the charges from the zamindar. All that will take time. So far as the Kalahasti taluk which is a zamin area and which is suffering from famine conditions is concerned, what we have done is this. We have asked the Collector to attend to the repairs of the tanks there and also to the digging of wells without any delay, and without waiting for the survey to be made. These zamin areas, as you all know, have not been surveyed up till now and without survey we do not know what the extent of land is and what money should be spent, and what extent of land should be taken as collateral security for the amount to be spent. We have therefore instructed the Collector to take the paimash number into account, mark the boundaries clearly and then proceed to subsidize the repairs and construction of wells as quickly as possible under the present situation. We have taken all these measures in anticipation of the passing of the Zamindari Abolition Bill. That is how we are giving immediate and ready help to these famine-stricken areas in the zamindaris.

"Then Sir, certain friends said something about the rationing facilities and the like. My hon. Colleague the Food Minister has given the reply to these points and he has also assured the House that famine is not anticipated in any portion of the Presidency and he also placed a statement on the table of the House

and furnished certain statistics showing how this Government have approached the Central Government and how they are progressing with the procurement drive and all the rest of it. We are indeed obliged to hon. Members for their frank criticisms because we know that we are not working under perfect conditions. We have not got the required quantity of foodgrains to feed all the people with even the ordinary ration. To feed the people on a nutritious scale is a practical impossibility, unless we take on hand many great irrigation projects and create entirely new conditions in the Province, which can only be done as a long-term plan.

"In this connexion, Sir, the question of electricity was also referred to. I visited the Madakasira taluk in the Anantapur district. It was called the garden land of Anantapur. Trees grow very well there. It is difficult to raise water from the deep wells without the help of electricity. The Mysore electricity lines pass through the taluk. Now the Madras Government are making arrangements to make use of that electricity and with the co-operation of the Mysore Government, we hope to get the benefit of electricity to the lands in the Madakasira taluk so that they may again become the green garden lands of the Anantapur district. These we have taken all the necessary steps to improve the conditions in this district in the Rayalaseema."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will it flow with milk and honey?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Sir, if out of Rs. 1,60,00,000 that we have allotted last year for wells, we could spend as much as Rs. 1,59,00,000 before the end of the current year, my hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan can rest assured that not only can he hope for milk and honey to flow into those areas, but that there is actual honey in that particular place to drink.

"Then Sir, one thing I should like to say particularly in this connexion. Hon. Members should remember that any speeches they make in this House should not be such as to create panic outside. We should be very careful in making our speeches in this House, and see that we do not exaggerate things. If people outside read our speeches and get to know that the situation is really as serious as is described in this House, while as a matter of fact, it is not so, then the producers who are to supply us foodgrains in these procurement districts will unnecessarily get panicky and will not part with their stocks in the fear that their districts might also be affected. Therefore I request all hon. Members that they should make helpful and constructive suggestions and that they should not be hyper-critical in their attitude. I have been anxiously waiting in this demand to hear specific grievances from all hon. Members in their own districts and the particular suggestions they have got to make, so that I can have a detailed knowledge of those things. But I am sorry to find that all the criticisms and suggestions were of a general nature and there was very little said with reference to any particular grievance in any particular area. There was only one exception

to this and that was in the case of the Rayalaseema. The hon. Mr. Koti Reddi and the hon. Mr. Venkatasubbayya made certain good suggestions with reference to the amelioration of the particularly famine-stricken areas in the Rayalaseema. Every hon. Member knows that even the smallest failure of the monsoon would affect these areas and cause famine because the annual rainfall in these areas is very low. Therefore these backward areas ought to receive the special attention of the Government. My hon. Friend Mr. Koti Reddi said that millions have been sunk into these areas for relief, but not much was done by way of prevention. As I have already explained just now, Sir, we are now adopting a new policy and we are putting into operation new schemes of remedial measures so that famines may disappear altogether from the Rayalaseema and other similar areas in the Presidency.

" Then Sir, with reference to Rayalaseema, the main charge was that there was lethargy and delay on the part of the Government. I think it was my hon. Friend Mr. Venkatasubbayya who said that, and he also characterized the action of the Government as criminal. I accept the charge Sir. There might have been some lethargy and delay in the past. Else, there is no reason why every year and particularly once in three or four years famine should recur in those areas. Therefore while pleading guilty to the charge, I should like to assure him that the Government now sitting on the Treasury Benches are keenly alive to this and are taking all possible measures to see that those conditions do not continue to exist. The Government are actively considering the creation of a special fund for attending to the needs of Rayalaseema. I have used the word ' actively ' deliberately and not in the usual conventional sense. Mr. Venkatasubbayya also mentioned that so many committees, like the Irrigation Committee, the Famine Committee and other co-operative and economic enquiry committees have come and gone but nothing came out of them. I can assure my friend that we are not going to do like that again. We have appointed a Special Officer and he is now called the Development Commissioner. He has got specific duties and I may tell the House that he has submitted his first interim report and we are scrutinizing it and it will not be long before we come to positive conclusions on a planned basis. The object of this special fund is to spend it for the development of all these areas so that their needs may not be overlooked in time of financial difficulties in any particular year and not made to depend upon our Revenue Account from year to year.

" Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Koti Reddi also suggested that some portion of the Revenue Reserve Fund might be set apart for Rayalaseema. As I said, our object is to see that this special fund which we are going to create is to be kept there separately, so that when the linguistic provinces come into being, we will take over these areas under our care and proceed with their development out of that fund, so that nobody need be under any apprehension that any area is neglected or that any particular area is being shown any special favour. Therefore I once again

assure the House that we have taken up the question of Rayalaseema in right earnest, and active measures have also been taken to push on with the schemes and I do hope that when this question is raised again on the floor of the House, my hon. Friends will be able to see something definite and something tangible done for the Rayalaseema."?

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—" Sir, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to supply the Members of the House with a copy of the Report of the Development Commissioner? " 3 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER:—" Two Members are standing simultaneously. Is it on a point of information that the hon. Member is rising? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" After the scrutiny of the report by the Government is over we will publish the report if necessary, Sir.

" Sir, I do not like to take up the time of the House for long. The other points regarding the exploitation of the ryots by Government servants and other men have all been raised and answered in relation to other departments. In our view, Sir, with the help of the public all the difficulties will get eradicated.

" I would appeal to the House, Sir, not to show any kind of nervousness in regard to this matter. We are taking not only relief measures but also remedial measures and no cost will be too much to meet the situation if it arises in any part of the Presidency.

" One of my hon. Friends said, Sir, that if nothing is done the Ministry will die unwept, unsung and unhonoured. I can assure that hon. Friend, that this Ministry will not die unsung, unwept and unhonoured. Sir, if in the course of events, we have to make place for others, I am perfectly certain that the Ministry will be sung, it will be honoured and it will be wept for. I request the hon. Member, who moved the cut motion, through you, Sir, to withdraw it."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" On a point of information, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I shall allow the hon. Member afterwards."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" Even though the House is not assured that there will be no recurrence of famine, I withdraw the cut motion."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" I want to know from the Hon. Minister Sir, as to what has happened to the revision of the Famine Code. There was a committee called the Famine Enquiry Committee and they have suggested in their report the revision of the Famine Code. I don't know what has happened to it. The Hon. Minister has not replied to that point."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" The hon. Member should know that I mentioned that point, Sir. Of course there have been always committees and reports. Now a Development

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Commissioner is actually drawing up a plan and it will be executed. It would be a distinct improvement upon the whole situation."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"The Hon. Minister has not made any reference to the famine conditions that have been prevailing in the agency areas, Sir. The prevalence of famine there, has been brought to the notice of the House several times, namely, in Chodavaram and other areas."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"No famine conditions are reported from those areas. Of course there are scarcity conditions prevailing and the Government have taken and are taking steps to see that proper supplies are sent over there."

The cut motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that under Demand XXVIII—Famine, the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 5,00,000 *'."*

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

V.—MOTION UNDER RULE 15.

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"With your permission, Sir, I propose a change in the order of taking up the Demands from that originally agreed upon. I propose now under the same rule 15, that Demand XXIII—Miscellaneous Departmeans might be taken up immediately."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I second it. Sir."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I have no objection to that, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I have no objection, Sir."

The motion was put and carried.

IV.—VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—*cont.*

DEMAND XXIII—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, I move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,07,17,000 *under Demand XXIII—Miscellaneous Departments '."*

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is nobody moving the cut motion?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I move the cut motion, Sir. Mr. Speaker, I move this cut motion in order to draw the attention of the Hon. the Minister for Home to the deplorable state of affairs as regards the attention given by the

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Government to the ameliorative conditions to our friends belonging to the Harijan community. It must be remembered that last year . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I see that the hon. Member has not given notice of any cut motion."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Nobody came forward to move a cut motion, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member cannot move a cut motion when he has not given notice of it. If no Member is moving a cut motion, the hon. Member can speak on the original motion itself."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I shall speak on the original motion, Sir.

"Mr. Speaker, I wish to state that the Government are not giving due attention to the question of the amelioration of the conditions of our brothers of the Harijan community. Sir, last year when the Hon. Mr. Prakasam's Government were in office, they allotted one crore of rupees for the uplift of the Harijans. Unfortunately, the Government did not see its way to spend that money. It will be wrong for the Government if they came forward and said that they were not in a position to spend all that money because they were preparing plans, they were making arrangements, they were finding ways and means as to how to spend that money, that they took one year for preparing plans, etc. That would only be a lame excuse. The question of amelioration to the Harijans is not a new question. If the Government plead ignorance with regard to the conditions of the Harijans in this Province, the explanation won't be satisfactory. The Harijans have been there. They do not only want houses, they want education and they require economic uplift. It is not enough if a legislation is passed to remove their disabilities. That does not give them any help to come up to the level of the other communities. It may be regarded as a mere patronage on the part of those who regard themselves as superior to them. To get a legislation passed like that and then gloat upon it saying that they have done enough for the Harijans by removing their disabilities will not give them food. If they want to enter a hotel, they must pay for the food they take, and enrich the hotel-keeper instead of enriching themselves and finding food for themselves.

"Then, Sir, they have thrown open the temples. Then again, they come forward and say that they have uplifted them. Undoubtedly, I know that the Harijan community feel satisfied to that extent. But once again I ask, will that uplift them economicaly or will it give them enough food and the wherewithall to be good citizens as any other community. Therefore, that one crore of rupees is not enough. If the Government wanted, they could have spent the money not in one year but in one month. The fact that they have not spent the money shows that they are really

not interested in the well-being of the millions. Instead of restoring that one crore of rupees in the budget under consideration, they have reduced the amount by 20 lakhs or so. What does that mean? Once again it shows their apathy, if not apathy, their indifference and deliberate neglect of the community which requires immediate attention from those who are placed in a better and more fortunate position. I would like to ask the Government what exactly is the reason for such an attitude so far as this community is concerned. Is it because that community is behind you, or because it is no more active in its demand for justice being done to them or because they belong to the dumb millions who have no voice in the matter, or because they are not now in a position of being recognized as a separate entity in the body politic? Or is it because they have merged themselves in your numbers that you are prepared to ignore and neglect them? On the other hand, when they are co-operating with you wholeheartedly and when they have become one with you, it is your duty and responsibility to help them. (Interruption.) I am asking the Government to look after them, not in a patronizing way but to do justice to them. I am not asking them to meet all their demands but at least to see that they get all that they need in order that they may be raised to the position which is occupied by the other communities in the body politic
3-15 p.m. of the Province. I hope, Sir, that Government will come forward in a penitent mood and tell us that whatever is allotted under this head for the uplift of the Harijan community will be made good in other ways, and as the year goes on, more money will be allotted to provide all facilities for giving Harijans education, building separate hostels for them, etc. If admission is not given to them in common hostels, accommodation should be given to them in institutions which are solely intended for them. I would like to tell the Government to come forward and say that a certain percentage of them are admitted in common hostels, and that they should mix up with members of other communities, and that they should not remain as a separate community. Gone are those days. (Interruption.) I am not seeking to find a place in the Cabinet. (The Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan: 'Would not get it either.') Therefore, my tears are not crocodile tears. I am saying it because I believe that any Government worth its name should regard it as its duty to raise a community which all are agreed, is very backward and requires special attention. It will not do if you merely pass orders saying that 10 per cent of the seats are reserved in colleges and schools for Harijans. It will not do for you to say that they are all our kith and kin. They have a right to demand admission to common hostels. You must take the practical view. It is only by making special arrangements for hostels in schools and colleges for them separately, that you will be giving them an impetus for education. It is not by suggestions that they can go and get themselves admitted into schools and common hostels. If you are really anxious to give them a helping hand and speed up their progress, you will have to provide separate institutions for a stipulated period. It is only when you have separate institutions

for them, all possible accommodation can be given to them. Then only their education and economic uplift will be speeded up. Sir, I commend these suggestions for the consideration of the Government, and I request them, not as one who wants to beat the Government with the stick that they have neglected to do their duty, but as one sympathizing with the community which really and sincerly, I believe, deserves help. It is quite ununderstandable how a section of human beings should be allowed to remain in that condition. If only you go to the *cheris* in which they live—even in the City of Madras—you will find the conditions under which they live. Only the other day, the Hon. Speaker and some other friends attended a function in a Harijan locality, and they noticed in what deplorable conditions the Harijans there were living. They are not living like human beings; the conditions there are not fit for even animals. Why should a section of human beings be allowed to live under those deplorable conditions? It is the duty of the Government to allot large sums of money for the uplift of Harijans and see that within one year their conditions are changed from what they are to-day."

MR. SPEAKER:—"A large number of Members wish to take part in this Demand. Therefore, I fix two hours for it."

* SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to speak on three items under this Demand, and they are criminal tribes' settlements, labour schools, and Amindivi and Laccadive Islands. Coming to the third, first, i.e., Amindivi and Laccadive Islands, which are situated several miles away from the coast, I would like to say that recently I had occasion to peruse some of those records, and I found that a Deputy Tahsildar was more or less ruling 3 to 4 lakhs of people and a Revenue Inspector was the man who dispensed justice with final powers—powers like those possessed by the High Court. My view is that this sort of antediluvian administration of a large section of the population who are cast away, as it were, and for whom the Government of India wants to provide for administrative amenities should be abolished. These two islands from the accounts I had and from the evidence given before me by two persons (Government officials), are administered in a way . . ."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" On a point of order, Sir. Laccadives come under General Administration. I would like to know how the hon. Gentleman is referring to the administration of these islands now."

MR. SPEAKER:—" According to the Act, it is under the control of the Governor."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" Coming to labour schools, I would like to make a suggestion to those who are interested in labour, and that is this. The present rules do not permit scholarships to be given to anybody who has not passed his third standard. He must be of a particular age which, according to normal conditions, should suit the class which he is studying in. Because of

this measuring rod of efficiency those people who have been classified as criminal tribes or as aboriginals or as neglected people have not been able to get the benefit. So, there must be a different standard set for them. Very few people agree to send their children to schools among these communities. Unless the Government change the rule making it possible for these communities to send their children to school and give them all facilities that are open to other students, that is, free food, free education, etc., it is impossible to encourage education among these classes. I therefore wish to suggest that Government will come forward with a different scheme for educating all the backward classes and give them scholarships to all their hostels and tell them that all these amenities will be available to them even from the first standard.

"The third thing is about criminal tribes settlement. The Hon. Home Minister has been waxing eloquent over the fruits of civilization and the fruits of British parliamentary practices. I wish to know what makes him bring in that most unwarranted and brutal piece of legislation, the Restriction of Habitual Offenders Act. If this Act is to apply to anybody to-day, even the Hon. Home Minister will be the first man to come under its claw. For it says that anybody who has committed a non-bailable offence will be declared as a habitual offender. Congressmen had been convicted in non-bailable offences. Sedition is one such. I do not know what prompted the Hon. Minister to come forward with a legislation which says 'so and so' is a habitual offender because he has gone to prison three times. If the Hon. Minister would go to the cinema hall where 'Les Miserables' is now shown, he will know the life of a person who has been sentenced for ten years because he had no ostensible means of livelihood. He was convicted for a second time and sentenced to another ten years. On both the occasions, he had to go and steal a loaf of bread. Government convicted him for the sins he committed, as if they were immune. The present conditions do not justify the continuance of these brutal laws. While the Criminal Tribes Act has been repealed . . . (Interruption.) The Act has been repealed a few months ago. But still it is in vogue. The Police men are harrassing. (Interruption.) It may be the Home Minister or the Premier who gives the orders. But they in practice disobey these orders. Unless the Inspector-General of Police or the Sub-Inspector of Police gives them instructions, they refuse to obey. The police of Madras Province for whom even the Home Member is not having a soft corner . . ."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It is a very much mistaken belief, Sir. I have all sympathy."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"My suggestion to the Hon. Minister is that hereafter these Criminal Tribes Act, Habitual Offenders Act and these monstrous laws, which are a blot on the Statute Book and a disgrace to our legislature should be avoided in view of the civilization that we are trying to have and in view of the freedom that we are thinking we have recently won.

"Lastly, Sir, I ask why do the Government want to retain these criminal tribes settlements. You know that in these settlements there are people who have been born and bred up to ripe old age. Simply because a man's father had been convicted and confined in the settlement, his son has to remain there in the settlement even though he has not committed an offence. It is these cruel laws which make him become a revolutionary suddenly. The settlers take the law of the jungle into their hands. It is high time that Government come forward with a more human view of the problem and undertake colonization schemes and establish fair means of livelihood for them rather than treat these people harshly and make them confirmed criminals.

"With this appeal, I resume my seat."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"On a point of information, Sir.

"My esteemed Friend Mr. Kameswara Rao demanded yesterday a half-hour debate to discuss the policy of Government with regard to Harijans. We will be discussing the question now for nearly two hours and the Hon. Leader of the House will reply. May I enquire, Sir, whether he will give the same reply to the half-hour debate also."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"In view of the discussion now there is no necessity for a half-hour debate to-day, Sir."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"I hope the Hon. Speaker will give time for all Harijan Members to express their points of view."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I must allow the Hon. Leader of the House half an hour for reply."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Fifteen minutes will do, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The one hour and forty-five minutes will be distributed between the various Members."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion which the Hon. the Leader of the House moved for the Miscellaneous Departments. I am surprised to see, Sir, that the provision made for the Harijan Uplift is not at all satisfactory. After the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi, the great benefactor of the Harijan community, the cause of Harijans is suffering. Sir, I was told the other day in New Delhi by our esteemed friend, His Excellency, Sri C. Rajagopalachari, that Mahatma Gandhi has placed the question of Harijan Uplift on a strong foundation and that no Harijan can be disappointed in the matter of the elevation of the Depressed Classes. But, Sir, what is happening all round our Province and throughout the districts? I do not think, Sir, there is much protection for the Harijans. Whether it is under the Police Department or in the court of justice, the poor Harijan suffers most. Sir, I will be failing in my duty if I do not thank the present Ministry for all the Acts 3-30 p.m.

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of social reform that they have brought in this land, both by way of allowing Harijans to go into the temples and also attempting to eradicate untouchability. But, I do not think, Sir, that the way in which these Acts are applied has at all improved the condition of the Harijans. My hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan, speaking about the economic condition of the Harijans, had made it clear that they are still the most disapppointed people and that their condition has not in any way improved.

" Sir, last year when we were discussing this Demand, I clearly pointed out that in view of the budgeting in the name of communities eligible for help, the case of Harijans is suffering because the real Harijans are not getting the help but the converts and others are being helped and the main untouchable communities are not getting the benefit. Fortunately, for us, Sir, the then Premier brought in a Communiqué No. 7 of 1947, wherein he has clearly stated who are the Harijans, who are the converts and who are the backward communities. But, Sir, again, in this Budget, I find the same old thing repeated, namely, the communities eligible for help. Sir, we know what is happening in the districts —the Harijans are not getting the help which they require. Therefore, it is high-time the Government should not think on those lines, and they cannot think so, because the communiqué clearly says who are the Harijans, I mean the Schedule Classes, who are the converts and who are members of the backward communities. Sir, I find in this Budget that one lakh of rupees has been provided for the backward communities. We welcome it and have no quarrel over it. As a matter of fact, I think Government have done well in providing one lakh of rupees for the amelioration of the condition of the backward communities. But, Sir, what do we find in the present Budget? They have provided money for various items. They have provided Rs. 62 lakhs last year, 60 lakhs for this year and Rs. 67-73 lakhs in the coming year and the excess is for meeting the increased dearness and other allowances for their staff. When I saw the Budget closely, I found that the Government have provided about Rs. 21,66,700 for Harijans by way of scholarships and schooling charges. I do not know whether this amount forms part of the one crore of rupees which the Government have intended for Harijan Uplift. Sir, last year, the Government have set aside one crore of rupees purely for Harijan Uplift. But later on, they mixed up this one crore of rupees meant for Harijan Uplift with another three crores allotted for the village reconstruction, and thus there were four crores of rupees last year. Sir, I do not find the balance of one crore in the budget for 1948–49 for Harijan Uplift, both the village reconstruction fund and the Harijan Uplift fund are mixed up together. I see, Sir, from the Budget that they are going to spend about Rs. 21,66,700 and it is provided as a lump sum provision for Harijan Uplift by way of scholarship and schooling charges, boarding grants and other grants. Sir, recently the Government have appointed a Committee called the Provincial Harijan Welfare Committee and the Government have asked that Committee to submit a report as to how best

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the one crore of rupees can be spent and also to work out a programme for five years. The Committee deliberated nearly for four months. The report was signed by the members of the Committee on the 9th December. But, so far that report has not seen the light of day and the printed report has not yet come before the House. Not only in this House, but also in the Press and platform and even in the Central Assembly, there were talks that not a single pie out of this one crore has been spent. Therefore, it is high-time the Government tel us where is this one crore of rupees and why that amount has been mixed up with the three crores meant for rural reconstruction.

" Sir, the other day, from the supplementary demand, we found that the Government have proposed to spend Rs. 1,80,000 for the Thakur Baba Industrial School at Kodambakkam. I do not know whether this matter was referred to the Provincial Harijan Welfare Committee for their suggestion and before the views of the Committee on this matter are known, I do not know how this amount can be spent.

" Then, Sir, the condition of the Harijans in villages are appalling and as a matter of fact, the Committee had to go thoroughly into the whole matter and suggest spending a big bit for rural Harijans. But, unfortunately, without any reference to that Committee, which has submitted an exhaustive report, large amounts are being spent. These rural people are not literate. When that is so, how their condition can be improved? Government have come to certain decisions without caring for the suggestions of this Committee. Moreover, Sir, what I would like to bring to the notice of this Government is this. I should like to make it plain to the Government that this Harijan question must be solved once and for all. I have been in this House for the last twenty-one years. Every year and in every Budget, I have been pleading for the cause of the Depressed Classes. Sir, at least after our attaining independence, I thought that clamour for uplift would disappear. But, what has happened? To-day, the condition of the Depressed Classes has not improved. Now, Sir, under the new constitution, there is adult franchise. Let me take the percentage of literacy among the Harijans in the villages. I believe it is not more than three to four per cent. When that is so, how can you expect them to intelligently cast their vote in the future elections? Therefore, Sir, there must be a headway in the primary compulsory education of the Harijans before the elections take place on the basis of adult franchise.

" Finally, Sir, I want to bring to the notice of the Government one point. I hope they will not be satisfied after spending the one crore which they have set apart for Harijans Uplift Fund but that they will also contribute every year one crore of rupees towards that fund. I also hope that they will approve the suggestions

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which the Provincial Harijan Welfare Committee have made in their report with regard to the five-year plan for Harijan Uplift."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to refer to the Industrial Tribunals which are constituted under Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. These industrial tribunals are created according to the Act passed by the Central Government. The labour movement as a whole has opposed this Act and fought to the last. In the teeth of serious opposition from the labour movement this Act was passed. The main objections taken by the labour movement are afterwards found to be correct by the way in which this Act is being implemented. The main purpose of this Act is to suppress strikes by declaring them illegal. Thus the Government by this enactment had created a series of illegal strikes. The moment a dispute is referred to an Industrial Tribunal, the workers in that industry could not go on strike and the strike pending will be illegal.

" The way in which these Industrial Tribunals are functioning always helps the capitalists. For example, let us see the strike situation in Coimbatore. The work load had been increased and the employers are given all help by the police. Workers were denied even the right to hold meetings whereas employers' stand is being actively taken up by the Government. Despite the fact that the Government and the Tamil Nad Congress leaders have openly joined, the workers are remaining like a rock. This situation could never be eased by creating any number of industrial tribunals. To-day the working class in the Textile industry is faced with the question of unemployment, purposely created by the capitalists to maintain their war-time profits. The Government became the hand-maid of these capitalists. To ease the situation it is not the Public Safety Act or the Suppression of Disorders Act—the two Congress Rowlatt Acts—that will be useful. You may shoot down workers or only Communists, let it be, yet the problem will not be solved. The only solution lies in effective nationalization of the Textile industry and thus providing employment and paying wages and decent living conditions to the working classes. I impeach the Government for the situation prevalent in the textile industry. The Government may shout from housetops that the Communists are responsible for these troubles. But let them look at their own faces as reflected in the mirror—society. They could find themselves in ugly colours. You declare strikes illegal and thus curb even elementary civil rights which the working class had earned by heavy sacrifices. And virtually there are no legal strikes and no protection for the working class.

" Then, Mr. Speaker, there is another policy with regard to these industrial disputes. The Chairmen and members of the Industrial Tribunal are in no way connected or well-versed in labour problems. They are not at all sympathetic towards labour. On the other hand, they are drafted from aristocratic classes or rich landholders or lawyers having a big practice or some times High Court Judges. Such an Industrial Tribunal is asked to dole out justice to the labourers. If such people are appointed as industrial tribunals their sympathies are always towards the capitalists and not towards labour and therefore the labour has to suffer. That is why I say there is no use of creating such industrial tribunals. There are many industrial disputes in the country to-day. What are they due to? You have still to radically improve the situation. You have to solve the problem of unemployment throughout the land. Government should not encourage the mill magnates or the capitalists and they should not be given a chance to force the labourer to work. Sir, immediately the case goes before the industrial tribunal, the labour leaders are arrested and the labour movement is suppressed. That is the policy of this Government. There are so many cases where these strikes are brought about on account of the attitude of the mill magnates and capitalists and the employers. Therefore, Sir, the policy pursued by this Government as regards the settlement of these industrial disputes is wholly unsatisfactory, and it does not do credit to the Government. In many cases, the Labour Commissioner or the Conciliation officer is not well-versed in the problem of labour. These people are always on the side of the management and do not understand the difficulties of labour. Therefore, Sir, these officers are also responsible for creating such strikes. Particularly now, Sir, we have a Labour Commissioner who refuses to grant even interviews to labour leaders and this gentleman goes to settle labour disputes. Such Labour Commissioners we have got and therefore, the whole Department of Labour must be thoroughly overhauled.

" Then, Sir, there is another point which I would like to refer to. Under this Act, the Adi-Dravidas who are given the house-sites should bear half the cost. Sir, these Adi-Dravidas are the poorest in the society. If they are asked to bear half the cost of house-sites, they cannot do it and they are not benefited at all. Therefore, my suggestion is that if the Government are really anxious to help the Adi-Dravidas, they should give the house-sites to these Adi-Dravidas without any cost and the Government should not insist on their paying half the cost. If this condition is insisted on by the Government, naturally most of these Adi-Dravidas will not be in a position to pay half the cost of the house-sites and therefore, they will not get any benefit.

" Sir, I now come to Harijan Uplift. In most of the villages in Guntur and Kistna districts the rich landlords are oppressing the Harijans. They sometimes even go to the extent of beating them. If the Communists and the labour leaders go to their rescue, it is said that the Communists create all the trouble. This has been the policy of the Government for the last few months. I hope the members of the Harijan community will realize this. Not only they, but all the oppressed classes must realize the nature of the policy pursued by the Government." 2-45 p.m.

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MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Leader of the House told me that the Hon. Mr. Kurmayya would take part in the debate and would require 15 minutes. So I allow only five minutes for each hon. Member hereafter."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"అధ్యక్షా, 'అంగటిలో అన్నీ ఉన్నాయి, అల్లుడు నోట్లో శని ఉంది' అన్నట్లున్నది ఈ హరిజనుల పరిస్థితి. బొక్కసంలో డబ్బుంది. Harijan Uplift కోసము ఒక కోటి రూపాయిలు ప్రత్యేకించారు, కాని ఇంతవరకు హరిజనోద్ధరణకై ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఒక చిన్నదొత్తు అయిన ఖర్చు చేశారా, ఇంతవరకు విమిచేసినట్లు ఎక్కడ ఈబడ్జెటులో కనిపించటం లేదు. ఇందుచేతనే, 'అల్లుడు నోట్లో శని' ఉన్నదని అన్నాను.

"ఇప్పుడు హరిజనులకు గ్రామాలలో బడులు లేవు. బడులు ఉన్నచోట పంతుళ్లులేరు. ఇందుచేత వీరు చదువులేని నిరక్షరకుక్షులుగా ఉన్నారు. దీనికి తోడు వీరికి కూడూ, గుడ్డా రెండుకూడా లేవు. వీరి బడుల పరిస్థితిచూస్తే చాలా శోచనీయంగా ఉంటుంది. వీటిలో బల్లలుంటే కుర్చీలుండవు, కుర్చీలుంటే బల్లలుండవు, తలకలుంటే బెంచీలుండవు, బెంచీలుంటే చంకలుండవు, అన్నిళుంటే పిల్లలుండరు. ఇటువంటి దారిద్ర్యస్థితిలో ఉన్నాయి వీరి పరిస్థితులు.

"మనము మహాత్మా గాంధీగారి అనుచరులము, ఆప్తీయులము అని అనుకొంటూ, ఆయనకు అత్యంతప్రియమైనటువంటి హరిజనులను ఇటువంటి పరిస్థితులలో ఉంచడం చాలా సిగ్గుచేటు. ఈ విషయములన్నింటిని విపులంగా తెలియజేద్దామనే అభిప్రాయంతోనే నేను 3 గంట చర్చకు ఆడిగినాను. ఈ నాడు హరిజనులు పడుతున్న బాధలు నన్ను చాలా కలవర పెడుతున్నాయి.

"ముఖ్యంగా విదేశాలలో ఉన్నత విద్య నభ్యసించేందుకు విద్యార్థులను Select చేయటంలో హరిజనులకు చాలా అన్యాయము జరుగుతోంది. దానిలో వారికి రావేలేదు.

"ఈ నాడు మనదేశంలో హరిజనులు అందరిచేత అణగద్రొక్కబడి ఉన్నారు. ఈ విధంగా ఇంకా వారిని అణగద్రొక్కడం దేశానికి శ్రేయస్కరంకాదు. ఈ అణగద్రొక్కబడినటువంటి వారే ఒకప్పుడు విజృంభించి దేశాన్నంతా స్వాధీనము చేసుకుంటారు. ఇది నేను స్పష్టంగా చెప్పగలను. ఎప్పటికైనా అణగద్రొక్కబడినవారే ఒక రోజున రాష్ట్రాలనేకాదు, దేశాలనేకాదు, ప్రపంచాన్నే ఆక్రమించి తీసుకొంటారు. ఇటువంటి అన్యాయములు, విషమపరిస్థితులు విర్వడకుండా చూడవలసిన కార్యము ప్రభుత్వము వారిమీద ఉన్నది.

"ఇప్పటికి మూర్తిగారు ఈ రెండు సంవత్సరాలనుండి ప్రభుత్వంలో మంత్రిగా ఉన్నారు. ఈ రెండు సంవత్సరాలలో వీరు హరిజనోద్ధరణకు ఏమిచేశారో గుండెమీద చేయివేసుకొని చెప్పమనండి. హరిజన విద్యార్థులకు ఎంతమందికి ఎన్ని Scholarship లు ఇచ్చారు, గ్రామములలో ఉండటానికి చోటులేక బాధలు పడుతున్న ఎంతమంది హరిజనులకు ఇళ్లకట్టుకోటానికి నివేశస్థలాలు ఇచ్చారు, ఇంక ఏమేమి చేశారో వారేమైనా చెప్పగలరా. ఇది చాలా విచారకరమైన సంగతి.

"ఈ విషయాలన్నింటినిగురించి మాట్లాడడానికి నాకిచ్చిన ఈ 5 నిమిషాల వ్యవధి సరిపోదు. ఇంకొక 5 నిమిషాలు కావాలి.

"కనుక ఈ నాడు ముఖ్యంగా హరిజనోద్ధారణకుగాను పబ్లిక్ట్రూళ్లలో కూడా తీసుకోడానికి ఇళ్లలేని వీధి హరిజనులకు గృహములను మొదట విచ్చాటుచేయవలెను.

25th March 1948] [Sri A. Kameswara Rao]

తరువాత భూములు లేనివారికి భూములివ్వవలెను. ఈ భూములు ఇవ్వడం విషయంలో ప్రభుత్వంవారు చాలా శ్రద్ధవహించుకొని ఈ భూముల మధ్యవర్తుల చేతులలో పడకుండా చూడవలెను. ఇంతేకాకుండా ఈ భూముల నన్నింటిని సక్రమంగా సాగులోనికి తీసుకొని వచ్చుటకు వారికి ధనసహాయము చేయవలెను. హరిజనులకుగాను మంచి Colony లను విచ్చాటుచేసి వారికి ఆధునిక వ్యవసాయ పరికరములను, మంచి విత్తనాలను Agricultural Department వారిద్వారా supply చేయించి వారిని దేశానికంతకూ కూడు, గుడ్డ తయారు చేయగలిగినటువంటి మంచి సైద్యగాళ్లనుగా చేసినట్లైతేనే మనము గాంధిగారి అనుచరులమని చెప్పుకోటమూ ప్రభుత్వము చేయటానికి హక్కుంటుంది. లేకపోతే బయటకు వెళ్లవచ్చు; మనకు ఇక్కడుమాటాడానికి అర్హతలేదు. కాబట్టి హరిజనోద్ధరణే తమ ముఖ్యధర్మంగా ప్రభుత్వంవారు భావించి కాలయాపనచేయక వారికై ప్రత్యేకించిన కోటి రూపాయలను సద్వినియోగం చేయవలసినదిగా ప్రభుత్వంవారిని పెద్దలకు నేను విరమిస్తున్నాను."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"Sir, when we are discussing the question of Harijan Uplift I wish that the Harijan Members had more opportunities of having their say in this matter. I wish only to speak a few words on behalf of my party. I assure them that all of us have every sympathy with them. Sir, if I were to tell the Government or my Caste Hindu brethren as to what they should or should not do for the Harijans I would be merely carrying coals to Newcastle. Whatever may be said of the past, in recent years, particularly after the advent of Mahatma Gandhi, whatever possible is being done to the Harijans by the Government and the Caste Hindus. Of course there may be shortcomings here and there, but there is an earnest desire on the part of the Government and the Caste Hindus to do whatever the community wants for its uplift. Therefore it is not right on my part to point out the defects if there are any and to tell them what they should or should not do in the matter. In fact in the very first budget of the Congress Ministry, in the year 1946, the then Hon. Premier Mr. Prakasam earmarked a sum of Rs. 1 crore for Harijan Uplift. The question is how best to utilize the money for Harijan Uplift. I have heard reports that the money is yet to be utilized and that it has not been made proper use of. I am sure that the present Government will utilize the amount for the uplift of the Harijans.

"Sir, the other question which has really been worrying the leaders of the Harijan Community including yourself Sir,—because they cannot find a better leader than yourself—is the question of representation in the services. In the recent Communal G.O. better representation is given to the Harijan community, but some of these friends still feel that the representation is not adequate. But as was pointed out by the Hon'ble Leader of the House much depends on their educational uplift also. The real problem is the economic and educational uplift. As long as they are backward in these two directions, I am sure the community cannot make much progress. I am not competent to give any advice to the leaders of this community. But might I say very

[Muhammad Raza Khan Sahib] [25th March 1948

respectfully one word? Whatever might have been the treatment meted out to them in the past there has been a change of attitude on the part of the Governments, both Central and Provincial, and also of the leaders of the other communities—Hindus, Muslims and others. They all want to do all that is possible for the Harijans. But the Harijans also have to play their part. They simply should not go on ventilating their grievances and say that this has not been done and that has not been done. It is going to take them nowhere. They have to think what exactly they have to do for the community. It is left to the leaders to lead the community on the right path of progress. As I said earlier, unless and until there is an educational and economic uplift they cannot come on a par with the other communities. The leaders have to give correct lead. The Harijans should never feel any sort of inferiority complex. They should feel equal to the tallest in the land. Simply because one is a Harijan he should not feel in any way lower than others. Much depends on the attitude of the members here. Sir, from the day when you became the Speaker of this House there has really been a change of attitude, seeing the way in which you have conducted the affairs of this Assembly. This change of attitude should be reflected not only here but also in our action and attitude outside this House. Really, Sir, you have been very helpful to your community and the sympathy of every one of us is with you and with your community."

* SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Sir, when Harijan representatives in this House rise to speak, I would request that all the hon. Members should give a patient hearing, because this is a community which has been subjected to inhuman atrocities for centuries. Thanks to Mahatma Gandhi we have to-day been made human beings. Mahatma Gandhi has always been insisting on a change of heart on the part of the Caste Hindus. It is really regrettable to see that there is not at all any change of heart in the Caste Hindus who are to-day in places of power. Let me quote a few persons who spoke on this matter in the Constituent Assembly. Professor Yaswant Rai said that if the problem of Harijans was not properly solved in India would soon realize that her misfortune had not ended with the grant of Pakistan. This was a statement made on the floor of the Constituent Assembly. Then Rajakumari Amrit Kaur, Minister for Public Health, Dominion Government of India, said that there were Acts almost in every Province for the removal of the disabilities of the scheduled castes, but that it was common knowledge that these were more in the breach than otherwise. I have quoted these two statements to show that the condition of Harijans in the scores of villages in this Presidency is not at all happy. Let me emphatically say that there is a slow process of lynching of Harijans as it were going on in the rural parts of India especially in the Andhra and more so in Nellore district wherefrom my Hon. Friend Mr. Gopala Reddi hails. The other day on the floor of the House he said that Harijan leaders must learn to forget asking for privileges. We are not asking for privileges.

25th March 1948] [Sri B. S. Murthi]

We are asking you to change your mind. Are you changing it? If you don't change your mind what right have you to say that we must follow your lead or the lead of anybody else? You must follow our lead hereafter. Sir, I offered my humble services to the Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi and told him, 'Let us both tour your district and put an end to the atrocities that are going on there.' There are talks of Reddistan and Harijanstan in some places. Sir, I am not speaking in a spirit of frustration and anger. I am only saying that this is not good for our country, for the Hindu community, for the Indian community as a whole. Whenever we, Harijans, want to say anything people are not able to take it in the true perspective. We have a right to speak. We have been sent here as representatives of our people. Mahatma Gandhi has said that we are not bound even by the party rules. But we have been very loyal and very faithful. We have always come forward to go to jail, to get lathi charges, and even to go to the 4 p.m. gallows. What is the result? What have you done? Even if you do not allow us to speak here, if you laugh and jeer at us, where is justice? The Leader of the House has, I know, great sympathy for my community. The other day when we were considering the Police Demand, we pleaded for justice for Harijans, because of the changed atmosphere and circumstances, but even he forgot his duties towards this forlorn community. As soon as this happened, I sent a note to him and he was good enough to say in God's good time, 'I shall make reparations.' I have brought all the petitions that have come to me in my capacity as President of the Andhra Provincial Harijan Sevak Sangh informing me of the places where our women were molested, where Harijans have been sent out of their ancestral places. Harijan huts have been burnt and where they have been dislodged from their lands which have been in their possession for 50 or 60 years. All these events have been happening, and we have been making representations. Here is my Hon. Friend Mr. Kurmayya who always talks to me about his helplessness. In spite of these pledges, we find that we are helpless. I told him 'please do not produce this sort of helplessness in us.' Helplessness might lead to mischief. Mischief might lead to dire acts. We are a non-violent people and we have been so for 2,000 years. We have been non-violent for 30 years under the Leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. Do not make us violent. I do not want to give the substance of the large number of representations I have received. I have 50 or 60 of such representations with me now. What I want is this: the Ministry should not be satisfied by merely giving us a sum of rupees one crore. Do not be satisfied with passing some Acts. Please see that first of all, a change is effected in your hearts. Please see that the heart of the Hindu community is changed, and that we are made to believe that we have a right place in the Hindu community and as citizens of a Free India."

SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, 1918-ம் வருஷத்தில் போர்டு அங்கத்தினர் ஸர் ஜார்ஜ் பாடிசன் துரையவர்கள் நாட்டில் ஹரிஜனங்களின் குறைகளை ஆராய்ந்து சர்க்காருக்கு ஒரு ரிபோர்ட்டு சமர்ப்பித்தார். அப்பொழுது கவர்னராக இருந்த கனம் லார்டு வில்லிங்டன் பிரபு அவர்கள் லேபர் இலாகாவையும் கமிஷனர்

அவர்களையும் ஏற்பாடு செய்தார். அப்போது கமிஷனரும், டிப்டி கமிஷனர்களும் ஜில்லாக்களில் டிப்டி கலெக்டர்களையும் அவருக்குக் கீழ் தாசில்தார்களையும் நியமித்து நன்றாக வேலை செய்தார்கள். தஞ்சாவூருக்கு அருளானந்தம் பிள்ளையவர்களை நியமித்திருந்தார்கள். அவர் ஹரிஜன முன்னேற்றத்திற்காக அநேகம் மனைக்கட்டுகளை ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு தாராளமாக வாங்கிக்கொடுத்தார்கள். அப்பொழுது தஞ்சாவூரிலிருந்து மிராசுதார்களுடைய சூழ்ச்சியினால் அந்த டிப்டி கலெக்டர்களையும் தாசில்தார்களையும் நிறுத்தி அவர்களுக்குப் பதிலாக டிப்டி தாசில்தார்களை நியமித்தார்கள் அவர்கள் வேலையை நன்றாக செய்யவில்லை. அப்பொழுது சர்க்கார் 20 லட்ச ரூபாய்கள் செலவழித்து வந்தார்கள். இப்போது 40 லட்சத்திற்கு மேல் செலவழித்து வருகிறார்கள். நேற்போது ஹரிஜனங்களின் நன்மையைக்கருதி பிரகாசம் கவர்மெண்டில் ஒரு கோடி ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கினார்கள். அந்தப் பணத்தை லேபர் கமிஷனரிடம் கொடுத்தால் ஒரே வருஷத்தில் செலவழிப்பார்கள். இந்த ஒரு கோடி ரூபாயை வைத்துக்கொண்டு ஜில்லாக்களில் ஹரிஜன முன்னேற்ற ஆபிஸராக டிப்டி கலெக்டர்களையும் நியமித்து அவர்கள் மூலமாக டிப்டி தாசில்தார்கள் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு மனைக்கட்டுகள் வாங்கிக்கொடுக்கும்படியாக கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆந்தியில் 20 லட்சம் செலவு செய்து விட்டும் தற்போது 40 லட்சம் செலவு செய்துவரும் தொழில் கமிஷனர் இலாகா இப்பொழுது ஒரு கோடியையும் சிலவு செய்யாமலிருக்கிறோம். இப்படி வருஷந்தோறும் ஒவ்வொரு கோடி ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கி வைத்து சிலவு செய்யவேண்டும். இல்லாவிட்டால் ஹரிஜனங்கள் அழிந்து போய்விடுவார்கள். இப்பொழுது கோடம்பாக்கம் ஹரிஜன பாடசாலைக்காக லட்சத்தி எண்பதாயிரம் ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதைக் கொடுக்கவேண்டாம் என்று கூறவில்லை. இன்னும் அதிகமாகக் கொடுக்கலாம் ஆனால் ஒரு கோடி ரூபாயில் மிச்ச பணம் எங்கே இருக்கிறது. எவ்விதம் சிலவழிந்திருக்கிறது என்று தெரியவில்லை. பட்ஜெட்டில் பார்த்தால் காணும். இருக்கும் இடம் தெரியவில்லை. அந்தப் பணத்தைக்கொண்டு இப்போது புதிதாக வீடு கட்டியுள்ள புரம்போக்கு நிலங்களை அடுத்துள்ள பட்டா நிலங்களையும் வாங்கி அவர்களுக்கு இன்னும் வீடுகள் தாராளமாக கட்டிக்கொள்ள வாங்கிக்கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். நான் 15—7—1937-ம் வருஷத்திலேயே ஒரு கோடி ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டேன். அப்பொழுது முதல் கொடுத்து வந்திருந்தால் ஹரிஜன முன்னேற்றம் எற்பட்டிருக்கும் தாழ்மை என்பது இருந்திருக்காது. ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு விமோசனம் உண்டாகி இருக்கும். காங்கிரஸ் பதவி ஏற்ற அன்றையதினமே இதைக்கேட்டேன். அப்பொழுதே கொடுத்திருந்தால் முன்னேற்றம் இது வரையில் அடைந்து பழுத்திருக்கும். ஆனால், இப்பொழுது வெம்பிப்போய் விட்டது. ஆகையால் சர்க்கார் தயவு செய்து நல்ல ஆபீசர்களைப் போட்டு இவ்வருஷத்திலேயே இந்த ஒரு கோடி ரூபாயையும் சிலவழிக்கும்படியாக ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அசெம்பிளிலுள்ள ஹரிஜன மெம்பர்களை கமிட்டியாக ஏற்படுத்தி அதன் மூலமாக ரிபோர்ட்டு எழுதும்படியாக ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டும். இந்த லேபர் டிபார்ட்மெண்டில் ஜில்லாக்கள் தோறும் ஒரு டிப்டி கலெக்டரை நியமித்து இந்த ஒரு கோடி ரூபாயை சிலவழிக்கும்படி செய்யவேண்டும். மாகாணத்தில் இப்பொழுது ஐந்தில் ஒரு பங்கு ஹரிஜனங்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். மாகாண வரும்படி 55 கோடி ரூபாய். ஆகையால் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு பங்கு ஐந்தில் ஒரு பங்கு 11 கோடியிருக்கிறது அதில் ஒரு கோடியை லேபர் டிபார்ட்மெண்டுக்குக் கொடுத்துவிட்டு பாக்கி இருக்கும் 10 கோடி ரூபாயில் ஒவ்வொருவருக்கும் இரண்டு எக்கர் நன்செய் நிலம் வாங்கிக்கொடுக்கலாம். அப்பொழுதுதான் நாட்டிற்கு நன்மை ஏற்படும். இப்பொழுது இராமபாநாசாகருக்கு 180 கோடி ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கி இருப்பதாக கனம் மராமத்து இலாகா மந்திரி சொல்லி இருக்கிறார். ஒரு அணைக்கட்டுக்கு ரூபாய் 180 கோடி செலவழிக்கும்போது நாட்டில் ஐந்தில் ஒரு பங்குள்ள ஹரி ஜனங்களுக்கு என் 11 கோடி செலவழிக்கக்கூடாது இப்படி 30 வருஷங்கள் செலவழித்தால் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டார் அனை

வருக்கும் நிலம் கிடைத்துவிடும். ஒரேதடவை இராமபாதசாகருக்கு 180 கோடி செலவழிப்பது போல் 300 கோடி செலவழித்தால் கம்யூனிஸம் தலை காட்டாது.

"இன்னும் முக்யமாக சில விஷயங்கள் இருக்கிறது. மேற்படி ஒரு கோடியில் தண்ணீருக்காக ரூபாய் 15 லட்சம் செலவழிக்கப்போகிறார்கள். அதற்கு பொது நிதியில் ஜலவசதி செய்யலாம். அதற்கு பதிலாக ஸ்கூல் கட்டிடங்களை கட்டிக்கொடுக்கலாம். சென்னையில் வாழைப்பூசேரி ஆழ்வார்சேரி முதலியன என்று இருக்கின்றன. நானும் கனம் Speaker முதலானவர்களும் அங்கே போயிருந்தோம். அங்கே நிலக்காரர்கள் ரொம்பவும் அநியாயம்பண்ணி இருந்தார்கள். ஜனங்கள் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருந்தார்கள். அந்த சேரிகளை ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு வாங்கிக்கொடுக்கலாம். இன்னும் புரஸவாக்கத்தில் பூக்கார சேரிக்கு ஆபத்து ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அங்கேயும் கடன்களை தள்ளிக்கொடுத்துவிட்டு மனைக்கட்டுகளை அவர்களுக்கே கொடுக்கலாம். இவைகளை எல்லாம் செய்தால் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு ரொம்பவும் நன்மையாக இருக்கும்."

SRI B. S. MALLIKARJUNA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, while I wish to support this Demand, I feel that such an important subject as Labour, working classes or Harijans should not be treated as a mere sundry subject coming as it does under the Miscellaneous head. That itself shows the heart we have towards the subject. The working class problem in this country is a vital problem. We have given specific demands for all important and vital problems in the Province. We are to-day following the old routine and the old rules. We have been thinking that Labour is of no significance at all and that it has no place. That is the reason why this subject is treated under a Miscellaneous head and hon. Members do not know that this head deals with Labour. That is the reason why I did not find at the earlier part of the discussion of this subject, the Hon. Minister for Industries and Labour in this House. I see him here now. He came subsequently. I would like to submit that a matter like Labour should hereafter be a separate item in the budget. Next year we must have a separate Demand for Labour, for Harijans, etc. The Harijan problem has been very much neglected in the past. We are unfortunately and painfully aware of this fact. Harijan Members of this House are very much dissatisfied and they are accusing the Government for their lapses. It is true that even in the matter of preparing an estimate for a well, it takes 2 or 3 years and for the completion of the well, I do not know how much time it will take. Personally I addressed the District Collector in respect of a Harijan well, in connection with grants that we have made for digging of wells for Harijans. It has not yet been completed. We are in the third year of our budget. It is nearly three years since we have been elected to this Assembly. Here is an index of the facts. The Hon. Minister for Labour should have introspection. The fault lies in the fact that you have to-day officials who have absolutely no heart for it. We have appointed officials who are ignorant of the subject. We have Labour officers, Harijan Labour Officers, Labour Commissioners and Industrial Tribunals. They have absolutely no interest or insight in the matter. They have been brought up under the old system. Their attitude is not all right. We are passing legislation to improve the

conditions of Harijans. We are professing much sympathy to them. The Government should give effect to their intentions. Labour should have a dominant part. I ask how many officers in the department who are carrying on their duties, have changed their heart. It is due to the lack of good attitude on the part of the officers, that the schemes we have initiated have not been put into execution as promptly as they should be. The Labour Officers in the various districts do not go to labourers to make enquiries on any matter. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkateswarlu stated, they visit only the rooms of employers. They do not give any notice to the labourers that they are enquiring into any dispute regarding any industry or factory. These Labour officers travel in the saloons of the employers. These are the officers who are expected to have a soft corner for Labour. Such an attitude on the part of officers, should change. All the promises we are making are mere words. The officers in the taluks, Subdivisional Officers, District Collectors, etc., are not at all looking after the welfare of Labour. Questions regarding house-sites, burial grounds, wells, etc., are not looked after carefully and prompt steps are not taken Why should the officers be nervous in the matter? It is due to lack of sincerity on the part of the officers who profess all sympathy. Much has to be done to see that there is change of heart on the part of officers. They should attend to this work in good spirit."

SRI SWARNA NAGAYYA:—" అధ్యక్ష మహాశయా, శ్రీ ప్రకాశం పంతులు గారు మా హరి జనులను కాపు చేయటానికని ఒక కోటి రూపాయల ఫండును విచ్చాటు చేశారు. కాని ఇంతవరకు ఆ ఫండులో నుంచి ఈ మంత్రులెవరు మా కంచి కోసము ఏమీ ఖర్చు చేయలేదు. మన్నులని కాపు చేద్దామని ఆ మహాత్మా గాంధి గారు కాలాశపడి మాకు ఉపకారాలు చేశారుకాని, ఈ మంత్రు లెవ్వరికీ మా గొడవే లేదు. వారికి మేము ఆస్థలు దృష్టిలో ఉండము.

" పల్లెటూళ్లలోని హరిజన వాడలకు లేబరు కమిషనరు, లేబరు ఆఫీసర్లు వస్తారు, పోతారు కాని వారు మా ఉపయోగం కోసం ఏమి చేయరు. మాకు ఇళ్లు లేవు, రోడ్లు లేవు, ఏమీ లేవు అనేక సార్లు మంత్రులతో మొరపెట్టుకున్నాము. వారు ఏమీ చేయలేదు. ఇదివరకు రుక్మిణీ లక్ష్మీపతిగారు మంత్రిగా ఉన్నప్పుడు వారితో మా గోడు చెప్పుకొన్నాము. వారు ఏమీ చేశారు కాదు. ఇప్పటి మినిస్టర్లు కూడా అంతే. ఇటువంటి మినిష్టర్లు ఉన్నా ఒకటే, లేక పోయినా ఒకటే. వీరు ఏమి పని చేస్తున్నారో మా కేమి తెలియదు. వీరి వల్ల హరిజనులకు ఏమీ సౌకర్యము కలగటంలేదు. మా హరిజన మంత్రిగారు కూర్మయ్య గారు ఉన్నారు. వారిదగ్గరకు వెళ్లి ఈ సంగతులు చెప్పుకొంటే నే నేమి చెయ్యను, నాకేమీ power లేదని అంటారు. హరిజన మంత్రిగారి స్థితి ఇల్లా ఉన్నది. మాకింతమట్టుకు భూమిలేదు, పుట్టాలేదు. ఈ మంత్రులు 2 ఏండ్లు నుంచి ఉన్నారు. ఇంతవరకు ఏమీ చేయలేదు. మేము అనేకసార్లు వారితో మా బాధలు చెప్పుకొన్నాము. వారు వినలేదు. మాకు ఏ విధంగాను సహాయం చేయలేదు. మంత్రులు వస్తారు, పోతారు గాని మా కేమీ సౌకర్యము కలుగచేయటం లేదు.

" మంత్రులు వారి సంచార కార్యక్రమాలలో జిల్లాలలో పర్యటన చేసేటప్పుడు వి జిల్లా కలెక్టరు ఆఫీసులోకో, జిల్లా బోర్డు బంగాళాలోకో మకాంచేస్తారు. కాని హరి జనవాడలకు రారు. కలెక్టరు ఆఫీసుకు హరిజనులు వెళ్లలేరు. వెళ్లినా వారితో ఎక్కువ ఎవ్వరు మాట్లాడరు. ఈ మంత్రుల దృష్టిలో వారికి మేము కనిపించము. అక్కడ

నుంచి వచ్చిన గవర్నరు దొరగారు హరిజన వాడలకు వస్తున్నారు కాని ఈ మంత్రు లెవ్వరు రారు. వారికి మేము ఉన్నట్లైనేనా జ్ఞాపకముండదు. ఓటులు కావలసి వచ్చినప్పుడు మాత్రము మేము కనిపిస్తాము. ఇంతవరకు ఈ మంత్రులు మాకు ఏమీ చేయలేదు. మాకు భూమి ఇవ్వ లేదు, పుట ఇవ్వలేదు. ఏదో కొద్ది మందికి scholarship లు ఇచ్చారు. ఇదేనా రూ 20 లు. ఇది ఎందుకూ సరిపోదు 40 రు లు ఇస్తేనే కాని చదువు లోటానికి సరిపోదు. ఈ మంత్రులంతా ఉండి చేసేదేమీ లేదని నా అభిప్రాయము."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" అధ్యక్ష, ఈ బడ్జెటు డిమాండు విషయంపై రెండు, మూడు అంశములను గురించి మాత్రము చెప్పి ముగిస్తాను. " (Voices: In English please).

MR. SPEAKER:—" Let us leave the choice to the hon. Member himself, though I would like him to speak in English."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Sir, since the Leader of the House has demanded that I should speak in English, I shall do so. Anyway, I do not want to take much of the time of the House. I just want to offer a few remarks about the Harijan Fund to which several friends have already made reference. One crore of rupees was allotted somewhere in the middle or the latter half of 1946 and there was not much time during the period of the administration to come out with a pucca scheme, although during the latter part of the previous Ministry, a scheme was promulgated but it could not be given effect to and so during the year from April 1947 to 31st March 1948, this sum has practically remained unspent. Like so many other good things as electricity and irrigation schemes, so also this allotment of one crore has remained unspent. The idea of allotting this sum was not to keep it so but that it should be spent and to the extent it was spent, it should be recouped again from the general funds. Even now we have budgeted for a few lakhs of rupees and it is merely a lump-sum allotment without any scheme whatsoever. Of course, there are several difficulties. My Friend, Mr. Nagayya, who never speaks has just mentioned about it in his Telugu speech which you might not have followed. He said, ' Ministers come and Ministers go, they are of no use ' there is even a Harijan Minister and when I approach him, he says, ' I am a powerless man, what can I do ' and so on. I do not say that the Hon. Minister, Mr. Kurmayya is a powerless man; he is one of the most powerful men, but somehow or other he has absolutely no plan and if he did not come out with a plan, who else could do it? Moreover, he has everything to his advantage. Of course, I do not blame him and I only say at least hereafter he must take things more seriously.

" Sir, I would like to make a suggestion with regard to cheris. In the City of Madras, there are three kinds of cheris; private cheris, Government cheris and labour cheris. The Madras Corporation was not able to spend its money on the improvement of the private cheris because the Act did not allow them to do so. Therefore, I would suggest that Government may utilize some portion of this Fund for the improvement of these cheris. I am also anxious

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to see that not a pie of this Fund, although it comes under the Miscellaneous Demand—should be spent on items of expenditure which are meant for people other than Harijans, because it was meant really for the Harijans and so not a pie should go to others who come under the administration of the Miscellaneous Departments. I leave that subject there, because several friends have spoken already on it.

"I now come to the question of the Fire Service Department. I understand from the papers that Government have under contemplation the transfer of this Fire Service Department to local authorities, thus relieving themselves of their responsibility. Might I suggest to the Government that as this Fire Service Department has been functioning very efficiently and I know it from my experience in Vizagapatam—and I am sure it should be the experience in other cities also—the Government should not think of transferring the Fire Service Department to local authorities, because the local authorities, are not rich enough to maintain the service whose existence, however, is essential.

"In this connexion, I may point out that in Vizagapatam, a good deal of expenditure was incurred on the Port section of the Fire Services without getting any refund or reduction for its maintenance from the Port authorities as is the case in Madras. In the case of Madras the Port Trust refunds some amount to the Government but in Vizagapatam the Government do not seem to have claimed anything from the Port authorities. I suppose the Government are not so rich as not to claim a refund from the Port authorities at Vizagapatam. Of course, they may still ask the Port authorities to pay handsomely for the maintenance of their Fire Services in the Port area or otherwise, ask them to have their own Fire Service.

"Sir, since there is not much time to speak, I do not want to go into the other aspects of this demand. I only wanted to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to these two small items."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Sir, I rise to support the Demand moved by the Hon. Minister for Home and in doing so, I would like to point out that even though our country has got freedom and India has become free, the poor Harijans are still slaves and they are to-day suffering under the serfdom. Now, Sir, if at all you want free agricultural labour, I think it is the bounden duty of the Government to bring in a legislation to redeem the debts of the agricultural labourers. The Government no doubt have brought forward a legislation to reduce the debts of the agriculturists but what about the debts of the agricultural labourers, I ask? Now, Sir, the agriculturist advances Rs. 100 or Rs. 50 to the agricultural labourer; he does not even take it back, so that throughout his life he may have a hold on the poor man and keep him as his slave and make him work in the field. If you really want to do good to the Harijan labourers, you have to bring in legislation, called the Labourers' Debt Redemption Bill. I gave

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notice of such a Bill long long ago at the time of Rajaji's premiership. He told me at the time, 'what is the good of refusing the debts when the Harijans are not in a position to pay even Rs. 50'. So, Sir, when they are not in a position to clear off even Rs. 50, what they really require is not a reduction in the debt, but a radical measure for actual redemption of the debt. But, nothing has so far been done in that direction. . . . .

"Now, as regards house-sites, Sir, if there is a house-site, the Labour Officer should first be convinced that it could be given to a Harijan or not and then a laborious procedure has to be undergone and it will take nearly two years to acquire the land. I would therefore request the Minister to see that in the interests of the Harijans, especially the poor people, they are given house-sites if the Harijan Welfare Officers are convinced of the necessity. I think the Hon. Minister is aware that the Central Government have recently passed a legislation called the Minimum Wages Act but I do not find the Provincial Government have moved in that direction, because it is the Provincial Government that has to translate the Act passed by the Central Government into action. I think this Government is still sleeping over the matter and I do not know when they will wake up from their slumber and try to do something for the agricultural labourers so far as the Minimum Wages Act is concerned. Sir, it is now the season for the agricultural labourer to be employed and they may perhaps get only a pittance as their wages. They may get not more than Rs. 50 or Rs. 100 for the whole year. That is the position of the agricultural labourer, Sir.

"As regards scholarships, whenever I approach the Labour Commissioner, he says, 'what am I to do; I have received an ocean of applications and there is no money'. And, Sir, when I meet the Hon. Minister, he says, 'what can I do, Government do not permit me more than this'. That is the position of the Government. They talk tall saying, we do so much for the Harijans. Though they talk tall, they do not act and their action is comparatively very small. I never knew the Congress Government which has pledged itself to uplift the Harijans would do like this—I hope at least hereafter our Ministers will be very liberal.

"Now, Sir, as regards the one crore of rupees, I say this is something like showing the rupees in a mirror saying, here is one crore for the Harijan uplift. But, we cannot take it from the mirror. If the Government want it, they can spend the whole amount within a few months. After all when they have so many officials at their command, can they not prepare a scheme within, say, two months? Can I say that this Government is an inefficient Government or that they are incapable of doing any work or—what am I to charge them with. This Government has taken two years to contemplate a scheme. What a wonderful Government is this! I am sorry, I have never seen such a Government so far. Anyhow, I have to thank this Government for having done one particular thing. They have recognized the claims of the Harijans in that they have enhanced the *ratio* for the communities from

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12 to 14 and out of this two seats go to the Harijans by accepting my resolution to that effect. My point is, Sir, when we form one-fifth of the population, why should they give only two seats when we deserve three? I therefore, ask, give us our due share. Of course, I do not ask you to give it gratis, but to give us our due share. After all what is it you have done for the Harijans . . . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member has exceeded the time-limit."

Sri S. NAGAPPA:—" After all I have taken only five minutes, Sir. So, Sir, I thank the Government for having changed the communal Government Order and given us 2 seats out of 14. I would however request them to make it 3 and increase the total to 15."

Sri M. P. PERIASWAMI:—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, நம்முடைய கனம் பிரகாசம் அவர்கள் காலத்தில் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்காக ஒரு கோடி ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கி வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். அந்த ஒரு கோடி ரூபாயும் என்ன நிலைமையில் இருக்கிறது என்றால் இப்பொழுது கல்ல காட்சி சாலையில் சாமான்களை வைத்துவிட்டு நாம் பார்ப்பதுபோல் இருக்கிறது. அதைப்போல்தான் எங்கள் ஹரிஜனங்களும் நினைத்து வருகிறார்கள்.

" அதோடுகூட இப்பொழுது வீடு கட்டும் திட்டத்திற்காக நஞ்சை நிலத்திற்கு ரூபாய் 700-ம் புஞ்சை நிலத்திற்காக ரூபாய் 300-ம் கவர்ன்மெண்டு கொடுப்பது என்று தீர்மானித்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதில் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு வீடு கட்டும் நஞ்சைக்கு ஒரு ஏகர் விலை ரூபாய் 350-ம் புஞ்சைக்கு ரூபாய் 150 கொடுக்கிறது என்று வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த ரூபாய் 150-ல் எப்படி வீடு கட்டமுடியும். இந்த ஒரு ஏக்கராவில் எத்தனை வீடு கட்டலாம்? குறைந்த வசதியோடு 15 வீடு தான் கட்ட முடியும். ஆனால், நிலக்காரர் சொல்லும் விலையைப்பார்த்தால் நஞ்சை நிலம் ஏக்கர் ஒன்றுக்கு ரூபாய் நாலாயிரமாகவும் புஞ்சை ஏக்கர் ஒன்றுக்கு ரூபாய் ஆயிரம் இரண்டாயிரமுமாக இருக்கிறது. கவர்ன்மெண்டு கொடுக்கும் ரூபாய் 150 போக பாக்கியை ஹரிஜனம் போட்டுக்கொள்ள வேண்டும். ஆகையால் இந்த திட்டத்தில் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு எந்தவிதமான நன்மையும் கிடையாது. 1937-ஆம் வருஷத்தின் விலையை நிலங்களுக்கு நிர்ணயம் செய்யவேண்டும்.

" இன்னும் ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய கஷ்டங்களைப்பற்றியும் குறைகளைப்பற்றியும் அதிகாரிகளுக்கு மனுக்கொடுத்தால் அதிகாரிகள் reply கொடுப்பது கிடையாது. அந்த குறைகளைக் கேட்டு தெரிவிக்கும் M.L.A. க்களுக்கு reply பண்ண வேண்டுமென்று அதிகாரிகளுக்கு உத்திரவு போடவேண்டும்.

" ஒவ்வொரு கிராமத்திலும் ஒவ்வொரு டவுனிலும் ஜனத்தொகை அதிகரித்துக்கொண்டே போகிறது. ஒரு பெரிய டவுனில் ஜனத்தொகை அதிகரிப்பதால் தெருக்கள் ஜாஸ்தியாகிக்கொண்டே போகிறது. ஆனால் ஹரிஜனங்கள் வசிக்கும் தெருக்கள் அப்படியே இருக்கிறது. எனென்றால் ஹரி ஜனங்கள் வசிக்கும் இடத்தில் இருக்கும் புறம்போக்கு காலி நிலம் முதலியதை Caste Hindus வீடு கட்டிக்கொண்டும் நிலங்களும் செய்து விடுகிறார்கள். ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு பணம் இடமும் இல்லாததால் அவர்களுக்கு கட்ட முடிவது இல்லை. இடங்களை எல்லாம் Caste Hindus வாங்கி விடுவதால் ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய வீடுகள் அதிகம் பரவமுடியவில்லை. ஆகையால் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு வீடுவசதி அதிகம் செய்து கொடுக்கவேண்டும்.

" இப்பொழுது லேபர் ஆபீசர் இருக்கிறார், ஒரு ஜில்லாவுக்கு ஒரு ஆபீசர். அவருக்கு ஒன்றிரண்டு ஒவர்சியர்கள்தானிருக்கிறார்கள். அதனால் அவர்கள் கிராமங்களை சுற்றிப்பார்க்க முடியாமலிருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்க

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ளுக்கு அதிகம் ஒவர்சியர்களை நியமித்துக் கொடுத்தால் ரொம்பவும் ஒத்தாசையாக இருக்கும். எஸ்டிமேட்டுகள் தயாரிப்பதற்கு சௌகர்யமாக இருக்கும். ஆகையால் அதிகம் ஒவர்சியர்களை நியமித்துக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும்.

" Caste Hindus பல இடங்களில் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு ரொம்பவும் தொந்திரவு கொடுக்கிறார்கள். இன்றுகூட பேப்பரில் பார்த்தேன். ஒரு ஊரில் ஹரிஜன வீடுகளுக்கு Caste Hindus நெருப்பு வைத்து கொளுத்திவிட்டார்கள் என்று. இவைகளையெல்லாம் போலீசில் சொன்னால் அவர்கள் எடுத்துக்கொள்வது இல்லை. இப்பொழுது போலீசில் திருட்டுகளை கண்டு பிடிப்பதற்கு C.I.D. வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதேபோல் ஒவ்வொரு தாலூகாவிற்கும் ஹரிஜன் C.I.D. வைத்து எந்த இடத்தில் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு தொந்திரவு ஏற்படுகிறதோ அதை உடனே பெரிய அதிகாரிகளுக்கு ரிபோர்ட்டு செய்யும்படி நியமிக்க வேண்டும். அதன் பிறகுதான் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு சௌகர்யம் ஏற்படும் என்பதை தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB Bahadur:—" On a point of submission, Sir. I believe, Sir, the House will be adjourning *sine die* after the conclusion of the Budget session. It is the desire of many Members that there should be a long interval between now and the next sitting of the Assembly; an interval of 15 days seems to be contemplated but they are of the opinion that they are entitled to a longer interval and I want to put it before you so that it might be considered when the question of interval is taken up definitely; though the Leader of the House may not be able to make up his mind at present, I believe when that question is considered, this aspect of the request will receive proper attention."

* The Hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Mr. Speaker, I am in entire sympathy with the demand made by the Leader of the Opposition because we are all human and most of us, I believe, are tired after a long session this time. But there is this one difficulty. The two volumes which I produced before the House, the re-enacting and repealing measure, has got to be passed by the end of April; if that is not done actions begun under them will suffer as the legislation would lapse. So a meeting must be called some time in April so that this House and the Upper House may pass it into law. Apart from that, there is also other important legislation. But regarding the suggestion, I shall consider whether we can have a short session only dealing with this particular Bill and then you may have a long rest afterwards so that legislation of importance may be taken up when hon. Members are not so tired as they are to-day and feel more fresh and equal to the task that may be put before them."

* The Hon. Sri V. KURMAYYA:—" Mr. Speaker, I am very glad that many of the Harijan M.L.As. have taken part in this debate and expressed their difficulties and grievances or the atrocities committed by caste-Hindus and other people in the villages on Harijans. I assure hon. Members that Government is taking interest in helping the Harijan cause. My hon. Friend, Mr. Nagappa and Mr. Murthi also said that sufficient number of scholarships is not being given to Harijans and other students belonging to the eligible communities."

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SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" I did not say so as I had no time to speak about scholarship."

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" I am sorry Mr. Nagappa said that when he went to the Commissioner of Labour, he replied to him saying that he was not in a position to sanction scholarship to Harijan students, I want, in that connexion to read certain figures:—

	1946-47.	1947-48. Revised Budget.	1947-48.	1948-49.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Pay of establishment ..	8,63,701	8,21,300	1,00,000	10,55,300
Construction and repair of schools.	83,828	1,10,400	1,10,000	11,45,000
Allowance and contingencies.	15,53,840	17,70,200	17,19,300	18,02,500
Scholarships	1,70,584	1,95,900	2,30,300	2,30,200

In this connexion, I may tell the House, Sir, that four hostels have been started. Last year one hostel for girls was started by our late leader Mr. Prakasam. For all the districts only eight hostels were running but within two years we have increased the number by five.

	1946-47.	1947-48. Revised Budget.	1947-48.	1948-49.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Grants-in-aid	3,43,740	3,80,300	6,43,100	6,44,900

In 1946-47 for Labour department the figures were Rs. 31,29,555 whereas this year the provision is Rs. 40,36,100—more than eight lakhs more. From this Members know whether the Government is interested in Harijan welfare or not. Rupees 9 lakhs have been spent for the education and other amenities of the Harijans not from the one crore set apart for it but from the general revenues. Regarding the one crore of rupees set apart in the Harijan Welfare Fund, I may tell the House that it is not easy to spend this one crore of rupees. My hon. Friends, Mr. Nagappa and Mr. Muniswami Pillai, complained that nothing has been spent out of the Fund except Rs. 1,80,000 towards the grant to the Thakkar Baba Institute. No expenditure has been made from the Fund because we have no plan chalked out by the Government or approved by Government. I must tell the House that a Committee was appointed in June and they promised their report before the 30th of September but I am sorry to say that the Committee has not yet submitted its report though eight months have elapsed from the time of their appointment."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" The point stressed by both Mr. Muniswami Pillai and Mr. Nagappa is that the Hon. Ministers and others have been telling on the floor of the House that unless and until they receive the report from the Harijan Welfare Committee, no pie will be spent and it will be there intact but this year it is shown that more than 1½ lakhs of rupees is spent and therefore, they have asked what has happened to the rest of 98½ lakhs."

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THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" The report of the Committee has not reached the Government yet, Sir, and it is being circulated to Members for making additions and revisions."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I wish to remind the Hon. Minister that the Hon. Leader of the House wants fifteen minutes for his reply. He can have five minutes more."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I draw the Hon. Minister's attention to the fact that the grants, all put together for Harijans, come to 8 lakhs. And what is their population? Eighty-six lakhs. Where is 8 lakhs, and where is 86 lakhs. And what will 86 lakhs of people get from this 8 lakhs? "

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

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" Government are spending one crore in the cause of Harijans this year. This could have been spent by this time. But I want to get as much money as possible from the reserve. Mr. Nagappa said that no Minister visits the cheris. Sir, during my tours I am spending 90 per cent of my time in touring the cheris. In 1937 Dr. Pattabhi Seetharamiah said that should Mr. Kurmayya become Minister he would visit Harijan cheris and then Collectors, Deputy Collectors and all the officials, who are Brahmans will visit cheris. Now that is all happening now. I am doing propaganda in my tours. My colleagues have been saying, ' What are you doing for Harijans.' I told them ' I am here to do propaganda '. I know the condition of the Harijans to-day. I have been receiving number of applications every day stating how Harijans are being oppressed. It is a shame that the great Hindu community should treat the Harijans in this way. Mr. Murthi asked me what I have done? I may tell him, ' What can I do. I am powerless; I am only one in thirteen.' "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The Hon. Minister need not reveal what has taken place in the Cabinet."

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" I want all the thirteen Ministers to act together. I know the Harijans are uneducated and illiterate; I know they are harassed. After the 15th August the Harijans' position has become worse. They do not know how to get things done. I am appealing to the Members, there is no use of blaming Government. Government have got limited powers. With the mentality of the caste-Hindus—the mentality of the Hindus has not changed—what can anybody do? It is for us all to implement the principles enunciated by Mahatma Gandhi for the last thirty years. I am saying plainly and frankly, one should not criticize Government for the sake of criticism. You must look into the Budget figures carefully; you must read the orders of Government. I know many of the officials are not sympathetic. I am asking instructions should be issued to carry out the orders of Government. So I request Harijan Members to have some patience and see whether this Government would do anything to improve the condition of Harijans. 4-45 p.m.

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" One word more, Sir, Mr. Muniswami Pillai raised the point regarding eligible communities. I have divided eligible communities into three categories: Hindu Harijan: converts from the Harijan community and others, like backward communities and tribal communities; these last come under eligible communities for help from Labour department. There will be no fear now that money intended for one community will be spent on some other community."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" Sir, the Hon. Minister for Rural Development is the Chairman of the Provincial Harijan Welfare Committee. This Committee has signed its report on the 9th December and the report has not come to the hands of the Government. It is the duty of the Chairman to see that that report is published; and the Hon. Education Minister has said that if the Government Press is not able to print it there are other presses available. It is for the Hon. Minister to see that that report is published and action taken on it with the help of one crore now available."

* THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" Sir, it is true I am the Chairman of the general committee. After the enquiry committee was appointed, I ceased to be the President of that committee. I asked the committee to elect their own President, and a President has been elected. The report has been printed and it has been sent to all the Members for their opinion. Under the rules about ten days' time is given to the Members to state whether they accept it *in toto* or differ. I think within 15 or 20 days the report will be submitted to Government."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think my Hon. Colleague has dealt with the question of Harijan uplift. I would like to say a word or two. They were talking about a crore of rupees as grant. As a matter of fact, as I found out, this one crore in the Budget is four crores contributed to various purposes, firka development, Harijan uplift, etc., and this is why it has not been shown separately. I can assure hon. Members that Government are not diverting any part of this for any other purpose. The amount that is expected to be spent from the fund during 1948–49 is about 31·67 lakhs and there will be about 68 lakhs left over at the end of the next year in the fund. That is why no contribution has been made because of other commitments. But the Government are considering the question of making annual contribution to the fund from the general revenues.

" My hon. Friend from Kurnool waxed eloquent on behalf of Harijans, and this was in a way replied to by my hon. Muslim Friend from Chittoor. I am rather obliged to him for what he said, because it is true all of us are interested in Harijans, it does not matter to which community we belong. My hon. Friend from Chittoor has forgotten that the hon. Muslim Member from Kurnool has assumed a new cloak now. Under the principles of the party to which he now belongs, one of which is uplift of the poorer

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classes, he evidently wanted to make himself felt as the door leader of his party. (Laughter.) I would like to point out to hon. Members that even in this year's Budget there is provision of Rs. 2½ lakhs as loan to the Madras Improvement Trust which is for the improvement of the cheris of the Corporation. The hon. Muslim Member from Kurnool, being a Member of the Corporation, I am sure, knows, in what conditions these cheris are. So Government have given this help.

" There were references to the Temple Entry Act and the Removal of Disabilities Act. My hon. Friend representing Thirukkoyilur division, South Arcot, said that these are more honoured in their breach than in their observance. That was also 5 p.m. quoted by my friend representing Cocanada rural. It is true that both these Acts though they are on the Statute Book are not being applied in the way in which Government themselves have liked to see them applied. I had this published in the Police Gazette so that the police would know what their duties are in regard to these Acts. They know now that they must give aid to these people, if they are not being allowed the use of public wells, public streets or any disability of that kind.

" There was also reference to the education of the Harijan—I believe—by the hon. Member for Tirukkoyilur rural. He said compulsory primary education for Harijans should be given to them. With adult suffrage, it is important they should be literate. Most of us suffer from this disability. As Gladstone once said, the function of Government must be to educate their masters, which is very true. Therefore it is not a question of compulsory primary education for Harijans alone. It is a case for the community as a whole; and I believe the Hon. Minister for Education has got a scheme. I admit, perhaps, the Harijans . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I am going to apply the guillotine as it is now 5 o'clock."

VOTING ON OTHER DEMANDS.

DEMAND XXIII—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 1,07,17,000 *under Demand XXIII—Miscellaneous Departments* '."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND III—STAMPS.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 20,13,100 *under Demand III—Stamps* '."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND IV—FORESTS.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 83,56,900 *under Demand IV—Forest* '."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

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DEMAND V—REGISTRATION.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 50,76,700 under Demand V—Registration'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND VII—OTHER TAXES AND DUTIES.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,11,25,400 under Demand VII—Other Taxes and Duties'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XIII—JAILS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 70,28,100 under Demand XIII—Jails'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XVI—MEDICAL.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,50,66,700 under Demand XVI—Medical'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XIX—VETERINARY.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 37,74,500 under Demand XIX—Veterinary'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XX—CO-OPERATION.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 37,95,000 under Demand XX—Co-operation'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXII—CINCHONA AND FISHERIES.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 45,71,200 under Demand XXII—Cinchona and Fisheries'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

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DEMAND XXIV—CIVIL WORKS—WORKS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,97,55,400 under Demand XXIV—Civil Works—Works'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXV—CIVIL WORKS—ESTABLISHMENT AND TOOLS AND PLANT.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,64,69,900 under Demand XXV—Civil Works—Establishment and Tools and Plant'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXVI—CIVIL WORKS—GRANTS-IN-AID.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 58,61,700 under Demand XXVI—Civil Works—Grants-in-aid'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXIX—PENSIONS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,53,69,900 under Demand XXIX—Pensions'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXX—STATIONERY AND PRINTING.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 52,18,900 under Demand XXX—Stationery and Printing'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXI—MISCELLANEOUS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,74,20,500 under Demand XXXI—Miscellaneous'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXII—CIVIL DEFENCE.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 50,500 under Demand XXXII—Civil Defence'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXIII—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON IRRIGATION.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,72,98,400 under Demand XXXIII—Capital Outlay on Irrigation'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXIV—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 85,03,900 under Demand XXXIV—Capital Outlay on Industrial Development'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXV—CIVIL WORKS OUTSIDE THE REVENUE ACCOUNT.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 78,73,100 under Demand XXXV—Civil Works outside the Revenue Account'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXVI—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON ELECTRICITY SCHEMES.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,93,72,700 under Demand XXXVI—Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXVII—OTHER PROVINCIAL WORKS OUTSIDE THE REVENUE ACCOUNT.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Demand XXXVII—Other Provincial Works outside the Revenue Account'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXVIII—COMMUTED VALUE OF PENSIONS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Demand XXXVIII—Commuted Value of Pensions'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXIX—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON PROVINCIAL SCHEMES OF STATE TRADING.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Demand XXXIX—Capital Outlay on Provincial Schemes of State Trading'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XL—INTEREST-FREE ADVANCES.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 16,87,500 under Demand XL—Interest-free Advances'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XLI—LOANS AND ADVANCES BEARING INTEREST.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,85,28,500 under Demand XLI—Loans and Advances bearing Interest'."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

The House then adjourned *sine die*.

Appendix I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 234 asked by Sri G. Kumaraswami at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 25th March 1948, page 766 supra.]

Clause (a)—What progress has been made in the direction of executing the Hydro-electric Scheme of Duduma Water Falls—Land Acquisition.—Land Acquisition is in progress, the Governments of Madras and Orissa having their survey parties working at site.

Roads—(i) *Lambadaput-Machkund Road.*—Designs for permanent bridges and culverts have been approved for some streams and sent to field for execution. Designs for the remaining ones are being finalized in the Technical office of the Electricity department. Work on the road is proceeding in the various reaches and is in different stages of progress.

(ii) *Vizagapatam-Araku-Jeypore Road.*—On the Madras side, investigation is in progress. The detailed estimates are expected to be ready by April 1948. Field work on the Orissa side is yet to be started. Tenders for collection of metal for the road have been received but not yet decided.

Diversion Dam and Intake.—Exploration of foundation by power Calyx drilling is in progress. Design of the Dam section has been finalized.

Flume Channel.—Excavation and deepening of trial pits along the centre line of alignment are in progress.

Tunnel Pond Dam.—Preliminary exploration work is in progress.

Tunnel.—Tenders have been called for for the work.

Camps and Buildings.—(i) *Nowgam and Korsapanda Camp—Temporary hutments.*—Work completed.

Temporary water-supply arrangements are in progress and supply effected to some areas.

(ii) *Chickumpet Camp.*—Work on 29 blocks of 2 'E' type quarters is in progress. Also work on 15 blocks of sheet type quarters has been taken up.

In regard to other buildings, as there was no response for the tenders in most cases and as in a few cases the rates quoted were very high, the estimates are being revised as per actual conditions in field and action will be taken to give the work on contract either by calling for tenders or on negotiated basis when estimates are finalized.

Formation of road to officers' quarters is nearing completion, and widening and revetment are in progress.

(iii) *Permanent water-supply.*—Certain alterations to the design of the water-supply reservoir weir have been proposed and are being attended to.

(iv) *Onukudelli Camp.*—Revised layout for the camp with a view to have all permanent buildings at Onukudelli is awaited from field.

Construction Power Supply.—A 22 K. W. generating set was erected and put into commission from 24th January 1948. Erection of posts and street lights are in progress. Service connexions are being given to the buildings and the work is in progress consistent with the availability of materials.

Stores and Transport.—Except for a few cases of paints and electrical materials purchased at Vizianagram and Vizagapatam no other important materials have been received. Most of the materials from Jeypore Stores have been transported to site. Bulk of the materials from Bobbili except few heavy ones have also been conveyed to the site.

Transmission Line Construction Division—110 K.V. Line.—Reconnaissance and survey of the 110 K.V. line from Vizagapatam to Rajahmundry and Machkund to Vizagapatam are in progress.

The daily average labour strength during January 1948 was 1,154. New recruitments are being made with difficulty and tenders have also been invited for labour.

Clause (b)—How much money the Government have already invested there and how much more has yet to be invested for materializing the scheme?—Rs. 22,41,768 has been spent to the end of December 1947. The balance to be invested up to the commencement of operation stage as per the original project estimate of 1944 is Rs. 4,69,19,232. The project estimate will require revision in view of the continuous rise in prices of materials and cost of labour.

Appendix II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 238 asked by Sri V. Raghavayya at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 25th March 1948, page 771 supra.]

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) The Government of India announced their decision to relax control over the procurement and distribution of mill cloth with effect from 20th January 1948. On that day, the cloth procured for this Province from the Bombay Surplus Area and that released by mills in the Province was held by several classes of intermediaries, viz., representative buyers; mill quota holders, market quota holders, non-quota

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holders, sub-wholesale dealers, retail consignees and retail dealers. With a view to restore the normal channels of trade as quickly as possible, it was decided not to interfere with the distribution of the stocks held by the various intermediaries with effect from 20th January 1948. But as the stockists are liable to deliver goods for payments received by them from others to whom their stocks had been allotted under the distribution arrangements previously in force, the Provincial Textile Commissioner announced that the stockists should deliver their goods to the dealers linked up to them by orders of a competent authority, if payments for the goods had been made by the linked up dealers and that if no such payments had been made, it was open to the persons holding stocks to sell to buyers of their choice. But the hope was expressed that the persons holding stocks would in fairness make their first offer to the dealers already linked up to them before selling the goods to others and that the instructions for distribution already issued by the Textile Control department would be carried out. A copy of the statement to the press issued by the Provincial Textile Commissioner on 23rd January 1948 is placed on the table of the House.

(*e*) Complaints have been received that the hope expressed by the Provincial Textile Commissioner was not fulfilled in some districts, for example, West Godavari and Nellore.

(*f*) No information about the value of stocks held by the wholesale dealers or other dealers in cloth on 20th January 1948 is available.

(*g*) Please see answer to part (*e*).

(*h*) There is no information available about the prices at which the dealers of Nellore sold their goods after 20th January 1948.

(*i*) The hon. Member presumably refers to his own suggestion to the Provincial Textile Commissioner on 27th January 1948 for a modification of Clause 2 of the Provincial Textile Commissioner's statement to the Press, dated 23rd January 1948. The Provincial Textile Commissioner did not find it advisable to act upon that suggestion.

(*j*) It is expected that the restoration of the normal trade channels will result in the establishment of an equilibrium between the demand and the prices of cloth. Government are taking steps to ensure an adequate supply of mill cloth to the Province and hope that consumers will refuse to pay exorbitant prices.

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The Provincial Textile Commissioner issued the following Statement to the Press on 23rd January 1948 :—

In order to implement the decision of the Government of India and the Madras Government to give up all control over the procurement and distribution of mill cloth with immediate effect the following details are hereby announced for the information of the public :—

1. Representative buyers who have paid for the cloth in the Bombay Surplus Area should bring it down into this Province according to the usual procedure. The quotas not already purchased against Release Orders or Purchase Authorities and all quotas not procured hitherto by the representative buyers are treated as closed and further purchases, if any, by the representative buyers or others should be made only in the open market or from mills, subject to the present movement restrictions which will continue and subject to targets for areas which will be determined by the Textile Commissioner, Bombay.

2. Representative buyers, market quota holders, other wholesale dealers and retail consignees who are holding stocks imported from the Bombay Surplus Area or produced by mills in his Province should deliver the goods to the dealers linked up to them by the orders of the Provincial Textile Commissioner, Collectors of the districts or other competent officials of the Textile Control Department, if payment for the goods has been made by the linked-up dealers. Where no such payment has been made it will be open to the persons holding the stocks to sell to buyers of their choice. It is, however, hoped that the persons holding stocks will in fairness make their first offer to the dealers already linked up to them before selling the goods to others and that instructions for distribution already issued by the Textile Control Department will be carried out. The same procedure may be followed in respect of all stocks of cloth held by any dealer in the Province.

3. All control over the prices and distribution of imported cloth and yarn has also been given up with immediate effect. The principle set out in Clause (2) above applies to the distribution of imported textiles also. No orders from the Office of the Provincial Textile Commissioner will be issued on pending applications for the fixation of prices of imported cloth and yarn and all cases shall be treated as closed. The documents filed by the importers with the applications of 1947 will be returned to them by post, if not already taken by them.

4. All correspondence about

(i) licences to deal in mill cloth,

(ii) permits to print or dye cloth,

(iii) allotment of market quotas or cloth for processing, and

(iv) fixation of prices or distribution of powerloom cloth shall be treated as closed. No orders will be issued hereafter either

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by this office or the Collectors of districts or the Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners regarding distribution of stocks of cloth surrendered by quota holders of South Indian Mills or by wholesale dealers. In such cases the stockists will be free to sell goods to buyers of their choice.

5. Dealers should adjust among themselves all disputes about bales paid for but not delivered, shortages, demurrages, etc., and no orders will be issued from this office on representations made already or hereafter in this respect.

6. No cloth ration cards or special permits to buy cloth will be issued in future and all applications on which orders have not so far been received by the applicants should be treated as closed.

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 247, asked by Sri S. Nagappa at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 25th March 1948, page 780 supra.]

(Appendix to G.O. No. 78, Finance, dated 6th February 1947.)

A

Madras.

B

Vizagapatam district—
Vizagapatam.
Vizianagram.

East Godavari district—
Cocanada.
Rajahmundry.

West Godavari district—
Ellore.

Kistna district—
Bezwada.
Bandar (Masulipatam).

Guntur district—
Guntur.

Nellore district—
Nellore.

Bellary district—
Bellary.

Chingleput district—
Conjeeveram.

North Arcot district—
Vellore.

B—*cont.*

Salem district—
Salem.

Coimbatore district—
Coimbatore.

South Arcot district—
Cuddalore.

Tanjore district
Tanjore.
Kumbakonam.
Negapatam.

Trichinopoly district—
Trichinopoly.

Madura district—
Madura
Dindigul.

Tinnevelly district—
Tuticorin.
Tinnevelly.
Palamcottah.

Malabar district—
Calicut.
Palghat.

South Kanara district—
Mangalore.

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APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 251 asked by Sri R. V. Swaminathan (on behalf of Sri N. Annamalai Pillai) at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly, held on the 25th March 1948, page 783 supra.]

Statement indicating the localities in which the schools intended for the Hill Tribes in Javadi Hills in North Arcot district are situated and the number of children attending each school.

Name of place in which the school is situated.	Number of children attending the school.	
	Boys.	Girls.
Vellore West Division.		
Tirupathur Javadis—		
(1) Pudur	25	2
(2) Nellivasal	26	6
(3) Perumpalli	25	5
Chengam Javadis—		
(1) Kuttathur	33	6
(2) Perumattam	25	5
(3) Puliyur	33	17

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 12 asked by Sri N. Venkata Subbayya at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly, held on the 25th March 1948, page 785 supra.]

SALIENT FEATURES OF THE FOLLOWING IRRIGATION PROJECTS.

Tungabhadra Project.—The Tungabhadra Project now under execution consists of a reservoir on the Tungabhadra river above Mallapuram near Hospet with two canals for irrigation, one on the Madras side and the other on the Hyderabad side. The canal in Madras side will be 210 miles long and as originally contemplated will irrigate 2·94 lakhs of acres in Bellary and Kurnool districts. The area commanded by the project canal lies in the following taluks of the two districts :—

Bellary district—
Hospet.
Alur.
Siruguppa.
Adoni.

Kurnool district—
Pattikonda.
Kurnool.

It is estimated that the total area under wet crops will work out to about 58,000 acres and of dry irrigated crops to about 192,000 acres. Out of the 58,000 acres of wet crops, about 15,000 acres will be selected for growing duffasal crops like sugarcane, betel, plantains and perennial garden crops in rotation with paddy. Out

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of the remaining 33,000 acres, lands should be selected for growing a long-term variety of paddy in the months of June to November and a short-term variety of paddy in the months of November to March. The hydro-electric power that can be developed on the Madras side is—

(*a*) firm power ... ... 7,000 K.W. and
(*b*) seasonal power, June to January ... 13,000 K.W.

The scheme is an unproductive one, and though it was sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 10 crores (Madras share) yielding a return of 2·28 per cent, the cost is expected to rise up to Rs. 17 crores having regard to the abnormal rates for labour and machinery, reducing the anticipated revenue return from 2·28 per cent to 1·5 per cent. The project has been programmed to be completed by 1952.

2. The project is mainly intended for the irrigation of dry crops, a small area of wet crops being allowed at places where the land is not suitable for dry crops. Careful experiments have been carried out at the Siruguppa Farm to ascertain how to obtain the maximum yield for various crops under the project. These experiments have shown that irrigated dry crops yield substantially more than rain-fed dry crops. Project lands will therefore derive a double benefit both from the assurance of a supply of water and from an increase in yield. The area to be benefited by the project both on the Madras and Hyderabad sides is liable to be afflicted with famine frequently. In 1942–43, the Madras Government had to spend nearly Rs. 2½ crores on famine relief in the Ceded Districts. The execution of the project will provide employment for the labourers in the districts if there should be a recurrence of famine during the construction of the project. After execution, the area commanded by the project will be saved permanently from famine. It was therefore decided to take up immediately the execution of the project.

Irrigation under the Tungabhadra Scheme will be mainly occasional irrigation, once about a fortnight. It has been found that the black cotton soil of the Ceded Districts will not suffer under such irrigation from the Tungabhadra waters. About 10 per cent of the area is to receive continual irrigation for rice. Dry crops like millets, cotton and groundnut, yield, when irrigated, three to four times the amount they do when unirrigated. Apart from the introduction of improved varieties to be cultivated with irrigation the increase in quantity of crop is itself the main benefit to be obtained from the scheme and this too, as it is assured year after year, without depending on the receipt of the normal rainfall. It has also been found that a variety of long staple cotton which has been evolved at the Coimbatore Agricultural College grows very well in the Ceded Districts under irrigation. The Ceded Districts are likely to become the main source for the supply of long staple cotton for India doing away with the necessity for a considerable part of the import of long staple African cotton into India.

The project is a joint enterprise with Hyderabad and the execution is in good progress.

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Pennar-Kumudavathi Project.—There are a number of irrigation tanks big and small in Hindupur taluk of Anantapur district, the most important being the Parighi tank with a total registered ayacut of 2,843 acres. It receives its supply from the Jayamangali river but the supply is reported to have been reduced in recent years presumably due to the abstraction of water-supply by Mysore in the upper reaches of that river in their territory. Over 800 acres of registered Government wet land do not receive water in an average year. To relieve the position, it is proposed to construct an anicut across the Pennar just below its confluence with the Kumudavathi river to let in water to the Parighi tank and *seven other tanks with an ayacut of 6,156 acres of which only 1,725 acres are actually cultivated. This is known as the Pennar-Kumudavathi Project.

*1. Kottur tank.
2. Kolla Kunta tank.
3. Utukur tank.
4. Kodiginahalli tank.
5. Sasankota tank.
6. Subbarayapalli tank.
7. Gorivikunta of Bichanganapalli.

2. The selected site of the project is half a mile below the junction of the Pennar and Kumudavathi rivers some 2½ miles south-west of Hindupur town. The catchment area above the anicut is only 432 square miles. The banks of the combined rivers converge to the anicut site where there is a short bottle-neck and banks diverging again just below. This site is chosen as other sites lower down do not give a commanding water level to the existing anicut across Jayamangali river and the supply channel from it to the Parighi tank which has still to be used in the scheme. The width of the river at this site is 500 feet and the length of the proposed anicut is to be 560 feet. It is proposed to excavate supply channels from either end of the anicut. The left side channel will be dropped into the Jayamangali upstream of an existing anicut from which supply channel to Parighi tank takes off. This channel will augment the supply to three other rain-fed tanks also. The right side channel will supply four other rain-fed tanks.

3. The cost of the scheme according to the latest report of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation is expected to come to Rs. 19·6 lakhs including direct and indirect charges.

4. The scheme when executed will benefit an ayacut of 3,130 acres.

Upper Pennar Project.—The question of tapping the waters of the Upper Pennar which starts in the Mysore territory and runs northwards through the southern and western taluks of the Anantapur district to benefit areas in Dharmavaram and Anantapur taluks which are liable to frequent vicissitudes of famine had been under consideration for some years past. Various proposals were considered and finally dropped. The present proposal is to construct a reservoir across Upper Pennar near Perur in Anantapur district.

2. The reservoir site is very near a part of the Mysore State. The F.R.L. and the capacity of it have therefore been limited in such a manner as not to affect any large area in the Mysore State during floods and the F.R.L. has been fixed suitably at a still

water level which is mostly confined to the river portions only in the Mysore State. Mechanically operated shutters with a total height of 10·5 feet have also been proposed to regulate the flood flows so as to keep it always below the F.R.L. thus designed. However during such maximum floods a small part of occupied land in Mysore State along the margins of the river will be affected on account of the back water surface curve and a settlement will have to be made with Mysore on this account. In order that the project may materialize immediately without waiting for the negotiations with Mysore, it has been proposed to raise the construction in two stages, the first one limited to such level as would affect no part of the Mysore State requiring negotiations. To effect this, the shutters have been proposed to be made up of two tiers of 6 feet and 4½ feet, the lower set alone being installed immediately the second set being provided at a future date after such negotiations with Mysore and after studying the practical results of the project itself.

3. When the first stage is completed, the capacity of the reservoir will be 1,000 m.c.ft. and when the second stage also is completed, the total capacity will be 2,000 m.c.ft. The reservoir would submerge 4·01 square miles of Madras territory including three built up villages.

4. The cost of the scheme is estimated to be Rs. 68,00,000 for works or Rs. 75,00,000 including direct and indirect charges. The return from the scheme is anticipated to be about 1·25 per cent on the total outlay. The execution of the scheme is expected to take about five years.

5. The project will benefit chiefly Dharmavaram and Anantapur taluks on the right side of Pennar and a little on the left side in Kalyandrug taluk. The project would command 8,000 acres of wet land or an equivalent extent of combined wet and dry lands as may be practically developed taking 1 acre of wet land to be equal to 3 acres of dry land.

West Canal Project (*Bellary district*).—This scheme is only an anicut at Harvi Basapuram across the Tungabhadra with a canal 91 miles long. As contemplated, this scheme will irrigate an area of 58,200 acres of wet land. This scheme was deferred pending investigation of the Tungabhadra Reservoir Project. Now that the Tungabhadra Project is taken up, most of the ayacut of the Bellary West Canal Project will be submerged and hence there is no possibility of taking up the scheme hereafter.

APPENDIX VI.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 15 asked by Sri N. Venkata Subbayya at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly, held on the 25th March 1948, page 787 supra.]

Statement showing the number of contract carriages (taxis) permitted in each district in the province.

Vizagapatam South	9
Vizagapatam North	4
East Godavari	5
West Godavari	12
Kistna	28
Guntur	2
Nellore	2
Cuddapah	2
Anantapur	10
Bellary	3
Kurnool	10
Chittoor	..
Chingleput	13
North Arcot	3
South Arcot	5
Tanjore	21
Trichinopoly	5
Salem	50
Madura North	20
Madura South	14
Ramnad	60
Tinnevelly	60
Nilgiris	21
Coimbatore	24
South Kanara	235
Malabar	
Madras	

APPENDIX VII.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 19 asked by Sri S. Nagappa at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly, held on the 25th March 1948, page 790 supra.]

Sub-Inspectors (*directly recruited*).

District.	Brahman.	Non-Brahman.	Scheduled and Backward Class.	Christian.	Muslim.	Anglo-Indian.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Anantapur—						
B.A.	1	..	..	1	1	..
Inter.	..	1	..	..	..	..
S.S.L.C.	2	4	..	..	1	..

Sub-Inspectors (directly recruited)—cont.

District. (1)	Brahman. (2)	Non-Brahman. (3)	Scheduled and Backward Class. (4)	Christian. (5)	Muslim. (6)	Anglo-Indian. (7)
Bellary—						
B.A.	..	1	1	..	..	..
S.S.L.C.	..	..	..	..	1	..
Cuddapah—						
B.A.	..	3	..	..	..	..
Inter.	..	..	2	..	..	..
S.S.L.C.	..	1	2	1	..	..
Kurnool—						
B.A.	1	..	..	..	..	..
S.S.L.C.	..	..	..	2	1	..
Matric.	..	1	..	..	..	..
Nellore—						
B.A.	..	1	1	1	..	..
Inter.	..	2	..	..	..	..
S.S.L.C.	1	..	..	..	1	..
Guntur—						
B.A.	1	1	..	..	..	..
Inter.	..	2	1	..	..	..
B.Sc.	1	..	..	..	..	..
S.S.L.C.	..	1	..	..	..	..
Malabar—						
B.A.	..	1	..	..	..	..
Inter.	..	..	1	..	..	..
S.S.L.C.	..	4	..	1	2	..
B.Sc.	1	..	1	..	..	..
Matric.	..	1	..	..	..	..
South Kanara—						
Inter.	..	..	1	..	..	..
S.S.L.C.	..	1	2	..	2	..
Madras—						
B.A.	..	2	1	2	..	..
Inter.	..	1	2	..	..	..
S.S.L.C.	..	3	..	1	2	..
B.Sc.	3	..	..	..	..	..
Salem—						
B.A.	1	..	1	..	..	..
S.S.L.C.	..	..	1	..	1	..
Inter.	..	..	1	..	..	..
Nilgiris—						
S.S.L.C.	..	..	2	..	..	1
Vizagapatam—						
B.A.	..	1	..	..	..	..
Inter.	..	1	..	..	..	..
S.S.L.C.	1	1	..	..	..	..
B.Sc.	1	1	..	..	..	..
East Godavari—						
B.A.	..	1	..	..	..	..
Inter.	..	1	..	..	..	..
West Godavari—						
B.A.	..	..	..	..	..	..
Inter.	1	..	1	..	..	..
S.S.L.C.	1	..	..	..	..	..
Chittoor—						
B.A.	..	..	1	..	..	..
Inter.	1	1	..	..	..	..
S.S.L.C.	..	..	..	..	1	..

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Sub-Inspectors (directly recruited)—cont.

District. (1)	Brahman. (2)	Non-Brahman. (3)	Scheduled and Backward Class. (4)	Christian. (5)	Muslim. (6)	Anglo-Indian. (7)
Trichinopoly—						
Inter.	..	..	1	..	..	..
Tanjore—						
Inter.	..	..	1	..	..	..
Tinnevelly—						
B.A.	..	..	1	..	..	..
S.S.L.C.	..	..	2	1	..	..
Coimbatore—						
B.A.	..	..	..	2	..	..
Inter.	..	..	1	..	..	1
S.S.L.C.	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chingleput—						
B.A.	..	1	..	..	..	..
Ramnad—						
B.A.	..	..	1	..	..	..
South Arcot—						
S.S.L.C.	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kistna—						
B.A.	1	..	..	1	..	..
Inter.	1	1	..	..	..	..
S.S.L.C.	..	..	..	..	1	..
Total ..	19	41	29	13	15	2

Petty Officers (directly recruited).

Anantapur—						
S.S.L.C.	1	10	..	..	2	..
V Form	2	3	..	..	..	..
Inter.	..	1	1	..	..	..
Matric.	1	..	..	1	..	..
Bellary—						
S.S.L.C.	..	3	1	..	1	
V Form	..	2	..	..	1	
Cuddapah—						
S.S.L.C.	2	4	..	2	1	..
Kurnool—						
S.S.L.C.	..	5	2	..	2	..
V Form	..	3	..	..	1	..
Guntur—						
S.S.L.C.	3	12	..	4	6	..
V Form	2	..	..	1	1	..
Inter.	1	..	..	..	..	..
Nellore—						
S.S.L.C.	..	7	2	5	2	..
V Form	..	..	2	1	1	..
Inter.	..	1	..	..	..	..
Kistna—						
Inter.	1	2	..	..	..	..
S.S.L.C.	..	..	2	..	..	..
V Form	..	..	..	..	1	..
Chittoor—						
S.S.L.C.	..	3	..	..	1	..
V Form	..	1	..	..	..	..

Petty Officers (directly recruited)—cont.

District	Brahman.	Non-Brahman.	Scheduled and Backward Class.	Christian.	Muslim.	Anglo-Indian.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
East Godavari—						
S.S.L.C.	1	4	2	..	1	..
V Form	..	1	..	..	..	..
West Godavari—						
S.S.L.C.	..	3	1	..	..	..
V Form	..	1	..	..	1	..
Vizagapatam—						
S.S.L.C.	..	1	..	..	..	..
V Form	..	..	..	..	..	..
Malabar—						
Matric.	..	1	4	..	..	..
S.S.L.C.	1	29	1	6	2	..
V Form	..	10	..	3	1	..
Travancore—						
Inter.	..	1	..	..	..	..
S.S.L.C.	..	..	1	2	..	..
Cochin—						
S.S.L.C.	..	..	..	1	..	..
V Form	..	..	..	..	..	..
South Kanara—						
S.S.L.C.	1	2	..	..	..	..
V Form	2	..	2	..	..	..
Madras—						
Matric.	..	..	..	1	..	..
S.S.L.C.	1	13	..	2	..	..
V Form	..	1	2	1	1	..
Coimbatore—						
S.S.L.C.	1	2	..	1	..	..
V Form	..	..	1	..	..	..
South Arcot—						
Inter.	..	..	..	..	..	..
S.S.L.C.	1	..	..	..	1	..
North Arcot—						
S.S.L.C.	..	1	..	2	..	..
Nilgiris—						
V Form	..	1	1	..	..	..
Salem—						
V Form	1	1	..	..	..	..
Tanjore—						
S.S.L.C.	5	..	..	..	..	..
Trichinopoly—						
S.S.L.C.	..	1	..	..	..	..
Tinnevelly—						
S.S.L.C.	..	3	..	..	1	..
Madura—						
S.S.L.C.	2	2	..	..	..	..
V Form	..	..	..	1	..	..
Mysore—						
S.S.L.C.	1	..	..	..	..	..
V Form	1	..	..	..	..	..
Chingleput—						
V Form	..	1	..	..	..	..
Total ..	31	136	26	36	28	..

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APPENDIX VIII.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 22 asked by Sri G. Kumaraswami at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 25th March 1948, page 792 supra.]

Statement showing the number of students studying abroad under the Overseas Scholarship Scheme since 1st April 1946.

STUDENTS SELECTED IN 1946-47.

Serial number and name of candidate.	Subject of study.	District to which the scholar belongs.	Country of study.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1 N. Siddeswara Setti.	Heat and Hydraulic Engineering.	Bellary ..	U.S.A. ..	..
2 S. Ramalingam..	Industrial and Administrative Engineering.	East Godavari.	U.K. ..	..
3 R. S. Savoor ..	Generation, transmission and utilization of electrical power.	South Kanara.	..	Resigned.
4 M. Muthukrishnudi.	Do.	Madras ..	U.S.A. ..	..
5 L. R. Saptarishi.	Electrical measurements.	Trichinopoly.	U.K. .	Since returned to India in the middle of studies.
6 K. Krishnamacharyulu.	Structural Engineering.	Vizagapatam ..	U.K. ..	..
7 Dayananda Konchady.	Public Health Engineering.	South Kanara.	U.S.A. ..	..
8 N. Ramamurthy.	Aerodynamics, aircraft navigation and aircraft instruments.	Madras ..	..	Resigned.
9 O. R. Chandrasekharan.	Design and manufacture of centrifugal pumps, deep well, bore well and tube well pumps and air lift pumps.	Tanjore ..	..	Relinquished the scholarship.
10 R. Krishnamoorthy.	Do.	South Arcot ..	U.K. ..	..
11 Balaram Nadhan.	Design and manufacture of machine tools.	Tanjore ..	..	Relinquished the scholarship.
12 S. Murugesan ..	Manufacture, installation and testing of boilers.	Madura ..	..	Detained in India for want of admission.
13 Seth Balasundar.	Manufacture of agricultural implements.	Tinnevelly ..	U.S.A. ..	..
14 T. K. Sivasankaran.	Manufacture of electric lamps and accessories.	North Malabar.	..	Detained in India for want of admission.
15 M. Rajesekhara Sarma.	Manufacture of batteries and dry cells.	Guntur ..	U.K. ..	..
16 Capt. M. K. Rao, I.E.M.E.	Design and manufacture of radio sets.	Madras ..	..	Resigned.
17 C. V. Subbaratnam.	Wood and lignite distillation and utilization of products.	Kurnool ..	U.S.A. ..	..

STUDENTS SELECTED IN 1946-47—*cont.*

Serial number and name of candidate.	Subject of study.	District to which the scholar belongs.	Country of study.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
18 M. Narasimha Rao.	Manufacture of paints.	East Godavari.	..	Detained in India for want of admission.
19 H. Venkatakrishtna Udupa.	Electro-Chemistry with special reference to acids.	South Kanara.	U.S.A. ..	..
20 M. V. Rama Rao.	Ground Engineering..	East Godavari.	U.K. ..	..
21 K. N. Gopinath Menon.	Marine Engineering and design of ships power boats.	Madras ..	U.K. ..	..
22 N. V. Subba Rao.	Chemistry of insecticides and fungicides.	East Godavari.	U.K. ..	..
23 T. Rajagopal Rao.	Leather chemistry and treatment of leather.	Kistna ..	U.S.A. ..	..
24 C. D. Srinivasan.	Plastics and manufacture of products like bakelite.	Madras ..	U.S.A. ..	..
25 Miss Roshan J. Irani.	Manufacture of drugs and pharmaceuticals.	Poona	U.K. and U.S.A.	..
26 F. G. T. Menezes.	Oil technology and hydrogenation.	South Kanara	..	Detained in India for want of admission.
27 M. I. Matthews..	Fuel technology and design of furnaces and kilns.	Guntur ..	U.K. ..	..
28 V. Ramakrishna.	Sound technology accoustics and recording.	Vizagapatam ..	U.S.A. ..	..
29 C. Dakshinamurthi.	Soil physics	Do.	U.K. ..	..
30 B. Krishnaswami.	Manufacture of micanite.	Nellore ..	U.K. ..	..
31 D. S. Jagannadha Rao.	Ceramics and manufacture of ceramic ware.	West Godavari.	U.K. ..	..
32 T. V. Sukumaran.	Lithography and printing technology.	North Malabar.	..	Detained in India for want of admission.
33 M. Giriraj ..	Canning and food preservation.	Madras ..	U.S.A. ..	..
34 V. Ganesan ..	Electrical Engineering.	Do. ..	..	Substitute selected detained in India for want of admission.
35 T. L. N. Prasad.	Do.	Nellore ..	..	Do.
36 Mahmood Hussain.	Hydrology in relation to tube and bore-wells.	West Godavari.	U.S.A. ..	..
37 M. Bhaskar ..	Dam construction ..	South Kanara.	..	Relinquished the scholarship.
38 V. Venkatasubramanian.	Soil mechanics of the earthen and composite dams.	Madura ..	U.S.A. ..	..

STUDENTS SELECTED IN 1946-47—*cont.*

Serial number and name of candidate.	Subject of study.	District to which the scholar belongs.	Country of study.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
39 Mahmood Mia Khan.	Sanitary Engineering.	Tirunelveli ..	U.K. ..	..
40 Shaik Umar, B.	Reinforced concrete and pre-stressed structures.	Coimbatore ..	U.S.A. ..	..
41 S. Panchanathan.	Soil mechanics with special reference to foundations.	Tanjore ..	U.K. ..	..
42 J. N. Jayanty ..	Public health and medical buildings and architecture.	East Godavari.	..	Detained in India for want of admission.
43 A. Purushottama Rao.	Plant and plant operation.	Guntur ..	U.K. ..	..
44 R. Thillainayagam.	Highway Engineering —Highway research.	Trichinopoly ..	U.S.A. ..	..
45 K. T. Achaya ..	Oil Technology ..	Coimbatore ..	U.K. ..	..
46 R. R. Reddy ..	Food Technology ..	Nellore ..	U.S.A. ..	..
47 P. Prabhakara Reddy.	Plastics and manufacture of products like bakelite.	Anantapur ..	U.S.A. ..	..
48 S. C. Rajagopalan.	Electro-chemistry ..	North Arcot ..	U.S.A. ..	..
49 R. Padmanabhan.	....	Tanjore ..	..	Detained in India for want of passage.

STUDENTS SELECTED IN 1947-48.

1 L. Venkatesan ..	Civil Engineering, dam design.	Madras ..	..	Still in India for want of admission.
2 T. Venkatarama-na Reddy.	Civil Engineering, surveying.	Chittoor ..	..	Do.
3 A. Madanagopal Menon.	Electrical Engineering, generation, transmission and utilization of electric power.	Travancore, but nationalized.	U.K. ..	..
4 K. M. A. Mohamed Sulaiman.	Do.	Ramnad ..	..	Still in India for want of admission.
5 J. Sethumadhava-Char.	Electrical Engineering generation, transmission and utilization of electric power.	Bellary ..	..	Do.
6 R. P. Arthur ..	Mechanical Engineering—heat and hydraulics engineering.	South Arcot ..	..	Admission just now secured in U.S.A.
7 Miss C. D. Kanthimathi.	Nursery education ..	Tanjore ..	U.K.	..
8 C. Ganesamurti.	Teacher's training educational psychology.	Madras ..	..	Still in India for want of admission.
9 C. Srinivasan ..	Cinematography—Sound recording.	Tanjore ..	..	Admission just now secured in U.S.A.

STUDENTS SELECTED IN 1947—48—*cont.*

Serial number and name of candidate. (1)	Subject of study. (2)	District to which the scholar belongs. (3)	Country of study. (4)	Remarks. (5)
10 Y. Sreeramulu ..	Applied physics —(Electronics).	Kistna ..	..	Admission just now secured in U.S.A.
11 H. S. S. Lawrence.	....	Madras ..	..	Still in India for want of admission.
12 V. S. Ramachandran.	Fertilisers—Chemical plant maintenance.	Tirunelveli ..	..	Do.
13 M. Devidas Menon.	Fisheries	Ernakulam, Cochin. ..	U.K.	..
14 Dr. K. Venkateswarulu.	Geophysics	Kistna ..	..	Still in India for want of admission.
15 C. Venkatesan ..	Industrial and applied chemistry.	North Arcot ..	..	Do.
16 C. Srinivasa Ballal.	Mercantile marine engineering — Engineering side.	South Kanara.	..	Scholarship cancelled.
17 D. Venkateswara Rao.	Meteorology	Vizagapatam ..	..	Still in India for want of admission.
18 E. C. Chandrasekharan.	Civil Engineering—Highways construction low cost roads.	Coimbatore ..	..	Do.
19 S. H. Mahadevan.	Civil Engineering—Highways construction—bridging.	Tirunelveli ..	..	Do.
20 M. Venkata Rao.	Civil Engineering—Irrigation—Soil mechanics with its application of design of irrigation works.	East Godavari ..	..	Do.
21 T. V. Balakrishnan.	Electrical Engineering, electric switches and accessories — Manufacture.	Madras ..	..	Do.
22. S. Sankaralingam	Civil Engineering—Irrigation.	Ramnad ..	..	Do.
23 A. Md. Ali Khan Ghori.	Applied chemistry—Tanning, currying and leather technology.	Do. ..	..	Do.
24 D. Venkateswarlu.	Chemical Engineering.	East Godavari. ..		Admission just now secured in U.S.A.

GOVERNMENT SERVANTS SELECTED UNDER THE SCHEME.

25 M. V. Suryaprakasam.	Civil Engineering, sanitary engineering.	Guntur ..	..	Admission just now secured in U.S.A.
26 O. L. N. Reddi	Electrical Engineering.	Anantapur ..	..	Do.
27 J. Walter ..	Civil Engineering—Irrigation.	Salem	..	Do.
28 S. M. Krishnan.	Forestry	Coimbatore ..	..	Scholarship cancelled.

25th March 1948]

APPENDIX IX.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 31 asked by Sri S. Guravulu at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 25th March 1948, page 797 supra.]

Tanning Industry.

1. Provisions of the Factories Act should be rigorously applied.

2. The factories should be kept open only for 8 hours a day.

3. The provisions of the Madras Maternity Benefit Act must be strictly enforced. Employment of women casually instead of on monthly salary basis must be prohibited.

4. Weekly holidays must be granted.

5. All factories should be brought within the purview of the Workmen's Compensation Act.

6. Rubber shoes and rubber gloves should be supplied to all workers in the lime yard and sulla work and rubber apron sheets to all workers performing defleshing, deliming and scudding operations.

7. Special bath-rooms should be provided in every tannery for workers; gingelly oil or groundnut oil for lime workers and soaps for all the workers must be freely supplied.

8. Water for drinking, cooking, washing and bathing must be supplied to workers within their colonies (residential area), without being forced to go, as at present, to the tannery wells for taking water. Under no circumstances, the facilities provided for water supply should be curtailed or stopped.

9. Registered workers' union must be recognized by the employers and two representatives of the union must enjoy the right to represent to the management the grievances of the workers.

10. The workers must be granted 10 days' casual leave with pay every year.

11. The workers should give notice of 45 days before going on a strike.

12. With a view to guarantee employment to workers, the workers should be provided with at least one unit of work daily, failing which the permanent workers should be paid wages for one unit every day. As an alternative, the workers should be provided with 560 units of work for a year or paid wages for 560 units. To minimise absenteeism, a system of bonus payment based on attendance should be introduced.

13. Wages of male workers shall be fixed at 9 (nine) annas for every unit done in a day in all the tanneries in the Province. No distinction shall exist between the wages paid for the first and subsequent units done in a day.

In such factories as Chrome Leather Company and Gordon Woodroffe Leather Manufacturing Company, Limited, whenever time wages are paid, the wages obtaining in January 1947 shall be raised by 12½ per cent.

14. Units of work in the various centres shall contain the same number of skins or hides as in January 1947.

15. The adolescent workers shall be paid Rs. 15 per mensem. The wages paid for turning the skins or hides in the lime pits, bark pits, etc., shall be 1½ annas per unit of work. The women workers shall be paid Rs. 15 per mensem or 14 annas per day if casually employed.

16. All the workers, men, women and adolescents, shall be paid a minimum dearness allowance of Rs. 16 per mensem. This rate of dearness allowance is the lowest rate allowed by the Government and it shall be altered with any alterations made by the Government.

Whenever a *higher* rate of dearness allowance is being paid at the present time, it shall be continued without any alteration unless there is any change in the rate of dearness allowance paid by the Government.

General to all industries.

1. The provisions of the Factories Act, the Payment of Wages Act, Madras Maternity Benefit Act and the Workmen's Compensation Act must be applied to all industries.

2. Every establishment must prominently display a copy of its standing orders, terms of employment, procedure for disciplinary action and the framing of charges, fine list, if any, and particulars regarding the amount in the fine fund.

3. Every employer shall supply all the appliances and instruments along with raw materials to every worker, for example, in the beedi industry, the trays in which tobacco and beedis are kept, scissors, thread, etc.

4. In order to improve the health and safety of the workers, the workers must be provided with clean mats to squat on in the beedi, cigar, snuff and tobacco-grading industries and with rubber chappals, gloves and apron sheets in the tanning industry.

5. Industrial home work should be confined to the women workers only and must be regulated by a system of coupons.

6. Wages for apprentice should not fall below half of the minimum wages of an adult worker. The constitution of trade boards is recommended for peaceful settlement of industrial disputes.

7. Labour employed in these seasonal industries must be made regular and non-migratory. Stabilization of employment conditions are urgent in all these industries.

8. Action must be taken to provide housing, educational and medical facilities on a liberal scale to workers. Schemes for these purposes must be financed from funds contributed equally by the

employers and the Government. In all important centres of these industries, the local boards should grant sites for the construction of workers' tenements and provide light, water and education facilities. Towards the construction of schools, houses, etc., the employers must be required to contribute a certain percentage.

9. In all establishments employing more than 100 workers or in all areas where more than 100 workers are employed by an industry, a canteen should be opened to supply wholesome food and refreshments, to workers by the individual employer or body of employers. In all such centres, co-operative provision stores must be opened for the use of the workers.

10. Employers must pay one month's average pay as bonus to all workers, who have worked for a specified number of days in a year.

11. Every worker should be paid a gratuity of 15 days' pay for every year of service; the worker shall be eligible to get this gratuity only when he has served at least three years in an establishment. This will discourage migration.

12. A compulsory scheme of Provident Fund should be instituted in all the five industries. The workers should pay at the rate of one anna per rupee of their monthly earnings and the employers should pay an equal amount.

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