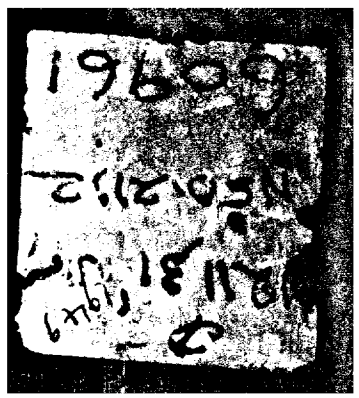


1 AUG 1950

MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

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

Volume XXI (Nos. 1 to 14).

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PERSONNEL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

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GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

HIS EXCELLENCY COMMODORE MAHARAJA RAOL SHRI SIR KRISHNA KUMARSINHJI BHAVSINHJI, K.C.S.I., MAHARAJA OF BHAVNAGAR.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

1 THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA, *Premier.*

2 THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN, *Public Health Minister.*

3 THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM, *Public Works Minister.*

4 THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI, *Finance Minister.*

5 THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI, *Land Revenue Minister.*

6 THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI, *Local Administration Minister.*

7 THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON, *Education Minister.*

8 THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY, *Agriculture Minister.*

9 THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN, *Rural Development Minister.*

10 THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI, *Prohibition Minister.*

11 THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI, *Industries Minister.*

12 THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA, *Food Minister.*

MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS.

Speaker.
THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUKHAM PILLAI.

Deputy Speaker.
SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA.

Panel of Chairmen.
1 BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN.
2 JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN.
3 SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN.
4 SRI B. VENKATARATNAM.

Secretary to the Assembly.
SRI D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA, B.A., B.L.

Assistant Secretary to the Assembly.
SRI T. HANUMANTHAPPA, B.A. (Hons.), B.E.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY WITH THEIR CONSTITUENCIES.

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
1 Aaron Rao, Alladi	Guntur *cum* Nellore, Indian Christian.
2 Abdul Hameed Khan	Kurnool, Muhammadan, Rural.
3 Abdul Khader Jamali, Hajee Moulvi.	Ramnad, Muhammadan, Rural.
4 Abdul Majid, M. S., B.A. ..	Chingleput *cum* South Arcot, Muhammadan, Rural.
5 Abdul Rahman	Tirunelveli, Muhammadan, Rural.
6 Ahmad Kutty, Haji Koyappathody M.	Malappuram, Muhammadan, Rural.
7 Ammanna Raja, Srimathi C. (*Deputy Speaker*).	Eluru Town, Women, General, Rural.
8 Anandan Nambiar, K.	Railway Trade Union, Labour.
9 Ananthachar, B.	Hospet, General, Rural.
10 Anjalai Ammal, Srimathi ..	Cuddalore, Women, General, Rural.
11 Annamalai Pillai, N.	Tiruvannamalai, General, Rural.
12 Arunachalam, T. S.	Tiruchirappalli *cum* Srirangam Towns, General, Urban.
13 Ataullah, M. S.	Salem *cum* Coimbatore *cum* the Nilgiris, Muhammadan, Rural.
14 Avinashilingam Chettiyar, T. S.	Palladam, General, Rural.
15 Balakrishnan, S. C.	Palni, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
16 Bapineedu, M., B.SC. (Cornell), M.SC (California).	Eluru, General, Rural.
17 Batchelor, B. W.	European Commerce, The Madras Chamber of Commerce and the Madras Trades Association.
18 Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin, B.A. (Hons.).	Madras City, Women, Muhammadan, Urban.
19 Bhaktavatsalam, The Hon. Sri M. (*Minister*).	Tiruvallur, General, Rural.

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
20 Bhashyam, K.	University.
21 Bhupathiraju Bangarayya, Srimathi.	Bhimavaram, General, Rural.
22 Bokkai Gowder, K.	The Nilgiris, General, Rural.
23 Brahmanandam Reddi, K. ..	Narasaraopet, General, Rural.
24 Chandramouli, The Hon. Sri K. (*Minister*).	Tenali, General, Rural.
25 Chandu, A.	Kozhikode, General, Rural.
26 Chengam Pillai, O.	Tiruvallur, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
27 Chidambara Ayyar, S.	Villupuram, General, Rural.
28 Damodaran, M. P.	Kottayam, General, Rural.
29 Devanayaga Iyah, A.	Cuddalore, General, Rural.
30 Doraikannu, M.	Tiruttani, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
31 Durairaja Pandian, D.	Tirunelveli, General, Rural.
32 Easwaran, M. A.	Erode, General, Rural.
33 Ebrahim Coonhee, M.	Chirakkal, Muhammadan, Rural.
34 Fernandez, W. J.	Anglo-Indian.
35 Fowler, H. O.	Do.
36 Gopala Reddi, The Hon. Sri B. (*Minister*).	Kavali, General, Rural.
37 Gopalaswami, L. N.	Tiruchirappalli, General, Rural.
38 Govinda Das, D.	Bellary, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
39 Govinda Menon, M. P.	Malappuram, General, Rural
40 Govindan Nayar, C. K.	Kurumbranad, General, Rural.
41 Govindan Nair, P.	Ponnani, General, Rural.
42 Govindaraju Nayagar, S. K. ..	Saidapet, General, Rural.
43 Govindaswami Nayudu, N. ..	Textile Workers' Trade Union (Madras), Labour.
44 Guruvulu, Saketi	Chicacole, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
45 Hassan Koya Puthiya Pommani.	Kozhikode, Muhammadan, Rural.

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
46 Hussain, H. S., B.A., B.L. ..	Mangalore, Muhammadan, Rural.
47 Hydross, M. V., B.A., B.L. ..	Palghat, Muhammadan, Rural.
48 Ibrahim, Sinna Kaziar Haji Moulvi S. A. F.	Mathurai, Muhammadan, Rural.
49 Ishwara, K.	Coondapoor, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
50 Jaffar Mohideen	Anantapur, Muhammadan, Rural.
51 Jebamoney Masilamoney, Mrs. ..	Tirunelveli *cum* Palamcottah *cum* Tuticorin Towns, Women, Indian Christian, Urban.
52 Jogi Nayudu, Allu	Vizianagram, General, Rural.
53 Kader Kutty , A. K.	Kottayam, Muhammadan, Rural.
54 Kadirappa, D.	Penukonda, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
55 Kakkan, P.	Ariyalur, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
56 Kala Venkata Rao	Amalapuram, General, Rural.
57 Kaleswara Rao, A.	Vijayavada *cum* Masulipatnam Towns, General, Urban.
58 Kamaraj Nadar, K.	Sattur, General, Rural.
59 Kamakshi Chettiyar, K. P. ..	Palni, General, Rural.
60 Kameswara Rao, Annapragada.	Guntur *cum* Tenali Towns, General, Urban.
61 Kandaswami Gounder, P. R. ..	Pollachi, General, Rural.
62 Kandaswamy Pillai, P.	Salem Town, General, Urban.
63 Kannappa Mudaliyar, V. T. ...	Gudiyattam, General, Rural.
64 Kanniyappan, M.	Madras City Dock and Factory Labour (excluding Textile and Railway Labour), Labour.
65 Karanth, K. R., B.A., LL.B. ..	Puttur, General, Rural.
66 Karayalar, L. S.	Koilpatti, General, Rural.
67 Kosalram, K. T.	Tuticorin, General, Rural.
68 Koti Reddi, K.	Cuddapah, General, Rural.
69 Kothari, Chendulal Motilal ..	Madras Planters.

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
70 Krishnan, K. S. V.	Tindivanam, General, Rural.
71 Krishnan, S.	Pollachi, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
72 Krishnaswami Vandiar, A. ..	Kumbakonam, General, Rural.
73 Kulasekara Doss, K.	Tindivanam, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
74 Kumarakrishna Yachendra Bahadur Varu of Venkatagiri, Sri Sarvagna.	Northern Central, Landholders.
75 Kumaran, M.	Chirakkal, General, Rural.
76 Kumaraswami, Garemella ..	Chicacole, General, Rural.
77 Kumaraswami Raja, The Hon. Sri P. S. (*Premier*).	Srivilliputtur, General, Rural.
78 Kunhi Kammaran Nambiar, K. T.	West Coast, Landholders.
79 Kuppuswami Nayudu, A. ..	Kancheepuram, General, Rural.
80 Kuppuswami, R.	Textile Workers' Non-Union Labour.
81 Kurmayya, V.	Bander, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
82 Kuttimalu Amma, Srimathi A. V.	Tellicherry *cum* Kozhikode, Women, General, Urban.
83 Lakshmanaswamy, Pandu ..	Amalapuram, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
84 Lakshmi Ammal, Srimathi K. ..	Dindigul, Women, General, Rural.
85 Lakshmi Ammal, Srimathi V. ..	Shermadevi, General, Rural.
86 Lakshmipathi, Srimathi R. ..	Madras City, Women, General, Urban.
87 Latchanna, Gouthu	Visakhapatnam *cum* East Godavari, Dock and Factory Labour, Labour.
88 Leonard, D. G.	European Commerce, The Madras Chamber of Commerce and the Madras Trades Association.
89 Linga Raju, K.	Rajahmundry, General, Rural.
90 Mahboob Ali Baig, B.A., B.L. ..	West Godavari *cum* Kistna, Muhammadan, Rural.
91 Mahin Sahamnad	Puttur, Muhammadan, Rural.

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
92 Mallayya, U., Padmanabha ..	Mangalore, General, Rural.
93 Manickam, R. S.	Sattur, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
94 Marimuthu, M.	Tanjore, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
95 Mohamed Rafeeudin Ahmad Ansari.	Nellore, Muhammadan, Rural.
96 Moideen Kutty, P. K.	Palghat, Muhammadan, Rural.
97 Moses Wilson, John	Northern Circars, Indian Christian.
98 Mohamed Abdul Salam ..	Guntur, Muhammadan, Rural.
99 Mohammad Ismail, Haji, B.A., B.L.	Bellary, Muhammadan, Rural.
100 Muhammad Anwar, N. ..	North Arcot, Muhammadan, Rural.
101 Muhammad Ibrahim, M. A. ..	Tanjore, Muhammadan, Rural.
102 Muhammad Ibrahim, V. S. ..	Tiruchirappalli, Muhammadan, Rural.
103 Muhammad Ismail, S.	Visakhapatnam *cum* East Godavari, Muhammadan, Rural.
104 Muhammad Ismail, M. .. .. (*Leader of the Opposition*).	Madras City, Muhammadan, Urban.
105 Muhammad Raza Khan ..	Chittoor, Muhammadan, Rural.
106 Muniswami Pillay, V. I. ..	Tirukkoyilur, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
107 Murthi, B. S.	Kakinada, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
108 Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad, Raja.	The Nattukottai Nagarathars' Association.
109 Nachiappa Gounder, K. A. ..	Omalur, General, Rural.
110 Nadhamuni Reddi, R.	Madanapalle, General, Rural.
111 Nagappa, S.	Kurnool, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
112 Nagaraja Ayyangar, N.	Namakkal, General, Rural.
113 Nagaraja Manigar, S.	Hosur, General, Rural.
114 Nageswara Rao, Meduri ..	Guntur, General, Rural.
115 Nagayya, S.	Cuddapah, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
116 Narasimharaju, P. L.	Vizianagram, General, Rural.
117 Narasimha Rao, Guntur ..	Madras City, North, General, Urban.
118 Narayana Reddi, K. B.	Rajampet, General, Rural.
119 Natesan Chettiyar, M. G. ..	Dharmapuri, General, Rural.
120 Natesan, P.	Southern India Chamber of Commerce.
121 **Natesan, R.**	**Nominated, Pudukottai**
122 Pais, L. C.	West Coast, Indian Christian.
123 Palaniswami Gounder, V. C. ..	Coimbatore, General, Rural.
124 Pallam Raju, M.	Kakinada, General, Rural.
125 Paramananda Rayar, S. ..	Chidambaram, General, Rural.
126 Parameswaran, The Hon. Sri B., B.A. (*Minister*).	Chingleput, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
127 Parisutha Nadar, A. Y. S. ..	Tanjore *cum* Mathurai *cum* Ramnad, Indian Christian.
128 Pattabiramiah, M. S.	Dindigul, General, Rural.
129 Pattabhiraman, T. S.	Tiruchengode, General, Rural.
130 Paliya Kudumbar, S. K. ..	Koilpatti, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
131 Periyaswami, M. P.	Namakkal, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
132 Perumal Nayudu, B.	Kandukur, General, Rural.
133 Pillalamarri Venkateswarlu ..	West Godavari *cum* Krishna *cum* Guntur, Factory Labour, Labour.
134 Pocker, B.	Kozhikode *cum* Cannanore, Tellicherry Towns, Muhammadan, Urban.
135 Ponnambala Gounder	Tiruchirappalli, General, Rural.
136 Ponnuswami Gounder, V. ..	Tiruppattur (North Arcot), General, Rural.
137 Ponnuswami Mudaliyar, A ..	South Arcot *cum* Tiruchirappalli *cum* Salem *cum* Coimbatore, Indian Christian.
138 Prakasam, T.	Madras City, South Central, General, Urban.

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
139 Raghavan, K.	Malappuram, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
140 Raghava Menon, R.	Palghat, General, Rural.
141 Raghavayya, V.	Nellore, General, Rural.
142 Raja Gurunathan Chettiyar ..	Southern Central Landholders.
143 Rajamannar Chetti, G.	Madras City, North Central, General, Urban.
144 Rajaram Naidu, K.	Tirumangalam, General, Rural.
145 Ramachandra Rao, Dr. D. S. ..	Madras *cum* Chingleput, Indian Christian.
146 Ramamurthi, Rokkam	Tekkali, General, Rural.
147 Ramanujalu Reddiyar, R. ..	Cheyyar, General, Rural.
148 Ramaswami Mudaliyar, V. M. ..	Vellore, General, Rural.
149 Ramiah, N. P.	Musiri, General, Rural.
150 Rangaswami Reddi, N.	Mayuram, General, Rural.
151 Ramaswami, D. V.	Visakhapatnam, General, Rural.
152 Rayappa, A.	Gooty, General, Rural.
153 Sahajananda, A. S.	Chidambaram, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
154 Sami Goundar, S. K.	Gobichettipalayam, General, Rural.
155 Samuel, Dr. M. J.	Central Districts, Indian Christian.
156 Sangam Naidu, Palavalasa ..	Palakonda, General, Rural
157 Sanjeeva Reddi, The Hon. Sri N. (*Minister*).	Anantapur, General, Rural.
158 Sankarasubrahmanya Mudaliyar, V. S.	Tirunelveli *cum* Palamcottah Towns, General, Urban.
159 Sanyasi Rao, Geddam	Sarvasiddhi, General, Rural
160 Satyanarayana Raju, Alluri ..	Narasapur, General, Rural.
161 Satyanarayana Raju, Bhupatiraju.	Viravalli, General, Rural.
162 Seetharamaswami, Gona ..	Bobbili, General, Rural.
163 Seethi, K. M.	Malappuram, Muhammadan, Rural.
164 Shah Alam Khan Savoi ..	Cuddapah, Muhammadan, Rural.

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
165 Shanmugam, K.	Gudur, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
166 Shanmuga Rajeswara Sethupathi of Ramnad, Raja Sri R.	Southern Landholders.
167 **Shunmugasundaram, V.** ..	**Ramnad, General, Rural.**
168 Shetty, The Hon. Sri A. B. (*Minister*).	Coondapoor, General, Rural.
169 Sitamahalakshmamma, Srimathi Vallabhaneni.	Bandar, General, Rural.
170 Sitarama Reddi, The Hon. Sri H. (*Minister*).	Bellary, General, Rural.
171 Sivashanmukham Pillai, The Hon. Sri J. (*Speaker*).	Madras City, South Central, General, Urban (Scheduled Castes).
172 Srinivasa Padayachi, P. R. ..	Tirukkoyilur, General, Rural.
173 Srinivasa Rao, W. S.	Ranipet, General, Rural.
174 Subbanna Gounder, K. K. ..	Gobichettipalaiyam, General, Rural.
175 Subbaraman, N. M. R.	Mathurai Town, General, Urban.
176 Subbarao, Kallur	Penukonda, General, Rural.
177 Subbiah, P.	Ongole, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
178 Subba Iyer, R.	Chingleput, General, Rural.
179 Subbarayan, Dr. P.	Dharapuram, General, Rural.
180 Subrahmanya Ayyar, Dr. S., M.B.B.S.	Tiruppattur (Ramnad), General, Rural.
181 Subrahmanyam, A.	Salem, General, Rural.
182 Subrahmanyam, K.	Coimbatore Town, General, Urban.
183 Sumangalamma, Srimathi Allum.	Bellary, Women, General, Rural.
184 Surayya, Kollipara	Vijayavada, General, Rural.
185 The Yuvarajah of Pithapur Rajarao Venkata Mahipathi Gangadhara Rama Rao Bahadur.	Northern Landholders I.
186 Swaminathan, R. V.	Sivaganga, General, Rural.
187 Thangavelu, R.	Tiruvannamalai, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
188 Tatachari, T. K. T. N. R. ..	Chandragiri, General, Rural.

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
189 **Thangaswami Nadar, P. A.** ..	**Tirunelveli, Indian Christian.**
190 Thiagoo Voikkarar	Mannargudi, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
191 Thyagaraja Pillai, M. D. ..	Nagapattinam, General, Rural.
192 Thyagaraja Sholagar, G. ..	Tanjore, General, Rural.
193 Vaidyanada Ayyar, A.	Melur, General, Rural.
194 Varadachari, K.	Tiruttani, General, Rural.
195 Varadachari, N. S.	Madras City, South, General, Urban
196 Vedaratnam Pillai, A.	Mannargudi, General, Rural.
197 Veeranna Padal, Kankipatti ..	Backward Areas and Tribes,
198 Veeraraghaviah, Nukala ..	Vijayavada, General, Rural.
199 Velayudapani, P. M.	Ranipet, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
200 Veluchamy Gounder, P. S. ..	Periyakulam, General, Rural.
201 Venkanna, Gottumukkala ..	Eluru, General, Rural. (Scheduled Castes).
202 Venkatachalam Pillai, B. ..	Ariyalur, General, Rural.
203 Venkatanarayana, Pyndah ..	Kakinada Town, General, Urban.
204 Venkatanarayana Reddi, B. ..	Gudur, General, Rural.
205 Venkataratnam, B.	Rajahmundry, General, Rural.
206 Venkata Reddi, Gopavaram ..	Nandyal, General, Rural.
207 Venkatareddi, Reddivari, B.A., B.L.	Chittoor, General, Rural.
208 Venkatarama Ayyar, Ammapet P.	Tanjore *cum* Kumbakonam Town, General, Urban.
209 Venkataraju, M.	Ongole, General, Rural.
210 Venkata Subbayya, Nivarthi ..	Kurnool, General, Rural.
211 **Venkata Subbiah, Pendekanti** ..	**Nominated, Banganapalle and Sandur.**
212 **Viswanatham, T.**	**Visakhapatnam Town, General, Urban.**
213 **Cormack, H. I.**	**European Commerce, The Madras Chamber of Commerce and the Madras Trades Association.**
214 **Zamindar of Mirzapuram (Sri Meka Venkataramiah Appa Rao Bahadur).**	**Northern Landholders II.**

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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

Monday, the 7th November 1949.

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.—SWEARING IN OF NEW MEMBERS.

The following new Members were sworn in:—

1. Sri R. Natesan.
2. Sri Pendekanti Venkatasubbiah.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Grant of compensation to the dependants of victims of Communist atrocities in certain districts.

* 1 *Q.*—SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have paid any solatium to the dependants of victims of communist murders and atrocities committed in the Krishna and Guntur districts in the recent past;

(*b*) if so, what the amounts paid and the nature of compensation given are; and

(*c*) who the dependants so remunerated are?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—"(*a*) No, Sir.

"(*b*) & (*c*) do not arise."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"In view of the fact that these murders have neither been acts of God nor acts provoked by the victims, does not the Government feel it is its moral and legal duty to provide for the dependants of the victims since the murders were practically the result of the inefficiency of the police and other departments of the Government?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I strongly repudiate the remark that they were due to the inefficiency of the police. They may be due to the want of co-operation and support from people like the hon. Member. Unless the hon. Member gives specific instances for the consideration of the Government, nothing can be considered, Sir."

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SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In view of the fact that a number of cases have been reported where the murder, arson and loot committed by the Communists in certain districts are due to political factions, does not the Government contemplate to give any compensation or solatium to the families of the victims who have been rendered destitute of such acts of crime?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Each case will be decided on its own merits."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"As in the past in several cases the Madras Government have given ample compensation and solatium to the victims of riots in several parts of the Province, may I know what prevents them now from considering generously the desirability and the necessity of providing for the dependants of these people most of whom have been the helpless victims of a vindictive party?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"My hon. Friend is absolutely wrong when he says that the Government are not considering these cases. Each case will be considered on its own merits."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether the Government have so far considered any case, and if so, what is the decision they have come to on its merits?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The question relates to Guntur and Krishna and the answer is 'No.'"

Appointment of B.Com Graduates.

*2 Q.—SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether B.Com Graduates are eligible for appointment as Deputy Collectors; and

(*b*) whether the subjects for the B. Com. Degree course are included in the list of subjects prescribed by the Public Service Commission for the competitive examinations and, if not, why not?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—"(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

"(*b*) Yes. The inclusion of the Commerce subjects in the list of subjects prescribed for the competitive examination which has recently been ordered will, however, take effect from the examination to be held from 1950 onwards only."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know what would happen to the candidates who have already appeared for the Public Service Commission Examination held for these appointments?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"B. Com. Graduates of the Madras University could not have appeared for the examination in 1949. They can appear only in 1950."

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SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I give the information that B. Com. Graduates have been included in the list of candidates and they sat for the examination this year?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"B. Com. Graduates of the Andhra University might have appeared, but certainly not those of the Madras University."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether these competitive examinations are held only for the selection of Deputy Collectors or for the selection of all categories of Government servants. If so, will it not work as a hardship on the Harijans if they have to compete with others?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I should like to have notice to say whether they apply for all services."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I give the information that even Madras University B. Com. Graduates have been allowed to sit for the competitive examination for the direct recruitment of Deputy Collectors held just now?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"If they are allowed to sit, they will be selected on their merits. Where is the difficulty?"

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"The difficulty is this. If B. Com. students are allowed to appear for the examination, is it not necessary that the subjects prescribed for the competitive examination must also include some of the subjects that have been taught to them in the college?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"That point has been considered by the Madras Public Services Commission and the orders passed will take effect from 1950 onwards."

Administration of anæsthesia in the city hospitals.

*3 Q.—SRI T. VISWANATHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there were any cases of deaths due to bad administration of anæsthesia including overdose in the city hospitals during the last six months, and if so, how many;

(*b*) what the qualifications prescribed for anæsthetists are; and

(*c*) the number of anæsthetists that are serving now in the city hospitals and the number among them that possess the requisite training and qualifications?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"(*a*) No.

"(*b*) No special qualifications have been prescribed for Anæthetists holding non-teaching posts, but persons trained in or with previous experience of this speciality are preferred for appointment to the posts.

"(c) Ten paid Anæsthetists (Civil Assistant Surgeon, Class I, one Woman Assistant Surgeon, Class II, and one Honorary Anæsthetist are serving now in the City State Hospitals. All these officers except one Civil Assistant Surgeon, Class I are trained in anæsthesia and have experience in the administration of anæsthesia."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Do I understand, Sir, that no qualifications have been prescribed for these officers?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The qualifications are that they should be trained in the administration of anæsthesia in the General Hospital."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Is the number of officers now available enough, Sir?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The number is certainly enough for work in the Government hospitals. If there is need for more, more will be trained."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Are such officers appointed in the mufassal hospitals also, Sir?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"They are appointed in all categories wherever they are required. No one will be appointed as such without being trained."

Scales of pay of electric wiremen in the P.W.D.

*4 *Q.*—MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is not in his place. The answer will be printed in the proceedings."

SRI K. LINGA RAJU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether electric wiremen in the Public Works Department Circles, have sent any memorial regarding their revised scales of pay; and

(b) whether it is a fact that they are denied the scales of pay given to other work-charged establishments?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"(a) Yes. Individual memorials from some wiremen in the Public Works Department circles requesting grant of revised scales of pay as in the case of those in the Electricity Department were received by the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department who has submitted proposals for the provincialization and revision of pay of the work-charged staff, after taking into account these memorials also. The Chief Engineer's proposals are under the consideration of the Government.

"(b) Does not arise in view of answer to (a) above."

Provision of dustless roads in Municipalities and Panchayat areas.

*5 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any scheme under execution for providing dustless roads (tarred or concrete) especially in municipalities and panchayat areas;

(b) if so, whether the Tanjore Municipality is included in such scheme;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Tanjore Municipal Council has contributed Rs. 30,000 for providing dustless road (tarred or concrete) from Tanjore Railway Station to Vennar Bridge through which the highway passes; and

(d) if so, when the execution will be commenced and completed?

THE HON. SRI B. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"(a) The Government have been sanctioning schemes of dustless surfacing of roads under the control of municipal councils on half grant basis. They have in the current year approved schemes for dustless surfacing of roads in 24 municipalities. The municipal councils have been asked to take up these works in the order of urgency approved by Government at the rate of not more than two works every year. The dustless surfacing of stretches of Government roads which lie within and outside municipal limits is generally being provided for under Part II Scheme wherever feasible.

"No proposal to cement concrete roads in any panchayat area has so far been sanctioned.

"(b) Yes.

"(c) The Tanjore Municipal Council in its resolution, dated 9th August 1948, has agreed to bear one-fourth of the cost of the work referred to and its contribution during the current year comes to Rs. 19,500.

"(d) The estimates are pending technical sanction as certain deviations in the type of surface are reported necessary in view of underground service, etc."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—"What are the general conditions, Sir, under which the Government are prepared to provide dustless roads in the municipal and panchayat areas?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"That will depend on the intensity of the traffic."

SRI L. C. PAIS:—"Having regard to the fact that the Government are not able to finance these schemes as they used to do before, will they at least permit the municipalities to spend their own funds in the first instance on condition that the Government would repay later the whole or at least half the amount spent?"

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"That proposal is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I know the names of the 24 municipalities selected this year and is Visakhapatnam one of them, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I should like to have notice, Sir. Perhaps Visakhapatnam is one of them."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"In cases where the Highway roads pass through the municipalities, which is the authority which attends to the dustless surfacing of these roads. Is it the Government or the municipality?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"The Government take it up, but they demand a contribution from the municipality."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Are the Government aware that the roads in Nellore Municipality are very bad and that the residents suffer a lot and there are a number of consumptive patients?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"That is the case in several municipal areas."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—"May I know whether the scheme will include panchayat areas also?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"So far there is no such proposal before us. That depends on the intensity of the traffic on the particular stretch of the road whether it is in a panchayat area or an urban area."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"Will the Government take up this work of dustless surfacing of roads in all the municipalities in Tanjore district?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Wherever it is deemed necessary, we will take it up."

1-15 a.m. SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"If there is any municipality which is not in a position to pay its contribution for this work on a highway which passes through it, will the Government take up the work on hand without waiting for any contribution from the municipality?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"In that case, that municipality will have a low priority, Sir."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"For the dustless surfacing of roads in municipalities, is there any priority list maintained, or is it merely that grants are made on the applications submitted?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I have already answered that we are prepared to approve two works every year in each municipality; and if municipalities put up proposals, we shall consider them."

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Retrenchment in the Registration department in the East Godavari district.

* 6 *Q.*—MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is not in his place; the answer will be printed in the proceedings."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"As the question is an important one, may I be permitted to put it?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member should give separate notice of the question."

SRI K. LINGA RAJU:—Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any retrenchments have been effected in the Registration Department in the East Godavari district;

(*b*) if so, whether it is in pursuance of any general policy of retrenchment;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that men with over five years of service have been retrenched without notice; and

(*d*) whether the Government are having any plan to provide re-employment for the retrenched people?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"(*a*) No retrenchment of permanent staff was effected in the Registration Department in the East Godavari district. Only 20 temporary section-writers were retrenched with effect from 1st May 1949.

"(*b*) The retrenchment was ordered in view of the urgent need for reduction in expenditure.

"(*c*) The question of giving notice to section writers over five years' service does not arise as they are appointed temporarily from time to time for copying documents in register volumes, etc.

"(*d*) Temporary section-writers have since been permitted to be employed wherever absolutely necessary."

***Position of finance in the Province for* 1948-49.**

* 7 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: **Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—**

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the financial year 1948-49 happened to be a surplus year in our Province; and

(*b*) if so, whether there will be changes in the current financial year in regard to taxation proposals (new and old)?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"(*a*) According to the March Final Accounts as compiled by the Accountant-General, the revenue account shows a surplus of Rs. 51 lakhs. Certain further adjustments will be made in the accounts by the Accountant-General, Madras, in the March supplemental accounts before the accounts are closed finally. The final position will be known only some time in February 1950.

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"(*b*) The surplus or deficit in 1948–49 has no bearing on the proposals for new taxation mentioned in my budget speech. These proposals were made to meet the deficit anticipated in 1949–50. The hon. Member is aware that as a result of detailed examination, some of the proposals have been dropped and other modified."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—"Is it not a fact that when the previous year ends in a surplus, that amount is utilized in the succeeding year, and therefore to that extent tax remission is possible?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"At least last year we had Rs. 356 lakhs under Excise revenue; but this year, we are not likely to have anything more than Rs. 50 lakhs; there is thus a difference of Rs. 3 crores and there may be a deficit this year."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Will the Hon. Finance Minister, instead of broadcasting on the Madras Radio, please give a detailed account of the financial position of the Province and supply it to the members of this Assembly?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The hon. Member may await my Budget speech."

JANAB MOHAMED RAFEE-UD-DIN AHMED ANSARI:—"May I know if the present financial position does not justify the dropping of the Prohibition policy?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is not a very easy matter to say off-hand; I should like to have notice."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—"In view of the budget deficit having been covered by the six months' receipts, will the Hon. Finance Minister be pleased to give this House an assurance that there will be no deficit in 1949–50 and that in the next Budget, taxation will be reduced?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"There will be no question of a reduction, because expenditure is always mounting up, especially the expenditure on education, etc.; there can therefore be no question of a reduction just now."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"Is it a fact that in spite of the present financial difficulties of the Government, there is a proposal to make Prohibition more costly by the appointment of propagandists throughout the Province?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"That proposal was before the Government for the last year and a half or so, and recently we have appointed two committees to go into the question, and the hon. Member is aware of the Press Communiqué issued."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I know, in view of the fact that committees have been appointed to go into the question, whether the committees are going to consider the question of appointment of these propagandists or how to work Prohibition better?"

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"They have nothing to do with the working of Prohibition or anything of the sort; they will make selections of candidates available, who will be propagandists in favour of Prohibition."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"I want to know from the Government whether the committee will select the propagandists or they will consider the question whether to have propagandists or not?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"They will select candidates and submit their names for the approval of the Government."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In view of the fact that the Government have been continuously losing revenues, will it not be advisable for the Hon. Minister, instead of asking people to wait for his next Budget speech, to give all the information once a month or once a quarter?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The Finance Department, I think, issues a communiqué regarding receipts and expenditure once a month or once every three months—I think once a month. There are certain proposals on which I also want to consult the House before I finalise them, perhaps a day will be allotted in this very session for the discussion of the financial position of the Province."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"When the Government introduced Prohibition they said that the country and the masses were behind them and that they were simply looking forward to the introduction of Prohibition; may I know why the Government now consider it necessary to appoint as many as 445 propagandists on probably Rs. 100 a month for each and even more, particularly at a time when they are not in a position to balance their budget? May I know if the Hon. Finance Minister and the Madras Government will revise their policy with regard to Prohibition, or at least refrain from appointing these propagandists?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"What I said was that a majority of the people wanted Prohibition; it does not mean there are not people who would stoop to illicit distillation or people who would use such drink; all that we want to do now is to do some propaganda in favour of Prohibition."

JANAB MOHAMED RAFEE-UD-DIN AHMED ANSARI:—"Am I to understand from the answer of the Hon. Minister to my question that the idea of dropping Prohibition also is under consideration by the Government?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"No, Sir; not in the least."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Is it not a fact that the revenue lost by the introduction of Prohibition has been made up by the general sales-tax?"

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Not yet, Sir; it will take some time for the sales-tax to pick up completely."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" In view of the recent statement made by the Hon. Minister that the Government Motor Transport system is not so efficient as it was when managed privately, am I to understand that the Government are going to give up nationalisation of motor transport? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I do not remember I ever said that it was not efficient or anything of that sort; I would like the hon. Member to point out the speech; he says I made; when it was made and whether it was correctly reported? "

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Is there any plan or scheme under contemplation by the Government to set right the finances of the Madras Government? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" There is just now nothing wrong with the financial position of the Province and there is nothing to be rectified or modified."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" In view of the introduction of Prohibition, may I ask the Government to convert the present appointments of propagandists into C.I.D. appointments, so that the widespread illicit distillation of arrack may be found out and reported, and the culprits brought to book? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member seems to ask something about Prohibition; this is a financial question."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Is it not a fact that all these 400 odd propagandists are going to be appointed from the party in power, from among Congressmen, who will help the party in power at the time of the coming elections? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We do not know who the candidates are going to be, which of them will be selected and the committees have not begun to work; the hon. Member is not right in insinuating that the party in power is appointing these people with a view to get their help in the coming elections."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Is it not a fact that the voluntary efforts of his party men would go far to help in this matter, rather than appoint these people for doing propaganda as paid officials? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Non-official propaganda would go to some extent no doubt, but we want some paid propagandists also."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" Do the Government propose to have an irrigation-cess or any local levy for implementing their finances? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I do not think there is any proposal before the Government to raise the water-cess or have any other levy."

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SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" May I know the qualifications of these propagandists? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" You are away from the main question."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Will the Hon. the Finance Minister give an assurance to this House that these appointments will not be made unless the House has had an opportunity to discuss the question, under some Bill or any other motion which may be brought forward by the Prohibition Minister, so that we may know what these appointments are, for how much they will cost the Government, what their functions are to be, and all that? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The question may be put to the proper quarters."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I know if the Hon. Minister will now at least admit that Prohibition has failed completely? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question whether it is a failure or a success should be addressed to other quarters."

Rajahmundry Central Jail dairy.

* 8 *Q.*—MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member is not in his place; the answer will be printed in the proceedings. "

SRI K. LINGA RAJU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any milch cows were bought for the improvement of the Rajahmundry Central Jail dairy;

(*b*) if so, at what cost; and

(*c*) what the average quantity of milk, that these cows are yielding, is ?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" (*a*) Yes. Eight Shaiwal cows and 10 Murrah buffaloes were purchased.

" (*b*) at a cost of Rs. 16,908-2-0 (10 Murrah buffaloes for Rs. 10,044-2-0 and 8 Shaiwal cows for Rs. 6,864).

" (*c*) The daily average yield by all the 10 Murrah buffaloes is 110 pts., 16 oz. and by all the 8 Shaiwal cows is 58 pts. 6 oz."

Appellate Labour Tribunals.

* 9*Q.*—JANAB MOHAMED RAFEE-UD-DIN AHMED ANSARI (on behalf of Janab S. Muhammad Ismail): Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Central Government propose to establish Appellate Labour Tribunals; and

(*b*) if so, whether any communication or suggestion has been sent to the Madras Government in that connexion?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (*a*) & (*b*). Yes, Sir."

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Sale of oilcakes and sulphate of ammonia.

* 10 *Q.*—SRI N. GOVINDASWAMI NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the control for the sale of oilcakes and sulphate of ammonia used as manure has been removed?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" There was no control over sales of oilcakes other than groundnut oilcake. In respect of groundnut oilcake the Government decontrolled its price with effect from 15th January 1949 but the industry has agreed not to exceed an agreed limit. The control over the sale of sulphate of ammonia has not been removed."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" கடலைப்பிண்ணுக்கைத் தவிர மற்ற பிண்ணுக்குகளுக்கு விற்பனை விலையில் control இடையாது. கடலைப்பிண்ணுக்கு சம்பந்தமாக 15-1-1949 முதற்கொண்டு அரசாங்கத்தார் decontrol செய்து விட்டார்கள். ஆனலும் கடலைப் பிண்ணுக்கு தொழிலாளிகள் ஒத்துக்கொண்டதற்குமேல் விலை போகாமல் பார்த்துக்கொள்வதாக சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள். Sulphate of ammonia-வின் control இன்னும் எடுக்கப்படவில்லை. "

SRI N. GOVINDASWAMI NAYUDU :—" பிண்ணுக்கின் control-ஐ எடுத்ததிலிருந்து பிண்ணுக்கின் விலை ஆதிகமாகி இருப்பதால் விவசாயிகள் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள் என்பது அரசாங்கத்திற்குத் தெரியுமா என்று கேட்கிறேன். "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" In some places the prices have risen beyond the agreed limit."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" In view of the high prices now ruling for groundnut cake, will the Government be pleased to put up a ceiling price? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Government have put up a ceiling price."

SRI N. GOVINDASWAMI NAYUDU :—" Sir, அவர் ஆங்கிலத்தில் சொன்ன பதில் எனக்குத்தெரியவில்லை. அதைத் தமிழில் சொல்லும் படியாகக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" சில இடங்களில் நிர்ணயம் செய்யப்பட்ட விலைகளுக்கு விலைவாசிகள் வரி இருக்கின்றன. "

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" In view of the declared policy of the Government, do the Government intend to help the producer by procuring for him manures at a moderate price? Will the Government see that he gets groundnut cake at a reasonable price, as the ceiling price is not being observed in actual practice? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The matter is under consideration."

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SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" May I know, Sir, why the Government has removed controls when it is necessary to have it and thereby help the ryots to get their requirements of groundnut oilcakes at a cheaper price for cultivation? " 11-30 a.m.

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Decontrol was introduced on account of representations received from the South Indian Millers' Association."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—" May I know, Sir, if there is a ban on the export of oilcakes to other provinces? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Yes, Sir. No export is allowed outside the Province."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" Are we not primarily concerned with the Grow More Food campaign rather than with the needs and conveniences of the producers of groundnut oilcakes? "

THE HON SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Our interests are to see that production is increased. It is with a view to increase production that decontrol was done."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—" May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the Director of Agriculture has submitted proposals to the Government to bifurcate the Department of Agriculture for the purpose of effectively and efficiently conducting sales of manure, oilcakes, etc.? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" There is no such proposal."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—" In view of the fact that most of the available groundnut oilcake in the Province is used by landholders who grow cash crops, will the Government try to divert at least 50 per cent of the available groundnut oilcakes for paddy fields and for growing other cereals? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The Government have directed that as far as possible it should be given only for purposes of growing food crops."

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN :—" தலைவர் அவர்களே, எரு, பிண்ணுக்கு இவைகளை கொடுக்கும் விஷயத்தில் பெரிய நிலசுவாந்தார்களுக்குத்தான் கொடுக்கப்படுகிறது. ஏழை விவசாயிகளுக்குக் கொடுக்கப்படவில்லை என்பது அரசாங்கத்திற்கு தெரியுமா என்று கேட்கிறேன்."

MR. SPEAKER :—" மறுபடியும் கேளுங்கள்."

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN :—" தலைவர் அவர்களே, விவசாயத்திற்குக் கொடுக்கக்கூடிய பிண்ணுக்கானது, பெரிய நிலசுவாந்தார்களுக்குத்தான் கொடுக்கப்படுகிறது, ஏழை விவசாயிகளுக்குக் கொடுக்கப்படுவதில்லை என்று புகார்கள் வந்திருப்பது அரசாங்கத்திற்கு தெரியுமா என்று கேட்கிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Even when there was control, there were malpractices and also when there was partial control things were not better. It was due to representations made by the concerned parties that the decontrol was effected."

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SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"In view of the fact that after decontrol, supply is not available for the village parts, will the Government consider the desirability of supplying groundnut oilcakes to the smaller ryots owning 3 or 4 acres of land?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The trouble is that the quantity produced in the Province is not sufficient to meet the requirements."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—"Is not the Hon. Minister aware that groundnut oilcake flour is to be used for human consumption and to the extent that it is used for human food, there shall be a restriction in respect of the quantity required for agricultural manure?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"In connexion with the use of subsidiary foods for human consumption, there is a proposal to mix groundnut oilcake flour with such foods. Necessary arrangements will have to be made for such purposes."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"The Hon. Minister was pleased to say that the Government had fixed the ceiling price; may I know what the ceiling price is? May I also know whether the Government have permitted the export of groundnut cake from the Province?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The ceiling price is Rs. 200 per ton for loose quantity given. I think I have already stated that so far as export outside the Province is concerned, it is not permitted."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"May I ask the Government whether they would consider the desirability of selling groundnut oilcakes at reduced rates and sell them at cheaper rates to the cultivators so that they could have manure for their cultivation?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The proposal whether control should be re-imposed for the benefit of cultivators is under consideration."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"Will the Government move the Central Government to reduce the quantity of export of groundnut kernels to foreign countries?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"That recommendation has already been made."

SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN:—"May I ask whether the oilcake produced in the Province is sufficient for manure as well as for cattle feed and whether the cake is imported from other Provinces?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"So far as I know no imports are received from outside the Province; now there is a greater demand for the use of groundnut oilcake both as manure and as cattle feed and that is why the quantity produced is not found sufficient to meet our requirements."

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SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—"May I know whether there are any mills which turn out groundnut oilcakes edible for human consumption and if not, will they try to persuade some of the mills to produce edible oilcakes fit for human consumption and thus reduce the pressure on food now?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"When that question comes up, it will be considered."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"May I know what is the response from the Central Government on the representations made by this Government against the export of kernels to foreign countries?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The Central Government are not in favour of banning exports."

Municipalities superseded or suspended.

*11 *Q.*—JANAB MOHAMED RAFEE-UD-DIN AHMED ANSARI (on behalf of Janab S. Muhammad Ismail): Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state the number and names of municipalities that were superseded or suspended ever since the Hon. Minister took charge of his office?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"Only one municipality, namely, the Tenali Municipality, was superseded."

JANAB MOHAMED REFEE-UD-DIN AHMED ANSARI:—"May I know the reason for the supersession of that municipality?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"There are several reasons, of which the fundamental ones are that the Minutes Book had been tampered with; there were regular quarrels and sufficient time was given to the members and the chairman and they could not make up with the result that the administration was at a standstill and that is why the Government was compelled to supersede the municipality."

JANAB MOHAMED RAFEE-UD-DIN AHMED ANSARI:—"Might I ask if the Government can deny the allegation that the supersession has been ordered more on political grounds than on others?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"Certainly."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know that the fact that he hails from that place is one of the reasons for the supersession of that municipality?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"That is not so, Sir."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Is the Hon. Minister for Local Administration aware that several municipalities in this Province have been exactly in the same condition described by the Hon. Minister about Tenali and particularly this is due to the fact that there is official interference with the working of the municipalities?"

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THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" I emphatically deny the statement of the hon. Member."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—" May I know whether there is any proposal before the Government regarding the supersession of the Tiruchirappalli Municipality? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" It does not arise."

* 12 *Q.*—MR. SPEAKER:—" This question will be taken up tomorrow. Yesterday I received a trunk call from the Hon. Minister that on account of the derailment of the train, he would come tomorrow and therefore, this will be taken up tomorrow."

Houses constructed by the house-building co-operative societies in the first half-year of 1949.

* 13 *Q.*—JANAB MOHAMED RAFEE-UD-DIN AHMED ANSARI (on behalf of Janab S. Muhammad Ismail): Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state the number of kinds of houses constructed by the house building co-operative societies in the first half-year of 1949 and the expenditure incurred or given as grants on the above account in the Province?

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" During the first half-year of 1949, 126 houses have been completed by co-operative house building and house construction societies comprising of 39 'A' class, 43 'B' class and 44 'C' class houses. An expenditure of Rs. 47·61 lakhs was incurred by the societies on the construction of the houses. The above figures do not include houses constructed by members of ordinary building societies on sites owned by the members.

" An amount of Rs. 59,06,040 was disbursed as State loans during the first half-year ended 30th June 1949 to all building societies."

JANAB MOHAMED RAFEE-UD-DIN AHMED ANSARI:—" May I know, Sir, whether there is any exemption in favour of these co-operative societies from the rule that houses should not be constructed upon wet lands? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" There is no question of prohibition since the Bill has been recommended for being dropped by the Select Committee."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" The Hon. Minister has given information to the House regarding the number of houses built. May I know how many of these have been constructed for labourers, the lower middle classes and how many for the higher middle classes? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" They are constructed by co-operative societies. I do not think that they are intended for labourers."

DR. S. SUBRAHMANYAM:—" Do the figures given by the Hon. Minister include houses built by the Madras House Construction Society also? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" Yes, Sir."

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SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" Is the Hon. Minister for Prohibition aware that A class houses and A-1 special are alone built in Madras and why C class houses are not built? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" No, Sir. Even C class houses are being constructed and they are slowly being completed."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—" The Hon. Minister for Prohibition mentioned that Rs. 47·61 lakhs have been subscribed by the co-operative societies; may I know how much out of it represents payment made by the Madras City? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" I do not have details for each society. I will be able to furnish it if the hon. Member gives me notice."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Government are not assisting the co-operative societies in getting cement, iron and steel and therefore, the work of construction by the societies is very much impeded? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" We are trying to do what best we can under the circumstances; but still, there are difficulties, we do admit."

DR. S. SUBRAHMANYAM:—" Can the Government tell us how many houses have been constructed by the mufassal co-operative societies not including Madras? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" Notice, Sir."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that when acquisition proceedings had already been started for sites for the Nellore Government Servants House Building Co-operative Society, the Hon. Minister suddenly on his own personal authority stayed the proceedings after inspection presumably, I hear, on the ground that the courts may give a lesser price to the land-owners than what the Government would have the parties to get? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" It is a fact that the proceedings have been stayed but not on the presumption that the hon. Member has suggested."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that the houses built by co-operative societies cost more than those built by private individuals? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" Naturally, the private individual will pay personal and direct attention while the work of the societies is placed in the hands of employees."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" So far as we gather, A class houses had been completed and B class are pending; does it mean that the needs of B class people are overlooked? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" The Government have left the number of houses that they can build entirely

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to the societies. If the A class houses are completed, it is because the owner has taken a personal interest in the matter."

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN :—" தலைவர் அவர்களே, A B C class என்று சொல்லப்படும் அந்த C class-ல் கட்டப்படுகிற வீடுகளுக்கு எவ்வளவு பணம் கொடுத்து கட்டப்படுகிறது என்பதை தெரிவிக்கும்படியாகக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI :—" அந்த C class வீடுகளில் நானும் நீங்களும்கூட இருக்கமுடியாது. அவைகளில் நம்மைவிட இன்னும் பெரியவர்கள்தான் சுலபமாக இருக்கலாம். "

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that in a good number of cases, the House Construction Societies could not be formed because of the inordinate delay in alienating the Government lands for house-sites? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI :—" It is not so; there will not be much difficulty in the case of the Government lands. But if it is a question of taking over private lands, there will be some delay and it cannot be helped."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister that no houses practically have been constructed for labourers, may I ask whether the Government will consider the desirability of concentrating their attention on the construction of quarters more for the poor people than for the middle or the upper classes? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI :—" The hon. Member has misunderstood me. The societies do not construct houses for labour. Such question is being taken up by municipalities and the corporation."

State-aid given to the firm " Mohan Tiles " in Tenali.

* 14 *Q.*—SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the shareholders of the firm " Mohan Tiles " in Tenali are personally bound for the amount of the State-aid lent; and

(*b*) who represents the Government on this firm's directorate?

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI :—" (*a*) The Director of Industries and Commerce is taking steps to obtain the security bonds from the directors.

" (*b*) No one represents the Government on the firm's directorate. Under section 12 of the Madras State Aid to Industries Act, it is obligatory for the Government to nominate a Government Director only in cases in which a loan of Rs. 2 lakhs or above is sanctioned."

11-45 a.m. SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" In view of the fact that State-aid has been given to this particular firm more than a year back

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by way of such a huge amount as a lakh of rupees, may I know why personal security has not been given till now, even though State-aid has been given as early as an year and a half back? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI :—" The money was disbursed in 1949, and the Director of Industries has taken steps to take security bond from the directors. "

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" Is it not correct that State Aid Act rules do require that personal liability has to be taken before the loan is disbursed? If so, why that pre-condition was not satisfied in this case when the amount was sanctioned or when the amount was paid? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI :—" There was some mistake in the department, and it is going to be rectified. The Director of Industries is going to get a bond from the directors."

SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" May I know whether the Government insist upon the directors' responsibility in the matter, whatever the shareholders' responsibility might be? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI :—" That is under consideration. It was not taken before; it is being taken now."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" In view of the admission by the Hon. Minister that owing to the mistake of the officials necessary personal security has not been taken, may I know whether the Government are going to punish the particular officer in charge of this bond for not complying with the most essential of the State Aid Act rules? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI :—" Action is being taken against the official concerned."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" From the list of industries given in the Act to which State-aid is given, I find, most of them are developed industries; may I know why they are granted aid? "

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

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" May I ask the Hon. Minister to give out the name of the official who is guilty of this gross negligence, and if he is retained in the same department, why not transfer him from there? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI :—" It is not necessary to give out the name. I can only say that action is being taken against the official concerned. That is all I can say now."

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The recent Food Ministers' Conference at Delhi.

* 15 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state the nature of the commitments he has made on behalf of this Government and the benefits he has secured for this province from the Government of India and other Provincial Governments, in the recent Food Ministers' Conference at Delhi in the matter of production, procurement and distribution of foodgrains?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"The proceedings of the Ministers' Conference are all confidential and cannot be divulged in the interests of the administration."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—"May I inquire whether the Hon. Minister has pressed this fact at least, namely, that Madras should get greater contribution under Grow More Food Campaign as also increased aid for food subsidies?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"I would request the hon. Member to repeat his question."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—"I want to know whether the Hon. Minister for Food has pressed in the recent Food Ministers' Conference that the Central Government should pay to Madras more contribution towards Grow More Food Campaign and also increased rates as food subsidies?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"Yes, along with other provinces, our claim was pressed upon the Central Government."

SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister has agreed at that conference to reduce the procurement price of foodgrains, and if so, at what percentage?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think a separate question may be put, but if the Hon. Minister has no objection, he may answer."

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"No commitment has been made."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"Is there any undertaking given by the Hon. Minister to the Central Government regarding reduction of procurement price?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"As I have just stated, there is no commitment made on behalf of this Government."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"Is it not a fact that nearly 75 per cent of the ration card-holders are from this province, and therefore, the responsibility is more on us to secure more privileges from the Central Government?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"According to the requirements and according to the general supply available at the Centre we are also given our quota."

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SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister pressed upon the Central Government the removal of control and restrictions on inter-provincial movement of grains?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"Inter-provincial movement of what grains I do not understand, the hon. Member refers to. Does he refer to particular grains or particular products moving from one province to another?"

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"On paddy and rice and other cereals on which there are restrictions at present."

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"We are only getting an allotment from other provinces under the authority of the Government of India."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Is it not a fact that by suppressing facts, vital facts and information, Government are creating greater anxiety and concern in the people of this province with regard to food problem?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"Nothing has been suppressed with a view to frighten people or to create any disturbance."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Is it not a fact that at the recent Food Ministers' Conference at New Delhi, it was decided that the price of foodgrains and other commodities should be reduced by ten per cent, and if that is so, how is it that the Food Secretary on returning from that conference declared that this Government could not reduce price by more than three per cent?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"The percentage was not fixed. Ten per cent reduction was aimed at; and it was urged on all provincial Governments to reach that price level as far as possible."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I inquire, Sir, as a result of this conference, whether the Madras Government are going to make any change in the food policy concerning this province?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"The matter is under consideration."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"If the Minister is unable to reveal what has transpired at the conference in New Delhi, will he be able to tell us what exactly the policy of this Government is going to be with regard to production, procurement and distribution of foodgrains in this province in public interest?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"All confidential matters cannot be divulged in public interest; but if there is anything in the interests of administration it will be divulged and published in due course."

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SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—" Is it not a fact that this Government gave an assurance to the Government of India that all available lands fit for cultivation will be brought under cultivation during this year or next year? "

THE HON, SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" We did not give such a big promise; but we have promised to bring as much land as possible under cultivation."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—" Are the Government aware that a very big plot of land near Lalgudi in Tiruchirappalli district cultivated by Harijans with standing-crops has been allowed to be flooded by the Government? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Notice, Sir. "

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" May I inquire whether the Government considered the question of decontrolling food? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Control and decontrol are questions which Provincial Governn.ent cannot settle by themselves."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I ask whether the Government are aware of the fact that their procurement agency has not been able to do their work in Rayalaseema in spite of the fact that so many ryots have come forward with their grain, and so, may I ask what the Government are going to do in the matter? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I see no relevancy to the present question; but if the Hon. Minister wants to answer he may answer."

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" As soon as we get a report from the proper authorities from those areas necessary action will be taken."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" Is it a fact that the Hon. Minister did press upon the Government the removal of all control over the movement of foodgrains from one province to another province? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" As I said, the whole question of food policy is under consideration. I think it is too premature to do anything by way of pressing upon the Government of India for removal of all control."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know whether we shall be having a debate on the food problem during this session? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Yes, if the Leader of the House agrees." (Laughter.)

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Is the Hon. Food Minister aware that the Government of India enunciated as a definite policy that the price of food and other commodities should be reduced by ten per cent, and it was also said so by the Hon. Dr. John Mathai; and is it not a fact that the Madras Government said that they could not reduce more than by three per cent. May I know what are their reasons for saying so? "

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THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" It is not Madras Government alone which says that. We find several other provinces too say like that. The ten per cent that is proposed is only an ideal to be aimed at."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Is it not a fact that by taking the people into confidence by giving all information with regard to food policy, the Government will get greater co-operation with regard to production of food in the province? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Already several Press notes have been issued concerning food; some of the decisions have been made public and we have invited public co-operation; and as and when certain points are decided, they are published."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" May I inquire whether the Government are going to reduce the consumer's price in preference to procurement price as a result of the decision of the conference?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" The whole idea is to reduce the consumer's price or release price. Whether it should be reduced at the procurement stage or at the intermediate stage is being gone into at present. Ultimately, our object is to reduce the consumer's price."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" I should like to know the real difficulty of the Hon. Food Minister which made him say that he cannot go beyond three per cent price level."

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" We are not keeping to the limit of three per cent reduction for ever. That is one of the proposals made at present. That does not prevent us from increasing the percentage up to ten per cent, if it is possible. We are trying to reduce it wherever it is possible."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" In view of the answers given by the Hon. Food Minister here, may I ask him whether there is left undisclosed any portion of the proceedings of the Food Ministers' Conference? " (Laughter.)

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" In view of the statement of the ex-Premier of Madras, made recently, will the Government consider decontrol of food? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" As I have already said, decontrol is not an easy question to be decided. If and when it comes, we shall be very glad to do so. "

SRI B. VENKATANARAYANA REDDI:—" Can the Government say whether our paddy and foodgrain prices are higher or lower than those of other provinces? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" At least our procurement price is very low compared with other provinces. With regard to other items of expenditure, I think, we compare very favourably with other provinces."

III.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION.

(1) CRITICAL ECONOMIC SITUATION.

12 noon. MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member Sri M. Kanniappan, has given notice of an adjournment motion to discuss a matter of urgent public importance. It reads thus:

' This House do stand adjourned to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, to wit, the present critical economic situation created by the enormous increase in the prices of all foodstuffs like tamarind, chillies, pepper, ghee, jaggery, etc., and the consequent hardships caused to the poor and middle classes.' "

" இந்த **motion** எப்படி ஒரு **urgent matter** என்பதைப் பற்றி சொல்லவேண்டும். ஏற்கனவேயே இப்படித்தான் விலைகள் ஏறிக் கொண்டிருக்கின்றன. அப்படி ஏறி வருவதினால் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் எப்படி பாதிக்கப்பட்டவர்கள் என்பதையும் அது எவ்விதம் **urgent** என்பதைப்பற்றியும் நீங்கள் இரண்டொரு நிமிஷங்களில் நான் **ruling** கொடுப்பதற்குமுன் சொல்லவேண்டும்."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" I think the Hon. Speaker ruled some time ago that any Member on the ministerial side should, before bringing up an adjournment motion, get the consent of the leader of his party."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I never said that. What has the Chair to do with the party? "

SRI P. NATESAN:—" At any rate, being on the ministerial side, would it not be fair to get the consent? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Let us leave the matter to the party as it concerns party discipline. We have nothing to do with party politics."

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—" தலைவர் அவர்களே, தற்போது விலைவாசிகள் விஷம்போல் ஏறிக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றன என்பதை உங்களுக்குத் தெரிவிக்கக் கடமைப்பட்டிருக்கிறேன். அதுவும் உங்களுக்கு தெரியாதது அல்ல. இப்பொழுது புளியின் விலை ரூ. 1-8-0 ஆக விற்கப்படுகிறது என்பது உங்களுக்குத் தெரியும்."

MR. SPEAKER:—" இதற்கு கவர்ன்மென்டார் எப்படி **responsible** எல்லோரும்தான் **responsible** ஆக இருக்கவேண்டும். விலைவாசிகள் ரொம்ப நாள்களாகத்தான் ஏறிக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றன. இதற்கு கவர்ன்மெண்டார் எப்படி பொறுப்பாளி என்பதைப்பற்றியும் இது எவ்விதம் **urgent** என்பதைப்பற்றியும்தான் நீங்கள் சொல்லவேண்டும்."

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—" தலைவர் அவர்களே, இந்த **motion**-ஐ நான் என்னுடைய கட்சிக்கு முதலில் கொடுத்திருக்க வேண்டும். அப்படி கொடாமல் நேரடியாக அனுப்பிவிட்டதால் நான் இதை வாபீஸ் வாங்கிக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

(2) RELIEF TO VICTIMS OF THE RECENT CYCLONE IN THE ANDHRA DISTRICTS.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member Yuvarajah of Pithapuram has given notice of the following adjournment motion:

' The business of this House do stand adjourned to discuss a matter of public importance, namely, the failure of the Government to provide adequate food, clothing and shelter to the victims of the recent cyclone havoc in the Andhra.'

I wish to know whether the Hon. Leader of the House wants to say anything about it."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We are thinking of allotting a day for discussing the cyclone havoc in the Circar districts. In view of that, I do not know whether the hon. Member would like to press his motion or withdraw and await the discussion."

THE YUVARAJAH OF PITHAPURAM:—" Sir, I accept the suggestion of the Hon. Leader of the House."

IV.—PANEL OF CHAIRMEN—NOMINATION OF.

MR. SPEAKER:—" I have to announce to the House that under rule 9 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I have nominated the following four Members of the Assembly to be the Panel of Chairmen for the seventh session of the Assembly:—

(1) Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin.
(2) Janab H. S. Hussain.
(3) Sri R. V. Swaminathan.
(4) Sri B. Venkataratnam.

V.—MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

MR. SPEAKER:—" I have to announce to the House the following messages received from His Excellency the Governor:—

(1) "In pursuance of section 299, sub-section (3) of the Government of India Act, 1935, I, Krishna Kumarsinhji Bhavsinhji, Governor of Madras, hereby accord my sanction and in pursuance of section 82, sub-section (3) of the Government of India Act, 1935, give my recommendation to the introduction of the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Bill, 1949, in the Madras Legislative Assembly."

(2) "In pursuance of section 299, sub-section (3) of the Government of India Act, 1935, I, Krishna Kumarsinhji Bhavsinhji, Governor of Madras, hereby accord my sanction and in pursuance of section 82, sub-section (3) of the Government of India Act, 1935, give my recommendation to the introduction of the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Bill, 1949, in the Madras Legislative Assembly."

(3) "In pursuance of section 299, sub-section (3) of the Government of India Act, 1935, I, Krishna Kumarsinhji Bhavsinhji, Governor of Madras, hereby accord my sanction and in pursuance of section 82, sub-section (3) of the Government of India Act, 1935, give my recommendation to the introduction of the Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning (Temporary Powers) Bill, 1949."

(4) "In pursuance of section 299, sub-section (3) of the Government of India Act, 1935, I, Krishna Kumarsinhji Bhavsinhji, Governor of Madras, hereby accord my sanction to the introduction of the Madras Rivers Conservancy (Amendment) Bill, 1949, in the Madras Legislative Assembly."

(5) "In pursuance of section 299, sub-section (3) of the Government of India Act, 1935, I, Krishna Kumarsinhji Bhavsinhji, Governor of Madras, hereby accord my previous sanction for the introduction of the Madras Preservation of Private Forests Bill, 1949, in the Madras Legislative Assembly."

(6) "In pursuance of section 299, sub-section (3) of the Government of India Act, 1935, I, Krishna Kumarsinhji Bhavsinhji, Governor of Madras, hereby accord my sanction to the Madras Electricity Supply Undertakings (Acquisition) Bill, 1949."

(7) "In pursuance of section 82, sub-section (3) of the Government of India Act, 1935, I, Krishna Kumarsinhji Bhavasinhji, Governor of Madras, hereby give my recommendation to the introduction of the Madras Electricity Supply Undertakings (Acquisition) Bill, 1949, in the Madras Legislative Assembly."

VI.—PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Sir, I move—

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

The Committee that was last elected by this House could not meet because of the prorogation of the Assembly. Therefore a new committee has to be elected.

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved—

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

The motion was carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—" In accordance with the regulations framed by me for conducting elections according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, I fix 3 p.m. on Wednesday, the 9th November 1949, as the time within which notices of nominations for election to the Public Accounts Committee should reach the Secretary.

" The nomination forms can be obtained from the Secretary. There will be an election, on a date to be announced in due course, if the number of candidates exceeds the number of vacancies, viz., nine."

VII.—HOUSE COMMITTEE.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Sir, I move—

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

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved—

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

SRI P. NATESAN:—" Sir, last year, when a similar motion came up before this House, I wanted to find out how far the House Committee had been useful in providing all comforts and convenience to the hon. Members of this House. We do not

hear anything about the work of the House Committee. Formally a motion is moved at the beginning of every Session of the Assembly and it has become a sort of annual show. Either the Chairman of the Committee or the Hon. Leader of the House must tell us as to what all amenities have been provided by the House Committee all these years. We have been complaining that we are not able to get even a cup of hot coffee. (At this stage Sri K. Bashyam entered the Chamber.) The hon. Sri K. Bashyam would prefer to have a cup of hot coffee.

" Is there a place for us to go and sit? Cannot we have a nice lounge? The hon. Member opposite is referring to my visit to England. Yes, I did go to the House of Commons and the authorities there were good enough to provide me with a seat in the Dominion Legislature gallery. I was able to take some friends to nice lounge and sit down there, though I was not a member. (The Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi:—What are your drinks?) The Hon. Sri Gopala Reddi wants to know something about my drinks. The House of Commons elects a certain gentleman or appoints a committee to test the wines and choose the best one which ought to be given to the Members. Even in the matter of alcoholic drinks, the authorities see that the Members are served with the best drinks. But the Government have been kind enough to give me a permit. It is also a fact that a number of people die drinking methylated spirit. (Mr. Speaker:—Do they die in the house?) Deaths have taken place outside but they may occur inside the House also.

" I seriously mean that this Committee should do something substantial. The Chairman of the House Committee thinks that it is not possible to get enough money from the Hon. Finance Minister. I appeal to the Hon. Finance Minister to allot at least five thousand rupees for providing amenities for hon. Members. What is very urgently needed is a nice lounge where Members can relax themselves after a hard day's work, entertain their friends in a manner consistent with the dignity of this House, and where Members can sit and have a chat. Refreshments must be made available here so long as the House is in session. There is no use in making the Members resort to some cheap hotel that is catering here because they are kept dirty and filthy. I do not mean to say anything against those who are now catering to the Members. I want hot drinks, cool drinks, lounge, and every other amenity provided.

" We also know that the poor Press Reporters keep roaming about from room to room. To enable them to do their work properly in our own interest and not only in the interests of their office, and to give due publicity to the proceedings of the House, I think the Press people must have some amenities like a retiring room. I am not making this suggestion as a matter of joke; I am making it in all seriousness. Unless the required amenities are provided, there is no use in our electing a House Committee at the beginning of every session of the Assembly."

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SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Sir, I have to endorse some, but not all, of the remarks made by the hon. Member Sri P. Natesan. I want to know whether the Government are really serious in having this House Committee or do they want to have it simply because there is some provision in the rules that there should be a House Committee. In the previous House Committee of which I was also a member, the hon. Member Yuvarajah of Pithapuram, who is now threatening to resign his seat in this Assembly, made several suggestions. I want to know from the Government what has happened to the several suggestions made by the House Committee. If the Government are not going to provide the amenities suggested, there is no use in our having this Committee. Therefore I want to know the view of the Hon. Finance Minister on this question."

12-15 p.m. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I just want to intervene in this debate, because my name has been brought in by my hon. Friend Mr. Natesan and as a matter of personal explanation, I only want to inform him that I had not been away to take a cup of coffee. But I entirely agree with him that whenever we feel inclined to drink a cup of coffee during the day, we have to run very far, after coming into this House, to get ourselves satisfied. Whatever suggestions we make or whether improvements have been suggested by the House Committee and its Chairman, the whole question resolves itself into one of rupees, annas and pies, and if the Hon. Finance Minister really wants to provide all facilities to the Members of the House, he must provide necessary funds to carry out the recommendations of the House Committee. Sir, the necessity for a decent lounging room has been stressed by many hon. Members. The fact is that soon after the interval for lunch, we rather feel inclined to go home than take our lunch here, and when we come here again we generally come very late, because we do not feel inclined to start at once after a hearty lunch from our house and participate in the deliberations of this Assembly. Therefore, Sir, arrangements should be made for providing not merely coffee, but a good lunch also, so that Members may not be forced to go to their homes for lunch. Sir, generally we find that after 4 o' clock in the afternoon, most of the Benches here are empty, because Members do not get good coffee or tea at that time and therefore they go home. I therefore entirely endorse the remarks of my hon. Friend Mr. Natesan, and although we do not take him very seriously in other matters, at least in this matter, we take him very seriously and I join with him in pleading that the House Committee should be given full powers in this matter and their recommendations and suggestions should be carried out by the Hon. Leader of the House."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish also to add a few remarks to what has already been said with regard to the utility of constituting a House Committee. Sir, although the House Committee has been in existence all these years and a new Committee is being appointed at the beginning

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of each session, and many Members have made very good suggestions for improving the amenities to Members, it is unfortunate that their suggestions have not been given effect to. Sir, you know that the Chairman of the Committee, our Madam Deputy Speaker, the Yuvarajah of Pithapur and my hon. Friend Mr. Natesan, took a lot of trouble to go round these buildings and made very valuable suggestions for improving the amenities to Members. (Sri P. Natesan: 'I never attended any meeting of the House Committee.') But unfortunately, inasmuch as the buildings, this hall and the various appurtenances are not within the jurisdiction of the Hon. Speaker of this House, nothing could be done in the matter of providing more amenities to the Members. That is the reason, Sir, why all these troubles arise. The moment the whole building, including the rooms now occupied by some of the offices which are not to be there, are placed in charge of the Hon. Speaker, then I am sure, it would be possible for the Hon. Speaker, with the help of his energetic and able Secretary to make effective and desirable improvements and reforms in the matter of providing amenities and conveniences to the Members and many of the grievances that are now put forward by hon. Members could be eliminated. Sir, I just want to refer to only one thing. The spacious room just north of the Council Hall which forms an integral part of these Chambers of the Legislature is now being used by some office, which has nothing to do with the Legislature at all and it has been going on for a number of years. In spite of the repeated representations we have made to the Hon. Speaker and the Hon. Leader of the House in the matter, to this day, that office is still there, and it has not been given back to the Legislature. So our party suffers from want of a decent room and now a small room which is like a dungeon has been allotted to us, which is occupied more by visitors than by the members of our party. That is not the only thing. Sir, a demand has been made by some hon. Members that there must be a decent room where refreshments should be made available to the members at all times. Again, Sir, there is a room which has been given to non-vegetarian Members for taking their lunch, which is very dark and in which there is not sufficient accommodation. It requires some imagination and some sort of regard for the Members of the House, on the part of the authorities that are sitting over this portfolio and they ought to be a little more considerate to the needs and conveniences of the Members of this House. I therefore appeal to the Hon. Leader of the House to give some more attention to this matter than what he has been giving in the past. My suggestion is that in the first instance all the rooms and buildings which are now occupied by offices other than the Legislature should be cleared and given back to the Legislature and should be kept in charge of the Hon. Speaker so that he could allot them as and when required by the various parties in this House."

* SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also feel that the facilities that are obtaining for the Members

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of this Assembly are so meagre, that it is high time that any House Committee that comes into being should look to all these affairs. Sir, last time when a similar debate came before this House, I pointed out that the very pathway that leads to the vegetarian restaurant is so crowded during midday that Members of this House feel it a great difficulty to get into this very premises. Sir, you have been in Delhi and have seen the arrangement they have made there for the visitors as well as Members. There ought to be a separate entry and exit for friends and visitors to the Assembly, so that the Members may have an easy entrance and passage to the place where they could get some facilities for food and other things.

" Sir, another thing is that when we are sitting for long hours during the budget sessions, if any Member feels ill or indisposed, there is no place at all for him where he could comfortably rest during the day-time. Moreover, Sir, the food and the things that are served at the vegetarian section is not at all wholesome. I have pointed out to the people who are running the restaurant of the very bad food that is being served to Members. As a matter of fact, many of the Members are prepared to pay more for wholesome articles. I feel, Sir, that the House Committee will make a note of all these things and I specially request the Hon. Finance Minister and also the Chairman of the House Committee to publish once in two months or three months, what action they have taken for remedying these defects in the matter of food and also in the matter of providing more facilities for lounging rooms and such other things."

Sri N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, to the large volume of complaints that have been voiced in this House, let me also add my own, because I have also been feeling these difficulties ever since I came into this House.

" In the first place, I may say, Sir, that I have been practically ignorant of the existence of this House Committee. I do not know who are its members or what they have done or whether they have done anything at all worth mentioning. We are supposed to represent here the people of this Province and it is most necessary that we must have some facilities to do our work in a responsible and serious manner. What are the facilities that are being given here to the Members? We have not a room worth the name just to sit and think, or write out our notes. I would suggest that a typewriter can be provided for us and a typist can be put there and whenever we want any urgent letters to write to the Hon. Speaker or prepare a note, we can have some facilities here for doing so. Suppose we sit here from 11 o'clock to 5 p.m., six long hours practically, naturally during the interval we would like to go out, take a nap, or sit or chat or smoke, though I am not myself a smoker. So naturally we should like to have some little comfort and convenience in these things. We have not got that comfort here. I am entirely prepared to agree with my hon. Friend Mr. Natesan, when he said that we do not

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get even a good cup of coffee. That is quite true and he has not exaggerated. I think it was the English poet, Pope, who said that ' Coffee makes politicians wise '. We are politicians here, but are we given good coffee? So, even the most elementary amenity, namely good coffee, which makes politicians wise, has been denied to us.

" Another thing that I want to mention is this. Here there is a library room and it is supposed to be a reading room. We are supposed to go there, take out books and read them or refer to journals or periodicals and so on, but now it has been converted into a sleeping room. You can easily find, if you go into the library, how Members are sleeping in the chairs and lounges, and they have to do so, because they have no other separate room for lounging or taking some rest during the lunch interval. Perhaps people going over there may think that we are sleeping M.L.As. I would therefore suggest that the House Committee should set to its work in all seriousness and must do something to provide for the comforts and conveniences of the Members of the House, and we the Members of the House expect something to be done by the House Committee to be constituted now, if it is to represent this House properly, and that it must take note of the complaints that have been made here to-day."

Sri K. A. NACHIAPPA GOUNDER:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, the debate having been set in for voicing forth our complaints and grievances with regard to the want of facilities and conveniences for the Members of the House, I think, it is right on my part to add my remarks on this matter. Some time back, I made a suggestion with regard to providing pure drinking water fountains for Members of this Assembly. I suggested that a fountain can be put up from which pure ice water could be obtained, and that it would not cost more than Rs. 1,500, and if such fountains are installed in half-a-dozen places, water-supply problem in this premises could be solved. But even that request has not been conceded and I got a reply, Sir, stating that it would be considered when the new constitution comes into being. Sir, the new constitution is to be ushered in only after two years, and I do not think that it is right that Members should be dealt with in this manner or their suggestions treated like that. At present, we get our drinking water here from a place which is called the Seven Wells and that water is not palatable, because it is highly chlorinated and very repulsive to drink.

" I suggested that Corporation water can be supplied to members through water fountains, and that has not been conceded. As regards sitting accommodation for members, there is no adequate accommodation for Members in the library. In the midst of disturbances in the library there is not adequate room for Members. The rooms in the library are not comfortable and spacious. In this way, it is not convenient to Members. 12-30 p.m.

" Then, Sir, about visitors. We find visitors all over the veranda. I made suggestions that some tents must be provided,

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and facilities for the visitors should be provided in those tents which could attract the visitors. This would avoid people roaming about in the verandas. I have made several suggestions. Though I was not in the House Committee I took great trouble to make many suggestions. The House Committee have recommended our suggestions to Government to carry them out. But I do not think the Government have ever cared to put them into operation. I bring all these things now with a view to seeing that for the convenience of Members and for those who come to the Secretariat, these facilities must be provided, so that the Government may have good regard in that direction. These facilities require the foremost attention of Government. It may be said that there is financial difficulty. In providing these small amenities for members, the finances of Government are not going to be affected a good deal. It will mean a few thousand rupees. In other matters lakhs and even crores of rupees are being spent. These amenities should not be put off on the score of financial difficulty. This is the point I wish to impress on the Government."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, among the papers which are circulated to-day to us, I find a statement showing the resolutions passed by the Assembly House Committee during the fifth session of the Second Assembly under the Government of India Act, 1935, and the action taken thereon. It consists of five pages. Item 2 on page 3 is as follows:—

'The Committee notes with regret the issue of G.O. No. 3795, P.W., dated 20th September 1948, in contravention of previous G O. Ms. No. 76, P.W., dated 10th January 1947, thereby taking away the powers of this Committee to arrange for the comforts, etc., of the Members residing in the hostel. The Committee would like to know the reasons that prompted the Government to issue the subsequent Government Order and which has not even been brought to the notice of the Committee.'

The House Committee had certain powers, and all of a sudden, it is disclosed to us that those powers have been taken away. The House Committee passed a resolution thereupon saying that they would like to know the reasons which prompted the Government to pass that subsequent order. The action taken on this resolution is 'Communicated to Government'. The Government have constituted an *ad hoc* Committee for this purpose, and the first act that the committee did was this, namely, they enhanced the house rent from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3. Thereupon, the House Committee passed a resolution disapproving the proposal of the Government to enhance the house rent. The House Committee started well, but suddenly its wings were clipped. A new committee has been constituted overnight by the Government, and the rent for the hostel has been enhanced. When the House Committee wanted to know at least the reasons, the Government did not communicate the reasons to the House Committee. When I addressed Government that the rent should not be enhanced, and that it may even be reduced, the Government gave me the usual answer that my request could not be complied with. I am pointing out all these just to impress on Government that the House Committee could be treated with greater consideration and greater respect, particularly in this case as it is presided over by a lady Member.

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" Then, turning to page 5 of the statement, item 6 is as follows:—

'The Committee recommends to the Government to instal at suitable places in the Chamber premises four or five water coolers.'

Its necessity will be felt when we begin the budget session. We are sitting in an uncomfortable hall at present. I think the Government have no proposals to alter the Chamber. Even if they have no proposals, they must at least comply with the suggestions of the House Committee, in the interest of the Members and to provide greater amenities. I wish to draw the attention of Government to item 8 on the same page. Item 8 reads:

'The Committee recommends to the Government that the annual allotment of Rs. 2,000 now placed at the disposal of the Committee be increased to Rs. 20,000.'

What have the Government done? I understand the Government have promptly declined this request of the House Committee. I think that in these circumstances that it is much better that we do resolve that there shall not be any more House Committees elected by this Assembly."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" Who is the Chairman of the Committee, Sir? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I shall tell the hon. Member later."

* JANAB MOHAMED RAFEE-UD-DIN AHMED ANSARI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, without attempting to make a speech, I would like to take this opportunity to draw the attention of the Hon. the Leader of the House to the lack of amenities in the Legislators' Hostel now being housed in the Government House Estate, Mount Road. This hostel is within the jurisdiction of the House Committee. The general impression is that the hostel is a very palatial residence where the members get all comforts and luxuries. One has only to reside in the hostel to find out that it is a very uncomfortable place. The cots provided contain bugs, and no attempt is being made to disinfect them. (Interruption.) Then, Sir, there is hardly any privacy for members. In each room four beds are put, and when visitors come living in that room is really very inconvenient and very uncomfortable. For instance the room in which I am now put up it is called the hall—is more like the general ward in the General Hospital. Seven to eight beds are put there. Visitors who come to see the members walk in and out of the room. Not only visitors to the members, but also the general visitors to the Government House Estate, come in. They treat this hall as the general passage. I am quoting all these instances to show that the conditions now prevailing in the hostel are very far from satisfactory. I think the House Committee and the Government should pay greater attention to this hostel. I may also draw the attention of the Government to the fact that if a member wants to have a hot water bath, he has to travel a distance of about 2 furlongs downstairs and upstairs."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The Legislators' Hostel is not within the jurisdiction of the House Committee."

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JANAB MOHAMED RAFEE-UD-DIN AHMED ANSARI:—" I speak subject to correction, Sir. I think the hostel is also within the jurisdiction of the House Committee."

MR. SPEAKER:—" No."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, as usual my hon. Friend Mr. P. Natesan set the ball rolling. A number of suggestions have been made by both the members of the party in power and the Opposition. But I may put the question direct to you as to what is the use of all these suggestions which have been made. Take it from me that as long as the Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi is there as the Leader of the House, nothing is going to happen. (Laughter.) It is a fact. Suggestions have been made by members on both sides of the House. But what is the use? I could even say that the Leader of the House does not take our suggestions seriously. He thinks 'it is their usual complaint'."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" It is a reflection on the Leader of the House, Sir, to say that he does not take the suggestions seriously."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" It is no reflection, Sir. The Government think that it has become a habit with the members of their party and the Opposition to make suggestions, and that they know what they should do. Therefore, no purpose will be served by this House Committee unless the Finance Minister who happens to be the Leader of the House gives a categorical assurance that in future 'I am going to be in the House Committee: My colleague, the Public Works Minister, will also be in the Committee'. The Hon. Speaker should also be in the House Committee. These three should sit together along with the other Members, and find out what are the real complaints, and whether real amenities have been provided. They must then come to a decision as to what are provided for and which are not provided for. These two Ministers should give an assurance in the Committee 'all right: Government will undertake to do these things'. The Finance Minister, his colleagues and the Premier should understand the difficulties of hon. Members of this House. I know the Ministers' rooms are very comfortable. I have seen some of them. I do not grudge them these comforts. Only if they are asked to visit the rooms provided for the Members they will know the defects. I feel that the Hon. the Leader of the House should take our suggestions seriously and he should also try to serve on the committee along with the Hon. Speaker, and the Public Works Minister, and then come to definite conclusions."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Raza Khan wanted an assurance from the Ministers concerned, but I am here to ask as to what happened to the assurances already given by the Leader of the House while replying to the debate under 'Legislative Bodies' last year. The Leader of the House gave a definite assurance that he would constitute an informal committee consisting of the representatives of

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the various parties in the House and see that living space is provided for the hon. Members of this House and also other amenities provided. Till now, I find that nothing has been done to implement that assurance. On the other hand he is only exploiting the resources of how to tax the people of this Province more and more." (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—" The Hon. Leader of the House . . ."

* SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I really did not want to speak but it looked as if the Members wanted to hear me. The Hon. the Leader of the House gave way because he thought you had no objection. Other Members also were anxious to hear me. The Members, the Leader of the House, and the Hon. Speaker know about my difficulties. I think that Members do not know the extent of my powers for providing facilities to the Members. Rooms have to be allotted by the Hon. Speaker and not by me. After the rooms are given, I have to make the best use of them. Once we had a conference in the Hon. Speaker's room to find out whether better facilities could be given, and whether better accommodation could be given for catering to the Members in a better style. We came to the conclusion that it was not possible, because the accommodation in the Secretariat buildings is limited. Honourable Members would have seen the statement placed on the table of the House. They would have seen the resolutions that have been passed by the House Committee. As Mr. Viswanatham put it, the House Committee was really not shown any regard by the Government. Almost all the suggestions made by Mr. Natesan and others have been recommended by the House Committee. Honourable Members can see the resolutions from the statement. The Government say either that they have no money or that there is no room available. Under the circumstances, what is it that the House Committee can do? I have also really felt that when the House Committee has no power, it has no business to continue any further. 12-45 p.m.

" Now, Sir, another thing has cropped up. Some Members, even after Mr. Viswanatham pointed out, do not seem to understand that the hostel for the Members in the Government House is not under the jurisdiction of the House Committee. According to the original plan, the House Committee had to manage that also, but later that power has been removed from them. The hon. Members will see from the paper placed on the table that there was a protest by the House Committee. But, no proper explanation has been given by the Government. Not that we are anxious to get more power into our hands. The protest is that we were not even informed about the formation of a separate committee. Only from the Government Order which was circulated to the Members, we knew that a separate committee was formed. I think it was because the Chairman of the House Committee was criticising the actions of the Government in this respect, that they thought there was no need for the Chairman to have any extra powers and decided to take away that power from her. Because sometimes my speeches irritate the Government to a certain extent, I refrain from

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speaking. I hope the Members will go through the paper placed on the table from which they can understand to what extent I can help them. A number of Members in the Congress Party have got only one room which is like a big choultry. I really feel sorry for the small rooms provided, but what more can I do ? If I talk any further, probably the Premier will say, ' It is only for two months more; you can wait.' He has been saying like this since yesterday on any question such as the language difficulty. I don't know what they expect to happen afterwards. Therefore, I hope the Members will understand my difficulty and press upon the Government along with me that something must be done.

" Sir, we wanted a bigger room for catering in Western style. The reply from the Government with regard to this matter is ' Accommodation problem in the Secretariat buildings is very acute. No space is available for allotment for catering in Western style to the Members of the Madras Legislature at Fort St. George.' Like this, one by one our requests are negatived. So, there is no possibility for the House Committee, with all their goodwill, to provide more amenities. However, we will try our best."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Sir, the House Committee is provided for in the rule and every time the House is prorogued, the Leader of the House has to make a fresh motion that a fresh House Committee be elected. Under those provisions, I moved that the House Committee be elected. But, if the hon. Members feel that there is no need for a House Committee, certainly it can be considered by the Hon. Speaker."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The rules will have to be amended suitably."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Whether the rules require a change or not is a matter for the Hon. Speaker to consider separately and whatever is needed can be done. But as the rules stand, certainly a motion of this type has to be made and the House has to elect six members and the Hon. Speaker will have to nominate two people to serve on the House Committee. So, repeatedly whenever there is a prorogation of the Assembly, I am obliged to move this motion and every time, of course, Mr. Natesan will begin asking for things. I am really in sympathy with the various complaints made with regard to the inadequacy of accommodation here, better catering facilities, etc. But nobody seems to realise the difficulties of the Government in this matter. The creation of the Food and other departments has called for greater accommodation in the Secretariat and just now we are in a difficulty to provide greater accommodation for lounging and things like that for the hon. Members. A new building now will certainly cost enormous amount and we are only awaiting the introduction of the New Constitution or something else to turn up when we will certainly have to provide for a bigger Parliament House for the State Legislature. We are a part of the Secretariat just now. The proper arrangement would be to have a separate

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Legislature House or a Parliament House, whatever it is called, under the management of the Hon. Speaker and the President perhaps, and that will be an ideal arrangement. But just now it can't be done and we have perhaps to wait for some more time. We have been putting up with these inconveniences for some time, perhaps from 1939 or so. So, it would not be too much if I ask the hon. Members to keep in patience for a little while till we get a new Parliament with 500 Members or so and certainly the Government will look to the convenience of the Members then.

" Sir, various suggestions have been made, but certainly I did not move a Demand under ' Legislative Bodies ' just now. We had a sort of a replica of Budget discussion to-day on an innocuous motion like the election of six Members to the House Committee. Perhaps all the speeches would have been very relevant—not that I say that they are not relevant just now—they would have been more relevant had I moved for some money grant and while granting that Demand, they could make these observations. But I do not know whether, under the rules, there is to be a House Committee and, when I ask for the election of the House Committee, whether all the old complaints can be brought in just now. But that is a matter entirely for you, Sir, and the hon. Members.

" With regard to the Hostel Committee, Sir, Members of the House Committee sometimes do not reside in the hostel, and they may not know the difficulties of the residents of the hostel. Therefore, the Government thought it fit that the Hostel Committee should be outside the purview of the House Committee and the House Committee should consist of the Members of this House and the Hostel Committee, of the residents of the Hostel alone, who would look after the difficulties of the residents in the hostel. Therefore, it is but right that this House Committee should not have anything to do with the Hostel Committee and it must be a separate body altogether. On reconsideration, the Government thought that under the Public Works Department a separate committee should be constituted. We know that in the Government of India in Delhi, the housing arrangements or the lodging arrangements of the Members are not under the House Committee, but under the Central Public Works Department. Therefore, it is not right that the Hostel Committee should necessarily be a part of the House Committee.

" With regard to catering and other things, we have been trying our best to see what could be done. As I said in the beginning, there is no accommodation just now, and that is our main difficulty. But, there are other things like the fans at the four corners of the Assembly Chamber. I do not remember just now whether it was the recommendation of the House Committee or the recommendation of the Hon. Speaker. (An hon. Member : ' Both.') Whatever it is, we see them veering into the House itself and certainly it is a recommendation of the House Committee which has been promptly accepted by the Government and we have the benefit of these four fans. Likewise, the Ladies' Waiting Room has been taken up by the Public Works Department for improvement and necessary arrangements will be made for improving it

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further. So, wherever it is possible, we are certainly taking very serious notice of the recommendations of the House Committee, and wherever it is not possible, financially or administratively, we are reluctantly whittling down some of their recommendations. It is not as though we are not taking their recommendations very seriously. The hon. Member from Chittoor feels that we do not take these recommendations seriously. It is not true, but of course there are certain difficulties, financial or administrative or the lack of accommodation, etc., and *apropos* we have to veto some of the recommendations. I do want that the House Committee should not feel that they are being neglected and all that and I am sure the House will certainly elect a good committee this time as the House Committee and they will make recommendations which will certainly be considered by the Government. And more than that, I need not assure categorically that we will do this or we will not do that. That is not the usual style and that need not be demanded either from the Government. But we will certainly look into the question very carefully and minutely. I therefore move . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Mr. Viswanatham wants some information."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Regarding the statement made by the Hon. Minister that the Government changed from the House Committee the control of the hostel to a Committee appointed by them on the ground that it should consist of members ordinarily residing in the hostel, I want to know whether the Committee appointed by them now actually consists of such members."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Yes, Sir, the Committee consists of members residing in the hostel."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Is not Mr. K. Venkataswami Nayudu a member?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" He is not a member."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—" May I inform the Hon. Minister for Finance that in the Government of India there exists a House Committee and also there is a Sub-Committee of the main Committee who recommend the allotment of houses to the various members and this Committee is presided over by no less a person than Dr. Pattabhi Sitharamayya?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Mr. Maitra who allots the houses is under the Public Works Department and is not a member of the House Committee. Sir, I move the motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

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

The motion was carried.

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MR. SPEAKER:—" In accordance with the regulations framed by me under Rule 152 of the Madras Assembly Rules for the holding of elections according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, I fix 3 p.m. on Wednesday, the 9th November 1949, as the time within which notices of nominations for election to the House Committee should reach the Secretary.

" The nomination forms can be obtained from the Secretary. There will be an election, on a date to be announced in due course, if the number of candidates exceeds the number of vacancies, viz., six."

VIII.—ELECTION OF ONE MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF INDUSTRIES.

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—" I move—

'That, as Sri R. V. Swaminathan, M.L.A., ceases to be a member on the Board of Industries with effect from 28th August 1949 by efflux of time, in accordance with Section 3 (1) (b) of the Madras State-Aid to Industries Act, 1922 (Act V of 1923) and Rule 3 of the Rules framed thereunder, this Assembly do proceed on a date to be fixed by the Hon. the Speaker to elect one person to be the Assembly's representative on the Board of Industries constituted under the Act'."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved—

'That, as Sri R. V. Swaminathan, M.L.A., ceases to be a member on the Board of Industries with effect from 28th August 1949 by the efflux of time, in accordance with Section 3 (1) (*b*) of the Madras State-Aid to Industries Act, 1922 (Act V of 1923) and Rule 3 of the Rules framed thereunder, this Assembly do proceed on a date to be fixed by the Hon. the Speaker to elect one person to be the Assembly's representative on the Board of Industries constituted under the Act'."

* JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" It is my desire to say a few words on this question of election, whether it is with regard to the Board of Industries or to any other Committee that is coming later on, like the elections to the South Indian Railway Local Advisory Committee. You are aware, Sir, that in the past whenever elections were held, people representing one single party were always put into these Committees. I would like to make a request to the Hon. Leader of the House, the Hon. Premier and also other Ministers concerned to see that others also are included in these Committees. There are people who can also represent the various interests. Unfortunately, Sir, no such representation was given. We are in a minority position. We being in a minority, are not able to stand for election and send our own representatives. Therefore, Sir, I must appeal to—I do not know what expression I must use—the generosity of the party in power to see that they also give some representation to the people representing the opposition parties in this House."

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JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" I entirely support what my Friend Mr. Majid has said. My only complaint against the Ministers is that whenever there are such vacancies, be it in the Industries Board or Railways, they feel that it is the exclusive monopoly of the party in power."

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—" The Ministry is also a monopoly of one party."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Whenever such questions of procedural election come up before the House, the Congress party would have already fixed one or two of their nominees. That is not fair. Simply because the Government have a huge majority they should not make all the seats available to a particular party. It is but fair that the Government should include one or two members from the Opposition also in these Committees. There are persons who have got good experience of these matters and surely they should be invited to serve on these Committees. There is no point in exclusive monopoly in these Committees. I feel, Sir, that the Government should consider this matter seriously. If it is question of more election in the party, it is different. But when we are taking the question of the Assembly as a whole, it is but proper that the members from the Opposition are also included in these Committees. It is only a question of right and I am quite sure that the Hon. Premier will make up his mind and from this time onward set up a better example so that these Committees are represented by all parties in the Assembly and do not remain the exclusive monopoly of the party in power."

* SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not think that there will be any co-operation forthcoming if any member of the group which was responsible for the partition and bloodshed in the country is allowed to join in the Committees. Therefore, I say that these considerations need not be taken and the Government may take action as they think fit."

JANAB MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—" I am sorry that the Member who just spoke has been harping on this question of partition in season and out of season without any relevancy, to the subject. I wish, Sir, that he and other members who belong to his way of thinking, would cease to think in those terms. There is no use always talking about partition and other things. We ought to forget that aspect of the question. I do not know when we are going to put a stop to this sort of talk. I appeal to my friends not to think in those terms. The sooner we stop thinking in those terms, the better it will be for all of us."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I wish to know whether the Hon. Minister wants to say anything in reply."

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—" I have nothing to say."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

'That, as Sri R. V. Swaminathan, M.L.A., ceases to be a member on the Board of Industries with effect from 28th August 1949 by efflux of time, in accordance with section 3 (1) (*b*) of the Madras State-Aid to Industries Act, 1922 (Act V of 1923), and Rule 3 of the Rules framed thereunder this Assembly do proceed on a date to be fixed by the Hon. the Speaker to elect one person to be the Assembly's representative on the Board of Industries constituted under the Act'."

The motion was carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—" In accordance with the regulations framed by me for conducting elections according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, I fix 3 p.m. on Thursday, the 10th November 1949, as the time within which notice of nominations for election to the Board of Industries should be given to the Secretary. The nomination forms can be obtained from the Secretary.

" There will be an election on a date to be announced in due course if the number of candidates nominated exceeds one."

IX.—ELECTION OF ONE MEMBER TO THE SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Sir, I move—

'That as the present term of the Local Advisory Committee of the South Indian Railway will expire by the end of October 1949, *and the Committee will be reconstituted in November* 1949, *and as the General Manager, South Indian Railway, has requested the Government to communicate to him the names of the members to represent he Madras Legislative Assembly and the Madras Legislative Council on the Committee for the next term commencing from November* 1949, *this Assembly do recommend to the Government to communicate to the South Indian Railway the name of one person elected by this Assembly to serve on the Committee for a period of two years from 1st November* 1949'."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved—

'That as the present term of the Local Advisory Committee of the South Indian Railway will expire by the end of October 1949, and the Committee will be reconstituted in November 1949, and as the General Manager, South Indian Railway, has requested the Government to communicate to him the names of the members to represent the Madras Legislative Assembly and the Madras Legislative Council on the Committee for the next term commencing from November 1949, this Assembly do recommend to the Government to communicate to the South Indian Railway the

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name of one person elected by this Assembly to serve on the Committee for a period of two years from 1st November 1949 '."

The motion was carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—" With reference to the motion of the Hon. the Minister for Public Works regarding the election of one Member of this Assembly to the Advisory Committee of the South Indian Railway passed by the Assembly just now, I am to state that the nominations should be handed over to the Secretary before 3 p.m. on Thursday, the 10th November 1949. The nomination forms can be obtained from the Secretary.

" There will be an election on a date to be announced in due course if the number of candidates nominated exceeds one. The election will be by the ordinary method and not according to the method of single transferable vote."

GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION.

X.—INCREASE IN THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF THE GUARANTEE GIVEN BY THE GOVERNMENT IN RESPECT OF DEBENTURES ISSUED BY THE MADRAS CO-OPERATIVE CENTRAL LAND MORTGAGE BANK, LIMITED.

* THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" Sir, I move—

' That this Assembly recommends to the Provincial Government that they may under sub-section (2) of section 6 of the Madras Co-operative Land Mortgage Banks Act, 1934, increase the maximum amount of the guarantee given by them in respect of the debentures, issued by the Madras Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank, Ltd., up to a total face value of Rs. 550 lakhs exclusive of such debentures as the Bank may from time to time redeem, such debentures being issued for periods not exceeding in any case 25 years from the date of issue and bearing interest at a rate not exceeding 5 per cent per annum.'

" Before I go into the reasons—and urgent reason also—far coming before the House to increase the guarantee by 1 crore, I would like to place before the Hon. Members the present financial position of the Bank. The financial position of the Bank up to 30th June 1949 is follows:—

	RS. LAKHS.
Paid-up share capital	12·33
Reserve fund	24·2
Debentures in circulation	420·92
Deposits, loans and over-draft	13·61
Sundries—Liability	5·18
Profits for the year 1948-49	2·26

That is 478·55 lakhs. Apart from that, the Reserve Bank also has from time to time testified that the financial position of the

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Bank is very sound and it is always responding to the calls of the people, particularly, the agricultural interests so that they might take up not only by removing their prior debt but also utilize them for the production of foodstuff. Last time when the House met in December 1948, I approached the House with the request to increase the guarantee amount from 400 to 450 lakhs. Now, within ten months, we have come again before the House to increase it to 1 crore. That can be clearly seen, by the demand felt by the ryots and the increasing demand also. So far as the present position of the Bank is concerned, it has already lent nearly, Rs. 420;20 lakhs. So, the margin left hardly about 30 lakhs, i.e., 29·80 lakhs. There are already several applications pending before the Bank. Though the amounts have been lent, the securities taken were more than adequate. The security given is nearly more than three times on the value of the land at the pre-war rate. Now, this value of land has risen to 3 or 4 times. There is proper and adequate security for this loan. There are also 3 or 4 important points which compel the Government to come forward within this short time for the increase of the guarantee of these debentures. The first point is that in the dry parts, particularly, in Rayalaseema area, there was always a demand for the reduction of the rate of interest. Unless the Government comes forward and guarantees, it is impossible to reduce the rate of interest. Even as matters stand at present, the rate of interest in the Madras Presidency is much less than that in the other Provinces. That is $5\frac{1}{4}$ per cent we are charging. But considering the backwardness of the Rayalaseema and some other areas, we have now reduced the rate of interest to 4 per cent and the remaining $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent, the Government wanted to give as bonus. That is why, there is more demand now in the Rayalaseema area for money. There is also another thing. In Malabar and South Kanara which are also backward areas, the Government were hitherto prevented due to some reasons from coming forward and giving them as liberal a loan as they were giving in the deltaic areas. In South Kanara, we have now allowed loans not only for the agricultural area, but also in the cities, where lands were being cultivated. We have taken into consideration the value of the houses and other things also as security. All these things have compelled the Provincial Mortgage Bank to give more and more loans. There is greater demand also. Apart from that there is also another point. The number of banks hitherto has been about 119. Now nine more primary banks have been started. Due to these reasons, it is but fair that the amount of guarantee given in respect of debentures issued by the Madras Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank, Ltd., should be increased and the Government stand surety. Otherwise, we will not be able to get for the agricultural ryots loans at a cheap rate of interest. So I request the House to accept the motion."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved—

' That this Assembly recommends to the Provincial Government that they may under sub-section (2) of section 6 of the Madras Co-operative Land Mortgage Banks Act, 1934, increase the maximum amount of the guarantee given by them in respect of the debentures, issued by the Madras Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank, Ltd., up to a total face value of Rs. 550 lakhs exclusive of such debentures as the Bank may from time to time redeem, such debentures being issued for periods not exceeding in any case 25 years from the date of issue and bearing interest at a rate not exceeding 5 per cent per annum '."

1.15 p.m. * SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Motion moved and explained by the Hon. Mr. K. Chandramouli. Sir, it was on the 18th October 1948, that this House was able to take stock of the situation relating to the Central Land Mortgage Bank and increase the guarantee from Rs. 400 to Rs. 450 lakhs; and so within a period of one year, the Bank has to come to this House to get a further guarantee of one crore of rupees. I feel, Sir, it is a healthy progress in the direction of the Land Mortgage Bank's improvement in this Province. After all, Sir, due to the economic depression and the unfortunate position of the agriculturists and the land-holding population of this Province, the Land Mortgage Banks have come to their aid. I know of one instance recently when a family that was owning about 60 acres and had taken a loan of Rs. 20,000 from a Marwari, had to pay by way of interest Rs. 10,000. I know that particular family had approached the Central Land Mortgage Bank and its property is to be redeemed from the clutches of the avarice money-lending Marwari. So, Sir, the facility that the Land Mortgage Banks are showing to such poorer classes is really a welcome thing for the economic uplift of the Province. Sir, in the note that has been placed before the Members of this House, a clear explanation has been given why one crore of rupees is needed from the Government and the Hon. Minister himself has brought to the notice of the House the recent formation of the Rayalaseema Development Board. The Government, Sir, in their anxiety to improve the lot of the landed people of the Rayalaseema have directed the Central Land Mortgage Bank to charge only four per cent interest though the other districts and people who are taking loans from other districts are generally to pay 5¼ per cent. The Board generally considered this request from the Government and have decided to charge only four per cent so that the backwardness of those districts in the Rayalaseema may not feel hardship in taking loans from the Land Mortgage Bank. So, up to the 30th June 1950, it is estimated that the Bank shall require about 73 lakhs of rupees plus what is in arrears, i.e., 29 lakhs altogether it comes

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to about 115 lakhs of rupees and the Bank is asking only for a guarantee of one crore of rupees. I think it is very essential that this House and the Government must give the guarantee required because after all any man who deposits money by way of debentures looks to the welfare and to the stability of the bank. From what has fallen from the lips of the Hon. the Minister, he has told the House that the financial stability of the land mortgage bank is quite sound. In the circumstances, Sir, I strongly support the Motion."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to support the Motion that has been just now moved by the Hon. Minister. He has given us, unlike last time, a comprehensive idea of the state of finances of the land mortgage bank, and has told us that the financial position of the bank is sound. As a matter of fact, those who are aware of the trend of the prices of shares in the Stock Market know that while the shares of even the gilt-edged securities have gone down, the debentures of the Central Land Mortgage Bank have held their ground and have been selling in the market at a premium. This in itself is indicative of the fact that this concern is running on sound lines. The Hon. Minister has informed us that the security that this bank is getting is quite adequate. In view of the fact that unless the Government come forward to give the bank the guarantee asked for it will not be able to issue more debentures with the result that the ryots will suffer, I think, it is our duty to support the Government in their request that this guarantee be given. Sir, I feel that this land mortgage bank has been rendering yeoman service to improve the economic condition of the ryots. Some instances of that have been given by the previous speaker, Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillay. I have also known of other instances wherein this bank has given very useful help to the ryot. Now that the rate of interest has been reduced in some areas like the Rayalaseema, I am sure, this bank will be in a position to render even greater service to the ryots than heretofore. After all, what we need in this country more than anything else is to improve the economic status of the masses. Since this bank is helping in that direction, it is necessary that the Government should come to its aid, and give the guarantee asked for. I, therefore, wholeheartedly support the Motion moved by the Hon. Minister."

* SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the Motion before the House, I thank the Government for the concession shown by the Government through the land mortgage banks to Rayalaseema in the matter of reduction of interest. I believe, Sir, that the usefulness of this institution is very much reduced on account of the very high security the bank demands. The Hon. Minister said that the security that it demands is three times the pre-war valuation. As the value of the land has gone up

to the extent of three to four times after the war it means that today if I own property worth Rs. 10,000 I would get a loan of only a twelfth of the value, that is not even a thousand rupees. It is quite clear from this that the usefulness of this institution is reduced to a large extent. I would plead, Sir, with the Government whether it would be necessary to claim such high securities from the public. The result is obviously this. Ordinarily the small land owner does not usually resort to the land mortgage bank. I would really like to know from the Hon. Minister if statistics are available how many small ryots have been able to get loans from the land mortgage bank. My feeling is that generally it is the big ryot that comes to the land mortgage bank. Secondly Sir, whether it is a big ryot or a small ryot, it is the security that matters. If the ryot requires some money and goes to the bank he is seldom in a position to get the full loan in view of the low rate of valuation of his property, with the result that he finally resorts to the money-lender who lends at a very high rate of interest. I would, therefore, appeal to the Government to see whether it is not possible for the Government to give necessary directions to the land mortgage bank not to demand such a high security for the purpose. Usually, a money-lender does not require more than two to three times, by way of security of the loan asked for. In fact, I know many a time the security demanded by money-lenders has not been more than double. So, I feel that if the land mortgage bank gets a security of two to three times the value of loan, it would ordinarily be quite enough because instalments are being paid every year and even if instalments are not paid, money can be recovered by other means.

" One more thing, I would like to point out to the Government. For a long time, in the Ceded districts and perhaps in other districts also, money was not lent to the ryots who owned only dry lands. Money was being given to the wet-land owners. The reason adduced was that it would not in the case of dry lands be possible to realise the amount lent if rains fail and there was a failure of crops. I, however, find that recently this rigorous rule has been to a certain extent relaxed. At the same time, my feeling is that ordinarily the land mortgage bank is not lending so much as needed by the dry land owners or is given to wet land owners. Sir, I may say that the need of the dry land ryot is much more than that of the wet land ryot because the latter gets his produce every year ordinarily and particularly, in the Ceded districts, the dry land owner whose crops fail miserably sometimes, does not get any help. What then is his fate? I would, therefore, request the Government to go into the question very carefully and see if they cannot issue proper directions to the land mortgage bank to give more help to the dry land owner as well as the small landholder. With these words, Sir, I support the Motion."

* Sri M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" Mr. Speaker, while supporting the Motion of the Hon. Minister for Co-operation, I would like to point out the difficulties experienced by the primary land mortgage banks. My Hon. Friend, Sri Koti Reddi, observed that the security demanded by the land mortgage banks is very high. I also feel that the security could very well be lowered, taking into consideration all the restrictions and difficulties placed against the ryot in the matter of borrowing from the private money-lenders on the mortgage of the agricultural lands. The matter of borrowing from Co-operative institutions like the land mortgage banks must be made easier than what it is now. The valuation of the property may be valued on the present value instead of value of 1939 *plus* 10 per cent. At least about 50 per cent of the present value of the land could be safely lent to the borrower.

' The second point that I want to stress is in respect of the delay in the sanctioning of the loans. This point has been raised very many times on the floor of this House and it has also been raised in the correspondence between the Central Land Mortgage Bank and the primary banks. But the problem had not been solved. One method by which we could reduce the time that elapses between the application for a loan and its sanction is to reduce the time taken for the production of documents of title, etc."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member may continue his speech after lunch."

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

* Sri M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR (*cont.*):—" Mr. Speaker, from the experience of the last ten years in the working of the primary land mortgage banks, I have found that the delay that is complained of may be avoided by a small amendment of the Act by the Government. We are now getting encumbrance certificates by the bank itself. We can also get copies of the various documents—the title deeds and so on that are required for the grant of the loan and the charges for the same may be collected from the applicants by the bank itself departmentally. That would avoid the delay in the sanctioning of the loans very considerably.

" The other point is in regard to the subsidy loans granted by the Government under the Grow More Food schemes. If an applicant has a loan under this scheme, he cannot get a loan from the primary bank. No second loan can be given to him. After all the loans given for the sinking of wells are more or less nominal ones and if this impediment is there the primary land mortgage banks are not allowed to grant loans to agriculturists. This must also be condoned. On a previous occasion there has been an instance

where a second loan has been condoned by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies in regard to well-subsidy loan borrowed subsequent to the existing loan of the bank. A similar condoning of the existing well-subsidy loan may also be done now.

" As regards the loans that have been granted, my hon. Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi said that they were useful only to big landholders. But in fact the loans are not confined to big landholders alone. Even small ryots get the loans. In the Dharmapuri Primary Land Mortgage Bank, more than 95 per cent of the loans were granted only to small ryots. The amounts lent between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 3,000 out of the outstanding of Rs. 4½ lakhs are small loans. The chief object of the primary and Central Land Mortgage Banks is to help the small ryots and relieve them from the money-lenders. This could very well be achieved by the primary banks with sympathetic co-operators and the directors. The present is a very critical period for the agriculturists. We have to keep them back from borrowing from private money-lenders. It is absolutely necessary to strengthen the Central Land Mortgage Bank from time to time. Whether it is every few months or years, it does not matter. Time is not the consideration, but the necessity of the agriculturists is the chief consideration. The present guarantee will be sufficient only for a few months more. In fact if we have fully understood the situation at present, I think much greater guarantee would be necessary. Instead of coming to the House time after time for increasing the guarantee, I think it would be better to ascertain the need for the whole year and obtain the sanction of the House for the entire guarantee at one and the same time. With these words, Mr. Speaker, I support the motion of the Hon. Minister for Co-operation."

SRI K. A. NACHIAPPA GOUNDER:—" Mr. Speaker, I have great pleasure in supporting the motion moved by the Hon. Minister. It is a good thing that the Government have taken up this responsibility of helping the ryots by means of giving this guarantee. This also encourages the debenture holders to come forward and contribute freely to the funds of the land mortgage bank and enable it to lend money to the agriculturists. In our province, the land mortgage bank is doing very good work and it is lending a lot of money to the agriculturists. On account of the activities of the land mortgage banks, the activities of co-operative societies have been curtailed in the matter of giving long-term loans. This was done with the expectation that the land mortgage banks will be able to meet the needs of the agricultural population for long-term credit and that the co-operative societies might confine their attention to short-term credit. But in actual fact, long-term credit is not available to even a fair proportion of the ryots. The help rendered by the land mortgage banks to the agricultural population is very little. The number of cases may be a good many, but if we take the entire agricultural population who are in need of

credit into consideration, the help rendered by the land mortgage bank will be very trivial. The Government should find ways and means of giving greater facilities to the land mortgage banks to enable them to lend on a wider scale. Or they should see that the co-operative societies extend their loan facilities for long-term credit, at least for five to ten years. The land mortgage banks give credit facilities for 20 years and in some cases for even more than that period.

" Then, Sir, in the functioning of the land mortgage banks, there are lots of difficulties. The rules and regulations are very stiff. Many ryots are not able to comply with the provisions. Of course they are necessary in the interests of safety, but ways and means should be found to see that the whole thing is expeditiously done. The concessions enjoyed by the land morgage banks originally were withdrawn. I must impress on the Government that it is premature to take away those concessions. Some more time must be given so that the land mortgage banks may be in a position to extend their facilities to a wider circle, before the concessions are withdrawn.

" In the matter of the valuation of lands there are great difficulties now. After the war, prices of lands have increased considerably—two or three times the pre-war prices and even more in some cases. But the banks are to value the lands only at the pre-war rates. On that valuation, wet lands get a loan of 50 per cent and rain-fed dry lands get 25 per cent. Taking the present market rates into consideration, the value is very small, but the Government may not feel inclined to make the valuation liberal because they are giving guarantee. If the Government adopt such a policy, they will not be able to mitigate the sufferings of the ryot population. Taking the pre-war values and the present values, a *via media* must be found for making the valuation in an acceptable way, so that it may not involve risk and at the same time help a greater number of people.

" With regard to borrowing under the well-subsidy scheme, there are difficulties. The Government grant well-subsidy for a particular plot of land, and under the law, it takes precedence over other demands. The subsidy that is given is not adequate; the agriculturist has to find at least Rs. 750 or Rs. 1,000 in cases where while digging he strikes a rock. Apart from this, in many cases, the people are not able to fulfil the conditions. The ryots must be enabled to get additional loans from the land mortgage banks to enable them to comply with the conditions for well-subsidy, and also arrangements should be made to see that the loan originally granted is later converted into a subsidy. Some facilities may be given by giving takkavi loans, but that is not enough; land mortgage banks can come to the rescue and some sort of adjustment will have to be made later on if the work is to proceed smoothly. 2-45 p.m.

[Sri K. A. Nachiappa Gounder] [7th November 1949

" In the matter of the conduct of the land mortgage banks, I must point out there are great restrictions in the matter of salaries to subordinates and there is no scope for the banks to prosper. These restrictions must be removed. Our province is considered to be foremost in respect of the running of these land mortgage banks; and yet we find a lot of obstacles and difficulties.

" Again, I may point out that for want of survey and settlement, there is a great impediment in the matter of the improvement of the activities of the land mortgage banks. Luckily Government are taking over all zamindaris which are mostly unsurveyed and the ryots there were therefore not able to enjoy the benefits of these banks so far. There was a provision for loans on security of land which could be surveyed, and the party was to undertake the responsibility of getting the consent of the adjacent owners also for survey. In very many cases, such acceptance was difficult to obtain, and so it is very necessary that survey and settelement should now be completed. If that is done, the zamin ryots particularly will have the benefits of these land mortgage banks.

" These are some of the ways in which present conditions of working of these banks can be improved. The Government themselves will have to take the initiative wherever an amendment to the Act is necessary or the provision of rules is necessary, which will ensure speedy help to the ryots. I take this opportunity of bringing these points to the notice of the Government so that they may take the necessary steps in the matter."

* JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" Sir, I rise to strike a note of warning in this matter, i.e., in the matter of committing an error on the side of over-capitalization. Sir, I am very glad to note that the Hon. Minister has satisfied himself as to the financial position of the Central Land Mortgage Bank—its advances, its deposits and other things. At the same time, it must be remembered that in the field of finance it is stated by experts that the advances should be about 60 per cent of the deposits. As a matter of fact, if the deposits have increased, there is no necessity at all to help the institution. If there are sufficient deposits in the bank, where then is the necessity for the issue of more debentures and where is the necessity for Government to guarantee them? If that percentage is kept up, I am sure there can be no such necessity. I do not oppose this motion, but I wanted to point out that the Government should look into this particular aspect and satisfy themselves that there is a certain percentage of deposits to the amount of the loans advanced."

* SRI L. C. PAIS:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the motion, I just want to make a remark or two. The Indian ryot is proverbially known to be very conservative. He is averse to new ideas, to new methods and to new ways of doing things. It

7th November 1949] [Sri L. C. Pais]

is a very helpful sign that he has taken very kindly to the land mortgage banks. The loans have become very popular in Malabar and South Kanara. It is admitted on all hands that the well-being of the country is intimately associated with the well-being of the ryot, and we have therefore to support any measure which is conceived in the best interests of the ryot. We know there are one or two drawbacks; but if Government will pay a little more attention, these loans are bound to become more popular. The procedure adopted at present for getting these loans is very elaborate and cumbersome. If only the ryot is convinced that he will get the money at once without undergoing any elaborate or cumbersome procedure, I am sure the land mortgage bank and the loans issued by the bank will become more popular. With these remarks, I support the motion."

* SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—" In supporting the resolution of the Hon. Minister, I should like to say that the Madras Provincial Land Mortgage Bank is one of the best institutions compared to banks in Bombay and other provinces. This bank was started in 1934 and in section 6 of the Act it was provided that the amount of debentures to be guaranteed by the Government should be fixed from time to time. In the Industrial Financial Corporation of India Act, it has been provided that all the bonds to be issued by that Corporation shall be fully and unconditionally guaranteed by the Government of India. Agriculture is the basic industry of this country; it is therefore but right that the bonds to be issued by the Central Land Mortgage Bank should be fully guaranteed by the Government on the same lines as those provided in the Industrial Finance Corporation of India Act. I trust that the Government would bring in necessary amendment to the Act for this purpose.

" The bank's own funds, i.e., capital and reserves inclusive of the reserves from this year's profits, exceed Rs. 38 lakhs, which is roughly 9 per cent of its borrowing. This is a bank which is really a mortgage corporation. In such corporations, generally the percentage of owned capital to borrowed capital would never exceed 5 per cent. Even in the case of highly developed commercial banks like the Imperial Bank of India, it is not more than 6 per cent. The debentures in circulation at present amount to Rs. 421 lakhs. Recently, the bank called for subscriptions for debentures for Rs. 25 lakhs. The interest rate was fixed at 3 per cent and the issue price at Rs. 99–8–0. The Bombay Government's 3 per cent loan issued at Rs. 99 per cent, it was reported, was not fully subscribed and had to be taken by under-writers. Similarly, the Bombay Corporation Loan of 3¼ per cent issued at Rs. 98 was reported not to have succeeded. The Industrial Finance Corporation of India has also recently issued its bonds at 3¼ per cent. It must therefore be considered a matter for gratification that the Central Land Mortgage Bank should have

succeeded in its issue of debentures at 3 per cent interest and Rs. 99-8-0 issue price. The series was over-subscribed and the bank had to raise the amount from Rs. 25 lakhs to Rs. 27 lakhs. The applications called for were for only Rs. 25 lakhs while the applications actually received were for Rs. 32 lakhs; that shows the sound financial condition of the bank.

"On the advice of the Reserve Bank of India, the bank has constituted separate sinking funds for each series of debentures. Annual instalments are paid into these accounts to accumulate the necessary funds to pay off the debentures on maturity. The amounts at present in the sinking funds exceed Rs. 86 lakhs. The amount of loans due from the primary banks exceed Rs. 350 lakhs. Its owned capital and reserves exceed Rs. 38 lakhs. These three items totalling Rs. 474 lakhs, form the security to the debentures for Rs. 421 lakhs in circulation. It can therefore be seen that the Government are carrying only a technical liability when they guarantee the debentures of this bank. If the amount invested in the sinking funds is deducted, the liability would be less than Rs. 3½ crores only. The bank is now considering whether it is possible to build up the resources of the bank in any other way, which without impairing the soundness of the system, would obvitate the necessity of sinking funds and reduce the need for issue of fresh debentures every year. For this purpose, we are inviting the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India shortly to the bank to discuss with him the implications of such a proposal in all its phases. It is too soon to say what the final shape of these proposals would be. Now the position is that debentures for Rs. 421 lakhs are in circulation and Rs. 27 lakhs are under issue, making a total of Rs. 448 lakhs, thus exhausting the maximum guarantee of Rs. 450 lakhs. The total amount of loans issued during the year ending 30th June 1949 was Rs. 78 lakhs. During the current year, it is expected to exceed last year's performance. There is therefore urgent need to increase the guarantee by one crore of rupees.

"The activities of the bank are confined to the issue of loans on the security of agricultural lands. The land is valued by Government officers at pre-war rates and loans not exceeding 50 per cent of such valuation are sanctioned. The outstanding of Rs. 3½ crores is secured by the first mortgage of agricultural land valued on pre-war basis at over Rs. 1,160 lakhs. This security is ample.

"The bank takes such great care in the scrutiny of the security that it had led to the criticism that much time is taken in the sanction of the loans. The bank is issuing loans for repayment of prior debts and for improvement of lands. These prior debts include debts incurred for improvement of land, purchase of land, construction of houses and cattle sheds, purchase of bulls and all other family necessities. The interest on debt

or 'debt charges' as they are called, form a very important item in the cost of production. Even in advanced countries like the United States of America, by far the largest proportion of the loans issued by the land mortgage banks are for re-payment of the earlier debts. They call such loans 're-financing loans.' In their country, such loans are advanced at 4 per cent. Our land mortgage banks are now advancing at 5¼ per cent. This is the lowest rate in the whole of India. With the assistance of the Government, the land mortgage banks are advancing loans to the agriculturists of the Rayalaseema at 4 per cent. It is our aim to make money available to the agriculturists of the whole Province at 4 per cent and we are approaching the Government to extend their assistance in this behalf.

"The hon. Mr. Koti Reddi has mentioned that the advantage of this bank is taken only by the rich landholders. I would like to tell him that the maximum loan to be disbursed by this bank is only about Rs. 20,000 and out of the three or four hundred applications received, there are only one or two which ask for Rs. 15,000 or Rs. 20,000. So, it is only the lower middle class ryots that are getting the advantage of this bank. I would commend this resolution for the acceptance of this House."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"Sir, I gladly support this motion for increasing the guarantee on the ground that these loans are of very great help to the ryots who are already indebted. In the grant of these loans, very many difficulties are experienced. First of all, in the matter of valuation, they go back to the pre-war rates. I submit it is not always right and proper to stick to the pre-war rates. Those days are gone; we are now living in post-war times and we have to adjust ourselves to the present day market values. The ryot is the person who has to be helped and shown some concession and leniency. If the Government are very strict and the Government are stricter still in the matter of the valuation, the spread of the loan will be very slow and it will not be broad-based. Many of the ryots therefore, instead of going through the process of valuation and rendering accounts and giving the certificate, will prefer to go in for loans elsewhere.

"I will very much urge upon the Government to relax the 3 p.m. rules of valuation as well as the methods of disbursement of loans. If they review the position and relax the rules, it will go to the benefit of the ryots and they will avail themselves of the loans to a much greater extent than now. There are so many restrictions in the matter of valuation for purposes of loans. Dry lands are not taken into serious consideration and they are valued at very, very low rates, even though they may be very rich lands, alluvial soil or black cotton soil, capable of yielding returns sufficient and more than sufficient to meet the interest. But yet they are not taken into consideration. The Government rules are rules

and as such, there is no exception whatever be the nature of the lands. If a ryot wants to improve his lands or to escape from the clutches of the money-lender, he cannot do it. He has no other go. The result is he cannot improve his lands and is obliged to pay usurious rates of interest. Now when there is a great cry for growing more food, much of the dry lands have to be brought under the plough and more and more food crops have to be grown. Though the present well subsidy system has got its own advantages there is need for more and more wells. If a man is already involved in debt, he must necessarily go to the Land Mortgage Bank. What will he do if the banks look at these dry lands with some discount. I, therefore, request the Government to review the position, relax the rules and try to help the ryots especially those who own dry lands and who are already involved in debt so that it will help them to clear off their debts and improve their lands.

"There is another point to which I wish to refer. The rate of interest is rather high; it is $5\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. We have to remember that the loans granted under the Land Improvements Act, carry a rate of interest of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent only. Further the Government are only borrowing at $2\frac{1}{2}$ and 3 per cent. Therefore, why should not they reduce the rate of interest to 4 or at the most to 5 per cent? I request that these suggestions may be taken into consideration for purposes of the review of the situation in regard to the granting of loans by the Land Mortgage Banks or a committee may even be appointed to go into this question of how relief could be given to owners of dry lands by way of reduction of rate of interest and also the proper valuation of their lands with a view to enabling them to improve their lands and clear off their debts."

* SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the motion for the extra guarantee to the extent of one crore of rupees in respect of the debentures to be raised by the Land Mortgage Bank. Sir, some time ago, the Government of Madras appointed a Special Officer to investigate the question of the indebtedness of the agriculturists of this Province—I think it was ten years ago. If I remember aright, Mr. Sathyanadan was deputed to enquire into agricultural indebtedness and he, after due enquiry, put it down at about 200 crores of rupees. But the loans issued to the ryots according to the figures given by the Land Mortgage Bank authorities through my hon. Friend Mr. Narasimha Rao and the Hon. Minister in charge of the Portfolio are only about four crores of rupees. I submit, Sir, that the loans so far given to agriculturists have not touched the fringe of the problem. Particularly now, when the money market has shrunk and money is not easily available from other sources than co-operative and such like organizations, it is very necessary that they should come to the aid of agriculturists.

Formerly a very cumbersome procedure was involved in the matter of application for loans from the Land Mortgage Banks and it prevented many *bona fide* landholders who were in urgent need from availing themselves of such loans from the banks in order to either improve their lands or to clear off their debts. That is why the rate of progress has been so slow. I know as a matter of fact that several applications took more than six months to pass through the various stages. I submit that it is rather abnormal and I would like the Hon. Minister to investigate into the causes for these delays in regard to the granting of loans and to see if the procedure for the granting of loans could not be simplified. Three months between the date of the receipt of the application and the passing of the application may be considered normal and there should not be more than a delay of three months. This period may be taken for the purpose of completing the enquiries, examining the title deeds and for having the properties assessed and to comply with the procedure for the parties to get the loans such as the encumbrance certificates and so on. For these things, three months must be ample and within that time the primary bank must be able to forward the applications to the Provincial Land Mortgage Bank. Some method must be adopted to simplify the procedure and rationalize the procedure involved regarding the granting of the loans. If it is otherwise in order, the grant of loan must be speeded up. It is very essential. It must be taken note of that one of the reasons why several small landholders simply ran away from the Land Mortgage Bank was that they could get ready-money elsewhere, from their local bankers, or money-lenders who knew the lands, the history of the lands and could give the loans quickly. Now that the money market has shrunk and credit is not easily available to agriculturists, especially the small agriculturists, it is all the more necessary that there must be a simplification and a speeding up of the disposal of these applications for loans and that is why I add my voice to the many that have preceded me.

"Another point I wish to refer is the question of the 1939 valuation which forms the basis for the grant of loans. Prices of commodities, cereals, consumer goods and everything have increased fourhold and you cannot shut your eyes to it and say simply because a rule has been framed to that effect, you will stick to it. Have we not seen that the prices of properties have gone up three and four times? By no stretch of imagination can you to-day say that the land values remain what they were in 1939 though one might admit in spite of the tightness of the money-market to-day there is perhaps a reduction of say 10 per cent of the fourfold values over the values of 1939 that have been obtaining all these ten years. The value of lands and property are bound to keep step with the prices of paddy and other agricultural produce. There is no use merely shutting your eyes to

realities in an ostrichlike manner. You must be realistic when you deal with a man who is in need and who is prepared to give good security for the loans he asks of you. You must open your eyes, take a realistic view and give him what he deserves on the security that he has tendered. I do not want you to be profligate or speculative. But base your loan on the real value of the land as it stands to-day. I appeal to the Hon. Minister and through him to the Co-operative Department and the Land Mortgage Banks to change the rules which prescribe an ante-diluvian standard of valuation which has no relation to the actualities as they exist to-day. Man must live to the times and over-conservatism has already landed him into a bad economic plight.

" There is another point that I wish to refer. (An hon. Member: What would you have as the actual value?) Let it be whatever other banks give, on the basis of present value and of that, let them give up to 60 or 70 per cent.

" A concession is given to the districts of Rayalaseema by way of lower rates of interest. There are districts adjacent to Rayalaseema which present features in every sense similar with things obtaining in Rayalaseema and where the position is quite similar, districts which have no industries to sustain their population during the off-season, which are deficit in food-grains and which are equally dry and dependent upon the tender mercies of the Rain God. Those districts, I submit, must also be taken within the purview of the concessions. I am pleading for my district of North Arcot. It is situated on the borders of Chittoor which is included in Rayalaseema and gets the benefit of lower interest rate concession. Our conditions are similar and so I appeal that the concession might also be extended to my district.

" There is another suggestion that I wish to make regarding Government guarantee and that is that the Government might come up with a motion for a bigger guarantee, instead of coming up every now and then, if and when loan applications are ready. The second reason is that this will be one way of tapping the money from the hands of the public. The Government are not investing in debentures but are merely giving a guarantee in respect of them and money comes from other sources and therefore, it will be some sort of an anti-inflationary measure if larger amounts are attracted by way of investments on debentures. The report laid on the table of the House shows that the debentures always find a ready market, the security being very good and there being the guarantee of the Government I therefore, feel that larger guarantees might be thought of provided there are sufficient number of applications, as there ought to be, from landholders who are in need of money. I support the motion."

3-15 p.m. * THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am extremely thankful to all the members who have spoken

on this motion for their uniform support. Two or three important points have been raised regarding the working of the Land Mortgage Bank about which I shall place before the House both the difficulties of the Land Mortgage Bank, as well as facilities and other things.

" The first point was raised by Mr. Koti Reddi. He raised two important issues. Of course, they are important, but they are not new things. I think, if I remember right, during the last ten or fifteen years, these matters have been agitating the public, particularly the borrowing public, and that is about the delay by the Land Mortgage Bank in the issuing of loans. It is true there is some unavoidable and inordinate delay. That has been felt by the Government, the Land Mortgage Bank and the borrowing public; and to some extent you cannot avoid it, at least. Because, when you are dealing with land, you must see firstly the title to it. It is a very difficult process; and hon. Members know how to collect information from the various offices it takes some time, and then, one has to evolve its value. Then, the primary banks have to take all these things and satisfy themselves after scrutinising, and send them up to the Provincial bank. There again, the Provincial bank will go through the same process and satisfy itself. This is why some delay is caused in giving the loan. But hon. Members might remember that last time when I came before this House for increasing the debentures I said, I have already advised the Provincial Land Mortgage Bank to take up this question very seriously. Unfortunately hon. Members who spoke to-day only said that there was inordinate delay in giving loans, and nobody has given any healthy suggestion. I request hon. Members to give healthy suggestions so that—I assure you on behalf of the Government and the bank—necessary amendments may be made in the statute. I have suggested to the Land Mortgage Bank that at least some portion of the loan amount may be given after satisfaction by the primary bank, so that the ryot may get a portion of the sum he asked. Another suggestion given is that even before scrutiny, at the face value, a portion of the loan asked may be given. As the House knows, there are revenue accounts and registration accounts, copies of which have to be secured every time a loan is asked, and these involve delay. To minimise the delay in sanctioning the loan, this suggestion is made. If there are any other healthy suggestions they may be put forward, and the Act will be suitably modified.

" The second thing I want to say is this. Fifty per cent of the value of the land and other things is all based on pre-war rates. It is true we have to stick to that. The present price level is unstable and so it should not be taken into account. The present price level is a transitory period; and that is why the bank is very cautious. Even for mere technical sanction, as hon. Members know, we have to approach the legislature and explain to them the present soundness of the bank. It is a very vital thing to

the Land Mortgage Bank, even though the process may involve some delay. As far as the present Government is concerned, in the case of wet lands, we are charging fifty per cent of the valuation of the land at pre-war level plus ten per cent. Previously wet lands were charged only at fifty per cent of their value. As far as Rayalaseema is concerned, it is fifteen per cent; but we have raised it to 35 per cent. And also in the case of coastal districts like Malabar and South Kanara, where, previously it was 35 per cent, but, in spite of the peculiar inheritance laws and peculiar system of land tenures, the present Government have raised it to fifty per cent, so that the ryot may get more money and that easily too. I may also tell you, we wanted to come down with the present level of price; we wanted to evolve some formula so that we may take via media between the pre-war price and the present price level and fix some limit to enable ryots to get more loan.

" Mr. Koti Reddi said that small ryots might not be receiving more loans. In regard to that complaint it may be relevant to point out that during 1947–48 out of 3,061 loans issued by the Land Mortgage Bank 1,978 were loans disbursed for amounts below Rs. 2,000; and the total amount of these loans is Rs. 18,80,345 out of a total amount of Rs. 61,55,185, which works to about 30 per cent. Having regard to the fact that loans were advanced for amounts of ten thousand and above this amount is not disproportionate. In regard to payment of registration fee charges on encumbrance certificates it must be pointed out that it is the small borrower who gets a greater part of the concession. Under the existing concessions, loan applications for Rs. 5,000 and below are charged half the fees for registration of documents. But loans exceeding Rs. 5,000 are charged full fees. For the grant of encumbrance certificates no charges are levied for loans for Rs. 2,000 and below. This full exemption for small loans has been in existence for a long time. From these things, one can see that it is the small ryot we have at heart and we are eager to give him all help within our reach.

" Hitherto much advantage has been taken by deltaic parts. Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar and others, who are in co-operative movement, know much better than myself, that this problem regarding Rayalaseema has been taken up for the last five or six years. Ever since the present Government came into office we took up earnestly this question and we have been able to wipe off all old debts of the Central Bank; and also, we are able to reduce the $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to 4 per cent in these five districts. At least from this, the House can see that Government are genuine in their desire to help the backward areas. These concessions will be extended to other districts also in due course, so that the ryots may prosper, and upon whose prosperity our country's prosperity depends.

" There is one more point, and that has been raised by Mr. Natesa Chettiyar. He advocated the double loan system for sinking of wells programme, one loan by Government and another loan by the Co-operative Department. There is no difficulty in that and we are trying to amend the Act suitably, because it has already been under the consideration of the Land Mortgage Bank. There is only one more point to be dealt with, and that has been raised by Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. He raised the question ' why do you want the Land Mortgage Bank come to this House every time they want to raise the debenture; why not fix a minimum for that all at once here '. I have no objection; but I tell you, this is the best method, and it is a healthy one. For every time we come to this House we can explain the position of things and we can take stock of the whole thing. We can explain how the bank is working and with the valuable advice of the House we can make the bank rules elastic.

" Finally, I thank hon. Members for their support. I assure the House that the bank works to help the needy ryots, and I assure you that the director, president and vice-president are all trying to see how to amend the Act to remove all restrictions to encourage ryots to take more loans. With these words I request the House to approve the resolution."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

that they may under sub-section (2) of section 6 of the Madras Co-operative Land Mortgage Banks Act, 1934, increase the maximum amount of the guarantee given by them in respect of the debentures, issued by the Madras Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank, Ltd. up to a total face value of Rs. 550 lakhs exclusive of such debentures as the Bank may from time to time redeem, such debentures being issued for periods not exceeding in any case 25 years from the date of issue and bearing interest at a rate not exceeding 5 per cent per annum '."

The motion was carried.

XI.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(1) THE MADRAS ADVERTISEMENT TAX BILL, 1949 (L.A. BILL NO. 23 OF 1949).

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the report [a] of the Select Committee on the Madras Advertisement Tax Bill, 1949. Sir, the Select Committee, after considering the various aspects of the Bill and in view of the constitutional changes that have taken place since, have recommended that the Bill might be dropped. And I suppose the

[a] Vide Appendix I on page 86 infra.

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House is fully aware of the changes that have come about in the Constituent Assembly, where they have put this advertisement tax on newspapers as a Union subject. Therefore, there is no point in proceeding with the Bill pending the finalization of the Constitution Act. Therefore Government do not propose to proceed with the Bill, and I hope the House will agree to the dropping of the Bill."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I hope the House has no objection to acquiesce in the recommendation of the Select Committee that the Bill should not be further proceeded with."

The House acquiesced to the dropping of the Bill.

(2) THE MADRAS CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS ON WET LANDS (PROHIBITION) BILL, 1948 (L.A. BILL NO. 22 OF 1948).

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission, on behalf of the Hon. Mr. Sitarama Reddi, I present the report[a] of the Select Committee on the Madras Construction of Buildings on Wet Lands (Prohibition) Bill, 1948. Sir, the Select Committee has recommended that the Bill may be dropped. I request the House to accept the recommendation of the Select Committee."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Sir, I just want to find out why when this House has once accepted the principles of this Bill and referred it to the Select Committee, the Select Committee should have recommended to drop the Bill. In the case of the bill to tax advertisement in newspapers we know the reason, namely, the Union Government has included that in the list of their subjects, that is to say, taken cognisance of the Provincial Government's subject, and that is a valid reason for dropping the Bill. But in the present Bill, I want to know what prompted the Select Committee to recommend dropping the Bill. Some of us here were not inclined to support the Bill, but still the Bill was referred to a Select Committee. And I think it only stands to reason that they owe to this House, both the Hon. Minister in charge of the Bill as well as the chairman of the Select Committee, to give the reason why they have now adopted this course of dropping this Bill."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I think the report of the Select Committee is in the hands of the hon. Members. The report itself gives the reason for recommending the dropping of the Bill. After considering the opinions expressed in this House and also the subsequent information it got that there was not so much danger of wet lands being used for house construction as was anticipated at one time, the Committee came to the conclusion that there was no imperative necessity for the Bill and therefore recommended that the Bill be dropped."

[a] Vide Appendix II on page 86 infra.

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MR. SPEAKER:—" I hope the House has no objection to acquiesce in the recommendation of the Select Committee that the Bill should not be further proceeded with."

The House acquiesced in the recommendation of the Select Committee and agreed to drop the Bill.

(3) THE MADRAS MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ORDER BILL, 1949.

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Bill, 1949, and move:

' That the Bill be taken into consideration at once. '

" The Maintenance of Public Order Act of 1947 which was passed by this House restricted the duration of the Act to one year and gave power to the Government to extend it to another year by notification. At the end of that extended period, the House amended that provision to extend the Act for a period of three years, the extension each year being by notification. On the 28th June 1949, a report appeared in *The Hindu* to the effect that the Calcutta High Court had declared the West Bengal Security Act to be ineffective for the reason that there was no valid extension of the provisions of the Act[a] after its expiry, as the Governor was not a party to the motion for such extension which was passed by the Provincial Legislature. This ruling was based on the decision of the Federal Court of India in Jyotindra Nath Gupta's case under the Bihar Maintenance of Public Order Act, 1947. The proviso to section 1 (3) of the Bihar Act was as follows:—

" Provided that the Provincial Government may, by notification, on a resolution passed by the Bihar Legislative Council, direct that this Act shall remain in force for a further period of one year with such modifications, if any, as may be specified in the notification."

" The Federal Court held that this proviso was *ultra vires* on the ground that it amounted to a delegation of legislative power by the Provincial Legislature to the Provincial Government, in so far as the latter is empowered (1) to extend the Act for a period of one year, which amounts to re-enacting the Act, and (2) to modify its provisions which may amount to a subtracting from, adding to or varying the existing provisions of the Act which is clearly a legislative power. It was held that the Provincial Legislature had no power to create a subordinate legislative authority delegating to it its own powers.

" It may, however, be mentioned that the provision in the Bihar Act was based on a number of precedents, English and Indian. I will give a few instances:

English Acts.

" The Reserve and Auxiliary Forces Act, 1949, said:

6 (1) Subject to the provisions of this section, this Act shall continue in force for the period of three years beginning with the date of the passing of this Act, and shall then expire:

[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* Extraordinary, dated 31st October 1949.

Provided that if at any time while this Act is in force, an address is presented to His Majesty by each House of Parliament praying that this Act should be continued in force for a further period of one year from the time at which it would otherwise expire, His Majesty may by Order in Council direct that this Act shall continue in force for that further period.

(2) Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing sub-section, if His Majesty by Order in Council declares that the necessity for the powers conferred upon him by this Act has ceased to exist, this Act shall expire at the end of the day on which the Order is expressed to come into operation.

" The Military Training Act, 1939, also contains a similar provision which reads as follows:—

21 (1) Subject to the provisions of this section, this Act shall continue in force for the period of three years beginning with the date of the passing of this Act, and shall then expire :

Provided that if, at any time, while this Act is in force, an address is presented to his Majesty by each House of Parliament praying that this Act should be continued in force for a further period of one year from the time at which it would otherwise expire, His Majesty may by Order in Council direct that this Act shall continue in force for that further period.

(2) Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing sub-section, if his Majesty by Order in Council declares that the necessity for this Act has ceased to exist, this Act shall expire at the end of the day on which the Order is expressed to come into operation.

" The Emergency Powers (Defence) Act, 1939, also contains an exactly similar provision.

Central Acts.

" The Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931 (Act XXIII of 1931) contains a similar provision which reads as follows:—

1 (3) It shall remain in force for one year only, but the Governor-General in Council may, by notification in the *Gazette of India*, direct that it shall remain in force for a further period not exceeding one year.

" The Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1947 (Act VII of 1947) also contains the following provision:—

1 (4). It shall remain in force for five years only, but the Central Government may, by notification in the official gazette, direct that it shall remain in force for a further period not exceeding three years.

" The Control of Shipping Act, 1947 (Act XXVI of 1947) contains the following provision:

1 (3) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 25th day of March 1947, and it shall remain in force only up to the 31st day of March 1950:

Provided that the Central Government may, by notification in the official gazette, direct that it shall remain in force for a further period not exceeding one year.

" The Delhi Premises (Requisition and Eviction) Act, 1947, (Act XLIX of 1947) says:

1 (4) It shall remain in force till the 31st day of December 1949 but the Central Government may, by notification in the official gazette, extend it for a further period of one year.

" The Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1947 (Act III of 1948) contains a provision which reads as follows:

1 (3) It shall remain inforce only for a period of one year :

Provided that the Central Government may, by notification in the official gazette, direct that it shall remain in force for a further period not exceeding one year.

" Some of the Central Acts such as the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1947, and the Control of Shipping Act, 1947, are still in force.

" Since section 1 (4) of the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Act, 1947, also contained a provision for extending the continuance of the Act by notification of the Provincial Government, and as the Act was being so extended from year to year, the Government began to entertain doubts towards the end of July 1949, as to whether the continuance of the Act from year to year was legal in the light of judgment delivered by the Federal Court. The question was, therefore, examined and the Government were advised that a validating legislation had to be taken immediately. As the matter was so urgent that it could not wait even an emergent summoning of the legislature, the session was prorogued by His Excellency the Governor on 2nd August 1949, and immediately after, on the same date, the Government of India were asked to obtain the Governor-General's instructions for the promulgation of an Ordinance. The Governor-General's approval was received on the 11th August 1949, and the Madras Maintenance of Public Order (Removal of Doubts and Amendment Ordinance, 1949 (Madras Ordinance No. I of 1949) was promulgated the same day.

" Opportunity was also taken to incorporate in the above Ordinance, a provision on the lines of the recent amendment introduced in the Central Provinces and Berar Public Safety Act, 1948, with a view to prohibit the questioning of the validity of a detention on the ground of any defect, vagueness or insufficiency, or any delay in the communications made to detenus. This provision was introduced at the instance of the Government of India who considered that there should be no room for any doubt that the communication to detenus of the grounds of detention is intended for the sole purpose of enabling them to make a representation to the Executive and that it should not be open to a Court to examine the merits of the grounds so disclosed and decide whether these justify detention or not. The bona fides of an order of detention has been questioned merely because of a certain amount of delay in communicating the grounds, etc., the real reason for the delay being time taken to check up assertions and counter-assertions by detenus.

" On the 10th October 1949, the Madras High Court, in delivering judgment in a batch of habeas corpus applications, in which the validity of the Madras Ordinance I of 1949 was questioned, held that, in view of the Federal Court's judgment in Jyotindra Nath Gupta's case under the Bihar Maintenance of Public Order Act, 1947 the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Act, 1947, 'died a natural death' on the 11th March 1948, since its extension by notification was not valid. The High Court also held that the sections of the Madras Ordinance No. I of 1949 which purported to amend or give a declaration in respect of what was no longer in force was of no effect whatever, while anything re-enacted would be valid, and that accordingly, the only section

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of the Ordinance that was valid was section 3 (*b*) which stated that no action taken under the Act shall be called in question on the ground that the Act was not in force at that time.

" The effect of this declaration of the High Court was that there was no Maintenance of Public Order Act in force in the Province. The Government were advised, and even the very judgment suggested, that the only manner in which the *status quo* could be restored was by re-enacting the entire provisions of the Act and since the Legislature was not in session—it having been prorogued before the promulgation of Madras Ordinance No. I of 1949—this had to be effected by means of an Ordinance, incorporating the entire provisions of the Act. The Governor-General's instructions for the promulgation of such an Ordinance were sought on the 10th October 1949 and were received on the 13th October 1949. The Madras Maintenance of Public Order Ordinance, 1949, was promulgated on the 15th October 1949.

" The Bill before the House is a reproduction of the provisions of the Act that has already been passed by the Legislature and it contains three variations.

" The Act passed by the Legislature permitted the Government to extend the provisions of the Act up to 1950. The present Bill has taken away that period, but says that it shall remain in force unless repealed by this House.

" The second variation is the addition of clause 4-A which says that no order of detention shall be deemed to be invalid on the ground of any defect or vagueness.

" The third variation is the incorporation of the new Clause 4-B. A question was raised some time ago as to what action could be taken against a detenu released on parole who contravenes the conditions of parole, and whether specific provision should be made for this purpose. We have been releasing detenus on parole rather liberally, and a number of detenus released on parole either do not return or go underground. They do not conform to the conditions of parole and take advantage of their release to take part in subversive activities. If they are apprehended, no action can be taken against them for breach of the conditions of parole. The Government were therefore advised to add the new Clause 4-B which has been prepared to replace the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Ordinance, on the basis of a similar provision in the Central Provinces and Berar law. If a detenu fails to conform to the conditions of parole, he can be charged and punished for it in the same manner as a prisoner who escapes from lawful custody.

" These are the changes. In other respects, this Bill is the same as the one passed by the House. I need not tell the House the necessity for continuing this Bill as I have caused to be circulated to the members this morning a leaflet issued by the Government ' Charge-sheet against the Communists.'

3-45 p.m. " I know that the conditions laid down under clause 4-B of this Bill are hard. I have heard complaints from many people

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about the vagueness of certain provisions and the delays involved in the early days in the matter of release of detenus. But I must point out that such delays were inevitable, because in the earlier days, particularly in the Circar areas, the District Magistrates were preoccupied with the Hyderabad affairs and therefore they could not devote their sole attention to this matter. In certain other districts also there were some delays in the matter of communicating the grounds, but that was also inevitable, because the grounds on which detentions were made had to be communicated to them and then we had to check up their assertions and counter-assertions with reference to records and then confirm the preliminary orders. These inevitably took some time. But now we are making all attempts to reduce delays to the minimum possible. I must submit, Sir, that in the very nature of things, the grounds of detention in certain cases can only be vague, because even if we have absolute knowledge of a particular person being involved in a number of subversive activities, it might not be possible for us in the public interests to disclose to him all those details and in certain cases, even the Advisory Council had held that unless there was some concrete proof that the person was involved in an overt act, the grounds of detention should necessarily be vague. I may also inform the House in this connexion that in many of the very unfortunate incidents that had taken place during the last three or four months, it has been traced that some of the Communists who had been released on the ground that the charges of detention against them had been vague, were at the bottom of those subversive activities. Therefore, in the interests of the public at large, it is necessary that such people should be kept under detention, because our very civil liberties and even the very lives of many law-abiding citizens in the country are being threatened by certain acts of these Communists, against whom it may not be possible in all cases to bring out definite charges of having committed acts of violence or instigation to violence although they might be at the bottom of them in secret. I may state that in the catalogue of instances I have narrated, there are many wherein people who simply attempted to thwart the action of the Communists had been intimidated and some of their lives had been done away with and so in such cases, unless the Government have got the power to detain persons suspected of such acts, even though they might not be able to bring forward any concrete evidence to that effect, it will not be possible for the Government to protect the lives and preserve the liberty of the majority of the citizens in the country. It is that consideration that has weighed with us in making provisions of this sort in this Bill. In fact, I may tell the House that the Government of India, on seeing some of the judgments in the habeas-corpus applications, suggested to us of their own accord in 1948 that we might even introduce a provision like this in our Bill and even went to the extent of suggesting the form in which we should do so. We desisted doing so during the last one year and a half, but still we find that conditions have not yet improved and that even now, more watchfulness and care are required to see that

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peaceful citizens are enabled to carry on their normal avocations in certain areas in the Province. During the last one week some very very bad incidents have happened. In certain areas in Malabar, there have been three murders committed within the last one week. A watchman from a certain factory was going away after his duties and he was dealt with like what Lakshmana did with Surpanaka, that is, his nose was cut off. A number of Communist detenus have been released very recently in that area and the district authorities are definite that this act was done by some of them. Sir, this is the position in which we find ourselves today and that is why clause 4-A has been put in in this Bill. I have to mention this at some length, because I have seen an amendment given notice of by some hon. Member for the deletion of clause 4-A in this Bill.

" Sir, I have dealt with the main provisions of this Bill and I now request the House to give its approval to it."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved—

' That the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration at once '."

* SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was with considerable reluctance that in 1947 our popular legislature gave its consent to put on the statute book this Public Safety Act, which in essence was a mere conglomeration of the various ordinances which we had ourselves been condemning in the past. We were constrained with reluctance to accept that measure, because the conditions in the country at that time was such that we could not avoid placing such an Act on the statute book. At the same time, we expressed a fear which was also endorsed by many hon. Members of this House that such drastic Acts as these would have a tendency not to vanish within the limited period during which they were sought to be in force, but to prolong themselves indefinitely. Then a year and a half after that Act was passed, it was again renewed for another year, and now we are two years and nine months after the first Act was brought forward and the present Act, as it was originally put in, was intended to be permanently placed on the statute book, but thanks to the Hon. Minister for Law who was then in charge of the Bill and the Hon. Premier, both of them were inclined to alter its duration and keep it in force for a limited period, after some discussion. But, on the question whether such an Act is required or not under the present circumstances, there can be no two views, because at present, conditions in the country have far worsened than what they were in the year 1947, and therefore a drastic Act like this is certainly required. At the same time, we have to investigate and see, whether when a very strong medicine has not cured the disease and when we see that the disease persists and have gone on continuing for the last 33 months, the medicine alone will be sufficient for the purpose of suppressing the evil and whether we should not examine what the root cause is, which affords such a fruitful soil for the development of the

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disease which is now oppressing us. Nobody can say that any person sympathises with the communists or their doctrine, who originally started with coquetting labour by telling those poor people they were out to get for them this and that amenity, and thus sought to consolidate their position and now they have resorted to the committal of all offences known to criminal law, such as decoity, looting, arson, murder and sabotage. The Government cannot be said to have overstated their case, when they narrated all these events and wanted to arm themselves with these powers under the staute in order to put down or prevent such things happening, and there can also be no two opinions about that. At the same time, I would respectfully request the Government and the Hon. Premier to go into the root cause of all these things. There may be a few idealists who might have been misled by intelligent men who have designs of their own, and who might have conceived wrong notions that bringing about a state of society similar to that prevailing in the Soviet Russia might be a panacea for all the ills in our land. Perhaps they might be misguided and they might be wrong. But the greater and more important question is, how are the Communist leaders able to recruit such a large number of ignorant people to their fold. How are they able to induce the masses to join their ranks in such large numbers? If you say that the communists are only a handful of people whom you want to deal with under this measure, then it is all right to arm yourselves with such powers, but that is evidently not the case. Every day we find that the number of people joining the communist group is swelling and there appears to be no slackening of their activities and they go on increasing their strength by bringing more people into their group. What are the causes which have led to this state of affairs? Unless we are able to go into these things and tackle the root cause of the disease, with all seriousness and sincerity with which we bring forward these Ordinances in quick succession, and unless we are able to take effective and quick steps to remedy the grievances and discontent among the masses, this evil will continue and all young men in the country, who are at present discontented and unemployed, at the merest promise by the communists of bringing about something better in the state of society, would certainly join the movement and swell their ranks. What then are the difficulties which are oppressing the people and which offer such a fertile soil for the communists to exploit?

" Now, Sir, let us see who are the people who suffer most under the present conditions. The rich people in the country, who after all are only a handful do not suffer on account of these high prices, because they could get whatever they want by paying something more and by getting a little less profit in their business, or a little less in their incomes. The townsmen and the industrial workers do not also suffer or starve, because they get higher wages and all the things they want in the cities by conjoint bargaining and strikes and command all the conveniences and they could afford to pay more. So they also do not suffer on

account of high prices. But the real set of persons who suffer most are the middle class people owning small extent of land and the people who get fixed salaries in Government or in private services and the poor agricultural labourer, and the Harijans who own no land of their own and who simply depend upon other landholders for their existence and people of that sort, whose incomes are not enough to get on in these days of high prices. It is a well known fact that the prices of articles of daily consumption are soaring like a rocket and it is now simply impossible for any person, however patient he might be and however God-fearing he might be to get on in life under the existing conditions and I am afraid, that the prices are not at all showing any tendency to come down, but on the other hand, they are going up from day to day. They have now risen almost to four times and still they seem to be rising up. If you take some of the articles which are the daily necessities to the common man, you will find that within the last three months, their prices have gone up so steeply that it is really a wonder, how the housewife has been able to keep the family going at all. Pepper which was selling at six annas a palam has gone up to Rs. 1-4-0 a palam. Chilli which was selling at Rs. 1-8-0 per viss has now gone up to Rs. 3-12-0 per viss. Tamarind which was selling at 8 annas and 10 annas per viss is now selling at Rs. 1-4-0 and Rs. 1-8-0 per viss. Coconut which was selling at 3 annas has now gone up to 8 annas. With regard to sugar, I need not mention, because everybody knows about it and the Government are issuing a communique almost every day on that subject and of their helplessness in the matter. That was selling at Rs. 1-4-0 three months back, but now after control, the common man cannot obtain it at all, and if at all it is obtainable, it can be had only at the black-market price of Rs. 3 per viss. Firewood which was selling at rupees
4 p.m. 1-4-0 a gundu of 56 lb. is now being sold at Rs. 1-12-0. We thought that in Madras at least we had not the pugree system, that is, for rent there should be an undisclosed advance. This had not been given in Madras fortunately till recently. It was the sole fortune of the poor tenants of Bombay. But to-day in Madras I understand the pugree system has established itself securely and safely, and no man can possibly apply even to the Rent Controller for the reduction of rent. With regard to the poor agriculturist, what was being sold at Rs. 4 per bag of cotton seeds, is now selling at Rs. 20 to 24 per bag. For a bag of cattle feed which was selling at Rs. 4 he has to pay now Rs. 24 or 25. How is it possible to carry on the day-to-day life? The poor salaried man after a fight with his employer may possibly be able to get a lift of 10 per cent of his wages after probably courting strikes and probable depromotion. With regard to a private man, he suffers even the risk of dismissal. But after all this is achieved where is the comparison between the 10 per cent lift in his salary and the four hundred per cent rise in the price of commodities. If you go to the ordinary cultivator, he says 'you see I am getting 200 per cent of the original price; don't you see I am paying 400 per cent more for all the necessary articles including foodstuffs, articles for cultivation, etc., and have I not got to pay

considerably more?' He says 'if you are prepared to reduce the price of all the other articles I will also reduce my prices'. This argument is very good. If you ask the other people as to why they have not reduced the prices the same argument is advanced that others have not reduced their prices. The two go in competition with each other rocketing up, until the ordinary men, who form 80 per cent of the community, are unable to live and their patience is nearly coming to an end.

"There is another set of people also. We find the number of persons who are unemployed for want of employment, is growing. On the one hand you see people returning from the war and who know how to handle weapons. They have not been re-employed. They are ex-military men. We have got also the I.N.A. men. You find also from time to time people casting off their factories on account of the impossibility of running the factories due to high wages. With regard to bone-meal factories held by one magnate in Tuticorin you find that three of them have been closed down. The mills have been closed. There are mills threatening to close down because they say that they are not getting a sufficient amount of profit. People are being discharged. So far as these people are concerned, no straight effort is being made to re-employ and to see that they are settled somewhere where they can secure a living. Past are the days when Governments could plead laissez-faire and say 'it is your job to get employed; I cannot give you employment'. Indeed the security and safety of the country are within the hands of the Government. The Governments are held morally and legally liable now to see that these people are really employed on the land, and that they are able to get a living wage. Unless we do this, the result will be that we find discontent abroad.

"In my own place Madura, people were discharged as a result of strikes. They were Communists in fact. They were in employment for 15 to 20 years, and when they were discharged none would employ them. This is also a fact. A man who is guilty of a violent strike, nobody is prepared to employ. What happens to these people is the question. Most of these people, unable to get themselves re-employed, form small gangs, which finally result in murders not for party purposes but for the purpose of supporting their lives. Near the railway bridge during the last three months there have been five strangulations only for the purpose of a few pice. Rich merchants' houses have been broken into. One merchant was attempted to be murdered, and another merchant was actually murdered merely for the purpose of money and not for party purposes. This lets loose a lot of people who have not been fully employed and re-absorbed into the society. These people form the nucleus for the gangs, and they stop people at 8 o'clock in the night and rob them. Merchants are being stopped and robbed. We find the T.V.S. bus stopped by these people and the money collected by the conductor is taken away. That is the position. What then is the remedy? This has to be tackled as a disease of a very serious nature having the first

priority. Unless you simultaneously try and bring down the prices by about 50 per cent on all articles, let that be foodstuffs or other things, there will be difficulties. The question is how the reduction is to be effected. You may adopt some method. Let us take the prices of 1939, 1945 or 1946, and then reduce the prices to those levels. It is likely that some people are affected. Some merchants may have goods on hand, and they may suffer a loss. But any kind of remedy which gives relief to the people should affect some others. Some other people are bound to suffer. We have seen the position of zamindars and inamdars, and also the ryots in the United Provinces. Some people must necessarily have to suffer. A small portion of the people are likely to have to suffer in the interests of the larger portion. If you allow the prices to rocket hereafter also, when are you and how are you going to bring them down at all. There must come a time when we should take the risk and cut down the prices. Cutting down the prices will be much better and more effective than Ordinances and any kind of Public Safety Act. Bring down the prices without mercy, and try to cut down the prices mercilessly. Bring the prices down within the means of the people. Also try to see that all people are re-employed. Let us take even the Communist method. Two or three days back we saw a report that Mao Tse Tung the new Communist Head in China has been able to solve the problem which we intelligent people, learned people, and people who have suffered so much in the past, have not been able to solve. Mao Tse Tung took away all the surplus population in the town, who had come from the villages, found out from which village they came, and then took them and settled them all back in their villages, and thus solved the problem of this drifting population—a set of unemployed people—who are likely to give trouble to themselves and others. Such a kind of drastic arrangement would have to be made. Our Government may say that they cannot do anything, and that the Central Government should reduce the prices. If you cannot reduce the prices, you must press on the Central Government to reduce the prices. When we are paying four hundred per cent more, Government issue a press note to the effect that they are going to reduce the price of cloth by five per cent or ten per cent. The price of cloth has risen by four hundred per cent. The Government reduce the price by 5 or 10 per cent. Along with this difficulty, there are also other difficulties which have to be tackled. When people go for getting cement, or manure, to the Taluk Office, they find that there is so much corruption that short of 12 visits they are not able to get the cement from the person who holds the stock. One of the Tahsildars at an irrigation conference was pleased to say that even though he may give a chit for ten bags of cement, ulitmately, unless the consumer parts with 5 bags in the office, he cannot get the other 5 bags. For getting this balance of 5 bags, he has to spend a lot on travel. These difficulties are heavily oppressing the people. Something much more drastic than Ordinances and the Public Safety Act must be done. That alone would save the situation. But if you

allow these difficulties to go on, it goes up in geometric progression like a stone rolling down from the top of a hill gathering momentum as it comes down. My humble request to Government is that they should immediately sit together and see that they do not tackle any other subject, and that they somehow or other bring these rocketing prices within the capacity of the ordinary man. If they do not have that power, they should press upon the Government of India saying ' we cannot control the situation, unless you try and reduce the prices to the normal extent '. That is the most important thing to do. Passing this Bill in whatever form it may be, whether it is for three years or less, or with some qualification, unless you apply the constructive side of it, is not likely to help. Repression never won. Bullets never suppressed us. Mere bullets have not suppressed any kind of movement. You will have to apply the remedical side of it, and see that you bring happiness, peace, and plenty of food to the people of this land. Unless you do that, this Public Safety Act will have to be amended shortly by much more drastic amendments. Last time the Hon. the Law Minister moved an amendment that the mother should not harbour her son, and that she should also be sentenced if she harbours her son. He also pointed out that shortly afterwards a mother was convicted for six months for harbouring her son. Now, my submission to Government is this. I put it in all humility that they should take note of all these things. I am glad that the Government have set a limit up to 1952. I would be gladder still if they had put it at even 1950. I know that originally it was 1951. If we are not able to bring peace with this Public Safety Act within the course of one year, we will have to resort to further measures. Then, very strong powers will have to be given. But as the Hon. the Law Minister himself pointed out we have also to see whether excessive powers will not be misused. The persons who actually use these powers are not the District Superintendent of Police and the higher authorities. But it is the ordinary Sub-Inspector and Circle Inspector of Police. These people whenever there is trouble rush to the place with the Malabar Special Police. I am afraid, that these excessive powers placed in the hands of even the best man will lead to abuse. If, as a matter of fact, the erring Communist is harshly treated we would have no objection. But what actually happens is this. In my district in a place called Velur near Oddanchattram the communists came and attacked the people for giving information to the police. Two days later the police came to know that communists were giving trouble in this village. The Malabar Special Police came and they behaved in a rude manner with the village people. The people found themselves between the devil and the deep sea. It was found that people were indiscriminately beaten for harbouring communists. A major portion of the village people have been complaining that they have been very rudely treated. Tiles and house tops were broken down. I requested the District Superintendent of Police to make an investigation. You know what is the result of the investigation. The result of that was that 29 wanted communists were handed over to the police. Once this was done, it has now

become the order of the day in that part of the Palni taluk for people, merely for fear of the police, to take the law into their own hands. There was one Manigar's son. People, becoming afraid of the police, took out that man, shaved his head, and then took him to the police station four miles away on the back of an ass. That is the terrorism that is produced in the minds of the people. In another place, Elanjipati a communist was wanted. The Malabar Special Police pursued him. They found in an adjoining village some people playing cards. When these people saw the jeep coming towards them they ran away. When they ran away, the Malabar Special Police followed them. Meanwhile, these people went into a house and arrested seven people. I represented these things to the District Magistrate. The result of all this was that the villagers refused to go back to that village for harvest.

" I must mention also in this connexion that the police have behaved admirably, and that they have been ever ready and prompt.

" There is no doubt that the district officers have always tried to hold the scales even. But still excesses have occurred. How far this idea that they have absolute power under the Ordinance has led them to commit excesses can be seen from a recent instance. In a village called Melkarai in Palni taluk, 4 miles from the village Keeranur, a whole body of respectable citizens in the village were rounded up at 2 a.m. and they were taken to the chavadi and there a lathi-charge was made. The police ranks present included the Circle Inspector and the Malabar Special Police. The people did not know why they were being so treated. They were then told that they had to bring all the Kuravars in the village and hand them over to the police. The people said that they had not got any authority to act. However, they hunted for 4 hours, caught hold of the Kuravars and handed over them to the police. When they came to me with a complaint, I brought it to the notice of the Hon. Premier and he was so kind as to order immediate investigation. The immediate investigation showed that the Circle Inspector concerned had necessarily to be suspended. Such extraordinary powers are conferred upon the police officers. I was talking to a member, Mrs. Lakshmi Sankara Ayyar. I found in her place that unrestricted power given to the police had led to unscrupulous policemen going and threatening a particular group of villagers 'Down Rs. 200, or otherwise we will search you or we will trouble you." Likewise there have been cases here and there where these powers have been unfortunately too excessively exercised. In fact, in a talk with a responsible police officer of high standing, he told me that he was really surprised with the amount of power conferred upon them because it was likely also to be abused by ignorant lower officers among the police themselves.

" Another great danger we have been finding in this kind of excessive powers being given is that Communists are suddenly turned renegades and they go over and say that they are Congressmen. This is a case of happy and healthy ground for

unscrupulous people to get on. They say to the people that they will get for them exemption chits, etc. Something like this goes on even in the police ranks and also among unscrupulous people. Such excessive powers should not be entrusted in the hands of the ill-paid police subordinates because it is like giving a powerful atom bomb in the hands of the child. I am only requesting the Hon. the Law Minister that when the Government are entrusting such wide powers, they must have a very rigorous and strict control over them. I am glad to say that the Government have always tried to interfere whenever I have brought any excess to their notice. It must be said to their credit that the remedy came within three or four days. But what does subsequent interference matter to the respectable citizens who have already been beaten and ill-treated? I would respectfully submit that in granting such heavy powers, the Government would have to take extraordinary steps to see that such powers are not abused and that innocent people do not suffer.

" Another thing that we are finding on account of these excessive powers is this. If it is found that there is a Communist escaping, his wife or his mother is asked to come to the police station under the guise of interrogation day after day. Those women come to the police station at 7 o'clock in the morning, remain there till 3 o'clock and at 4 p.m. they are asked to come again at 9 p.m. I had to call the attention of the police that it is not right in their own interests that these women should be called for and kept till 10 p.m. in the night. There was an instance where a man who was doing motor repair work for police officers and who had the misfortune to be born as the brother of a suspected Communist, was asked to attend the police station day after day and was threatened that if he did not find out his brother and hand him over to the police, he would lose his job. Finally, he lost his avocation and could not earn for maintaining the family. Thus people lose their occupations, become disgruntled and the poor mother or wife or brother is made to suffer. All of us are thinking people and so long as the people have independence of views, there will always be trouble. All this kind of thing is, as a matter of fact, giving a large amount of misery to the people. I would, therefore, request that so far as these officials are concerned, they might be carefully and properly kept under control.

" One other thing that I may place before the hon. Members is this. We find that section 4-A is sought to be invoked. There is bound to be blunders when we are dealing with materials which have to be hastily procured and the information collected by all persons, coming from the Inspector-General of Police to the lowest Inspector or constable is not likely to be happy or satisfactory. Therefore, there is a danger also of innocent people being booked without proper materials at all. In one case which has been brought to my notice, one gentleman called Narayanaswami Ayyar had the misfortune to be detained instead of Narayanaswami Asari. It must be said to the credit of the highest officer

concerned that as soon as it was brought to his notice, he said that it was a mistake and ordered him to be released. If he does not take the courage, the case goes before the High Court. What we have got to see is that any blunder that has occurred should be rectified and for this there must be somebody. I would request the Hon. Minister, inasmuch as it is conducive, not to have a large order. The language of section 4-A should not go far beyond what is necessary. The section reads: ' No order of detention made in respect of any person . . . shall be deemed to be invalid or unlawful or improper on the ground of any defect, vagueness or insufficiency, or any delay, in any communication made to such person under this Act.' This would be to give extraordinary powers. Even if the mistake is that it should be a person ' A ' instead of ' B ', it is only a defect of communication or insufficiency of ground. It would be too much of power to be taken. The language will have to be modified in some way so that it would be such as to suit the remedy. After all, there must be some place where civil liberty is protected. In a serious situation or critical situation, blunders are likely to occur and in such blunders there must be somebody to cure and for that somebody we have got the High Court. The High Court has limited itself to the minimum extent possible in the matter of interference. I think that the Hon. the Law Minister does not fully comprehend the limit to which the High Court has set itself. Provided they say that they have got reasonable information that the man indulges in violence, the High Court on this ground alone refuses to interfere to find out what is the place of evidence on which that information or their conclusion is drawn. If you do not even say that a man is guilty of violence or that you have no reasonable information that he is guilty of violence, the High Court says that there is none. Such mistakes we have seen in the past. The Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon himself knows that in the 1942 period we have had such difficulties. One particular instance I will quote with regard to the manner in which modern detentions go on. A boy, as a matter of fact, was charged with first being a Communist and then being a Socialist and then is charged with having committed sabotage in 1942. All these things are quite distinct. It must be only the muddled information of the constable. The Law Minister no doubt says that the sample of section 4-A has been given by the India Government. After all, we form a Legislature and we are also considering things; we are bound to apply our minds and see that this stands at a limit. There must be some place where there will be a chance of seeing that obvious blunders are rectified. I hope that the Hon. the Law Minister who has been very reasonable would also try to see that the language of clause 4-A does not go far beyond what is absolutely necessary. May I also hope that the Hon. the Law Minister will find his way to limit this Act, drastic Act, to the end of 1950? If within December 1950 they are not able to suppress such things, they can renew the Act. It is much better that we have such drastic remedies. All poisons are always combined in medical treatment with counter-actives and let us hope

that this Bill would emerge well. While I have the fullest sympathy with the Government in their difficult task, I may say that it is even ten times as bad now as it was in 1947. I do agree that there must be a drastic Act but let it be governed strictly and held within control. Secondly, let there be some place where there will be a chance of mistakes being rectified. Thirdly, for God's sake, please take the reason for the disease, i.e., high prices, and try to bring them down and make the people contented. That is my request."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I venture to offer a few remarks on this Public Safety Act with a view to follow up what has been said by the previous speaker. I may call this Bill by two names, the Public Safety Bill or the Consolidation of Restraints Bill. It may be taken that we are at the end of all restraints that can be put on liberty. No further ones could either be thought of or invented. In fact, I think the Government are fully aware that no more power can be sought either for the suppression of personal liberties in case that suppression is needed as it is in the present, or for the suppression of organizational liberties in case that is needed also. Even the vagueness of the grounds for detention are now no excuse. Every little thing is covered; every loophole is filled up. The power is full and plentiful. But Heaven only knows whether the doors of clemency that is needed to soften power will open at all. I know, Sir, that this power is necessary. In fact, it shows that we are in a continuing campaign of sabotage, arson or violence or whatever you call it. It is a continuous crisis according to Government. The very measure of the power taken shows that this social disease has not abated but has gone on multiplying. Government act in the hope that prevention is better than cure. But have they really prevented this social disease from spreading, apart from wiping it out altogether? There must be no hope, little hope I might say, of this ever happening in the near future. But are we attempting at least in our own minds to see that we will fall back on the road to normality? Getting back to normality may not be possible. But getting on the road to normality may still be possible. We shall not, I hope, be in the barren mode of negative despair. We shall have to seek a constructive policy. Temporarily perhaps we have overcome sabotage; we have put down arson; we may have even few cases of violence, of widespread violence. But all this is temporary. The cause is still there and we must tackle the problem at the roots. I need not go into all the details. Let not the Government imagine that there is no connexion between the broad policies outlined by the speaker before me and this continuing mode of despair into which some of us are led. What ought to be the Congress policy in this matter? If we cannot enlarge the field of personal liberty or liberty of association, we should at least be able to lift liberty out of the many entanglements partially, if not in its entirety. That ought to be our aim. Restraints on personal liberties should

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be as few as possible, though that may be out of the question for the present. We have plenty of other powers even outside this Act.

4-30 p. m. "When we use that power wisely and in time, we can possibly repair much of the mischief that is done. Sir, cannot we act with firmness on the positive side. I say it is a practical proposition for this Government to go down to the price levels of November 1947. That was the period of de-control. It was a period when all controls were lifted. But, still in the period of control in which we are now, the prices have gone mounting on like a rocket. What is it that makes the people look to murder with complacency? What is it that makes the people afraid of handing up the man? What is it that breeds continuous recruiting to this wild campaign of sabotage and violence? All these must be dealt with almost at once. There is very little time to lose. I say, Sir, let the controls be few. Let them be wisely administered and let them be administered in areas where they are only necessary. I may tell the House that it will succeed wonderfully if we take up this policy in right earnest and give adequate protection to the masses of the people not merely by police acts but by really letting them have what they so badly need in the way of daily needs. That is the problem to be tackled. That will ensure public safety, with greater certainty than all the Acts which you enact here and all the powers which you take on yourself, and which you delegate half-heartedly to the various subordinates knowing full well that sometimes they are subject to misuse the powers so delegated.

"Now, Sir, this wielding of power by itself is a bad thing. Power has a tendency to consolidate and once hardened, it refuses to yield, to even popular pressure. That has been known to us from past experience. So we should turn the searchlight into ourselves and see what can be done in the present to ease the general situation outside. This is rather an internal war, if I may so call it. One sure way of dealing with this social disease which has spread in the body politics is by taking energetic measures, even if necessary by Ordinances and say to the people. 'Here we are. We have fixed the prices at this level. We are going to ensure supplies at least in some limited areas to people who need them and if people do not observe the rules, we shall certainly take drastic action.' Ordinances passed against these people will certainly produce better results than Ordinance passed against those who with determination throw even their lives in stake and engage in acts of violence. We must do our best and go on with our policy. The only thing necessary now is to rally the people behind us. Of course the people are now behind the Government. But, they will be not merely behind the Government, but will be in advance of them. They will act as the vanguards for protecting your interests and that of the State if you take the right steps necessary to bring

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down the pressure of high prices from which they are at present experiencing. Is it not wise, Sir, to set about thinking as to what we should do in the positive direction and then if necessary, take counsel amongst ourselves? I suggest that a committee may immediately be set up to think as to what should be done to get back to the levels of November 1947. I do not wish to go back much further than that. When we talk of reduction of prices, I propose that 10 per cent should be cut off in food prices at its source and not meagre bargaining of say 1 to 2 per cent here and half a per cent there. By that you get nothing at all. The vast majority of the masses in the country are not surplus producers. Surplus producers are like traders. They lease their lands to somebody and get the grains and sell the same to somebody else. How are they different from those who have other means of trade or other means of commerce at their disposal? By this, I don't mean that I am hard on them. I am inclined to be sympathetic to the bigger interests in the country, provided they join in the efforts of production. Yes, they have joined. They will join enthusiastically if you take necessary steps for that purpose. Don't be gentle when you are concerned with such interests. Now what is happening everywhere? Why is there so much discontent? Why is there so much unrest in the country? Usually, unrest is a sign of progress. Violence is not; sabotage is not; arson is not. To root out unrest, you must immediately lessen the pressure, the wrong pressure, which produces the social disease culminating in all these mad acts which have to be followed up by the orgy of repression. Mr. A. Vaidyanatha Ayyar was able at times to influence the judgment of the Government. I am glad he was well enough to undertake all the telephone expenses and ringing up even at midnights on the trunk telephone the Prime Minister or the Law Minister. But, everyone cannot do that. Once mischief is done by the misuse of power, its effects are permanently felt in that area. It should be our policy that in administering this Act, whatever power we may obtain and to whomsoever we may entrust the power, they must be good men of responsibility trained in discipline. No doubt, they may be filled with courage, but without the idea of clemency in their minds. They should not brandish their lathis and simply go about beating the people, because they want to find out somebody hiding somewhere in the vast community. I do not propose to give instances of misuse of power conferred by the Act. That is not what I am concerned with. What I am concerned with is that in future we should avoid this mischief which again has a psychological bearing on the recruitment to this wild campaign in the country. You will be surprised to know that most of the young men who are in the ranks of the so-called Communists are brilliant educated men. Why do they join the Communist Party? What is it that drove them to this mad despair? What is it that they have found impossible to achieve outside their party from the people of their own Government? There must be something. It may be that these young men may be given up altogether as out of account. What about the fact that

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many of these young men are banned from entering Government service? I tell you that they cannot find a place in Government service. Some of these men cannot rest in their houses, because their fathers and brothers have only fixed salaries and cannot feed these men together. This problem has to be tackled boldly, tackled with courage and tackled with intelligence. These three are needed in this moment. We must have power which will absorb all the brilliant young men into the fields of Government service. Instead, you are shutting out these men and making them feel the despair of life. Thus you are driving them just into the enemy's camp so that they can in secret begin to swear at you and indulge in acts of violence and do not care for the lives of those people who obstruct their activities. It is no use saying that this has no connexion with murder and sabotage. Take the case of the derailment of the engine which was purposely done at Erode the other day when I was travelling. The engine derailed on the bridge in such a way that other engines may not get at the station. Why all these things are happening? Are all the railway drivers mad people? There is something at the bottom which must be remedied. The whole thing is a vicious circle—unemployment, starvation, misery, inability for us to lend our helping hand to the most brilliant amongst them. Unfortunately, we call all these men unsocial. Don't make small cases very big ones. I refer to the case of the small pamphlet. I read it over and over again. There is nothing very much that you ought to be afraid of in it and treat it as something which has brought us into contempt and disgust. I refer to C. V. Rajagopalachari's pamphlet. What is there in it? Why do you attach so much importance to it. Why do you treat it as though it were a kick on your own back? It is now said that the printer must be punished, though he was innocent of the law. Even when I pointed out this to you, I was told that the law was changed and according to the modified rules, even the printer was liable to be punished. Is punishment the only end? Is coercion the only means? You must not take notice of small cases. Can you not say that we will not resort to coercion and we will overlook this. I now find that it is said that the American Civil Liberties Union is interested in this case. Why give room for all this propaganda? Let us not take notice of small news sheets unless they encourage a scurrilous campaign of violence. If they merely talk of criticizing you by saying that you are doing un-Congress acts—let me admit they are very uncharitable—and stop with that and do not encourage unsocial campaign of crime and violence, I say do not look at them. Then, why are you keeping such a great body of men who are not Communists at all in prison? Are you going to do this eternally? Certainly, you cannot face a general election without freeing these considerable body of people. You cannot keep them in jail and go out for general election. We will have to keep only those if necessary at all, who are connected with the campaign of murder, sabotage and other cruel acts and with a set purpose to destroy all social blocks. Why keep in jail those who

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are not guilty to that extent and those who disown their allegience to the Communist Party, and others like the Socialists. The Socialists are a recognized party. Why don't you release all these men? You must release them without a moment's hesitation and put them on their honour not to do these acts of violence again. Put them on their good behaviour and do not be suspicious about them. Further, you group these young brilliant men in bad association. Perhaps they may be kept in separated blocks. How even in separated blocks, you get associations is well known to Mr. Madhava Menon and myself. I may be in quarantine and he may be somewhere else. Yet, we will be in communication with each other. Why do you keep these people who say that they do not belong to the Communist Party. These people are even hated by others in the party on the ground that they are the real obstruction to the progress of the party. Some of them are on parole. Please release them. I plead for their immediate release. People like me who plead for their release have some responsibility in the matter. We will plead with them whatever political differences there may be between us and whatever policies we may be having, and say to them: 'Hereafter you must confine yourself to the policies which are in the best interests of the country. You should not take part, or attempt to take part or even think in your minds of taking part in acts of violence.' I plead with the Law Minister to release all these people immediately. I do not propose to give names. That is not my object. I tell you that the psychological progress is most important. I wish that Mr. Madhava Menon must be able to say after six months: 'We have taken enough power. We have overcome these difficulties. We have found out a permanent way of dealing with this problem at its roots and I agree to delete 4 (b). We will take less power.' That is a sportsmanlike attitude. It will indicate to the people that you have a growing confidence in yourself and that you are able to tackle this problem effectively.

"My advice is, so long as we are Congressmen, let us take a pledge to see that these liberties are subject to the ordinary law of the land and are exercised without let or hindrance and without offence to the general social obligations that are cast on everybody to keep law and order in the country. Now, we, as Congressmen ought to aim at this.' Let us from now make a resolve that as far as possible our endeavour would be to remove the restraint on liberties, even if we are unable to free liberty from all the shackles which we have now imposed upon it much against our wishes by the Public Safety Act. This is the end of everything, as I have said in the beginning. Let us remove the restraint now. Let the Sun of Liberty be released from these clouds. Let it be slowly released and let it develop by stages, like the Moon—the first digit, the second digit, the third digit and so on—and finally the Full Moon one day, shining before us in all its lustrous glory. And we shall then say to the world 'Here is India in the midst of a Communist-distracted world but 4-45 p.m.

with the greatest amount of personal liberty, social liberty, organized on a permanent footing and with as little restraint on it as possible.' That is all that I wish to say."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN :—"கனம் அக்கிராசனுதிபதி அவர்களே! பாதுகாப்புச் சட்டத்தை ஏன் கொண்டுவரவேண்டியதாய் ஏற்பட்டது என்பதைப்பற்றி கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கூறினார்கள். இந்தச் சட்டம் தாற்காலிகமாக அமைதியை நாட்ட ஓரளவு அவசியமாக இருந்தபோதிலும், அதன் அடிப்படைக் காரணத்தை நாம் தெரிந்துகொண்டு அதை நிவர்த்தி செய்தாலொழிய நிரந்தர சமாதானம் இருக்காதென்று ஸ்ரீ எ. வைத்யனுதய்யரும், ஸ்ரீ என். எஸ். வரதாசாரியாரும் சொன்னார்கள். அதை முழு மனதுடன் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"மக்கள் திருப்தியுடனும், சிறப்புடனும் வாழ அவர்களுக்கு வழி வசதிகளெல்லாம் இருந்தாலொழிய நிரந்தர சமாதானம் நிலவமுடியாது. விலை வாசிகள் அதிகமாக ஏறிக்கொண்டே இருப்பதால் அதை தடுக்க சர்க்கார் எல்லா நடவடிக்கைகளையும் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். சர்க்கார் கூடியமட்டும் இவ்விஷயத்தில் அக்கரை செலுத்துவதாகவே நான் நினைக்கிறேன். எனினும் சர்க்கார் எடுத்துக்கொண்டுவரும் எல்லா முயற்சிகளும் போதுமானதாகயில்லை. அவர்கள் இன்னும் அதிகமாக, இக்குறையை நீக்க சிறிதும் தாமதமில்லாமல் கவனம் செலுத்தவேண்டும். ஆனால் சர்க்கார் ஜனங்களுடைய குறைகளை எவ்வளவுதான் நிவர்த்திக்க முயற்சித்தபோதிலும் இந்தச் சட்டத்தைக்கொண்டு வரவேண்டிய நிர்ப்பந்தம் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. கம்யூனிஸ்டு கட்சியினர்கள் செய்துவருகின்ற நடவடிக்கைகளை உத்தேசித்து இந்த மசோதா இப்பொழுது கொண்டு வரப்பட்டிருக்கிறது.

"கம்யூனிஸ்டு கட்சியினுடைய கொள்கைகளையும், நோக்கங்களையும் நாம் நன்றாக அறிவோம். ஜனங்களுடைய நன்மைக்காக சர்க்கார் எவ்வளவு காரியங்களைச் செய்தபோதிலும் திடீரென அல்லது சீக்கிரத்திலோ எல்லாவற்றையும் சாதித்துவிடமுடியாது. குறைகள் கொஞ்சம், கொஞ்சமிருந்துகொண்டேதானிருக்கும். குறைகள் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்பதே கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளின் நோக்கம். குறைகள் நீங்கிவிட்டால் தங்கள் கட்சி நீடித்து நிலையாயிருக்காது என்பதே அவர்கள் கருத்து. அதனாலேயே சிறு குறைகளைக் கண்டபோதிலும் அதைப் பிரமாதமானதாக எடுத்துகாட்டி தங்கள் கட்சிக்குச் சாதகமாக உபயோகித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறார்கள்.

"உணவு, உடை முதலிய வாழ்க்கைக்குத் தேவையான பொருள்களெல்லாம் பெருகுவதற்கு நாம் கூடியவரை நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுத்துவருகிறோம். ஆனால் இந்த நடவடிக்கைகளில் அவர்கள் எவ்வளவு உதவி செய்கிறார்களென்று கவனிக்கும்போது அவர்களுடைய உதவி மிக, மிகக் குறைவாயிருக்கிறது; ஒன்றுமே இல்லை என்று கூறவேண்டும். அதேதான்மாமல் உற்பத்தி அதிகமாகாமல் தடுக்க எவ்வளவு காரியங்கள் செய்யவேண்டுமோ அவ்வளவு காரியங்களையும் அவர்கள் செய்து வருகிறார்கள். மக்களுக்கு குறைகள் இல்லாவிட்டால் தங்கள் கட்சி நோக்கங்களைச் சாதித்துக்கொள்ள முடியாது. தங்கள் கொள்கைகளை பூர்த்தி செய்துகொள்ளாத நோக்கமாய் இருப்பதால் உற்பத்தி அதிகமாகாமல் தடுப்பதற்காக குறைகள் நீங்கப்படாததற்குத்தான் எப்போதுமே கவனம் செலுத்தி வருகிறார்கள்.

"இப்போது கொண்டுவந்திருக்கும் இம் மசோதாவின் பிரகாரம் அதிக அதிகாரத்தை எடுத்துக் கொள்கிறோம். இந்த மசோதாவின் மூலமாக மக்களின் சுயேச்சை சுதந்திரம் பறிபோகிறது என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. உண்மையிலே நம்முடைய சர்க்கார் எவ்வளவு சுதந்திரம் கொடுக்க வேண்டுமோ அவ்வளவு சுதந்திரம் கொடுத்து வருகிறார்கள். சர்க்காருக்கும், சர்க்காரை நடத்துகின்ற காங்கிரஸ் ஸ்தாபனத்திற்கும் விரோதமாக எவ்வளவோ பிரசாரங்கள் நடந்து வருகின்றன. அவ்வளவையும் சர்க்கார் பொறுத்துக் கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். அனேக கூட்டங்கள் நடக்கின்றன, அந்தக் கூட்டங்களிலே சர்க்காரை மிகக் கேவலமான,

வான மொழிகளினாலே தாக்கிப் பிரசாரங்கள் செய்கின்றனர். அதே மாதிரியே இழிவான எழுத்துக்கள் மூலமாகவும் பிரசாரம் செய்கின்றார்கள். இவ்வளவையும் சர்க்கார் பொறுத்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இப்படி கேவலமாக பேச்சிலும், எழுத்திலும் பிரசாரம் செய்வதோடு மட்டுமல்லாமல் பலாத்காரத்தை அளவுக்கு மீறி தூண்ட ஆரம்பிக்கிறார்கள். இதையும் சிறிது நாளாக நாம் பார்த்து வருகிறோம்.

"உதாரணமாக மதுரையில் சில கூட்டங்களைப்பற்றி நான் கூறமுடியும். அவர்கள் கூட்டம் நடத்தும்போது அவர்களிலே பந்தோபஸ்துக்காக தங்கள் கட்சியைச் சேர்ந்தவர்களை யெல்லாம் பக்கத்திலும் சுற்றிலும் சேர்த்து வைத்துக் கொள்ளுகிறார்கள். கூட்டத்தில் பேசுகிறவர்கள் ஒரு சொல் சொன்னால் அதற்கு எற்றுப்போல கூட்டத்திலுள்ளவர்களெல்லாம் இன்னும் சில வாசகங்களை கூறுகிறார்கள். 'நேரு சர்க்கார்,' என்று ஒருவர் சொன்னவுடனேயே 'ஒழிக' என்று மற்றவர்கள் கத்தம் போடுகிறார்கள். இதை யாரும் ஆக்ஷேபிக்க முடியாது. அவர்கள் இதோடு நிற்காமல் நேருவைப்பற்றியும், சர்க்காரைப் பற்றியும் குறை கூறுகிறார்கள். 'முதலாளித்துவ ஏஜண்டு ஒநாய் நேரு,' என்று ஒருவர் சொல்வார். உடனேயே "ஒழிக" என்று எல்லோரும் கத்துவார்கள். அடுத்தாற்போல் உங்களை யாராவது பிடிக்கவந்தால் நீங்கள் என்ன செய்வீர்களென்று ஒருவர் கேட்பார். எல்லோரும் சேர்ந்து பிடிக்க வந்தவர்களை நாங்கள் பிடித்து வைத்துவிடுவோம் என்று சொல்லுவார்கள். "எங்களுடைய இஷ்டம்போல நாங்கள் காரியங்களை நடத்துவோம். எங்களுக்கு இடையூறாக எந்த சர்க்காரும் நிற்க முடியாது. அவர்கள் அவ்விதம் இடையூறு செய்தால் என்ன நடக்கும் என்று மேடையிலிருந்து பேசுபவர் கேட்பார். உடனே கூட்டத்திலுள்ளவர்கள் கிருஷ்ணலக நோட்டை மாதிரி நடக்கும் என்று பிரதி ஒலி கொடுப்பார்கள். கிருஷ்ணலக் கோட்டையில் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளின் சட்ட விரோதமான கூட்டத்தை கலைக்கவந்த போலீசார் தாக்கப்பட்டனர். இந்த மாதிரியான நிலைமை ஒரு கூட்டத்திலில்லை, பல கூட்டத்திலும் நடந்திருக்கிறது. இவைகளையெல்லாம் அவ்வப்போழுது கூடியவரை நான் போலீசாரிடமும், கலெக்டரிடமும் சொல்லியிருக்கிறேன். ஆனால் நம்முடைய சர்க்கார் இந்த விஷயத்தில் போதுமான அளவு ஜாக்ரதையாக நடந்து கொள்ளவில்லை."

"அம்மாதிரிக் கூட்டங்களுக்குச் சரியான சி.ஐ.டி. களை அனுப்பி அவர்கள் பேசிய பேச்சுக்களை யெல்லாம் ரிபோர்ட் எடுத்து வந்திருந்தால் அவர்கள் பேச்சுகளிலிருந்த வாசகங்களை வைத்துக்கொண்டே தகுந்த நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கலாம். ஆனால் சர்க்காரும், போலீசாரும் அவ்விதம் எதுவும் செய்யவில்லை. ஆதலால் கூட்டத்திற்கு சென்று நேரில் கேட்ட மக்கள் என்ன? நடவடிக்கை ஒன்றும் அவர்களிடம் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவில்லையே என ஆச்சர்யமடைகிறார்கள். போலீஸார் தங்கள் அறிக்கையில் விவரமாக ஒன்றும் தெரிவிக்கவில்லை. ஆனால் சர்க்காரைத் தாக்கினார்கள் என்று மட்டும் எழுதி வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். இவ்விதம் செய்தது நம்முடைய குறையே.

"கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் தவறுக நடந்து வருகிறார்கள் என்று காட்டுவதற்கு அத்தாட்சி வேண்டியதில்லை. கம்யூனிஸ்டு கட்சி பிரசாரகர்களே கம்யூனிஸ்டு கட்சியில் பல ஆண்டுகள் இருந்து வேலை செய்த அயிரக்கணக்கான பேர்கள் இப்போது அக்கட்சியிலிருந்து வெளியேறி வருகிறார்கள். அவர்கள் அகிரங்கமாக எடுத்துச் சொல்லுகிறார்கள் 'இதுவரை கம்யூனிஸ்டு கட்சி தொழிலாளர், விவசாயி மக்களின் நன்மைக்கு உழைத்து வந்தது. இப்போது அவர்களுடைய போக்கு எங்களுக்கு பிடிக்கவில்லை. பலாத்காரத்தைத் தூண்டுகிறார்கள். பலாத்காரத்தின்மூலம் காரியங்களை சாதிக்கலாமென்று அவர்கள் கருதுகிறார்கள். இனி அவர்கள் கட்சியிலிருப்பது நியாயமில்லை யென்று வெளியேறுகிறோம். எப்படியாவது அதிகாரத்தைக் கைப்பற்றவேண்டுமென்றே அவர்கள் விரும்புகிறார்கள்,' என்று அவர்கள் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். இதிலிருந்து எந்தவித சந்தேகத்துக்குமிடமில்லாமல் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளைப்பற்றி நாம் நன்றாகத் தெரிந்துகொள்ளலாம்.

"சுதந்திரம் பறிபோகிறது என்பது உண்மையான புகாரா என்று நாம் யோசிக்க வேண்டும். சர்க்காரையும், காங்கிரசையும் பகிரங்கமாகக் கண்டித்

தும், விரோதமாகப் பிரசாரம் செய்வதையும் பார்த்து வருகிறோம். அதை யாரும் தடுக்கவில்லை. ஆனால் அதற்கு மாறுக அவ்விதம் செய்ய அவர் களுக்கு உரிமைகொடுத்திருக்கிறோம். தவிர இந்தச் சட்டத்தின் மூலமாக அந்த மாதிரியான உரிமை எதுவும் பாதிக்கப்படவில்லை. தங்களுடைய கொள்கையை சாதித்துக் கொள்வதற்காக கொலை செய்தல், கொள்ளை யடித்தல், தீ வைத்தல் போன்ற காரியங்களைச் செய்வதைத்தான் தடுக் கிறது. இம்மாதிரியான காரியங்களை எந்த சர்க்காரும் அனுமதிக்காது. இந்தச் சட்டத்தின் மூலம் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் பரப்பி வரும், கொள்ளை, கொலை, பலாத்காரம் மக்களிடையே பெருகாமல் தடுக்க நடவடிக்கை எடுத்தால், சுதந்திரத்தைப் பறிக்கிறார்கள் என்று ஆக்ஷேபிக்கப்படுகிறது. இவ்வித ஆக்ஷேபத்தில் எதாவது நியாயம் இருக்கிறதா? பலாத்காரத்தில் பாதிக்கப்படாமல் சுதந்திரத்தைக் காப்பற்றதான் இந்த அதிகாரத்தை எடுத்துக் கொள்ள சர்க்கார் விரும்புகின்றனர் என்பதை நாம் எல்லோரும் தெரிந்துகொள்ளவேண்டும்.

"சர்க்கார் இன்னும் கொஞ்சம் திறமையாக காரியங்களைச் செய்தால் நிலைமை இவ்வளவு மோசமாகப் போகாதென்று நினைக்கிறேன். கம்யூ னிஸ்டு கட்சியின் கொள்கையை நாம் ஒருவாறு அறிவோம். அவர்க ளுடைய காரியங்களையோ அறியமுடியாது. ஏனெனில் அவர்கள் வழி ரகசிய வழி. ஆகையால் சாதாரணமான முறையிலே அவர்கள் செய்யும் காரியங்களைக் கண்டுபிடிக்க முடியாது. சத்தியாக்கிரஹிகளை பிடிக்கின்ற மாதிரி அல்லது சட்ட பூர்வமாக நடக்கின்ற ஒவ்வொரு தகாத காரியங்களை நாம் அடக்குகின்ற மாதிரி இவர்களை,—இவர்கள் காரியங்களைக் கண்டு பிடித்து அடக்க முடியாது. ரகசியமாக நாம் உளவு அறிந்தாலொழிய மிகத் திறமையாக நாம் வேலை செய்தாலொழிய நாம் அவர்களைக் கண்டு பிடிக்க முடியாது."

5 p.m. MR. SPEAKER :—"உங்கள் பேச்சை தொடர்ந்து நாளை நடத்தலாம். இல்லாவிட்டால் இரண்டு நிமிஷத்தில் முடித்துக்கொண்டுவிடுகிறீர்களா?"

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN :—"இல்லை; இரண்டு நிமிஷத்தி லேயே முடித்துக்கொண்டுவிடுகிறேன்.

"நமது சர்க்கார் எவ்வளவோ பலம் பொருந்தியது, சக்தி வாய்ந்தது; எனினும் சர்க்காரின் நடவடிக்கைகளெல்லாம் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளுக்குத் தெரி ந்துவிடுகிறது. மந்திரிக்கு மட்டும் தெரிந்திருக்கக்கூடிய விஷயமென்று நினைக்கின்றவைகளும் அவர்களுக்குத் தெரிந்துவிடுகின்றது. போலீஸ் ஜீஜீக்கு மட்டும் தெரிந்திருக்கவேண்டிய தகவலும் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளுக்கு கிடைத்துவிடுகிறது. ஆனால் அவர்கள் செய்கின்ற காரியங்களெல்லாம் சர்க்காருக்குத் தெரிந்துகொள்ள முடியவில்லை. ஆகவே நாம் நன்கு தெரிந்து கொள்ளவேண்டும். அந்தக் கட்சி எவ்வளவு ரகசியமாகவும் கட்டுபாடாகவும் காரியங்களைச் செய்து வருகிறார்கள். ஆதலால் அவர்களுடைய காரியங்களை நாம் கண்டு பிடிக்க நம்முடைய மிகத் திறமையான ஒற்றர் களை வைக்காததால், ஒற்றர்கள் மூலம் நாம் நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கத் தவறியதால் இப்போது மேலும் அதிகாரம் எடுத்துக்கொள்ள அவசியம் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது.

"ரகசியப் போலீசாரில் வேலை செய்பவர்கள் சர்க்காரிடம் விஸ் வாசமுள்ளவர்களாகவும், தேச பக்தி யுள்ளவர்களாகவும் இருக்க வேண் டியது அவசியம். சுதந்திரப் போராட்ட காலத்திலே ஆயிரக் கணக்கான, லக்ஷக் கணக்கான நம் மக்கள் என்ன செய்தார்கள்? உயிரையும் தியாகம் செய்யத் தயாராய் இருந்தார்கள். செய்தார்கள்; அப்படிப்பட்ட தேச பக்தியும் இந்த ஆட்சிக்கு ராஜ விஸ்வாசமும், உடையவர்களை வைத் துக்கொண்டுதான் ஒற்றர் வேலையை நாம் செய்ய வேண்டும். அவர்களுக் குத் தகுந்த பயிற்சி கொடுத்து கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளை அல்லது அதைப்போன்ற பலாத்காரக் காரியங்களைச் செய்கின்றவர்களை நாம் கண்டுபிடிக்க வேண்டும், அப்படியில்லாமல் வெறும் போலீசாரை வைத்துக்கொண்டு யாரையும் நாம் கண்டுபிடிக்க முடியாது.

"போலீசாரும், நம் அரசாங்க ஊழியர்களும் உண்மையான ராஜ விஸ்வாசிகளாக இருக்க வேண்டும். அப்படியில்லாதவர்களுக்கு அரசாங்

கத்திலே இடமில்லாமல் செய்யவேண்டும். கோட்டைக்குள்ளேயே யிருந்து கோட்டைக்கு விரோதமாக வேலை செய்கிறவர்களாயிருந்தால் நாம் அவர் களை சிறிதும் விட்டுவைக்கக் கூடாது என்பதை தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளு கிறேன்.

"இன்னொன்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இதுவரைக்கும் நமக்குச் சில அதிகாரங்களிருந்தன. இன்னும் கூட சில அதிகாரங்களை எடுத்துக் கொள்ளுகிறோம். ஆனால் இருக்கின்ற அதிகாரத்தையே சரியாக உப யோகிக்காமல் இருந்து வருகிறோம். ஹை கோர்ட்டில் நடந்த பல கேசு களில் விடுதலை செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அதற்குக் காரணமும் கூறப் பட்டிருக்கிறது. பத்து வருஷத்துக்கு முன்னால் பலாத்காரம் செய்தார். அல்லது அந்தக் காரியம் செய்யத் தூண்டினார் என்பதற்காக இப்போது நாம் பிடித்து வைத்திருக்க முடியாது என்று தீர்ப்பு சொல்லப்பட்டது. இது மிகவும் சரியே. எந்த சுதந்திர ஹை கோர்ட்டும் அவ்வித அபிப் பிராயந்தான் கொடுக்கும். நம் போலீசார் மட்டும் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் அல் லது பலாத்காரத்தைத் தூண்டுகின்றவர்களின் பிரசாரம் அவ் வப்போது ரிகார்டு செய்திருந்தால் ஹை கோர்ட்டில் விடுதலை செய்ய மாட்டார்கள். ஒரு தீர்ப்பு வந்தது. 1932-ம் வருஷத்தில் ஒரு கொலைக் கேசில் சம்பந்தப்பட்டதாக ஒருவர் மீது குற்றம் இருந்தது. இதை வைத்துக்கொண்டு அவரை எப்படி சிறையில் வைக்க முடியும் என்று கேட்கப்பட்டிருந்தது. 1932-க்குப் பின்னும் அவர் எவ்வளவோ காரியங்களைச் செய்திருக்கிறார். அதையெல்லாம் போலீசார் சரியாக கவ னித்து ரிபோர்ட் செய்திருந்தால் ஹை கோர்ட்டில் விடுதலை கிடைத்திருக் காது. ஆகவே போலீசாருக்கு இருக்கக்கூடிய அதிகாரத்தை அவர்கள் நன்முக உபயோகப்படுத்திக்கொள்ளாவிட்டால் எவ்வளவு அதிகாரம் எடுத்துக் கொண்டாலும் போதவே போதாது. எவ்வளவோ அதிகாரங்கள் எடுத்துக் கொள்ளலாம். ஆனால் இன்னும் பலாத்காரத்தைப் பிரசாரம் செய்யும் தலைவர்கள் வெளியேதான் இருக்கிறார்கள். தலை மறைவாக இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகவே எவ்வளவு அதிகாரம் எடுத்துக் கொண்டாலும் அதை நாம் சரியான முறையில் உபயோகப் படுத்திக்கொள்ளாவிட்டால் மேலும் மேலும் அதிகாரம் வேண்டியிருக்கும். அது நல்லதல்ல. அதற்கு முடிவும் இல்லை.

"ஆகவே நான் இந்த வார்த்தைகளைச் சொல்லி, இந்தச் சட்டம் அவசியம் கொண்டுவரவேண்டுமென்று மந்திரி கூறி இருப்பதை நான் ஆதரிக்கிறேன்."

MR. SPEAKER :—"I adjourn the House to meet again at 11 a.m. to-morrow."

XII.—PAPERS PLACED ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

* 1. *Proposals for the Economic Development of Rayalu-seema.—Report by Sri P. V. Subba Rao, Development Commissioner.*

2. *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 308, Home, dated 29th July 1949, exempting diesel bus to which a trailer is attached from payment of tax under the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules and Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act.*

3. *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 1512, Home, dated 18th April 1949, exempting the motor car MSP. No. 9404 of the United Nations International Children Emergency Fund from payment of tax under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act.*

*** Despatched to members by post on 16th July 1949.**

4. *Notifications Nos.* 838 *and* 839 *issued with G.O. Ms. No.* 2567, *Home, dated* 24*th June* 1949, *regarding cancellation of certain notifications relating to extension of the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act to Sandur State.*

5. *Notifications Nos.* 844, 845, 846, 847 *and* 848 *issued with G.O. Ms. No.* 2574, *Home, dated* 24*th June* 1949, *regarding maximum rates of tax specified in Schedule II of the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, increased in respect of certain classes of vehicles, leviable with effect from* 1*st July* 1949.

6. *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No.* 2693, *Home, dated* 30*th June* 1949, *regarding time allowed for payment till* 31*st July* 1949 *in respect of tax on motor vehicles payable for the quarter, half-year or year commencing on* 1*st July* 1949.

7. *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No.* 3717, *Home, dated* 15*th September* 1949 *regarding exemption of certain lorries from payment of tax leviable under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act.*

8. *Notification appended to G.O. No.* 1698, *L.A., dated* 12*th August* 1949, *regarding the constitution of Gobichettipalayam* (*Coimbatore*) *Municipality.*

9. *The Madras Maintenance of Public Order* (*Removal of Doubts and Amendment*) *Ordinance,* 1949 (*Madras Ordinance I of* 1949).

10. *The Madras Acts* (*Removal of Doubts*) *Ordinance,* 1949 (*Madras Ordinance II of* 1949).

11. *The Madras Drugs* (*Control*) *Ordinance,* 1949 (*Madras Ordinance No. III of* 1949).

12. *The Madras Maintenance of Public Order Ordinance,* 1949 (*Madras Ordinance No. IV of* 1949).

13. *The Madras Buildings* (*Lease and Rent Control*) *Ordinance* 1949 (*Madras Ordinance No. V of* 1949).

14. *Notification appended to G.O. No.* 2290, *Home, dated* 18*th June* 1948, *regarding exemption from payment of tax of one motor car each used by Consul-General and two Vice-Consuls for the United States of America at Madras.*

15. *Notification appended to G.O. Ms. No.* 4511, *Home, dated* 7*th December* 1948, *regarding exemption of certain motor vehicles belonging to Central Government from payment of tax.*

16. *Notification appended to G.O. Ms. No.* 4638, *Home, dated* 16*th December* 1948, *regarding exemption of three buses of Messrs. Sri Rama Vilas Service, Limited, Madras, from payment of tax.*

17. *Notification appended to G.O. Ms. No.* 4741, *Home, dated* 27*th December* 1948, *regarding exemption of certain motor cars used by Deputy High Commissioner for the United Kingdom in Madras and officers of his staff from payment of tax.*

18. *The Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning* (*Temporary Powers*) *Ordinance,* 1949 (*Madras Ordinance No. VI of* 1949).

19. *The Madras Tenants and Ryots Protection Ordinance,* 1949 (*Madras Ordinance No. VII of* 1949).

20. *The Madras Preservation of Private Forests Ordinance,* 1949 (*Madras Ordinance No. VIII of* 1949).

21. *The Madras Prohibition* (*Amendment*) *Ordinance,* 1949 (*Madras Ordinance No. IX of* 1949).

APPENDEX I

[Vide item XI (1) at page 59 supra.]

To

THE HONOURABLE THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,
MADRAS.

The Select Committee appointed to consider the Madras Advertisements Tax Bill, 1949 (L.A. Bill No. 23 of 1949), has the honour to make the following report.

2. The Bill was published in English in an Extraordinary issue of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 6th June 1949.

3. The Select Committee was appointed on the 2nd July 1949.

4. The Select Committee met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 3 p.m. on the 6th October 1949 and decided to recommend to the House that the Bill be dropped.

The Committee reports accordingly.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
10*th October* 1949.

P. S. KUMARASWAMY RAJA,
Chairman.

APPENDIX II

[Vide item XI (2) at pages 60–61 supra.]

To

THE HONOURABLE THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,
MADRAS.

The Select Committee appointed to consider the Madras Construction of Buildings on Wet Lands (Prohibition) Bill, 1948 (L.A. Bill No. 22 of 1948), has the honour to make the following report.

2. The Bill was published in English in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 13th July 1948.

3. The Select Committee was appointed on the 20th August 1948.

4. The Select Committee met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 a.m. on the 24th August 1948 and again at 10-30 a.m. on the 2nd July 1949. At the second meeting the Select Committee accepted the recommendation of the Hon. the Minister for Revenue to drop the Bill.

The Committee reports accordingly.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
2nd July 1949.

KALA VENKATA RAO,
Chairman.

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday, the 8th November 1949.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. P. S. KUMARASWAMY RAJA MUKHAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Abolition of Firka Development Scheme.

a* 12 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Firka Development Scheme is going to be abolished?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"No."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Now that the Firka Development Scheme is going to stay, may I know how and in what way the people of the province have been benefited by this Firka Development Scheme?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is it a very large scheme and I am afraid whether it can be answered now?"

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Is it a fact, Sir, that the Firka Development Scheme is going to be extended to two more firkas in each district?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Yes Sir."

JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI:—"Are the Government at least satisfied that the scheme has been a success with reference to the money that has been spent on it so far?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"They are quite satisfied, Sir."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—"May I know whether the Government are fully satisfied with the economic possibilities of the scheme?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Yes, Sir."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"May I know the total cost of the Firka Development Scheme that has been working in this province so far, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"A separate question may be put, Sir."

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a* Question No. 12 was postponed on 7th November 1949.

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SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask whether it is not a fact that when the scheme was first started, it was the intention of the Government to extend it to one more firka every year, that it has been halted now and if so, when the Government propose to extend the scheme to the other firkas in the various districts? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" Orders have already been passed extending the scheme to two more firkas in each district."

SRI L. C. PAIS:—" Now that a Panchayats Act is going to be passed, may I know whether the Government still think it necessary to have this Firka Development Scheme? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" This scheme will help the Government to work the Panchayats Act very successfully."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that many Firka Development Officers and Village Development Officers have been given special training for making development as success in all the villages of their firkas? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" Yes, Sir."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Firka Development Scheme, so far as Visakhapatnam district is concerned, has been reported by the Collector to be making distinct progress? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" Yes, Sir."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that these firkas are chosen, one for each district, more to serve as models, since the area of the firka is much smaller when compared with the area of a district? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" The idea of choosing contiguous firkas is to see that the work is carried out more easily by one Firka Development Officer."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that the President of the Tamil Nad Congress Committee in a recent speech has remarked that the Firka Development Scheme is a colossal waste of public funds? If so, do the Government think of abandoning the scheme altogether? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" That is his opinion, Sir. I think he has changed his opinion. The Government, in obedience to the wishes of hundreds of villagers and the wishes of several hon. Members here, have extended the Firka Development Scheme to two more firkas in each district."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know how long the Hon. Minister proposes to keep this scheme in the experimental stage, and if any good has come out of the experiment, when does he propose to make it a province-wide reform? "

8th November 1949]

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" It all depends on the enthusiasm exhibited by hon. Members of this House and the co-operation extended by them."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" I am sorry, Sir, my question has not been understood. Hon. Members of this House have nothing whatsoever to do with the Firka Development Officers. May I ask, Sir, how long this experiment is going to last and whether the experiment has not reached a stage when the good work that is being done in the various firkas may be extended to all the firkas in the province? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" It is not an experiment. It is the policy of the Government. It is the only work of Gandhian pattern carried on by the Government which touches village life on many sides."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" Since the Hon. Minister took charge of this portfolio only a few months ago, may I know from him what his personal opinion is in regard to the Firka Development Scheme as a scheme—whether it can be worked successfully and whether it is worth while following it up, more especially in view of the opinion recently expressed by the President of the Tamil Nad Congress Committee? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, may I know whether, it is in order for an hon. Member to ask the personal opinion of an Hon. Minister? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" No. Only information can be asked for."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Information can be asked for and not opinions."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" After all, Sir, we business people, when we launch a big scheme involving lakhs and lakhs of rupees, we always make it a point to personally see if the thing is satisfactory or otherwise. If I were a Minister, I would tell the Cabinet that it is not worth while proceeding with the scheme if I thought that it was not satisfactory."

MR. SPEAKER:—" This is not a meeting of a Chamber of Commerce. (Laughter.) We are a legislature and the hon. Member should not ask for the personal opinion of any particular Minister."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" Is it not a fact that this Firka Development Scheme has come into existence to make the firkas self-supporting as far as food and raiment are concerned? Therefore may I know whether any of these firkas have proved a success in regard to these two items? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" The work has been very very successful. The practical results of the work cannot

be easily seen, unless hon. Members go and see what is being done in firkas like Tirumangalam and Ongole. Then they will be convinced of the enthusiasm exhibited by the villagers and the co-operation and help given by them to the Government officials."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"May I know whether the Government are now prepared to short-circuit the red-tape that is now hampering the quick progress of the Firka Development Scheme?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"I request the hon. Member to kindly come and discuss the matter with me."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister that the new firkas chosen will be contiguous to the existing ones, may I request him to take into confidence the M.L.As. of the district concerned in choosing these firkas?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Their opinion also will be taken into consideration, Sir."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"May I know when the proposed extension will take place, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"The Regional Firka Development Officer is compiling a list and as soon as it is done, the names of the firkas will be announced."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister that the existing Firka Development Officers will be entrusted with the work in two more firkas, may I know whether it is the intention of the Government to appoint at least some more Village Development Officers under these Firka Development Officers?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Certainly, Sir, that is already being done."

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—"Do not the Government think that it is mere duplication of work to appoint these Firka Development Officers and their various assistants to do the same work which is being done by the local health inspector, the revenue inspector, the minor irrigation overseer, the supervisor of the highways and so on and so forth?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Every officer has got to play his part for the development of the village and they are doing it. I do not see any reason why any officer should not take part in the Firka Development Scheme."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"If firka development is a policy and not an experiment, is there any definite plan spread over a number of years for the extension and completion of the scheme?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Yes, Sir."

JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that self-sufficiency of each firka was one of the objectives with which the scheme was started and may I know whether that objective has been achieved in any single firka so far?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"In several firkas the objective has been achieved."

JANAB K. M. SEETHI:—"Have the Government considered the point whether the work that is now entrusted to the Firka Development department cannot be more efficiently discharged by the other departments now existing without the huge expenditure that is incurred on the Firka Development department?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"No, Sir. It is a special work entrusted to persons who have been specially trained for it. If other department people are asked to work, it is only to help the specially trained people."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"If really firka development is such an important scheme as is stated to be, why is it that the portfolio is not held by the Premier or the Finance Minister or the Law Minister, but is generally held by a Junior Minister?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Dr. Gurubatham was not a younger Minister."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know what work is done in the Firka Development Scheme with reference to women?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"I have on more than one occasion appealed to women to go into the villages and do village uplift work. If women go and see really what work is being done there, they will be fully convinced."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—"Can the Hon. Minister give a categorical assurance that this Firka Development Scheme will be periodically and progressively extended to every district in the province?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"That question will be considered, Sir."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Is it not a fact that there is a Women's Welfare department in the province for looking after the interests of women; and so far as women are concerned, is not the Firka department a duplication of the Welfare department, the Health department, etc.? Will not the Government therefore exercise their discretion in view of economy and abolish this Firka department?" 11-15 a.m.

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"This is a work wherein the co-ordination and co-operation of all departments and of women are needed; the intention of the Government is to get the co-operation of all organizations, whether they belong to women or to men."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have allowed fifteen minutes for this question; I am now passing on to the next question."

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Recruitment of personal clerks (steno-typists).

* 16 *Q.*—SRI T. VISWANATHAM: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state whether personal clerks (steno-typists) to heads of departments are recruited directly or through the Madras Public Service Commission?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of the Hon. the Premier):—" Personal clerks to heads of departments, that is steno-typists in the Madras Ministerial Service, are recruited through the Madras Public Service Commissi ."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" How many of them are women typists? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I should like to have notice of the question."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I know if the heads of departments make use of the steno-typists for dictating their letters; unless the heads of departments dictate their correspondence to these people, there is no meaning in having the steno-typists attached to the heads of departments."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" That is their job. I am sure heads of departments will certainly dictate all their official correspondence to their steno-typists."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" Is it not a fact that letters are all written by the Superintendents, then verified by the Assistant Secretary; that in other words, they are being drafted by others and then approved? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Certain reports which will have to be submitted to the Government will have to be dictated to the steno-typists; and whatever has to come from the clerks and Superintendents must necessarily come from them."

Replacement of rickshaws pulled by human power.

* 17 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have advised the Madras Government about the desirability of replacing rickshaws pulled by human power; and

(*b*) if so, whether the above suggestion has been accepted and implemented and what steps have been taken so far in this connexion?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of the Hon. the Premier):—" (*a*) In June 1949, the Government of India, Ministry of Health, forwarded to this Government an extract from the Constituent Assembly's Proceedings relating to the question of abolition of hand-pulled rickshaws and asked for the comments of this Government on the possibility of gradually abolishing rickshaw-pulling and of providing alternative forms of cheap transport. But it has been the declared policy of this Government since 1947 to eliminate hand-pulled rickshaws gradually because they are a severe strain on the health of the puller and provide an undignified form of labour.

" (*b*) In pursuance of this Government's policy referred to in the answer to clause (*a*), the Madras Hackney Carriage Act, 1911, was amended in 1948 empowering the Commissioners appointed under the Act to limit the number of vehicles of any description to be registered annually, and to refuse altogether, to register vehicles of any particular description. Under this power the Commissioner of Police, Madras, has during the past two years reduced the number of rickshaws in Madras City from 6,000 to 4,250. Licences are refused to pullers who are weak, old or infirm and in the matter of registration, rickshaws with rubber tyres and steel wired wheels which are light and can easily be pulled are being given preference over the ordinary type of rickshaws. As regards the mufassal, however, it is proposed to take up the question of elimination of hand-pulled rickshaws after the relaxation of petrol rationing when other forms of transport may become cheaper. Other and cheaper forms of motorized transport are also being explored and encouraged."

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SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" In these days when the Government of India and the Government of Madras are thinking in terms of providing cheaper modes of transport, I should like to know what measures are being taken to provide work for these poor labourers who, knowing that this is not a dignified calling have taken to it because they have to make both ends meet. In the answer it is stated that as many as 1,750 labourers were thrown out of occupation. I want to know whether any alternative occupation has been provided for these workers? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The reduction of rickshaws in the City has been so gradual that they have been able to find work for themselves."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask if the Government have any proposal under consideration for the elimination of hand-pulled carts which exert greater strain on the heart of the persons engaged in pulling them and whether any restriction with regard to the weight that is pulled is laid or regulated in the licence under the Hackney Carriages Act? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" There is no such proposal before the Government now, but the weight of the articles carried in hand-pulled vehicles has been limited."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" Will the Government consider the desirability of abolishing the man-pulled rickshaws and in their place substitute tongas with the race-horses available here and employ the rickshaw-pullers as drivers? "

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I do not know whether the owners of the horses will be willing to allow the use of race-horses for this purpose of pulling carts on roads; but I may say there is no such proposal before the Government."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"May I ask the Hon. Law Minister as to what has happened to the advertisement in the Press that the Finance Minister had a joy ride in a motor rickshaw and gave an announcement to the Press that very soon Madras would be flooded with such rickshaws?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Nothing of course was expected to happen when the Finance Minister had a drive in the motor rickshaw except that it would encourage an increase in the number of such motor rickshaws."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Is it not a fact that the number of rickshaws have been reduced in the City by the action of the Commissioner of Police, but that they have become more common in the mufassal?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"This question of reduction of rickshaws in the mufassal has not been taken up; it will be considered after the relaxation of the petrol rationing and when other forms of conveyance become much easier."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"In view of the policy of the Government to prohibit rickshaws, may I ask them to fix a time-limit within which the rickshaws now running in the Province should completely go out?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The very idea is to see how the public react to the limitation of the number of rickshaws during these two years about a thousand has been reduced and there has not been much of public agitation against it. It must therefore be seen how the public react to the abolition of the rickshaws."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Will the Government consider that if there is any good reason for the abolition of rickshaws, it will *mutatis mutandis* apply with even greater force in the case of the hand-drawn carts?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"In answer to a question on the subject, the Minister for Health in the Central Assembly, the Hon. Shri Amrit Kaur replied that medical opinion was otherwise, that the health was not affected so far as the puller was concerned."

JANAB HAJI KOYAPPATHODY AHMAD KUTTY:—"Just now the Minister said that the rickshaw-pullers would be examined before being given licence. Which is the department and who are the persons who advise the Commissioner of Police?"

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I said that licences were refused to pullers who were found weak or infirm. I do not know what advice the Commissioner takes in this matter. So far as I know, the present Commissioner of Police in the City is not a doctor."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Is there any proposal to form a co-operative society for the encouragement of cycle rickshaws; cannot such rickshaws be encouraged on a co-operative basis?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"They can themselves form a co-operative society for the purpose and the Registrar of Co-operative Societies will render them all necessary help in the matter."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"May I know from the Government, since it is stated that the removal of the system of rickshaws is to be gradual, whether they have fixed any time-limit for its abolition?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"No, Sir; I have already said that the reaction of the public has to be noted and taken into consideration."

Opening of a Dental College.

* 18 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: **Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to open a Dental College in the Province?**

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The answer is in the negative, but a proposal to establish a separate dental department of the Medical College and General Hospital, Madras, is under consideration."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know what is the exact reason for not opening a dental college; is it financial difficulty or any technical difficulty?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"A dental college is different from the dental department of a hospital; the one is an educational institution, while the other is a treatment centre."

Attacks of and deaths by cholera in the Province in August 1949

* 19 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: **Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state the number of attacks and deaths that took place in the month of August 1949 from cholera in the whole of the Province?**

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"There were 2,881 attacks and 1,450 deaths from cholera in the Province in the month of August 1949 (up to the week ending 27th August 1949?"

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SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether the experts in cholera of the World Health Organization who were recently in Madras have made any suggestions for the control and treatment of cholera in this Province?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"They are busy organizing the investigation into the origin and method of the spread of cholera in this Province."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Knowing as I do a little of what cholera is in the Nellore municipality, may I know whether the Government are not convinced of the fact that most of the municipalities are cholera-ridden owing to the absence of a good drainage system?".

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"That is why the Government are engaged in an investigation of the methods of the spread of cholera."

Construction of a trunk road from Cape Comorin to Bombay.

* 20 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: **Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—**

(*a*) whether a proposal to construct a trunk road from Cape Comorin to Bombay was discussed with the Bombay Government; and

(*b*) if so, what the result of the discussion was?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"(*a*) & (*b*) Presumably the hon. Member refers to the proposal for the inclusion of the Cape Camorin-Bombay Road under National Highway. In May 1949, the Government of India stated that the Standing Committees of the Central Legislature had recommended the principle of making matched grants on a 50–50 basis for the development of this road. They also stated that they would refer to Bombay Government if they would meet the cost of the portion of the road in their Province on the same basis (i.e., 50 per cent liability) and would communicate a final reply. Their final communication, containing details of their discussions with the Bombay Government is still awaited."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Now that the Central Government have sent the proposal to this Government, have this Government accepted the proposal and are ready to grant the necessary amount?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Yes, Sir, for our part, we have accepted the proposal."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"May I know how many roads there are at present from Cape Camorin to places in the north?"

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I am unable to understand what the hon. Member means by asking how many roads there are. There is only one which is now the national highway."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"I mean to places like Calcutta, Nagpur, etc."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Calcutta is not on the Cape Camorin-Bombay road, Sir." (Laughter.)

Installing of a Radio station in Malabar.

* 21 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: **Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether this Government have informed the Central Government about the necessity of installing a Radio station at some place in Malabar, and if so, with what result?**

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Yes. In their eight-year plan, for the development of broadcasting service in this Province the Government of India have proposed among others, to establish a broadcasting station at Kozhikode with a transmitter of medium power (10 K.W. or more). One of the principal causes of delay is the need for erecting special buildings to house the transmitting equipment and studios. In order to minimise the delay, the Government of India propose within a short time to instal, in rented buildings, a pilot station with a transmitter of 1 K.W."

Augmentation of the financial resources of this Province.

22 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: **Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—**

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government of India are steadily encroaching upon our Provincial finance either by claiming a share in income or directing this Province to incur expenditure more and more on their behalf without contribution (viz., Tobacco, Motor, Highways and Petrol rationing); and

(*b*) if so, what are the proposals of this Government to augment our financial resources and to lessen our expenditure?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"(*a*) The answer is in the negative.

"(*b*) In view of the answer to clause (*a*) above, this does not arise."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that collections by way of the tobacco tax are made by the Government of India while they do not pay sufficient contribution out of that excise duty to the Government of Madras?" 11-30 a.m.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The hon. Member might remember that I announced to the House some time ago

that the Rs. 26 lakhs has been raised to Rs. 56 lakhs from the current year and I feel that we must be satisfied with that for the present."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" Might I ask, Sir, if the Government has advised the Central Government to impose the salt duty as it will have a very little effect upon the price of salt and will they claim a share of it for us? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" No, Sir. In view of the ruling of the President of the Constituent Assembly, I do not propose to recommend that thing to the Central Government."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" Is it not a fact that the expenditure is incurred by this Government for petrol rationing even though the duty is derived by the Central Government as ever before? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Even now the entire cost of petrol rationing is being borne by the Government of India. Recently at the Transport Ministers' Conference it was decided that hereafter it should be on a vehicle basis and not on the basis of the total expenditure incurred because the expenditure was varying from Province to Province; in some Provinces it was very high and in others it was very low and therefore, we have agreed that it should be on a vehicle basis, namely, Rs. 5 per vehicle."

Collection of Sales tax and Provincial Excise duties.

* 23 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether this Government are intending to hand over the collection of general Sales tax and Provincial Excise duties to the Government of India as a measure of economy and for the sake of uniformity?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" No."

Furnishing of the names of students that have taken part in acts of a political nature.

* 24 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government have instructed the Inspector-General of Police to furnish the names of those students who have taken part in acts of a political nature?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" No. In order to enable the heads of educational institutions to take disciplinary action under the Madras Educational Rules against students taking part in Communist activities, the Government have requested the Inspector-General of Police to instruct the Police Officers to furnish details of convictions, subversive activities, etc., of such students alone to the heads of institutions through the District Magistrates concerned."

SRI T. S. PATTABHIRAMAN:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that a number of students have been arrested in Annamalainagar for political reasons? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I am not aware that a number of students were arrested; to my knowledge only two have been arrested."

Wells subsidy scheme.

* 25 *Q.*—SRI N. GOVINDASWAMI NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are now recovering the amount paid as subsidy under the wells subsidy scheme from the persons who were not able to dig wells to a depth of 24 feet;

(*b*) whether there is any proposal before the Government to demonstrate the digging of wells to a depth of 24 feet, at places where it is not possible for the landholders to dig such wells; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that subsidies are refused to people if they happen to dig wells before the inspection of the site by the Deputy Tahsildar?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (*a*) A minimum depth for subsidy wells was prescribed for the first time in the scheme that was sanctioned for 1948-49. No recoveries have so far been made from ryots who took subsidy under this scheme.

" (*b*) No.

" (*c*) Yes; the rules require prior inspection and approval of the site by the Deputy Tahsildar."

SRI N. GOVINDASWAMI NAYUDU:—" தியவு செய்து ஆங்கிலத்தில் சொன்னதை தமிழில் சொல்லுமாறு கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" The hon. Member understands Telugu and therefore, I will give a Telugu translation.—

" (*a*) 1948-49వ సంవత్సరములో మొట్టమొదటగా బావుల లోతు కనీసము ఇంత ఫుండవలయునని నిర్ణయము చేయబడింది ఈ స్కీమునుండి ఇవ్వబడిన రైతులద్దనుంచి ఇంతవరకు వసూలు చేయబడలేదు

" (*b*) లేదు.

" (*c*) ఆళ్ళు స్కీము ప్రకారము బావులు ప్రత్యేపదేశములను డిప్యూటీ తహశీల్దారుగారు ముందుగా పరీక్ష చేస్తారు. "

SRI N. GOVINDASWAMI NAYUDU:—" அவருடைய தெலுங்கு எனக்குச் சரியாக விளங்கவில்லை. "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I request the Hon. Minister for Public Works to translate the answer."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" (*a*) 1948-49-ம் வருஷம் முதல் தடவையாக போடப்பட்ட திட்டப்படி கிணறுகள் வெட்டுவதற்கு குறைந்த பட்சம் இவ்வளவு ஆழம்தான் இருக்கவேண்டு

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மென்று நிர்ணயிக்கப்பட்டிருந்தது. ஆனால் அந்த திட்டப்படி உத்திரவு பெற்ற ரயத்துகளிடமிருந்து ஒன்றும் பணம் வசூலிக்கப் படவில்லை.

" (b) இல்லை.

" (c) ஆம். டிபுடி தாசில்தார் முதலிலேயே இடத்தைபார்வையிட்டு அங்கிகாரம் செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று விதி இருக்கிறது. "

SRI N. GOVINDASWAMI NAYUDU :—" கிணறு வெட்டப்பட வேண்டிய இடத்தை தாசில்தார் பார்க்காவிட்டாலும் ரெவின்யூ இன்ஸ்பெக்டர் பார்த்திருக்கும் போது பணத்தைக் கொடுக்க என் தகறுறு என்று கேட்கிறேன். "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I do not think it arises out of this question. It is a question which relates to the minimum depth of wells. However, I might inform the House that subsequent to this, we have examined the question of this condition not being imposed in certain cases if the Collector or the Special Officer for Wells is satisfied that there is adequate water to irrigate one acre of land. The minimum is not insisted upon in such cases and discretion has been left to the Collector or the Special Officer who is in charge of well subsidies."

SRI N. GOVINDASWAMI NAYUDU rose . . .

MR SPEAKER :—" இந்த question-ஐ வேறு கேள்வியாக அனுப்பி வையுங்கள். அதை நான் Admit பண்ணுகிறேன். "

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Government contemplate a withdrawal of the wells subsidy scheme and, if so, may I know the reasons? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Recently we have had a communication from the Government of India that these schemes are not going to be subsidized and so, the Government of Madras in pursuance of the communication of the Government of India, have instructed all Collectors not to disburse any amount by way of well subsidy in future."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" In view of the fact that the wells subsidy scheme has been very useful and many poor ryots have been benefited and it has also helped the Grow More Food drive, will the Government request the Government of India to help them to continue the scheme? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" After a due examination of their financial position, the Government of India have advised the various Provincial Governments about the various schemes for which they had been giving subsidies. They have continued to give the subsidy so far as the Grow More Food schemes are concerned but regarding the wells subsidy scheme, they have said that they are not prepared to give the fifty per cent subsidy which they used to give. But they have agreed to help the Provincial Government if a scheme for interest-free loans are put forward."

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JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" If the Government have found that the wells subsidy scheme has helped the promotion of production of food crops in the Province and they feel convinced that it is a very good method of encouraging agriculturists will the Madras Government bring to the notice of the Central Government that in the present food drive the wells subsidy scheme should not be dropped? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" No purpose will be served by that. The Government of India are very clear about it and they have issued definite instructions to all in the matter of what they can and cannot do."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" If the Government of India are not willing to give any money in this direction, will the Madras Government provide the moneys? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I do not think we can do so."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Is it not the duty of the Government to help the ryots to grow more by subsidizing well construction? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" The Government are fully aware of their duties; but, Sir, the public are also expected to have a sense of duty and contribute liberally by way of taxes."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Does the Hon. Minister contend that the taxation level in this Province is not sufficient? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Now that the expenditure has been so high, we were prepared to give 50 per cent, the other 50 was coming from the Government of India. It is difficult for us to bear the entire burden in the present financial position."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Are we to understand that considering the present financial condition, it is not sound to give these loans? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—It is not a question of soundness; it is a question of capacity to bear the burden."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know whether the Government of Madras is taking advantage of the advice tendered to them by the Government of India to send proposals for interest-free loans to carry on the wells subsidy scheme, in view of the importance of the scheme and the help it renders in the matter of food production? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" That question is being examined."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—" I see from the papers that Sri S. K. Patil, the Commissioner for Food, is coming to Madras on the 11th of this month. Will the Hon. Minister take the opportunity having regard to the concern expressed in this

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House regarding the continuance of the scheme, to impress upon him the necessity for the Government of India to re-consider their decision in the matter?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I do not think so. The gentleman who is coming here is not in charge of Finance but of Food. The point is that the Government of India from the Finance Department have told the Government of Madras to cut down about 6 crores as every one knows and it is necessary for us to adjust our expenditure according to the programme which they have indicated."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Inasmuch as the scheme has failed to achieve results commensurate with the funds involved, what is the object of the Government in going on spending to the programme which they have indicated."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I see it is a question of opinion. I find several hon. Members including the leader of the party to which the hon. Member belongs, holding opinions quite different from him. From the way questions have been put and the Government is being pressed to impress upon the Government of India the need for continuing this scheme, I thought the whole House had been convinced of the usefulness and utility of the scheme."

JANAB P. P. HASSAN KOYA:—"May I know, Sir, why because the Government of India refused to give their 50 per cent share of contribution, this Government also should abandon the scheme altogether. Cannot this Government continue to give what they were giving so that we could have at least half the number of wells?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The Government of India have agreed to the continuance of certain Grow More Food schemes and they have asked us to cut down certain particular schemes. The well subsidy scheme is one such and they have suggested that instead of their paying fifty per cent, they may consider the question of helping the grant of interest-free loans. For the other Grow More Food schemes the fifty-fifty basis continues."

JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI:—"Might I ask whether this applies to the repairs of tanks also?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"It does not apply to the repair of tanks."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Now that the Government have decided to abandon the scheme, may I know how they propose to implement the Grow More Food scheme in areas where there are no other sources of water-supply than wells?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I have already said that the question of giving interest-free loans is one of the things that will be considered."

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SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Are the Government aware that Collector after Collector has spoken well about the beneficial effects of the well subsidy scheme and if that is so, will they plead with and persuade the Government of India to revise their policy so as to continue that part of the subsidy which is now being borne by the Madras Government and giving the other part by way of interest-free loans?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"For this year we had sanctioned a crore and a half; about 94 lakhs or a crore has already been disbursed and this is not going to be affected. It will only affect the balance of amount sanctioned for the year."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I know whether the Government will consider the giving of a smaller sum, say, fifty per cent or twenty-five per cent that is being given by them now, to enable ryots to sink wells, or say, any amount which the Government can easily afford to spend in this behalf?" 11-45 a.m.

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"As I have already said we are considering the question of taking up of sinking of wells under an interest-free loan system."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Is it a fact, Sir, that loans that have already been sanctioned, even they, will not be granted? If so, will the Government revise the order and see that the loan is given in such cases, in view of the fact that most of the ryots, in anticipation of loans being given, have commenced work."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I have already said that it does not affect those subsidies that have already been sanctioned. It is only recently we have issued circulars to Collectors not to proceed with the scheme in view of the communication from the Government of India."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that there are large areas in this Province where only irrigation under wells is possible, and so, is it not desirable that such works should be encouraged not only in the interest of ryots but also in the interest of Grow More Food campaign; and so will he come out with a separate scheme for this?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I cannot give any assurance. If the hon. Member feels that large areas can be developed in that way and if he puts up such a scheme to Government, they will sympathetically examine."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"Sir, by the action of the Central Government, we are only losing fifty per cent of the subsidy. Why not, we spend the other half at least, limiting the number of wells sunk to half the present number in future years?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"That is a question that cannot be answered offhand by me here. It has to be examined by the Finance Department. I do not know what the overall picture is, and how it will affect the finance

of the Province by the recent communication of the Government of India telling us that their promised quota has been cut down."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know whether the conditions under the grant of interest-free loans are the same as the conditions under the present well subsidy scheme?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"That is a thing that is being examined."

Crop Insurance Scheme.

* 26 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: **Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government to introduce Crop Insurance Scheme in the Province?**

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"A scheme of Crop Insurance formulated by the Economic Adviser to the Government is under consideration. It is too soon to say whether it will be introduced by Government or not."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I kow how soon will this be made known?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Copies of the scheme have been sent to several landholders and others interested in the matter; and opinions are being received, and the Economic Adviser will redraft the scheme incorporating the suggestions that are received."

Amendments to the District Municipalities Act.

* 27 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: **Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—**

(*a*) whether the Government have appointed a Committee to suggest suitable amendments to the District Municipalities Act; and

(*b*) if so, what the recommendations or amendments suggested are?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"(*a*) & (*b*) No; the questions of appointing a committee is under consideration."

Relaxation of the rules for the enforcement of Prohibition.

* 28 *Q.*—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: **Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—**

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government intend to relax the rules in regard to the enforcement of Prohibition; and

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, what the rules are that are to be relaxed?

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"(*a*) No.

"(*b*) Does not arise."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know whether it is not a fact that in contravention of the assurance given on the floor of the House, the Government during last summer gave permits to use liquor to visitors to the Nilgiris who came from other provinces?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"Not all people that apply are given permits. Every application is considered on its merits and then alone a permit is given."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"The Hon. Minister has not caught my point. What happened last summer in Nilgiris was that a large number of visitors to the hill station were given permits to use liquor in contravention of the assurance given by the predecessor-in-office of the present Prohibition Minister (I mean by Dr. Gurubatham) on the floor of this House. May I know why it was done."

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"It is not everybody who applies that gets a permit. It is only in a very few cases that permits are given."

JANAB P. P. HASSAN KOYA:—"Sir, recently we found a Press Communique stating that it is not unlawful to be in possession of two ounces of brandy. May I know the principle involved in that communique."

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"Since Prohibition is introduced, a doctor can certify that there is need for use of liquor for health reasons for a particular person, and he can get two ounces without permit."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"The announcement that appeared in the newspapers said that everybody in the Presidency can stock at a time two ounces of brandy. Is that a fact, is there any basis for that?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"The announcement is concerning more of the sale of tinctures than of brandy."

SRI L. C. PAIS:—"Sir, since a large number of tappers has been thrown out of work due to Prohibition and since toddy is considered to possess considerable food value, will the Government consider the idea of excluding toddy from Prohibition scheme?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"No, Sir."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I know whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the fact that in this province certain tinctures are sold in large quantities, and that tincture aurunti and tincture zingeberis contain 90 per cent alcohol used by hundreds of people as substitutes for liquor and that the production of these tinctures has increased 300 per cent. **May I know whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to it, and if so, what do the Government propose to do in the matter?**"

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THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" That is exactly why the sale of these things is controlled now."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" Will the Government consider the desirability of making Prohibition offences as non-bailable? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" It will be considered. "

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know whether in the current financial year the number of permit-holders for liquor has been increased or has gone down? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" It has gone down in the case of Indians, and Europeans are getting it freely."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" The Hon. Minister's answer to a previous question was that sale of tinctures has been controlled. I am not aware of any such thing. But may I know what prevents the Government from bringing these tinctures under the Drugs Control Order which has been promulgated, because under the existing rules, sale of these tinctures has not been prohibited by any existing law? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVI REDDI:—" If the hon. Member is not aware of the recent order that shows he was evidently not using such things. The control is there all along and we want to enforce it without an ordinance."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Can the Hon. Minister tell us the number of cases that have come to the knowledge of the Government regarding illicit distillation in the City of Madras? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVI REDDI:—" The Government are aware of such a thing; and they are taking steps to prevent it."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" As the Province has been dry for the last two years, naturally ex-addicts would have adjusted themselves by now, and so will the Government tighten up the rules? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" Permits are issued to older people who had got used to drink, and regarding others they get on without drink and so there is no need to tighten the rules."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" May I know whether the Government are aware that cocaine is also used in the place of liquors, and so, will they control the sale of cocaine? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" There are so many things which are taken in the place of liquor. It is very difficult to control anything and everything."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I suggest that the Hon. Minister has been very good at his work and I have nothing to say against him." (Laughter.)

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I know whether the Government are aware that several branches of Indian Medical

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Association have sent in their unanimous resolution to the Government to promulgate more strict orders for the control and sale of zingeberis? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" Not only they, but so many individuals and associations have also represented similarly, and that is why we have controlled them."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" May I know how many M.L.As. have reported against the sale of tincture zingeberis? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" Notice. I do not remember how many of them; but I know several of them have reported."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" With reference to the announcement that orders have been issued with regard to the sale of tinctures, may I know when they were issued? The District Collector and the District Prohibition Officer in my place declared that they are awaiting orders in that behalf. "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" I do not know the exact date. Notice."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" Is it a fact that Prohibition offences are ever on the increase in the Province? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" No, Sir."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIAR:—" May I know what steps the Goverment have taken to prevent youngsters from the influence of illicit distilled arrack? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" We expect our non-official friends to prevent it, as the Government efforts alone cannot do much."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask whether the Government have got any information with regard to the quantity of tincture of ginger and tincture of orange sold in the market to-day, the sale of which has gone up by leaps and bounds? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" I have no statistics with me now. If the hon. Member wants it, I shall get it later."

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—" Since restriction on sale of zingeberis and tincture aurunti is a great handicap to allopathic practitioners, may I request Government to relax the rule and allow the sale of a pound of these tinctures to the private practitioner."

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" If they make a representation, it will be considered. "

JANAB MAHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI:—" In view of the advice given in this matter by the Prime Minister (laughter), will the Government consider the desirability of relaxing further the provisions of this measure? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" The existing rules will continue; no further relaxation will the Government consider."

JANAB K. M. AHMAD KUTTY:—" Sir, there is a strong rumour that the French territories in India, especially in Mahe in Malabar, are going to dump foreign liquors. Will this Government take this matter to the notice of the Central Government and ask them not to allow this in the interests of Prohibition?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" I have not followed the question."

JANAB K. M. AHMAD KUTTY:—" There is a strong rumour that the French territories in India, especially in Mahe in Malabar are going to dump foreign liquor, and especially now as there is some trouble going on there, people are going over to Mahe to get drunk. So, will this Government take this matter to the notice of the Central Government and see that it does not take place?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" We have brought this matter early to the notice of the Government of India and the Customs officials are co-operating with us in the matter. Over and above that, we cannot prohibit French people from bringing liquor into their territory."

Misuse of iron and steel permits.

12 noon. * 29 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any cases where permits for iron and steel were misused have come to the notice of the Government; and

(*b*) if so, what the number of such cases is and whether any and, if so, what action has been taken against the offenders?

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—" (*a*) Yes.

"(*b*) Nineteen cases have so far been detected of which the accused in one case has been fined Rs. 1,000 and the remaining cases are either under investigation or trial."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister to consider the advisability of insisting on the manufacturers of agricultural implements to submit accounts to the Collector and sell the implements to permit-holders who will be *bona fide* agriculturists?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—" It will be considered."

Increase of rice ration.

* 30 *Q.*—SRI N. GOVINDASWAMI NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state whether there is any proposal before the Government to increase the rice ration to 12 ounces from 8 ounces?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" No."

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

II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* FAILURE TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member, Janab P. K. Moideen Kutty, has given notice of the following adjournment motion:—

'*That the business of the House do stand adjourned to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz., the failure of the Government in implementing their promise to introduce legislation amending the Malabar Tenancy Act.*'

I must inform the House that hon. Members should not take advantage of the adjournment motion to force the Government to bring in legislation. Such motions have been ruled out of order not only in the Central Assembly but also in the House of Commons. In this connexion, I wish to quote a ruling given by the Speaker of the House of Commons which, I think, will benefit the House. The quotation is from the report of the Parliamentary Debates, 1918, Volume 108, July 8th–July 26th, at page 1339.

'I have been looking further into the question, and have come to the conclusion that I could not accept a motion to move the Adjournment of the House in order to call attention to the fact that the Government have not produced a particular Bill in which it is possible that group of forty Members or more might be interested because, if I were to do so, it would open a door which might be pushed at by any group of forty Members on almost any day in the Session, and if any group of Members desired to raise a particular topic in which they were interested, all they would have to do would be to move the adjournment of the House in order to discuss that particular topic. I am sure that the rules was never meant to apply in that way.'

If any Member desires to bring to the notice of the Government that they should bring in a particular Bill, he should not take advantage of rule 36 and seek an adjournment of the House in that way."

JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY:—" I just want to make a submission. The Hon. Speaker said that no Member could move an adjournment motion to force the Government to bring in a particular legislation. There is a very important distinction between my motion and the motion of the kind on which the Chair has given a ruling. My motion refers to the failure of the Government to implement their promise to bring in a particular legislation. It does not force the Government to do anything. In fact, the Government are determined to introduce this piece of legislation. They have been promising on the floor of this House many a time and the promise is there. My point is that the Government have been breaking that promise."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" I believe that sometimes adjournment motions are intended to serve as censure motions against the Government."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" Adjournment motions are always in the nature of censure motions. That is not my ruling only. That is the ruling given in several other legislatures as well."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" That has not been the case always in this House. Adjournment motions have been tabled even by the members of the party in power. I beg to differ on that question. Anyway, I want to submit that the object of the motion that my hon. Friend has tabled is certainly to censure the Government for failing to fulfil their promise. If that is the object, I do not know whether it is proper to rule it out of order. Ruling it out of order would mean that it would be impossible for any member of the Opposition to move a censure motion against the Government at all."

MR. SPEAKER:—" As I have already said, an hon. Member should not take advantage of the rule for moving adjournment motions to force the Government to bring in any legislation. There are other methods by which he can censure the Government for not bringing in a particular legislation. He can do so by moving a cut motion during the Budget session or by moving a resolution. This motion is clearly out of order and therefore I rule it out of order."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Is there going to be a non-official day on Thursday, the 10th November? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" If I do not move a motion for the transaction of official business on that day, it will be a non-official day."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" I am only asking the Leader of the House whether he will not come up before the House with such a motion."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" It all depends on the progress we make. I think we will do well to take up official business on that day."

III.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

THE MADRAS MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ORDER BILL, 1949—*cont.*

* SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion moved by my hon. Friend, the Minister for Law. This Bill, which is a reproduction of the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Act, 1947, gives an indication of the necessity for continuing that Act. The pamphlet that has been circulated to the Members of this House clearly narrates the great atrocities that are being perpetrated and the lawlessness that is obtaining in some parts of this Province to-day. No civilized and sane Government can tolerate the evil deeds that are being committed in this Province just now."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" I see that a number of Members want to take part in the debate. So I fix a time-limit of fifteen minutes for each speaker. "

* SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—" Yesterday my hon. Friend, Sri A. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, brought to the notice of the Government the helplessness of some classes of people who are suffering under the Maintenance of Public Order Act, 1947, and the Ordinance that was promulgated in 1949. He made special mention of middle-class people, the salaried people, and also the landless agriculturists. With reference to the landless agriculturists, I must bring to the notice of the Government that this law has played great havoc on the landless Harijans. For many years since the war, lands were leased to landless labourers. The great difficulties felt by the landless Harijans and labourers were brought to the notice of the Government. I am glad that they went into the whole matter and regularized the assignments and also issued an order. We are grateful to them for that. But still there is discontent. This Government have got the proud record of passing social ameliorative measures for the uplift of Harijans. Some of the Caste-Hindus feel that these measures for Harijan uplift are not in the right direction, and here and there they have been trying to oppress the Harijans. Recently, the Government of India announced that all lands that are available and fit for cultivation including tank-beds should be brought under cultivation. My hon. Friend, Sri Kakkan, went round the Tiruchirappalli district and preached that all available lands must be brought under the plough. About one thousand Harijans of Peruvannanallur, a place very near Lalgudi, joined together and ploughed fifty acres of land for eight days for bringing them under cultivation. They have actually cultivated five acres. Some Caste-Hindus grew wild at the aspiration of the Harijans, began to harass them, and I think the Government have been approached. Though these Harijans have applied to the Government that these lands must be granted to them on lease, the Second-class Magistrate, Lalgudi, has promulgated an order that those Harijans should not cultivate the lands and that one Singara Mooppanar, the man who took keen interest to bring as much land as possible under cultivation under the Grow More Food Campaign, should not enter several villages in the district. Therefore, Sir, these Harijans who really wanted to help the Government in their Grow More Food Campaign were unnecessarily harassed in this manner by some of the Caste-Hindus and also by some of the subordinate officials of the Public Works Department as well. No civilized Government, which has any sympathy towards the uplift of Harijans could tolerate such things to happen. This matter was brought to the notice of the Hon. Minister for Public Works and it was explained to him how ungenerous had been the attitude of some of the subordinate officials of the Public Works Department towards these Harijans. Instead of allowing the five acres of paddy crop to come up and be harvested, the Public Works Department staff shut out the sluices and flooded the whole area. I myself had been to the very spot in

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order in inspect and to bring to the notice of the Government the great injustice done to these landless Harijans who wanted to cultivate the land and thereby help the Government in their Grow More Food Campaign. I saw with my own eyes, how the members of the Public Works Department had obstructed the flow of water, which would have otherwise gone down through the channel, by shutting out the sluices, thereby allowing the water to flood the crop. Not only that, Sir, but when I went to the Harijan hamlet to enquire and ascertain for myself whether the complaints made by certain Harijans were true, there came a reserve police constable telling me that I was under arrest because I had defied the prohibitory order under section 144 that had been promulgated. Therefore, Sir, the Harijans who wanted to cultivate the foreshore of the tank had not only been obstructed, but also a reserve police contingent had been stationed there so as to keep them under great alarm. When I went and spoke to those people, I was told that I should not make a speech, though I did not go there to make a speech or to convene a meeting, but simply to passify those who were alarmed at the things that had taken place. I was detained for nearly five hours and I had to send a telegram to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras and also to the District Magistrate of Tiruchirappalli, stating how I had been detained there without any reason. These things have created a sort of panic in the minds of the Harijans. Due to the great increase in the price of the various commodities that are required for human living, these poor Harijans wanted to cultivate their own requirements of paddy on the tank bund, but the authorities under the guise of various laws prevented them from doing so and I therefore want to plead before the Government that in the promulgation of such Ordinance, the Government should deal with such cases in a sympathetic manner and not prevent them from raising their crop under the guise of law. On account of the various social enactments which have been passed by this House, the Harijans have taken advantage of entering the temples, and of making use of public wells and tanks and roads, and because they do all these things, they are classed as communists and in some places they are harassed for such things. I know that some of the Caste-Hindus have taken upon themselves to dub the Harijans as communists because they are taking advantage of the social reforms, and place all sorts of inconveniences and troubles in their way. I am sure, Sir, that the Hon. Minister for Law will see that these people who are loyal and innocent and who are out to help the Government in their Grow More Food Campaign are not, in future, harassed like that. With these few words, I support the motion." (At this stage, Madam Deputy Speaker occupied the Chair.)

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Madam Deputy Speaker, after all, circumstances have now forced the Hon. Law Minister to come before this House again to get this Bill through. My first charge against the Hon. Law Minister is this. It was quite possible and it would have been the proper and right course

for the Hon. Law Minister and the Hon. Premier to have convened a meeting of this Assembly in the month of August and placed this Bill before this House for being passed, rather than resorting to the promulgation of an Ordinance, which has been the policy of the Madras Government right through from the beginning of the present Ministry.

"Coming to the subject proper, may I bring to your kind notice, Madam, that in the month of August 1948, when the amending Bill came up before this House, Member after Member, and particularly the members of my party pressed on the Hon. Law Minister saying that it was not the Government or the Executive that has got the power and the right to extend this Act, but that it was the Legislative Assembly that has that right, and the power to do so. But then the Hon. Law Minister, with the vast majority which the Government command, passed the amending Bill as such, because he was of the view that the Executive has been vested with such powers and that he need have no regard for this Assembly. But, thank God, the matter was taken before the High Court, which is the highest body in matters relating to law in this Province, and they have said that the Law Minister or the Executive has no powers to extend the Act and that the Act should go before the Legislature for being extended. Madam Deputy Speaker, I ask, are the Government so bereft of legal advisers under them to advise on this matter? Have they no legal advisers to say, 'You have no power and you have no jurisdiction to extend this Act. It is the Assembly which has such jurisdiction and such powers.' I want to know through you, Madam Deputy Speaker, what was the advice tendered to the Hon. Law Minister by the Legal Department and by the Advocate-General. The Advocate-General is expected to give proper and correct legal advice to the Government. Have they given such advice? Therefore the matter was taken before the High Court and there it is that Justice Basheer Ahmed and Justice Govinda Menon have held that the Government had no right to extend it and that the Act should go through the Assembly again. I therefore feel, Madam, that the Government of Madras should take an early decision whether the Legal Department who have given such wrong legal advice in the matter, should be continued and why they should not be abolished.

"Madam Deputy Speaker, I know that this Bill is a mere reproduction of the various Ordinances and Acts passed by the Government during the last three years. I know that with the best of intentions and with best of motives, it will not be possible for us to change anything in this Bill. But, even taking it for granted that it is not a very rigorous measure, my submission to the Hon. Law Minister is this. Let him take stock of how this Act has been worked during the last two years during which it was in force. We know that the Government had taken wide powers under this Act and have been exercising all the powers

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they had taken, during all these years. Now, in the course of the last 12 months, that is from August 1948 to August 1949, we have been seeing in daily papers petitions after petitions under Habeas-Corpus having been moved before various Judges of the Madras High Court, and detenus after detenus ordered to be released, because there were defects in the way in which they have been arrested and detained. At the time when this measure was discussed in this House, the Hon. Mr. Prakasam, who was then in charge of that Bill and the present Hon. Minister for Law, Mr. Madhava Menon gave an assurance to the House that this Act would be worked according to the spirit and letter of the law, but its actual working has revealed that those principles had been sadly violated and the Act was observed more in its breach than in the strict observance of its provisions. We know that thousands of people have been arrested and put under detention under this Act. Possibly some of these people might have been really guilty, but God only knows, how many innocent persons have also been clapped in jails. It is really a very bad thing to harass persons, and put them under detention, when they are not charge-sheeted before a competent judicial authority. As far as I know in the Madras Province, Madam, it is a very easy thing in these days to get rid of your opponent or your enemy by simply going to the nearest police station and saying that such and such a man is a communist. The next day he will be arrested and locked up in prison. How long is this state of affairs to continue? That is my simple question to the Hon. Minister for Law.

"Madam Deputy Speaker, I quite understand the anxiety of the Government in trying to suppress the communists movement in this Province. In that respect, the members of this House are one with the Government. But my submission is, that very many innocent persons have been clapped in jails under that pretext. Under the same pretext, people expressing views against the Government, and people who do not belong to the Congress party but are opposed to it are simply dubbed as communists and put in jails. The Congress party thinks that it is the Government. I must submit, Madam, that the Congress party is only a political party and it can never become the State. But the present Hon. Minister for Law has taken the Congress party to be the Government itself and anything said against the Congress party, is taken by him to be against the Government and so he claps such people who are opposed to the Congress party into the jail. The only remedy for such people who have been detained is to go to the High Court for placing their case.

"Now, Madam, I am surprised that the Hon. Minister for Law has thought fit to introduce in this Bill, Clause 4-A which states that—

'No order of detention made in respect of any person in pursuance of any of the foregoing provisions shall be deemed to be invalid or unlawful or improper on the ground of any defect, vagueness or insufficiency or any delay, in any communication made to such person under this Act.'

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"Madam Deputy Speaker, we have repeatedly brought before the notice of the Hon. Minister many cases of persons, who have been simply arrested and detained without trial, and when the charge-sheet was shown to them, it contained nothing more than the accusation that they belonged to the Communist party. And even this so-called charge-sheet is given to them after a lapse six months and one year. Madam, there is an Advisory Committee which is supposd to advise the Government in all these matters, but we do not know what advice they have given and how many persons were released on account of their advice. As far as the reports in the Press have appeared about their activities, these Advisory Committees have seldom met and even if they had met, they seldom gave any advice, and even if they give any advice, seldom does the Hon. Minister for Law seem to have acted on that advice. That is the state of affairs, so far as the Advisory Committees are concerned. Therefore it is that cases have been taken before the High Court and the High Court Judges all honour to them when they find so many defects and drawbacks in such arrests and detention, order the release of such persons, and it is only then that these unfortunate and innocent persons get themselves released. Now it is stated in the new Clause 4-A that the orders of detention issued by the subordinate officials of the police department should not be called into question merely on the ground of any defect in procedure, or vagueness or insufficiency or delay in any communications made to such persons under this Act. This is too wide a power to be placed in the hands of the subordinate officials of the police department. If it is the Hon. Minister for Law himself who is to issue orders in each case, then perhaps the provisions of this clause would be enforced in the spirit of the law, but that is not the case. It is the subordinate officials of the police department who are administering this law and therefore it is most unsafe and dangerous to entrust such wide powers to enable them to do whatever they like against persons whom they do not like. I do not know how members of this House will agree to the inclusion of this Clause 4-A in this Bill.

"Again, Madam, what are the reasons given by the Hon. Minister for the inclusion of this clause in the Bill? He has given only a few instances in support of his contention. He cited one case in Malabar and one in Visakhapatnam. In a vast province like Madras, with its huge population and with thousands of persons clapped in jails, the Hon. Minister for Law has given only a few instances of atrocities committed by the communists here and there, and for that purpose he wants all these wide powers under this Bill.

"In this connexion, Madam, let me remind hon. Members of this House that on a previous debate in this House about the communist menace in this Province, this very Hon. Minister said, 'You are simply exaggerating the activities of the communists.

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You are giving unnecessary prominence to the communists. They are only a handful of people and they cannot wag their tails and we will deal with them in a moment.' Madam, this is exactly the gist of what he said on that occasion. I am sorry, Madam, I have not got the official report of the proceedings in my hand just now, else I would have quoted the exact words he has spoken and the great confidence which he has expressed on that occasion. He told us that the country was peaceful, that everything was going on well and that the Government were administering the Public Safety Act with all sympathy and in the spirit in which it was enacted. But, just three or four months afterwards, he now comes before the House and says. 'The situation has gone worse, the communist menace is growing and the Government cannot carry on their administration without enacting this Bill, and so they now want still wider powers to suppress the communist movement.'

"Madam Deputy Speaker, let me not be misunderstood that I have got any sympathy towards the Communist party. In fact, for the matter of that, no member of my party has any sympathy towards that party. No one could have any sympathy with the sort of violence and atrocities perpetrated by the communists in the province. But my only submission is that in the name and on the pretext of suppressing the communist movement, you are putting thousands of innocent people in jails. You are making innocent people suffer, because of the atrocities of a few handful of communists. But the Hon. Minister for Law would not hear our words and would go on saying, 'I will go on doing whatever I please. There may be defects here and there in the administration of the Act; there may be some delays here and there; sometimes the charges may be vague. But all these defects are only common and therefore please accept this new Clause 4-A and give your support to this Bill.' You should have that sort of self confi-
12-30 p.m. dence. You should send for the officials and ask them how is it that there are so many discrepancies and defects in the Act. The Law Minister does not want to do that. He thinks that by bringing in the new Clause 4-A he can do anything and the High Court cannot interfere. I do not know how this House will give that power to the Hon. Minister. The other day I was listening to the speech of the Hon. Minister very carefully. This morning also I read his speech in the papers. I find that he has not got a good and strong case for this Act. If he is asked 'why have you given the power to the executive instead of leaving it in the Assembly,' his argument is 'the Central Government did that and the Bombay Government has done that'. Instead of taking the blame or the credit for the Act, he says 'they have done it and so I have also done it'. He threw a charge-sheet against the communists on the floor of the House. We have got a thousand and one charges. But I want to know whether there is no one in this Assembly or outside who can bring charges against the Government. What about the atrocities of the Government? Have you used the minimum violence which is necessary? In the name

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of communists, havoc has been caused. The other day, the hon. Member Mr. Kurmayya (a former Minister) came to the Government complaining how people were treated in his village. In Malabar the situation is already under control. The Malabar Special Police have done havoc there. Anybody could be arrested. The Malabar Special Police is let loose there. The reason given is that the communists are responsible for this. I say it is time that somebody outside this House brings a charge-sheet against this Government. I am sure that thousand and one charges can be levelled against Government. I really feel sorry that there has been trouble in the Cuddalore Jail and elsewhere. The Government are giving only their version of the situation. But what about their violence? The Hon. Minister has seen it fit to say 'the communists have passed a sentence on me and I will be done to death'. Thereby the Minister thought that he would become a hero in the whole of the Province, and that he is the only man carrying on the administration of the Province. This sort of cheap publicity is not going to help you to see where the trouble is. When you find people are resorting to violence, you have also resorted to violence. We see from the non-official reports that Government have resorted to violence. Those people have been made to suffer. When the communists went on hunger-strike—they only followed you; it has passed from you to them—did you care to understand their difficulties? Possibly they may be on the wrong side but all the same they are human beings, and they deserve better treatment. This is what you have been complaining to the British Government when they were here. If such a Bill as this had come at the time of the Advisers' regime or the previous regime, these very people who are now sitting very comfortably here would have cried hoarse against it. They would have cried from house-tops. But to-day they take things very easily, and have brought this Bill before this Assembly. When the communists resorted to hunger-strike, did these Ministers go to them and try to understand what their difficulties were? Nobody did that. They say: 'Communists are resorting to hunger-strike; let them die; what do we care.' That is the attitude of the Ministers. Yesterday my hon. Friend, Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, has been expatiating very nicely on the real causes for the development of the communist menace in his district. I do not want now to dilate on that. I say that if only our Ministers have taken into their head that their first concern and duty is to do work for the good of the Province, conditions would have been better. I feel only very few do that in that spirit. They do not care to know how people are suffering. Yesterday Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar gave a catalogue of articles, the prices of which have risen by 300 to 400 per cent. The Ministers are all touring so much that they have now become touring Ministers. In the press we see a news item saying 'Mr. Madhava Menon arrived at Coimbatore this morning, and left for Malabar the same evening', and 'Mr. Gopala Reddi came to Nellore and left for Tenali'. You have not been made Ministers simply to tour and have a sort of

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joy ride. We have made you Ministers to do something responsible to the people. What is it that you have done in your tours? As Mr. Salam once said, in your tours you opened some school or closed a hostel, or presided over a music party. Are our Ministers to go for these petty things which can be entrusted to others? Even M.L.As. cannot undertake these small things. A Minister goes from Madras to Mangalore or Visakhapatnam. What for? Is it to participate in a small function or attend the marriage of a relation of his? Ministers are not intended for all this. It is their duty to go to the district, study the problems on the spot, meet the officials and non-officials and discuss with them how to help the people, and then come back to Madras to formulate their policy. But we find that that is not the case. The general impression is that hon. Members adorning the Treasury Benches do not care to know what is happening in the Province, and that they only want to tour. I feel that it is their duty to understand the difficulties of people and their problems.

" Coming to the Bill proper, I say that in the course of the fourteen months or so since we had these amending Acts, these Acts had not been worked properly by the Minister either because he is overburdened with more portfolios or for other reasons. I wish to say on an occasion like this that the portfolio of law and jails is very important, and there should be a separate Minister for it, so that he may try to go into all the cases. This much I should say to the credit of the Hon. Law Minister that he tries to understand the other's point of view. At a time when hundreds of Muslims were arrested, I had been to him, and he has really done something. He found out that most of the people who have been arrested were innocent. Similarly there may be a good number of innocent people who have been arrested under this Act. There may be persons who have been misled. Therefore, when you take much wide powers under this Bill, it should be your duty to see that you work it properly. Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar and Mr. Varadachari said that it is the Sub-Inspectors who will have to administer the Act. It is possible that if the Sub-Inspector does not get his mamool from the persons concerned, they are put in jail the next day under the provisions of this Bill. Like this so many cases could be brought to the notice of the Government. Therefore, the Government would do well to see that the Act is worked properly and in the proper spirit.

' Then the Hon. Minister has stated—I have referred to it in the earlier part of my speech—that the situation is completely under control, except for one or two incidents. If so, I ask where is the necessity for this Bill at all. Either you say that you have control over the situation, and that the people are following you, or that your policy has failed and the communists are there to exploit. You say that the situation is under control except for one or two incidents. You cannot contradict yourself. You cannot expolit the situation to get more powers. In this connexion I wish to say that I am grateful to the Hon. Minister for this small

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mercy to allow people to go on parole for a few days. Last year when this matter came before this Assembly, we all tried our best to see that the Bill was referred to a Select Committee, because in a House like this where hardly 10 minutes are given to members to speak, we could not discuss all the clauses threadbare, and also we could not have an idea as to how the various clauses would work. We really appealed to the Law Minister and to the Leader of the House to refer the Bill to a Select Committee, but they expressed their inability to do so, because there was no time, and they had to pass the Bill in two days. Now that the Assembly had met only yesterday, and the Ordinance could remain in force for some time more, I feel that it would be in the fitness of things that this Bill is referred to a Select Committee of this House so that we may sit with the Law Minister, and he may give us an idea as to the number of people in detention, how many cases have been submitted to the Advisory Committee, what the advice of the Advisory Committee is, and how many have been released. I am entirely at one with the Law Minister to see that law and order is maintained in this Province. But at the the same time it is our duty to see that people are not unnecessarily arrested and put to a good lot of trouble. I have already given notice of an amendment to refer this Bill to a Select Committee of this House, and I move—

' That the Bill be referred to a Select Committee '. "

JANAB ABDUL KADER JAMALI:—" I second the amendment."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—" Amendment moved—

' That the Bill be referred to a Select Committee.'

The original motion and the amendment are before the House for discussion."

* SRI K. VARADACHARI:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, I rise to support the motion before the House. In doing so, I am obliged to say something about the background for a legislation of this kind. It is well known that disorder is becoming rampant in almost all sections of the society. There is indiscipline on the one hand and disorder on the other. Some of these disorders have taken insidious and underground shapes which require special treatment. Otherwise Government will be at a standstill and prevention of disorder would become impossible. The best interests of society require at the present moment that we should take all those measures that are necessary to maintain law and order during a period of economic and social distress. Therefore it behoves hon. Members of this House to support wholeheartedly the measures which go to strengthen the hands of the Government in maintaining law and order in the Province. Having said this, I will have to echo the sentiments of almost all the speakers who have spoken on this motion that we will have to remove the causes which give rise to situations necessitating the Government to arm themselves with such vast powers. No doubt we have come to a position which requires vast powers. But it is all the more necessary to see that

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these powers do not become necessary, and that we create conditions everywnere in all aspects of our life that will remove those conditions which make disorder a natural phenomenon at a time like
12-45 p.m. this. For instance, let us take the food problem and the cloth problem. The way in which our Governments are looking at the whole thing of allowing prices of foodstuffs to drift for themselves has resulted in the necessaries of life being made more and more costly day by day and the poor man who forms the biggest percentage in this country finds it difficult to get on without doing sometning unnatural to maintain himself. (An hon. Member: Unnatural!) Yes, something abnormal, I would put it. If we are to characterize every abnormal activity as a breach of law and order, there will be no end for mal-administration of measures of this kind so that the fundamental thing that we have to do is to look at the major problem; maintenance of law and order, in this context, becomes a minor problem. When we consider that, we have to remove the causes for the disorder that prevails. Only if the Government take courage in both their hands and say that the prices of articles of food and clothing should be cut down to a reasonable level enabling the common man to get his necessaries of life easily and make every section of society feel contented, they can say that they have done these things side by side and yet there is disorder and they want more powers. Then alone we can justify legislation of this kind. Otherwise, we will get unpopular if we are not unpopular already. In a period when economic distress is the major problem, whether the common man likes a Government or dislikes it, will be apparent only when the whole thing comes to a head and not when underground activity or insidious activity is still going on which shows perhaps a spirit of tolerance of the popular Government and its measures because they are still waiting to see whether our popular Governments who are after all doing their work honestly and *bona fide* would be able to tackle these problems successfully. I, therefore, say 'Don't wait till the crisis is reached; take courage in your hands and see that these causes are removed.' There is no use saying 'The Central Government or Central legislation or Central arrangement is making it impossible for us to deal with this matter ourselves exclusively and, therefore, we have to wait and depend upon some other authority.' If necessary, our Provincial Government should be able to compel the Central Government to come into line with our objects here to see that these causes are removed. A lot of unnecessary support is given to the manufacturers, to the mill-owners and the capitalists. For instance, when the Provincial Governments are asked to reduce prices of foodgrains by at least 10 per cent, or perhaps when the Central Government say that they are given the freedom up to 10 per cent, the Madras Government says that they will cut the prices by only 3 per cent. What is the use of this? The Government must be able to cut down the prices to the desired extent. No doubt the producer may protest against any reduction of prices. That is because the prices of other articles which are required for his agricultural activities are so high that he wants his price to be retained. But should not the Government

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see that the prices of other articles are reduced so that the producer may consent to a reduction of prices of the foodgrains? All these things have to be taken into account and we have to do something towards it briskly and speedily. Therefore, I request that the Cabinet may think over this problem seriously and view it as a major problem and see that these causes are removed so that the necessity for measures of this kind which are really not very pleasing to any Government is obviated. Of course, we realize that they have found a necessity for this measure. But that necessity can be removed by tackling the fundamental causes of the disorder that prevails. I, therefore, say, while strongly supporting the motion before the House, that the Government should seriously think over the several ways of tackling the causes of unrest in this Province and adopt some of the suggestions made by the speakers in this House towards it."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, I want to confine myself to one or two aspects of this Bill. I first come to clause 4-A. Clause 4-A reads as follows:—

'No order of detention made in respect of any person in pursuance of any of the foregoing provisions shall be deemed to be invalid or unlawful or improper on the ground of any defect, vagueness or insufficiency, or any delay, in any communication made to such person under this Act.'

I submit, Madam, that this is not a good piece of legislation. If the High Court had pointed out that the charges framed or the grounds communicated to a person were not good because they were defective or because they were vague or insufficient, the way to cure that defect is not by inserting another clause that 'notwithstanding any defect, vagueness or insufficiency, they shall be deemed to be valid.' I submit it is not law-making. If the High Court had pointed out in any certain case that these causes invalidate or vitiate the grounds on which a particular person has been detained, it is up to the Government to rectify those things in the framing of these grounds, in the formulation of the charges. On the other hand, if this provision is passed, it gives a Magna Carta to the Police officers, to the Secretariat and to everybody concerned to write whatever they like or not to write whatever they do not want to write and yet say that they have satisfied the provisions of law. Law-making, I submit, the drafting of these Bills is not intended just to wipe out High Court judgments or just to absolve the Government from its ordinary obligations of doing justice to those who are detained. I submit, therefore, that this clause 4-A may be dropped altogether or it may be suitably amended. As a matter of fact, good drafting is absolute *sine qua non* of good legislation. There was once a Committee appointed by the House of Commons on 'Minister's Powers' and there they were pointing out how important it was to possess a good drafting department: 'We feel that the existing system of departmental drafting does not fully ensure that the standard shall in all cases be up to that of the best draftsmanship.' I am not now passing any strong remarks on the drafting department here. Here it is not as if the department drafts and the minister simply agrees. It is not as if the department or the Advocate-General suggests and the

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Minister agrees and, therefore, if this bad drafting is to go, the department should go, as some member suggested. But here more or less the result is that of joint effort. The policy is dictated by the Government (Ministers) and the mere drafting is done by the departmental officers. But certainly it is the duty of the departmental officers to show what is good and what is bad rather than merely succumb to the temptation of power that might be possessing the minds of Ministers at a particular moment. It may be that the Government demand that they should possess all the power that they can command and I do not at all demur to that proposition. But all the same, when we pass a law, it must have the essentialities of law and the law, in order to be a just law, should not be vague. That is my submission with regard to clause 4-A.

" Based on the same principle again, I pass on to clause 20 of the Bill. This clause seeks to lay down that no suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie in any court against any officer or servant of the Provincial Government or any person acting under his direction or aiding or assisting him for their actions under the previous Ordinances which have been declared invalid. This is more or less a complete and absolute indemnity clause. (Interruption.) I know this section existed in the previous enactments also. That is why I am referring to some of the previous Acts that were discussed on the floor of this House. Every time we had a Bill of this type with clauses of this kind introduced in them, I was raising my voice of protest that these clauses should not exist. (The Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon: 'What was the position in 1947?') Whether it is 1947 or 1946, it does not help us. It is a bad clause, whether I was there or whether you are there. If I was there, I was helpless. Here as a Minister you are more powerful. Madam, I submit it is this kind of drafting, this kind of self-indemnification, that is responsible for all the evils of this Province. I submit officers grow absolutely reckless in the discharge of their duties with clauses like this. That has been our cry from the beginning. It is not as if I want to criticise the Government simply for the sake of criticism. Does not the Hon. Minister remember the recent incidents that happened at *Velivelu* and *Elamarru*. In a House composed of ladies and gentlemen, I would not like to describe exactly what the officers did there. All the doings of Dyer paled into insignificance before their doings. Why did they do it? I trace the origin of that disease in the mind of those officers to the clauses of protection, to the indemnity for all future to come, which is propounded as a basis of imparting and executing justice, or keeping order and peace in this Province. I have always submitted that these provisions engender a reckless disregard of human rights, civil liberties and natural considerations of even humanitarianism, and that is what has happened in our Province. I know those two instances in particular. The Hon. the Law Minister and the Hon. the Leader of the House know it. The Hon. Premier knows and several members coming from that district and some of the ex-Ministers also who toured those parts knew what excesses those Police officers committed. What have the Government done with

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those Police officers? They did not rely upon the report of the Provincial Congress Committee Secretary and the non-official reports. They waited and waited and after great trouble, an officer was simply transferred. The person who behaved in a most reckless way, whose acts amounted almost to those of a lunatic, was simply transferred and the Government have been content that they have done justice by the people of that village, who were maltreated in a very abominable way. I submit to the Law Minister that that example is enough to show to him that provisions like this shall not be inserted in any decent legislation.

" I submit that these provisions inserted in Bills of this type 1 p.m. always engender an utter disregard of all sense of humanitarianism, all principles of civil liberty and everything that we value and cherish in our life. Again, with regard to the protection to be given to the officers, great care must be taken. In this particular case, I find that very general provision has been inserted. I am glad that under clause 17 protection is given to officers who discharge their duties in good faith. In doing duty in a bona fide manner they might commit excesses and I readily grant that they must be given protection. But, a general indemnity of the type which is embodied in clause 20 and which gives a general indemnity to these officers who misbehave in this Province, is certainly not good. I submit that the Government should not absolve themselves from the liability in such cases. Civil rights of individuals should not be taken away by a legislation of this type. I may here refer to a parallel legislation in England, where an Act called the Crown Proceedings Act was passed in the year 1947, i.e., just before our Independence Act was passed. This was dated 31st July 1947. There, the British Government took up an entirely opposite attitude to what our present Ministry has been taking here with regard to this legislation. They say that,

> 'Subject to the provisions of this Act the Crown shall be subject to all those liabilities in tort to which, if it were a private person of full age and capacity, it would be subject—
>
> (a) in respect of torts committed by its servants or agents;

Thus they have opened a new chapter in the progress of jurisprudence. All along until 1947 the theory underlying any legislation there was that the King can do no wrong. On the other hand, in 1947, they changed that and made an onward march in the progress of their jurisprudence. We have been extending our hand of fellowship to England in many respects. Although we have parted political company with England, yet, it may be desirable to follow England in this matter of jurisprudence. I submit, Madam, that in our legislation, this general indemnity clause, indemnifying all the officers who have committed excesses should be removed *in toto*. If this is done, this Act will have something in favour of it and we can say, 'We have not been harsh, we have taken powers to be exercised with certain safeguards.' I submit that unless there are special safeguards in cases like this, it become almost a lawless law. That is why in England, a Committee was appointed to go into the powers and scope of this delegated legislation. They refer there to 'The

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jurisdiction of High Court Judges to compel Ministers and ministerial tribunals to keep within their powers and also to exercise their judicial and quasi-judicial powers in good faith uninfluenced by extraneous considerations, fairly and not arbitrarily.' While it is necessary that in these days, the Government should have delegated certain powers which are of a quasi-judicial nature and executive powers in order to maintain peace and order in the Province, at the same time there must be restraint, there must be self-restraint, even though it be a self-imposed one by statute. On the other hand, instead of asking for power with restraint, the Government come here for power bereft of all restraint. I submit, therefore, that in the interests of good legislation and good traditions of legislation, these two clauses 4-A and 20 might be deleted altogether. Clause 4-A will make a laughing stock of this Legislature, as it says that ' no order of detention made in respect of any person in pursuance of any of the foregoing provisions shall be deemed to be invalid or unlawful or improper on the ground of any defect, vagueness or insufficiency, or any delay, in any communication made to such person under this Act.' I believe that the Hon. Minister might not have seen the full implications of this clause. If he sees, I think he would agree with me. I think it should be our endeavour to make those grounds very specific and if the High Court or any other body say they are insufficient or vague, it is wrong for the Government to say that notwithstanding the insufficiency and vagueness, the order shall be valid. On the other hand, the Government must instruct the departments to frame the grounds in such language as to make it absolutely clear and sufficient so that those who are given those grounds can make out their own representation as provided for in other sections. While supporting this legislation, I am obliged to oppose these two clauses, viz., 4-A and 20. May I hope that the Government will see their way to drop these two clauses so that it will not be such a bad piece of legislation as others might criticise it."

* DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, yesterday hon. Mr. A. Vaidyanatha Ayyar and some other members spoke at length about this Bill and the communist menace in this country. I am coming from the Ceded districts representing a minority community and I would like to quote a few incidents that had taken place in the Cuddapah and Kurnool districts in the last two or three months. I fully agree with Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar and Mr. Muniswami Pillay who have gone into this question very fully. I may tell this House that the whole trouble is due to some of the economic evils that are prevailing in the country. Madam, I may say at the outset that some of the labourers in this country are hard hit because of these controls. In spite of their working day and night, they are not able to make both ends meet. Therefore, some of the so-called communist leaders have taken advantage of these and given them a wrong lead. So much so, these unfortunate ignorant men are dragged into this communist menace. In Cuddapah district, there was a great rioting in one of the villages. The Police, without any

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discretion raided the village in search of the leader of the communist party. They did not take with them any police reserve, nor were they armed with necessary weapons. What had happened? These villagers had to do some dastardly action against the Police. In that connexion, the Police have taken into custody some of the poor labourers in that village along with those communist leaders and detained nearly 40 men and caused terror in the village so that all the men in the village had to leave to some other places of resort. In this connexion, my only submission is that the Government should be very careful in enforcing these laws on some of these innocent men. I have the very unpleasant experience of one of these men in that village who ran for life and drenched in the rain and exposed to inclement weather which resulted in an attack of double pneumonia. This man came to my nursing home one night and was admitted. The next morning, I reported the matter to the concerned authorities in the district and said that such and such a man suspected to be a communist had made his way to my nursing home. After he was cured, the man was taken into the custody of the local Police. Madam, my only point is that the Police are given undue powers by this Order. As Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar mentioned, this Government should see that undue powers were not given to the Police in detecting and detaining some of the suspected communists. The causes that led to this communist menace in this country, especially in our district, are manifold. There is so much of unrest and discontentment prevailing among some of the war returned personnel. The Employment Exchanges which are supposed to provide suitable work for some of these men are not able to do it properly. Therefore, these war-returned demobilized soldiers are giving trouble to the country. Therefore, I request the Government to overhaul and go into the details and see whether these Employment Exchanges could not properly give appointments to these people. Another section of these demobilized soldiers are the I.N.A. people. I.N.A. men are quite a good number in the mufassal and they are in need of suitable jobs. These men have joined with the revolutionary party during the days of the Great War and have learnt the technique of how to throw down a properly constituted Government. Now, these men are the real menace to the present Government also. Therefore, I request the Government to overhaul the lists of these I.N.A. men and see what they can do for these men in providing appointments. There is, as I have already mentioned at the outset, the economic distress that is prevailing in the rural parts which is one of the main causes for this discontent. I, therefore, request this Government to attach more importance to the causes that led to the great unrest in the country and not to pass this Public Safety Maintenance Order without due consideration to the defects in the Bill raised by some hon. Members."

* SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, I rise to support the motion before the House. In doing so, I feel it my duty to bring certain facts before the Government for their 1-15 p.m.

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consideration. In the name of maintenance of law and order, I have seen members of the Harijan community harassed by the Police and this is the case especially in the districts of Krishna, Guntur, East Godavari and West Godavari. There, the people know who maintain the law, and how it is maintained. The other day, when we discussed and debated the question of communist activity in the Province, many hon. Members criticised and condemned the communist movement and supported the Government in their action to suppress their activities. But I ask now whether the Government are doing really anything in that direction Let us see what is going on in the Krishna district in the name of maintenance of law and order. When I toured in that district recently, I was horrified to see the acts committed by the Police; in the Harijan cheri, many men were beaten and women raped. If the Government want any proof of these, I would definitely give several proofs. In fact, I had written to the Hon. the Premier, the Inspector-General of Police and the Chief Secretary to Government on this matter, and the Chief Secretary wrote to say that 'the Police is not unnecessarily harassing the Harijans or unnecessarily discriminating between the Harijans and the caste people. I would invite the Hon. the Premier and Mr. Gopala Reddi and Mr. Chandramouli to tour the Guntur and Krishna districts and see how the Police harass the Harijans. It is really a shame on the part of the Congress Government, which is said to be popular, to harass and insult the women of the nation. I mentioned in my letter to the Premier that any Government which insulted the womenfolk of the nation could not exist for long. I also mentioned in the same letter that if it was continued for two more months, there would surely be a rebellion and a revolution in the country. Madam, this will not stop with one village but will sweep over the entire Province; but, fortunately, the Government have taken some precautionary steps and issued orders . . . (interruption). . . (A voice: 'Did you bring it to the notice of the Government when you were a member of the Cabinet?') Whether as a former member of the Cabinet or not, one must say whatever one thinks right. In Krishna district, I toured every taluk, every big village where a car can go and wherever I went I found women prostrate before me, relating the tales of harassment and atrocities by the Police and charging us that we went to them for votes for the Congress Government and now they are beaten by the Police unnecessarily, their houses broken and their properties destroyed. They ask, 'you are our representative, why cannot you speak to the Government and to the Police authorities.' Now I must bring to the notice of this hon. House a similar incident which took place in Yelamarru. I issued a statement on this incident, which is yet to be contradicted by the Government. It was told that the Government was going to reply to the statement, but when the press correspondents approached the Hon. Minister for Law, he said in reply to the question raised by them that it was the communists that were making all these agitations and they are exaggerating things. I am not a communist. The President of the

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Yelamarru Congress Village Committee has issued a statement. The President of the Krishna District Congress Committee has issued a statement. The President of the Gudivada Taluk Congress Committee has issued a statement. And I do not know what prompted the Hon. Minister to say that the communists are exaggerating things. Are these people who have issued those statements communists at all? I really wonder how the Member keeps silent on the matter. We are now free. We have freedom. We are an independent nation. We have to do our duty. I will certainly support the Government to suppress the communist menace but in suppressing that menace we do not harass the Harijans. This is not the way to do it, giving full powers to the police, a police who do not know the local language, who cannot understand the people's representations when they are made. The Congress Committees support the police and give false representations to the Government about the situation in the villages. I must naturally blame the Congress and the Congress Committees which are responsible for this chaos and disorder in the country. The police are not supported by the people. It is true that the Congress people and the Congress Committees, on account of the existence of groups among them wanted to harass the poor Harijans. This is all what is prevailing in Krishna district.

"I must say a word about the Congress Seva Dal. A lot of controversy has been going on in the Press between me and the Seva Dal people in charge of the Seva Dal in Andhra Desa. The Seva Dal are greatly responsible for this unnecessary harassment through the police."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"On a point of order, Madam, may I know whether it is in order for the hon. Member to attack the Seva Dal and the Congress who have no representatives here to answer?"

SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Madam, we are all Congress men representing the Congress organization.

"My hon. Friend Mr. Viswanatham mentioned about the Veluvolu case. It is only basing on the reports made by the Congress and the Seva Dal, where the communists have come in open and killed some men. I request the hon. Members to go into the details of the case. I know every detail of the Veluvolu incident. The case is much exaggerated and a political colou. is given. If we want to know the truth, let them place the whole case for judgment by a court. I need not say much about this to the Government because they can get all the records and evidences given by the witnesses in connexion with this case. If any one visits a big village in Krishna district, he would see that women are often insulted by the police and men beaten. The police used to go to a particular village at 4 a.m., surround it, and remain there till 8 a.m. the next day, when they would stand in rows of 10 or 12 in number and make men pass one by one in between them all the while beating them until their legs are broken. Let any Member of this House come with me to the

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Krishna district and see if it is not a fact. I do not want to take a long time in describing this harassment of the people by the police in the villages. I must, however, tell one thing to the Government. They must not depend upon the reports given by the Congress people who are divided in groups and those given by the Seva Dal which is organized on the strength of one group and the Home Guards who are recruited from the caste people. You cannot find one Home Guard from the Harijan community either in West Krishna or Guntur. I, as a member of the Government requested the then Premier to recruit some of the Harijans as Home Guards. But no Harijan was selected. Now what is the cause for this labour trouble? It is purely economic. But the Home Guards or the Seva Dal who belong to the caste people, whenever there is trouble, go to the police and report 'here is a communist, pointing to a Harijan in a Harijancheri'. The police immediately, without verifying the report, simply go and beat the Harijans. I know that they are not against the Harijans. I know that they are not anti-Harijan but yet they beat them. In Krishna district, there is an additional police station, consisting of armed constables from Malabar or from somewhere else who do not know the local language. In order to satisfy the rich landlords who come from the caste people, they go about beating the Harijans. Will this not bring discredit and dishonour to the Government? I cannot tolerate such a dishonour and discredit brought about by the police. I, therefore, request the Government to go into the details of these occurrences and issue proper instructions to the police not to resort to such acts. I have no objection even if some more rigorous provision is introduced in the Bill. The Government must make it their duty to see that every one enjoys civil liberties. What are the civil liberties we enjoy to-day in the maintenance of law and order? Civil rights are broken. Only a section of the people are enjoying the civil rights. This kind of thing cannot be tolerated by any Government, Congress Government or popular Government or people's Government. I would give thousands of instances where civil rights have been denied. But I do not want to take any more time but would just refer to the working of the Civil Disabilities Removal Act and finish.

"We have now the Civil Disabilities Removal Act. I have seen that it is the police that are violating its provisions. In several places the Harijans are not allowed to enter the hotels and if the authorities are informed about this, they say, 'it is not our duty.' Is it not the duty of the Government to see that the police observe the provisions of this Act implemented? Madam, we are here united to suppress the communist menace. But here I must say one thing. The real leaders of the communist party are to-day underground and is it not the Congress people that are giving them help in their hiding. I know many of the local Congress leaders that are giving protection to the important leaders of the communist party. They hold important positions in the Congress Committees. I would request the Government, therefore, not to depend upon the reports of the Congress

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Committees but depend only upon their special branch men and act and see that no harassment by the police results in the maintenance of law and order."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"I adjourn the House to meet again at 2-30 p.m."

(After lunch--2-30 p.m.)

(With Deputy Speaker in the Chair.)

*JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, the present Bill is no doubt a reproduction of the Public Safety Act of 1947, but just for that reason it does not lose its character of being a very extraordinary piece of legislation. It seeks to take away the liberty of the individual and the Government are arming themselves with extraordinary powers to curtail the liberties of the citizens. I could have understood the Government coming forward with a measure of this kind in 1947 when we had just attained independence and when the Government were faced with extraordinary problems which followed in the wake of the attainment of independence. Even at that time in 1947, the Act aroused wide protest inasmuch as it was an extraordinary piece of legislation curtailing the liberties of the subject. But there was some justification for it. We gave the power asked for by the Government on the specific understanding that the Government would, by exercise of the powers they got under the Act remove the causes which prompted them to come forward with such a piece of legislation. We hoped that even though the Government were vested with extraordinary powers, they would in a short space of time remove the circumstances existing in the country which necessitated their bringing forward such a measure. We have now waited for two years and again the Government have come forward with this Bill. This extraordinary piece of legislation can be justified only on one ground, namely, the presence of an emergency. What is the emergency that exists at the present time? Is it anything different from what existed in 1947 when the 1947 Act was passed? Is not the two years' period which has been allowed to the Government a sufficient time for them to have removed the state of emergency from the country? Now after the lapse of two years, we have again the same preamble to the Bill as we had in the 1947 Act. But surely the Government could not mean that the state of emergency would last for ever so long as they are in charge of the Government of the Province. There must come some time when the ordinary laws of the Province ought to be sufficient to enable the Government to carry on the administration and assure peace and order to the ordinary citizens. Surely the Government cannot expect that this Assembly would go on extending the life of such an extraordinary piece of legislation without being convinced that the Government on their part are doing everything in their power to justify such an extension. Nobody would dispute the fact that the present Bill as well as the Act of

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1947 is a piece of legislation which ought not to exist for any length of time on the statute book of this Province. One has only to glance through this Bill to see what excessive powers the Government are taking and how the liberty of the citizen is cut short. When one reads clause 2 which deals with detention, it takes one's breath away. It provides not only for detention but also for the banishment of the individual from any place from which the Government want him to go away. It provides for the imprisonment of a person in a particular place. It provides that a particular individual should have no connexion with any person with whom he wants to have association. In fact there is nothing that the ordinary individual can do without the permission of the Government. Then clause 10 seeks to take away the proprietary rights of an individual, in ways other than those provided by ordinary law. That again is an extraordinary clause. The Bill takes away not only freedom of speech and freedom of association but also the rights over property as well. Therefore, if the Government want this House to approve of the giving of these extraordinary powers to them, they must make out a case that a grave emergency exists at present and not only that, they should also show that this emergency is not of their own creation. Madam, the Government have not done anything to remove the causes of discontent among the people. I should think that the people of this Province and as a matter of fact the people of the whole country should be with the Government so far as suppressing the communist propaganda is concerned. We are all essentially a very orthodox type of people with our own ideas of individual rights of property and other things which are ingrained in us and which are taught to us by our various religions. It should therefore be a very easy task for the Government to muster public opinion on their side and see that the communists have absolutely no influence whatsoever. But what do we see? We see that there is public sympathy for the communists everywhere. Otherwise there is no necessity for a provision like clause 2-A which provides that any person harbouring or concealing persons ordered to be detained will also be punished. Clause 5 also provides that the whole community might be subjected to punitive fines. Unless there is public sympathy for the communists, provisions like these would not have been necessary. What is it that has produced this public sympathy for the communists? It is the general discontent that is prevalent among the various sections of the people, the discontent caused by the high cost of living and the absence of the various necessaries of life. But what have the Government done to remove the causes of discontent? We have here in this House passed measures after measures which have only furthered the misery of the people and increased the taxes to be borne by the people. It has not brought any relief whatsoever to the people. We have passed legislation like the Prohibition Act. Surely, Madam, in the face of the advice given from the highest quarters, this Government should have mustered enough courage to say, 'Well, we do believe in this policy of Prohibition, but let us wait for some time till the primary needs of the people are satisfied. Let us not lose Rs. 17 to 18 crores every

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year but use it for improving the condition of the masses, improving the agricultural facilities of the ryots, improving the health of the people, increasing the educational facilities available to the people and also increasing the salaries of the services.' This last is a very important thing, Madam, because we now find that there is sympathy for the communists even among the services. It is a very dangerous thing and I do hope that the Government will take a warning from this. I do not want that this Government should be supplanted by any other Government, because we know that with all its faults, the Congress Party is the only party at present which is best equipped to run the administration of the country. There is no other alternative party at present to take over the management of the affairs of the country. Therefore in their own interests and in our own interests, I do want the Government to take note of the writing on the wall. I should urge on the Government to pay more attention to removing the causes of discontent among the people and thereby make the communist movement itself a failure and make it unnecessary for them to come forward again and again before this House asking for extraordinary powers to be given to them.'

"Madam, a word more about the provisions of this Bill. I do admit that if the Government want that this Act should be passed in order to enable them to assure to the people the safety of their person and property, I do not mind giving them these powers, provided they guarantee that after the period for which this Act is going to be in force they would remove it from the statute book once and for all and would not come to the House again and ask for its continuance for a further period. Simply because we have vested the Government with these extraordinary powers, let them not think that their responsibility is lessened. They should not relax their efforts under the impression that there is nothing more to be done. Their responsibility is all the greater now and they must show to the country that the powers under the Bill are properly used.

"Madam, there cannot be any two opinions about the punitive provisions of the Bill. They are of a very extraordinary and highly punitive nature. The safeguards provided are too vaguely worded and are quite insufficient to meet the requirements of the case. For instance, with regard to the Advisory Councils, it is stated that the Government may, whenever necessary, appoint an Advisory Council. I cannot understand how that condition 'whenever necessary' arises. Should not the Advisory Councils *ipso facto* come into existence from the date of the passing of the Act? I should think that the provision regarding the formation of Advisory Councils should be brought into effect on the date on which this Bill becomes law. Otherwise, it means that it is left to the sweet will and pleasure of the Government to form an Advisory Council whenever . . ." 2-45 p.m.

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"With your permission, Madam, I may correct the hon. Member. The wording is

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that the Provincial Government 'shall appoint' an Advisory Council. We have already appointed two and they are working under the provisions of the Act."

* JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI:— "I accept the correction made by the Hon. Minister. I will only draw his attention to the wording in sub-clause (3) of clause 3: 'The Provincial Government, shall whenever necessary, constitute one or more Advisory Councils'. Therefore, it is left to the Government to decide when the necessity has arisen to form an Advisory Council. I want, Sir, that it should not be left to the sweet will and pleasure of the Government, but that it should be obligatory on the part of the Government to form an Advisory Council immediately on the commencement of this Act. Further we are not told whether this Advisory Council is going to be one continuous and permanent body whose life will be co-extensive with the life of this Act. We are left under the impression that the Advisory Council may be formed from time to time, that is, that its personnel may change. That is very significant; you know, Madam, that the personnel of this council is going to be appointed by the Government; and if their continuance in office is to depend on the sweet will and pleasure of the Government, then the safeguard provided under clause 3 would be ineffective indeed. Therefore, I want the Government to say that once the appointment of the committee is made, immediately after the commencement of this Act, the life of the council would be co-extensive with the life of the Act itself. In that case, when once the members of the council are appointed, they will be independent of the Government and will not be subservient to the wishes of the Government. Moreover, a lot of mischief would be done and the safeguards would become very ineffective if considerable delay occurs in the forwarding of the case of the detenus to the Advisory Council at one stage and again after consideration by the council to the Government for decision. I want the hon. Minister to assure the Members of this House that such delays will not occur, that all avoidable delays will be avoided and that the safeguards provided in clause 3 would be in fact effective. Madam, at this stage I do not want to go into details regarding the provisions of the Bill. Suffice it to say that this Bill contains very extraordinary punitive provisions and although the Government may by its majority pass this Bill into an Act, the Government will be under a great responsibility and will have to answer the country how that responsibility has been discharged. I do not want that this Government should, at the end of the period of this Act, be condemned by the country and censured on the ground that they have exploited the provisions of this Act and have misused them and ultimately have failed to remove the conditions which make this Bill necessary at present."

SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL:—"தலைவி அவர்களே! இந்த Public Safety Act என்ற சட்டத்தை நான் ஆதரித்து சில வார்த்தைகள் பேசுகின்றேன். இந்த நாட்டில் சமாதான நிலையை உண்டுபண்ணுவதற்காக இந்தச் சட்டம் அவசியமாவென்ற கேள்விகள் எழுப்பப்படுகின்றது. ஆனால் இந்த சமயத்தில் அது மிகவும் அவசியமென்றுதான் நான் சொல்லுகின்றேன்.

8th November 1949] [Srimathi V. Lakshmi Ammal]

"நம் நாட்டிலே வரவர கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளுடைய செய்கைகள், அவர்களுடைய உபத்திரவங்கள் அதிகமாகிக் கொண்டே வருகினறன. நாட்டில் எங்கு பார்த்தாலும், குழப்பமும், கொள்ளையும், கலகமும், கொலையும் ஏராளமாக நடந்து கொண்டிருக்கின்றது. ஆனால் இந்த கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளுடைய செய்கையை நான் விரிவாக எடுத்துச் சொல்லவேண்டிய அவசியமில்லை. கவர்மெண்டிலிருந்தே அவர்களுடைய செய்கையை ஒரு **pamphlet** ஆக அச்சிட்டு நம் எல்லோருக்கும் கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதில் இருக்கின்றவற்றைப் படித்துப்பார்த்து இந்தச் சட்டம் அவசியமா இல்லையாயென்று நாம் ஒவ்வொருவரும் சிந்துத்துப் பார்க்கவேண்டும். இந்தப் **pamphlet**-ல் சொல்லியிருக்கின்றவைகளெல்லாம் அவ்வளவும் வாஸ்தவமே. அவ்வளவும் தினமும் நாம் பார்க்கின்ற செய்கைகள்தான். ஆந்திரா தேசத்திலும், மலபாரிலும் முக்கியமாக, அதிகமாக கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளுடைய செய்கைகள் நடந்து வருகின்றது. அவர்களுடைய அக்கிரமத்தை ஒடுக்கவேண்டுமென்றால் இம்மாதிரியான ஒரு சட்டம் இருக்கவேண்டியதுதான். ஆனால் இங்கு எல்லோரிடமும், நாம் இந்தச் சட்டத்தினால் அந்தக் காலத்தில், அதாவது பிரிட்டிஷ் கவர்மெண்டு இருந்த காலத்தில் எப்படி கஷ்டப்படுத்தப்பட்டோமோ, அதேபோல் இந்தச் சட்டத்தை இப்போது போட்டு அவர்களை அம்மாதிரி துன்புறுத்தி அவர்களை பலவருஷக் கணக்கில் விசாரணையின்றி ஜெயிலில் போட்டு கஷ்டப்படுத்தலாமா என கேள்வி எழுகின்றது. வாஸ்தவம்; அவர்களை விசாரணையின்றி ஜெயிலில் வைக்கப் படாதுதான். ஆனால் நம்முடைய கொள்கை எதுவாயிருந்தது? இப்போது அவர்களுடைய கொள்கை என்ன? இந்தப் **pamphlet**-ல் அவர்களுடைய கொள்கைகளெல்லாம் தெள்ளத் தெளிவாக எழுதப் பட்டிருக்கின்றது. அவர்கள் பகிரங்கமாக **Pamphlet**-கள் அச்சடித்து வெளியிடுகிறார்கள். அது மாத்திரமல்ல; அவர்கள் அதில் எழுதியிருக்கிறார்கள்—எங்கள் அம்பா சமுத்திரம் தாலுக்காவில் ஒவ்வொரு சுவற்றிலும்விடாமல் கரியாலும், காவியாலும் எழுதியிருக்கிறார்கள். "பசிக்கிறதென்றால் பட்டனி கிடக்காதீர்கள்; பணம் படைத்தவர்களை—பணக்காரர்களை கொள்ளையடித்துச் சாப்பிடுங்களென்று," சுவர்களிலெல்லாம் கரியாலும், காவியாலும் எழுதப்பட்டிருக்கின்றது—**Pamphlet**-கள் மூலமாகவும் இதே விஷயங்கள் அச்சடிக்கப்பட்டு பரப்பப்படுகின்றது. ரோடுகளிலெல்லாம் சாக்கினாலும், தாரினால் எழுதப்படுகின்றது. இதேமாதிரி அவர்களுடைய செய்கையெல்லாம் பலாத்காரத்தையே அடிப்படையாக கொண்டிருக்கின்றது.

"எங்கள் ஊர் அம்பாசமுத்திரம் தாலுக்காவில் விகிரமசிங்கபுரம், மில் **area** வினுள்ளது. அந்த மில் **area**-வில் அவர்களுக்குச் செல்வாக்கு அதிகம். எங்கெங்கு மில்கள் இருக்கின்றதோ, எங்கெங்கு எழை மக்கள் இருக்கின்றார்களோ அங்கெல்லாம் தான் அவர்களின் பொய் பிரச்சாரங்களைச் செய்கிறார்கள். எந்த இடத்தில் பேசினால் இவர்களையே மண்டையில் அடித்து திருப்பிவிடுவார்களோ அங்கெல்லாம் போகவேமாட்டார்கள்—பேசமாட்டார்கள்: "அவர்களெல்லாம் மோட்டாரை ஒட்டிக்கொண்டு போகிறார்களே—நீங்கள் பட்டினியால் வாடுகின்றீர்களே," என எழை மக்களை தூண்டிவிடும்போது இவர்களது பசப்பு வார்த்தைகளில் நம்பிக்கை வைத்து அக்கக்ஷியின் பலாத்கார வழிகளில் அந்த எழைகள் ஈடுபடுகிறார்கள்.

"நேற்று ஸ்ரீ சுப்பராமன் அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள்; ஆயிரக்கணக்கான பேர்கள் இப்போது, "நாங்கள் கம்யூனிஸ்டுக் கக்ஷியிலிருந்து விலகிக் கொள்ளுகிறோம். அவர்களுடைய பலாத்காரச் செய்கையை தெரிந்து கொண்டுவிட்டோமென்று அவர்கள் சொல்வதாகச் சொன்னார்கள். வாஸ்தவத்திலேயே அவர்கள் அப்படிச் சொல்கிறார்களா? நல்லெண்ணத்துடன் அவர்கள் அப்படி வருகிறார்களா? அந்தக்கக்ஷியிலிருந்துவிட்டு இப்போது வெளியே வருபவர்கள், சேர்ந்தசொல்லும் கக்ஷியில் கேலி செய்யும்போது பழைய தங்கள் கக்ஷியின் கொள்கைகளை பூர்த்தி செய்து கொள்ள முயற்சித்தால் என்ன செய்வது? காங்கிரஸ் ஆட்சியும், இந்திய தேசிய தொழிலாளருடைய சங்கங்களாகட்டும் எத்தனையோ வருஷங்களாக போராடி பெற்ற சுதந்திரத்தைச் சீர் குலைக்கலாமா? அவ்வாறு நம்

நாட்டிலேயே இருந்து கொண்டு சுதந்திர ஆக்ஷிக்குப் பாதகமாக குழப் பத்தை உண்டு பண்ணுவதைத் தடுக்க எந்த கவர்மெண்டு தான் இந்த மாதிரி ஒரு சட்டம் போடாமலிருக்க முடியும் என்பதை நாம்மெல்லோரும் யோசித்துப் பார்க்கவேண்டும். மேலும் இம்மாதிரியான அவர்களது பலாத் காரச் செய்கைகளை ஒடுக்குவதற்கு இம்மாதிரிச் சட்டம் அவசியம்.

" எங்கள் ஊரில் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளுடைய கிளர்ச்சி அதிக பலமாக யிருந்தது. உதாரணமாக சென்ற ஆகஸ்டு மாதத்திலிருந்து அதிகமாக அவர்களுடைய செய்கைகள் எங்கள் இடத்தில் பரவி வருகிறது. கண்ட இடத்தில் " பாம் " போடுகிறார்கள். எங்களுடைய வீட்டிலும் country bomb எறியப்பட்டது. இன்னும் ஒன்றிரண்டு காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் வீட் டிலும் எறியப்பட்டது. இன்னும் ஒருவரை வீட்டிலேயே கொலைசெய்து விட்டார்கள். எங்கள் ஊருக்கு அடுத்த மன்னூர் கோயிலென்ற கிராமத் தில் ஒருவர் கொலை செய்யப்பட்டு அங்கிருந்த ஒரு வீட்டில் கொள்ளையும் அடிக்கப்பட்டது. அவர்களை விசாரணை செய்வதற்காக போலீசார்கள் வேண் டிய நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுத்துக்கொண்டார்கள். ஆனால் இந்தச் சட்டத்தினால் போலீஸார்களுக்கு அதிக அதிகாரம் எற்படுகிறது. அவர்கள் அதை அமூல் நடத்துவதில் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் ரொம்ப உஷாராக இருக்குமென்று நான் சொல்லிக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன். ஆனால் இந்தச் சட்டம் வேண்டாமென்று சொல்லத்தயாராயில்லை. ஆனால் இந்தச் சட்டத்தை வைத்துக்கொண்டு போலீ சார்கள் எப்படி நடப்பார்களோ என அஞ்சுகிறார்கள் ; ஆனால் இந்தச் சட்டத்தை வைத்துக்கொண்டு போலீசார் எந்த மாதிரி நடந்துகொள்ள வேண்டுமென்பதை கவர்ன்மெண்ட் வற்புறுத்தவேண்டும். இதை கவர்ன் மெண்டார் கவனித்து அவசியமான முறைகளில் போலீசார்கள் நட வடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளுமாறு பார்த்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும்.; சில இடங் களில் அம்மாதிரியான புரக்ஷிக்காரர்களை அடக்கி சிலபேரை பிடித்திருக்கி ரார்கள். அதுவரைக்கும் போலீசாரை மெச்சுகிறோம். அதற்காகப் போலீ சாரின் செய்கையை பாராட்டுகிறோம். ஆனால் அவர்கள் தங்கள் பெரு மைக்கு ஈனமான வேலையில் ஈடுபட்டிருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதை நான் இங்கு சொல்லாமல் இருக்கமுடியாது.

" மன்னூர்கோயிலென்ற கிராமம் எங்கள் அம்பாசமுத்திர தாலூக் காவில் அம்பாசமுத்திரத்திலிருந்து நாலு மையிலிலுள்ளது. அங்குள்ள கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளை கண்டுபிடிக்கவேண்டுமென்று போலீசார்கள் ரெயிடு பண்ணினார்கள். அதே மாதிரி அங்கு பக்கத்திலுள்ள கிராமங்களை எல் லாம் raid போட்டார்கள். அந்த raid நடக்கும்பொழுது நடந்த அனி யாயம் கணக்கில்லை. போலீஸ் மேலதிகாரிகள் எப்படி உத்தரவு செய் திருக்கிறார்கள் என்று தெரியாது. ஆனால் அவர்கள் இரவு அங்கே சுற்றிலுமுள்ள வீடுகளிலுள்ளவர்களைப் பிடித்து வந்து வரிசையாக நிறுத்தி வைத்து நீ எந்த கக்ஷி சொல்லு " என்று சவுக்கால் அடித்தார்கள். " எந்தக் கக்ஷியை சேர்ந்தவர்கள் " என்று கேட்பார்கள், சர்க்கார் கக்ஷியைச் சேர்ந்தவனென்றுகூட இரண்டறைகள் விழும். இன்னும் பக்கத்து பிரம தேசம் கிராமத்தில் போய் ஒருவரை இழுத்து வந்தார்கள். அவர் படை யாச்சி, அவனை நிறுத்தி வைத்து நீ எந்தக் கக்ஷியை சேர்ந்தவனென்று கேட்டார்கள். " நான் காங்கிரஸ் கமிட்டி காரியதரிசி என்ற மாத்திரத்தில் காங்கிரஸ் கமிட்டி காரியதரிசியானால் நீ மாத்திரம் மற்றவர் காதைப்பிடியா மல் தோப்புக்கரணம் போடு என்று சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள். இம்மாதிரி ஒரு போலீஸ் நடக்குமானால் இதைப் போலீசை வைத்துக்கொண்டு நம் சர்க்கார் எந்தக்காரியத்தைச் ஞாயமான முறையில் செய்யமுடியும் என்று கேட் கிறேன்.

3 p.m. " அடுத்தபடியாக நான் நேற்று எனது நண்பர் கனம் வைத்தியநாதய்யர் அவர்களுடன் இதைப்பற்றி இரண்டொரு வார்த்தைகள் பேசிக்கொண்டி ருந்தேன். அதைக்கூட அவர் நேற்று அவருடைய பேச்சில் சொன்னார்கள். அவற்றில் சிலவற்றை சொல்லுகிறேன். கிராமங்களில் raid ஆன பிறகு Sub-Inspector, Village Munsif இடம் ஆள்களை சரிகட்டி என்னிடம் வரச்சொல் என்பார். உடனே ஒவ்வொரு நபரையும் ரூபாயுடன் சப்-இன்ஸ் பெக்டரை பார்க்கபோய் பணம் கொடுப்பார்கள். நான் அப்படி பணம் கொண்டு கொடுக்கபோன ஆளை கையும் களவுமாக கண்டு விஜாரிக்க ஏற்பாடு

செய்தேன். அது நடந்து கொண்டிருக்கிறது. அதைப்பற்றி விரிவாக நான இங்கு சொல்ல இஷ்டப்படவில்லை. அந்த மாதிரி அவர்கள் நிரபராதி களை கூட்டம் கூட்டமாக அடித்து வந்தால், நாங்கள் யாரிடம் போய் சொல்லிக் கொள்வோம் என என்னிடம் வந்து ஜனங்கள் கதறினார்கள். ஆகை யால் இந்தச் சட்டத்தை வஜாவாகவைத்துக்கொண்டு போலீசார்கள் இம் மாதிரி அட்டூழியங்களை செய்வதென்றால் அதை ஜனங்களால் ஒரு நிமிஷம் கூட சஹிக்க முடியாது. இப்பொழுதே, " காங்கிரஸ் சர்க்கார் நடகினறது " என ஜனங்கள் கேடகின்றார்கள். நீங்களெல்லாம இருந்துகொண்டா இம் மாதிரி நடக்கின்றது என கேட்கிறார்கள்.

" எதற்காக இப்படி அனுவசியமாக கிராமத்தாரை அடிக்கிறாய் என்று சப்-இன்ஸ்பெக்டரைக் கேட்டால், இம்மாதிரி நடத்தத்தான் எங்களுக்கு உத்தரவு என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். எந்தமாதிரி உத்தரவு என்றால் " Every man must be beaten " என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். மேலதிகாரி யின் உத்தரவு அப்படி இருக்குமா எனக்குத் தெரியவில்லை.

" All villagers must be beaten " என்று மேலதிகாரி உத்தரவு என்று சப்-இன்ஸ்பெக்டர் சொல்லுகிறார்.

" நண்பர் ஸ்ரீ வைத்தியநாதய்யர் அவர்கள் பேசினார்கள். வெறும் சட்டத்தினால் மட்டும் இந்த கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளை அடக்க முடியாதென்று. வாஸ்தவம் ; அதற்குக் காரணத்தைக்கண்டு பிடிக்கவேண்டும். Primary root cause என்ன என்று பார்க்கவேண்டும். Prevention is better than cure என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அதுவும் வாஸ்தவம். உண்ண உணவு இல்லை என்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் இப்பொழுது ஏழைமக்க ளெல்லோரும் அரை வயிற்றுக்காவது சாபபிட்டுக்கொண்டிருகிறார் களென்று நான் நிச்சயமாக சொல்லுகிறேன். இன்று நம் தலைவர் பண்டித ஜவஹர் லால் நேரு அமெரிக்காவில் ஒருவர் கேட்டதற்கு இந்தமாதிரியே சொல்லியிருக்கிறார். நம்முடைய மாகாணத்தில் படினி யால் இதுவரை ஒருவருக்குக்கூட சாவு ஏற்பட்டதில்லை. அதனால் இதைத் தவிற வேறு ஒரு காரணமிருக்கிறது. அதிகாரத்தை கவர்வதற்காகவு கங்கணம் கட்டிக்கொண்டு நம் இந்தியா பூராவும், உலகம் பூராவும் ஒரே மாதிரியான குழப்பத்தை உண்டாக்குகிறார்களென நினைக்கிறேன். அதன் சரியான காரணத்தைக்கண்டு பிடித்து நிவர்த்திக்கவேண்டு மென்றும் இச்சட்டத்தினாலும் வேறு முறையாலும் நிவர்த்திக்கவேண்டு மென்றும் கேட்டுக்கொளளுகிறேன். இச்சட்டத்தை நாட்டு மக்களின் போலீஸார் துர்வினியோகம் செய்யாமல் இருப்பதற்குத் தகுந்த நடவடிக்கை களை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று கவர்ன்மெண்டாரை கேட்டுக்கொண்டு இச்சட்டத்தை மனபூர்வமாக ஆதரிக்கிறேன். "

SRI B. ANANTHACHAR :—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, I shall first speak in English and then in Kannada."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER :—" Who wants a Kannada speech? No, there is no need; you may speak in English."

SRI B. ANANTHACHAR :—" The Bill has been very well received—of course received in various forms and shapes. Somebody said it was a mere stump of a tree seen in darkness, in a vague hazy atmosphere. Then it started to grow into a man, a big giant and then into a very monstrous being, seen in all sorts of shapes and forms. That is the stage to which we have been reduced in regard to this Bill. Apart from the criticism about the causes or the necessity for this Bill and for the powers which the Government assume thereunder, there are one or two things I want to place before the Government for their consideration. We have been depending so much on public co-operation; we want co-operation in regard to the grow-more-food campaign, with regard to prohibition, etc. In this Bill, there are certain

provisions relating to public co-operation, and penalising people for want of co-operation. I may say public co-operation can be had in abundance if there is an Advisory Council created in each district inviting some kind of co-operation, making some kind of propaganda and giving some kind of information about the Communist activities. If there is any exaggeration in the Police reports, this kind of non-official Advisory Council might help the official mind in deciding whether there is need for the continuance of any strong measures adopted by the Government. No doubt it will be a delicate matter; I know the official mind works differently; it suspects the non-official and probably it cannot open its mind to the non-official in certain cases, such as the mention of future detenus or of persons hereafter to be detained which naturally the official may not give out to the members of the Advisory Council. That way, the Government, no doubt, may be taking risks; but if they can entrust extraordinary powers to a Police constable, extraordinary in some cases to the extent of denial of liberty and security, they can also entrust the Advisory Council with some powers. You will thereby be creating confidence and removing the panic and removing the causes for this demoniacal state of Communist activities in the Province. I am sure the Advisory Council will be very helpful; I am visualising a council which will be a post-detention council, which will carry on propaganda and see that the Communist activities are localised and not allowed to spread and develop and injure the other healthy parts of the body politic. That is the sort of Advisory Council which may be necessary; and if the Government agree, it will go a long way in the administration of this Act.

"Of late we have been having a number of propagandists, and their services can be used for this purpose also. If the services of propagandists are necessary for prohibition and if they are to serve in each district, surely, the same propagandists—call them by any name you please propagandists or home guards or social workers—their services may be utilized for carrying on some kind of propaganda to see that the provisions of this measure are properly understood and properly administered by the petty officials with whom ultimately the power will have finally to rest.

"The other suggestion I am anxious to make is this: there have been a number of cases of injustice and wrongs done to public liberty and public security. There must be some kind of a remedy provided to avoid them. Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar cited a number of such instances, and but for his timely assistance and interference, many wrong acts would have been done. There must therefore be some kind of legislative protection against the vagaries of the Police. There is the fear complex; there are generally two things which obsess us; one is the Police and the other the Communists, that they are in or around the villages. The Police also are in the village, they are strong and form part and parcel of the Government machinery, and we cannot dispense with them. There is an attempt by the Communists to dislodge the Police, say by taking away a gun or removing the red turban and all that. In between these two people, it is the common people that suffer.

Therefore, let there be some kind of power given to somebody locally in the district who can really correct and remedy the mistakes immediately they are committed in the course of the administration. There has been a pelting of suggestions; I have also pelted one or two suggestions for the consideration of Government."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, let me state even at the outset that there are no two opinions on the question that the Government is treating this House with scant courtesy. Only two days ago, in spite of the fact that we were to meet on the 7th of the month, there was an Ordinance to control jute; they had no mind to wait for two days. It is not a matter of time alone; it shows us as Mr. Ananthachari pointed out how the official mind is working and continues to work. Let me quote one more instance of how this Government is persistently ill-treating this House. In spite of the fact that the Hon. Law Minister is an efficient and eminent lawyer and in spite of the existence of the Law Department, one fine morning or evening, they said: 'We extend this Act' and the highest tribunal of the land said: 'nothing of the kind; you shall not do it; you go to the House and you shall have an answer'. Of course we know what is going to happen in the House. But I wish to tell the House one thing. In spite of the fact that the Government has carried the day in other matters, the Bill for the abolition of zamindaris, the race courses, the Advertisement Bill, yet they were obliged to see light and reason. I do not want to narrate instances in which the Government were not willing to care for the suggestions of other members of the House and thus take away my time. But in these things it is only a matter of time that they would come forward and say: 'We were sorry for all these things'. The Hon. Minister was perfectly right in introducing new clause 4-A. But the Government must know that they have not acted as they had been authorized by the previous Acts and it is a matter for shame for some of us to see that the High Court was reminding the Government every now and then: 'You are delaying; your reasons are vague.' Was not the Government aware of all these things and should they not take lessons from past mistakes and should they not read the judgments of the High Court with a view to see that they should not commit more mistakes? It is all right coming forward with new amendments. There must be a limit; there is no point in saying that they would be vague and they should be given powers to delay. When the Government were not empowered to do all these things, they did it and the High Court was not tired of pointedly drawing the attention of the Government to their lapses and the Hon. Minister in charge of the Bill need not be proud of coming forward with such a Bill and say: 'I have acted properly and, therefore, give me more powers'. There may be need for these powers. But with the limited powers given to them, did the Government and the officials behind the Government behave properly? We see the answer in the judgments of the High Court and I do not know with what face the Hon. Minister comes forward with this Bill

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asking for more powers. Here is the charge-sheet against the Communists, there are charges of violence. But what about the violence to prisoners in jails, violence on the part of the Government to those in prison within the four corners of the prison walls? What about the violence committed by this Government on harmless people inside jails? That is a different story. Now I come to this charge-sheet. I am reminded in this connexion of the charges and counter-charges against Ministers by Ministers, by ex-Ministers against present Ministers. There are talks of charges everywhere, an ex-Minister coming forward with charges and the Government coming forward with charges. This Act is only to prevent but what about acts committed by the Government? I dare say that if some of the charges could be taken to a judical tribunal, it would have found some of the Hon. Ministers themselves in jail. Well, fortunately or unfortunately, there was no judicial tribunal. I am not asking for it because they are not also giving it. But there are the advisory councils with limited powers, with definite powers only to advise the Hon. Sri Madhava Menon. Even that is denied and his acts are not to be questioned even by the highest tribunals of the land. Madam, Deputy Speaker, in some of the Andhra districts even some of the lady relatives of these supposed underground Communists have been ill-treated. Even under a foreign Government when Mr. Madhava Menon was wanted, when he was underground, his own people were not treated like that. (An hon. Member: 'You were not aware of it.') (Sri K. Rajaram Naidu: 'He was never underground.') We had the district board elections. There were suits in the civil courts and proceedings in criminal courts. The Hon. Ministers do not know it as they might not face the music of elections nor have they gone through the fire of elections. I have seen the elections and it is a matter of public knowledge that the Public Safety Act has been used for election purposes. It is a different story."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—" By the very fact that you mention it is a different story, it means it has no reference to the Bill before the House and shows that you must not refer to it but must confine yourself to the subject on hand."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" My point, Madam, was that the powers under the Act were being used from the last officer up to the Government in the recent district board elections. People who had filed their nomination papers had disappeared; at any rate they had been taken under detention. Will the Hon. Minister deny? Let him. What were the Government doing before that? Has he become a Communist suddenly after he filed his nomination? Why were they keeping quiet so far? I say it is a matter for disgrace for any party in power to arrest persons after they had filed their nominations. I would like to have an answer, a specific answer from the Hon. Minister whether it is not a fact that persons have been detained under the powers vested in them by the Public Safety Act after the candidates had filed their nominations. I have no time to repeat how these

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powers had been made use of previously. I would invite the attention of the House to this new clause. Will any civilized Government come forward and say: 'We will act and in the course of the proceedings, we may do anything but yet the Courts should not question it.' The need for such drastic provisions has not been properly explained by the Hon. Minister either in introducing the Bill or by means of a Government Communiquè. It is stated that these people approach labourers and kisans and make trouble. I wish to ask, Madam: What did the party in power do when they were not in power; have they not approached labourers and kisans and used them for their purposes? If the Communist party to-day is making capital out of these difficulties—the whole world knows it and the Hon. Sri Madhava Menon knows it—it is because it is inherent in the circumstances of the day and Government must take lessons from the history of India; the answer to the activities of the Communists is not this Act; it is not the gagging and preventive detention that is going to meet the situation; it is not the beating of the people in jails that would help. What have they done to meet the needs of the people? What about agrarian reforms and other reforms which would better the condition of the masses of people? Nothing has been done. There have been two cyclones in the Andhradesa and the reply of the Hon. Premier is that the reports are exaggerated."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—" What has that to do with the Bill under discussion? "

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" The charge-sheet clearly shows that the Communists are exploiting labourers and kisans and they are inciting them to violence. My suggestion is that you cannot silence them by passing Acts of this type; you have to look to the real needs of the people. What is the condition of the people in Andhradesa? It is only in that connexion that I was referring to the remarks of the Hon. the Premier in connexion with the two cyclones. Is it not possible for the Communists to exploit the situation? Is it not proper for the Hon. Minister to visit the place and try to do something. So far nothing has been done and it has been said that we are going to discuss it some day after some time. I think that was the reply of my hon. Friend, Mr. Gopala Reddi. Such things, this inactivity of the Hon. Minister, incite the kisans and labourers and affords food for the activities of the Communists. Never in the history of the world has any Government dealt with such upsurges by passing Acts; it is the behaviour of the Government in the matter of giving reforms, that will be a direct reply to them. It is quite an easy matter for the Government to get such powers in a packed house. But not even the worst of despots of Europe had at any time armed themselves with such powers. To add to that, we have been reminded by the High Court that the Government had not acted properly. My anxiety is, if such powers are given to the Government what checks and safeguards are there to see that innocent people are not harassed and victimized. It is necessary that wrong-doers should be punished but while they

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are punished there should be an element of immunity for the innocent. The High Court has no jurisdiction. It is likely that this Act might be extended beyond two years and there will not be that safeguard unless the High Court could come forward and say that in such and such case the Government have not acted properly. They should not have the powers a day longer than absolutely necessary."

* SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, I support the Bill to the extent that it should be re-enacted for the purpose of meeting the present situation in the country. (An hon. Member: 'As usual'.) It is certainly as usual because it was a measure enacted when I was holding charge of the Government at the time. At the time things were very much worse than they are to-day; there was the question of Hyderabad, the question of the Muslim League activities, very fierce and aggressive activities before the partition and there were the Communist activities also not to mention their violent activities in Tiruchirappalli Workshops. There was certainly justification for passing a measure in 1947. We thought also that the measures to be taken must be related to the colour of the person to be detained or proceeded against; as I said elsewhere the man may be red hot Communist, or of a slightly pink variety, or the brown variety or a mere sympathiser with the Communistic activities and therefore, different actions were suggested. But what has happened after 1947 is the question. The partition has taken place but still things have not improved. A big charge-sheet has been placed before the House against the Communists and I accept it as absolutely correct and there is a necessity for continuing this measure for some time. Therefore, there is need for re-enacting the measure and in doing so, I expect the Government to reproduce such of the provisions that are already there and not add to it which makes the position much more difficult for the Government to explain to outsiders. If it is said that legislation of this nature should be put permanently on the statute book it would amount to a blot on the administration of the country by the Congress.

2-30 p.m. " I feel that realizing this, the Government have come forward with an amendment that this law will be in force till September 1952. I thought Government said in another place that they wanted to keep it in force for two years only. How is it now they came to the decision of keeping it in force for three years, I am at a loss to understand. Anyhow, my point is that it should be in force only for one year, and it is for that I have given notice of an amendment. For this measure is intended to meet an emergency situation, an unpleasant situation and an extraordinary situation. Why should one anticipate the unpleasant situation or serious situation to continue for more than one year? Is it a confession of weakness? I would also wish in such measures as this, Government should come up before this House year after year and tell us what they have done and what the position is; they can take stock of the situation, and if then the House agrees that the life of the measure should be extended they can do so. It is

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in that spirit I have suggested my amendment. So I wish Government will accept my amendment. That is my submission. If the Government agree to it they will be very reasonable in doing so; but if they do not, it is rather unfortunate.

" Another thing I wish to say is about clause 4-A. It is a new clause found in the measure, and it is something which takes my breath away. It means Government are giving a premium to their officials for being careless and slack. It leaves plenty of scope for the order of detention to be defective, vague, and not informative. We should remember that we are here dealing with the liberty of the people, and when a person is to be detained, he should be informed fully of the reasons for his detention. The Government should be as informative as possible in detaining a person to enable the person to submit his explanation to Government or to the advisory council that is set up. So far as this measure is concerned I am sure the advisory council would call for all the information regarding the cause of detention. In spite of its advice, still when the matter comes up before the High Court, it is found in a number of cases that the original information given to the detenu is so defective and so vague that one is led to feel that Government are not dealing fairly. In one case I dealt with, the Court came to the conclusion that the person was let on bail in respect of the offences he was supposed to have committed. In another case, I may point out, a person was detained because the officers had resort to the device of detention. The communication was sent to him after months delay; then his explanation was given; even after that explanation, Government did not pass the order for eleven months! Can that be called justifiable delay? Government cannot curb the liberty of a person eternally. It may be a person may be detained for quite valid reasons. But that person should be given all information regarding the reason why he is detained. The information should be sufficient; there should be no vagueness in it. Otherwise how can he put his case before the advisory council or the Government? Is the safeguard worth anything at all, if the information does not contain all the information? Clause 4-A says that notwithstanding any defect, vagueness or insufficiency or any delay, the communication shall not be invalid. I submit it is not a small defect or a formal defect that is dealt with there. Cannot Government make their officials to be fully informative in the communication of detention? Very often, what happens is, the Police first catch a man, and then find out reasons for his detention. That is why all this defect, vagueness and incompleteness happens. It is on the first information report or the first charge-sheet that the High Court very often comes to its conclusion on the order of detention. It is in that the real reason is found, and it is on that the Police have come to their conclusion. In this clause Government are dealing with a person who has no chance of fair trial in open Court. Therefore, to protect the liberty of any ordinary man I have given notice of my amendment. I only say the delay should not be unreasonable. So I would like Government, to keep their good name, to accept this amendment. If they do not, that is God's will."

* SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, some of the speakers in the Opposition seem to forget that Governments are intended to govern. It is true that to-day the Communists are a danger, and that danger has to be met. This Bill has had its effect in the past, and we hope that at the end of the period to which this measure is being extended, there will not be any necessity for it to be renewed.

" But, Madam, I would like to put before this House that a mere negative action does not end in a complete solution of the problem. Anywise Government is based upon two important factors, one, upon its own prestige and the other, upon the consent of the people. The greater there is discontent the greater there is room for exploitation by unscrupulous people. Madam, there is something like a positive approach to this problem. All the world over, those who have studied political science as well as administrators know that no problem is finally and effectively solved through a mere negative approach, though the negative approach of maintaining law and order by the use of forces at the hands of Government to suppress and put down illegal activity is absolutely essential.

" In this connexion I would like to mention two matters. One is, it is true that there is a lot of scope for bad propaganda in our Province to-day. Our control, especially of food, has affected almost everybody, and when such large scale controls are being ushered in to-day, one can understand—especially those who have gone to villages and lived and moved with the people —with what terrible amount of difficulty one has to secure his usual and normal food and clothing. When we make rules and give powers to very low officials to enforce them with regard to food, the result is tremendous corruption. And Mahatma Gandhi, as we all know, wanted in those days to remove controls for no other reason than that corruption has gone high, it has demoralized society. When there are such difficulties unscrupulous people exploit them. How to avoid this? The real positive approach to this menace, as I call it, is that as far as possible we should remove controls, so that the ordinary man does not suffer, and so that the ordinary man does not lend his ear to those propagandists. By this positive approach alone one can bring peace to society.

" I would like to mention one or two things. I do not know whether the House knows that a few months back when a man who was coming on cycle in Tiruppur—at one o'clock in the noon—was set upon by about ten people with swords and murdered
3-45 p.m. on the spot on the road. I do not know whether any of the hon. Members of this House are aware that a Communist group went about in the town of Mathurai in broad daylight to set fire to the Congress House. These are things that have happened. If we have anything like an Intelligence Service, we must have foreseen the plot long in advance and prevented it. It is no credit for any Police to say that they will take action after something has happened. An Intelligence Service is being maintained and large amounts are being spent on it. In fact, the Intelligence Service is an equipment for any Government not only for international

purposes but also for internal security purposes. An Intelligence Service is a necessary arm of any Government. But what we find is that the Police have taken action only after things have happened. The result is that they go into action too late, and sometimes their action affects innocent people with the result that it adds to the discontent in some places. This has above all undermined the prestige of the Government which is absolutely essential for the maintenance of any Government. Apart from party politics to which my hon. Friends opposite refer, it is in the interest of all people, to whichever party they may belong, to maintain the prestige of the Government. Once the prestige is lost, everybody loses good Government. The party in Opposition loses more than the party in power. So I request them not to use words or do things which will affect the prestige of the Government, whoever may be the party or persons running the Government.

" This Bill is necessary. Several things have been brought to our notice. We know that we have a certain number of unscrupulous people who will do anything to disturb the peace of the country for no other reason except just for the pleasure of putting the Government and the people to trouble. That cannot and should not be allowed. But at the same time we should not allow such circumstances or atmosphere in the country which will allow exploitation by unscrupulous men. My hon. Friend Sri Pattabhiraman referred to the difficult plight of weavers. Many of the weavers are suffering to-day. Wisdom dictates that we should take steps immediately. The situation must be met before the Communists claim: 'We are the people who have got you relief. Before we came in, you did not get it. So follow us.' For the real and immediate solution of these difficulties, much depends upon timely action by the Government. But the long-range policy to eliminate discontent is a positive approach which will strengthen the prestige of the Government. If the prestige is to be strengthened, it must be done by the limbs of the Government themselves. They must act with quickness, decision and vision. They must foresee and prevent things, instead of allowing things to happen and then coming on with their iron hands.

" These are the only suggestions which I wanted to place before the House. Let us not imagine that we have done everything to put down the Communist menace by passing this Bill. Far from it. Some deeper solution must be thought of and implemented. If that is done, I hope that it will not become necessary for the Government to come forward for renewing this Bill for a further period when this Bill ceases to be in force."

MR. W. J. FERNANDEZ:—" Madam Deputy Speaker, judging from the trend of speeches made so far, the concensus of opinion appears to be that the causes which necessitated the promulgation of the Ordinance in 1946 which eventually took shape as the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Act, 1947, not only exist to-day but exist in a far more widespread and violent form. Communism has spread its tentacles far and wide in this country. Drastic subversive measures have been adopted by communists and drastic action is called for to combat their activities. Our plain

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duty as peace-loving and law-abiding citizens and responsible legislators is to arm the Government with adequate powers to enable them to deal with the general lawlessness that prevails in this Province and thus discharge their elementary duty of protecting the large number of people for whose safety and welfare they are responsible. In other words, it is our plain duty to support the Bill before the House. (At this stage, Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.)

" Emphasis has been laid on the various causes of discontent as being primarily responsible for all the lawlessness that prevails. I am afraid that this aspect of the question has been considerably over-emphasized. The acute conditions prevailing are the aftermath of the last World War. They are not peculiar to this Province only; they are common to the whole of this vast sub-continent and also the world in general. I feel that it is a mistake to overemphasize this aspect because by doing so we more or less indirectly give a handle to the communists in their subversive activities. Communism and communist activities will persist even if a millennium dawns in this Province. When all our difficulties vanish, when we have plenty of food, cloth, and houses to live in, even then communists will be there, because they are there to disturb law and order, upset the Government and ruin the country. It is only a coincidence that difficulties prevail in this country and they are taken advantage of by the communists to further their activities. It is a mistake to mix the two together, and to make it appear that the primary duty of the Government is to remove those causes and not to take powers to deal with the lawlessness prevailing in the country by passing this Bill. I think it is a serious mistake because, do what the Government may, they cannot relieve the tension in the country. I take it that as a responsible government, the question of relieving the tension is engaging their attention. The problem is vast, and the successful tackling of it depends more upon the people themselves than upon the people sitting at the helm of the Government. The moment the Government impose control on an article of food to help the people, that particular article goes underground and finds its way to the blackmarket. We are the people who are encouraging blackmarket because we buy there. When the price of sugar is controlled, sugar is selling at two rupees a viss in the blackmarket. Why should the people purchase at two rupees and encourage the blackmarketer? While we find fault with the Government for not putting down blackmarketing, we are ourselves encouraging the blackmarketer. It is, no doubt, good to invite the attention of the Government to the drawbacks and ask them to pay more attention to them. But, I say, it is fatal to give too much prominence to that aspect of the question because by doing so the communists will only laugh in their sleeves. You are indirectly encouraging them and they will increase their activities and bring more misery to the Province.

" Having said this, I would like to touch on two sections of the Bill. One is clause 4-A. I must join hands with the hon. Sri T. Viswanatham in the very strong views that he expressed

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about clause 4-A. The last Act was found to be defective. In its judgment on several *habeas corpus* applications, the High Court upset the orders of the Government and ordered the release of the detenus concerned. The Government seek to get over that difficulty by introducing this omnibus provision. The clause reads that no order of detention shall be deemed to be invalid or unlawful or improper on the ground of any defect, vagueness or insufficiency or any delay in any communication to the detenu. It does not seem to be in keeping with the dignity of this Government to meet a situation with a provision of this kind. When the High Court has pointed out a defect, what is the remedy? Instead of enacting a clause like this, instructions should be issued to the police to see that no unreasonable delay occurs in communicating to the detenus the reasons for their detention. There must be some conceivable reason for the detention, and that must be communicated to the detenu without undue delay. The Government must profit by the lessons of the judgments given by the High Court. In the past it did not strike the Government, and now that the High Court has pointed it out, the Government must communicate the reason promptly.

" The main thing is that there should be no unreasonable delay 4 p.m.
in communicating the grounds of detention. Let it be an order from the Secretariat to the Police department that within a month or two, the assertions and counter-assertions of persons detained should be obtained and within that time, the grounds validating your action in having detained them, should be communicated. It seems to me that this clause contains an omnibus provision for validating all the defects in the administration of the Act. It does not matter if you cut down some of the provisions in that clause. I think that is the right and proper way of meeting the situation created by the High Court's judgment.

" Then Sir, with regard to clause 20, I must say that I do not see eye to eye with my hon. Friend, Mr. T. Viswanatham. I think that there must be this indemnity clause to protect the police. After all, we must not forget that we are dealing with the lives and properties of citizens in the country and we owe it to the police to see that they do their duties without any fear, because it is they who are responsible for the maintenance of law and order and keep peace in the country. Now the police do their duties, because they know that they will be backed up by the Government. If there is no indemnity clause like this in this Bill, and if we go to a policeman and ask him to handle a situation where violence and disorder have taken place, what will he do? He will simply stand with folded hands and say, ' Let the violence go on unchecked; let it subside of its own accord. Because, if I act just now, and make use of my powers to put down the disorder, there will be some complaint against me that I am guilty of having used excessive force. I will be hanged. Therefore, I will not do anything at this juncture.' That will be the sort of reply that we will get. That policeman will have no incentive to act, because there is no indemnity clause, and his acts will be called into question. Sir, it should not be forgotten that the police, on such

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critical occasions act on the spur of the moment. If there is peace and if a policeman goes and arrests an individual communist in some place, there might not be any violence and counter-violence, and I can understand that in such cases, there might not be any need for excessive use of force by the police. But suppose there is some trouble somewhere and a number of communists had gathered together and committed atrocities in a village and suppose that the situation had become so critical and the police had to act on the spur of the moment, then they necessarily have to use whatever force that is required to disperse the crowd and to put down the disorder. At such times, it might not be possible for the police to get a legal and proper direction from the higher authorities. The policeman on the spot has to act immediately, and whatever he does, he does *bona fide*. Then certainly such police acts should be indemnified and their action should not be called into question. If we look at the situation calmly after the incident had occurred, it might seem to us that the police had overdone their part. But the man who actually handles the situation knows that if he does not act like that his life and the lives of the innocent people would be in danger. We know that the police man always carries his life in his hands. If he does not act quickly, his own life will be in danger. We must look at that aspect of the question and not complain as many hon. Members have done about the police excesses. Let us be a little more charitable to the police and let us not blacken them generally, because of some excess committed by some police officers here and there. The complaints made by hon. Members of the police excesses are not numerous. Only a few cases of excess from the Tamil Nad and a few from the Andhra districts were narrated. But it was never said that whenever the police handled a situation, they did it badly or that they used excessive force in all cases. It is just possible that in very bad situations, they must necessarily have to use some counter-force to put down disorders, but that does not mean that they are always committing excess nor does it call for a total condemnation of the Police department as a whole, as some hon. Members have sought to do. I say all this, because, this indemnity clause has been strongly criticized and opposed by certain hon. Members. Sir, the police must be enabled to discharge their duties properly and without fear and at the same time see to their self-protection. I am strongly of the opinion that this indemnity clause ought to remain.

" With these remarks, Sir, I support this Bill."

MR. SPEAKER:—" A large number of hon. Members have expressed their desire to take part in this debate and, therefore, I have proposed to reduce the time-limit for each speaker from 15 minutes to 10 minutes."

* DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is with considerable reluctance that I rise to speak this evening. I feel it my duty to speak on this subject because my recent visit to the Andhra Desa, particularly just before and after the terrible cyclone makes it imperative that I should speak about this Bill as it relates to the youths of Andhra Desa.

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" Sir, I feel that to bear the responsibilities of Government is not an easy task. Uneasy lies the head, we are told, that wears the crown. But frequently the crown seems to be a crown of thorns and not of gold. I can sympathise with my Hon. Friend Mr. Madhava Menon for the great responsibility that he has undertaken as Law Minister to resolve complications after complications that seem to riddle the Andhra Desa at present.

" Sir, I have heard a great deal of what happened in Malabar, and in certain other districts of the Tamil Nad. But I think that in the Andhra Desa there are certain peculiar circumstances which seem to whip up the enthusiasm of the youths in such a particularly volcanic fashion. Of course, we know that there is a foreign element that is anxious to foment troubles, discontent and panic among the people and to convert every possible occasion of discontent into a general outburst of enmity, hatred and open hostility against the Government. It may be that we shall be able to tackle those problems very effectively, though not immediately, perhaps in the near future. But there is another element, an element that is slowly, yet steadily developing itself—I mean our educated young men who are full of dreams and hopes for the future and who wish to do something themselves to create a kind of Rama Rajya, which we, members of the Congress, have hitherto promised, but which we find it impossible to bring within the realm of realism. And, therefore, Sir, there is a cleavage which is getting wider and greater as days pass on, between the haves and the have-nots. Our rule, whatever its professions have been in the post, to the man-in-the-street, appears to be a hopeless failure—failure in the sense that he has not enough of food, enough of clothing and enough of housing for a decent living. We have not made good yet the promises which we have made. No doubt, we have to deal with a very difficult set of circumstances. Probably somebody else in our position could not have done very much better. But still, Sir, that cannot be our excuse for the things that obtain to-day. With our large population and with millions of people who are not educated and who cannot read and write, it is only the realism that will appeal. They ask, ' Is this the result of the British leaving the country and our Swaraj Government taking its place? We hoped to have something decent to live on, and enough to eat, but there is only one meal a day, and that too not sufficient.' There has been, as it were, a contrast between the promises made and the realities.

" Sir, I entirely agree with what my hon. Friend Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar said yesterday that if you want to grapple with the present situation, you must deal with the economic problem to-day with courage, with enthusiasm and with determination. We must somehow see that the people get more food, fuller clothing and better housing in the near future. Otherwise we will be only playing with time and trying to deceive the great majority of the people who are ultimately our masters. What are we to do and how are we to grapple with that problem?

" Sir, that great man, whose figure we see before our eyes has set us an example and chalked out a path for us. I do not think

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that any communist could have really quarrelled with him in person. The kind of life that he led and the absolute simplicity which he advocated, could evoke no jealousy, no hatred and no envy on the part of even the most virulent communist that you could meet. And, Sir, in proof of that, we have seen that the man who had assassinated him was not a communist! Till we can go back to that ideal which he has set for us, till we can prove that we who hold the reins of Government are able to share the life of the common man, we can never expect to get the bulk of the people to support us and to realize that we are one with them. And therefore, Sir, both the Government and this Assembly that supports the Government and occasionally criticises it, must realize that till we come back to the Gandhian ideal of honesty, simplicity, integrity and hard work and of love towards the great masses of our people, we can never turn the current that has turned against us in the public opinion to-day. People are really disappointed. One expression of disappointment is this rising tide of communism. The tragedy and the hopelessness of the situation is that many of our young men and young women who have hopes and ambitions and who have thought about the difficult conditions of living in the country and who want to serve the country, feel that we are standing in their way, that we have broken our promises and that we have not delivered the goods. We have got to think and we have got to face that fact. I ask the Government, 'Now you have put so many people in prison. Are you satisfied with the result? Will you tell the House what wonderful results you have achieved? If you have not, then how are you going to continue this game? If you are satisfied, have you the courage to ask them to come out of the jails and carry on the work with us?'

"Sir, there is another thing which I should like to ask. We, Congress men with our past experience, know that force and punishment never could carry conviction. Now, how are you going to meet the situation? While you have put so many people in prison, are you negotiating with them, as the previous British Government had done with the Congress in those days? Are you treating them in the manner in which we had been treated and are you telling them, 'if you mend your ways, there is plenty of opportunities for you to come out and serve the country with us'?

4-15 p.m. Unless we do something positive, something courageous and something that is dramatical to catch the imagination of the great mass of the people, mere charge-sheets and putting people in prison will not help. My Hon. Friend Mr. Madhava Menon is a Congress man."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member's time is up."

• DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO:—"I have great pleasure in strengthening the hands of the Government. I know the Government have a great responsibility, and they have got to deal with the situation. Sir, as a surgeon, I could say we cannot

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be operating all the time. If you must cut to the quick do it quickly but grant freedom or release soon again. By means of negative rules you will never succeed. There are really some very laudable men and women connected with this movement. Instead of bringing them into open enmity with the Government, they should be made to serve the country along with the Government."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I entirely support the Bill from A to Z. I believe that strong action is necessary to meet the extraordinary situation in the country now. Certainly this is an extraordinary measure, but extraordinary situations require extraordinary measures. I do not agree with my hon. Friend Mr. Bhashyam in saying that the situation has improved from what it was in 1947. Rather I would say that the situation is now worse. We are dealing with a party which is a very well organized party, a party which is prepared to go to any extent to carry out its wishes without any scruples. It is a party which believes in any means which would achieve their ends. With the victory the Communist Party is having in China, and with perhaps foreign aid, the activities of the Communist Party here have become very great. That is the situation. I am sure the Government must be fully armed with extraordinary powers to meet the situation. There is a misconception which I should like to mention. We are not trying to suppress any political party as such. If the Communist Party in India wants to carry on propaganda and wants to convince the people that the Communist way of life is necessary and that it is good for the country, and if they carry on this propaganda from the platform with any amount of vehemence, I am sure that this Government, or any other Government for that matter, would not stand in their way. But when they carry on propaganda in a violent manner inciting people to violence, no Government worth the name could keep quiet without taking action. The Communist Party in India is not satisfied with mere violent propaganda alone. I have heard some instances of what the Communists wrote on the walls in the Tinnevelly district from Srimathi Lakshmi Sankara Ayyar. I have seen in Malabar during the district board elections what the Communists have written. In the nights, the Communists were secretly writing all sorts of things on the walls. They even went to the extent of publishing pamphlets saying that if anybody voted against the Communist Party, or if anybody played some mischief with their flag, those persons will be done away with. When my hon. Friend Mr. Madhava Menon was touring in Malabar the walls were full of writings saying that மேலயாளி மந்திரி is a கொலையாளி மந்திரி that is the Malabar Minister is a murderer. The Government did not take action. The Communist Party not only threatened violence, but they actually did violence. Which Government can keep quiet then?

"In Malabar there were assaults on Congressmen. In Kozhikode town the Sub-Inspector of Police was going on his bicycle.

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In open daylight he was surrounded by the Communist volunteers and was very severely belaboured. In these circumstances, how can the Government keep quiet without taking action? I have got some complaints against this Government. My complaint to Government is not that they do not pass legislation, but it is that after passing the legislation they sleep over the matter. They do not take proper action in time. (Hear, hear.) May I tell my leaders on the Treasury Benches that there are spies in their camp. Before the Government think of taking action and banning a party, information goes out to the Communist Party. There are secret emissaries in the Secretariat, and they send out information to the Communist Party. The party is much better organized than any other party. Before the Government think of taking any action, information is sent to them, and they immediately go underground. The Government are not showing sufficient strength. I am afraid there is inefficiency from top to bottom, not only in this matter but in other matters also. You arrest persons and on the third day you release them. You send them on parole. I would like to give an instance of how these people go underground. One K. Damodaran, a prominent Communist of Kerala, was kept in detention. He was very recently sent on parole. Before the period was over, that gentleman went underground. He had again been arrested on information being given to the Police. This shows the weakness and the inefficiency of the Government. I agree with my hon. Friend, Mr. Avinashilingam Chettiyar in saying that if the Government is to govern, it must be strong. If you cannot govern, I will go to the extent of saying let us hand over the Government to the Communist Party. It is stated that there is a method in madness. There should be some method in the Communist madness also. It is better to be in the Communist madness than to be under an inefficient Government and this Public Safety Act. You must wean the people away from this organized Communist Party who are terrorising the people in the country. My request to the Government is to be strong, to be bold, and to take all measures against the Communist menace. There is also the other side to this question. We cannot completely neglect the ameliorative measures. This Ministry, if I may say so, Mr. Speaker, without any offence to the Hon. Leaders on the Treasury Benches, is a Ministry of tourists. They spend their time in touring. They never seriously study the problems. They must sit at headquarters and study all the important problems, and then take action. Of course, the Communists cannot be suppressed by passing any remedial measures. They have to be dealt with seriously. Many people can be easily weaned away from the Communist Party if Government take proper economic measures. Generally it is stated that it is uneasy to wear the Crown. I ask, Mr. Speaker, do any of our Hon. Ministers on the Treasury Bench appear to have any uneasiness from head to foot (laughter). (A voice: 'Not at all'.) They seem to be very happy. They do not see the seriousness of the situation. They should study the problems and carry

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out measures which are necessary for the Government of the country. I shall give one instance. My district is noted for Communist activities. But I tell you Malabar is not Communistic. The last District Board elections have proved this to the hilt. Out of 50 seats the Congress has secured 46 seats. But there are the minorities. Many of the peasants of Malabar can be easily weaned away from the Communist Party if only the Government pass the Tenancy measure. There is the Malabar Tenancy Amendment Act which the Government can pass without the necessity of spending a single pie. The whole of Malabar is crying for tenancy reform, and for the amendment of the existing Act. Mr. Speaker, you ruled out an adjournment motion on this subject this morning. If it were an illegal motion, it is because it comes out of a feeling of discontent. The Kerala Provincial Congress Committee submitted a report to the Government suggesting necessary amendments to the existing Malabar Tenancy Act. The then Revenue Minister Mr. Kala Venkata Rao and the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon came to Malabar. A conference of all the representatives was held there. They discussed all the details of the proposed amendments to the existing Act. Where are those proposals now? What are the Government doing? If you pass that legislation, I assure you that all the Malabar tenants will stand by the Government. There will be no necessity to apply this Public Safety Act in the district of Malabar. There will not be a single person to support the Communist Party. Now they are all underground. If you really help the Malabar tenants by passing this simple legislation, the Communist menace will be easily put down. This simple legislation will not take much time. Many members do not know the A, B, C of this Malabar Tenancy Act. This legislation can be passed in half an hour. If the Hon. Minister for Revenue and the Hon. Minister Mr. Madhava Menon seriously think about this, in half an hour this legislation can be passed, and the tenants of Malabar can be easily removed from the clutches of the Communists. The Hon. Minister for Revenue and the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon should seriously consider this matter, and do the needful."

* SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wholeheartedly support this measure, and I congratulate the Hon. Minister on having brought forward this measure. It is a fact that the Communists are adopting measures which are very dangerous to the society at large and to the Government established by the people's will. As I often used to say, the Communists in India have been always committing mistakes after mistakes. They have been going away from the people's real wishes, and are trying to follow methods which were applied in a foreign country. The seed of Communism cannot grow in India. If at all Communistic ideals will spread, they will spread through Gandhian ideals. Gandhian ideals are the highest of all ideals. Because Gandhiji had shown to the world that is torn with dissensions, wars and violence, a method of non-violent non-co-operation. He has given this weapon to

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the down-trodden and helpless people. I know that if proper propaganda is carried on in the country advocating Gandhiji's principles instead of quarrelling everyday for power among ourselves, I am sure the violent methods of Communists will be detested by the people. What I am complaining is that the Government are unable to create a proper propaganda machinery in order to tell the people the problems of the day. For instance, they have brought forward measures like the Zamindari abolition, Prohibition, Harijan uplift, etc. We are far in advance of any other Province in the matter of road facilities. The Government are also trying to meet the food situation by following certain schemes which are very useful. I could know all these only when I toured with the Hon. Mr. Bakthavatsalam and the Hon. Premier some time back in the Guntur district. But where is the propaganda? What is it that they have done? Did they tell the people through the radio which is in their hands? Did they tell through the Press which is partly in their hands? Did they give publicity to all these measures? Sir, I am myself a journalist, and I have been criticising the Government in season and out of season very severely. Of course, they were constructive criticisms. Finally, what I found was that the Government were not so bad as people were thinking and as I also was thinking because I have actually seen what has been done. I remember the words of His Excellency Sir Archibald Nye in this connexion. He said in this House that 'your leaders are the greatest people who have been able to achieve greater things than leaders in other countries have achieved.' Really speaking, from the Centre to the Provinces we have done very well in governing the country and also in feeling the pulse of the people. We are bringing forward legislations which are very useful to our people. But unfortunately, there is no propaganda. That aspect is very much neglected. Sometimes, my hon. Friend the Finance Minister gets something into his head, and he says 'advertisements tax.' Sometimes, the Government issue statements which are anti-Press, and thereby they make bad friends of the Press. But if a proper propaganda machinery is set up, I think Communism cannot spread and there will be no necessity for putting so many souls in detention and paying them daily Rs. 3 or Rs. 4 for maintenance. As my friend said, not only in Malabar but throughout the Province we saw during the district board elections how the people felt. They gave their votes to the Congress candidates in spite of grumbling that many things have not been done. But Rome was not built in one day. We came only three years ago and we are just proceeding on all fronts very well. Of course, we are neglecting a large section of the people. Who are going under the influence of the Communists? This is a question which can be answered by touching our hearts. They are the labourers and the kisans who form the bulk of the population of this country. To them, no ameliorative methods have been suggested and I find in this House nobody has found out the root causes of the discontent of the people who are

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going to the side of the Communists. Of course, that is also lacking besides the propaganda. What is it that we have done for labour? Have we fixed minimum wages for the agricultural labourers? Have we done anything to protect the interests of the labourers who are working in the factories or of the agriculturists? No doubt, the Government have done something for the zamindari ryots. But what about the other agrarian problems? They have not even touched upon them. My hon. Friend, Mr. Gopala Reddi, when we say that agricultural income-tax is good and there must be progressive taxation, avoids the question because it affects the landholders. What about the uneconomic holders and the poor ryots who are suffering? Have you distributed the agricultural implements properly? The whole system of distribution of implements is a disgusting one and there is nothing but corruption and bribery. Have the Government done well with what is in their power? I am suggesting what they should do and pointing out what they have not done. Sir, the spectre of Communism is haunting all the Asiatic countries. On the one side, 40 crores of people of a vast country of China are under the grip of Communists. Malaya, Burma and many other places are also bubbling with Communistic activities. How are you going to hold India if you are not going to introduce labour legislations and satisfy the labour and the agrarian classes? You will have to do this; otherwise, the same spectre of Communism will one day haunt India too.

"Sir, there are some people who do not like these detentions. Why do not the Communists follow a non-violent method? Adult franchise has been introduced, therefore, the Communists are at liberty to do a lot of propaganda among the people. Communism, as a principle, can be preached to the people and they can be won over by non-violent methods. But our Communists try to win the people by force. Has individual terrorism at any time succeeded not only in India but in any part of the world? There are, of course, patriots who have sacrificed their lives, who have gone to the gallows and who have sacrificed many things by adopting individual terrorism. But who is it that has given us freedom? It is Mahatma Gandhi who followed non-violent methods. This is a dangerous time. On the one hand, you must have legislation, but at the same time you must see that it is only on the Statute book. These detentions must be scrapped. The wrong-doers must be proceeded against in a court of law. There is no use keeping them in jail without trial. Just as the Britishers could not do anything with us by keeping us in detention, so also we cannot do anything with these Communists. So they must be proceeded against individually for offences. There must be not only *danda* but at the same time you must also try to convince them. Both force and propaganda must be used in dealing with the Communists. By trying to win them over, we must govern the Province better. Sir, repression alone will not do. There must be drastic reforms which will be beneficial to the labour and agricultural classes. In the

matter of taxation also, you must be very careful where to touch and where not to touch. With these words, I support the Bill strongly."

* JANAB M. V. HYDROSS:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, personally speaking, I will be one with the Government to suppress all kinds of subversive activities in this country, but with this qualification that it should be consistent with individual liberty. The Madras Maintenance of Public Order Act was passed two years ago and the Government had ample opportunities and full power in their hands to put down all kinds of illegal and subversive activities in this Province. I am really sorry to note that the Hon. Minister has not given us a detailed account of the working of the Act so far. He has not informed this House of the number of persons dealt with under the various provisions of the Act, so far. Regarding the activities of one particular party, we are given some information and that information is not sufficient to warrant the enactment or rather a reiteration of the very same Act, now. There are certain important sections of the Criminal Procedure Code, which are considered as the chapter dealing with preventive measures, empowering the executive authority to put down lawlessness in the country. For example, sections 107, 110, 144 and 151 give power to deal with lawlessness in an emergent manner. Therefore, they are quite sufficient for the present. In fact, even while the new enactment was in force, the officials were freely making use of these provisions. Apart from that, when we speak of the general policy of the Government, this Bill does not come with grace from a party or from a Government which has been pleading for the separation of the judiciary from the executive. Very recently we were gloating over the fact that in our Province we have initiated the separation of the judiciary from the executive. But now what do we find under the new Act? Under clauses 4-A and 20 of the Bill, an executive officer cannot be questioned in a court of law for the acts done by him. My submission is that the ordinary safeguards given under the civil law and the Penal Code are sufficient for all officers and we have to infuse confidence in the minds of the public that anything done by the Government will not be to the prejudice of the people and that their individual liberty and freedom of action will not be curtailed so long as their activities are not subversive. Sir, in Malabar, I was just speaking with some friends and curiously enough it happened that I was the only person there who was a member of the Legislative Assembly. They were simply telling me, 'There are certain unruly elements in this land. They are not only members of the Communist party but are even Congressmen. We find that they have done away with their theory of Ahimsa. Whatever it is, their activities have to be condemned. But the Government, instead of taking proper steps to alleviate the misery of the people, are creating conditions which rather implement the discontent among the people. You are having a number of Ordinances and you are having only a number of Acts.

When we ask for food, you simply give us Ordinances. When we ask for sugar, you give us another Act.' This is what they told me. Acts are not necessary for the time being. For example, Mr. Govinda Menon greatly pressed the absolute necessity of enacting or rather making sufficient modifications in the Malabar Tenancy Act, which would prevent a large section of the people from falling into the traps of the Communists. That has not been heeded. We all met in a conference in Malabar at the Huzur office in which two of the Hon. Ministers participated. We had discussions. Nobody knows what has happened to those discussions and at what stage the Bill is now. If we really have some legislation, it shall not be only in the paper. The Government should take care that these legislations are implemented. Many of the Acts are only adorning the Statute book and the machinery of propaganda as far as these various enactments are concerned being weak, the people do not know these provisions. There should be some kind of safety and security imbibed in the minds of the people. It is only then they will not fall victims to false propaganda and subversive activities. Not only the Communists but also some other people create disruption in the land. Therefore, I submit that there should be sufficient and efficient propaganda. There should be sufficient co-operation between all the people who really dislike disturbances in this country. I would submit, Sir, that even though we may belong to different political parties, we are one in dealing with the Communists, who are really creating great disorder in the land. At the same time, the party in power or other parties whoever they may be, they should have a kind of co-operation between all the parties in the Province. They should try to take in the other people also into their confidence when dealing with such emergencies. I would request this House, Sir, that in future whenever we have to face such menaces, whenever we feel that any political party or any individual is against the law and doing acts against the law of the land, whenever any person indulges in subversive activities, all the resources in the country should be collected together. We should all meet together and discuss the various matters and give as much help to the authorities as possible. With these remarks, I would suggest that clauses 4-A and 20 of the Act may be omitted." 4-45 p.m.

* SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN:—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இப் பொழுது எனக்கு முன் பேசிய மகிழ்ச்சுக்குரிய கனம் மெம்பர்கள் தற் போது கம்யூனிஸ்ட்டுகள் செய்துவரும் கொடும் செய்கைகளைத் தடுப்பதற்கு இந்த சட்டம்போன்ற சட்டங்கள் பிரயோஜனம் இல்லை என்றும், அவை களின் root cause அதாவது அடிப்படை காரணம் என்னவென்று தெரிந்துகொண்டு அவைகளை அகற்றவேண்டுமென்றும், அதிலும் குறிப் பாக கனம் டி. எஸ். அவினாசிலிங்கம் செட்டியார் அவர்கள் எடுத்துக் கூறினார். நம் மாபெறும் தலைவர் பண்டித நேரு அவர்களுடைய சமீபத்தில் அமெரிக்காவில் சொல்லும்பொழுது கம்யூனிஸ்ட்டுகளின் நடவடிக்கைகளை தடுக்கவேண்டுமென்றும், அவர்களுடைய கொள்கைகள் பரவுவதற்குக் கார ணம் வறுமைதான் என்பதையும் வற்புறுத்தியிருக்கிறார். நம்முடைய தலைவர்களாகிய மந்திரிகளுக்கும் அவைகளின் அடிப்படைக்காரணம் தெரி யாமலில்லை. அதேசமயத்தில் இந்த உலகத்திலேயே நம் சர்க்காரைத்தவிர

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பாக்கி எந்த சர்க்காரும் இந்த மாதிரியான கொடும் செய்கைகளை பொறுமையாக பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருந்ததாக எனக்குத் தெரியவில்லை. எனென்றால் 1942-ம் வருஷத்தில் ஆகஸ்டு போராட்ட காலத்திலிருந்த இந்த Advisory சர்க்கார் எவ்வாறு நம்மீது அவசர சட்டங்களை பிரயோகித்துக் கொண்டிருந்தார்கள் என்பதை நாம் அறிவோம். அவைகளைப் பார்த்தோம், அனுபவித்தோம். சமீபத்தில் மலேயா தேசத்தில்கூட யாராவது ஒருவன் ஆயுதத்தை வைத்துக்கொண்டிருந்தால் அவனுக்கு மரண தண்டனைதான் விதிக்கப்படும் என்பதாக சட்டம் இயற்றப்பட்டிருந்து அவ்விதமே பலரும் மரண தண்டனையும் அடைந்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்பது நமக்கு தெரிந்த விஷயம். அது மாத்திரம் அல்ல. ரஷ்யாவில் இந்த மாதிரியான கொடுமைகளை யாராவது அரசியல் கட்சிகளின் பெயரால் கொடுமைகளைப் புரிந்துகொண்டிருந்தால் ரஷ்ய சர்க்கார் அதை சும்மா பார்த்துக் கொண்டிருக்கமாட்டார்கள் என்பதை நாம் பார்த்திருக்கிறோம். சென்ற இரண்டு வருஷங்களாக இந்த கம்யூனிஸ்ட்டுகளின் கொடுமைச் செய்கைகளைப் பார்த்துக்கொண்டு பொறுமையோடு நம் சர்க்காருந்துகொண்டு வருகிறது. நம்முடைய சர்க்காருக்கு கம்யூனிஸ்ட்டு கட்சியின் கொடுமைகளுக்கு அடிப்படை காரணம் தெரியாமல் இல்லை. அவைகளைத் தடுப்பதற்கு நம் சர்க்கார் இப்பொழுது தகுந்த நடவடிக்கைகளை எடுத்துக் கொள்வதைத்தவிர வேறு வழி இல்லை. இதைப்பற்றி பல மெம்பர்கள் பல அபிப்பிராயம் சொன்னார்கள். அவர்களில் எனது தலைவர் கனம் எ. வைத்யனாதய்யர் அவர்கள் பழனி தாலூகாவில் நடந்த விஷயங்களைப் பற்றியும் சொன்னார். சமீபத்தில் போலீசார் செய்த அக்கிரமங்களைப்பற்றி அவர் சொன்னது அத்தனையும் உண்மை. நானும் பழனி தாலூகா வாசிதான். அங்கே சென்ற இரண்டு வருஷங்களாக கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் எடுத்து வரும் நடவடிக்கைகளைப்பற்றி சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இப்பொழுது வெகு சமீபத்தில் தான் போலீஸ் நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுத்துகொள்ளப்பட்டது. அதற்குமுன்பு கம்யூனிஸ்ட்டுகள் செய்து வந்த அக்கிரமங்களை என்போன்றவர்கள் சகிக்க முடியாமல் போலீஸ் உத்யோகஸ்தர்களுக்கும் ஐ.ஜி. அவர்களுக்கும்கூட தகுந்த நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று செய்தி அனுப்பினோம். அதற்கு அவர்கள் அவர்களின் மேல் தகுந்த நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுக்க அந்தக் காலத்தில் தகுந்த சட்டம் இல்லை என்று சொன்னார்கள். இப்பொழுது பழனி தாலூகாவில் நடந்த குறிப்பான இரண்டொரு விஷயங்களைப்பற்றி சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். குறிப்பாக ஒட்டன்சத்திரம் என்ற ஊரில் கம்யூனிஸ்ட்டுகள் **organised looting** அதாவது அவர்கள் நல்ல முறையில் கொள்ளையடித்தல், கொலை செய்தல் முதலியவைகளைச் செய்து, வழிகளில் செல்லும் லாரிகளையும், வண்டிகளையும் கொள்ளையடித்து வந்தார்கள். இன்னும் அவர்கள் விவசாயிகளிடம் சென்று வாரம் கொடுக்கும் விஷயத்தில் தகராறுகளை கிளப்பி விவசாயிகளுக்கும் நிலச்சுவான்தார்களுக்கும் சண்டையை மூட்டிக்கொண்டு வந்தார்கள். ஆயக்குடி கிராமத்தில் ஒரு காங்கிரஸ் கூட்டம் நடந்தபொழுது மதுரை ஜில்லா காங்கிரஸ் கமிட்டி **President** பேசிக்கொண்டிருந்தார். அந்தக் கூட்டத்திற்கு நான் தலைமை வகித்தேன். அப்பொழுது இந்த கம்யூனிஸ்ட்டுகள் கழுதைகளைப் பிடித்து அவைகளின் வால்களில் ஓலையைக்கட்டி கூட்டத்தின் நடுவில் விரட்டியடித்தார்கள். இந்த கூட்டத்தை கழுதைகள்தான் பார்க்க வேண்டுமென்றும், பேச்சுகளை கழுதைகள்தான் கேட்கவேண்டுமென்றும் சொல்லி ஆர்ப்பாட்டம் செய்தார்கள். காந்தியின் அடிப்படைக் கொள்கையான அஹிம்சையை பின்பற்றியதால் நாங்கள் பொறுமையாக பார்த்துக் கொண்டிருந்தோம். ஆனால் அந்தக் கூட்டத்தில் பலாத்கார முறையை கையாண்டு அவர்களை விரட்டியடித்து கூட்டத்தை நடத்தியிருக்க முடியும் என்பதை நான் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். காந்தியின் அடிப்படைக்கொள்கையை பின்பற்றியிருந்ததால் பொறுமையுடன் கழுதைகளை விரட்டிவிட்டு நாங்கள் கூட்டத்தை நடத்தினோம்.

"அது மாத்திரமல்ல. இந்த கம்யூனிஸ்ட்டுகள் **Pamphlets** அச்சடித்துக் கொண்டு அவைகளை பரப்பிக்கொண்டுமிருந்தார்கள். அப்படி **Pamphlets** களில் பாட்டுக்களை அச்சடித்து அந்த பாட்டுக்களையும் வெகு அழகாகப் பாடிக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். 'காங்கிரஸ்காரர்களின் கண்ணைக் குத்துவோம்' என்று ராகம்போட்டுக்கொண்டு வெகு அழகாக ஒரு கூட்டத்தில் பாடினார்கள்.

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இவர்கள் அரசியல் வாதிகளா என்பதை எல்லோரும் யோசித்துப் பாருங்கள். இவைகளை யெல்லாம் நம் சர்க்கார் பொறுமையுடன் பார்த்துக் கொண்டுதானிருந்தார்கள். என் மற்ற அரசியல் கட்சிகளின் உறுமைகளை பரிக்கக்கூடாது என்ற காரணத்திற்காகத்தான். இந்த மாதிரியான காரியங்களைக்கூட நம் சர்க்கார் பார்த்துக்கொண்டும் சகித்துக்கொண்டு மிருந்தார்கள். இருந்தாலும்கூட வெகு நல்ல முறையில் நம் சர்க்கார் இந்த மாதிரியான அக்கிரமங்களை ஒழிப்பதற்கு நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுத்துக் கொண்டதற்கு நம் சர்க்காரை நாம் மனமார பாராட்டாமலிருக்க முடியாது என்பதை இச்சமயம் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"ஒரு சமயம் பழநி காங்கிரஸ்காரர் ஒருவர் மதுரையிலிருந்து வந்துக் கொண்டிருக்கும்பொழுது அவர் வருகையை எதிர்ப்பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருந்து ஒட்டன்சத்திரத்தில் அவரை 30 கம்யூனிஸ்ட்டு ஆட்கள் மடக்கிக்கொண்டார்கள். அங்கே அவரை நையப் புடைத்து வீதியிலும் இழுத்து எரிந்து விட்டார்கள். பின்னால் மற்றொரு காங்கிரஸ்காரர் வீட்டில் ஒளிந்துகொண்ட பொழுது இந்த கம்யூனிஸ்ட்டுகள் இரவில் சுமார் 7, 8 ரிவால்வர்களுடனும், துப்பாக்கிகளுடனும் வந்து அந்த காங்கிரஸ்காரர் ஒளிந்துக் கொண்டிருக்கும் வீட்டை சுற்றிக்கொண்டார்கள். அப்பொழுது அவர் உள்ளேயிருந்துகொண்டு தான் போட்டுக்கொண்டுவிட்டார். அப்படியிருந்தும் அந்த கம்யூனிஸ்ட்டுகள் இரவு பூராவிலும் அந்த ஊர் ஜனங்களை பயமுறுத்திக் கொண்டும், யாராகிலும் வந்தால் அவர்களை கொலை செய்து விடுவோம் என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டும், அந்த ஊர்எங்கும் **Country bomb**-களை போட்டுக்கொண்டுயிருந்தார்கள். அப்பொழுது அந்த ஊர் ஜனங்களால் போலீஸ்காரர்களுக்கு தகவல்கொடுக்க முடியாமலிருந்ததால் போலீஸ்காரர்கள் வந்து அந்த ஊர் ஜனங்களுக்கு உதவிசெய்ய முடியாமலிருந்தது. அவ்விதம் கம்யூனிஸ்ட்டுகள் இரவு பூராவும் அட்டகாசம் செய்துகொண்டு கிராம ஜனங்களை மிகவும் துன்புறுத்திக்கொண்டுமிருந்தார்கள். அதனால் ஜனங்கள் பயந்து ஒடுங்கிப்போய்விட்டார்கள். இந்தமாதிரியாக அரசியல் வாதிகள் என்று கொடுமைகளைச் செய்து வருவதை சர்க்கார் பார்த்துக் கொண்டிருக்கமுடியாது.

"அதுமாத்திரமல்ல. இன்னொன்றையும் சொல்லப் பிரியப்படுகிறேன். இந்த கம்யூனிஸ்ட்டுகள் பெரும்பாலும் எங்கே செல்லுகிறார்கள் என்றால் ஊரில் எங்கே ஏழைகளாக இருக்கும் ஹரிஜனங்கள் இருக்கிறார்களோ அங்கேதான் இவர்கள் மிகவும் செல்கின்றார்கள். எனென்றால் ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய கஷ்டங்கள்தான் எல்லோருக்கும் தெரிந்ததே. ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குத் தகுந்த முறையில் அவர்களுக்கும், முதலாளிகளுக்கும், மிராசுதார்களுக்கும் இடையே வெள்ளாமை விஷயத்திலும் ஊதியம் கொடுக்கும் விஷயத்திலும் தகராறுகளை கிளப்பிவிடுகிறார்கள். இவர்களுடைய சொற்களை நம்பி ஹரிஜனங்கள் தங்களுடைய ஏழ்மைத்தனத்தால் ஏமாற்றம் அடைகிறார்கள். இந்த கம்யூனிஸ்ட்டுகளின் கொடுமைகளால் மிகவும் பாதிக்கப்படுகிறவர்கள் இந்த ஹரிஜனங்கள்தான் என்பதை நாம் அறிகிறோம். அதற்கு நாம் வருந்தாமலிருக்க முடியவில்லை. ஹரிஜனங்கள் ஏழை தொழிலாளர்களாக இருப்பதால் ஏமாற்றம்டைகிறார்கள் என்பதை தெரியப்படுத்த விரும்புகிறேன்.

"சமீபகாலத்தில் போலீஸ் எடுத்துவரும் அத்துமீறிய நடவடிக்கைகளைப்பற்றி பலர் சொன்னது ஓரளவு உண்மை இல்லாமல் இல்லை. ஏதோ தனிப்பட்ட இடங்களில் போலீஸ்காரர்கள் தவறுதல் செய்தால் அதே அபிப்பிராயத்தை எல்லோரிடமும் வைப்பது என்பது சரியல்ல. அப்படிப்பட்ட தனிப்பட்ட போலீஸ்காரர்கள்மீது சர்க்கார் தகுந்த நடவடிக்கைகள் கட்டாயம் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். அப்பொழுதுதான் மக்களிடை அமைதி நிலவும். அத்துடன் கம்யூனிஸ்ட்டுகளின் பயங்கர நடவடிக்கைகளை ஒடுக்கவும் சர்க்கார் உடனுக்குடன் தகுந்த நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக் கொள்ளவேண்டும். இல்லாவிட்டால் எங்குபார்த்தாலும் கொள்ளையும், கொலையும், களவும் நடக்கும் என்பதை தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டு கனம் மந்திரியவர்களால் கொண்டுவரப்பட்ட இந்த சட்டத்தை முழுமனதுடன் ஆதரிக்கிறேன்."

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SRI M. A. EASWARAN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I welcome this motion moved by Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon. For some time past, lawless activities and sabotage activities have been on the increase in the country. To quote one example, recently in the S.I.Ry. engine shed at Erode, one of the engines which was working, was almost completely burnt. Only the framework was left. By this, there was a loss of 3 to 4 lakhs of rupees. In another case, another engine was purposely pushed down into a pit and it could not be removed for three days. After that, cranes had to be obtained from the M. & S.M. Railway for removing this engine from the pit. It took three days. Still, it was possible to take the engine only part by part. This also involved in a loss of about 3 to 4 lakhs. Then take the case of setting fire to the gunny godown in the Madukkarai Cement Factory. The object of the Communists is to create impediments in the way of the constructive work of the Government. The Government are constructing the Lower Bhavani Project. For this project, large quantities of cement are required. The Madukkarai Cement Factory was supplying cement to this project. The Communists set fire to large stocks of gunny bags which were stored in the factory. Their object is to obstruct the factory from supplying cement to this project and thus delay the work of the project. They want to put some impediment in the way of the constructive work of the Government.

" Here, I would like to bring to the notice of the House the harassment to which some of the loyal workers are subjected to. In one of the South Indian Railway workshops, there is a loyal worker by name Ramadorai Ayyar, who was giving information to the authorities every now and then about the Communist activities. One evening at about 5-30 when he was in his house, about 25 Communists raided his house. These people were armed with deadly weapons. Ramadorai Ayyar was hit in the head and wounds, some of which are bone-deep ones, were inflicted on his body in three or four places. His five-year old daughter who was standing closeby, seeing her father being assaulted like this, was crying. These people did not even spare this child and they beat this child also. Immediately, Ramadorai Ayyar went to the railway police station and informed the police about this. The Sub-Inspector came with some constables. On seeing the Police, the raiders ran away. The next day, the reserve police came and they searched the neighbouring villages and arrested 19 persons. Six went underground and are yet to be arrested. The Communists are attacking the Indian Government, the Provincial Government and Ministers. At nights, they paste posters on the walls, which contain matter attacking the Government.

" There is another incident. Some time back, the Blue Mountain Express was proceeding from Madras. Near Karrupur railway station, fish plates were removed to a length of 150 feet. One villager by name Muthuswamy, seeing this, ran quite a long distance, reached the Karrupur railway station and informed the

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stationmaster and police about this. Immediately, the stationmaster made the train stop and thus averted a serious accident. It took three hours to effect the necessary repairs to the line and the train reached Erode safely after this delay. Had this villager Muthuswamy not informed the station master and the authorities about this mischief, there would have been a great disaster involving the lives of many people. Muthuswami and people like him, should be honoured publicly both by the Government and the people. We want more and more of such men in order to put down the Communist activities and their subversive activities. I do not think that the Government have yet honoured this villager Muthuswami.

" So far as the Communist activities are concerned, this measure which the Government have brought forward is really very good. The Government must be strong enough to put down these activities. I may also mention here the incident that took place when the Hon. Food Minister Roche Victoria visited Coimbatore. A bomb was thrown on the car in which he was going. In Tiruppur, there was a small factory where crude bombs were being manufactured to be thrown against the leaders and other people whom the Communists do not like. In Erode Railway Workshop, they used to manufacture daggers. They used to rob fused bulbs and nitric acid. They filled the bulbs with nitric acid and threw these bulbs on the faces of the people whom they do not want. This kind of thing is going on in Erode and other places. Also, take the case of the Asher Textiles in Tiruppur. There, the Communists have destroyed almost all the costly machinery resulting in the loss of about 10 lakhs of rupees. Again, we have heard of the daring murder of a municipal councillor of Tiruppur at 10 during day time recently. The Police were able to detect three or four culprits. Such are the activities of the Communists. Now the Government have brought forward this measure. I welcome this wholeheartedly.

" On the ameliorative side, I admit, Sir, that there is discontent among the people about controls. But when once the controls are removed, this discontent will also disappear along with the removal. As regards Prohibition, Sir, a number of tree tappers are thrown out of employment."

MR. SPEAKER:—" If the hon. Member has got much to say, he can continue his speech to-morrow; but if he can finish his speech in two or three minutes, he can do so."

SRI M. A. EASWARAN:—" I will finish in two or three minutes, Sir. The prices of sugar and jaggery are on the increase. People need sugar and jaggery very badly. Attention must now be paid to increase the production of these and especially that of jaggery. If this is done, the unemployment problem among the tree tappers will also be solved to some extent. With these few words, I support the Bill wholeheartedly."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I now adjourn the House till 11 a.m. to-morrow."

IV.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

1. *Statement showing the Resolutions passed by the Assembly House Committee during the 5th and 6th sessions and the action taken thereon.*

2. *G.O. No.* 2031, *L.A., dated 4th October* 1949, *regarding fresh polls to be held at the Eddanapudi Polling Station—Circle XX, Guntur District Board.*

3. *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No.* 3838, *Home, dated 24th September* 1949, *regarding exemption from payment of tax of a motor car used for B.C.G. Vaccination campaign.*

a Placed on the table on 7th November 1949.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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MADRAS

Wednesday, the 9th November 1949.

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.

Amalgamation of the Food and Agriculture departments.

* 31 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government to amalgamate the Food and Agriculture departments into one department?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of the Hon. the Premier) :—" The subject ' Agriculture ' has been transferred from Development Department to Food Department and the Food Department has been redesignated as " Food and Agriculture Department."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL :—" In view of the need for much collaboration and co-ordination between those two departments, wil. the Government consider the advisability of giving these two portfolios to one Minister? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" It is entirely a different matter and it is for the Hon. the Premier to decide."

Free medical treatment in Government Hospitals.

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

(*a*) whether it is a fact that only persons drawing a salary of Rs. 50 and below per mensem are given free medical treatment in Government hospitals; and

(*b*) whether the Government have any proposal to extend free medical treatment to those whose earnings do not exceed Rs. 100 per month?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) The Government are examining the question of raising the present assessable limit for the levy of hospital stoppages in the Government hospitals to the extent possible."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" May I know, Sir, whether it is the intention of the Government to extend the limit to Rs. 75 or Rs. 100? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It all depends upon the amount of loss which the Government have to bear on that account. The matter is being examined."

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SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government will consider the question of giving free medical treatment to the Non-Gazetted Officers serving under them before the question of the public receiving any benefit under the proposed revision is taken up? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The question of payment depends upon the capacity to pay and even now poor people are not charged anything for treatment. It is only a question of asking people who can afford to pay, to pay. The matter is being examined with reference to persons getting between Rs. 75 and Rs. 100. With regard to others, it is their obligation to pay, if they can."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Will the Government consider the case of Non-Gazetted Officers serving under them as a special case for free treatment in hospitals? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Non-gazetted officers cannot be treated as a separate class, apart from the income they receive by way of salaries."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN :—" May I know, Sir, if the Members of the Legislature will be given any special concession and privileges in the hospitals? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The matter is not before the Government; but it has to be considered with reference to the income of the Legislators."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" Since the matter has been pending for a long time and as I understand that the Hon. Minister has already called for information from the various hospitals, may I know whether an early decision will be arrived at on the question? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I have already stated, Sir, that the matter is engaging the attention of the Government and as soon as the information called for is received, the question will be decided."

SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN :—" May I know whether the Ministers get free treatment? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I do not know anything about that; as far as I am concerned, I paid once for the treatment of a relative of mine."

SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN :—" May I know whether the Speaker is getting free treatment? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I do not know whether any of them have seriously fallen ill so far. If they do in future, they will get treatment consistent with their status."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" May I know the basis on which stoppages are collected, whether they represent the cost of the ward or the medicine, or they vary with the disease, as in a case like Tuberculosis, it would not be fair for the Government to collect the stoppages irrespective of the income? "

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Poor patients, who cannot afford to pay are treated gratis. It is only when the patients can afford to pay, the question of payment comes in."

JANAB M. V. HYDROSS :—" May I know, Sir, whether the same concession will be allowed to the dependants of the public servants? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" No, Sir."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR :—" Does the Hon. Minister seriously believe that free treatment is going to add to the number of applicants for free treatment? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Certainly Sir, when free treatment is allowed, a large number will apply."

Community radio set receiving medium and short wave stations.

* 33 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the experiments conducted by the Radio Engineer under the scheme of designing and assembling a suitable community radio set capable of receiving all the medium and short wave stations, were successful; and

(*b*) if so, how many sets have been prepared by the department so far?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Experiments were conducted and a suitable model has been designed and tested. It seems to satisfy our requirements; but it is prudent to watch its performance in the field.

" (*b*) Twenty sets out of which fourteen have been installed in various schools and panchayat boards to receive school and rural programmes. The remaining sets are under test and they will also be installed in rural areas shortly."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL :—" As it is the policy of the Government to instal in each village a radio set and in view of the success achieved in this experiment, will the Government consider the question of establishing a small factory to manufacture these radio sets and do away with sets imported from foreign countries? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" We shall consider that suggestion when the experiment is completed."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN :—" May I know the cost of each radio set? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" About Rs. 280 or Rs. 290."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" Are the Government aware that in spite of repeated requests for sets from the agency parts inhabited by aboriginals, no set has so far been made available to them and will the Government consider the idea of supplying them the sets at least now? "

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I am not aware of any repeated requests made nor am I aware that no set has been supplied so far."

Separation of the Judiciary from the Executive.

* 34 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL : Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Scheme of Separation of the Judiciary from the Executive is being implemented *piecemeal* by introducing it in some of the districts as a preliminary step towards complete separation?

THE HON SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of the Hon. the Premier) :—" Yes. The Scheme of Separation of the Judiciary from the Executive has been put into operation in the two districts of North Arcot and Chingleput with effect from 2nd October 1949."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL :—" When it is the decided policy of the Government to separate the Executive from the Judiciary may I know how it has become necessary to experiment with the scheme and is it because the Government feel doubtful of its success."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" In the very nature of things, administrative convenience requires a little bit of experimenting in this case; we are doing it without any change in the existing law and without any additional cost and so we want to see how it works."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—" May I know whether the Government have any idea of extending the experiment to other districts in the near future? "

THE HON. SRI K MADHAVA MENON :—" Yes, Sir. It has already been decided to extend it to four more districts on 1st January 1950."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI :—" May I know, Sir, the time within which the scheme will be extended throughout the Province and the place Guntur occupies in such an extension? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I cannot say the place Guntur occupies. The scheme will be put into operation in districts with reference to the local administrative convenience."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know whether it is not a fact that the legal profession of Mathurai has objected to the introduction of this scheme in Mathurai district and if so, what are the reasons advanced for such an objection? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Not at all, Sir. Nowhere has the legal profession objected to the reform."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" May I know when the scheme will be extended to the southern districts—Mathurai, Ramnad and Tirunelveli? "

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" It will be extended in Tirunelveli in January next."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN :—" Is it a fact, Sir, that under the scheme, the Judiciary has still to take instructions from the Executive in certain matters? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Not at all, as far as the Judicial Magistrates are concerned."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM :—" May I know whether any representation has been received from the Tirunelveli District Congress Committee to postpone the scheme in Tirunelveli district? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Yes, Sir. We got a communication from the Committee. Later on we also saw in the press a resolution to that effect passed at a meeting in Tirunelveli where the hon. Member was also present."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" Will the Hon. Minister please include Visakhapatnam in the next list of extensions? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The present idea is to include it also on its bifurcation."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR :—" Salem was the first district where prohibition was introduced. May I ask whether it will not be good to introduce this system of separation of Judiciary from the Executive in Salem so that prohibition, etc., can be better enforced? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I do not want the fate of prohibition in Salem for this also." (Laughter.)

SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" May I know, Sir, what the four districts are where separation is to be extended? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I thought the hon. Member would have seen it in the papers. The four districts are Anantapur, Bellary, Chittoor and Tirunelveli."

SRI V. S. SANKARA SUBRAHMANYA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the Tirunelveli Bar Association have passed any resolution on this matter? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Yes, Sir; they have wholeheartedly supported the separation of Judiciary from the Executive."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" Will the Government consider the question of including two more districts, viz., Cuddapah and Kurnool, while extending the scheme to the four districts already mentioned? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" We have considered the desirability of including Cuddapah and Kurnool and they will be taken in due couse." 11-15 a.m.

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" Do the Government think that by the separation so far carried out, expenditure has been reduced and efficiency has been increased? "

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I do not at all say that the former magistrates were inefficient."

SRI L. C. PAIS :—" What criterion is usually adopted by the Government when they select particular districts for the introduction of this scheme, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" General administrative convenience, Sir."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—" Since the Hon. Minister is completely satisfied about the soundness of the scheme why not he take his own district into consideration for the experiment? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I am afraid, Sir, I will not be so partial to my own district in this matter."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID :—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that the good effects of this separation will not be felt if the separation takes place at the district level only and not at the provincial level? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Not at all, Sir. Good is good everywhere."

JANAB P. P. HASSAN KOYA :—" May I know when this scheme will come into force in Malabar, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I cannot prognosticate about it, Sir."

JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI :—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that the previous Government made a promise on the floor of the House when the question of separation was being discussed that before they enforced the scheme, the whole scheme would be placed before the House for discussion and decision? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I am not aware of any such undertaking, Sir. I will look into the matter."

DR. S. SUBRAHMANYA AYYAR :—" May we know from the Government, Sir, how the police have reacted to this separation? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" They have reacted very well, Sir. They have co-operated very well."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN :—" May I know if any members of the bar have been recruited to the judiciary under this separation scheme now introduced in two or three districts? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Yes, Sir. Eighty per cent of the sub-magistrates that have been appointed have been recruited from the bar."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that this scheme of separation is only partial and not complete? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" It is complete in the districts where it has been introduced."

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SRI B. ANANTACHAR :—" When will Madras be separated under this scheme, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I am not aware of any proposal to separate Madras, Sir."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :—" Under the scheme of separation, will the Hon. Minister consider that the area of two districts is too large for one judicial officer to manage? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Not at all, Sir. In view of the amount of criminal work in the two districts the area is not too large. We have taken into consideration the amount of criminal litigation in the area before fixing the jurisdiction."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :—" Quite apart from the number of cases in the two districts, does the Hon. Minister realize that the area being too large will not enable the magistrate to have proper and efficient control over the subordinate magistrates below him? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I do not think there is any such difficulty. Anyhow it has to be seen, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" Arising out of the answer that 80 per cent of the magistrates were appointed from the bar, what will happen to the remaining 20 per cent, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" They were transferred from the cadre of public prosecutors and the revenue department officers who were qualified already in law."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI :—" When the scheme has in general received the unanimous support of the House, would not the Government think it necessary to put it before the House and receive a few suggestions from it."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" We shall consider the question of putting the scheme before the House, Sir."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" While making the appointments under the scheme, may I know whether the communal Government Order was applied to the appointments and if so, whether the members of the backward community got their due share of appointments? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" In the matter of the recruitment of the District Magistrate, the High Court suggested the name. In the matter of the appointment of subdivisional magistrates, three munsifs were appointed by the High Court. One Deputy Collector also was appointed. Among sub-magistrates, I think, more than 60 per cent were backward Hindus."

JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI :—" In view of the great importance of the scheme and the large interests

that it will affect, may I know if the Government will be prepared to allot a day for a debate on this question so that hon. Members may express their own views on it? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I do not think it will be possible to allot a day for a debate on this question. We will soon get an opportunity to discuss the subject when supplementary demands come up before the House."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister that 20 per cent of the magistrates will be drawn from the Revenue Department, in that case, I am afraid that the representation of the Harijans will be nullified as there are very few Harijans . . . ? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member may put it in the form of a question."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" Will the Government consider the question of selecting all qualified Harijans for this 20 per cent? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I cannot give any such undertaking. The selection will be made by the Public Service Commission. Only temporary appointments have been made. If qualified Harijans are there, certainly they will get proper consideration."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI :—" Will the Hon. Minister give us an idea as to how the scheme is working in the two districts where it is being experimented? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" It is only about a month or so ago that this was introduced. The impression the Government have obtained so far is that the scheme is working splendidly well."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH :—" What is the percentage of Harijans already recruited to the Judicial Service, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I should like to have notice, Sir."

Supply of electricity to South Kanara from Gersoppa in Mysore.

* 35 *Q.*—JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government of Madras have entered into a final agreement with the Government of Mysore for the supply of electricity to South Kanara from the Hydro-Electric works of Jog Falls at Gersoppa in Mysore Territory;

(*b*) if so, what steps, if any, the Government of Madras have taken or propose to take for distribution in South Kanara of the electrical energy to be obtained from this source; and

(*c*) what the rates fixed under the agreement are and what the rates will be for supply to the public in South Kanara?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) No. At a conference held at Bangalore on 3rd April 1948, the Mysore representatives agreed to supply to South Kanara Power from Jog to the extent of 2,000 K.W. initially and 6,000 K.W. ultimately. The Mysore Government have not yet officially confirmed this verbal undertaking and this Government are in touch with Mysore.

" (*b*) This Government have on hand a detailed scheme, estimated to cost Rs. 48·32 lakhs initially rising to Rs. 62·05 lakhs in the tenth year, for distribution in South Kanara of power to be purchased from Mysore Government. The scheme will be implemented as soon as Mysore confirm their informal offer to supply upto 6,000 K.W. of power to South Kanara from their Jog scheme.

' (*c*) The rate for supply is under negotiation with Mysore; but it is hoped that the rate will be such as will enable this Government to supply power to consumers at the normal hydro electric tariff of the Madras Government."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN :—" May I know whether this Government are taking any further steps to move the Mysore Government to come to a final settlement as early as possible? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" A settlement has been practically reached. We are awaiting the confirmation of the same. The scheme for extension has also been sanctioned by the Government. It will be taken up as soon as Mysore formally confirms the undertaking."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN :—" Will the Hon. Minister be able to give an assurance that as soon as confirmation of the undertaking is received from the Mysore Government, this Government will take early steps, if possible in 1950–51, to lay the lines and undertake the work? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Yes, Sir, I can give that assurance that we shall undertake the work. But I cannot give the assurance when it will be complete. We shall certainly start the work."

Provincial Finance Ministers' Conference at Delhi.

* 36 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state what advantages are expected to accrue to the financial position of our Province as a result of the recent Provincial Finance Ministers' Conference at Delhi?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" During the Conference of Provincial Premiers and Finance Ministers held in New Delhi from the 21st to the 24th July 1949, there was a general exchange of views in regard to the various financial provisions in the draft constitution. As a result, Article 260,

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of the draft constitution has been amended recently to provide for the appointment of the Finance Commission within two years from the commencement of the constitution, instead of only after five years, as originally contemplated The Finance Commission will make recommendations in regard to the distribution between the Union and the States (Provinces) of the net proceeds of taxes which are to be divided between them, grants-in-aid to States and allied matters. It is hoped that the Commission will recommend larger allocation of revenues to States (Provinces)."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM :—" In view of the fact that the complaint of this Province has been all along that the allocation of the revenues in favour of this Province has been very slender, may I know whether the Hon. the Finance Minister is satisfied that the terms offered by the Central Government are sufficient at present and that in future he will have sufficient financial resources? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Nothing can be anticipated pending the appointment of the Finance Commission."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :—" Quite apart from the Finance Commission which may come into being later on, will the Hon. Minister for Finance tell the house to what extent the revenues of the Province will be depleted the moment the Government of India takes steps to collect certain items of taxation from this Province which at the moment are under the exclusive control of the Provincial Government? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" I think the hon. Member may put a separate question."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :—" This is a very relevant question, Sir, I submit, arising out of the answer given by the Hon. the Finance Minister."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" As far as I can see no tax that is now being levied by the Provincial Government is going to be taken over by the Government of India under the new constitution, but certain taxes like the general sales-tax will not be permitted to be levied hereafter on exports to other provinces and other countries."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :—" Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to say what will be the position of Advertisements Tax under the new Constitution? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" It is a matter of detail. If the Hon. Minister is prepared to answer, I have no objection."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Just now it is in the Provincial list. Hereafter it will go into the Central list. The

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Government of India will have a uniform basis of taxation in regard to this and the amounts that accrue in the various provinces will be handed over to those respective provinces."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN :—" In as much as the Central Government have refused to grant a loan of Rs. 10 crores to this Government it appears that the Hon. the Finance Minister has been very busy contacting industrialists and businessmen to draw money from them. May I know what has happened to his efforts? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" It is not a fact that the Government of India have refused a loan of ten crores to this Government."

SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" May I know to what extent the finances of this Government will be reduced when a portion of the general sales tax revenues is taken over by the Government of India? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I do not think it is being taken over by the Government of India. It is a mistake to say that the Government of India are usurping any of the taxation powers of this Government. They have only said that the provincial Governments will not be permitted to levy sales tax on things that are exported outside this Province. The Government of India are not going to be benefited by it. When that comes into force we may lose—I do not know the exact amount somewhere about one or two crores of rupees."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I ask to what extent the finances of the Madras Government will suffer on account of the economy measures adopted by the Central Government? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" We were promised five crores of rupees for post-war development schemes and grow-more-food schemes. That has been reduced to four crores this year. The chances of our getting anything next year are in a fluid condition."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN :—" Sir, whether it is ten crores or less, whatever it is, the Government of India have refused certain loans to the Provincial Government. Consequent on that, our Finance Minister, energetic as he is, has been very busy trying to get some loans from businessmen and industrialists. I just want to know what has happened to his efforts and how far he has succeded in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I think very soon we will have a discussion on the floor of the House with regard to these matters when they are finalised."

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Training of students overseas in cinematography.

11-30 a.m. * 37 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any students have been sent overseas for training in cinematography in the year 1948 or 1949; and

(*b*) if so, what the names of those students and their qualifications are?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (*a*) & (*b*) One scholar by name G. Srinivasan was sent in 1948. He is a B.Sc. (Hons.) of the Madras University. He passed in the I Class."

JANAB S. MOHAMED ISMAIL :—" Now that there is much prospect of our province becoming the Hollywood of India, will it not be advisable if some more students are sent up for training in cinematography? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The Government of India have taken up the question of scholarships and we have sent up our proposals."

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU :—" May I know who selected these candidates, whether the Provincial Government or the Government of India? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The Provincial Government appointed a committee consisting of a senior member of the Board of Revenue, the Director of Public Instruction and the President of the Public Service Comission. They selected four names and sent them to the Provincial Government, of whom the Provincial Government selected a name; but the Central Government did not accept that selection."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Is it not a fact that on account of the policy of economy that the Government of India have adopted after devaluation, the number of candidates that were sent abroad for higher studies has been reduced and some of them have not been paid for continuing their studies in America? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I do not know whether the number of candidates that are already there has been reduced."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH :—" Is cinematography such an essential art for the life of our people that we should spend money in sending students with scholarships to foreign countries? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Certainly, cinematography has a great part to play in the life of the people at present."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" May I know whether any portion of the cost of the students who are already in foreign countries is borne by the Central Government, and if so, what portion? "

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" We recommended the name of a member of the backward community, but the Central Government selected Srinivasan."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" My question was who bears the cost, whether the Central Government or the Provincial Government? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Half and half as between the Central and Provincial Governments."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR :—" When the cinema industry is developing by leaps and bounds as a result of private enterprise, is it necessary that the Government should come forward to advance their money for this purpose? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" It is not a question of advancing their money; it is a question of advancing knowledge in cinematography which will be useful for all."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH :—" Has the student who is receiving the scholarship given any undertaking to serve the Government, and if so, have the Government any scheme to utilize his services to produce educational films, or is he going to be left to produce sexual appeals films to swell the box office collections? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" He has not gone to specialise himself in sexual appeals but to specialise in cinematography which is sound training. Regarding the conditions of scholarship, the agreement between the Government and the scholar is that within five months of his return to this country, either the Government of India or this Government should offer him a job; otherwise, he will be at liberty to take any other job."

SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that three members, i.e., the senior member of the Revenue Board, the Director of Public Instruction and the President of the Madras Public Service Commission, selected four names and submitted them to the Madras Government and that this Government selected one and sent it to the Government of India, may I know why the Government of India have thrown out the recommendation of this Government and selected another student? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" Who is responsible for it? The hon. Member must ask that of the Central Government, not this Government."

DR. S. SUBRAHMANYA AYYAR :—" May I know the respective qualifications of the students recommended by the Madras Government and the one selected by the Government of India? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I think all of them were B.Sc. graduates. That is all I can say now. I do not know the details."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :—" Arising out of the answer of the Minister, I should like to know

whether there are cases of students returning from America or England after training who have not been provided with appointments within the period of five months which he mentioned? ''

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" There are."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN :—" May I know if the student referred to is in private service or in Government service ? ''

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" He is not in service at all, Sir."

RAJAH MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :—" May I ask the Hon. Minister if he will agree with me that the reason for not being able to provide appointments for these people is that the Government have not been able to help film industry in this country? ''

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" No at all. Perhaps the job for which they have qualified may not be a Government job in which they can be appointed."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN :—" If these trained students have not found employment under the Government and if the Government have not guaranteed any employment for the students, have the students who have returned been asked to reimburse the money spent on them, if they are employed elsewhere now? ''

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" No Sir; if they are employed by the Government within five months of their return, they are released from the agreement."

DR. S. SUBRAHMANYA AYYAR :—" Will the Government tell us whether the student selected by the Government of India has got better qualifications than the one recommended by the Madras Government? ''

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I cannot say that off-hand now."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN :—" If he is not in service, what does he do; how does he utilize the knowledge he has obtained from the country to which he went? ''

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Most of the students are recruited direct; and if when they return, there is any job which the Government can offer them, they will be appointed to it; otherwise, they will seek service in some private firm."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Am I to understand from the answer given that the Government of India selected a candidate outside the panel of names recommended by the Madras Government, and if so, when the cost is shared on a half and half basis, why did not the Madras Government insist on a name from their panel being selected? ''

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" It was from the panel that they selected, i.e., the panel of 4 recommended

by the committee. This Government selected the second candidate in the panel, as he was a backward Hindu, but the third candidate was selected by the Government of India."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI :—" In view of the answer given that the cinematograph industry plays an important part in the life of our people, will the Government care to select more people and send them to foreign countries to get training for becoming first-rate cinematograph workers? ''

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The Government of India offered only one scholarship for this subject and that is why only one candidate was selected."

Social Education Scheme.

* 38 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Central Ministry of Education has asked this Government to send a detailed scheme of Social Education proposed in this Province?

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

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL :—" What are the broad details of the scheme? ''

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" It is a big scheme; the Government of India originally thought of granting Rs. 17 lakhs and so a big scheme was prepared for Rs. 26 lakhs; but the Government of India have since informed us that only Rs. 1·57 lakhs would be made available; and so, the whole scheme may have to be revised."

The Madras Estates (Repeal of the Permanent Settlement and Conversion into Ryotwari) Act.

* 39 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the zamindars of this Province have served a notice to file a suit against the Government questioning the validity of the Madras Estates (Abolition and Conversion into Ryotwari) Act?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Yes. Certain Zamindars including the Rajah of Venkatagiri, the Rajah of Ramnad and the Zamindar of Seithur have given notices of suit questioning the validity of the Act. The notices have been given by the Zamindars separately and not jointly. The threatened suits are awaited."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL :—" Are the Government aware of the general feeling in the province that the Government have become a prey to the legal threats of these zamindars, and as a result they are prepared to give 50 per cent compensation which they were not formerly prepared to do? ''

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" The Government do not accept the insinuation in the question."

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Subsidies for sinking wells in wet and dry lands.

* 40 *Q.*—MR. SPEAKER :—" Sri Govindaswami Nayudu is not in his place; the answer will be printed in the proceedings."

SRI N. GOVINDASWAMI NAYUDU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any distinction is made between wet and dry lands for purposes of giving subsidies for sinking wells under the Well Subsidy Scheme; and

(*b*) if so, on what basis this distinction is made.

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" (*a*) In granting subsidy loans, preference is given to wells to be sunk on wet lands, and not less than two-thirds of the allotment has been ordered to be set apart for such wells. The Board of Revenue has however been authorised to vary this proportion, if necessary, in predominantly dry districts.

" (*b*) The reason for this distinction is that it would be quicker and cheaper to sink wells in wet lands and it would ultimately lead to the production of additional paddy. It would also be of great assistance to the paddy grower in times when there is insufficient water from the irrigation sources."

Loan from the Central Government.

* 41 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government have applied to the Central Government for a loan of Rs. 10 crores and if so, what the result of the application is?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" The matter is confidential and no information can be given at present."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL :—" Now that we know that the International Bank has given a loan to the Central Government, will this Government make a strenuous effort to borrow a few crores of rupees in order to push through some of our development schemes in this province? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" We will take all necessary steps to see that our development programme is kept up to the schedule."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" May I know what was the amount asked for and what was the amount denied? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" That is exactly the information which I said was confidential."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL :—" Is it not common knowledge that the Government of India have turned down the proposal of the Government of Madras? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" They promised to give Rs. 6 crores and later they pleaded inability to give it.

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(An hon. Member : Then what is confidential about it?) I have not stated to the House what amount we wanted from the Government of India. That is confidential."

Extension of the Agriculturists Debt Relief Act.

* 42 *Q.*—SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government propose to extend the provisions of the Agriculturists Debt Relief Act to landless agricultural labourers;

(*b*) if so, when and how;

(*c*) whether the Government are contemplating the introduction of separate legislation for the same; and

(*d*) if so, when?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) & (*b*) No, Sir.

" (*c*) & (*d*) Yes, Sir. The matter is under examination by the Government."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" Do the Government know that the promise of bringing a separate legislation for the relief of landless labourers has been pending for the past three years and may I know how many more years it will take for the promise to be fulfilled? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The report of the Agricultural Labour Enquiry now being conducted by the Government of India is being awaited."

SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" Is the Minister aware that his predecessor has given a promise that legislation would be brought forward for giving relief to the landless agricultural labourers and the promise, two years old, has not yet been put into practice? May I know if the Government are willing to face the problem and give relief to the suffering millions of labourers? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I do not understand the necessity for this question; I have already said the matter is under consideration."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" May I know whether this Act applies to the newly merged States of Pudukottah, Banganapalle and Sandur? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" It will apply to the whole province."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" Are the Government aware that the poor landless labourer is now obliged to pay three or four times the old rates to the ryots, and if so, do not the Government think this is another reason why communism is being ushered at greater speed? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I am not in a position to express an opinion on the matter."

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SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI :—" May I know what is the nature of the new legislation that is contemplated? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" To give relief to people who are landless agricultural labourers."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" Will the Government amend the Debt Relief Act in order to give the benefit of that Act to the agricultural labourers, until at least the new Act comes into force? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" That cannot be done; people who are not agriculturists cannot be brought under the purview of that Act."

SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" Relief has been promised; agricultural labourers have been crying hoarse for the last one or two decades; even in the last Ministry, relief was promised. May I know whether the Government are going to wait till the report of the committee is sent up to the Government of India and then that Government takes action, or will this Government, on the data available already, come forward with legislation for giving relief as early as possible? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" We have to await the report of the committee."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI :—" Can I have a categorical answer from the Hon. Minister whether it is a fact that an Act is being contemplated and that some relief to agricultural labour would be provided and whether it would be brought forward in the near future or at a later date? "

11-45 a.m. THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" As early as possible, Sir."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" Are the Government aware that relief was promised by Mr. C. Rajagopalachari when he was Premier in 1937 and it is nothing but injustice that the Government have not been able to implement that promise for the past ten years and odd? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I am thankful to the hon. Member for the information that he has given."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH :—" Will the Provincial Government consider the desirability of ordering a prompt investigation and bringing in a Bill without waiting for the recommendations of the Government of India or the Committee appointed by the Government of India? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" No, Sir."

SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" Enquiry into the condition of agricultural labourers is being conducted by the Government of India by several organizations as the Government of India has to look after all the provinces; but so far as it concerns our own Province, may I know whether the Government will be pleased to introduce legislation in the next session? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I have already given an answer and I do not think I can add to what I have said."

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JANAB HAJI K. M. AHMAD KUTTY :—" May I know on what basis agricultural labourers are separated from others; in other words, what is the definition of 'agricultural labourer'? "

Panchayat boards in the Province.

* 43 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of panchayat boards, major and minor, in the Province; and

(*b*) whether all these panchayats have Executive or Special Officers?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" (*a*) The number of panchayats in the Province as on 1st May 1949 is :—

Major panchayats	.. ..	416
Minor panchayats	.. ..	7,192

" (*b*) No; only 362 panchayats have executive officers."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL :—" May I know whether it is not a fact that several panchayat boards which are already in a deteriorating condition are left without any executive officer thus worsening the administration? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" Executive officers are appointed only to certain panchayat boards whose income comes up to the prescribed level and not to all panchayats irrespective of their income."

JANAB MOHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM :—" May I know, Sir, whether in the matter of appointment of executive officers and special officers the communal Government Order applies? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" It does not apply; but generally consideration is given with regard to depressed classes and other people in these appointments."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" In respect of these panchayats if concession has been given to the depressed classes, may I know how many Harijans and members of the backward community have been appointed to these posts? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" I suggest that a separate question may be put."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR :—" Owing to the fourfold responsibility that these executive officers have to bear—they are answerable to the Government on the one side, to the board, on the other side and thirdly to the menials serving the panchayat and lastly the people—is it not worthwhile to abolish the posts altogether, in view of the fact that mostly ordinary clerks and that sort of people are appointed to these posts and they find it very difficult to carry on their work as they have to answer four sides? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" Unfortunately, we cannot leave the administration into the hands of clerks."

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* 44 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM :—" As it is, the question is meaningless and I do not press the question."

Foodgrain licences issued in the East Godavari district.

* 45 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state the number of foodgrain licences that were issued in the East Godavari district in the first half-year of 1949?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" Forty-five licences were issued in the East Godavari district in the first half-year of 1949 (from 1st January 1949 to 30th June 1949.) "

SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" May I know how many of these 45 are Harijans? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" Notice, Sir."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL :—" Are the Government aware of the fact that several people have been issued licences in Kakinada and Ramachandrapur taluks but are not allowed to trade in grains as the procurement was lately given to co-operative societies? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" I require fresh notice, Sir."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO :—" Is it a fact that several wholesale licences have been issued to many people which are unnecessary? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" Is it in the East Godavari district? "

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO :—" In general, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member must confine himself to the East Godavari district."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" Is it a fact that in this district the procuring agents are unable to procure and the producers are unable to sell paddy owing to want of funds on either side and there is a standstill in the matter of transactions because the licences in favour of co-operative societies which are financing these transactions before in this particular district have been cancelled and there is no other agency to step into that place? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" I have no information at present. Fresh notice may be given."

JANAB P. P. HASSAN KOYA :—" May I know how many of these licensees are either members of the Legislature or their close dependents? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" I require notice."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" May I know on what basis these licensees were selected."

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" It is left to the Collectors who are in charge of local administration to make the choice."

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SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that several Harijans who had applied had not been granted the licences? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" I am not aware of any instances: but if specific instances are pointed out, I will enquire."

JANAB K. M. SEETHI :—" Might I ask if the Hon. Minister is in a position to tell us whether there are any M.L.As. among the 45 for whom licences have been given, if he could not give us their number? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" Those that were already in possession of licences are not disturbed: but no fresh licence will be issued if he is a Member of the House."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL :—" When it is the intention of the Government not to allow free trade in grains in Ramachandrapur and Kakinada taluks, then why should the Government issue these foodgrain licences and make people lose money by way of fees? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" The issue of the licence is according to the present policy of the Government."

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—" Will the Government consider the desirability of entrusting the issue of licences to the Food Committee of the district istead of the Collector? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" I do not think it is advisable to entrust this work to the Food Committees."

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

II.—ALLOTMENT OF A DAY FOR DISCUSSION OF THE CYCLONE IN ANDHRADESA.

JANAB MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM :—" On a point of information, Mr. Speaker. When the Yuvaraja of Pithapuram raised an adjournment motion regarding damage caused by the cyclone in the Andhradesa and the failure of the Government in the matter, the Leader of the House promised that it will be discussed on the floor of the House. It is a very urgent matter and since the Government are thinking and also the Premier that the reports are all exaggerated, may I elicit information from the Government when they are going to fix a date to discuss this matter."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I think we can have that debate on Monday or so. The Members of the Board of Revenue are touring in the districts and we are awaiting their reports and the Government have to hear from the Collectors what they have been doing with relief work. All that information must be made available. Therefore, we may have the debate on Monday or so, Sir."

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JANAB MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM :—" In that connexion, Sir, might I also request that a consolidated report containing all the information available with the Government be laid on the table of the House before the debate takes place? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Certainly all the information which is available and which we are trying to collect will be made available to the House."

SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU :—" The members of the Board of Revenue and some officials are touring the districts where the devastation has taken place but Members representing those constituencies have come here in order to attend the Assembly. Is it not necessary that the Government should hear from the Members of the Legislature also and invite their constructive suggestions, to compare notes, by comparing reports from the Members and is it not necessary that we should discuss and make known our opinions beforehand? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" A debate concerning a calamity like this should be bilateral; it is no use hearing Members; Members also must be made known what the Collectors and the Government are doing in the matter and we are collecting information with regard to that."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :—" With your permission, Mr. Speaker, I wish to make a submission. The gravity of the situation is very great indeed having regard to the extent of the damage. We have seen from the newspaper reports and we are thankful that the Government have taken steps to alleviate distress. My submission through you to the Government, Mr. Speaker is that in addition to the official report they would be getting through the Collectors and the Members of the Board of Revenue, it would be helpful if the Hon. Minister concerned would make a full statement. It would help us, particularly those who do not hail from those districts, to know from the Government that they had an opportunity to discuss this with hon. Members of both Houses of Legislature from those four districts in advance of the statement to be made by him. It would be easier for the Hon. Minister if he has reports from the officials and also from non-officials, to come to conclusions on the steps that are to be taken further. If he is going to make a statement, I feel that there must be time enough to get reports from the districts and within these three or four days, he might fix a time to receive a deputation of hon. Members of both Houses of Legislature. I feel from the way in which Members from those districts complain and it looks as if they are not satisfied with the representations that they have made and we, particularly those who do not hail from those districts, feel that the Government must be in possession of both opinions, the official and non-official and we would like to hear also what steps the Government are taking in the matter."

12 noon. * THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Sir, as soon as the news of distress was received by Government, they decided to sanction sufficient amount of money for immediate relief, and they

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deputed four Members of the Board to get first-hand information from various districts. We have received the report from two members of the Board and the other reports are awaited. Meanwhile we have been receiving progress reports of investigations and inquiries made in the various taluks from the various Collectors. In addition to this, Government have been noting what has been published in the Press, and when some hon. Members of this House belonging to those districts saw me, I suggested to them that they might write to me or to the Government the nature of the damage they have seen and the remedy they would suggest. If any hon. Member writes to Government the damage that he has seen and assessed it for himself and what sort of remedy he would suggest, that would be considered by the Government. The hon. Member's suggestion to have a sort of conference would be served if he and others like him would inform me what they have seen and what they want the Government to do. And for the information of the House I may say that I have already instructed the Secretariat to prepare a note as to the extent of damage caused in the various districts and also relief already done and also the relief proposed to be given, and that will be circulated to the Members before the debate, or if possible a day earlier so that every Member will have an opportunity to study it and give his views. I think that would satisfy every Member."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The House will now take up consideration of the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Bill, 1949. I want to inform the House that the House has been discussing this Bill for the last two days. I want to finish this Bill to-day. I want to call the Hon. Minister to reply at 2-30 p.m. I fix a time-limit of ten minutes for each Member."

III.—GOVERNMENT BILL.

THE MADRAS MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ORDER BILL, 1949—*cont.*

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, this country of ours, I am afraid, is a most unfortunate land. After the advent of independence, the people of this realm had entertained the hope that they would enjoy freedom and security and have their civil liberties enlarged which had been curtailed under foreign domination and that their sufferings would be at an end. But unfortunately they have been very much disillusioned by the events that have transpired after the dawn of independence for this country is being ruled by ordinances and repressive legislation in a far greater measure to-day than was the case under the British regime.

" Sir, when the Public Safety Bill was introduced in 1947, the members of this House were lulled into the belief that that was an emergency measure. To-day, after the lapse of two years, we are again told that the present legislation which the Government have brought forward is an emergency measure I wish to inquire whether we are to live in a state of emergency all our life in this country. Are not things to be brought back to normally ?

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There is a limit to the continuance of a state of emergency and there is a limit to the length to which repressive legislation can go. Two years ago, the excuse was that the Government were new to their job and should be given time to adjust themselves to the task they had undertaken. But even after the lapse of two years they are not in a position to report that they are able to tackle the situation better and that things have improved. On the other hand it is contended that Communism is gaining ground and the proposal of the Minister is to have this legislation in force for another three years, which means, that during the entire life of this Legislature or in other words for a continuous period of five years the citizens of this country, are to be governed by a draconian piece of legislation. This is indeed a most unhappy state of affairs in any free country. Sir, the Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, during his addresses in America has rightly remarked that political freedom is of no avail to any country unless it is accompanied by individual freedom. The 'sine qua non' for liberty is not political freedom but individual freedom. Indeed political freedom without individual freedom is a mere dead sea fruit. But unfortunately that very individual freedom which the Prime Minister of India, so ardently advocates is being denied to-day to the citizens of this land. Is this not an irony of fate? How long are the people of this Province going to live in a state of emergency? How long is the sword of Damocles to hang over their heads? How long are they to dwell on the brink of precipice, as it were? Repressive legislation like the Bill before us indicates that there is something very rotten in the state of Denmark. It does not confirm the alleged popularity of the present administration. On the other hand, it is proof positive of the unpopularity which surrounds the present regime.

"It is stated that Communists are gaining ground in this Province. I wish to inquire why it should be so. The answer is to be found in the fact that conditions here are most fertile for the growth of Communism. Communism thrives in poverty and misery; it flourishes under conditions of economic distress which is acute to-day in this Province. After the advent of independence the economic conditions of the people has gone from bad to worse. The prices of necessaries have shot up 3 or 4 times the pre-war level, with the result that discontent and distress are rife everywhere. Instead of tackling the root cause of the disease and taking steps to relieve the economic hardships of the people, the Government have come forward with this drastic measure. But repressive legislation will not improve the situation. Its effect will be merely to drive Communism underground with the result that it will crop up again sometime later with even greater vigour. On the other hand, Communism will die a natural death if the root cause of the disease is tackled and the prices of essential articles for the common man appreciably reduced. In a neighbouring country prices have recently been reduced by 20 per cent. Why should not this Government be able to do likewise?

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"Why is it that in a country like America there is no Communism? The reason is to be found in the fact that people there are happy. The average income of the poorest man in America today is between four to five hundred rupees, and half the population of that land is able to afford a car. The contentment and the satisfactory economic condition of the people there helps to ward off Communism. Coming nearer home, we find that even a small country like Turkey, which lies on the very borders of Russia, is free from Communism. As a matter of fact, the Turks are dead against Communism despite their being the neighbours of Russia. The reason for this is that with the assistance of America the people of Turkey are today contented. Let the Government, therefore, remember that their primary task is to remove the causes that provide the breeding ground for discontent or disorder.

"The attention of the Government is to be drawn to the fact that in the enforcement of the provisions of the Public Safety Act many innocent persons have been subjected to harassment. The provisions of the Bill before us give even wider powers to the Police and officialdom than the provisions of the previous measures. The High Court pointed out certain defects in the working of the previous Act. Instead of seeing that those defects were remedied, the Government have introduced an indemnity clause in the present Bill and have declared that even wrong acts done by their subordinates cannot be questioned in a Court of law. This is indeed astounding."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member's time is up."

*BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Just one or two words, Sir. Clause 4-A of the Bill is indeed an extraordinary provision unheard of in any piece of legislation in any civilised land, for it attempts to supersede the rule of law and establish the law of the jungle by arming the Government officials to do any wrong. Such a provision flouts the constitution of free India and is, as a matter of fact, a fraud on the constitution.

"Another point I wish to urge is that if Government are not prepared to withdraw this Bill, by no means should they extend it to three years. I hope they would accept the suggestion to refer it to a Select Committee and have the Bill in force at the most for one year.

"Before I conclude, I wish to protest at the scant courtesy shown to this House, for this Assembly was purposely prorogued in order to promulgate the Public Safety Ordinance. It has become a matter of habit with the Government to disregard the Assembly and rule by Ordinances."

*SRI L. C. PAIS:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are indebted to the Hon. Minister for Law for giving us a very clear picture of the atrocities that have been committed by the Communists on innocent people during the last one year or two. The tale which he has told us is a tale of woes. It is a tale of arson, loot, murder, criminal 12.15 p.m.

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intimidation and sabotage. Good people, honest people following their ordinary avocations of life have been waylaid and beaten. Persons not to their liking including prominent Congressmen have been brutally put to death. Houses have been set on fire; strikes have been fomented. Country bombs have been used to destroy life and property. Persons in authority including jail officials and the Police have been assailed and beaten. Attempts have been made to sabotage every movement devised by the Government in the best interests of the country, be it in the field of food or industrial production. The situation that has arisen is an extraordinary one, calling for the extraordinary remedies. That is why this extraordinary piece of legislation is being re-enacted. That is why clause 4-A embodying all extraordinary provision of law has been incorporated into the enactment. But it is unfortunate that the Government are forced by sheer stress of circumstances to arm themselves with power to detain a person on insufficient and vague grounds and without bringing home to him the exact nature of his guilt and without communicating to him the reasons for which he is detained. The position is, as I have said, unfortunate but this much can be said that law and law courts will take care of themselves. But millions of law-abiding citizens are unable today to take care of themselves because of the growing Communist menace. They are looking to the Government for the safety of their life and property and the Government have to go to their rescue. There is absolutely no doubt that this Bill is very necessary and that it should be passed into law. But I am afraid the matter does not stop there. The further question that arises for consideration is whether a drastic legislation of this kind will put an end to the evil it seeks to remedy. Almost every one of the speakers that have preceded me here emphasized the point that unless the Government devise ways and means to remove the discontent that is prevailing in the country today, Communism is bound to raise its ugly head sooner or later. It cannot certainly be denied that there is considerable discontent in the country. It may not be due to Congress rule and Congress administration. My Congress friends are bound to admit that, as long as discontent and distress exist in the land, the Communists are bound to exploit the situation for their own purposes. There is discontent in the country today because of the soaring prices of necessary foodstuffs. I am not going into the details because my hon. friend Sri A. Vaidyanatha Ayyar has dealt with the matter in detail and has given a clear idea of the situation. There is discontent because of our taxation policy. As a financial expert has pointed out the other day, other countries may be paying more by way of taxes but then he said unlike India, there countries have a higher earning power, and the living conditions there are better. They earn more and they pay more. We earn less but pay more. There is discontent today because of controls. Corruption and blackmarketing are flourishing on account of controls and Government are unable to put down corruption and blackmarketing as long as controls are there. There is discontent because of unemployment. There is discontent because of our socio-economic reforms. I am a Congressman and a believer in the socio-economic programme of the Congress. The common man also believes in that

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programme. But he also believes in this that first things must come first and that essentials should be tackled before non-essentials. While the party in power honestly believes that prohibition has been a success, and that it has done much to reform the common man, there are others who honestly think that the prohibition scheme has been an utter failure and that the present-day ills are all due to our socio-economic reforms. I am laying stress on this aspect because Communists are bound to exploit the position.

" Lastly I may say that there is considerable discontent among the peasants and agricultural ryots especially in ryotwari areas, because the promised legislation safeguarding their rights even as tenants has not yet been introduced. During the last two or three years, tenants in ryotwari areas were repeatedly assured that, pending large-scale agrarian reforms, interim legislation for preventing eviction of tenants would be introduced. The Government owe an explanation to the public as to why this legislation has not been introduced and as to why Government should have held out hopes to cultivating ryots when, as we see to-day, they have really no intention of bringing in any legislation concerning this matter. The Government should know that the Communists will exploit this situation also. Let me finally remind the Government that unless the Government come forward with a definite scheme calculated to improve the living conditions of the poor and actually succeed in so improving their living conditions all talk of controlling the Communist menace by drastic legislation of this sort will remain an empty dream.

" With these remarks, I support the Bill."

JANAB K. M. SEETHI :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, though I fully sympathize with the objects of the Government in taking strong measures against subversive activities in the Province, I am constrained to say that the situation does not justify the enactment of an extraordinary measure like the one under discussion. If the Public Safety Act, 1947, was found necessary to meet an emergency in 1947, there is absolutely no reason why the Government should now make an attempt to continue such an extraordinary measure for two more years in this Province. According to me and the Members of my Party, the existing laws are quite sufficient to deal with any emergency or extraordinary situation that might develop as a result of the subversive activities of the Communist Party. The difficulty is not due to lack of enactments, but the lack of vigilance and promptness on the part of the authorities in dealing with subversive activities. Ever since the present Assembly came into existence, the members of the Muslim League Legislature Party have been impressing on the Government the need for taking strong measures against the activities of the Communists. The Government did not pay heed to the suggestions made from this side of the House with the result that the Communist Party spread its tentacles throughout the Province and the Government in a state of panic are forced to enact an extraordinary measure like the one under discussion. As has been pointed out from this side of the House, under the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code the Government have ample powers to arrest suspicuous characters or

persons suspected of unlawful activities. Therefore there is no necessity for this legislation. The greatest achievement of every civilized Government is the establishment of the rule of law. Any enactment which interferes with the rule of law should be opposed by any progessive party. Clause 4-A of the Bill really suspends the rule of law in this Province. The existence of an independent and impartial judiciary is the greatest guarantee of the liberty of the citizen. When orders issued under an Act are not to be questioned in a court of law, the liberty of the citizen is entirely at the mercy of the executive, and such a state of things would be a menace to the liberty of the citizen. But I do not for a moment contend that it must be an unqualified liberty. No doubt that officers should be armed with extraordinary powers. But the exercise of those powers should be open to agitation in a court of law. When that right of a citizen is taken away, there is danger to the freedom and civil liberty of the citizen which are the most invaluable achievements of modern society. If a Bill of this kind has been sponsored by the British Bureaucracy, not one Member of the Congress Party in this House would have hesitated to condemn it in the most scathing terms, and possibly civil disobedience would have been resorted to as a protest against it. But we are following the precedents of the British Bureaucracy. If this precedent is going to be followed by a party that may come to power in future and a totalitarian or Fascist type of Government is established in this country, what would happen to the liberty of the citizens in this land? The least that can be done by the Government is to refer this Bill to a Select Committee to mitigate the evils as far as possible. If the Government have got any regard for the freedom of the citizens, I respectfully plead with them to agree to refer the Bill to a Select Committee.

"I want to bring to the notice of the Government one other matter. As has been suggested by several hon. Members, apart from negative measures, positive measures have to be taken to improve the lot of the common men which alone will guarantee the failure of Communism in this Province. Ameliorative measures have to be undertaken by the Government for improving the lot of the comman man and removing the discontent among the masses. Discontent is the breeding ground for Communism as has been experienced in various parts of the Province, and the removal of that discontent is a positive act to counteract the menace of Communism.

"A point which has to be borne in mind not only by the Government but also by the party in power, the Congress, is that the greatest guarantee for the safety of the citizen is not the existence of this or that Act on the Statute Book, but the enlistment of public co-operation and the organization of public opinion against subversive activities. In this respect, the Congress Party is failing in its duty. It does not recognize any other political party. It has got a superiority complex and does not want to have any kind of political association with other political parties. It ignores the existence of other parties, and according to it, there is only one party and that is the Congress Party. Communism is growing

mainly because the Congress Party does not seek the co-operation of other political parties. The earlier they seek such co-operation, the better for them in their attempts to put down the subversive activities of the Communists and allied organizations.

"For the purpose of putting down the unlawful activities of one party which is bent upon subversive movement, there is hardly any justification for the Government to arm themselves with extraordinary powers by which they want to suspend the rule of law and substitute the executive in the place of the judiciary.

"With these words, I support the motion for referring the Bill to a Select Committee. If the motion is not accepted, I would seriously press on the Government the necessity for removing clauses 4-A and 16 of the Bill."

12-30 p.m.

* SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Madhava Menon. Sir, when in the year 1947, the Hon. Minister for Law came forward with this measure asking the permission of this Hon. House to get it through, we all gave our unstinted co-operation and support to it, thinking that by means of this measure, the Government would be able to put down all the subversive activities that were in existence at that time. But, Sir, after two years of its working, we are now once again asked by the Hon. Minister to enhance the powers of the executive officials in order to cope up with the situation, which has since worsened. Sir, it was only a few days back that the Inspector-General of Police issued a statement wherein he was pleased to state that by means of the various measures taken by the Police, it had been possible to counteract and to put down the Communist activities in the Province to a very great extent. He was also pleased to give the figures of persons gone underground, and the persons who have been captured by the Police through their C.I.Ds. Sir, when, according to his statement, the situation has been well handled, I do not know why the Government are coming forward with such a legislation as this. Whatever that be, we must help the Government in all their measures to maintain peace and order in the country. Speaking for myself, I shall be prepared to offer my wholehearted and unstinted support to any measure that seeks to maintain tranquillity and peace in this Province. But, Sir, at the same time, I would submit that a legislation like this will certainly introduce, not a rule of law, but a jungle rule, when it is being used not only by the executive authorities who are empowered in this behalf but also by the parties who are able to influence the executive. Sir, I can cite here a number of instances in which poor landless agricultural labourers have been subjected to inhuman treatment by the Police at the instigation of political parties. Sir, only one instance I should like to mention at present, owing to want of time, to show how this law is being misused. Sir, I see my hon. Friend Mr. Gopala Reddi smiles at me, and probably he wants me to cite some instances from his own village in the Nellore taluk. I shall do so when the time comes, but now I shall leave him at that.

[Sri B. S. Murthi] [9th November 1949

" Sir, there is a small village called Narasiapalem, some miles from Bapatla in the Guntur district and sometime back, a Police party wanted to raid that village in order to comb out certain Communist there. One evening at 5 o'clock, a posse of constables were going to that village in two or three lorries. At that time, just outside the village, a poor Harijan was easing himself, and on seeing the big Police party approaching this village, he began to run towards his house in the village. The Police, taking him to be a Communist, chased him, bayoneted him and killed him on the spot. When they went into the village and ascertained that the person who was killed was an innocent Harijan, they asked the people of the village to give it in writing that this man had died of heart failure. Sir, such instances, I can give in almost every village in the Andhra districts. Recently, I had the opportunity of touring through the cyclone-affected areas of many districts and my heart is lacerated when I saw the inhuman tortures and sufferings that the Harijan agricultural labourers and members of the backward communities are subjected to, not only by the Police, but also by the parties in the villages. In every village, unfortunately, even among the Congressmen, there are two, three and even four parties, and some members of one of the parties who commanded the confidence and support of some members in the Ministry, were doing the utmost havoc in the villages. These people were able to wield a great amount of influence with the district officials and the Police. There are many instances, Sir, which had come to my knowledge, and I do not know whether other hon. Members have similar knowledge or not, that many District Collectors and District Superintendents of Police have been transferred, simply because, they have been complained against, by these influential people of the Congress Party in the villages Sir, orders were issued suddenly from this Secretariat, or from the Board of Revenue, transferring the District Collector or the District Superintendent of Police, simply because they did not act according to the wishes of these people. Sir, I am ashamed to speak of these things in this House, but I cannot but do so, because these things are multiplying day by day. Therefore if this is the fate of even District Collectors and district officials, in these days, what will be the fate of those poor Harijans, who have no god-fathers in power, and who have no Moses to espouse their cause? The only Moses they had, to look after their interests, to guide them aright to espouse their cause and to redress their hardships, was Gandhiji, but he is now no more. Today, they are left alone like orphans, and everybody is doing whatever he pleases, and the Government are simply issuing orders from this place.

" Sir, as you have indicated that my time is over, I would only appeal to you in this House and through you to the Government, to see that the district officials in whose hands this legislation is intended to vest wide powers, take extra precautions before they ever think of raiding any Harijan village and that they do not molest the Harijan women, strip them naked or make the Harijans walk through the streets of the caste Hindus. I can cite many instances in which district officials have done like that.

9th November 1949] [Sri B. S. Murthi]

They must also remember that this community is a backward community and that they are helpless to-day. But it may not be so for ever. Perhaps in course of time, they will be the rulers of this country and even to-day they are our masters, because, it is by their votes, that we are here as also the Government. Therefore, any Government servant, let him be the Minister or the Collector, who does injustice to the master will have to pay a heavy penalty ultimately.

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

" Therefore, Madam, I plead before the Minister in charge of this Bill, to see that after it is passed, and when it is put into operation, the district officials take special care not to raid Harijan villages without sufficient precaution and sufficient warning, but only shadow those people, known to the Police and those who are actually engaged in subversive activities, and deal with them according to law, and not persecute these poor Harijans or introduce jungle rule in the name of this Public Safety Act."

* JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID :—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, I thought my hon. Friend Mr. Madhava Menon, when he took up this portfolio of Law, would see that this enactment disappears from the Statute Book, but on the other hand, I find that he has brought it with added rigours. His only justification in bringing forward this enactment is, as he puts it, that the state of emergency still continues in this Province and therefore that there is need for this measure.

" Madam, Deputy Speaker, it is most unfortunate that a party which has called itself a popular party and which has been mainly responsible for getting the freedom of this country, should, immediately after it has assumed power, witness a state of emergency in the country. As long as this enactment continues to be on the Statute Book, I should say without fear of contradiction, that it is a sad reflection on the popularity of the party in power. Whenever we say anything about the various measures which this Government have brought forward for discussion in this House, the Hon. Leader of the House used to reply, ' We are the representatives of the people and therefore you have no voice to criticize us.' If the Hon. Minister for Finance brings forward any measures of added taxation, and when we say on behalf of the people that the Government are burdening the people with such taxes, he would say, ' Our people are ready to pay the taxes, you need not worry, because it is we, who are the representatives of the people.' I ask the Leader of the House and also the Hon. Minister for Law, whether their Government is really a Government which is supported by the people, when they say that a state of emergency still exists. Therefore, Madam, Deputy Speaker, I would urge upon this Government to remove this beastly measure from the Statute Book and see that our freedom is made real in this Province.

" Again, Madam, we find so much of discontent among the people in this Province. Nobody is satisfied; nobody is contented.

Take the common man; he is not contented; there is disaffection in the hearts of the people towards this Government. Take the services; there is discontent and disaffection among them also. Take the labourers, the industrialists and commercial men. We find them all discontented. Disaffection pervades throughout the length and breadth of this Province. Everybody is unhappy.

" Madam, the manner in which this Government have been administering these Acts, cannot but create an emergent situation. Although the Government had given us an assurance that this Act would be worked in the best interests of the Province, several members have pointed out on the floor of this House, how the several provisions of this Act have been worked by the Police officers in a manner prejudicial to the interests of the people and prejudicial to the freedom of the citizen. These Police and executive officers, who have administered these laws, have acted in a manner which has created a sort of shudder in the minds of people who are lovers of democracy.

" Again, in the several of the *habeas corpus* petitions that have been moved before the High Court, it has been clearly proved beyond doubt, that the Government have not administered the Act in the spirit in which it was enacted and have issued orders in a slip-shod manner, without any reference to the legality thereof. The Government have arrogated to themselves all the powers under this Act, until the High Court came up and said, ' You cannot act like that. You have no powers to extend the Act. You must take this Act again through the Legislature and obtain its approval for its extension.' Madam, we thought that with the termination of the British rule, rule by ordinance would cease. On the other hand, we find that rule by ordinances still continues even under the Congress Government. They could have called for a meeting of this Legislature and brought this measure for its approval instead of issuing an ordinance. They have not done so, but thought that they could issue an ordinance and be done with that. But then, as I said just now, the High Court came round and said, ' You must go to the Assembly and obtain their assent before passing a measure like this.'

12-45 p.m. " Therefore, I say, Madam, that even in the administration of this Act, they have not acted in the best interests of the people. You have arrested and detained people because they belonged to a particular party. Take, for instance, a candidate who goes and files his nomination. The next day the Police man goes and arrests him saying ' you are a Communist.' I ask the Hon. Minister for Law to tell me whether that particular individual was not a Communist before he filed his nomination paper? Therefore, I am constrained to say that you have used those powers just to further your own interest in this Province. I must plead in the best interests of the people of the Province that a measure of this type should not be used just to further your own ends. I thought that the night of oppression and repression was all over. But that night still continues to exist even after the dawn of freedom.

" The Communists have not acted in the best interests of the country. Their activities have been such as would undermine established law and authority. They indulge in cold murder, arson and loot. Through these methods they think of ushering in a revolution by which they can capture power. No law-abiding citizen can support such a movement. On the other hand all law-abiding citizens have condemned and still condemn such anti-social and anti-national activities of the Communists. While I condemn the Communists, I am not very happy about the way the Government have seen fit to discharge their duties to the people. In their anxiety to suppress Communists, they have released such reactionary forces which have sent out a wave of repulsion among the people. These things have created a shudder among all the democratic elements in the Province. The Police have acted in such a manner that they are hated by the people. Whatever it is, I must plead for a truce. I really do not know whether my feeble voice would reach the Communists, whether they are underground or overground or in jails or in detention. They must ask for a truce. They know that we have attained freedom only a few years back, and we have got to see Independent India on the map of the world firmly established. In order that it may exist and in order that we may consolidate our position, it is up to the Communist party or any party for that matter, and it is up to any people to whichever party they may belong, to co-operate with the Government and see that law and order are maintained. The unhealthy economic conditions prevailing in the country and the insecure political situation that surrounds the country demand that every man to whichever party he may belong should consider that the country must come first and then his party. ' Country first and party next ' should be the slogan and philosophy of the people. Therefore I appeal to the Communists, wherever they may be, to call a truce to this act of violence, and social and anti-national activities, and co-operate with the Government. I also appeal to the Government to call a truce and that they need not put this Act on the Statute Book. There is the ballot box. If I believe that my philosophy is going to appeal to the people, I must depend upon the ballot box and not upon bullets. I must depend on the vote of the people, and not on breaking their heads. That must be the course of our action. We need not indulge in violence, murder, arson and loot. Therefore, I appeal to the Communist party to give up their slogan of violence, and see that they work for the country first and then for their party. I appeal also to the Government that they must call for a truce as early as possible so that this enactment, this lawless law, may be removed from the Statute Book and people may breathe the air of freedom in the land of freedom."

12-50 p.m. SRI P. KAKKAN :—" தலைவி அவர்களே ! கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கொண்டுவந்திருக்கும் இந்த பாது காப்புச் சட்டத்தை நான் மனப் பூர்வமாக ஆதரிக்கிறேன். இந்த நாட்டிலே சத்தியத்தின் பெயராலும் அஹிம்சையின் பெயராலும், பெற்ற சுதந்திரத்தைக் கெடுப்பதற்காக இந்த நாட்டிலேயே பிறந்த காங்கிரசிலேயே வளர்ந்து குட்டையில் ஊறின மட்டை மாதிரி நமது கம்யூனிஸ்டு தோழர்கள் செய்து வருகின்ற தவறுன காரியங்களை சர்க்கார் பார்த்துக்கொண்டு வாளாவிருக்க முடியாது.

[Sri P. Kakkan] [9th November 1949

"பல மெம்பர்கள் சொன்னார்கள், அவர்கள் செய்த அட்டூழியங்களையெல்லாம், அவர்கள் செய்த கொடுமைகளையெல்லாம்.

"உதாரணமாக, எங்கள் ஜில்லாவிலே ஒரு வாக்காளர் அவர்களுக்கு ஓட்டுக்கொடுக்காத காரணத்தாலே கம்பூனிஸ்டு தோழர்களாலே ரொம்ப கஷ்டப்படுத்தப்பட்டு கொல்லப்பட்டார்.

"சமீபத்தில் டிஸ்ட்ரிக்ட் போர்டு தேர்தலில் வாக்கெடுப்பு எடுத்ததில் இவர்களுக்கு இடமே கிடைக்காதபடி பொது மக்கள் பட்டவர்த்தனமாகக் காட்டிவிட்டார்கள்.

"இன்றைக்கு கம்யூனிஸ்டு தோழர்களாக படித்தவர்களும், பட்டதாரிகளும் இருந்தாலும் அவர்கள் பின்பற்றுகின்ற பாதை உண்மையில் இந்த நாட்டின் நலனை பாதிக்கக்கூடிய தாகவே யிருக்கின்றது என்பதை யாரும் ஆக்ஷேபிக்கமுடியாது. இன்றைக்கு நாம் அடைந்திருக்கின்ற சுதந்திர வாழ்வையே குலைக்கக்கூடியதாகயிருக்கின்றது என்பதை மறுக்க முடியாது. இன்று நமது இந்தியத் தலைவர்கள் பண்டித ஜவஹர்லால் நேரு, படேல் போன்றவர்கள் இந்த நாட்டின் சுதந்திரத்தைக் காப்பாற்ற பாடு பட்டு வரும் தன்மையை யாரும் அறியாதிருக்கவே முடியாது. ஆகவே, இந்தச் சட்டம் மிகவும் பொறுத்தமான சட்டமாகும். இந்தச் சட்டத்தை மந்திரி அவர்கள் 1952ம் வருஷம் வரையில் நீடித்திருக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்வது நல்லது. இந்தச் சட்டத்தை மெம்பர்கள் ஆதரிக்க வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லிக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"குறிப்பாக ஹரிஜன பிரஜைகளாகிய எங்கள் மக்களிடம், அதுவும் எந்தந்த மக்களிடம் பிரசாரம் செய்ய வேண்டுமோ அப்படிப்பட்ட ஜனங்களிடம் போய் அவர்களுடைய மனதையே மாற்றி அரசாங்கத்துக்கு விரோதமான காரியங்களிலே ஈடுபடச் செய்கின்றார்கள். உங்களுக்கு நன்மை ஏற்படுமென்று சொல்லி அவர்களை ஏமாற்றுகிறார்கள். உங்களுக்கு நிலங்களை பிரித்துத்தருவோமென்று சொல்லி அவர்களை ஏமாற்றுகின்றார்கள். ஆனால், அம்மாதிரி பலாத்கார காரியங்களில் ஈடு படும்போது நிரபராதியான இந்த ஹரிஜனங்கள் தான் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள் என நான் சொல்ல வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. அது மட்டுமல்ல. இன்னும் எத்தனையோ பேர்கள் உயிர் துறக்க வேண்டிய நிலமை அவர்கள் செய்த பொய் பிரசாரத்தால் நேர்ந்து விட்டது., ஆகவே அவைகளை எல்லாம் அரசாங்கம் நீக்குவதன் மூலம் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு மிகவும் நன்மை செய்திருக்கிறது என்றுதான் சொல்லவேண்டும். ஆனாலும் போலீசார்கள் தங்கள் கடமையை உணராமல் சில தவறான காரியங்களைச் செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். அவைகளை பின்னால் சொல்லுகிறேன்.

"உதாரணமாக, நாம் சுதந்திரம் பெற்று இரண்டு வருஷங்கள்தான் ஆகின்றன. பெற்ற சுதந்திரமான, இந்த சிறு சுதந்திரக் குழந்தையின் வளர்ச்சிக்கும் பூர்ண பலம் பெற்று பெரு நன்மைகளையெல்லாம் உண்டாக்குவதற்கும் நாம் எல்லோரும் பாடுபடவேண்டும்.

"இந்தக் கடமையை உணராமல், பெற்ற சுதந்திரத்திற்கு பாதகம் விளைவிக்கின்றவர்கள் யாராயிருந்தாலும் அவர்களை ஒழித்து, ஒடுக்கி நாட்டில் அமைதியை நிலவச்செய்யவேண்டியது அவசியமாகும். அப்படி செய்யத் தவறினால் ஐயன் காந்திஜி பெற்ற சுதந்திரத்துக்கு நாம் எல்லோரும் ஆபத்து செய்தவர்களாவோம். ஆகையால் நாம் எல்லோரும் இந்த சுதந்திரத்தை பரிபூரண பலம் பெற்று நிலைக்கச் செய்ய வேண்டிய வைகளை செய்யவேண்டும்.

"உண்மையிலேயே நாங்கள், ஹரிஜனங்கள், எல்லோரும் காந்திஜியை தெய்வமாக கருதுகின்றோம். காந்திஜி இல்லாவிட்டால் இன்றைக்கு மது விலக்கு ஏற்பட்டிருக்காது. இன்னும் ஜமீன் ஒழிப்புச் சட்டம், எங்களைப் போன்ற ஹரிஜனங்கள் தலை நிமிர்ந்து சட்ட சபையில் இடம் பெற்று பேசக் கூடிய நிலை ஏற்பட்டிருக்காது. காந்திஜி பேசிய பேச்சுக்களையும், அவர்கள் எழுதி வைத்திருக்கும் கட்டுரைகளையும், நாட்டு மக்களிடையே பரப்பி கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளின் பலாத்கார செய்கைகளுக்கு இடம் கொடுக்காமல் செய்தால் தான் காந்தீயம் நிலைத்திருக்குமென்று சொல்லிக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்

9th November 1949] [Sri P. Kakkan]

"நாங்கள் பதவிக்கு வந்தால், அந்தக் காரியத்தை செய்வோம், இந்தக் காரியத்தைச் செய்வோம், நிலங்களைப் பிடிங்கி உங்களுக்குக்கொடுப்போம் என பிரசாரம் செய்கிறார்கள். யார் பதவிக்கு வந்தாலும், மந்திரியாக வந்தாலும் சட்டென்று சொன்னபடியே ஒரு காரியத்தையும் செய்து விட முடியாது. ஆகவே எந்தக் கக்ஷியாய் இருந்தாலும் அதிகாரத்திற்கு வந்து பத்து வருஷ திட்டம் அமைத்து ஒரு காரியத்தைச் செய்தால் தான் அந்தக் காரியத்தை நன்றாகச் செய்யமுடியுமென்று சொல்லிக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"சுதந்திர போராட்ட காலத்திலே காந்தியும் பல காரியங்களை செய்வோமென்றுதான் சொன்னார்கள். சொன்னபடி பதவிக்கு வந்தவுடன் அவைகளைச் செய்ய வில்லையா ? மது விலக்குச் சட்டத்தை உடனே அமுலுக்குக் கொண்டுவருவோமென்றபடி அந்தச் சட்டத்தை அமுலுக்குக் கொண்டு வரவில்லையா ? உழவனுக்குத்தான் நிலம் சொந்தம் என்பதற்காக ஜமீன் ஒழிப்புச் சட்டத்தைக் கொண்டுவரவில்லையா ? அதே மாதிரி இவ்வளவு நிலம்தான் ஒருவன் வைத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்று **(Limitation of Land Act)** ஒரு சட்டம் கொண்டுவாவேண்டும். இதையெல்லாம் எதற்கு சொல்லுகிறேன் என்றால் காங்கிரஸ் காரர்கள் தாங்கள் சொன்னபடியே தான் சுதந்திரப் போராட்ட காலத்திலே என்ன பிரசாரம் செய்தார்களோ அதன்படியேதான் நடந்துகொண்டு வருகிறார்கள்.

"எந்தக் காலத்திலும் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளைப் போல காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் பலாத்காரத்தைப் பிரசாரம் செய்யவில்லை. ஒளிந்திருந்து **under ground**லே எந்தக் காரியத்தையும் செய்யவில்லை. போராட்ட காலத்திலேயே நேர் எதிராக, தைர்யமாக நாங்கள் இந்தந்தக் காரியங்களைச் செய்வோம் என முழங்கினார்கள். இந்த மாதிரி எங்கேயாவது கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் செய்கின்றார்களா என்று கேட்கின்றேன். இம்மாதிரியான காரியங்களை நாட்டிலே நடந்துக்கொண்டிருக்க இடம் கொடுத்தால் அண்ணல் காந்திஜி காட்டிய வழியை விட்டு இடைத்த சுதந்திரத்திற்கு கேடு விளைவித்தவர்களாவோம். அவர்களுக்கு போதுமான சுயேச்சையும், உரிமையும் கொடுத்திருக்கிறோம். ஆனால் அதற்காக அவர்கள் கொலை, கொள்ளை, பலாத்காரம் முதலியவைகளைச் செய்ய யாரும் சகித்துக்கொண்டிருக்கமாட்டார்கள். அவர்கள் கக்ஷியை நிச்சயமாக ஆதரிக்கமாட்டார்களென்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இருந்தாலும் அவர்களையடக்க போலீசார்கள் செய்யும் அட்டூழியம் கிராமங்களுக்குப் போய்ப்பார்த்தால் தெரியவரும். ஆனால், கனம் மாஜி ஹரிஜன மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளை அடக்க கிராமங்களுக்கு பாஷை தெரியாத போலீஸ் படைகளை அனுப்புகிறார்கள் என்றும், அந்த ஜனங்கள் பேசும் பாஷை இவர்களுக்குப்புரியாததால் அவர்கள் உண்மை சொல்லுகிறார்களா, பொய் சொல்லுகிறார்களா என்று தெரியாமல் எல்லோரையும் போட்டு அடிக்கிறார்கள். அம்மாதிரியான காலத்திலும் பாஷை புரிகின்றவர்களையும் அவர்களோடு அனுப்பி அநியாயம் நடக்காமல் பார்த்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்றும் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அது மட்டுமில்லை. அந்த ஜில்லா டி.எஸ்.பி. அந்த ஜில்லாவிலுள்ள எம்.எல்.ஏ.யுடன் கலந்து கொண்டு கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளை அடக்க முயற்சித்தால் அந்த இடங்களில் அநியாயமே ஏற்படமுடியாது. எனென்றால் எம்.எல்.ஏ.க்கள் பொதுமக்களோடு பழகி வருவதால் எல்லா விஷயங்களும் தெரியும். அதனால் இந்தச் சபையிலே வந்து நாங்கள் மெம்பர்கள் புகார் செய்யவேண்டிய நிலமையும் ஏற்படாது. ஆகையால் நான் சர்க்காரை கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளை அடக்கும் முயற்சியில் அந்தந்த ஜில்லா டி.எஸ்.பி.கள் அந்தந்த ஜில்லா எம்.எல்.ஏ.க்களுடன் கலந்து கொண்டு நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன். இவர்கள் இரண்டுபேரும் கலந்து கொண்டு எந்த முடிவுக்கும் வர வேண்டுமென்றும் அதன் பிறகே நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுக்கவேண்டுமென்றும் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.

"ஆகையால், போலீஸ்காரர்களுக்கும், பொதுமக்களுக்குமிடையே நல்லுறவு வளர சட்ட மந்திரியையும், போலீஸ் மந்திரியையும் ஏற்பாடு செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு நான் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

1 p.m. JANAB MAHIN SCHAMNAD :—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, the publication of this Bill appears to be very unfortunate. The British Government promulgated several ordinances to restrict the activities of the Congressmen. They put them into jail and made them suffer. The Congressmen thus suffered for several years. In consequence of their sufferings, they became the rulers of the country and made the British who were the cause of their sufferings quit India. Now these ordinances are repeated by the present Government. They put the Communists in the jail and subject them to hardships and sufferings. The Government should think of what happened in the past. They should imagine what might happen in the future. They should be patient and not wreak vengeance. They could give facilities to the wrong-doers to improve them and if they go astray, they should be punished under the ordinary law of the land. All men are created by God and He is merciful to His creatures. So, also men should be merciful to men. We should go in the right path and pray God to guide us in the path of those whom He blessed and not in the path of those whom He cursed and condemned.

" Now, Madam, there are only very few real Communists. Most of the people are compelled to side the Communists and sympathize with them, as they feel that they are not treated properly by the Congressmen. Just as the Brahmans once thought that they were nearer God and that others were untouchables, so also the Congressmen now think that men of the other parties have no status. If representatives of other parties stand for elections, the Congressmen set up their own candidates and oppose their opponents thinking that they are not fit. All those who are loyal to the Government should be considered as one party. We are loyal to the Government and we fight against the enemies of the Government. But why should there be differentiation between Congressmen, Muslim Leaguers and men of other parties, as loyal and disloyal? Now, the Muslims are loyal to the Indian Government and co-operate with them and not with the Pakistan Government. But the Congress men do not take the men of the other parties as their own, unless they sign a bond of allegiance. What is the necessity for signing a paper? It is only a paper. What is required is sympathy and co-operation. What is required is that all the loyal men in all parties should unite together and be one party and support the Government. If the Congress people do not take them as their own and do not try to support them in elections, etc., they will be compelled to become the enemies of the Congress and not sympathize with the Congress. This is all I want to say."

SRIMATHI V. SEETHAMAHALAKSHMAMMA :—" ఉపాధ్యక్షురాలు అమ్మా, ఇదివరలో ఆమలుచేసిన ప్రజారక్షణ చట్టమువంటి దానిని ఇప్పుడుకూడ అమలుచేయుటకుగాను ప్రభుత్వమువారు మన ముందుట ఈ బిల్లును ఉంచినారు. ఈ బిల్లును పాస్‌చేసే సందర్భములో ప్రభుత్వమువారికి కొన్ని విషయములను మనవి చేయదలచినాను.

" ఈ నాడు గ్రామములలో ఉన్నటువంటి ప్రజలు ప్రజారక్షణ చట్టము అమలులో ఉండుటవలన ఎటువంటి కష్టనష్టముల పాలగుచున్నారో తెలుసుకోవడము చాలా అవస

రము. ప్రజారక్షణ అనే పేరుతో ఈ చట్టమును అమలుచేయుటకు నియమింపబడిన పోలీసులు, ఇతర అధికారులు వారి అధికారమును దుర్వినియోగము చేయుచున్నారని చెప్పుటకు విచారించుచున్నాను. ఈ నాడు పోలీసు జులుమువల్ల చాలామంది అమాయకులైన ప్రజలు, అందులో ముఖ్యంగా సామాన్యస్థితికి చెందిన ప్రజలకు కూలినాలి చేసుకొనే కార్మికులకు రక్షణ అనేది విమాత్రము ఎక్కడాకూడా కనిపించకుండా పోయింది. పోలీసువారియొక్క లోపములవల్ల ప్రజాసామాన్య కమ్యూనిస్టులు అనే పేరుతో దౌర్జన్యమునకు గురికావించుబడుచున్నారు గ్రామాలలోని స్త్రీలకు, పురుషులకు రక్షణ అనేది లేకుండపోవడం చాల ఆక్రమమైన విషయమని ప్రభుత్వంవారికి మనవిచేస్తున్నాను.

" ఈనాడు సామాన్య ప్రజలలో ఆందోళన కలిగించెడి ఆర్థికపరిస్థితులు విర్వడియున్నవని మన గవర్నమెంటువారికి తెలిసిన సంగతే. ముఖ్యంగా ఆహారధాన్యాల ధరలు విపరీతముగా పెరిగిపోయినాయి. పాటకజనానికి అవి అందుబాటులో ఉండుటలేదు. అంతేకాకుండ ఆధికాహారోత్పత్తి చేయుటకు అనువగు పరిస్థితులుకూడ కలుగజేయబడుటలేదు. ఇదివరలో మన ప్రభుత్వమువారు రాష్ట్రములోని జమీందారీలను రద్దు చేసినారు. ఈ విధముగా చేసిన తరువాత జమీందారీ ప్రాంతములలో ఉన్నటువంటి అనేకమైన బంజరు భూములు (waste lands) ప్రభుత్వమువారి పరమైనవి. ఇట్టివాటిని సాగుక్రిందకు తీసుకొని వచ్చుట చాల ఆవశ్యకము. ఈ విధంగా ఆధికాహారోత్పత్తిచేయుటకు ఎక్కువ అనువైన అవకాశములు ఉన్నవి. ఏ సదుద్దేశ్యముతో ప్రభుత్వమువారు జమీందారీలను రద్దుచేసినారో ఆ ఉద్దేశ్యమునే మనసునందుంచుకొని సాగుచేయుటకు వీలగు బంజరు భూముల నన్నింటిని వేద వ్యవసాయదారులందరకు ఓ ఏభరేటిపు విధానముమీద వెంటనే సాగుచేసుకొనుటకు ఇవ్వవలెను. ఈ విధంగా చేసినయెడల, అనేకమంది వేదరైతులకు వృత్తులను కల్పించినవారు అవుతారు. అంతేకాకుండ ఆహారకొరత విర్వడిన ఈ రోజులలో ప్రజకు, దేశానికి ఎక్కువ సహాయము చేసినవారము అవుతామని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. ఇన్నాడు ఆహార పదార్థముల ధరలు విపరీతముగా పెరిగిపోయినవనే సంగతి అందరకు తెల్సినదే. ముఖ్యముగా పల్లెటూర్లలోని పాటకపు ప్రజకు ఇటి విమాత్రము అందుబాటులోలేక్ష. కూలినాలీ చేసుకొని జీవించేటటువంటివారి పరిస్థితి చాల ఆందోళన కర్ణంగ నున్నది. ముఖ్యముగ హరిజనుల పరిస్థితి చాల విషాదకరముగ నున్నది. నేను ఈ మధ్యన ఒక గ్రామమునకు పోయినాను. ఆ గ్రామములోని భూస్వాములు సావుకారులు ఆ వూరిలోని హరిజనులు కమ్యూనిస్టులని నాతో చెప్పినారు. ఇందలి యదార్థమేమో తెలుసుకొందామనే అభిప్రాయముతోను ఈ హరిజనుల ఎందువలన కమ్యూనిస్టుల ప్రచారానికి గరి అవుతున్నారో తెలుసుకుందామనే అభిప్రాయముతోను నేను సరాసరి ఆ హరిజనవాడకు వెళ్లినాను. అచ్చట హరిజనులతో మాట్లాడినాను. ఆ హరిజనవాడలో నేను వెళ్లినప్పుడు స్త్రీలే తప్ప పురుషులెవ్వరును నాకు కనుపించలేదు. ఈ విధంగా ఉండటానికి కారణమేమని అచ్చటి స్త్రీలను అడుగగా ఆ గ్రామములోని పెద్దరైతుల సావుకారుల ప్రోద్బలంచేత పోలీసువారు అక్రమముగ, అన్యాయముగ దౌర్జన్యముచేసి కొంతమంది మగవారిని జైల్లలో పెట్టినారని మిగతావారు భయపడి పరారి అయినారని చెప్పినారు. ఆ గ్రామములోని పెద్ద రైతులకు సావుకారులకు హరిజనులమీద ఇటువంటి ద్వేషము, కోపము కలగటానికి కారణమేమిటని వారిని తిరిగి అడినాను. అందుకు సమాధానముగ వారు ఇలా చెప్పారు:—" ఇక్కడి భూస్వాములు, సావుకారులు మూడేళ్ల ఊడుపుల రోజులలో ఊడిపించుకొంటున్నారు. కోశల రోజులలో చేలు కోయించుకొంటున్నారు కాని ఊడుపుల కూలి కోతలలోను, కోశల కూలి ఊడుపులలోను

ఇస్తున్నారు. ఇంత ఆలస్యముగా ఇస్తున్న ఈ కూలికూడ సక్రమముగ ఇవ్వడములేదు. ఏ రైతైనా తక్కువకూలి ఇస్తే ఆ కూలే ఆధారముగ తీసుకొని అందరుకూడ తక్కువ కూలి ఇస్తున్నారు. ఈ విధంగా ఇవ్వడమువల్ల మేము చాల బాధపడుతున్నామని ఆహార పదార్థాల ధరలు అపరిమితంగా పెరిగిపోయినవని మాకు ఎప్పటి కూలి అప్పుడు ఇవ్వాలని ఇదివరలో ఇచ్చేటటువంటి రూ. 0-12-0 ల కూలి చాల తక్కువగా ఉందని, మామూలుగ ఇతర కూలీలు సంపాదించుకునే రూ 1-4-0, 1-8-0 ల కూలి మాకు ఇప్పించవలసిందని కోరినాము. ఈ విధముగ చేయటకు వారు ఒప్పుకోలేదు. ఇందువల్లనే హరిజనుల మందరము కమ్యూనిస్టులమని పోలీసు వారికి చెప్పి మమ్మల్ని అనేకమైన బాధలకు అనేకమైన విధాలుగా బాధలు పెట్టించారు. అటువైన నేను అక్కడ ఉండే కమ్యూనిస్టులైనా, మీకు హెచ్చు కూలి ఇస్తున్నారా అని అడిగాను. వారు కమ్యూనిస్టులుకూడ తక్కువ కూలే ఇస్తున్నారని కాని హెచ్చు కూలి ఇవ్వడము న్యాయమని అంటున్నారని అంతవరకే వారు మామీద ఆధిపత్యము చూపుతున్నారుకాని కూలి ఇచ్చే విషయంలో రైతులు-కమ్యూనిస్టులు ఉభయులు ఒకటేనని చెప్పి వాళ్లు అన్నారు. ఈ విధముగా కమ్యూనిస్టులుకూడ మీకు తక్కువ కూలి ఇవ్వనప్పుడు మీరు ఎందుచేత కమ్యూనిస్టులను బలపరుస్తున్నారు, మీరు వాళ్లలో చేరటానికి అవసరం ఏం కలిగింది అని నేను వారిని అడిగితే, వారు మేము కమ్యూనిస్టులను బలపరచడములేదని, మేము వాళ్లలో చేరలేదని, మాకు ఏ పార్టీతో సంబంధములేదని న్యాయమైన కూలి సంపాదించుకోవడమే మాకు కావలసినదని మీము ఎప్పుడు ప్రజాప్రభుత్వము తరఫు ఉంటామని వాళ్లు చెప్పారు. ఈ గ్రామములోనే కాకుండ మా జిల్లాలో అనేక ఇతర గ్రామాల్లో ఇటువంటి ఆక్రమ చర్యలు సర్వ సామాన్యమయిపోయాయని చెప్పవలసివచ్చినందులకు విచారిస్తున్నాను.

"ఇటువంటి ఆందోళనకరమైన పరిస్థితులు ఏర్పడుటకు కారణకు ప్రజా రక్షణ చట్టాన్ని అవకాశంగా తీసుకొని పోలీసులు స్వలాభాపేక్షతో ప్రజలపై దౌర్జన్యంగా ప్రవర్తించడమేనని, అందుచేత ఈ బిల్లును పాస్ చేసిన తరువాత ఈ దౌర్జన్యాలు జరుగకుండా చూడడము గవర్నమెంటువారి విద్యుక్తధర్మమని చెప్పుచున్నాను. ఈ సభ్యుని మా గ్రామమునకు దగ్గరగా ఉన్నటువంటిన్ని, నా నియోజకవర్గానికి చెందినటువంటి ఎల మల్లు అనే గ్రామంలో కమ్యూనిస్టులను పట్టుకోవాలనే అభిప్రాయంతో పోలీసువారు అర్ధరాత్రి ఆ గ్రామాన్ని ముట్టడి వేసారు. తెల్లవారగట్ల దొడ్డికి పోయేటటువంటి పురుషులను అడ్డగించి ఒక స్కూలు ఆవరణములోనికి తీసికొనివచ్చినారు. అక్కడికి తీసుకొనిరాబడిన పురుషులు, తాము నిర్దోషులము కమ్యూనిస్టులము కాము అని చెప్పుకొనుటకుకూడ అవకాశము ఇవ్వకుండా, బాండ్లందగిచేత పోలీసు అధికారులు బట్టలు విప్పించి, వీపులు బద్దలయ్యేటట్లు కొట్టించారు. ముఖ్యంగా హరిజనవాడకుపోయి దిగంబరులుగా చేసుంచి వారి స్త్రీలను తీసుకొనివచ్చి దొడ్డుగుండాపెట్టి, దిగంబరులైన పురుషులపై చూచేవరకు లాటీలతో కొట్టారు. ప్రజా రక్షణ చట్టము అనే పేరుతో అనేకమైనటువంటి ఎప్పుడు, కని, విని, ఎరుగని అమానుషకృత్యములను పోలీసువారు జరుపుతున్నారు.

"ఇదే విధంగా, కాటూరు అనే పశ్చిమ కృష్ణా జిల్లాలోని గ్రామంలోకూడ జరిగింది. ఆ గ్రామంలో రెండు వందలమంది గ్రామస్థులపైన సడి ఒజారులో పోలీసులు లాటీచార్జిచేసి, వాళ్లను దిగంబరులుచేసి, వాళ్ల స్త్రీలయెదుట నిలబెట్టి దెబ్బలతో పూరిగించినారు. ఇది కాంగ్రెస్ గవర్నమెంటు ఇది ప్రజా ప్రభుత్వమా? లేక మరే గవర్నమెంటో నాకు అర్థం కావడములేదు. ఈ ఆక్రమాలను గురించి మా జిల్లాలో ఉన్నటువంటి M.L.A. లు గవర్నమెంటువారికి మెమోరియల్ ద్వారా తెలియజేశాము.

కాంగ్రెసు కమిటీలవారుకూడ తెలియజేసినారు. దీనిపైన తగిన చర్య తీసుకొనబడినట్లు తెలియలేదు. కమ్యూనిస్టులను అణచటానికి పోలీసులు నిర్ధాక్షిణ్యంగా ప్రవర్తిస్తేనే కాని పని జయప్రదంగా సాగదని కొంతమంది చెప్పవచ్చును. కాని అది చాల పొరపాటని న్యాయమనేది అందరి పట్ల ఒకే విధంగా ఉండవలెను. లేనిచో అధికార దుర్వినియోగము జరగటానికి అవకాశాలెక్కో లున్నాయి. దీనివల్ల ప్రభుత్వముయొక్క పేరు ప్రతిష్టలకు భంగము కలుగవచ్చును. అందుచేత ఎవరైన అధికార దుర్వినియోగము చేసినట్టయితే వారిని ప్రభుత్వమువారు వెంటనే తొలగించి శిక్షించాలి. ఆవిధంగా చేసినట్టయితేనే మనము చేసిన చట్టములు సద్వినియోగములు అవుతాయి. లేకపోతే దుర్వినియోగమవుతాయి. నేను యీ విధంగా అనేక గ్రామాలలో అక్రమాలు జరుగుతూన్నాయని విన్నాను. పోలీసులు గ్రామస్థుల ఇండ్లలో చోరాకు వెళ్లినప్పుడు అక్రమాలు చేస్తున్నారు. అనేక బీద కుటుంబాలవారిని కట్టుబట్టలుగాని, తినటానికి బొచ్చెలుగాని నీరు తాగటానికి గ్లాసులుగాని లేకుండా చేస్తున్నారు. ఇటువంటి కఠిన చర్యల వల్ల వారు కమ్యూనిస్టులను గురిచేసినట్టయితే చూకేమి ఆభ్యంతరములేదు. కాని వారు అవిధంగా చేయలేక పోతున్నారు. కమ్యూనిస్టులకు బదులుగా వేదసాధలను వారు హెచ్చుగా బాధిస్తున్నారు. నిజంగా కమ్యూనిస్టులైనవారు పోలీసువారికి దొరకకుండా (underground) లో ఉంటున్నారు. పోలీసువారు వారిని పట్టుకునే ప్రయత్నము అనే పేరుతో ప్రజలను బాధిస్తున్నారు. ఇందువల్ల గవర్నమెంటుయొక్క గౌరవము తుంబుబడడమే తప్ప కమ్యూనిస్టు చర్యలను నిరోధించలేరు. కాబట్టి గవర్నమెంటువారు వారి అధికారులను అదుపులోనుంచి వారు అధికారాన్ని సక్రమంగా వినియోగించేటట్లు చూడాలని ఆమాయకులను నిర్దోషులను తమను తాము పోషించుకోలేని వారిని కమ్యూనిస్టులని చెప్పి శిక్షించి జైళ్లలో డిటెయిన్ చేసి వారికి, వారి కుటుంబాల వారికి బత్యములు ఇవ్వడమును అనవసరమని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. ఈనాడు యదార్థము ఆలోచించి చూస్తే అసలు కమ్యూనిస్టులైనవారు కమ్యూనిస్టు పార్టీతో సంబంధించినవారు చాలామంది (underground) లో ఉన్నారు. ఏ కొద్దిమంది కమ్యూనిస్టుల మాత్రమో జైళ్లలో లున్నారు మిగిలిన వారందరు పోలీసువారి లోపములవల్ల శిక్షింపబడినవారేనని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. ఇంతేకాకుండ మరొక్కొన్ని పొరపాట్లుకూడ జరుగుతున్నాయి. హైకోర్టులో హేబియస్ కార్పస్ పిటీషన్లు చాలులు చేసుకొని విడుదల కాబడిన వారిలోకూడ కొంతమంది అసలు కమ్యూనిస్టులు కూడ ఉంటున్నారు. ఇటువంటివారిని తగిన జాగ్రత్తతో వెంటనే చర్య తీసుకోవలెను.

"ఈ చట్టము చాల ప్రమాదకరమైనటువంటిది ఆచరణలో పెట్టడములో చాలా శుద్ధ పరిశీలన కావలసియున్నది. ఏ సదుద్దేశ్యముతో ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఈ చట్టాన్ని చేస్తున్నారో ఆ ఉద్దేశ్యముతోనే అధికారులు దీనిని అమలు చేయాలని అధికార దుర్వినియోగము అరికట్టాలని అధికార దుర్వినియోగము చేసిన వారిపై వెంటనే ఆక్షన్ తీసుకోవాలని నా సలహాలను ప్రభుత్వంవారు మన్నించి కాంగ్రెసుయొక్క సంస్థయొక్క ప్రభుత్వమువారియొక్క పలుకుబడిని ప్రతిష్టను నిలబెట్టడానికి ప్రయత్నిస్తారని ఆశిస్తూ నేను సెలవు తీసుకొంటున్నాను."

* JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR :—"Madam Deputy Speaker, I should offer my sympathies to the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon. For, to-day, in a time of transition, he is invested with two precarious portfolios. When our Province is face to face with the linguistic conflicts, he is the Minister for Education, and he does not know where he stands in the matter of education, even in his own district of Malabar. Equally so, when our country is face to face with ideological conflicts, unfortunately for him, he is 1-15 p.m.

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the Minister for Law and he does not know where the country stands. That is exactly why I want to say a word of warning that on the Treasury Bench, unfortunately for us, we do not have any businessmen. Businessmen know business first.

" We are today having a record of charge-sheet against the Communists. The Government are trying to use the law of the land against the Communist Party. What exactly is the state of affairs from the international standpoint? Why should we invite the wrath of Russia without the aid of America? I want to ask this Government this question. Why should we invite the encirclement by Russia when actually we do not have any assurance of aid from America. It is true that the Hon. Prime Minister of India had created a very great impression in the United States. But we have yet to wait for the results; because as businessman and as a hard-boiled businessman, I would very much like to wait and see whether America means business or mere hospitality. For, the Hon. Prime Minister himself had said, and quite rightly, that ' we have an attitude of neutrality in international politics '. Can we reconcile that statement with our conduct here, where the powers of the State are being exercised against the Communists. In an ideological controversy, we know where Russia stands and where the United States stand. Equally, Madam, the Prime Minister of India had stated abroad that in no country in the world, people are enjoying as much civil liberties as they do in this country. What is it that we are seeing in this country and in this Province in particular? Right from the time you have taken charge of office—1947, 1948 and 1949—we have got emergencies and emergencies. Under the cover of emergencies, you are arming yourself to the teeth and you are cutting away one civil liberty after another. You are encroaching upon the jurisdiction of the Courts as well. Indeed, you have ruled out Courts of Law in matters where you are seeking wide powers. After all, where are these Communists, I want to know? Sometimes I even wonder that it is all mere propaganda. I will be one with the Government if this is really a question of tackling the Communists menace. Under the cover of Communists, why do you frighten the world by cutting legitimate liberties? Here, we have got one party Government that is going the way of the fascists and that is going the way of the totalitarian states. Madam, it is not by arming themselves to the teeth that this Government can meet this menace. After all, there is something much more important than mere authority. You must have the moral sanctions to meet this menace. You must now have not merely the law of the State, the lathi of the police and the rod of the Government to act against the Communists. On the contrary, if you really call this emergency and if you really believe what you say, then, try as other Governments have done to call for a Coalition Government and arrange for an all-party Government to meet this menace. In that way, you can have the co-operation and goodwill of everybody in the Province. It is no good for you to single out one party and one section of the Society and see that the entire resources of the

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Government are deployed against that section of the society. It is simply violence, violence of the worst order. And yet, it is nothing but hypocrisy to call themselves that they are guided by the principle of non-violence, when they are actually employing all the resources of the Government against a particular party and particular section of society. I am not a whit behind this Government in denouncing the atrocities that the Communists must be perpetrating. But, what exactly is the cause for such Communist atrocities? We know that they are not wedded to non-violence. We know that they are not wedded to considerations of loyalty to the State when they have got certain international associations. But the question is a rather important one. You will have to strike at the roots of this problem. As George Bernard Shaw has observed; " Only fools fear crimes; we all fear poverty, the crime of crimes "; poverty is the root cause for all this and poverty is the mother of all crimes. I have seen many countries and if I should have any impression of the ghastly difference between our country and other countries in the West, it is this solid fact of poverty. What has this Government which has been invested with the authority of the responsible Government, done to root out poverty. Madam, we are aware that this Government have undertaken certain historic reforms, for which we offer readily our thanks and congratulations. When it is the question of economic rehabilitation, I am sure that the Government will themselves confess that the record has been one of failure. They have not done anything to reduce the cost of living. Indeed, we must have deflation. But on the contrary, we are only seeing the spiral of inflationary tendencies in the country. Any amount of propaganda and any amount of power which the Government may take upon themselves will not meet this menace. By increasing the difficulties of poverty, you are yourself feeding the Communists. Madam, there is another point, which the Government should take note of. When the country is advancing in materialistic forces, you are relegating into the background the hold of religion over the people. I know there are many people who, because this is a secular State, seem to feel that they have nothing to do with religion and not even an iota of loyalty to God. It is here, Madam, that our people even in the villages have developed a certain attitude of indifference. Even amongst us, there are some people who still believe in the authority of the Government. Madam, why should the Government not mobilize these spiritual forces in the country? Are you going to simply tell the people that they should not be Communists? Are the people going to accept this advice of yours? In the name of God, say that communism is contrary to all the accepted tenets of religion. Actually, the different minorities who have got their attachment to the various religions, do not have that confidence in this Government, which you should have infused in them before. I would only appeal to the Government to act now. Better late than never. Don't let go this opportunity. You have got to mobilise on all fronts, the resources of this Province to meet this Communist menace. We are fast getting into the encirclement of Russia, and we do not know what is going to befall this

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country of ours. Why do you keep on record a charge-sheet against Communists? Let us not under that cover seek all those authorities and powers of an emergency Government. Because, that way, we are only trying to let down our stand of neutrality in international politics, and trying to incur the wrath of Russia without having an assurance of aid from America. One more thing, Madam. One or two hon. members said that it is the business of the Government to govern. Equally, I could retort and say that it is the business of the Opposition to oppose. That is not the way we should discuss matters. If we put forward suggestions and warnings to the Government, it is because we are swimming along with you. If you fall and die, we too may have to die. At least in our self-interest, we want to preserve our lives and we do not want to die, because you have not acted wisely. Now, beware; history will repeat itself. It was only the Tottenham report which was against the August Disturbances of 1942. And now it is your charge-sheet against the Communist."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"Are you going to finish now? If you want to continue, you can do so after lunch."

* JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"I will be finishing now, Madam. I have only a few words to say by way of giving a fishing touch to my speech. I desire this Government to act with political wisdom and foresight in these matters. Please remember that ignorance is bliss when it is foolish to be wise. The Government should not under the cover of putting down the subversive activities take the widest powers on them. They might have asked this House for necessary powers, of course with the approval of a Select Committee for which we have been standing together here. We would have given the Government powers to deal with the subversive elements but not under the categorical expression of the Communist Party."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"I now adjourn the House to meet again at 2-30 p.m."

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

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

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the discussion on this Bill has taken a turn which I had not anticipated. It has been generally a discussion on the present food situation and the discontent that prevails in the country today, and, it appeared as though there was a Demand on General Administration. However, it has covered a large number of subjects, from food to labour, and I feel it rather difficult to meet all the points raised by Hon. Members, although many of them are true."

"Sir, broadly, the discussion took the shape of asking the Government to tackle the causes of the disease, the symptoms remaining untouched. My friend, Mr. N. S. Varadachari went to

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the extent of saying that the Bill is the end of all civil liberties. I am sorry, Sir, that some of the Members who were very very pungent in their remarks are not here. (Sri T. Viswanatham: They are just getting in).. But, unfortunately, I cannot wait for them. I heard indeed a very good dissertation from the Hon. Lady Member, Begum Amiruddin who made subtle distinctions between individual freedom and liberty. She said how expectations of individual freedom have resulted in the curbing of individual liberty how she was moved by the Prime Minister of India's statement in America on the enjoyment of civil liberties in India and how, in contrast, his followers in India, in this Province, deny such liberties. I have also heard the remarks of my good Friends, Mr. Raza Khan, Mr. Salam and Mr. Anwar. Mr. Anwar, just returning from his world tour, has told us how things are done in other parts of the world and how this Government, without any business-man in the Cabinet, is unable to realise the international repercussions likely to result in inviting the wrath of Russia without any assurance of aid from America! They must have no reason to complain this time, unlike previous occasions, that they are not seriously being treated here; for I must say, with great disappointment, that what they have said does not require serious consideration at all. Sir, Hon Members made much about the likely misuse or abuse of powers sought under this Bill. I must say, with due deference to those Members, that the arguments they put forth are not at all relevant to the issue. We are moving in a vicious circle. We were trying to find out whether the seed is the cause of the tree or the tree is the cause of the seed. It is quite true that there is considerable discontent today in the country. Mr. Vaidyanatha Iyer gave us a comparative study of the price levels prevailing two or three months ago and now, regarding rice, tamarind, chilly, sugar, firewood, etc., and said 'these are the conditions in the country; so what is required now is, you should reduce the prices and remove the discontent and automatically the disease will disappear'. Yes, that is to some extent true. But, as my hon. Friend, Mr. Fernandez has said, there are people who attempt to create discontent, and if there is discontent already, to aggravate it, and make it impossible for us to tackle the disease I shall give an instance of what happened in Tanjore recently. The agricultural labourers there were asked not to sow, and during the harvest season, they were asked not to harvest. If such a thing is going on, how are we to reduce the difficulty with regard to food? If there is no sowing, there is no harvest. If there is no harvest, there is no rice. If there is no rice there is discontent among the people. So, there must be created an atmosphere wherein these normal activities can go on uninterrupted and whoever that tries to disturb such an atmosphere must be prevented from doing so for sometime at least. Now, the party against whom this measure is designed tells the people, 'if you want us to alleviate your distress, make the situation worse for Government; if it is bad, take all possible steps to make it worse. They create hardship in the transport of food. Now, Sir, when such are the

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activities of the Communist Party, is it not our duty to see that the ignorant labourers and the rest are kept away from it? The Communist party is working with this end in view and is it not proper that we take steps to meet the situation? My Friend, Mr. N. S. Varadachari said ' you are putting in jail people who are opposed to Communism and those who have severed their connection with the Party. (A voice: It is only on page). I agree with the hon. Member to some extent. Sir, recently, in spite of the District Magistrate's advice and the Advisory Council's recommendation—I may say its warning—that certain men in particular cases should not be released in view of the then impending harvest, we made a gesture and released them, and you must know, within three days of their release they created all conditions to make the harvest in that area impossible. These may be instances which my friend Mr. Varadachari might not know but there are cases like that and we have other experiences also in this matter. So, Sir, it is not right to generalise the issue, with the knowledge of one or two instances which might have come to his notice. I do not want to take much time on this question of tackling the disease, because without the primary thing to create the atmosphere for this purpose, much is not likely to result. After all, we are representatives of the people and are working together. When we go wrong, tell us that we go wrong and should do the right thing. When we are not doing what you ask us to do, ask us to do it, if it is for public good. If we commit mistakes, point them out to us. We can do a lot by combined effort. Let us all therefore try to alleviate the distress of the people which it is our duty to do. We for our part are trying our best in various ways to discharge that duty sincerely and successfully. But when we do that we cannot allow anyone to obstruct it. Look at the Communists again. When we are doing something to better the lot of the masses, there are those who say ' no mill shall work; if any mill works, we shall make it impossible for it to work '. The poor man is told ' here is a big house, this was built by you, you toiled for it and see who is occupying it now. Look at the big landlord and Mirasdar sitting inside. You have no house for yourself. That is your house which you built with your labour. Get in and live there! The poor man although he knows he has no right over that house, gets excited as many others get excited under the Communist influence, occupies it and if the owner does not yield he is harrassed. Sir, in these circumstances, is it not our duty at least for sometime to come and tell the poor man that what he is doing is wrong. They must of course get the fruits of their labour but we must have sometime to prepare the ground for such action. Is it not, therefore, necessary for us to detain or restrain those set of people who make it impossible for us to work? So, Sir however much it may be correct theoretically that the cause of the disease should be treated, the symptom also has to be attended to.

" About the restraint on civil liberties, members have waxed eloquent. As I have already said, the hon. Lady Member's dissertation was indeed a treat to me. It is easy for us to say anything

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but very difficult to act. Mr. Varadachari said it was the end of all civil liberties. Members of the Opposition, Mr. Raza Khan, Mr. Majid and Mr. Anwar—have all attacked the measure as a restraint on civil liberties. We have absolute civil liberty to do anything, to abuse people absolutely with no sense of decency, to create all sorts of dissensions and so on. The kind of work that some people are doing shows that we have more liberty than we should have. The speeches of some of the members show how much liberty we have." 2-45 p.m.

SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Minister says that the speeches of some hon. Members show how much liberty we have here."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I do not understand the hon. Member."

SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" The Hon. Minister says that the tone of the speeches of hon. Members taking part in the discussion shows how much liberty we have and how the civil liberties are being utilised. That is a reflection on the Chair."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" It is absolutely no reflection on the Chair, Sir. It is only a humble statement of fact and a tribute to you, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I do not understand the point of order. Let the Hon. Minister continue his speech."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I do not know, Sir, whether I have not properly expressed myself. I was not referring to the speeches made in this House. I shall now refer to the speeches made by some of the Members of the Opposition. Mr. Anwar said that it was the business of the Opposition to oppose . . . (Mr. Anwar rose to speak) I am not yielding, Sir. Sir, I say that it is the Government's duty to govern. But if his philosophy is that indiscriminate opposition is the duty of the Opposition, the Opposition cannot complain if they are disregarded. That is all I can say, Sir.

" We have been speaking about the restraint on the civil liberty of certain people. It is true in the case of people against whom action is taken under this Act. Their civil liberties have been restrained and there is no doubt about it. But I want the House to consider the civil liberties of entire villages, of the community as a whole, the kind of civil liberty that they had been enjoying under the threat of certain people whose civil liberties we have now curtailed. Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, quoted some instances in Madura showing what wonderful kind of civil liberty was being enjoyed by people under the influence of a set of people whom we have now the misfortune to put in jail. A bus conductor is taking a bus. Some people get into the bus and when asked to pay the fare, show the sickle and the hammer. They force the conductor to give up all the money and get away with it. Don't you want the bus conductor and the bus owner to get their money. Have

they no civil liberty to get their money? Then Sir, the communist friends whose civil liberty has been appreciated by one set of people in this House solved the food problem in no time. They went to a hotel and had their food and when the hotel-keeper asked for money, they showed the sickle and the hammer. They solved the food problem completely. All the problems—the difficulty of getting rice, the price of rice and so on—were solved by simply showing the sickle. But what about the civil liberty of the hotel-keeper?"

"Sir, I happened to go to a village in West Godavari called Ajanta Vemavaram, two or three days after the murder of one Sri Subbarayudu. He was an old man, the president of the Weavers' Society and also the president of the Village Congress Committee. The Communist friends found it impossible to start a rival society there. They wanted to protect the civil liberties of the people there. One day they went to the house of Subbarayudu with the sickle and hammer, and with the sickle chopped Subbarayudu inch by inch and with the hammer knocked his brain out and broke his bones in broad daylight. I went there with the Collector, the District Superintendent of Police and Alluri Satyanarayana Raju two days after the murder. It was a village of 5,000 to 6,000 people, but not one man dared to come out of his house. We went to house after house and I wanted to assemble them and tell them that there was a provision in the Penal Code by which a man may commit even murder in self-defence and nothing would happen to him. But nobody would come out of the house. They said: "There are half a dozen people watching us and if we go and attend your meeting, tomorrow we will share the fate of Subbarayudu". No one would come out of the house. Two hours after, the District Magistrate and the District Superintendent of Police, were able to arrest half a dozen people. In half an hour, 5,000 people came out and heard me for $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours. I should like to ask, "What about the civil liberty of the 5,000 people? Don't you care for it?" We may sit comfortably here, talk glibly and give dissertations on civil liberty and independence. And when one hears some of the speeches delivered here by some Members of the Opposition and even by my hon. Friend Mr. Varadachari, it would appear as though the whole country was being severely restrained and an iron band was put over the mouth of everybody."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I did not mean Mr. K. Varadachari. I meant Mr. N. S. Varadachari."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—"The Hon. Minister had better mention our initials, Sir."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I did not say that they were doing anything wrong. I only said that the impression created by their speeches would be, in the words of the hon.

the Lady Member, Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin, that in this most unfortunate country of ours, after the attainment of independence, the position is that nobody can open his mouth, and everybody is being restrained and nothing can be done. You have only to read some of the newspapers that are being published in this country by the various parties to find out whether we have freedom of speech and freedom of writing or not. Mr. Varadachari complained about the action taken against Mr. C. V. Rajagopalachari and his being convicted. Hundreds of such instances we have not taken notice of. Incitements to violence, incitements to class hatred and all sorts of nasty things—hundred of instances we are ignoring. It is only very seldom we take some action. Yet, when we hear some of the speeches here on civil liberty, it would appear that the country is in such a state that nobody can open his mouth or walk the streets or do anything. This is unfortunately an exaggeration of things and not a correct statement of facts; it is mere imagination running riot. But civil liberties have been curtailed only in the case of those people whom we have to restrain under this Act and it has been done with the object of restoring and retaining the civil liberties of the majority of the people of this country. We have unfortunately had to do so and that is my only answer."

"Sir, the other great objection that was raised and a very right objection was about the misuse and the abuse of the powers. It may be perfectly true, Sir. There might have been aberrations in some cases. Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar gave us some instances. At the same time he said that the moment he was able to bring the matter to the notice of the authorities concerned, some relief was given. The other instances were given by Srimathi Seethamaha-lakshmamma and Mr. Kurmayya. Mr. Kurmayya said that women had been raped. I can assure him, Sir, that it is not done under the Public Safety Act. (Laughter). (Mr. Kurmayya rose to speak) I am not yielding, Sir. In the name of an ordinance or law no such thing can be done. If a man in authority does it, if he used his authority to do it, it will be a much greater wrong than if it is done by ordinary persons. I do not justify such action. What I am saying is that certain excesses may have been committed. They can be done under the Criminal Procedure Code even now. Searches can be made now even without a warrant. Therefore if under the guise of taking action under this Act, any officer or set of officers have done wrong, certainly it is to be condemned and it is to be enquired into, but that does not mean that we should have no powers at all. I entirely agree with you when you say that we must take every precaution to see that there is no abuse and if there is any abuse, it must be relentlessly put down. Some of the hon. Members on the Opposition said: "We realise the necessity for the Act and the giving of powers to you. We support you in that. But from our experience we find certain things have occurred. Therefore you be careful in taking action under the Act". Certainly, Sir, we have to be very careful and cautious and watch with great care how things are being done

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under the Act. Abuse or misuse of powers under the Act is a thing which we have to guard against. But that is no ground for not arming the Government with sufficient powers to meet the situation. Therefore let us not confuse this fact of abuse or misuse of powers and let it not lead us to have no powers at all. It is an argument of despair. When we have found that the powers under the ordinary law are not sufficient to meet the situation, and when we want some special powers, the powers must be given, though I entirely agree with the caution that the powers must be exercised very cautiously and not misused or abused. Any abuse or misuse should not be condoned but relentlessly dealt with.

" Sir, here again I plead for a little bit of charity. I am not holding a brief for abuse or misuse of powers. There may be one or two cases or half a dozen cases but not thousands of cases. Therefore it will be uncharitable to generalise the whole and say that the entire class of officers are unfair, that they are abusing and misusing their powers and that there is nothing but Police raj or ordinance raj or Police zoolum. It is not fair or right to generalise like that from a few cases of abuse. When any case of abuse comes to our notice, even if it is one case, because it is so bad, we are obsessed with the badness of it and we lightly say that such things may have happened elsewhere also. But we have to think of the tremendous amount of provocation and taunting to which the Police officers are subject when they have to deal with such cases. Cultured persons like us may be able to stand the taunting and provocation to some extent but if an officer loses his head a little bit—of course I do not plead for him—that cannot be taken as a general case and that such things are done everywhere. That will be uncharitable. That will not be an encouragement to the unfortunate Policemen who are toiling day and night in playing their part in trouble affected places. Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar mentioned the case of a Head constable who went to trace some people who had gone underground, but did not return home alive. Mr. Govinda Menon gave an instance of a letter written to him in Malayalam in poetry as follows :—

' *Sengodiyodu Kalichavararum Thannillam Kandu Marikkarilla* '.

[Translated, it means : ' If you play with the red flag, you will not reach your home tonight.']

3 p.m. " Those are the circumstances in which the poor officers are working. That Head constable tried to do his duty; the result was that he lost his life. It must be realised there is tremendous provocation, there are tremendous difficulties and adverse circumstances. Some of them might have misbehaved, and I do not hold a brief for them; I only say it is not right to generalise on that account; it is a very difficult task they are doing which requires our absolute commendation, our absolute co-operation and our absolute appreciation." (At this stage some lathis were brought into the House and placed near the seat of the Hon. Minister.)

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MR. SPEAKER :—" I am afraid exhibitions of articles are not allowed in the House."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I did not know, Sir; I am sorry. My Friend Mr. Salam asked ' what about the Government violence? Have you not used violence against detenus in the jail? ' Unfortunately for me, Sir, under conventions and the rules of procedure, I cannot exhibit certain things here which I wanted to; they were things with which the warders and the police were attacked. We had supplied firewood to the detenus and the firewood sticks were used to make lathis for attacking the warders on a particular day. I do not expect you to say that they should get the blows. They have not become converts to the ideal that if an enemy gives a blow on one cheek, the other cheek should be shown to him for receiving another blow. No doubt it is an ideal, but they have not become converts to that ideal. So, when it becomes impossible for them to put down the trouble by any other means, naturally they have to use a bit of violence; but you cannot at once say that they are using violence on the whole community. That is my answer to the Member who asked ' have you not used violence in jails.' I can only sympathize with such critics, because they think any stick is good enough to beat a dog with, if they do not like it. No doubt, I want the sympathy of even such members; but if they say they are helping me by so criticising, I can only say ' please save me from my friends.'

" Mr. Ramachandra Rao, Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar and some others said that bullets have not suppressed any movement and asked ' have you ever heard so.' It may be correct as a theory; but I may say it is nothing but bullets that made Russia into a power; it is not because the country was communist in outlook; it was because the communist leaders had the army behind them; and when once they got that strength, it was with the help of bullets and lathis and the military force they had that they got into power. That is what our comrades here also are attempting to do. And as long as I have anything to do with the Government —and even if I have nothing to do with the Government—I must resist such an attempt with all the force I can command.

" Sir, most of the things I wanted to say in answer have been said by Friends like Mr. Subbaraman; Mr. Balakrishnan, Mr. Easwaran, Mr. Fernandez, Mr. Pais and others. So I do not want to go into details.

" Reference has been made by Mr. Muniswami Pillai, and Mr. Murthi to the harassment of Harijans. The law has made a scape goat of Harijans, one Member said; some caste-Hindus are blackmailing Harijans under cover of this law, another said. Sir, I may say we have also had complaints like that. My answer to them is : it is not the powers given under this Act that have made them do such things. There must be something intrinsically bad in the particular persons concerned who, in the guise of their authority —not necessarily under this Act alone—might have done something wrong. As I said, we shall try our best to avoid such things.

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" Then Mr. K. Varadachariar said that he supported the Bill generally but that we must remove the causes; he also said that maintenance of law and order becomes a minor matter when we think of the prices of foodgrains. I do not agree with him. Maintenance of law and order is the primary matter even as compared to the maintenance of fair prices in the country.

" Mr. Bhashyam and some other Friends have spoken against the one new section that has been added. Some members even said that I have not myself understood the implications of what is contained therein. Mr. Bhashyam said: 'if there are defects and mistakes, why don't you rectify them.' Sir, it is not that we have not attempted to rectify them; it is not because we are anxious to have more powers than we already have. After the disposal of the Habeas Corpus applications and the remarks of the High Court, we gave very strict instructions to District Magistrates pointing out seriatim the defects pointed out by the High Court and how they should rectify them and also telling them that the Public Safety Act was not there to be used for everything but should be used only in certain cases where public safety was in danger. I shall read to you one or two of the orders to the District Magistrates, based on the High Court Judgment.

' On the basis of some recent judgments of the Madras High Court, on Habeas Corpus applications the following instructions are issued for the guidance of all detaining authorities:

There must be evidence in the order of detention to show that the detaining authority has really applied his mind to the case in question . . .

No order of detention issued by the detaining authority should on any account be given retrospective effect.'

In certain cases the District Magistrates had made the orders have retrospective effect and the High Court pointed out that that was not correct. The defect was accordingly pointed out to the District Magistrates and they were told that such a thing should not happen.

' An order of detention can be passed only when the acts done by the individual in the approximate or immediate past are detrimental to the public safety or the maintenance of public order . . .

A detention should not be ordered on grounds entirely outside the scope of the Act. Such grounds would not be relevant and the detention would be bad. As examples, the High Court has cited grounds such as a person ridiculing the proposals of the Government to award compensation to zamindars, etc., as being entirely outside the purview of the Act . . .

The grounds and particulars furnished must all of them be within the scope of the Act. If some of the grounds and particulars are within the scope of the Act and some are outside the scope of the Act, the High Court considers that the detention may be liable to be questioned because it would be difficult to find out whether the valid grounds or the invalid grounds operated on the mind of the detaining authority . . .

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The grounds and particulars must not be vague, indefinite or incomplete, but must convey all the information or at least sufficient information necessary to enable the detenu to make an effective representation against the order.'

These are all the things we have pointed out to the District Magistrates. Every defect that was pointed out by the High Court was clarified by us and detailed instruction has been given. These instructions were issued in July 1949.

" Then, Sir, it may be asked why we have introduced this particular section. During the Hyderabad trouble, we know that people were kidnapped from our Province and there were people who helped in such kidnapping; there were people who went about saying: ' you are going to be kidnapped, give me money, I shall ransom you out.' It was difficult to say the person said it or to produce proof of it. In such cases, I can only say in a detention order that ' there are sufficient grounds to believe that you are attempting to kidnap such and such a person ' or ' that you are attempting to take ransom '. The High Court of course said it was vague, although the District Magistrate was convinced that that particular person was doing such a thing. There were any number of examples like that. One member stated that prominent Communists whom we knew to be at the bottom of many a great trouble have been released by Habeas Corpus applications. Yes; the High Court has been quite right; they are there to interpret the law as it stands. There is also the fact that the conditions mentioned by them may not be fulfilled in many cases. Some incident might have happened where a particular person was behind it, but it might not be possible to produce proof that he was behind it; in such cases, should I not have the power to say—though I may not have definite proof of it—that such and such a person is a suspect and he should be under detention? After all, Sir, the object of the law is prevention and what is the use of taking action after the mischief is done? When the District Magistrate has sufficient reason to believe that a particular person is at the bottom of some mischief,—though he may not have definite proof—the Government must have power to take action, and it is for that purpose that this clause 4-A has been included here.

" Again, we know there has been this cyclone in the Circars. The District Magistrates are very busy in going out and attending to the details of destruction and to the planning of relief. They may have to detain a person for two or three weeks; they may not have time to look into the matter or even to prepare the order of detention. In such cases, this power is necessary.

" Some friends asked: ' what have you done till now? How many persons have been detained and what is the work you have done under the Act? ' In reply, I went to place a few facts before

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the House. The number of detenus in November 1948 was 744. It went up to 1,169 just on the eve of the proposed railway strike in April 1949. Out of this 1,169, the number released by the High Court through Habeas Corpus applications between November 1948 and November 1949 was 69, and the number released by the Government themselves on an examination of their cases on getting reports from the authorities and even against the recommendations of the district authorities and the warning of the district authorities was 609. The number we have on detention now is 665.

3-15 p.m. "I cannot say it is a pleasing factor but rather it is not so bad as it looks to be. From the number of 774 as it stood in November 1948, to-day it has come to 665. In other words, the number is less by about one hundred. May God help us to see that the number is not increased, is my prayer and my attempt.

"It is not because I want to give loopholes to the District Magistrates to slacken in their duties that the section has been introduced but if, for certain absolutely unavoidable reasons there has been some delay or the officers concerned took sometime to inform the grounds of detention or it took sometime in the disposal of the case in the Secretariat, such things should not be a ground for releasing a very dangerous set of people. From the number of persons released on our own accord and by the High Court, I can safely say that we have not been reckless in the use of the Act and that, on the contrary, we have used it with considerable care and caution that is humanly possible.

"Mr. Ansari said that clause 2 of the Bill took his breath away. I do not know where his breath was when it was passed in 1947. This provision was there since 1947. The reason is that clause 2 is the only clause under which any action can be taken and if such a clause is not there, there is no Public Safety Act and so, I am afraid, my hon. Friend should have a little stronger breath in the matter as long as we have to use the Public Safety Act.

"Another hon. Friend Mr. Raza Khan asked whether the Advisory Councils were meeting properly and whether they are meeting at all. There are two Committees, one consisting of Mr. Justice Satyanarayana Rao, the Advocate-General and Mr. Doraiswami Mudaliyar and in the second there are Mr. Justice Lakshman Rao, a retired Judge, Government Pleader and Mr. Bangara. They are doing honorary work and in the discharge of their duties, they are sitting late at night to finish their work as much and as quickly as possible by a very careful scrutiny of the cases. It is not right that we should say: 'Are they meeting and doing their work at all'.

"Sri Ananthachar made a very good suggestion, viz., that much more work can be done by having District Advisory Councils. I shall examine the matter and try to see what can be done.

"My hon. Friend Mr. Salam said that he is much ashamed of certain things. He may be ashamed of so many things in this

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world; there might be reason to be ashamed of many things; and I cannot help it if it is so. He has been ashamed to read judgments of the High Court. I have a greater regard for their judgment than he has and I am not ashamed to read their judgment. They have certainly pointed out certain mistakes and there is nothing to be ashamed about it. He was very uncharitable when he referred to the question of the charge-sheet. He asked: 'What about the charge-sheets against some of you,' and said that most of us should have been in jails if it had been taken to a Court. There is no protection for a Minister against criminal offences if he has done any. It is open, if Mr. Salam so feels, to file a complaint against anyone of us and nothing protects us if there is any offence that we may have committed. I suggest to him to take action. There is no use and it is not fair certainly to be saying such sort of things and using insinuations saying that you should have been in jails'."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"The Government also could have done that."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"How can I complain against myself. It is very easy to speak here on the floor of the House. If you have charges against us, it should not be put that way but it should be filed in a Court."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"On a point of order, Sir. The charges against Ministers are *sub judice*. They are pending before the Congress High Command."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not *sub judice*. If it is before a Court, it is *sub judice* but it is only before the Congress High Command."

SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"If the matter is before a Court, it is *sub-judice* but, whatever great regard you, Mr. Speaker, may have for the High Command, it cannot be recognized as a Court. Mr. Salam quoting the High Command is just like somebody quoting Scripture. (Laughter.)

"My hon. Friend Mr. Raza Khan said and Mr. Salam also referred to it, that the Public Safety Act was used for purposes of the district board elections. 'Did not you have these Communists before and why did you not arrest them earlier?' That is what they said. But these are people against whom warrants had been pending, and evidence registered on account of their subversive activities; but they were underground. Merely because of the fact that nominations had been filed by them can I ask my Police to keep quiet saying that they should not be proceeded against as they had filed then nominations and were contesting the elections? That may be the thing that they want and I am sorry I cannot oblige them and no civilized Government can tolerate such things. As long as friends like Salam and Raza Khan are on the opposition they will not call us civilized Governments and I can quite well understand that.

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" Opportunity has been taken by many Friends to ventilate their grievances, to criticize the Government or warn the Government that they have either not taken action or that they should have taken earlier action. My hon. Friend Mr. Govinda Menon said that we are not taking action in time and that strong action must be taken at the proper time and that we are very careless. He instanced the case of a prominent Communist of my district of Malabar. Mr. Damodaran was let out on parole and he went underground. The fact was that his wife was seriously ill and when one hears that a person's wife was taken seriously ill, I was moved by a feeling as to how I would feel in such circumstances. I was inclined to release him and took the risk in doing so. (An hon. Member: 'Was the illness of the wife a fact?) That was my suspicion but fortunately or unfortunately, I was supported by the District Magistrate saying that she was ill. If I had been a little bit careful, I would not have done it as I knew him very well. The other thing he stated was that if the Bill to amend the Malabar Tenancy Act had been brought out earlier it would not have given room for the subversive elements to have taken advantage of the situation to the maximum. I can assure him and through him the people of the district of Malabar that the Bill is almost ready and we hope to bring it up before the House before the Budget session. (An hon. Member: 'Why not this session?'). It depends upon how long this session will last and it may not be possible to bring it up before the House this session. Till that amending Bill is passed people will have to be satisfied with the little protection that is afforded by the Tenants Protection Act.

" I am thankful for the tender mercies of Mr. Seethi Sahib. Though he said he sympathised with the Government—I am thankful to him for it—he felt that a drastic legislation of this nature was not warranted. I do not know how, coming as he does from the district of Malabar, he says that there is no necessity for this legislation. I am only reminded of what I said on the last occasion when members of the Opposition took up a similar attitude: Save us from such a sort of Communist-League axis. That is what I have to say even now. (Janab Muhammad Raza Khan: 'If there had been that axis, you would not have been on the Treasury Benches.') Let me tell my Friend that I am on the treasury benches inspite of him; there is no doubt about it.

" Mr. Majid said that it was an irony of fate that the party which was responsible for getting freedom should have been responsible for passing an Act of this nature. Not at all, Sir. We have fought and got freedom and naturally we want to keep that freedom; and against anybody who prevents us from that, we shall take as strong action as possible and even stronger ones than this measure if necessary. We shall not be afraid nor ashamed of taking action of this nature as long as we have the backing of the country. (Janab Muhammad Raza Khan: 'Question'). I can quite well understand the 'question'. It arises from a feeling

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of frustration that as long as I and those of my view remain here, there is no chance for him to come over this side. That makes people forget reason very often.

" Mr. Speaker, I am very glad that Mr. Majid appealed to the Communists to stop violence. As I have already said to ask the Communist to abjure violence is asking for something impossible, knowing as I do in what way it is preached and how they want to get hold of the people.

" Regarding the question of misuse of powers which has been referred to by hon. Members, we have given strict instructions regarding it and we shall also be watchful and very careful in the matter. That is all I have to say in answer to the various criticisms that have been made. The main criticism was that the root cause has to be tackled before such acts are combated, as these are only palliatives. I entirely agree. But we must have an atmosphere of peace to tackle the root cause and that atmosphere cannot be brought out unless we have certain powers to deal with those who create mischief. I cannot accept the very well-intentioned amendment of Mr. Raza Khan to refer the measure to the select committee; for the only additional clause in this Bill is clause 4-A. In other respects the measure is practically a reproduction of the original Act which has been passed by this House. So, there is no necessity to refer the measure to the select committee." 3-30 p.m.

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, the House expected, particularly members from this side of the House, that a responsible Member of the Cabinet, and more so, the Hon. Law Minister of the Madras Government, will try to meet the points and arguments raised by the several members, whether belonging to the Opposition or to his own party. But, as usual, the Hon. Law Minister only indulged in a sort of vituperation and insinuation. It has become a habit with him. We do not speak merely for the sake of opposition. We do appreciate the difficulties of the Government. We said, we are particularly one with you in your trying to maintain law and order. But our objection is that you want to entrust the executive with powers which may lead to abuse. We have facts at our hands where they have been abused, and that is why we want this matter should be referred to the select committee. If the Hon. Law Minister could get all the judgments of the Madras High Court, let him do it and go through them, and then he would be the first man to resign the Law Ministership after seeing the severe strictures of the High Court. The judges of the High Court are not appointed by those of us in the Opposition; but they are appointed by the Government themselves. Particularly the ordinances passed during the regime of the present Hon. Law Minister have all come to severe strictures at the hands of the High Court. That is why I want this Bill should be referred to a select committee, as there are several defects in it. There are certain facts which cannot be said in the

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open House by us, and similarly there may be several things which the Hon. Law Minister cannot speak out here. So I suggest, the reference to a select committee. But he says that he does not care for Raza Khan or Salam and he does not take them seriously. I may say, Sir, on the other hand, the public do not take some Members occupying the Treasury Benches seriously. After all I am in the Opposition; I may be here or not to-morrow. But the Ministers should not, through speeches, leave room to create such an impression in the minds of the people. The speeches made here were all made with a full sense of responsibility. Then, Sir, the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon said, there seems to be some axis between the Muslim League and the Communists. It is all born of prejudice against the Muslim League, and that prejudice will be there always, because Government have tried to develop their politics on that prejudice. The Muslims are not anywhere in axis with the Communists. It is uncharitable on the part of the Hon. Madhava Menon to say like that. I am sure if there has been such axis the Members of the Government over there would be not there, now, but in Alipuram or some other jail. Sir, I am not prepared to withdraw my amendment."

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, Mr. Raza Khan said that I have been as usual vituperative and insinuative. I can only say, to jaundiced eyes everything looks yellow. He said that I have not given arguments. Sir, I can only give arguments; I cannot give anything else. He also said that the public do not take Ministers seriously. I have only to say that mere assertion does not carry any weight. Sir, I oppose the amendment."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The question is :

' that the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Bill, 1949, be referred to a select committee '."

The motion was lost.

MR. SPEAKER :—" I will now put the original motion to the vote of the House. The question is :

' that the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration at once '."

The motion was carried.

Clause 1.

MR. SPEAKER :—" The motion is :

' *that clause* 1 *do stand part of the Bill* '."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the orginal Bill as you might have seen, there is no time-limit for the measure. The Hon. Law Minister has given notice of an amendment, which is printed above my amendment. It says that the Act shall come into force at once and shall remain in force up to

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and inclusive of the 30th September 1952. My amendment is that it shall be in force till the 31st December 1950. So I move :

' *In Clause* 1, *sub-clause* (3), omit *the fullstop and* add " *and shall remain in force till the* 31*st December* 1950 ".'

Sir, I do not like to add to the heat of the arguments that have been going on. I believe any emergency legislation like this, however necessary it may be, will not be proper if we do not pass it for a short period, and then, at the end of that period take the consent of the House if it is to be extended. So I submit my amendment for the acceptance of the House."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I second it. Sir, I did not participate in the debate till now, for I just wanted to find out whether the Hon. Minister in charge of this Bill will not pay heed to the suggestions, not to members of the Opposition, but at least to members on his own side with regard to two matters, of which one has been brought by Mr. Viswanatham. His amendment is to limit the life of this Act to one year. I thought the Hon. Minister would be reasonable enough to accept the amendment. But evidently, to one who has heard his speech, it would appear, that the trouble he wishes to tackle by this measure, is likely to last endlessly, and that he cannot now envisage even a point of time either in the near future or in the remote future. Either he is not in a position to do it or he thinks that the enormity of the position is such that the trouble of Communists cannot be put down in a year. Sir, if that is so, it is certainly a state of affairs which must be carefully examined. It is not merely the duty of Government but also the duty of every citizen of the province. But the Hon. Minister, as a Parliamentarian ought to agree that while he wants to resort to very drastic measures to deal with a menace he should take the Legislature also into his confidence. Why does he insist on a longer period or rather an endless period? He must agree to a shorter period so that if he is not in a position within that period to put down the menace he may come again to the Legislature and ask for its imprimatur and satisfy it about the need for extending the life of this measure. For a Parliamentarian like him, who has had much legislative experience, who wants to work democracy and who is reasonable it should seem proper and just that this measure should last only for one year; and then, if circumstances necessitate its extension he may ask for the imprimatur of the Legislature. But from the way he does, one is led to think that either he does not have confidence in this Legislature or he thinks the Legislature is composed of people who have no lover for the country. I do not think he believes in either. If he does believe that we are reasonable people and who believe in the welfare of the people and the prosperity of the land, he should not insist on a longer period for this extraordinary measure. If an appeal can have any effect on him, he should accept this amendment."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" Amendment moved :

' *that in clause* 1, *sub-clause* (3), omit *the fullstop and* add " *and shall remain in force till the* 31*st December* 1950".'

* SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR :—" Sir, I want only to say a few words. This Act was last passed by the Legislature and the High Court declared certain parts of it to be ultra vires. Then it was replaced by an ordinance, and it has survived the test of the High Court. When this particular matter was discussed last I think the Hon. Law Minister and the Premier were agreeable to restrict its life to two years. I would suggest to adopt the golden mean; the Hon. Minister feels one year is too short; and the other members feel three years to be too long; so I would suggest to restrict its life to two years."

3-45 p.m. SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, one of the things for which this Government can be taken to task justly is that they want to strike but do not strike well. These Acts repeated and renewed several times lose their effect, if they do not apply them strictly, rigorously and completely. When they want to have an Act for two years, there is absolutely no point in reducing the period to one year. At the end of ten months from the commencement of the Act, a man who wishes to commit an offence thinks that he need be in detention only for two months more and that he could come back jolly after that short period. My plea is that the Government must strike effectively when they want to strike. I would allow them sufficient time to make a law, but having made it, there should be no hesitation in applying it. I have been closely following the discussion in the House, and the Hon. Minister for Law seems to be in doubt, like Hamlet, as to whether to strike or not to strike. He is sending people to prison on the one side and releasing them on the other. His dilemma seems to be how long is he to keep them in prison. My suggestion is that the Government should not be soft in regard to some of these things. When they make a law, let them make it stringent. Law after all serves only one purpose and that is to create a healthy fear in the minds of the public. It is impossible for the Government to punish every breach of law in the country. It is only the healthy fear that the law might descend upon him that keeps a man at bay. Why should a law be passed wasting the Government's breath and incurring so much expenditure if it is not going to be applied rigorously? Take one curious thing which the Government did. The other day they banned the Communist Party of Madras. I quite understand the ban. But even before the people could know about the ban, in my district Communists were arrested in hundreds, shoved in lorries and taken to jails only to be released two days later. They were arrested under section 151. It is a very innocent and imbecile section. When a man is arrested under section 151, he knows that he will be let off on bail the moment he is produced in a court. Why employ so many police, arrest people, and then release them on bail?

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Government are only making them cheap martyrs who go about shouting slogans the very next moment they are released. Therefore I oppose any suggestion to reduce the rigour of the law or the period of its duration. If at all the period is to be changed, it should be increased and not reduced."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sri A. Vaidyanatha Ayyar was perfectly right when he said that if the previous Act had been extended, it would be in force only till 31st March 1951. Towards the middle of 1951 there is likely to be a fresh election. The new Government that will be formed should not be left in the lurch with no powers to deal with the situation. That is the reason why we have fixed the period up to 30th September 1952. It is open to us to repeal the Act in the meantime if conditions warrant it. Therefore I am unable to accept the amendment."

The amendment was put and lost.

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

' *that for sub-clause* (3) *of clause* 1, substitute *the following sub-clauses* :—

" (3) *It shall come into force at once and shall remain in force up to and inclusive of the* 30*th September* 1952.

(4) *Upon the expiry of this Act, the provisions of section* 8 *of the Madras General Clauses Act*, 1891, *shall apply as if this Act had then been repealed by a Madras Act* " '."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Amendment moved—

' *that for sub-clause* (3) *of clause* 1, substitute *the following sub-clauses* :—

" (3) *It shall come into force at once and shall remain in force up to and inclusive of the* 30*th September* 1952.

(4) *Upon the expiry of this Act, the provisions of section* 8 *of the Madras General Clauses Act*, 1891, *shall apply as if this Act had then been repealed by a Madras Act* "." "

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to say one or two things on this amendment. I am glad that the Government have agreed to restrict the operation of this Act to 30th September 1952. The reason given is that it would give sufficient time for the new Government that would come into existence to decide on its policy. While I understand the reason, I want the Government to take note of this. If we agree and that too very reluctantly to the period fixed in the Bill, our agreement is conditioned by the fact that the Government will subject the administration of this Act to constant review from time to time and, if necessary, come before the House for deleting some of the extreme clauses to which objection has been rightly taken even now. If the Government feel encouraged by their action that they have got round the situation at least in part if not in full, they should have the courage to come before the House for

deleting the new sections that have been added and which were not found in the Public Safety Act which has been on the Statute Book for more than two years and a half. On the eve of general elections, we should not say to the public that we are still undecided and that we will keep in detention large number of persons with not material enough to put their cases into court. What a nice gesture and propaganda it would be if we select half a dozen cases and put them into court so that things may be examined on their own merits by the public. I would like to stress this point. Let detentions continue, but let them make an earnest endeavour to select at least half a dozen cases if not more which can be put into court, for they concern a widespread campaign of arson and murder. If we are unable to get at the evidence, it shows that there is something lacking in the administration. The Government must make good this deficiency. At the time of the election, we can approach the public and say that we are going to test the confidence of the people in us. Either the detenus should be released or their cases put into court on whatever evidence we have got. No doubt a tribunal will examine the cases. But we know that tribunals cannot make up for Government policies. Government policy is one thing and examination by a tribunal is quite another thing. Why should not the Government release all detenus except those who are firm believers in violence to uproot the social order? Such a gesture will infuse hope in the minds of the people. I plead that the Hon. Minister for Law should face the very limited issue that I have raised."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I think the hon. Member was not present in the house when the Hon. Minister was replying to the debate in the first reading stage, and that is why he is raising some of the points which have already been dealt with."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI :—" I have been careful enough to verify what the Hon. Minister said in reply. Still I would like him to be explicit in the explanation of this very limited issue that I have raised in connexion with this amendment. Even from now the Government should consider as to how to handle this problem of detention on the eve of elections. It is a very serious matter. It cannot be decided in a day or two or even weeks, and I do not want to hustle Government. After consultation with the Centre, let them make up their minds and declare their policy two or three months before election. That is all I wish to say."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government should supplement this legislation by measures which will alleviate the distress of the poor. I think it is a bad policy that industries and labour portfolios should be combined in one Minister. If he is labour-minded, he neglects the industrial side, and if he is industrial-minded, he neglects the labour side. In the past two years, there has not been one instance of progressive legislation in Madras to remove the distress of the poor. Even in the matter of extending the benefits of the Debt Relief Act to agricultural labourers, the Government have been promising to

bring forward legislation without translating that promise into a reality. There are several other similar cases. Assignment of land has been an eye-sore all these years."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Is the hon. Member speaking on the amendment or is he making a general speech? I think he can more appropriately reserve these remarks for the third reading stage."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" I am only pleading that side by side with this legislation, ameliorative measures have to be taken by the Government."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, Sri N. S. Varadachari said that nobody should be detained whose case could not be brought before a Court. I cannot really follow his argument. If a person has committed an unlawful act, certainly we do not detain him but prosecute him. But the object of detention is to prevent a man from committing an act of violence. Therefore, I do not see how we can prosecute people who are kept in detention not because they committed, but to prevent them from committing, any act of violence."

The amendment was put and carried. 4 p.m.

Clause 1 as amended was put and carried.

Clause 2 was put and carried.

Clause 2-A.

MR. SPEAKER :—" The motion is—

' that clause 2-A do stand part of the Bill '."

* JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move—

' that in clause 2-A, sub-clause (1) after the words " for a term which shall not be," omit the words " less than three months or "."

" Sir, the idea with which I move this amendment is to do away with the minimum punishment of three months which has been provided under clause 2-A of this Bill for harbouring or concealing a person under orders of detention. Now, Sir, this sort of providing a minimum amount of imprisonment, if not entirely unknown in the criminal law, is at least a thing which is very rarely provided for. To my recollection, there are only two sections in the Indian Penal Code, namely, sections 121 and 302, Indian Penal Code, wherein minimum punishment has been prescribed. After all, in cases in which a deterrent sentence is necessary, this provision will not be of any use at all, because there is a maximum punishment of two years' imprisonment provided for, and if, in the opinion of the court, the circumstances of the case warrant the award of a deterrent punishment, certainly it will a ward the maximum punishment of two years and not the minimum. Therefore, the minimum punishment provided for, will not be really useful. On the other hand, there may be a case in which there might be some extenuating circumstances which

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would warrant the award of a very lenient punishment, and if this provision of minimum punishment is there, it would tie down the hands of the trying magistrates and they will necessarily have to award this minimum punishment, although they might feel inclined to deal leniently with the accused. I dare say, Sir, that there may be a case in which a man might have committed some technical offence under this provision owing to ignorance of the law. After all, the term ' harbouring ' is used in a very wide sense in this context and anybody could be brought within the mischief of this section. In sub-clause (2) of this clause, the word ' harbouring ' is so defined as to include even the mere supplying of food or water or clothing as an offence even though it is done on mere humanitarian grounds. Therefore, it is quite possible that in many cases, people who are ignorant of these provisions of this section would come within the mischief of these provisions, because it is leargely the ignorant villagers who will be victims of this law, but at the same time such ignorance will not avail them and will not constitute an extenuating circumstance under the law and so they will be liable to the minimum punishment provided in this clause. Therefore, even innocent acts committed in sheer ignorance or inadvertance would constitute an offence under this section. In such cases, it would really be a hardship and an injustice to award an imprisonment of three months. In the name of humanity and of humanitarian principles, I appeal to the Hon. Minister to accept my amendment for the deletion of this provision of the minimum punishment in this clause."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I second this amendment of my hon. Friend Mr. Ansari and in doing so, I would request the Hon. Minister for Law to consider seriously and dispassionately the arguments put forward by him for the deletion of this minimum punishment provided in this clause. In addition to that, I would point out that the term ' harbouring ' occurring in this sub-clause has a very wide meaning and I am unable to understand the particular intention of the Hon. Minister in exempting only the husband and wife and not the father or mother or other near relatives of the person under orders of detention, from the purview of this section. Perhaps it may be that this provision might have been copied from some other Acts in other Provinces, wherein the words husband or wife alone might have been included. Of course it is very difficult to define matrimonial affection or to compare it with any other kind of love or natural affection due to relationship or friendship, but it is surely unjust to confine the provisions of this clause only to matrimonial relationship and not to any other kind of relationships, such as father, mother or son, etc., and I cannot agree with the Hon. Minister in exempting only these two relationships of husband and wife. I hope that at least even now the Hon. Minister will see his way to delete the provision of minimum punishment and also try to give exemption to relations like father and mother."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Amendment moved—

' that in clause 2-A (1), omit the words " less than three months or '."

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" The original motion as well as the amendment are now before the House for discussion."

* SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the original Act was moved in this House, I made an impassioned appeal to the Hon. Minister for Law to include some of the categories of relationships also and not merely to confine the provision to exempting the husband and the wife, which are much more sacred and possibly much more intimate, as for instance, the relationship of mother, father and the son, and I then quoted a number of instances and examples in support of my contention. I then pointed out that it was very likely that a mother would never refuse to give food and water and clothing to her son, however bad he may be. The Hon. Minister for Law was not kind enough to accede to my request and he merely confined to the relationship of only the husband and the wife. Afterwards, I found that in a certain case which occurred in Malabar, the magistrate, under this section sentenced the mother of a person with four months' imprisonment, because she gave food and shelter to her son. As pointed out by the previous speaker, there must be sufficient amount of latitude given to the trying magistrates and judges, in whom vast powers have already been vested under this Act in awarding stringent punishment, to use their discretion in deserving cases and not to fetter or tie their hands down with this sort of restriction. In cases of these sorts, where broad humanity and sympathy ought to prevail, we should not try to take away the powers of the magistrates and fetter their discretion in this manner. It is in that view, that I appeal to the Hon. Minister for Law to consider the amendment moved by my hon. Friend."

* SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry I cannot subscribe to the arguments of the hon. Members who have preceded me. We must take into consideration the present situation in the country, before voting for or against the amendment that is now tabled before the House. The real situation is this. There have been great deal of activities on the part of the Communists and many of them have been under detention; yet many more are still outside and are underground. In spite of the large police powers which the Government have at their command, they are not able to get at them or to combat the Communist menace. Under such circumstances, it would really be very difficult for the Government to maintain peace and to check the activities of the Communists, if they are to allow such persons who are underground to be harboured by their relations and to be given food and shelter, by them. The question therefore is, are we to allow such persons who are their nearest relations to be free to give them food and shelter and to harbour them in their activities, or are we to make them also punishable under the law? Unless we make them liable to punishment under the law, it would be impossible to check the Communist menace. That is why it was deemed necessary to include a provision of this sort in this Bill. We say that in such cases where punishment has been provided for, it should not be left to the discretion of the magistrate, because the situation in the country is such that the punishment should be

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somewhat deterrent. That is why this minimum punishment has been prescribed. Even the near relations who wish to harbour the offenders should not be left unpunished. That is the idea behind this clause. Therefore to take away this minimum punishment altogether, would be to defeat the very purpose of the clause and so I do not think I can support this amendment."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Bhashyam has replied to the arguments of my hon. Friend Mr. Ansari, who moved the amendment. I may tell the House a bit of my own experience. A certain person came to me and said that he had been convicted with one month's imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 200 for having committed an offence under the law. He said that he was even prepared to pay a fine of Rs. 10,000 if we could give up the sentence of the one month's imprisonment and for that he gave various reasons. Therefore imprisonment has a more deterrent effect than a punishment with fine. I may inform the House that there are certain cases in which such a punishment as imprisonment is very necessary in order to prevent such harbouring.

" Regarding the question of exempting the mother or father or son, that clause is not now under consideration. The present amendment relates to clause 2-A (1) only. My hon. Friend Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar's suggestion is with reference to clause 2-A (3) which is not under discussion now but which will follow only hereafter. With regard to that, I may point out that even last year, I said that we have simply copied the provision from the Indian Penal Code with reference to the offence of harbouring, I shall certainly consider any reasonable amendment for that section when it comes, but the amendment which is now before the House, I think I cannot accept, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The question is—

' that in clause 2-A (1), omit the words " less than three months, or" ' "

The amendment was lost.

Clause 2-A was put and carried.

Clause 2-B.

MR. SPEAKER :—" The motion is—

' *that clause 2-B do stand part of the Bill* '."

* JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

' *that in clause 2-B (1) (a) after the words " any statement "* insert *the words " prejudicial to the maintenance of public safety "*.'

" Sir, my only idea in moving this amendment is to remove certain harmless documents and statements from coming within the mischief of this clause. The statement referred to in this sub-clause may consist of anything. They may be mere statements or

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documents consisting of statements of a person under detention which will not be prejudicial to the public safety. Let me give the House some examples of what I mean. For instance, a detenu might have composed a poetry, or a piece of literature, or a statement in the form of a prefatory note to a book, etc. There may be many statements or documents like that, which would have nothing to do with the maintenance of law and order or which may be prejudicial to the maintenance of public peace. According to the present clause, anybody who prints or publishes such documents will come under the mischief of this provision, and become liable to punishment.

" Another example of such a harmless statement which might be penalized is this. For instance, suppose a will is made by a detenue. That might be filed in a court of law by way of an evidence. That will also come under the mischief of this provision and the person who commits that offence is liable to be punished.

" Sir, in the Explanation under this clause, it is stated that—

' Nothing in this section applies to the evidence given by any witness or to counsel in the course of any proceeding, conducted in respect of any such offence or to reproduction by any officer or authority in the course of official duty.'

There might be cases in which documents might be filed by a party which will not be necessarily evidence given by a witness. Those things will also be brought under the mischief of this section. Therefore, Sir, I am only moving this amendment in order to bring home the intention of the Government more clearly and in order to see that harmless and innocent statements and documents are not unnecessarily brought within the mischief of this clause."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I second the amendment."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Amendment moved—

' *that in clause 2-B (1) (a), after the words " any statement "* insert *the words " prejudicial to the maintenance of public safety "*.' "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I am sorry, Sir, I cannot accept the amendment. In the first place the statement referred to here is from a person against whom an order of detention has been made under clause 2 (1) (a). Such a person should not be given any consideration at all, if he is underground and wants to do mischief by remaining underground. Sir, the very object of this provision will be defeated if we insert the words ' prejudicial to the maintenance of public safety,' because the whole statement will have to be considered and scrutinized by a competent authority and the question whether it is really prejudicial to the public safety or not will have to be decided by it, and such a decision will be very difficult to be arrived at and will

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involve considerable complications, unnecessary delays and inconvenience and therefore it will defeat the very object of this clause. Therefore I cannot accept the amendment, Sir."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 2-B was put and carried.

Clause 3.

4-15 p.m. MR. SPEAKER :—" Motion is—

' that clause 3 *do stand part of the Bill'*."

JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move—

' that in clause 3, *sub-clause* (3) omit *the words " whenever necessary "*.'

" Sir, it is a very curious phraseology, which I cannot very well follow, to say ' the Provincial Government shall whenever necessary constitute one or more Advisory Councils '. The idea underlying this sub-clause is that it is obligatory on the part of the Government to constitute an Advisory Council. But the whole force of that ' Shall ' will be taken away by the words ' whenever necessary '. In fact I have never seen any other Bill or any provision of law where ' shall ' is followed by the words ' whenever necessary '. The two are contradictory. In fact the whole thing is reduced to absurdity. If it is the intention of the Government to constitute Advisory Councils, it should be obligatory on them to do so, and the words ' whenever necessary ' should be removed. Otherwise it will be left to the discretion of the Government to arrive at a decision whether the necessity has arisen. If the Government think that the necessity has not arisen, then it is open to them not to constitute an Advisory Council at all. Therefore, it is, Sir, that I move the amendment that the words ' whenever necessary ' should be omitted."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, while seconding this amendment, I wish to say that this question of Advisory Council was first brought up by the hon. Mr. Prakasam when he moved such a Bill previously, as a safeguard for the acts of commission or omission of the officials who would administer this Act. But after the introduction of clause 4-A now, the constitution of this Advisory Council will only be a farce. Whatever the Government officials do will not influence the Government. In addition to that, it is not obligatory on the part of the Government to constitute Advisory Councils. Mr. Ansari has really explained how the Government will have to tell the public whether they give this safeguard to them. Let the Government say that they do not want to give this safeguard to the people. Let them say that in view of the very large powers they are taking, the public will have no safeguard. Mere jugglery of words will not satisfy the public or this House. It is no use to say that the august body, the Advisory Council, will be there, when under this Bill the Government are not bound to constitute one. I do not know how the Hon. Minister is going to explain the words ' whenever necessary ' when he rises to give a reply to Mr. Ansari's amendment. Are there rules made under this section? The Hon. Minister may say that these words were merely copied from the old Acts. But has he framed rules under this section to explain the words ' whenever necessary '? He may say ' yes,' and that the Advisory Council has been there from the beginning till now. We know what the Advisory Council has done and how the Government have treated it. Because the Advisory Council has been there for such a long time, why not Government say ' it shall be constituted '. After all the Council is only advisory, and the Government are not bound to accept its advice. I do not know why the Government should fight shy to delete these words ' whenever necessary '. Either the Government should define these words or they should say there will be no Council at all."

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MR. SPEAKER :—" Amendment moved—

' that in clause 3 (3), omit *the words " whenever necessary "*.' "

* SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think that the amendment has been moved without a proper understanding of sub-clause (2) of clause 3. Clause 3 (1) requires that the grounds of detention should be disclosed to the person affected. Sub-clause (2) says that such grounds after the representation is received shall be submitted to an Advisory Council. Therefore, there is the obligation on the part of the Government, whenever a person is detained, that the grounds should be communicated to him and his representation obtained. After his representation is taken, the grounds for the detention and the representation of the person should be submitted to the Advisory Council. Therefore, the Advisory Council is necessary. The obligation to constitute an Advisory Council is there, and it cannot be got out of. But the question is when we come to the happy state of no detention of persons, should we have an Advisory Council at all. The question is whether an Advisory Council should be constituted permanently, like the High Court, for the purpose of deciding any appeals referred to it by the Government. Therefore, it is necessary to have the words ' whenever necessary '. Whenever there is a case of detention, and when a representation is taken from the person detained, the grounds of detention and the representation of the person have to be placed before the Advisory Council. The words ' whenever necessary ' do not mean that they can get out of their obligation. If the words ' whenever necessary ' are not there, even when there is no detention under any of the various clauses of this Bill, it will mean that Government should keep an Advisory Council in office for all time to come, which is wholly unnecessary. Therefore it is, Sir, that I oppose this amendment."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, our ex-Law Minister of this Government does not seem to think that there is any incongruity in the words ' shall whenever necessary ' found in sub-clause (3). He stated that all that is stated in the

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sub-clause is that there shall be an Advisory Council as long as this Act is on the Statute Book. I do not understand how you can say that an Advisory Council need not be there if there are likely to be no cases of detentions. My friend has been merely arguing without the substance behind. For, if he really believes that there is no alternative to constitute an Advisory Council as an integral part of the provisions of this Bill, I do not believe that my hon. Friend will take exception to the omission of the words ' whenever necessary ' in the sub-clause. The words are really unnecessary, meaningless, and have no place whatsoever in this sub-clause. As I have already stated, I do not think we can agree to the argument that has been advanced by him that as long as the Act is there, the Advisory Council should be there whether detentions take place or not. For, one does not know when the detentions will take place and when the Government will bring into existence an Advisory Council. It is just like putting the cart before the horse.

" I hope my hon. Friend, the Law Minister will accept this amendment. I daresay he will agree to the deletion of these words ' whenever necessary '."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I certainly do not agree to the deletion of the words ' whenever necessary '. I have nothing more to add than what Mr. Bhashyam has stated. I have only to say that jugglery of words is not my business."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 3 was put and carried.

Clause 4.

MR. SPEAKER :—" Motion is—

' *that clause* 4 *do stand part of the Bill* '."

JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

' *that in clause* 4 (1) for *the words* " *confirmed or modified under sub-section* (5) *of section* 3 ", substitute *the word* " *enforced* " '.

Sir, the idea of clause 4 (1), I take it, is that no detenu should remain in detention for a period of more than six months, unless the Government think it necessary to extend that period under sub-clause (2). What happens is that if the clause is allowed to stand as it is the maximum period of six months is extended. For instance, a detenu might be kept in jail on a particular date. Then he may choose to approach the Advisory Council. Then the Advisory Council will examine his case and submit its recommendation to the Government. Where the detenu does not make a representation, the Government will themselves have to put up the case before the Advisory Council. In all these processes some delay must occur, and the idea of putting six months as the maximum period will be taken away. In fact the detenu will be kept in detention for more than a period of six months. Further, the cases of several detenus will vary from one another. Whereas the case of one detenu might

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be brought under six months because his appeal has been expeditiously considered by the Advisory Council, in the case of another detenu it will exceed the six months' period because of the delay occurring at the Advisory Council stage or at the Government stage. In order to remove the anomaly and to bring out the intention of the clause clearly, that is, that the maximum period for which a person might be kept in detention is only six months, I move that *for* the words ' confirmed or modified under sub-section (5) of section 3 ', *substitute* the word ' enforced '."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM :—" I second the amendment."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Amendment moved—

' *that in clause* 4 (1) for *the words* " *confirmed or modified under sub-section* (5) *of section* 3 ", substitute *the word* " *enforced* " '."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, I am unable to accept the amendment of Mr. Ansari, because, no order can be enforced after a period of six months unless the order is extended by the Government. Sub-clause (2) gives power to Government to extend the order for a further period of six months. There will be no meaning in sub-clause (2) if the amendment of my hon. Friend, Mr. Ansari is accepted. Therefore, I cannot accept the amendment."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 4 was put and carried.

Clause 4-*A*.

MR. SPEAKER :—" Motion is—

' *that clause* 4-*A do stand part of the Bill* '."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the first instance, I move—

' *Omit clause* 4-*A*.'

" Yesterday I gave very cogent reasons why it should be deleted. This clause is a result of certain remarks passed by the High Court in several decisions. I suppose about 69 cases went to the High Court, and in some of them the High Court has pointed out the defects. They did not think it necessary to repeat in every case what they stated in the other cases. This morning the Hon. Minister, while replying to that portion of the debate, said that wherever 4-30 p. m. the High Court pointed out defects, the Government immediately transmitted those objections to the concerned officers and that he was satisfied that those officers had complied with the directions given by the High Court. I submit that it is not enough. What the High Court has pointed out is that in the orders containing the grounds of detention which are communicated to the persons against whom action is to be taken, there should not be any material defect, vagueness, insufficiency or unreasonable delay which will vitiate the orders. Therefore, the proper way of looking at and respecting

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the directions given by the High Court is to see that these orders are made perfect and that the language used or the allegations or charges made are not vague or insufficient and that there is no delay so as to enable the detenu to make a proper representation. Yesterday, Mr. Bhashyam was referring to a case where the Government took nearly eleven months to pass orders. Therefore, I submit that communicating the remarks of the High Court to the officers below is not really giving effect to the directions given by the High Court. In fact, most of these orders issue from the Secretariat at Madras, i.e., from the Government. Therefore, when the High Court has pointed out that orders which are defective or vague or insufficient or which are issued after undue delay are not valid, the proper way is for the Government to rectify their communications rather than simply give instructions to their subordinates and hope to have complied with the High Court's order by inserting a clause to the effect that notwithstanding any defect, vagueness or insufficiency, the order shall still be valid. It is not compliance with the directions of the High Court, but on the other hand, it is total and outright non-compliance with the High Court's order. Therefore, in the interests of justice, I move that this clause be deleted."

* SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I whole-heartedly second the amendment and that is the omission of clause 4-A; for the clause goes against the spirit of the whole of the safeguard that has been provided by the Act for the protection of the liberty of the subject. The main safeguard that is really provided is that the detenu or the person detained should have the grounds of his detention communicated to him, and that he should be allowed an opportunity of explanation which will go before the Advisory Council. Therefore, if a person has really put his case before the Advisory Council, in order that the Council may be able to decide what advice they should tender to the Government, the communication must be clear and definite. It cannot be vague; otherwise, how can the man give his explanation to the Government or the Advisory Council? Therefore clause 4-A practically swallows up and nullifies the only safeguard that is provided in the Act for the protection of the subject who is proceeded against under the provisions of the Act. That is why I should like this clause to be omitted altogether.

" Sir, there is also the fact that if the Government commit a mistake, how are they to be pulled up? Or, if the subordinates commit a mistake, how is to be rectified? The Government must place all these things before a tribunal which will really go into the matter and at least point out to the Government or to the subordinate officers where they have gone wrong or committed an irregularity. This clause is tantamount to saying that the Government gives itself licence to commit mistakes or irregularity or to make the communication vague and indefinite. It looks as if the Government are trying to perpetuate what is really found to be wrong by the High Court and perpetuate it not only themselves but also allow it to be done by their own officers. Is that good or right? Is it just and fair to the person who is going to be detained? If you look at it from the point of view of the person who is in jail or in custody, he would like to know the grounds of his detention definitely. After all, many persons may or may not be guilty.

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Many people who are not really guilty are indiscriminately taken up by the police. How are they to put forward their cases before the tribunal or the Advisory Council or the Government unless the communication is definite and not vague? Therefore, I submit this clause practically swallows up what is laid down in clause 3 as to the requirement for sending communications of the grounds of detention and getting an explanation and the obligation on the part of the Government to submit it to the Advisory Council. Therefore, it is a very extraordinary provision in an extraordinary legislation and if the Government support it, they will be acting very extraordinarily."

MR. SPEAKER :—"Amendment moved—

' that clause 4-A be omitted '."

* SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this amendment. After all, detention is a restriction of the person's liberty and the Act specifies the particular grounds upon which alone a person shall be detained. Clause 2 (1) says, ' The Provincial Government, if satisfied with respect to any particular person that he is acting or about to act or likely to act in any manner prejudicial to the public safety or the maintenance of public order and with a view to preventing him, it is necessary so to do, may make an order directing that he be detained . . . .' These provisions are essential for the purpose of the Government directing an order of detention. But in clause 4-A the language is very widely put. The grounds specified there are ' any defect, vagueness or insufficiency, or any delay '. I do not know whether, as a matter of fact, the Hon. the Law Minister feels that the first three words may stand independently altogether without qualifying the words ' in any communication ' because all the four words qualify the words ' in any communication '. It might be in the language as it stands that mere delay alone may apply to a communication and the words ' defect, vagueness or insufficiency ' may stand by themselves in which case it will land us in a total negation of the first principles of the Act. As I pointed out, in one instance, a gentleman called ' Narayanaswami Ayyar ' was detained by mistake for a person called ' Narayanaswami Asari '; ultimately the mistake was found out, it was placed before the authorities and they finally released him. But supposing he came with an application before the Advisory Council or with even a petition in the High Court, the words ' any defect, vagueness or insufficiency ' are so wide that notwithstanding anything that is found in clause 2 (1), i.e., even if the Government are not satisfied that he is acting or about to act in a manner prejudicial to the public safety, it will still be only 'any defect, vagueness or insufficiency ', and he will come under the clutches of the law without getting a remedy. That will completely take away the very ground upon which the Act provides for detentions so that it will amount only to this. Provided where the Government detain any person, no person shall question the act of detention on the ground of any defect whatsoever. The defect may be one going against the very existence of the grounds, viz., one man is about to act or likely to act in a manner prejudicial to the public safety. It is sought to be stipulated that even where

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there is no sufficiency of ground, it shall be deemed to be sufficient or held to be valid. This will be practically going against all principles of what we know to be justice.'

" Lastly, not merely does it affect the basis of the very order of detention but it may go against the purpose and nevertheless be a valid order.

" Then, the only place where the detenu can possibly appear or send information is the tribunal or the High Court and if the grounds which alone are supplied to him are again insufficient or vague or indefinite, the writ of the High Court cannot work if this clause remains.

" One other thing I would submit is this. It is not curing an enactment with regard to detentions already there. But it is one to apply to detentions made in pursuance of any of the foregoing provisions, i.e., detentions to come into force hereafter. The Hon. the Law Minister says that even as early as January 1949 he has given detailed instructions to the detaining authorities that they should be very careful in detaining persons. If ten months after that we still require such things, it will practically be to give them protection for the future so as to cover any kind of defect which may even go vitally against the existence of the grounds necessary for detention. I wish there were less of clauses like this.

" Further, Sir, the High Court has released a number of persons who were detained under the old Act. But now according to clause 19 (3), all those persons who were detained under the previous Act shall be deemed to have been properly detained. The result is that those men will be deemed to be persons under a valid order of detention. It will only result in absurdity. If the Government want really to take drastic powers, let them take, but let them not ride a coach and four on all fundamental principles of justice and law."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sure that there is not a single Member in this House, who, if he has any sense of justice in him or an iota of justice in him, will oppose this amendment. It is obvious that this amendment has come as a result of the decisions of the High Court. Though technically it may not amount to contempt of court, what is sought to be done is nothing short of contempt of the High Court of Judicature, Madras. The High Court has pointed out certain defects and on the basis of the existence of those defects, they have released certain detenus. What should be the duty of the Government as a result of that decision of the High Court? They should call upon their officers to be more careful and to conform to all the rules and regulations that are necessary in order that they would be correct and proper in the procedure. Instead of instructing their officers to see that the defects pointed out are not repeated, the Government seeks a remedy which cannot be found in any law. This is a lawless law. The highest tribunal in the Province, the High Court of Judicature, points out certain mistakes and the Government are, by a stroke of the pen, completely obliterating the jurisdiction of the High Court. They are simply closing down the High Court, so far as these particular cases are concerned.

4-45 p.m. " The Government, of course, are trying to maintain peace and order in the Province. Surely, the High Court is not against the

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maintenance of peace and order. On the other hand, the High Court wants you to maintain peace and order. It is there to point out that even in enacting your own laws, the procedure that you follow should be correct and proper. When you are asked to act properly and see that your procedure is within the four corners of the law, what offence and what sin has the High Court committed that it should be treated like this? This section takes away one's breath when one finds that so easily this Government can bring forward this amendment and say, ' We are going to act in our own way, although you may call us lawless, although you may say that we are acting not in a bona fide manner. We are doing what is necessary. The situation is such that we cannot brook even a moment's delay in seeing that a man is detained. Rightly or wrongly, whatever the procedure, whether the man is innocent or not, we will put him under detention. Nobody can question the Minister, nay even the constable, Inspector or Superintendent of Police, or any of our officers. Nobody has got any right to question our officers. We will give them free licence.' Sir, I submit that the Government are giving a free licence to their officers to get hold of anybody in any method they please. Is it a law, I ask? I do not think that anybody who has any respect for law will agree to this lawless clause, that is sought to be introduced in this Bill. When these defects were found out by the High Court, naturally, they had no other alternative but to release these detenus. It might be that most of them may be innocent and among them, there might also be such persons who had to be detained. It is possible that such persons as had to be detained were also released. But, whose mistake is this, Sir? Is it the mistake of the High Court that these persons were released on finding out that your procedure was wrong and that you have acted wrongly? You have to suffer for your wrong action. Sir, even in the interest of proper detention, even in the interest of getting hold of the proper men for detention, I say that this clause should not be there. There must be some authority to check the officers of the Government who ought not to be given a free licence. After all, these officers are not infallible. They are likely to make mistakes. If mistakes are committed by these officers, there must be some supreme body in the land which should be able to point out the mistake and say, ' Here is a mistake that you have committed. You ought not to have committed this mistake, and therefore we cannot keep these people in detention.' You must have a highest tribunal for this purpose. Instead, by the introduction of this clause, you are simply brushing aside that tribunal from finding out your mistakes."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member is simply repeating the same thing over and over again."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Sir, I am repeating the same thing in different words (laughter). If I am repeating this, it is in order to use proper words, as many words as I can to characterize the nature of this clause. The nature of this clause is such that any amount of adjectives that one might use to describe the action of this Government in bringing this clause will not be sufficient at all. Even the ex-Law Minister who was the author of this Bill. . . (Mr. Bhashyam : No, no), who was the

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author of this Bill, minus this clause, has just now seconded the amendment for the deletion of this clause. The ex-Law Minister, who is a sound lawyer, who has been practising eminently for a long time, and who was in charge of Law in this Province, also says that it is wrong to include this clause and that it should be deleted. My hon. Friend, the present Law Minister says that this is not his baby and it is somebody else's baby that he is carrying and he should not be penalized for it. Whatever it may be, the blemish will come to him. Therefore, let him see that the baby is not poxed and is hale and healthy."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN :—" The Members who have just spoken before me have supported that this clause 4-A should be deleted. I may draw your attention to the fact that last year when the amending Act was introduced, there was no clause of this kind in it. I only want to know the definite reasons from the Hon. Minister, as to where was the necessity for the Minister to introduce this clause. He said in his reply one or two points. They were not at all convincing to me. Let the Hon. Minister supply the House with the judgment copies of the Judges of the Madras High Court, particularly that of the Hon. Justice Satyanarayana and others, who have dealt with a number of habeas corpus applications. They have dealt with three main defects, viz., vagueness, insufficiency and delay. In judgment after judgment they have drawn the attention of the Government to these defects. Persons have been detained for months and even for one year and these district officials and other officers have not informed these people as to what the reasons are or for what offence they have been detained. I have already brought this matter to the notice of the Hon. Minister. The Government generally don't give any reasons, and wherever reasons were given, they were vague or were not proper. I have heard that the Government have published 1,000 or 2,000 stereo-typed documents saying, ' You are likely to do this or likely to do that.' This is not enough. In fact, the Hon. Minister should clearly state as to where was the necessity for introducing this clause in the Bill. This is introduced in the Bill for the first time, Sir. The Act which was passed before, was fortunately declared to be invalid by the High Court, as there were certain defects in it. So the main purpose and the main idea of the Hon. Law Minister in introducing this clause is that in the course of the working of this Act, there might still be these defects, viz., vagueness, insufficiency and delay and in case these were brought to the notice of the High Court, this clause will come to the rescue of the Hon. Minister. While replying, the Hon. Minister read the list of instructions which have been issued to the various officers—Police, district officials and officers of the Secretariat level. It was mentioned in these instructions that, ' In view of the judgment of the Madras High Court, you have to be very careful ' and so on. Thus, definite instructions have been issued to the various officers. If these officers are going to act strictly according to these instructions, I ask where was the necessity for this clause. There is no point in your saying, ' Don't blame our officers. They are all good people. They act according to instructions. Of course, there may be lapses here and there, but you cannot take it as a general case.' The Government say that they have given definite instructions to their

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officers and that their officers will act strictly according to instructions. Then, I ask the Law Minister, where was the necessity to introduce such a clause. A few minutes ago the Law Minister said that the Opposition are opposing any measure for the mere sake of opposition. It is not like that. Even members of your own party have considered this in a very serious spirit and they want that the Government of Madras should not place on the Statute Book such an Act which contains a clause like this. I am sure that the Hon. Law Minister will consider seriously the suggestion made by the members. I know his difficulties. He cannot decide on this immediately on the spot. We can adjourn this House and give him sufficient time to examine the various points raised with regard to this Bill. Let him consider the matter over again and let him come and say, ' Well. I have understood the points raised by you. You are all very very reasonable. I have decided to delete the clause '. If he does this, I am sure that he would have rendered some real service. I have still a last hope in the Hon. Minister, though he might not have made up his mind just at present. Let him go and refer to the various judgments and see what the High Court Judges have said. I learn that the Hon. Minister has been an eminent lawyer in Malabar, though he has not practised in Madras. With his experience and with the help of his Legal Department, let the Hon. Minister look into the exact meaning of the judgments of the various Judges of the High Court and see on what grounds they have decided to release so many persons. In fact many people in the mufassal used to ask me, ' Well. You are all Legislators in the Assembly. How is it that you are passing such Acts in the Assembly which are held to be invalid by the High Court? '. We would like to raise this question on the floor of the House by means of a short notice question or an adjournment motion. But a definite promise was given by the Hon. Law Minister that he will look into this matter. Now, there is another matter, Sir. Whenever it suited him, the Hon. Minister used to say ' Well. There is such a provision in the Bombay Act, U.P. Act and Central Act '. On the other hand, when some of us quoted such authorities and when these did not suit him, the Hon. Minister used to say that he did not want to be guided by other authorities. In every Province, there is a similar Act which is in force. But I do not know if such a clause has been introduced in any of the Acts in other Provinces. Besides the Opposition party members, even members of your own party have considered this question very seriously and the ex-Law Minister Mr. Bhashyam has also stated that this clause may be deleted. Therefore, I support the amendment moved by Mr. T. Viswanatham and request the Hon. Minister to delete this clause."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I think the House is not in a mood to sit further and continue the consideration of the clause. (Several voices: No. No.) I adjourn the House till 11 a.m. to-morrow."

IV.—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

The Madras Jute Goods Control Ordinance, 1949 (*Madras Ordinance X of* 1949).

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Thursday, the 10th November 1949.

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.

* 45-A *Q.*—SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" I request, Sir, that the question may be taken up at the end as it involves a lot of figures."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Yes, the question may be taken up at the end."

Find of some weapons in the Vellore Jail.

* 46 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some weapons manufactured by the detenus were found in the Vellore Jail?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—" A search of the jail, cell by cell, was conducted on 3rd August 1949 by the Inspector-General of Prisons. A number of wooden pieces and sticks which could be used as offensive weapons were recovered. In this connexion certain dailies had published an erroneous report mentioning that 300 weapons including 150 country muskets were recovered from the possession of the detenus. No muskets were recovered as a result of the search but there was only one wooden stick which had been shaped to appear like a musket, especially with odd pieces of tin stuck on to it. But this could not have been used as a musket."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" May I enquire whether there is any truth in the report that these weapons have been manufactured by the jail officials themselves and whether a Committee has been appointed to investigate into the matter?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I have not seen or heard of such report. If there is any, it is absolutely false."

JANAB MUHAMMED ABDUL SALAM:—" Sir, does not the fact that the Government came to know about the weapons only after they had been manufactured show and speak volumes for the inefficiency of the jail administration?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" My Friend is entirely free to have his own opinion."

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JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that these jail officials and police officers in order to suppress their own atrocities against the prisoners have given exaggerated reports and will the Hon. Law Minister appoint a Committee of Enquiry to go into this matter and report? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The first part is absolutely false. The second does not arise."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I know, Sir, why and for what purpose these weapons were manufactured by the detenus in the jail, whether there was any agitation for any amenities required by them? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The object was to attack the jail officials."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" May I know, Sir, how the detenus were able to get material and facilities to manufacture these? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" As I have mentioned yesterday, they have found materials in their own rooms. Firewood has been supplied in bulk and the prisoners possess butcher's knife to cut mutton. Out of these, they have made the weapons."

JANAB MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM:—" In view of the number of incidents that have taken place in some of which the authorities were forced even to open fire, is there not a case for constituting an Enquiry Committee so that fears entertained by the public on this matter may be allayed? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" There is no necessity for a Committee, Sir. Perhaps my Friend entertains some fear, but the people at large do not have any."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government was in possession of any report in respect of manufacture of such weapons in jail or any information to suspect that such a manufacture by detenus was going on in the jail? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Yes, Sir, we got reports. As a matter of fact, Sir, inspections by responsible officers necessary under the rules were not regularly being made and reports were received by the jail officials that the detenus were manufacturing these weapons and immediately thereon a search was made."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" May I know, Sir, whether muskets can be made out of wood? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" There were no muskets at all, Sir, certain pieces of wood were shaped like muskets and I also understand that they had some drill subsequently in the jail."

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JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" In view of these dangers, may I know if the Government have taken any step to see that no firewood and knives are placed in the possession of the detenus? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" We have directed that the firewood supplied to them should not be more than one foot long in future; as regards knives, these are generally supplied to them for purposes of cutting vegetables and mutton and are expected to be taken back every evening."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Is the Hon. the Law Minister aware, Sir, that when formerly such incidents occurred, the very people who are in power to-day were clamouring for some sort of an enquiry, and now when major incidents were happening the police and the jail officials resorting to fire in so many cases why he fights shy to have a Committee of Enquiry? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" It is not a question of my fighting shy. I am not prepared to satisfy my Friend on that nor can I understand my Friend's agitation over this matter. If he cannot realize the difference between a foreign Government doing such things and our own Government doing them, I can only pity him."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" May I know whether any report about the detenus doing or learning drills was made to the Government and if so what action was taken on that? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" They used to have some sort of a drill as exercise in the mornings. That does not matter much."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI:—" May I know, Sir, if any firearms were found inside the jail being used by the detenus and if so how they found their way into the jail? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" No firearm was ever found inside the jail, Sir."

Age-limit for advocates for practising at the Bar.

*47 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government have addressed the Madras Bar Council asking its opinion about the proposal to prohibit practice by advocates who attained the age of 65 years and if so, what the reply thereto is?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The Bar Council was addressed on the proposal to prohibit practice by advocates after they attain the age of 65 or 70 years. The Bar Council was not in favour of the proposal."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government feel that by attaining the age of 65, the advocates will become unfit for practice? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Not at all, Sir."

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SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"May I know what made the Government pitch upon these lawyers for this particular piece of punishment? They have already hit them on another occasion before."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I am not aware of any occasion of hitting the vakils and advocates any time before. It is not a case, Sir, of pitching upon anybody. Certain representations were made to the Government that retired Judges and also lawyers who have attained the age of 65 or 70 may be prohibited in particular, perhaps, in the interests of junior lawyers. Any how we placed the matter before the Bar Council."

SRI M. S. PATTABIRAMIAH:—"In view of the recommendation of the Bar Council, Sir, are not the Government going to drop it?"

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

Recruitment of Deputy Collectors.

*48 *Q.*—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Madras Public Service Commission in July 1949, has invited applications for competitive examination for the recruitment of deputy collectors in the Madras Civil Service (Executive Branch); and

(*b*) the total number of vacancies and the number for each of the following classes: (1) Brahmans, (2) Non-Brahmans (Hindus), (3) Backward Hindus, (4) Harijans, (5) Muslims and (6) Indians Christians?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"(*a*) Yes.

"(*b*) Selection will, if possible, be made from candidates belonging to the following communities, up to the number specified against each:—

	Number of appointments.
Harijans	4
Backward Hindu	1
Non-Brahmins (Hindu)	2
Brahman	1
Total	8"

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"May I ask the Hon. the Revenue Minister whether the policy of the Madras Government in this matter is one of the discrimination against Muslims and is to see that Muslims are kept completely out of all these services?"

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The fact that there are a large number of Muslims employed and promoted in the services shows that the hon. Member's question is not correct."

JANAB MAHIN SCHAMNAD:—"May I know, Sir, whether those Deputy Collectors working in the temporary departments for over seven years without any increment are to retire as deputy collectors or tahsildars in the temporary posts?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I do not see how this arises out of the main question. But I may inform the hon. Member that there are certain permanent posts and if there are vacancies in those posts, those in the temporary posts are also promoted and taken into the permanent cadre."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Is the Hon. Minister for Revenue aware that the new communal government order does not stipulate any retrospective effect and when it is so, how is it that only Muslims are left out in this particular case where Brahmins, Non-Brahmin Hindus, Backward Hindus and Harijans are provided, and it is not a clear case of discrimination against Muslims?"

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

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the fact that Harijans are not selected, will the Hon. Minister consider the question of having a Harijan member on the Public Service Commission?"

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

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Why, Sir?"

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"May I know, Sir, under what category all tribal class of 15 lakhs of people come?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The hon. Friend who is in daily contact with them must know."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIAR:—"May I know the qualifications of the eligible candidates and whether those employed under Rule 9 (a) (i) are eligible for appointment?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"That is too big a question. I cannot answer without proper notice. The hon. Member may put a separate question."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"May I ask, Sir, while the Premier of Madras goes about making appeals to Muslims to forget the past and even to join the party in power how does it reconcile with the present discriminatory policy they adopt towards the Muslims in the matter of recruitment? Is it not that, while making the appointments on the basis of an examination, the Muslims as a class have been shut out since 1947 from these services simply because in some cadres they are over-represented?"

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Sir, I must deny the charge that there is discrimination against Muslims. "

11-15 a.m. JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" May I take it, Sir, that it is the intention or the policy of the Government at present to exclude the Muslim community from the services on communal grounds? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" It is not a question of excluding any community. There has been some weightage or over-representation in certain branches of the services and it is sought to bring it down to the level to which they would be entitled. That is not discrimination. "

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—" What is the percentage of Muslim deputy collectors in comparison to their population, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I should like to have notice, Sir. "

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" In view of the fact that there is very poor representation of Harijans in the cadre of deputy collectors, will the Government consider the desirability of at least appointing a committee with some Harijan members to scrutinize the selections made by the Service Commission? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" The Government claim that that they are taking care of the interests of the Harijans and the other minorities as much as anybody else. There is no need for a committee to be appointed to go into the question. As I have already answered, four members from the Harijan community are going to be selected if they are avilable and fit for the service, by the Public Service Commission. "

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" What are the numbers of candidates of the various communities that appeared for the examination? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" That will be with the Public Service Commission, Sir, and not here. I should like to have notice of it. "

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—" May I know why Indian Christians are excluded from the selection for deputy collectors? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Perhaps, Sir, their turn will come next. "

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" Arising out of the answer that recruitment of Muslims is stopped because they are over-represented, may I know whether the Government have stopped the recruitment of certain other communities also which are over-represented in certain services? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I do not understand what the hon. Member refers to. If he refers to Hindus, I think there is no such over-representation. "

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JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Will it not be always advisable for the Government to be straight and straightforward in their dealings and say clearly and openly that up to such and such a stage Muslims as a class will not be taken in the services, so that Muslim young men who may be unfortunately preparing for these services may try and shift for themselves? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Sir, the Government are not afraid of being straightforward and straight. I may assure the hon. Member straight that the Government do intend to protect the interests of minorities according to their rights and not more. "

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" May I know whether the Government will apply the same principle of giving proportional representation to the communities in the case of the under-represented backward Hindu communities till they reach the level of the other communities according to their population proportion? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Sir, the hon. Member is aware that the communal Government Order has been revised especially to provide for the backward Hindus. "

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—" Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister that no member of the Harijan community will be appointed to the Service Commission, may I ask the Government whether it will not be possible to allow one of the Members of the Legislature to sit along with the Members of the Commission when they are selecting candidates from Harijans for deputy collectors? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I should like to correct a misunderstanding that seems to have arisen out of my answer. I never said that a Harijan is not eligible to be appointed as a member of the Public Service Commission. But if, as I understood from the hon. Member's question, the hon. Member wanted a Harijan member to safeguard the interests of the Harijans, that is a principle, which the Government cannot accept, because that would lead to every community asking for a member of their own being put on the Service Commission. The Public Service Commission is a body which kept above all these considerations and takes its decision impartially. "

JANAB K. M. SEETHI:—" May I know whether the present Cabinet has come to a decision that Muslims should be shut out from certain services? "

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

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" If the Hon. Minister is not prepared to appoint a Harijan member to safeguard the Harijan interests, will he at least be good enough to appoint a Harijan Member to safeguard the general cause as well as the Harijan cause, especially as no Harijan members have so far been appointed? "

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Members of the Public Service Commission are appointed on their merits. If there is a suitable Harijan gentleman fit enough to occupy the place, he will certainly be considered when the next vacancy arises. "

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" Arising from the answer of the Hon. Minister for Revenue that the Public Service Commission is expected to be impartial between caste and caste and take an over-all view of things, may I know why the Government gives them invidious and insidious directions to make distinctions as between caste and caste and community and community without leaving them to use their discretion to the best of their lights?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I do not know where the adjectives invidious and insidious come in here. There is no question of any invidiousness. The Public Service Commission is a body which is expected to exercise its judgment in selecting the candidates without any favour or fear out of those communities that have been asked to be represented by the Government. The Public Service Commission has nothing to do with one community or another. "

JANAB M. S. ATAULLAH:—" As this Government is a secular Government, is it not fair and proper that it should do away with this communal Government Order instead of harping upon it? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" It is a question of policy, Sir. "

SRI L. C. PAIS:—" May I enquire if the Government feel that there is over-representation as regards Indian Christians? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I cannot answer this question off-hand, Sir. I should like to have notice. "

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" May I have a categorical reply from the Hon. Minister whether the revised communal Government Order has retrospective effect or not, that is whether the previous weightage will be considered or whether it will be enforced without reference to the previous recruitment? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" It cannot have retrospective effect, Sir. It does not mean, for instance, if the Government Order says that there must be two backward Hindus out of fourteen, it should be given retrospective effect. There is no question of retrospective effect at all. "

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—" Will the Government give an assurance that the communal Government Order will not be abolished until the unrepresented communities reach their proper proportions in the services? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I am glad the hon. Member has raised this question. As I said, it is a question of policy and the policy is dependent upon the will of the people here. "

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JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" Is it a fact, Sir, that there was a suggestion or advice from the Central Government or the High Command of the Congress that in the matter of the recruitment of the services there should be no discrimination against one community or the other or one caste or other? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" It is a question of justice and equal opportunities for everybody."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Will the Government give us an assurance that at least for the next vacancy a Harijan will be appointed in the Services Commission and they will not come forward and say that Harijans of sufficient merit are not available especially when so many Harijans are available? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I certainly cannot give an assurance of the sort that my hon. Friend is asking for."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" May I ask, Sir, whether it is not the responsibility of the Government and also the concern of hon. Members here to see that under-represented communities are encouraged till they come up to the level of the other communities? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I have already answered the question, Sir, and I have nothing more to add to it."

Extension of the Nationalization of Bus Transport to mufassal areas.

* 49 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Nationalization of Transport will be extended this year to any mufassal areas?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The matter is under consideration."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask whether the Government have received a report final or interim from the committee appointed to enquire into the working of the nationlization of the City Transport and if so what their recommendations are? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We have received the report of the three-man committee and we asked the Economic Adviser to the Government to go into the question and got his report also. Both these are under the consideration of the Government."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government are satisfied with the present nationalization of the Madras City bus transport before they extend the same to the mufassal areas? "

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Satisfaction has many aspects—financial aspect, operational aspect, mechanical aspect. I do not know from what aspect the hon. Member is asking. If it is the financial aspect, I can say that we are fairly satisfied."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI:—"The Government having announced the policy of nationalization of bus transport, is it not a fact that this postponement and leaving the matter in an uncertain state is fair neither to the operators nor to the public?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Recently we have passed orders that permits given should not be of four months' duration but 12 months' duration. We are also considering the question of having it for 24 months in certain districts. There cannot be therefore be uncertainty because of this."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether their decision will soon be taken and if so, when their decision will be made known?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We are also anxious to take an early decision in the matter, but there are certain difficulties. Our difficulties have been increased after the devaluation of the rupee and the sterling."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"May we have information as to what is the percentage of profits the Government have made so far on the capital outlay on the nationalization of transport?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Last time at the time of the budget I gave certain figures to the end of December. I have since got figures from month to month. If a separate question is put, I shall give the receipts and expenditure."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"In view of the devaluation of the sterling, is it not worth while to postpone this nationalization *sine die*?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"That is one of the aspects which has to be considered very seriously."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—"Apart from finance, may I ask the Hon. Minister whether he is satisfied with the efficiency of the service in Madras City?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"That again, Sir, is a relative term. Perhaps compared with some other services somewhere else, it may not be very efficient, but compared to the previous state of things obtaining in the City of Madras, perhaps it is much better."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Is it not a fact that the Minister for Transport while addressing a meeting of the workers of the bus transport, complained that the efficiency of the present bus service is not very much as compared with that under private management, that the establishment charges were higher than what they were before. If it is so, what steps have the Government taken to remedy it?"

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not think the hon. Member has understood my speech correctly. I did not say that things had deteriorated since the Government took over the management of the City services. I said that compared to some other services somewhere else, perhaps our service was not as efficient as theirs. It does not mean that the service has deteriorated from what was obtaining previously in the City."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Instead of the Government being entirely in charge of the nationalized service, is it not better to hand it over to Financial Corporations, as is done in England for coal and some other business?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We are expecting the Central Assembly to pass the necessary legislation in the November or December session, and steps will be taken in this direction afterwards." 11.30 a.m.

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"In view of the urgency of the situation, will the Government be pleased to explain how devaluation—a very big objection thrown into this small matter very unnecessarily, I think—affects nationalization of transport. Will the Government debate this question openly in the House so that members may have an opportunity of pricking this bogey?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"First of all, I do not accept there is great urgency in the matter; secondly, when we have to nationalize, generally we go in for American chassis; and American chassis and lorries will cost hereafter more than they are costing now."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"Is it not correct if I say that the income of the Government by way of taxation will be higher if the motor transport in the mufassal is not nationalized?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not think so; besides, our taxation, we can certainly make a little margin out of nationalization."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—"May I ask why efficiency is made comparative? Why not the Minister say what the efficiency of the present service is without comparing it to other services in the mufassal or some other persons who were or were not able to run the services?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not have particular yard-stick or scales to measure the efficiency without making a comparison; I do not know whether I can say yes or no to this question."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether in view of the fact that this House has endorsed the policy of nationalization of bus transport and in view of the importance of this question, the Government will be pleased to make the

three-man committee report available to the members of this House, to come to a considered judgment on this question? ''

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The three-man committee report is more a technical report; it is not on the administrative side; they have gone into the technical details of the transport system and I do not think there will be much use in making it available to the House, but if any particular member wants to see it, I have no objection to show it to him."

MR. SPEAKER:—" So far we have finished only five questions in half an hour. We shall proceed to the next question now."

Promotion of officers in the Veterinary department.

* 50 *Q.*—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the rule, blocking the promotion to officers from the Madras Veterinary Subordinate Service to the Madras Veterinary Service after the age of 50, has been abolished? ''

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The answer is in the affirmative."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know how many officers have been promoted from the Madras Veterinary Subordinate Service to the Madras Veterinary Service after the 50 years' rule was abolished? ''

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" I am not in a position to give the information just at present."

Appointment of a Director of Fisheries Technology.

* 51 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state whether the appointment of a Director of Fisheries Technology is under the consideration of the Government?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" There is no proposal to appoint a Director of Fisheries Technology. The Government have recently separated the Fisheries section from the Department of Industries and Commerce and constituted it into a separate department under a Director of Fisheries. The new Director of Fisheries took charge of the department on 21st September 1949."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" When we hear of so much work done by the Fisheries department and its expansion, how is it we do not have any additional sale of fish in the market in spite of the Government's efforts? ''

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Supply of fish does not depend upon the appointment of officers, Sir."

Increase of the Police force.

* 52 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Central Government have asked this Government to increase the Police force in this Province?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of the Hon. the Premier):—" The answer is in the negative."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" May I enquire whether the introduction of the territorial force in this Province has not been done under the instructions of the Central Government? ''

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" After all, they might have thrown some suggestions, but we also felt the need for augmenting the force in this Presidency."

Revival of dramatic art.

* 53 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government have constituted a committee to enquire into the conditions of dramatic art in the Province and to suggest ways and means of reviving it?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Yes. The committee has, however, been asked to report on the steps to be taken for the revival of the dramatic art in the Telugu areas only."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" May I know whether the committee has sent its recommendations? ''

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" No, Sir; not yet."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" In view of the desire of the Government to revive the dramatic art, is it not advisable to give some scholarships for students who can specialize in this art? ''

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Let us see what the report says."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" May I know who is in charge of the dramatic art and whether it will not be better if the Hon. Leader of the House, Mr. Gopala Reddi, is in charge of this portfolio? ''

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I entirely admit the superiority of my colleague the Finance Minister regarding aesthetics and arts, but I have his advice at my disposal whenever I may want it."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" The committee has been constituted for only one area; what about the dramatic art in the other linguistic areas? ''

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Perhaps it was originally thought that the other areas were far advanced, but anyhow if there is necessity to enquire into the art in other areas also, it will be looked into."

Lands allotted to ex-servicemen under the Grow More Food Campaign.

*54 *Q.*—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that lands allotted to the ex-servicemen under the " Grow More Food campaign " have been taken away and assigned to political sufferers;

(*b*) whether the Government have received any representations as regards the hardships thus caused to ex-servicemen;

(*c*) the number of ex-servicemen that have been allotted lands under the " Grow More Food campaign "; and

(*d*) the number of ex-servicemen that have till now been dispossessed of the lands assigned to them?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (*a*) Last year the Government issued instructions for the assignment to political sufferers of lands held under the Grow More Food campaign on the expiry of the lease period, applications for renewals or assignments of such lands from previous lessees being rejected. The Government however directed that where the occupiers of such lands were very poor persons, their possession should not be disturbed. The Government have also issued instructions that ex-servicemen who are in occupation of lands under the Grow More Food scheme or otherwise should under no circumstances be dispossessed of their lands if they are landless poor and that they may be assigned such lands in accordance with the general instructions issued in the matter of assignment of land.

" (*b*) Representations have been received that in some cases lands held under the Grow More Food campaign by ex-servicemen were being taken away for grant to political sufferers. The representations have been sent to the Collectors for disposal in the light of the instructions already mentioned."

" (*c*) & (*d*) The Government consider that the time and labour involved in collecting the information will not be commensurate with the public interest served by it."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I enquire whether the Government have received the resolution that was passed by the Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board which went into this matter and may I know the date on which orders were issued with reference to this? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" The orders referred to in the answer were issued on the 18th July 1949 which said that there were several complaints and the Collectors were advised as I have stated in my reply to (*a*)."

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SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" May I know whether it is a fact that the required number of ex-service men are not coming forward to cultivate lands which are allotted to them? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" If the hon. Member refers to certain blocks of land that have been specially reserved for ex-service men, I should say yes in respect of some blocks specially reserved for them."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Will the Hon. Minister contact his colleague, the Minister for Medicine who happens to be the Chairman of the Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmens' Board and get the resolution passed by that Board implemented? The resolution of this Board is to the effect that the order that has been passed by the Government, should be given retrospective effect, which means that ex-service men who have been already dispossessed of land, should have their lands restored to them? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" If any such communication has been sent to my hon. Colleague, he will certainly pass it on to the concerned department and it will be examined."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Is it not a fact that there are several cases of land which have been developed by ex-service men particularly in South Arcot district having been taken away and handed to political sufferers? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" My answer already given must convince the hon. Member that if there is any such thing, it will be rectified."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know what is the position of those who have spent thousands of rupees in reclaiming the land, though they may not fall under the category of the very poor? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" As I have already said, this applies only to landless people; but if there are very rich people among them, it will be looked into. But I am sorry I cannot give any assurance in this respect."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—" Has the attention of the Hon. Minister been drawn to a statement by the President of the Tamil Nad Congress Committee asking political sufferers not to apply for lands? In view of that, will the Government revise their policy regarding assignment of lands to political sufferers? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" We have not received any representations from political sufferers saying that they do not want the lands."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" Is it not a fact that in many places, ex-service men have occupied lands unauthorizedly? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Unauthorized occupations will be treated as encroachments."

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SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" In places where there are no ex-service men to cultivate the lands allotted for them, do the Government consider the desirability of giving the lands to political sufferers and the landless poor ? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I can only suggest that if my hon. Friend has any definite place in mind, he may write to the Government about it and if it is not wanted by ex-service men and if it is suitable for cultivation, the question of its disposal according to the Government Order recently passed, will be taken up."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—" Are the Government aware that in spite of the fact that plots of land were actually handed over to political sufferers, a lot of difficulty is being experienced in actually occupying them ? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Yes, Sir, I have received such information from some places."

Veterinary Colleges in the Province.

* 55 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Veterinary Colleges that are in this Province and the places where they are situated and the strength of each college; and

(*b*) whether the Government have got any proposal to increase the number of colleges, and if so, when and where?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" (*a*) There is only one Veterinary College in the Province at present. It is situated at Madras.

" Normally 100 students are admitted every year into the B.V.Sc. degree course, but due to lack of accommodation, only 80 students have been admitted during 1949-50.

" (*b*) None at present."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" May I know whether the Government have got any proposal to open any more colleges? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" There is no such proposal at present."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I ask whether the Government are aware that in view of the policy of the Government to intensify the food drive, the need for preserving the cattle wealth can only be satisfied either by increasing the number of colleges or by increasing the number of admissions in the existing single college ? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" There was a proposal in 1946, as a result of the suggestion made by the Vice-Chancellor of the Andhra University that a second Veterinary College should be opened under the jurisdiction of the Andhra University. The Director of Veterinary Services estimated that it would require a capital expenditure of Rs. 35 lakhs and a recurring expenditure of Rs. 93,000 and odd. Due to limitations of finance, that proposal has been dropped for the present."

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JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" Is it the opinion of this Government that one Veterinary College for the whole Province will be sufficient to meet its needs ? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The Government are perfectly aware of the need for having more veterinary trained people; but as I have said, it is due to reasons of finance that the question has been deferred."

Alleged use of violence by the Police on a prisoner in Malabar. 11-45 a.m.

* 56 *Q.*—JANAB K. M. SEETHI: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a complaint was sent to the Government stating that one Thannippatta Aliammad, a poor resident of Thairkulam in Thiruvali amsam in Ernad taluk, Malabar district, lost his life on the night of the 20th June 1948 as the result of a severe physical violence committed on him with hands, legs and sticks by a head constable of the Wandoor Police Station who went to arrest him in the company of the adhikari of the amsam in connexion with a complaint of theft reported against him;

(*b*) the persons and public bodies from whom such a complaint was received;

(*c*) whether any enquiry was made by the authorities into the said complaint;

(*d*) who the authorities that conducted the enquiry were;

(*e*) the nature of the enquiry;

(*f*) the dates of the enquiry; and

(*g*) the action, if any, taken by the authorities against the head constable?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (On behalf of the Hon. the Premier):—" (*a*) There was no complaint preferred to the local Police but two telegrams and one resolution were sent to the District Superintendent of Police about the death.

" (*b*) One telegram was from Kunchipokker Sahib, son of the deceased and the other was from Sri Nambisan, President, Ernad Kisan Congress. The resolution was passed by the Vaniambalam Village Congress Committee.

" (*c*) Yes.

" (*d*) *to* (*f*) The Circle Inspector, Wandur, had a case registered and investigated the case first on the 22nd August 1948. The Subdivisional Magistrate, Malappuram, conducted an enquiry on the 23rd August 1948 and 24th August 1948. On the 25th August 1948, the Subdivisional Magistrate assisted by the Assistant District Medical Officer, Kozhikode, had the body

examined and conducted further enquiries at Manjeri and came to the conclusion that it was a case of natural death and not of homicide.

"(*g*) The pay of the Head constable was reduced from Rs. 44 to Rs. 42 for a period of two years after a proper Departmental enquiry for making false entries in his note book and for not registering a case of theft and not reporting the death of Aliammad."

JANAB K. M. SEETHI:—"May I know, Sir, the reason for the delay in conducting an enquiry into the matter, even though the matter was reported by telegram immediately after the occurrence?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The Subdivisional Magistrate was immediately on the scene on receipt of the telegram and there was not much of delay."

JANAB B. POCKER:—"May I know, Sir, how many days after the death was the body of the deceased examined by the Medical Officer?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"On the 26th of August."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Why is it, Sir, of late natural deaths have become more frequent when prisoners are either under detention or in jails; may I know what the causes are?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is not improbable that natural deaths occur in jails and when persons are in custody. I have myself witnessed in Alipuram during my short term of imprisonment four or five deaths due to natural reasons."

JANAB B. POCKER:—"May I know how many days or how many months elapsed after the death of the man before his body was examined by a medical man?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"About four days or five days."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"When it is contended there is no case, why was it, Sir, that the Head constable was degraded?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I have already given the reasons in reply to clause (*g*) of the question; it is for making false entries, for not registering the case and not reporting the death of the person."

JANAB K. M. SEETHI:—"Death took place on the 20th June and from the answer given by the Hon. Minister, the enquiry was conducted and the body examined in August, that is, about two months after the occurrence and not four days. I ask, Sir, whether any useful results will be achieved by the examination of a body exhumed after two months after the death of the person?"

JANAB B. POCKER:—"May I know whether it is a fact that the body was exhumed and then examined?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Ostensibly, Sir, because that is necessary in connexion with the enquiry that was held at Manjeri and naturally it must be exhumed."

JANAB B. POCKER:—"I would like to know why there was such inordinate delay in making an enquiry into this very serious matter, even though the complaint was made by telegrams by the son of the deceased and various other persons to the authorities?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is not very easy to immediately go to the scene and conduct enquiries. Of course, after the receipt of the telegram, the Subdivisional Officer made the necessary enquiry into the matter."

JANAB HAJI K. M. AHMAD KUTTY:—"With the Government be pleased to issue orders to investigate the whole affair departmentally or with the aid of non-officials so that the allegations of failure on the part of the officers to pay sufficient attention in time to the case, might be cleared?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"At this distance of time, after nearly 16 months after the occurrence, I do not think any useful purpose will be served by a non-official committee going into the matter."

JANAB B. POCKER:—"Have the Government at least asked the authorities on the spot why this inordinate delay has been caused in making the necessary enquiry so that they may be more careful in future?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"They have explained the delay. I think a separate question may be put."

Adult Education Scheme.

* 57 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: **Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Central Government have given a grant of Rs. 19 lakhs under the Adult Education Scheme?**

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Intimation has just been received from the Government of India that a grant of Rs. 1·57 lakhs only will be paid to this Province for adult education provided this Government was prepared to contribute a like sum."

Revision of the Budget for 1949–50.

* 58 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: **Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Budget for 1949–50 has been revised *de novo* and many proposals have been cancelled from it?**

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" No alterations have so far been made in the Budget for 1949-50. The hon. Member is no doubt aware that some of the taxation proposals mentioned in my Budget speech have been dropped and others have been modified."

Award of prizes for cinema pictures.

* 59 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government propose to award prizes for the best picture produced every year in Telugu and Tamil languages?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The Government have sanctioned the award of a medal and trophy each for the best Tamil and Telugu films produced in 1949. The Government propose to watch the effect of these awards before deciding to continue to give prizes in future years."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Question No. 60."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" The question is very important, Sir, just one supplementary."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Every question is important. We have got only eight minutes more for questions and there is a Short Notice Question to be covered. We should finish them. Therefore, I pass on to the next question. The hon. Member must have stood up before I called the next question. Question No. 60."

Increased quota of petrol.

* 60 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether this Government have requested the Central Government to allot an increased quota of petrol?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Yes; but the Government of India declined to increase this Province's quota for the current quarter.'

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" In view of the present situation with reference to petrol, will the Government consider the advisability of asking bus owners to fit up gas plants. And may I also ask another question, viz., will the Government discontinue issuing licences to long-distance buses where railway service is available so that thereby the number of buses may be reduced? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Already the buses in the Province are under a cut of 25 per cent and we have made attractive suggestions to them, that if they turn over to gas plants or diesel, they will be given petrol for the remaining petrol-driven buses. And with regard to long-distance-route buses, the Central Road Traffic Board is already taking effective steps to prevent such unnecessary long-distance routes."

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RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that there is not much congestion in railway travel nowadays and railway travel is fairly comfortable and long-distance passengers can certainly use railways instead of buses and could he not enforce it early? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The Central Road Traffic Board is a statutory authority and it will not brook many instructions and directives from the Government. It is certainly looking into the matter and it is preventing long-distance routes."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" May I know whether it is a fact that Members of the Legislature have been denied their one gallon of petrol per day and if so, what the reasons are? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Apart from the reasons which are obvious, viz., that there is no petrol available, orders have been issued and perhaps hon. Members will be getting their petrol quota from to-day or so."

MR. SPEAKER:—" We shall now take up Question No. 45-A."

Revenue and expenditure in the eleven Telugu districts.

* 45-*A* *Q.*—SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the revenue from, and the expenditure in the eleven Telugu districts under each major head; and

(*b*) their proportion to the total revenue and expenditure of the Madras Province?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (*a*) & (*b*) A statement showing the available information is placed on the table of the House.

" The collection of further detailed figures will take time. "

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" May I have the corresponding figures of income and expenditure for the twelve Tamil districts?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I do not have separate figures for the Tamil districts. But I have figures for all the other districts in the Presidency including non-Tamil districts of Malabar and South Kanara. If the hon. Member wants it, I can furnish the figures."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—" May I know, Sir, the total revenue from and the expenditure in the Tamilnad excluding the Madras City? I do not want under each major head but the total revenue and the total expenditure excluding the Madras City? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I have figures for the eleven Telugu districts which include Bellary also. There is some little objection from Mr. Ananthachar that Bellary

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a Printed as Appendix on pages 319-320 infra.

is not one such; for this purpose Bellary is one of the eleven Telugu districts. The receipts for the other districts excluding the City of Madras and excluding Excise Revenue but including South Kanara and Malabar are: Receipts Rs. 18,16,71,000 and Expenditure: Rs. 20,76,02,000."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—"May I know, Sir, what comprises the 'other heads of accounts' and why under that the income of the Telugu districts is shown as only about 93 lakhs while the total revenue of the entire Province is shown as about 20 crores?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We get receipts from the Government of India for the post-war development schemes, tobacco tax, etc, betting tax and the rest are coming from the City and naturally they will have to be excluded from the Telugu districts."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state the total under that head for the Tamilnad?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The total for the thirteen districts under 'other heads of account' is 155 lakhs."

SRI L. C. PAIS:—"Can we have separate figures for South Kanara?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The question of excise does not alter the figures because they had prohibition earlier. Receipts are Rs. 118 lakhs and expenditure 111 lakhs."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"For the district of Malabar, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Receipts Rs. 252 lakhs and expenditure 325, just a deficit of nearly one crore of rupees."

12 noon. JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Sir, from the figures given of expenditure and income of the Andhra districts, it will be seen that the new province will be perpetually a deficit province, and in view of that may I know the expert opinion of the Hon. Finance Minister whether the new province can work successfully?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I am no expert on anything. I can only give accounts furnished by the department."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know what is the total excise revenue from the Andhra districts in 1948-49?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I think it is laid on the table of the House."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Sir, from the figures given I find the expenditure in the Andhra districts is shown to be 25 per cent of the total expenditure. May I know why there is such an abnormal low expenditure incurred in such a large tract as eleven districts and that for a long time?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, the hon. Member evidently forgets that the receipts under Telugu districts is only 22 per cent while the expenditure is 25 per cent (several voices: Oh, Oh.) But the expenditure on the heads of departments, High Court, Secretariat, etc., come under the City of Madras, and that has been excluded from the expenditure on Telugu districts."

JANAB M. S. ATAULLAH:—"May I ask whether the Hon. Minister will be pleased to give the income and expenditure district-war of the several districts in the Tamil Nad?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I have got the figures; but I don't know whether I can give, as the question is not quite pertinent to the main question. Anyhow if the hon. Member wants I can place it on the table of the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We shall take five more minutes for this question. The Hon. Finance Minister will read the figures now, and he can lay them on the table of the House either to-day or to-morrow."

Several Members stood up in their seats to speak.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have asked the Hon. Finance Minister to read his statement; to-morrow he will lay it on the table of the House."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I have got the figures for 1948-49 of receipts and expenditure for these districts separately excluding excise receipts. I am reading the figures excluding those for the City of Madras; and the figures for the City of Madras will be given separately."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"You are very reasonable." (Laughter.)

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Sir, I rise to make a very important suggestion. I may be permitted to state that from the answers given by the Hon. Finance Minister during the last few minutes it is evident that certain items of common expenditure are included in the City of Madras, and they are mostly included as and when they are received from the Central Government. Those several common items of expenditure, if properly allocated to the several districts in the province and not mixed with the City of Madras—only then it will show the real financial situation of the several districts. Otherwise the whole picture will be very very unsatisfactory. So I request the Hon. Finance Minister not only not to read the statement but

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prepare a full-fledged statement in the form of a pamphlet of ten or fifteen pages explaining the several items of revenue received from the Government of India."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Whatever disadvantages go to the non-Telugu districts will also go equally to Telugu districts. They are all under the same handicap. Whatever comes from the City of Madras belongs to the entire Province."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Finance Minister will now read his statement."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I will now read the figures for 1948–49, for the Tamil districts.

District.		Total receipts excluding Excise.	Total expenditure on Revenue account.
		LAKHS.	LAKHS.
North Arcot	..	108	167
Chingleput	..	72	155
South Arcot	..	106	141
Tanjore	..	205	183
Tiruchirappalli	..	132	142
Mathurai	..	183	171
Ramnad	..	92	115
Tirunelveli	..	146	161
Coimbatore	..	237	224
The Nilgiris	..	34	45
Salem	..	131	135
South Kanara	..	118	111
Malabar	..	252	325
Total	..	18,16	20,75

MR. SPEAKER:—"Questions are over."

(Several members rose to speak. Sri A. Kameswara Rao and Sri K. Brahmananda Reddi kept standing in their seat.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"Hon. Members will please resume their seats. When I am on my legs no Member should keep standing in his seat."

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

II—(1). RESULT OF ELECTION TO THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have to inform the House that the following candidates were nominated for election of nine members to the Committee on Public Accounts for the seventh session of the Madras Legislative Assembly:—

(1) Sri N. S. Varadachari.

(2) Janab M. Mohamed Ismail.

(3) Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin.

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(4) Sri P. Natesan.

(5) ,, N. M. R. Subbaraman.

(6) ,, T. K. T. N. R. Tatachari.

(7) ,, B. Venkataratnam.

(8) ,, P. Kandaswamy Pillai.

(9) ,, V. M. Ramaswamy Mudaliyar.

As the number of candidates is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, namely, nine, I hereby declare them to have been duly elected to the Committee on Public Accounts."

(2) RESULT OF ELECTION TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have to announce to the House that the following candidates were nominated for election to the House Committee:—

(1) Sri R. Natesan.

(2) Janab Ibrahim Kunhi.

(3) Sri P. Natesan.

(4) ,, K. T. Kosalram.

(5) ,, T. S. Pattabhiraman.

(6) ,, P. R. Kandasami Gounder.

As the number of candidates nominated is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, viz., six, I hereby declare them to have been duly elected to the House Committee.

"In addition to the above under rule 152 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I nominate the following two Members to be Members of the said Committee:—

(1) Sri M. P. Periaswami.

(2) Srimathi V. Lakshmi Ammal."

III.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR CERTAIN DISTRICTS.

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"May I make a submission, Sir. The Hon. Finance Minister has given a statement of figures leaving out the figures for the City of Madras. I want to make a representation without reopening the issue. May I request the Hon. Finance Minister to give a full statement of the financial position of all districts after the allocation of the revenues to the several districts. Let him take his own time and let him give us a day for a full-dress debate on it."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"What is the allocation the hon. Member refers to, I am unable to understand."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Under the City of Madras all the figures of money received from the Central Government are given. There are many items which are of a common nature for all districts. It will certainly be possible for

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the officers of the Finance Department to allocate fairly and approximately the expenditure to all districts and give us the figures in the form of a statement. It will not be possible to give an accurate statement; it will be possible to allocate the moneys fairly approximately. If it is not possible to do so in December, let it be given by next January. And I request Government to give us a day for a debate on that."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I have got all the figures available with me now. I do not know what the hon. Member means by allocation. The figures for the districts exclude the figures under excise, tobacco, betting and other taxes. No policy is laid down and no lead is given by the Government in it to necessitate a debate. These are the accounts for 1948-49, and they are eloquent enough." (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—" We shall now take up the next item in the agenda."

IV.—MOTION UNDER RULE 17 OF THE MADRAS ASSEMBLY RULES.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move—

> *' that Rule 17 of the Madras Legislative Assembly Rules be suspended and the House do resolve to transact Government business on Thursday, the 10th November 1949.'*

Sir, in moving this motion I wish to say that we do want to give a non-official day in the present session, perhaps in the next week or so. In view of the discussion on the important Bill like the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Bill, we thought it better to continue the discussion on it without interruption to-day. I assure hon. Members that certainly a non-official day will be given in the present session itself."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved—

' that Rule 17 of the Madras Legislative Assembly Rules be suspended and the House do resolve to transact Government business on Thursday, the 10th November 1949 '."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Sir, while I do not want to object to the motion of taking away the non-official day I must express clearly that we have been forced to make representations several times in vain. As the custodian of the rights of the House I request you, Sir, and the Leader of the House to meet the desire of the House and the public outside. I feel very strongly that ' non-official day ' has become almost a dead letter in the history of the Madras Legislative Assembly for the last three years. (Sri S. Nagappa: Hear, hear.) I am indeed happy to see the distinguished Member of the Constituent Assembly echoing the same sentiment. I have no doubt his experience in Delhi is otherwise; because in the Constituent Assembly in spite of their heavy programme it is very rarely a

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non-official day has been taken off. There is an important resolution to-day in the non-official business standing in the name of Mrs. Lakshmi Bharathi regarding the formation of Tamil Nad and Andhra Provinces, declaring our determination to have for the Tamil Nad Tirupathi as the northern boundary (The Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi: or still further!) or still further north. (Laughter.) I am coming fresh from an important meeting held in a Tamil centre, which has decided to open a Tamil College at Tirupathi. I do not know why the Government are not willing to allow the non-official business to be carried on to-day. Perhaps it is due to the fact that some committee on that subject is to meet on the 11th instant, and they do not want to add anything to the feeling of the people in the matter. I do wish the Government of Madras come to a decision on the subject early. I am very sorry that they have delayed their decision. I do hope that though they have deprived us of a non-official day to-day the Hon. Premier would very soon come to a right decision on behalf of the Government. I hope, once again, non-official days will not be given the go-bye."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Sir, I agree with most of the sentiments expressed by the hon. Member who preceded me. This is not the first or second occasion when a non-official day is taken away for official business. In the last three years, many non-official days were taken away. In other words, the right of non-official Members have been taken away by the Government. As the custodian of the rights of the Members, I would like the Hon. Speaker to safeguard our interests and I hope that he will not allow the Government to act in such a high-handed way." 12-15 p.m.

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" I feel that it is somewhat ungracious of the Hon. Finance Minister to take away this non-official day, particularly in view of the fact that this House has been meeting after a lapse of nearly six months and the non-official legislative work of Members has been held up. I do not see any urgency with reference to the official Bill before the House which can easily be taken up to-morrow. After all, Members must be allowed the satisfaction of proceeding with their non-official work also apart from their participating in official work. It is not unusual in this House to defer consideration of a Bill. For instance the Zamindari Abolition Bill was discussed for days and thereafter left over, discussion thereon being resumed after several months. Nothing will happen if the discussion of the Public Order Bill is deferred by one day. I don't think that there is any urgency for converting this non-official day into an official day. Therefore I would request the Hon. Minister to be gracious enough to allow the non-official Members to transact their business, particularly in view of the fact that they have given notice of some important resolutions."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, to-day is the fourth day of the meeting of the Assembly. I

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understand that the House will sit for at least two weeks more since there is a lot of official business. It is not as if we are at the fag end of the session to think that we cannot finish the business in time. Therefore I am unable to see the urgency which necessitates the Government to convert this non-official day into an official day. Many hon. Members would like to move motions or resolutions on very important subjects if they are sure that non-official days will be available. But they do not give notice of resolutions, etc., because they know that a non-official day will not be allowed. Taking away of non-official days for official business has become so chronic that we have lost confidence in the right of the Opposition to express its views freely in this House. The Hon. Speaker will say that he has no powers."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Government are going to compensate for this day."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"That will not do. The smaller the Opposition, the greater is the responsibility of the presiding officer. We are so few in number that I am not sure whether our plea will weigh with the Hon. Speaker as much as the plea of the Government with a huge majority behind them. I know that the Hon. Speaker is not a Member of the Government and that he is not beholden to them. He is here to safeguard the interests of the minorities, particularly of the Opposition. Every time there is a non-official day, my hon. Friend the Leader of the House comes forward with a motion to convert it into an official day. As I have already said, this is only the fourth day of the meeting and there are many more days before us. The Leader of the House said that he did not want any interruption in the debate. I cannot understand the reasonableness of that argument. After all, a day's respite will do good to my hon. Friend the Minister for Law. The trend of discussion will not be lost by allowing a day's interval. I thought the Hon. Leader of the House would not come forward with motions like this especially in view of the fact that we have in the Hon. Speaker a custodian of the rights, particularly of the minorities, in this House."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, if I or the Government Whip could not contact the leaders of parties, it was not entirely our fault. We wanted to consult them but they were not available."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHEETTINAD:—"I want to remind the Hon. Leader of the House that this question was raised in the House day before yesterday . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Order, order."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I was only prefacing my remarks and I wanted to say that we could not contact the leaders when we made up our mind on this motion because they were not available."

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JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Sir, I rise on a point of order. My Hon. Friend is not telling the whole truth. I was here till the evening and my Friends also were here till the adjournment of the House yesterday."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is it a point of order or point of information?"

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"It is a point of order. If one makes statements which are not correct . . ."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I did ask the Government Whip to contact the leaders and he tells me that they were not available when he went round in search of them. It is not as if the leaders remain in the House all through, and perhaps they were away at the time. Therefore we could not consult them."

RAJA MUTHIA CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Did he consult the Hon. Speaker at all?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"He did."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is an obvious thing. I need not answer that question at all. How could the Secretary have circulated the motion before taking the orders of the Speaker?

"I thought we could usefully continue the debate on the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Bill and finish it to-day. We will certainly have a non-official day in the present session and the Bills and resolutions that have been ballotted for, will certainly be taken into consideration. We thought that it would not matter very much whether the non-official business is transacted this Thursday or the next Thursday and so we wanted to give priority to the official business. There is no intention of depriving the non-official members of their legitimate right to move Bills and resolutions and express their views. Certainly it is not our intention to do anything of that sort. Therefore I request my hon. Friend to withdraw their objection and allow the motion to pass *nem con*."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"The Hon. Leader of the House just a few minutes before mentioned that there would be a non-official day next Thursday thereby implying that the other Thursdays in the course of this session would not be available for non-official business. I would like to have an assurance that there will not be any further inroads into non-official days coming up in the course of this session."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is not usual to demand such a categorical assurance on the floor of the House. If there is important non-official business we shall provide for it. Hon. Members are aware that we have allowed the transaction of non-official business on official days. For instance, we did so with respect to Sri Kaleswara Rao's Hindu Bigamous Marriages

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Prohibition and Divorce Bill in its final stages. No categorical assurance need be demanded. If necessary any week day, even if it be other than Thursday, will be allotted for non-official business. It is a matter for mutual adjustment which can be thrashed out sitting at a round table instead of giving an assurance on the floor of the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not a fact that the Hon. Leader of the House did not consult me: He did consult me. But I was under the impression that he consulted the leaders of parties also. Anyhow he has said that he is sorry and that he would consult the leaders in future before bringing forward similar motions."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I do not know what effort the Government Whip made to find us out. We were in the House all the time and I am unable to understand the statement that we were not available."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let us proceed with the business."

The motion was put and carried.

GOVERNMENT BILL.

V.—THE MADRAS MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ORDER BILL, 1949—*cont.*

12-30 p.m. * SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, this clause 4-A is perhaps the worst offender in the whole Bill. I do not know why this clause was included at all. The Government's explanation is that there were several High Court's decisions which questioned the validity of the communications and orders issued to the various detenus on the ground of their vagueness or insufficiency or delay in the matter of the communications. This itself seems a bad enough confession on the part of the Government. Are we to run away from these decisions merely by the inclusion of a clause like this in the new Public Safety Bill? By whom are these orders and communications issued? Let me take the practical aspect of the question. It is not a small subordinate officer who issues the order of detention or makes a communication to the detenue. Orders of detention are made by the District Magistrate who are very responsible officials indeed. Before an order of detention is made, any responsible official entrusted with the task, must certainly have in his possession some kind of evidence to show that the person whom he intends to detain is either about to commit a prejudicial act, or intends to commit an act, or abets in the commission of an action, or abets in the intention to commit an act. It is only under such circumstances that the order is made. Therefore there is already some record created in the case of all these detenus and persons against whom the District Magistrate issues an order of detention, or where he seeks to take preventive action against persons who might run amock. If that be the case, and I hope it is, then the official must have, if not precise information, at least a report which will make out a *prima facie* case for detention. It cannot be vague; it cannot be insufficient: it cannot consist of grounds on which he cannot make up his mind to detain the person.

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"Then Sir, he must have some suspicion that something is about to be done. Without that, no official will dare pass an order of detention. If you want even that safeguard to be removed by the inclusion of a provision like this, what is it that you mean to do? I say, Sir, you will encourage lax administration. The District Magistrate or the official concerned may certainly pounce upon any man and then on second thoughts may try to create some kind of evidence against him. That is what will happen hereafter. This clause can only mean that we want to encourage slack administration. I think, Sir, that in case the Government take strong action against the official who issues an order of detention, not knowing what his powers are, or where the grounds are vague or insufficient or delays in the communication of charge-sheets, such matters could easily be set right. No official would take any responsibility to ensure the legality of his action, if he knows that he is protected by this clause 4-A. That is my point and that is my objection to this clause. It will certainly lead to more abuse of power than there is to-day. While I admit that cases where abuse of power has occurred may be few and far between, if you allow this clause to be included in this Act, then I say, there will be less and less vigilance on the part of the authorities concerned and more and more orders of detention of a questionable sort will be issued in the future. That is my argument.

"Now Sir, let me come to another argument. This Assembly can only discuss questions of policy. It cannot go into individual cases. We can now and then ask the Government to make a statement on the number of detentions. We can ask them to make a statement on the situation in the country in regard to law and order. Then Sir, the Government would come out with a statement. Even if a debate follows on that statement—and that is very rarely allowed—members might get up and participate in that debate but could not refer to individual cases, because that would be a bad practice. Even if we want to raise the matter by means of a question at the question hour, we can only elicit answers but not go into individual cases. We can only do justice to our position by upholding certain principles and by pointing out that certain erroneous decisions have been made and certain erroneous orders have been issued and that in future greater caution should be exercised. That is all that this Assembly can do. But, on the other hand, the High Court can do more. It can sit in judgment on every individual case that is brought before it. Already the jurisdiction of the High Court is taken away, so far as the individual liberty of these detenus are concerned. Now what remains for the High Court is to act within certain limits of this law, to see whether you are strictly enforcing the law, to see whether in each case the grounds which you have stated for detention are vague or insufficient and whether the communications are issued in time to the detenus. Now, Sir, what is wrong with that procedure, I ask. Is it right to take away even that opportunity and that power of the High Court

to review case after case, when they are brought before it. I say, Sir, it is hopelessly wrong to do that. What then will be the effect, if you take away that opportunity. You will inspire a certain amount of callousness in your administration. The administration will become loose and you will lose your grip over the administration. At the same time, I do not want to say that our District Magistrates are irresponsible persons. But knowing them as I do, and seeing how cautiously they act, and sometimes how slowly they act, I ask, why do you want them to be slack, and indemnify their mistakes by introducing this clause 4-A in this Bill? I say, do not pursue this policy of making the administration less efficient and more lax than before. If you relax your hold on the administration, then I warn you, law and order will be imperilled.

"Now, Sir, there is another argument brought forward, namely, that other Provinces have done like this, and that other Provinces have this kind of provisions in their Acts. Let me not go into that question. Let us assume that all other Provinces have this provision. But why not Madras start a new line? Why not we be in the forefront in the extension of civil liberties, in so far as certain people are concerned? Are we not shooting new lines in respect of many other policies? Why not we take credit in seeing that Madras is administered with just enough powers to override all the mischieves of an organized campaign of violence? But, in any case, Sir, I am strongly against any laxity in the administration, by the inclusion of this new clause 4-A.

"Now, Sir, supposing another direction comes to you that you must include some other section in order to avoid these errors? Should you not think twice and thrice before you do so? I submit, Sir, that all the powers you have now got are enough to rope in almost every man who wants to commit violence or disorder in the country. While that is the case, why should the Government ruin its own practical sense of administration? They ought to see that their officials are acting in the best interests of law and order and that they take proper legal care to see that orders of detention are passed only after obtaining sufficient evidence and not on vague charges.

"Sir, only one word more. It was said that liberty is a very precious thing and that in the interest of the liberty of a large community, the liberty of a few subjects may be deprived. I submit, Sir, this is a political shibboleth. While there may be a necessity for this at times, I suggest that we should not lose, what I may call, our civil liberty conscience. I must be able to go back every minute of my life, so long as an Act like this is on the statute-book, and examine for myself by asking, 'Have these things corrupted my conscience? Am I bringing down that conscience of civil liberty present in every individual in the country? Have I become so callous as not to do anything to safeguard our civil liberties in the country?' Now, Sir, that conscience, I do not want to obliterate in this country. It is most important. We are divided,—divided into factions, divided into communities,

divided by hatred and malice. God alone knows when they will end. Under these conditions, if you enact one policy for one body of fanatics, there may arise other bodies of fanatics in this country, who will rise up and brandish their swords against you, when their turn comes up. Therefore I say, do not try to wipe out the normal safeguards which an administration ought to allow even to the meekest citizen in the country."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I strongly oppose the inclusion of clause 4-A in this Bill for it is an unheard of provision in any legislation. I should like the Hon. Minister to inform this House whether he has heard of or read in any book such a clause being inserted in any legislation in any of the civilized and democratic countries of the world, such as the United States of America, Great Britain, Australia or even the Union of South Africa. It is no use saying that a similar clause is to be found in the Public Safety Acts of some other Provinces of India. The other Provinces of India cannot serve as our guides, for I am afraid everywhere in this country this tendency is to disregard civil liberties and oust the jurisdiction of the High Courts. I find that throughout India, the same kind of mentality of giving a *carte blanche* to the Executive and suppressing individual liberty is prevalent. So, the legislation of other Provinces would not direct us to the right and proper course. We have to examine the legislative enactments of other democratic countries of the world and see whether there is a provision like this in any of their laws.

"Sir, it is indeed astounding that while the British were able to carry on the administration of the land even during a war emergency without the insertion of such inequitable clauses in their Public Safety Act, the National Government proclaims its inability to rule and maintain law and order without having recourse to unheard of repression and unheard of provisions in their Public Safety Acts. Because the administration has been slack and the High Court has drawn the attention of the Government to such slackness, and to the inefficiency and mistakes committed by the officials who administered the Public Safety Act, the Government instead of rectifying the mistakes and checking their officers, are, on the other hand giving them a *carte blanche* to commit even more havoc and more excesses than they have indulged in previously.

"During the past two days' discussion of this Bill member after member, including an ex-Minister gave a harrowing account of how innocent people have suffered and of the excesses that have been committed by the police in the administration of the Public Safety Act. We can well visualize what will be the effect of a clause like this on these officers, which proclaims that none of their mistakes will vitiate any detention and that the High Court cannot question their acts. Such a clause will undoubtedly embolden the authorities to be even more careless and indifferent in the administration of the measure than in the past.

12-45 p.m. "The effect of clause 4-A will undoubtedly be to put a premium on bad administration and not to maintain law and order as the Hon. Minister imagines. It is indeed astounding that a gentleman like the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon, who, himself has had a taste of repressive legislation under foreign domination should have inserted such a clause in the present Bill.

"I feel that this clause is tantamount to flouting the constitution of Free India which will be inaugurated on the 26th of January 1950, and it may well be interpreted by the High Courts as a fraud on the Constitution of India if the matter is referred to them. Besides, let us visualize the reaction of such legislation in the international sphere. Yesterday the Hon. Minister for Law met an American lady who told him that in her country there were absolutely no detenus and that they did not detain any person without trial. No doubt there were a few Communists, who gave trouble to the Government, but every one of those Communists has been brought up for trial at enormous cost to the State. That is the procedure that a civilized Government adopts. It is bad enough to detain people without trial. To insert a clause like the one under dicussion is to make a bad enactment absolutely preposterous. The people from India visit a free country like the United States of America to-day and if questions are put to them by the Americans about legislation and administration in India, just as questions were put to the Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, I am afraid the people of India will have to hide their heads in shame. Bearing all these points in mind, I would request the Hon. Minister to give due consideration to this matter, and delete clause 4-A from the Bill."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the world should consist of purists and jurists, certainly this clause would not be necessary. I have great sympathy for my Friends who have spoken before objecting to the existence of this clause. I only request them to pause and consider what they would do if they were not at Madras, but perhaps somewhere in the border of Krishna district. It is one thing to imagine a difficulty or to imagine an order. But it is quite another to face it and to suffer from it. I will just give an idea as to what difficulties the Government might be put to in trying to apply this Act. My hon. Friends have spoken about vagueness. Suppose the District Magistrate has to give the charge that a particular person Mr. A is to be detained; he has been working in close collaboration with B in the district of C and in the place of D, and that they have been meeting at regular intervals for the purpose of organizing a revolt or a rebellion. If the information on which these people have to be detained is to be given in writing, I do not know how these persons can be arrested. I really wonder how far it will serve the purpose of this Act. Vagueness on such occasions is absolutely necessary especially when the party opposed is fighting from behind the clouds. They do not give

you the ideas of their welfare. They do not tell you where they are going to hit. They chop off a man's head, tie it to the tallest branch of a tree near the village, and then write a letter (they take care to affix the postage stamps lest it should be undelivered) saying that in such and such a place under a tamarind tree a man's head was chopped off according to the people's will. If that is the sort of party—a party of hooligans and rowdies, persons who have no respect for law and order, persons who think of finishing off a man by chopping off his head or shooting him to the last breath of his life, and who believe that that is the only way of disposing of their opponents —where is the point in showing fairness? The hon. Members who have spoken before urged for fairplay, for a legal disposal, a fair trial and all that. If you bring a man for trial under this legislation with all the usual cross-examination and re-cross-examination, it will defeat the very purpose of this Bill. We know that Communists are committing atrocities. Many witnesses will have to come from the Special Branch of the C.I.D. From which place they were watching and how they have been watching, will all have to go to courts of law. Copies of records will have to be given. The other party will be watchful. Therefore, I say that this is not the way of meeting their menace. The situation is really grave. As many as two thousand people have been killed in cold blood in Krishna district. Our Hon. Minister in a cold cucumber-like way says that they have not been given compensation."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, I did not say that we are not giving compensation. Each case will be considered on its merits. There are cases where compensation has been given. The question referred to Krishna and Guntur districts. In other cases we have given compensation."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"I thank the Hon. Minister for these mercies. But the fact remains that they have not paid compensation to the dependants of the victims of these attacks. They have been keeping quiet like Godly innocent nuns. When you have to fight a party which is well armed with sten guns borrowed easily from the Hyderabad Razakars, may I know what is it that hits the conscience of my Friends? There is the question that the party has been recently banned. No doubt arrests have been effected. Any lawyer who knows a bit of law would say that the arrests are illegal, unless the party has been given reasonable notice to know that it has been banned. Unless the party is given notice, no member can be arrested and kept in detention. The party has been banned by notifications in all the papers. Does any hon. Member here seriously mean to say that the Communists are big fools to think that they can appear in broad day light for some time more? They took the earliest opportunity of going underground. They will fight very cleverly. A Communist is much more intelligent than the average Congress man. A Communist is a much better fighter than some of our

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Police men. The question is if you want to rule, you must do it efficiently. Otherwise you must quit and hand over the administration to the other gentlemen who will have their own administration. Then we can have civil liberties. You can have your courts of law with the people who will come into power. But if you want to rule here, there is absolutely no point in giving a long lease of life to these Communists. As the proverb in the Grecian mythology goes, that Atlas was becoming more and more strong every time he fell to the ground and likewise every time you pass legislation to suppress the Communist Party, they are becoming stronger.

"Now, Sir, as regards 'insufficiency'. Insufficiency is as vague as vagueness itself. The Government admit that the High Court is the proper authority to judge what sufficiency is or is not. When the High Court itself is prepared to forgo the right of deciding the sufficiency of evidence in a matter of detention why should we fight shy of it? It is easy for the High Court sitting far away from the place of trouble to say that it is not sufficient. But for the fighting forces, unless you tell them 'there is nothing about you; you go ahead with your work, try to rope in as many people as you can and make the country safe', it is absolutely no good. No doubt mistakes have been committed. Ten thousand persons have been arrested. Because of vagueness or defects if all those people are to be released, they will again come back with re-doubled energy. Therefore, there is no point in omitting this clause. Its existence alone will enforce this Bill effectively."

JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, so much has been said in support of this amendment of the hon. Member Mr. Viswanatham by very prominent Members of this House that I even feel that the Hon. Minister for Law would have made up his mind yesterday night that he should drop this clause altogether. For my part, I feel that I will be failing in my duty if I allow this clause to pass unchallenged. For, I feel that anybody who has, what is called, a conscience in him, cannot accept this clause to be incorporated in this Bill. Apart from this, the legislation itself is Draconian in character. With such a clause as the one under discussion, I do not know how to call this legislation. Even supposing this clause is passed. I am not quite sure whether the High Court will not interfere and say that it violates the principles of the Constitution itself. I do not know what the Hon. Members like Mr. Bhashyam and others have to say on this point. (Interruption.) I am sure that even if the House passes this clause, the High Court will come to the rescue of the citizen. The Government's claim is that the High Court has pointed out certain defects in the working of this Act. It is just like giving a sort of licence to people to commit mistakes in the course of administering this legislation. We had many occasions and instances of how this legislation has been worked in the districts. It was only the other day that I

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had an occasion to narrate an incident to the Hon. Minister of how a very orthodox Nambudiri in a village was taken to task simply because he did not help or rather he worked against the police in a murder case by supporting a dependant of his. He was dubbed as a Communist. He was not a Muslim. I could understand if he had been a Muslim. He was an orthodox Nambudri Brahmin and he was dubbed a Communist. Such is the situation in the district and I am really surprised why the Government should go in for such a piece of legislation. I am sure that the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon (now the Hon. the Law Minister) would agree with the Members of the Opposition and with those members of the Congress Party who have been supporting the amendment if he were not on the Treasury Bench to-day. Therefore, I would strongly support the amendment of Mr. Viswanatham and make an appeal with all the power I have to delete this clause from this piece of legislation." 1 p.m.

* SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, after several hon. Members have supported the amendment of Mr. Viswanatham, it is a bit surprising and distressing that my hon. Friend from Nellore has risen to make a complete defence, a wonderful defence of this clause. I am going to say that he must have been obsessed by the facts surrounding a few very hard cases. He is perfectly justified in opening his heart in the manner in which he has done. But it is also to be conceded that hard cases make very bad law. In legislating we must always make it a point to respect the higher principle that it is even better to let go a few 'badmashis' or guilty persons than punish even a single innocent person. In order to satisfy this principle, the extraordinary clause 4-A has got to be either deleted altogether or substantially amended. A man of commonsense need not be a jurist or a lawyer. A mere perusal of this clause will show that it is extraordinary for our Legislature to intend to pass such a clause, which says:

'No order of detention made in respect of any person in pursuance of any of the foregoing provisions shall be deemed to be invalid or unlawful or improper on the ground of any defect, vagueness or insufficiency, or any delay, in any communication made to such person under this Act.'

Sir, it remains to be seen whether to complete the picture, these words may be added 'or any other enactment passed by this Legislature' at the end of the clause. It is very hard to put up with this clause. I know the Hon. Minister in charge of Law is a very decent gentleman and that he is fully alive to the present state of things in our country. But still this is a very far-reaching provision. I would appeal to him to consider the strength of the arguments which have prompted the Mover of the amendment to make the motion. I strongly support this amendment."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I oppose the amendment of my hon. Friend Mr. Viswanatham very

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strongly. Now the very question of detention means that the authorities will not have sufficient evidence to bring a person before a Court of Law and they are compelled to detain persons because they don't come out and place all the cards on the table. This set of persons are pledged to defy law and create mischief. When the innocent persons are convicted in a court of law, the real persons who do all the mischief escape because they are underground and whenever they are on the ground, they do not openly violate law. When such mischievous persons are to be detained, the authorities may not have sufficient reason to satisfy a court of law, though they will be satisfied absolutely that these persons are dangerous persons. When that is the case, it will be very difficult to detain such persons if this clause is deleted. The High Court should administer the law as it is. The Public Safety Act which was passed by this House was not sufficient to cover cases where we want to detain the really dangerous persons who are so clever that they cannot be roped in under the provisions of the Act. If we want to deal with such persons, we have to provide this clause 4-A in the Bill. Of course, courts of law have to interpret laws made by the Legislature. When the Legislature is satisfied that an emergency prevails in the country and that a certain clause is necessary in an Act, there is no reason to say that we are taking away the power from the High Court. We are the better persons that the High Court to know the conditions prevailing in the country at the present time. Their Lordships of the High Court are far away from the turmoil of the situation and they are calmly administering the law from safe Benches. The Legislature knows the real position of the country and when it thinks it necessary to deprive the freedom of certain individuals for the sake of the freedom of a greater number of people, it is absolutely necessary to have such a clause in the Bill. I am afraid the Hon. Minister for Law has got a soft heart and the hon. Members are trying to persuade him by appealing to his heart and goodness to agree to the omission of this clause. I request him to be very strong on this point and not to allow this clause to be deleted from this Bill."

JANAB K. M. SEETHI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I strongly support the amendment of Mr. Viswanatham. I am really surprised to hear an hon. Member of this House, Mr. M. P. Govinda Menon, pleading the cause of abrogation of all fundamental principles of civilized law in a civilized State like ours, when he claims to have suffered and fought against the repressive policy and the repressive laws of a foreign bureaucracy. I am astonished when he stands up in this House and says that all rules of procedure, and the very reign of law on which the safety of the citizens depends should be all abrogated on account of the fear about the terrorism caused by a section of the people, Communists. I respectfully submit it is an irony of fate. That shows the extent to which these friends have gone down in their appreciation of their duties towards the freedom of the citizens of this land. If this clause stands, the chances of

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the abuse by the executive in curtailing the freedom of the citizen will be absolutely unrestricted and there will be absolutely no check on the excesses that may be committed by the executive. No doubt the curtailment of the freedom of the citizen in certain emergencies will become necessary but at the same time that curtailment can be prevented from working havoc only by the judiciary having the right of going into the merits of a certain question. My friend says that there may be difficulties in adducing evidence and for that reason there must be unrestricted liberty for the executive to detain a person even though there may not be any reasonable ground which would stand scrutiny by an impartial tribunal. If that is so, I respectfully submit that my friend really pleads for the abrogation of all rules of procedure and evidence. In fact, courts of law acquit persons accused of even heinous offences like murder when they find that there is no sufficient evidence to justify the prosecution of the person concerned. I think my Friend should certainly plead for the abrogation of the Indian Evidences Act itself and thus give unrestricted freedom to the people to deal with persons who are suspected to have committed certain offences. Why should we restrict this clause to the Communists only? Even in the matter of ordinary offences, there may be cases where we may be morally convinced that the man has committed offences, but there may be no legal evidence. In such circumstances, even though there is no legal evidence, the man should be committed and hanged. How could you make a distinction between ordinary offences and the offences committed by the Communists? When my friend pleads that in the case of the Communists there should not be any rules of procedure or evidence and that these rules should be satisfied in the case of others, he is simply guided by partisanship and nothing else. When it comes from the Congress Party, he wants to justify it. It is really unfortunate that he pleads for such things. It is alleged that in Malabar there is a League Communist axis creating mischief. I respectfully submit that it was very uncharitable on his part to make the remarks he did. I deny the charge with all the power at my command. It is absolutely unwarranted and untrue and I repudiate it. In fact, my friend perhaps does not know that responsible district officers have confessed to us about the valuable services rendered by the Muslim Leaguers to the police and the executive authority in Malabar in tracing out Communist and in providing evidence for the prosecution of Communists. When people were terribly afraid of even giving evidence for the prosecutors, it was the Muslim Leaguers and Muslims that really helped the police and the executive authority in troublous times and they have expressed their praise in grateful terms. Perhaps my Friend did not know of the valuable services rendered by the Muslim workers in combating the Communist menace during the time when the very lives of the police were in danger and the lives of the citizens were at stake. I respectfully submit ever since the Muslim League has been carrying on its activities in Malabar, it has been trying to discourage the Communists in

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their subversive activities. I know an instance where the Kerala Provincial Congress Committee President was enabled to speak at a meeting on account of the protection afforded by the Muslims of the locality by their standing around him and protecting him from Communist invasion. When there have been such experiences, it is ungrateful and ungraceful on the part of the Congressmen to say that there is a League Communist axis. It is absolutely false and untrue. Perhaps it is a signal for giving a sort of hint to the Congressmen in the villages to set up charges against the Muslim Leaguers that they are Communists and that they should be prosecuted.

"Sir, clause 4-A is absolutely unjustified, a parallel of which cannot be found in any enactment. So, I submit that the clause should be deleted if there is to be any safety for the citizen in this land."

1-15 p.m. * SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, after having listened to the vigorous speech made by Mr. Raghavayya and Mr. Govinda Menon, I am inclined to think that we must support the Government. Of course, we have been giving our support to the Government as far as possible. But fear complex should not make us abrogate all civil rights. Ours is a civilized Government and we are considered civilized people and in the civilized nation we must always have a rule of law and if you deny any citizen to appeal to a court of law whether the detention is wrong or otherwise, where is the guarantee for the safety of anybody against becoming a victim to the misuse of these laws?

"Therefore, we must not be carried away by the woeful tales that have been carried to us. Sometimes, we may have been even personal witnesses to a terrible scene and our own near relatives might have been subjected to hardships. We know of cases in Krishna and Guntur districts where peaceful citizens, because of their love of law and order, have been done to death and how their families have been subjected to a lot of suffering and how their properties have been looted. All these things are true, Sir. But this is only a passing phase. This cannot be permanent. These cannot make us believe that we must declare a state of emergency and all High Courts and other courts of law should be abolished and by the rule of Ordinance we must carry on our administration. No doubt, most of us are willing to give our utmost cooperation to the Government in handling the emergency that is facing the Government and we will give a helping hand to the Government. We are anxious to see that all persons involved in subversive activities are combed out of all villages and brought to the courts of law and they are made to pay for the atrocities that they have committed. But, ours is a civilized Government and as already stated by me, we must in deference to all civilization, culture and traditions for which we have been honoured not only in the East but also in the West, we must see that it is appreciated that in spite of all provocations and in spite of all difficulties, we have not swerved from the rule of law. If this clause 4-A is contained here, it

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becomes not a rule of law, but a rule of Ordinance where no civil liberties will exist. I was telling the Hon. Minister yesterday how in many cases this legislation has been applied and powers were misused and abused. Therefore in order to protect not only the people from the effects of the misuse of power, but also to prevent the officers from going to the excesses, it is better that we remove this clause and make this legislation. Make this legislation effective so that all persons who are victims of misuse of power by this law, will have some remedy and be free to enjoy the civil liberties."

* SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the Government motion. I do it after hearing the advocacy for and against that have been made, by the hon. Members in respect of this clause. The Congressmen were suppressed by the foreign Government for their nationalistic attitude. It is but right to suppress a foreign-influenced class of people in this country who stand in the way of progress of this country. There is nothing wrong in vesting the peoples Government with necessary powers. In fact what is the quarrel that we have with our Communist friends in this country. Why do the Congressmen decry them? Because they are professing a policy of violence which is against the primary creed of the Congress and the Government. Again, to whom do these Communists owe allegience? They owe allegience to a foreign Government. Though they are Indians, they act as Russians. Is it right? Under these extraordinary circumstances, and under the present circumstances prevailing in the country, should not the Government be armed with sufficient and extraordinary power? Whatever power they require, by way of sanction from this legislature must be given. It is quite right that an extraordinary situation has to be met by an extraordinary power invested with the Government. With these words, I support the Government."

SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—"On a point of information, Sir, may I ask whether the words, 'on the ground of any defect, vagueness or insufficiency' in clause 4-A stand apart and independently."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"They stand independently, Sir. It is my view. It is left to others to have their own interpretation.

"Sir, I cannot accept the amendment of Mr. Viswanatham to drop this clause 4-A. I do not want to speak about the juristic aspect and whether this clause will affect the culture or civilisation and so on, which have been dealt with by various hon. Members here. I strongly repudiate the suggestion made by Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan that we are trying to get over the High Court. Mr. Hameed Khan also said that the High Court should not be treated like that and it is contempt of court on the part of the Government to bring in such a clause. These are all, I am afraid, not correct statements. The High Court is bound to interpret the

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law as it stands and according to what Their Lordships feel correct. It is open to this legislature to make such laws with a certain intention. If the intention of the legislature has been wrongly interpreted, it is open to the legislature to correct that interpretation by making the intention of this legislature clear to their Lordships. It is not at all an attempt to get over any Courts of Law. The intention of the legislature is that this clause should be there. There is section 16 in the original Act which was passed in 1947. This has not been amended till now. It says, 'No order made in exercise of any power conferred by or under this Act or deemed to have been made under this Act by virtue of section 19 shall be called in question in any court.' This is the original section that was passed in this House in 1947. It was the intention of this House that any order passed under this Act in the exercise of any power shall not be questioned in a Court of Law. There is again section 2 which says, 'The Provincial Government, if satisfied with respect to any particular person that he is acting or about to act or likely to act in any manner prejudicial to the public safety or the maintenance of public order and with a view to preventing him, it is necessary so to do, may make an order—

'(*a*) directing that he be detained . . .'

The whole question is the satisfaction of the District Magistrate. If he is satisfied to pass an order, then that order shall not be questioned. That is what is intended by this legislature. I am supported in this by a High Court Full Bench decision. In dealing with a *Habeas Corpus* petition questioning the validity of the Ordinance, a Full Bench of the High Court consisting of the Chief Justice, Justice Govindarajachari and Justice Govinda Menon, held that the Ordinance was valid. I am supported by their judgment as to what was the intention of this legislature by section 16. In the course of their judgment Their Lordships observed: '*It follows therefore that whether section* 16 *of Madras Act I of* 1947 *stands alone, or there is in addition thereto the newly inserted provision, section* 16-*A, the power and jurisdiction of this Court to pass an order under section* 491 *of the Code of Criminal Procedure, remained the same . . .*' Their Lordships have further held that they will have power to go in the question in cases—

'(*a*) *when the order is not duly authenticated, as for example when it is passsed by an officer or authority not empowered under section* 15 *of the Act;*

(*b*) *when the person detained in pursuance of the order is not the person intended to be detained, that is to say, when there is a mistake of identity*;

(*c*) *when there is lack of bona fide*; *and*

(*d*) *when it is established that the essential requirement of section* 2, *namely, the satisfaction of the Provincial Government or an officer or other authority empowered under section* 15 *with respect to the particular person that he is acting or about to act in any manner prejudicial to the public safety or the maintenance of public order and with a view to preventing him it is necessary to direct him to be detained or otherwise dealt with under section* 2 (1) *of the Act, is not present . . .*'

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Their Lordships have further held, '*If these grounds do not exist it is well established on the highest authority that this Court cannot investigate the sufficiency of the material or the reasonableness of the grounds* (may I read these words with emphasis) *upon which the Government or the empowered officer or authority had been satisfied. It is not competent for this Court to call upon the Government or the detaining authority to disclose the information and material on which it or he was satisfied as to the necessity for the detention of the person concerned. The satisfaction required by the section is the satisfaction of the Government or the empowered authority and not the satisfaction of this Court. There is no question of fact which can be submitted to this Court in this matter. This position was fairly conceded by learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioners*'.

"By this it is clear, Sir, that the High Court cannot question the sufficiency or reasonableness of the Order passed under this Act. Subsequent to the Full Bench decision which I have just now mentioned, there have been certain decisions of the High Court in which there have been differences of opinion among the Judges. My submission is that when the Act was originally passed, the intention of the legislature was that no order passed under this Act shall be questioned in a Court of Law. The satisfaction that is required is the satisfaction of the detaining authority. As long as the person who is detained is the correct person, as long as the person who signs the order is the person who is authorized to sign the order, and as long as there was no *mala fides* on the part of the Government, the order must remain, in spite of other defects. That is the substance of this clause.

"I have already answered at length the various points raised by the hon. Members. I would only remind the House that some Members have suggested that even the jurisdiction of the High Court to entertain *Habeas Corpus* petitions should be taken away. Of course we cannot go to that extent. Mr. Seethi Sahib, more or less by way of replying to me referred to me as 'ungrateful and ungraceful'. I don't know how the question of grace comes in here. I don't feel anything like to be grateful to the Muslim League for any acts that they might have done in my district. He referred to his party's having given protection to the President of the Kerala Provincial Congress Committee from the communists. This remark makes my statement all the more true. If there was sting in my remark, I am constrained to say that the sting is in the truth of it.

"Begum Amiruddin said that there was no such clause in any of the American or English Laws. I do not know much of the

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American or English Laws. But I may take the House into confidence and read a communication that the Government of India have sent to this Government, in February 1949. It reads—

'*In certain* Habeas Corpus *cases, High Courts have held that the grounds disclosed to detenus are insufficient, indefinite or vague and that the detention is therefore illegal. A well-known Communist detenu was set at liberty some time ago on this ground. The Government of India consider that there should be no room for any doubt that the communication to detenus of the grounds of detention is intended for the sole purpose of enabling them to make a representation to the Executive and that it is not open to High Courts to examine the merits of the grounds so disclosed and decide whether these justify detention or not. After discussion of this point with the Government of India the Central Provinces Government put through an amendment to their Public Safety Act, and a copy of the amended section is enclosed for your information. The Government of India recommend that Provincial Governments will take an early opportunity of incorporating in their Public Safety Acts an amendment similar to that made by the Central Provinces Government.*' This amendment among other things refers: '*Provided that neither the said order nor the detention of the said person thereunder shall be deemed to be invalid or unlawful or improper on the ground of any defect, vagueness or insufficiency of the communication made to such person under this section.*' I have nothing more to add. We have only done what was necessary under the circumstances. We have not asked for extraordinary powers, not because we fear to ask but because we want everyone to enjoy liberty. Under the Regulation of 1818 we can put anyone in prison, without trial and he would not be entitled to be heard in a court of law. But we do not want to resort to that obnoxious Regulation. We have therefore amended the relevant provision in the Act. In the circumstances I cannot accept the amendment."

The House adjourned for lunch.

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister for Law has tried to explain to the House that what he has put in clause 4-A is after all a very innocent thing and that, as a matter of fact, he is not the original author of this and that the Government of India has sponsored it. It may be; but I still believe that a clause like this renders negatory the fundamental notions of justice. Several members and indeed the Hon Minister himself were looking at the whole question as if a proved criminal was always before us and as to how those in authority should react against such a person. But, I am visualising before me a person who is absolutely innocent and ignorant of violence or communism but yet is brought under this Bill. I am seeing from his point of view as to what is the means of his escape from the clutches and

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mischief of this legislation. Sir, I am one of those who support the Government entirely, wholeheartedly, in all their efforts to maintain law and order. But I submit at the same time it is not maintenance of law or order if certain things which are fundamental to human liberty are violated in the process of such maintenance. That is why safeguards are always mentioned. Even the Hon. Minister does not say that there should be no safeguards. Now the question is whether clause 4-A is one of those safeguards. In my humble opinion, it is not a safeguard at all, to protect the Government from any possible excesses that might be committed in the course of maintenance of law and order. This protection they have under clause 17 which says—

'(1) No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie against any person for anything in good faith done or intended to be done in pursuance of this Act.

(2) No suit or other legal proceeding shall lie against the Provincial Government for any damage caused or likely to be caused by anything in good faith done or intended to be done in pursuance of this Act.'

I submit, therefore, that it is not a question of what the Government or its officers should do under certain given conditions wherein danger is threatened. The Hon. Minister sought to tell us that there were certain circumstances when it would be impossible to frame any grounds for action. When there is a danger imminent, when the Government sees imminent danger, when its officers see the situation explosive, when they have seen that a man's conduct is prejudicial from his past history, past movements, and past associations, to the public safety, the order they might issue on such an occasion would never be vague, it would never be defective, and above all it would never be insufficient. If the officers are satisfied, if the Government is satisfied and if the House is satisfied that the movements and associations of a particular person are prejudicial to maintenance of law and order, here we are to give you support to prepare a charge against that particular person to be detained. Therefore, Sir, it is not a question of sufficiency of evidence. We, here, are not asking for sufficiency of evidence necessary to convict a person. We know the difficulty involved in that, and so, we have agreed to give you the powers or we are going to agree to give you the powers you require for detention of persons. All that we say here is while you issue an order of detention, there must be sufficient and reasonable grounds to prove that if the person is not detained, public safety will be endangered. If there are facts before the officer who issues the order sufficient for the purpose, the order is bound to be quite effective, quite clear and quite sufficient. In the circumstances, there is no use, I feel, of saying 'notwithstanding any vagueness or defects or insufficiency or delay, the Act shall be valid.' Recently, the High Court has pointed out in certain cases, as the Hon. the Minister himself has admitted, the Act is vague and vitiated. But when the criticism was made that the Government were trying

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to get over the judgment of the High Court by saying 'vagueness does not vitiate', the Hon. the Minister does not feel happy about it. I may submit in this connexion Sir, that there are two kinds of things in such cases. One is, sometimes, the High Court may point out in the course of an interpretation of an Act, that the sections therein do not adequately cover what is sought to be achieved by the measure. There is another kind of thing in which the High Court says that the intention of the Government is not adequately conveyed by the expressions in the Act. That is, the actual wording of the sections does not apply to the person sought to be dealt with. In the latter case, it is the duty of the Government to come forward with an amendment and say 'all right, we are removing the loop-holes in the Act'. But here it is not the thing. The Government say that notwithstanding the defects pointed out by the High Court, the Act shall be valid. I shall once again read an extract from the judgment of the Madras High Court for the information of Members:

'. . . It is not competent for this Court to call upon the Government or the detaining authority to disclose the information and material on which it or he was satisfied as to the necessity for the detention of the person concerned. The satisfaction required by the section is the satisfaction of the Government or the empowered authority and not the satisfaction of this Court. There is no question of fact which can be submitted to this Court in this matter. This position was fairly conceded by learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioners.'

It can be seen that the Court wants complete satisfaction on the part of Government while issuing an order which should also be clear and has no vagueness about it. If the officer concerned is clearly satisfied about the conduct of any person, the order under which he prosecutes him should also be equally clear and there is no use of saying that sometimes it might not be possible to mention the ground of detention or the grounds that have made the officer conclude that the presence of a particular person is prejudicial to public interests. That would not be proper. Again it would not be fair if the Government alone in their minds are satisfied. I am sure they can find language which will be certainly clear and sufficient. If, however, Government want all these things, they could change the wording of clause 2 and redraft it, as I have said in clause 10, which says 'if in the opinion of the Provincial Government, it is necessary or expedient so to do for securing public safety or the maintenance of public order or the maintenance of supplies and services essential to the life of the community, they may requisition or acquire any movable or immovable property, etc.' and drop off clause 3, which says that any person affected by the Order should be told the grounds on which he was proceeded against. If, however, they want to keep this clause, i.e., clause 3 for communicating the grounds of detention to the person affected let them make those grounds which can without prejudice to public interest be disclosed, very clear, and without any vagueness about it.

"Sir, I submit a provision like clause 4-A is a negation of the original principles of legislation and therefore it may be deleted."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that clause 4-A be omitted'."

The motion was lost.

2-45 p.m.

*THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, I have just given notice of an amendment to clause 4-A. As I was replying to the debate, Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar raised this question. The amendment that I move is this—

'*that in clause* 4-A, for *the words* "*any defect, vagueness or insufficiency, or any delay, in any communication*", substitute *the words* "*any defect, vagueness, insufficiency or delay in any communication*".'

My object is not at all to get over clause 3 of this Bill. It is only to safeguard the orders passed under clause 2 and not at all to deprive the detenu of the right that he has got to know the grounds of detention under clause 3. I was advised by Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar that if the clause stood as it did, it was likely that the detenu might lose his rights under clause 3. It is not my intention that he should lose his right under clause 3. Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar said that this amendment would help that and I have proposed it to the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Amendment moved—

'That in clause 4-A, *for* the words "any defect, vagueness or insufficiency, or any delay, in any communication", *substitute* the words "any defect, vagueness, insufficiency or delay in any communication".'"

*SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—"Sir, I myself suggested this amendment, because the words 'any defect, vagueness or insufficiency' seemed to stand aloof and apart from the word 'communication' and that the only word governing the word 'communication' was the word 'delay'. But the words 'any defect, vagueness or insufficiency' must govern something. The result would be that 'any defect, vagueness or insufficiency' in the making of the order itself would be one that is likely to be cured by clause 4-A if it had stood in the form in which it originally stood, with a comma after 'insufficiency' linking the three words 'defect, vagueness or insufficiency'. The result of such a construction would be that even though the Government had passed the order without their being satisfied under clause 2 that the person 'is acting or about to act or likely to act in any manner prejudicial to the public safety or the maintenance of public order', that defect would be itself curable under clause 4-A. The very root of the matter will go. This will mean a negation of the whole thing. Even if the Government are not satisfied that a person 'is acting or about to act or likely to act in any manner prejudicial to the public safety or the maintenance of public order', the defect would be cured under the clause as it originally stood. It was a possible construction of the clause. The Hon. Minister said that he did not intend

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such a thing, nor did the communication of the Government of India intend such a thing. All parties are agreed that for an order to be an effective order, it must comply with clause 2, namely, that the Government must be satisfied that a particular person is acting or about to act or likely to act in a manner prejudicial to public safety and so on. This condition should not in any event be turned down by any language used in clause 4-A. It is only to make that clear that this amendment has been proposed. 'Any defect, vagueness or insufficiency or delay' not in the original making of the order which is served on the person, but only with regard to the grounds which are given to the detenu for the purpose of enabling him to make his reply, that and that alone is likely to be cured. Any defect in the making of the order is not likely to be cured. I thought it better to have the thing made clear and I had a discussion with the Hon. the Law Minister who was agreeable to such an amendment. I have great pleasure that the Hon. Minister for Law has agreed to make it clear."

MR. SPEAKER:—"As soon as the Government amendment is disposed of, the hon. Members may move their amendments to the original clause."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Sir, even as the Government amendment now stands, it may mean only that any defect in any communication will not affect the making of the order. If you add the word 'thereof' after the word 'communication' the position will be made clear. (Interruption.) Even after the amendment, the language is doubtful in the sense that all these defects, etc., apply to the communication and not to the order of detention. The main purpose of the provision is to see that 'any defect or vagueness or insufficiency' whether in the order of detention or in the subsequent communication on the grounds of detention, must not affect the validity of the order. If that is the intention and it ought to be the intention of the Government, I submit that the language even of the amendment does not help. I therefore suggest that the clause must run as follows:—

'No order of detention . . . on the ground of any defect, vagueness or insufficiency of such an order or any delay in the communication thereof.'

The delay refers only to the communication and not to other things. If you want that the immunity should apply even to the other things, the clause must be: ' . . . any defect, vagueness or insufficiency or delay either in the order or in the communication thereof.' The immunity will apply both to the order as well as the communication. If you don't do it, as it is, it applies only to the communication. The difficulty will have to be solved by a clearer exposition of it."

* SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"Sir, I am afraid, the amendment proposed by the Government at the instance of Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar has made confusion worse confounded. The original language meant that if in the process of communication or manner of communication, there is any defect, it saved the Government

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from being called in question about the detention. I thought that that was the intention of the Government for the present. Now by this amendment, if, in the communication which is in be made to the detenu or the person proceeded against, under clause 3, there is 'any defect, vagueness or insufficiency' that also is saved and the Government also are saved. That I think was not the intention of the Government. The Government have made it clear on the floor of the House that they want to give every possible facility to the detenu under clause 3. They are bound to give the grounds of detention and the communication should give all the grounds of detention. I think that it would be a very good thing. If, however, there was delay in the process of communication—for example, an order passed on the 10th of a month was communicated to the detenu 20 days later—if there was unreasonable delay, and if in the manner of communication, instead of the communication being handed over in person, it was done in some other manner by the jail authorities, if there was any immaterial defect like this, it will not affect the merits of the case. The communication referred to in clause 4 is the communication mentioned in clause 3, the one which contains the charges.

"Now the amendment has made the position worse for the detenu than it was before. It was at least open to the argument that the delay and other irregularities applied only to the process of communication, and not in the grounds of charges, I think the Government intend the same. For just now the Hon. Minister has said that he wants to keep the position of the detenu unaffected by this clause 4-A, because he is entitled to have the grounds of detention made clear to him. It ought to be made without any defect. But now comes a bomb-shell in the shape of this amendment which makes the position of the detenu more difficult."

* MR. SPEAKER:—"When Mr. Bhashyam and Mr. Viswanatham gave notice of the amendment, they were not aware of the Government amendment moved by Mr. Madhava Menon now. If Mr. Viswanatham's amendment is carried the clause will read like this:

'No order of detention made in respect of any person . . . on the ground of any *immaterial* defect or any delay *not being unreasonable*, in any communication . . . .'

After the Government amendment is passed, the hon. Member may move his amendment to the whole clause. It is immaterial whether he moves it as an amendment to the amendment or an amendment to the original clause."

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, I do not agree with Mr. Bhashyam. It is true that I do not want the detenu to be deprived of his right to be informed of the grounds of his detention. But if in communicating these grounds, there is any defect or vagueness by accident, that should not be a reason

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for letting him off. That has been made clear by the amendment now proposed. There is no confusion at all here and I am afraid it is Mr. Bhashyam who has attempted to make the confusion worse confounded."

The amendment was put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion is—

' that clause 4-A as amended do stand part of the Bill '."

3 p.m. * SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, after the explanation given by the Government that it was their intention that any defect in the charges to be communicated to the detenu should not be made a ground for saying it was invalid, it has become all the more necessary that I should move the amendments that I now place before the House. They are—

' that in amended clause 4-A—

(i) *Insert* the word " immaterial " between " any " and " defect ";

(ii) *Omit* the words " vagueness or insufficiency "; and

(iii) *Insert* after " delay " the words " not being unreasonable ".'

Let us take it that under the scheme of the Act itself, if a person is dangerous to society or to public peace, he has to be proceeded against and has either to be detained or some other orders are to be passed under the Act; and the authority—whether it is the Collector or the Government, it does not matter—has to make an order giving the grounds for his detention. Those grounds—unless it be that in the interests of public safety they are not to be disclosed—must be disclosed to the person concerned and that person should be given an opportunity to make an explanation. That is practically the charge-sheet. In a case where a person is proceeded against in an ordinary court of law, the charge-sheet first starts the whole case. It is the most important piece of evidence and the prosecution will be practically confined to the charge when the matter comes up before the court. If that is the case in an ordinary case where the accused has the right to have the matter placed before the court and to call evidence in respect of that matter—if in that case the charge should be definite, informative and contain all the things relative to the matter, much more should it be so in a case where a person has no fair chance of trial. If the Government are fair and just to the person concerned, what I say is that they ought not to take shelter under clause 4-A and say ' I cannot give you all the materials sufficient for the purpose of your giving an explanation.' Supposing I am told on a particular night I made such and such offence, I may naturally want the information on what day or night, how it was done and where it was done. Supposing it is a case of a dacoity on a particular night, and the authority does not give particulars as to on what night it was, and in whose house it was done: and if I complain about it saying it is vague and all that, and if the Government say ' well, the section allows us to be vague, we won't

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give any particulars ', how can the man come before the Advisory Council? For the matter of that, if you say on a particular day it was done, he can say if he was or was not there, that he was in some other place on that day and even prove it easily. It is not therefore proper that the vagueness and insufficiency should continue. If the Government, of course, say ' we are quite just, we are the judges of the whole thing, we will put a man in jail and we won't give him an opportunity to explain ' then I am perfectly agreeable to such a proposition if I am satisfied the position is really so serious; but if the Government want to camouflage the whole thing by saying ' you have got an opportunity of saying what you want when the matter goes before the Advisory Council, these clauses are only meant to mislead the public, the order may be vague, it may be indefinite and we can delay it for any period we like ', then it looks to me as if the Government are taking power to themselves to nullify the provisions of the Act. As a matter of fact, it cannot be said that a detention order is always upheld; even the Government have found in many cases that persons have to be released; and the Government cannot deny on the floor of the House that in certain cases orders should not have been passed. And I ask, what is the fate of those persons against whom such orders should not have been passed? Therefore, I submit, now that clause 4-A has been passed by the House in the form in which it has been, at least let us take the sting out of it. Therefore I say the defect must be one which is immaterial and the person ought not to be denied his opportunity to explain. He must be given the fullest opportunity to offer his explanation so as to be placed before the Advisory Council. This is a matter of first-rate importance, in that the very charge on which his detention is to be based should be definite, informative and also should not be defective. In the old Act, as in England, there was a time-limit fixed for a week—that within a week from the date of detention the person should be informed about it and after a fortnight he was to give the explanation. If there is a schedule like that, it would be much better. But under the scheme of this Act, the time for communication is not fixed, the time for explanation is not fixed and the time for the Advisory Council to consider the matter is not also fixed; what is really done is that the final order is made confirming the original order and from that date six months is given as the period of detention. What will happen is you will have many cases of grave injustice. Suppose a man is detained; two months later he gets a letter and he submits the explanation within a week or ten days. There is considerable delay in confirming the order. I had myself to appear in such a case. That matter went up to the Government and it was before them for about eleven months; thereafter, i.e., after the six months' period had gone, it took another six months for confirming the order. Is it proper that such a thing should happen? And how I got my client out was by appealing to the Public Prosecutor saying ' can you not see this injustice ? ' He had to run post-haste to the Government, he conferred with the Chief Secretary and after all that, I was

able to get him released. Such things after all do happen; I do not want them to happen or to recur. Now that the House has accepted clause 4-A, I want my amendments to be included there, so that the right of the detenu to place his case fairly and squarely before the Advisory Council may be saved without being destroyed by this clause. That is why I move these amendments. I thoroughly agree with Mr. Govinda Menon, with Mr. Raghavayya and others who spoke about the atrocities of the communists and who said the Government should have this power to detain them. But what I say is: When you once admit that the detenu should have an opportunity to give an explanation, let it not be a formality, let it not be a make-believe, let us not do it imperfectly. No Government should do it. If you want to give an opportunity to a man to explain, well, give him a proper opportunity; do not say 'it is only as a formality'. My amendment is quite innocuous As was pointed out by one member yesterday, this clause is not found in any other Province. Madras has led the way in many good matters; I do not want Madras to lead the way in this wretched matter; Madras ought not to give a lead for other Provinces to copy this 4-A. Let not other Provinces say 'Madras is a very good and efficient Province, therefore we shall copy them in enacting such a section.' I would point out to the House: if you really do not pass the amendment you will be nullifying the only safeguard that is provided in the Act; if the Government's intention is, as has been stated, to communicate to a person the charges against him and the grounds for his detention, I say there must be a real safeguard and not an improper safeguard. Let us not play with the liberties of the people in such a lighthearted manner as the Government want to do. If this provision was made at a time when the Congress was out of office, it would have been a splendid opportunity for a good deal of agitation all over the country and for people to say 'it is the most atrocious and deliberately aggressive Act that has been passed.' I would, therefore, appeal to the sense of fairness and sense of justice of the hon. Members of the House to accept this amendment and to see that it is incorporated in the Act."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"In seconding the amendment moved by the hon. Sri Bhashyam, I want to add a few words. Clause 4-A takes us to clause 3 and clause 3 takes us to sub-clause (2) of clause 2. The communication is an integral part of the original order of detention. That is why the High Court released some detenus because the grounds communicated were vague or insufficient. It does not relate to the mere act of communication of the order or the grounds; it relates to the entire transaction from the beginning to the end. Otherwise, no man can be released, because once an order is passed, there is nobody to question it. And to the extent you are willing to supply him with grounds of detention, if they are vague and indefinite, then even the High Court may pass strictures, but cannot set aside the order of detention altogether under the proposed provision. This communication actually is the communication contemplated in

section 3; it is also a *sine qua non* or a condition precedent which has got to be fulfilled by the Government after the detention order is passed under sub-clause (2). Let us therefore be clear in our minds that this communication is the substance of the order which is served on the detenu, and although the detention has been effected, the rest of the thing is to be as carefully done as if it was prior to the detention itself. That is the idea with which the High Court has said that the order should not be vague or indefinite. We are willing, as our first amendment has gone, to have the words 'defect' and 'delay', provided the defect is not material and provided the delay is not unreasonable. Are we unreasonable in demanding this small amendment from the Hon. Law Minister? We say the defect should not be a serious defect and he must agree; and it should not be unreasonable and he should agree to that too. If that is so, let him accept our amendment which says that vagueness and insufficiency must go. The grounds if they are vague will appear to the mind of a third party as unreasonable grounds and the grounds disclosed should be of such a nature as to create the impression in the mind of any impartial man that the Government have rightly come to the conclusion that a particular person must be detained. The only reason why you cannot disclose certain grounds is stated in section 3; the Government may be perfectly right in not disclosing facts which they consider to be against public interests; that does not however mean that the grounds should be insufficient so as to disable the man from giving an explanation. Again, as regards vagueness, let me illustrate by an example. Suppose in the jail we are supplied with a looking glass; it may be a broken looking glass or one in which the silver is gone and therefore one in which you cannot see your face. It cannot be said that we have been supplied with a looking glass in such a case. Similarly, if you supply a man with a looking glass—in this case a communication—you cannot make it vague by denying him the silver with which he can see the activities which are the cause of his detention, i.e., the reasons why Government came to the conclusion that he should be detained. Therefore, I submit the vagueness and the insufficiency should not be there. As Mr. Bhashyam has pointed out, he himself had a case in which the delay amounted to eleven months, although the statutory period of detention is only six months. I submit there can be no more reasonable amendment moved on the floor of this House than the one moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Bhashyam and it must, in all sense of fairness and justice, be accepted by one and all here."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Amendment moved—

'that in amended clause 4-A—

(i) *Insert* the word "immaterial" between "any" and "defect".

(ii) *Omit* the words "vagueness or insufficiency".

(iii) *Insert* after "delay" the words "not being unreasonable".'"

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3-15 p.m. * SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would urge on the Government that they may be a little more reasonable also. According to the provision as it now stands, even if there is 99·99 per cent defect, the order will still be valid. We should not judge this particular case from the viewpoint of a person who is admittedly to be detained and who is a very bad man. In looking at these relieving provisions, we ought to see and judge from the standpoint of a man who may be innocent and who should be given an opportunity of proving his innocence. That is why we have got this section 3 and the giving of the grounds and the Advisory Tribunal. The ordinary provisions of the law are taken away from him in the interests of public welfare and therefore this right is given to him, namely, to know the grounds coupled with such facts and particulars as the Government may in their opinion be pleased to give him. When it goes before the Advisory Council, it is not in the nature of ordinary trial. In fact when we were detained we were urging for our being called before a tribunal, for our making oral representations, for having lawyers, and for having opportunities to cite witnesses and produce documents and other things. We find that the Advisory Committee is to consider only materials placed before them and that is the only chance for an innocent man to prove that he is innocent. I agree with the Government that merely because in an order, the ' t 's may not have been crossed or the ' i 's dotted, it cannot be said that these men have been unlawfully detained. The validity of the detention should not be affected by this and nothing but a material defect or discrepancy should be allowed to stand in the way of an order being set aside. But at the same time in a matter where it is overweighed against the person who is detained, we should not press the matter to the wrong end. In cases where matters go up in appeal, we know that no judgment of a lower Court can be reversed or modified on account of any irregularity or defect not touching the merits of the case or which is not in itself material so that merits are not affected by any irregularity. Therefore, when we are putting it as we wish by way of these amendments, we would, as a matter of fact, be practically curing everything short of saying that even 99 per cent defect shall not invalidate any orders made in pursuance thereto. I do not think that is the object of the Government. Government do not want that things which are so bad should be ignored, their anxiety being that orders should not be set aside on, what would be, very trivial or immaterial grounds such as a blank column not having been filled up as it is likely to happen, the date not having been filled and so on. We have already passed section 4 (1) in which it is stated that detention is to date not from the date when the man was detained but from the date when it is confirmed or modified after the Advisory Council sits and after the Government ultimately choose to pass an order. Suppose a man is detained and it takes eight months for the case to be brought before the Advisory Council, then he will have to be six months more in detention. I do not blame the Government for this. This may all be rendered necessary or unavoidable by virtue of the very movement the Government are

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trying to handle when the normal functions are disturbed and they are not able to function as quickly as they would on account of these activities. It should be remembered that these detentions are not punitive but they are only preventive—and the accident of a man having to remain for six months in detention, when ultimately the Government confirm the order and he is kept on for six months more if it is on good grounds and the delay was not unreasonable as it is perfectly obvious here—any court would accept that. Therefore, I would urge on the Government to mitigate the rigour of the provision by accepting the amendment suggested."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" Sir, Mr. Viswanatham was trying to define ' reasonable delay ' but we should not leave that thing itself vague. Instead of that, I would suggest to the Government to consider that any delay not exceeding two months will satisfy the needs of the present and the demands of both the parties."

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Mr. Speaker, as for the suggestion made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Raghavayya, we have already issued instructions that there should not be even two months' delay in communicating the grounds of detention. As Mr. Bhashyam put it, an acceptance of this amendment would mean nullifying clause 4-A that I have asked for. Even the High Court in their Full Bench decision have stated that the courts cannot investigate the sufficiency or the reasonableness of the grounds. For one thing, Sir, there is no use of giving power and taking away everything out of it by means of an amendment of this nature. Why should the Government be unreasonable? On the other hand they will take all reasonable precautions to see that no delay occurs. There may be a very bad case in which detention may be necessary but the grounds may not be sufficient according to the criterion laid by the High Court. It is only in such extraordinary cases that it will be used. An acceptance of the amendment will whittle down what has been given and as Mr. Bhashyam pointed out it will remove the sting of the section; I want the sting there, as otherwise, there is no use of the section. If it is the idea to take away the power that has been given, then we can accept the amendment; but that is not my idea; on the other hand, I want the powers unhampered by any such condition. The courts have held that courts cannot investigate the insufficiency or otherwise of the material or the reasonableness of the grounds. If it is suggested that ' not being unreasonable ' should be put in, it is capable of different interpretations. There were cases in which a number of grounds were given; the detenu protested and it was referred back to the District Magistrate asking him to substantiate the charges; he substantiated them and they were sent back to him once more and then there were contradictions and the same procedure. It took three months like this, though Mr. Raghavayya would have it as two months; and the High Court accepted the delay as reasonable as it was intended to give an opportunity to the detenu to provide him with all the

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available information. The time taken in each case will vary and it all depends upon the merits of each case. Regarding the case mentioned by my hon. Friend, about six months was taken up in checking up in the manner I have stated. If there was delay, the Government themselves had ordered release. I do not think, Sir, I can accept the amendment."

* SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" Mr. Speaker, the Hon. the Law Minister has tried to frighten the House by reading a passage from the High Court judgment. (Interruption.) I know the Hon. Minister is not easily frightened. If you say that there may be defects or that the grounds may be defective and that the Government may come to the conclusions on insufficient grounds, it is not fair. They must be fairly definite so that if an ordinary man looks at it, it may appeal to him; it must appeal to his common sense. Suppose the Government say: 'I do not like the colour of your face or your nose is awry.' How is such a thing to be supported and no court can support it. If you call a person a Communist and give him an order, and if no other grounds can be mentioned, certainly it is not fair. As the clause stands any defect can be really condoned. The court will certainly not say any immaterial defect will invalidate an order of detention. But if you put the thing in this form, I am afraid you are giving yourself licence to be slack, careless in the communication of your grounds; not only yourself but your subordinates who are responsible for making the order will also follow you and any grounds will be put, whether they are sufficient or not. And that means that you are putting a very dangerous weapon in the hands of your subordinates, a weapon which may be used against any person whom they may not like or may find it very inconvenient to leave outside. The Government want these powers and they have the strength of a giant. I ask them not to use it like a giant, they must use as reasonable gentlemen and have nothing to do with powers which savour of tyrannical tinge."

The amendment was put and lost.

MR. SPEAKER:—" I will now put clause 4-A as amended to the vote of the House."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Mr. Speaker, in spite of the amendment proposed by the Government . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I wish to know what it is that the hon. Member wants to say. I already gave him an opportunity to speak. He could have participated in the debate either at the time Mr. Madhava Menon moved his amendment or on Mr. Bhashyam's amendment. Where is the chance for him to speak again now? Let me hear the hon. Gentleman."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" At present, you are proposing that clause 4-A, as amended, become part of the Bill. I have a right to speak on the clause as amended which is the motion that is before the House."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" But you could have spoken when the Hon. Minister moved his amendment."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" But has not the hon. Member the right to speak at any time before the clause is adopted as amended."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Sir, the Chair has put before the House that clause 4-A, as amended, be taken into consideration. I am entitled to speak on that motion, as it is a separate motion." 3-30 p.m.

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Sir, when I moved my amendment for clause 4-A, both my motion and the amendment of Mr. Viswanatham were before the House, and then Mr. Varadachari could have spoken."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Apart from this, I want to make clear this fact: the hon. Member has spoken on Mr. Viswanatham's amendment; and secondly when the Hon. Minister moved his amendment he could have spoken. So I do not understand how he can speak now."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" Each is a separate motion by itself, and the last motion which the speaker put forward is 'clause 4-A, as amended, is for the consideration of the House'."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Then I think I shall not be able to finish the business at all." (Laughter.)

SEVERAL VOICES: 'That is quite a different matter.'

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" If it takes time we cannot help it. Sir, we protest against the right of our freedom to make speeches being curtailed."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I shall make the position clear. The hon. Member, Mr. Varadachari, has spoken on Mr. Viswanatham's amendment. Then when the Hon. Minister moved his amendment he could have spoken, but he did not speak. It is not at all my idea to curb the right of speech of any member. I have no objection to allow him to speak now; but it should not be made as precedent for every member to speak on every amendment."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" I do not think the Speaker wishes to make a rule that a member will not have a right to speak on the first amendment, then on the second amendment and then on the third amendment, and ultimately on the amended motion."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Sir, far be it my intention to waste the time of the House. I am really feeling sore that this clause should not be included in the Bill. When I spoke last time on Mr. Viswanatham's amendment I thought Government would take time to consider that amendment. But they have ruled it out. They have given their reasons for it

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and they stand by them. I do not wish to cover those reasons here. Suffice it to say I am constrained to say that those reasons are not sufficient to warrant the inclusion of this clause in the present Bill. Sir, what is the effect of this clause. No court is allowed to sit in judgment over an order on the ground of insufficiency, defect, vagueness or delay in any communication. Now this amendment is on the basis of the recent decision of the Full Bench of the Madras High Court. But how can you say that any other Full Bench of the same High Court would not differ from that decision. To base any argument on that is nothing but *petitio principii*. It is really begging the question. If I were in the Government, what I would say is this: 'All right, the High Court has said so even in the absence of this clause, and so where is the necessity for such a clause.' The High Court has not said 'Put such and such a clause in the Bill'. So I say, it is a thing over which Government ought to ponder. They cannot say the High Court has given a direction."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I never said like that."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Yes, you never said that. You said you are sure of the law. As I said, the Assembly can only look into the policies, it cannot render justice to individuals. There may be one case now in which a District Magistrate may have acted without extra prudence. But you would by the inclusion of this clause be giving room to a certain amount of looseness in administration. That is my complaint.

"Sir, I am not a theoretical believer in civil liberty. I know that restrictions are necessary. I know that restraints may be in varying degrees and may be applicable to various bodies of people in varying degrees. Knowing as I do all this, knowing as I do, like the hon. Law Minister, that District Magistrates take time to collect evidence, I say, it is not very reasonable on the part of Government to put a clause like this on the statute book."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Before I put this motion to the vote of the House I may tell the House certain things. The hon. floor Leader of the Progressive Group said yesterday that the Chair has got certain inherent powers. Just now Mr. Bhashyam said that the Chair cannot curtail the freedom of speech of members. I have been giving full freedom to hon. Members to speak. This clause we have been discussing for the last two days. I admit the present clause is a very important clause. But a few members, if they want, can make the House sit day by day by speaking on all clauses as some Irish members did in the House of Commons. (Mr. K. Bhashyam rose in his seat.) I am not casting any reflection on any member. For that purpose the Chair has been given certain powers. What is called the kangaroo closure, the ordinary closure and guillotine are all there. But I have no objection to allow sometimes a few to speak on all motions. But it does not mean that all members shall be allowed

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to speak on all clauses. If all the members want to speak on all clauses, it is not possible to finish any Bill. I have already given an opportunity to Mr. Varadachariar to speak on Mr. Viswanatham's amendment, and he could have spoken on the other amendment of the Hon. Law Minister. Now, I am going to put the motion to the vote of the House.

"The question is—

'. . . that clause 4-A, as amended, do stand part of the Bill'."

The motion was carried.

Clauses 4-B, 5, 6, 7, 7-A, 7-B, 8, 9, 9-A, 9-B and 9-C were put and carried.

Clause 10.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The motion is—

'That clause 10 do stand part of the Bill'."

* JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

'*that in clause* 10 (1) *in the proviso, after the words "religious worship" the following words be added "or for the purpose of a religious nature"*.'

"Sir, the amendment which I have now moved is a very harmless, a very innocent and a very minor amendment, and so I do not propose to adduce any lengthy arguments in support of it. Suffice it to say that the object of my amendment is to bring out of the mischief of clause 10 those places which may not strictly be defined as places of worship but which at the same time are held sacred by certain sections of the people and which are of a religious nature. Now for example a mosque is a place of religious worship. But there are other places like the grave-yard, the burial-ground, which by no stretch of imagination can be called places of worship, but which at the same time are held as sacred by certain sections of the people. There is, for example, Imambaras which are places where Muslims gather to think about martyrs. Hazrath Imam Hasan and Nazrath Imam Hassani are not places of worship, but all the same are places held sacred. Similarly there are other places like tombs, for instance. I do not think that people would agree to Government requisitioning such places of a religious nature. So if it is not the intention of the Government to wound the religious feelings of the people, I think this amendment may be accepted. So far I have been speaking of places held sacred by Muslims. I daresay there will be similar places among other communities. So I request Government to accept this amendment. After all, Government may say that it is not their intention to requisition such places. But when we are discussing the bill clause by clause, the bill should be made foolproof. The intention of the Government should be clearly and fully brought out in the wording of the Bill."

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3-45 p.m. JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I second the amendment. I think the Government will accept the amendment because it only seeks to avoid the mischief that may otherwise be caused. The section as drafted is likely to be misinterpreted and misconstrued. There are certain places which are not, strictly speaking, places of religious worship but which come under the category of places used for the purpose of a religious nature. Since this question involves religious susceptibilities and sentiments, there may be danger to peace if such places are requisitioned. I request the Government to seriously consider the amendment and accept it."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Amendment moved—

' That in clause 10 (1), in the proviso, after the words " religious worship " the following words be added " or for the purpose of a religious nature ".'

* SRI K. BASHYAM:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, the amendment has my full sympathy, as it has a bearing on places of Hindu religious worship also. Under the section without this amendment, I fear it is possible to take hold of mutts which are not places of religious worship but are places of religious instruction. Mutts are considered to be very sacred and they should not be touched. Therefore the position should be made clear. I should like to point out to the Government that there are also *Bhajana Matams* where people congregate and do *Bhajanas*, Ramanuja Koodams, and houses set apart for funeral ceremonies. All these are used for purposes of a religious nature. It will certainly be in consonance with the intention of the Government if they accept the amendment and thereby allay the apprehension of the people."

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I do not think I can accept the amendment. There is a good deal of difference between places of religious worship and places used for the purpose of a religious nature. ' Religious worship ' is something definite, but ' purpose of a religious nature ' is indefinite. A person may say that the room in his house in which he reads the Ramayana is used for the purpose of a religious nature and that therefore it could not be requisitioned. Considerable investigation is necessary to find out whether a place is used for the purpose of a religious nature or not. I cannot agree to put in the Bill an indefinite thing like that."

* JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI:—" I am sorry that the Government have not thought it fit to accept my very innocent amendment. If the idea of the Hon. Minister is not to exempt places used for the purpose of a religious nature, he should admit that there are places which will come under the mischief of this clause because they cannot be called places of religious worship. I don't think the explanation is satisfactory and I do not propose to withdraw my amendment."

Janab Abdul Hameed Khan rose to speak.

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MR. SPEAKER:—" After the Minister has replied, no Member can speak on it."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" I think hon. Members would like to know the procedure that the Hon. Speaker wishes to follow in regard to these matters. This is the first time that he has told us that after the Minister has spoken, no Member can speak."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Certainly that has been the procedure all along. The hon. Member has been a Member of the legislature for so many years and he ought to have known it. After Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillay, I think hon. Janab Hameed Khan has been a legislator for the longest number of years."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" I remember, and I think the House also remembers, that we have been following a different procedure. After the Minister has spoken, other Members have spoken. Even to-day, the hon. Sri Varadachari spoke after the Minister's reply. I think this can be got verified from the official report."

MR. SPEAKER:—" After the reply of the Minister, no Member can speak except the mover of the amendment who can do so by way of reply. That is the procedure that I have been following in this House. I have been closely following the discussion. The hon. Sri Varadachari did not speak on the amendment after the Minister's reply, but on the clause as amended."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" I think the official report will bear out my statement. This can be verified in the calmer atmosphere of the Speaker's room."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Whether it is verified in my room or in this Chamber, the position will be the same as I pointed out."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 10 was put and carried.

Clauses 10-A, 10-B, 11, 12, 12-A, 13, 14 and 15 were put and carried.

Clause 16.

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion is—

' That clause 16 do stand part of the Bill '."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

' Delete *clause* 16.'

" We have had occasion to speak very often on the floor of this House on similar clauses in several other Bills. Therefore I do not like to repeat my arguments. Several of the replies given by the Hon. Minister to the arguments put forward by us against ousting the jurisdiction of courts have not convinced us in the least. If we have got respect for courts, we cannot show that respect by saying that the courts shall not have jurisdiction.

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That is not expressing our respect for courts but that is only turning up our noses against them. I submit that the civil remedies open to the citizens must not be taken away by the Government. As I submitted yesterday, civil courts must at one stage have the right of scrutinising the acts of the executive. Otherwise there will be no limit to the encroachments of the executive on the rights of the citizens. That is the one fundamental point which we have been trying to impress upon the Government and which the Government have been consistently resisting. I request the Hon. Minister for Law to reconsider his view even now and retain the jurisdiction of courts.

"This clause has also got another peculiarity about it. It reads: 'No order made . . . under this Act or deemed to have been made under this Act by virtue of Section 19 shall be called in question in any Court.' Section 19 itself is a validating clause under which the acts of the Government which have been considered invalid by the High Court are sought to be validated. According to clause 16, no acts done under section 19 can be questioned in any civil court. The effect of that would be that those detenus who have been released by the High Court in the 69 cases will still continue to be detenus. (Interruption by the Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon.) That is not the view of the Government and that is not the interpretation that they must put upon it. Every action taken under section 19 is sought to be validated. If orders under section 19 are not to be questioned In any court, what is the effect? The effect is an absurdity. I say that a clause which leads to absurdity should not be incorporated in the Bill. Both on the general principle that civil courts must continue to have the right of scrutinizing the acts of the executive at least at one stage and on the ground that the acts of the Government which have been pronounced invalid by the High Court cannot be validated, I submit that this amendment must be accepted. That is the reason for and the rationale of the amendment to delete clause 16 altogether."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I second the amendment. My only object is to point out that the wording of the clause creates a complication. The clause reads: 'No order made . . . or deemed to have been made under this Act by virtue of section 19 shall be called in question in any Court.' The word 'deemed' is not self-explanatory. Deemed by whom or which authority is not made clear. While the words 'deemed to have been made' are quite in place in section 19, they are quite out of place in clause 16. Therefore these words may be deleted. Otherwise the clause reads clumsy and is difficult of construction."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Amendment moved—

'*Delete* clause 16.'

4 p.m. * THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, I cannot accept the amendment for the deletion of clause 16 from this Bill, because it was there even in the 1947 Act and there is no meaning

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to delete this clause after we have passed clause 4-A, saying that such and such orders should not be questioned in a court of law. This section had been put in deliberately as a saving clause even in the 1947 Act, before I became a Minister. The only addition we have now made in it are the words, 'or deemed to have been made under this Act by virtue of section 19'. The original idea was that this Act shall be in force for one year and that it shall be extended by notification for another year and subsequently by another Act by two years. Those notifications have been held to be invalid only last month by the High Court. Action taken in the meanwhile will have to be validated and section 19 only seeks to validate those actions. That is why these words were added and all the other things in this clause remain as they were. If you delete clause 4-A, then perhaps there is no need for this clause. But having accepted that clause, there is no meaning in asking for the deletion of this clause, because it is not the intention of the House that any orders made under this Act should be questioned in a court of law. Therefore, I cannot accept the amendment, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That clause 16 be deleted'."

The amendment was lost.

Clause 16 was put and carried.

Clause 17.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Motion is—

'That clause 17 do stand part of the Bill'."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—'Mr. Speaker, Sir, with regard to sub-clause (2) of this clause, I want to suggest a verbal amendment. Sub-clause (2) says, 'no suit or other legal proceeding shall lie against the Provincial Government for any damage caused or likely to be caused by anything in good faith done or intended to be done in pursuance of this Act'. My suggestion is that the words 'in good faith' may be transposed after the words 'or intended to be done', in which case, it will read thus: '. . . . . likely to be caused by anything done or intended to be done in good faith in pursuance of this Act.' I think, Sir, it is probably a mistake. If the Hon. Minister accepts it, then all right; otherwise I will say it is bad drafting. Let him pass it if he wants, with that remark of mine on record."

Clause 17 was put and carried.

Clauses 18 and 18-A were put and carried.

Clause 19.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Motion is—

'That clause 19 do stand part of the Bill'."

* SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the language in clause 19 (3) we find the very same words, 'on the ground of any defect, vagueness or insufficiency or any delay

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in any communication made to such person', which are also found in clause 4-A which we have already passed. A similar verbal amendment as we have made in clause 4-A should be made in clause 19 (3) also, in order to bring it into conformity with the previous provision, because in that clause, we have already agreed to omit the word 'any' between the words 'or' and 'delay'. This is only a consequential amendment, which I am sure, the Hon. Minister could easily accept.

"My other suggestion is also in the nature of a verbal amendment which is also a consequential one to clause 4-A. When it was under discussion, I pointed out to the Hon. Minister that in deference to the decision of the High Court we must see that this retrospectively operates in the case of all detentions, in which the High Court was pleased to order release. I think, Sir, that an expression such as this, viz., 'provided that this shall not affect the orders of the High Court which have become final' should be added somewhere in this clause."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I wish to know whether the hon. Member would like to move any specific varbal amendment to this clause; if not, and if the Government agree, let them themselves move a verbal amendment to this clause."

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I have no objection, Sir, to accept the suggestion of my hon. Friend Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, to move it as a Government amendment, which is after all a consequential one. Sir, I move—

> '*that in clause* 19 (3) for *the words* "*any defect, vagueness insufficiency, or any delay, in any communication*" *substitute the words*, "*any defect, vagueness, insufficiency or delay in any communication*"'."

This is the same thing as found in clause 4-A.

"With regard to his other suggestion, I do not agree, Sir, that the orders of release by the High Court will apply to these cases."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Amendment moved—

'that *for* the words "any defect, vagueness or insufficiency or any delay in any communication", *substitute* the words "any defect, vagueness, insufficiency or delay in any communication"'."

The amendment was carried.

Clause 19 as amended was put and carried.

Clause 20.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Motion is—

'That clause 20 do stand part of the Bill'."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

'*that clause* 20 *be deleted*'.

"Sir, clause 20 is a general provision for indemnifying every officer who has done anything under the Bill. I submit, Sir, that

under clause 17 (1) there is sufficient indemnity for an officer for any act done by him in good faith, because it says, that 'no suit or prosecution or other legal proceedings shall lie against any person for anything in good faith done or intended to be done in pursuance of this Act'. If beyond that we are to provide indemnity for all acts which are not proved to have been done in good faith, then I submit, Sir, this House will be giving a premium and a licence to all officers to commit any kind of excesses they like. I know, Sir, that the Hon. Minister is somewhat puzzled at the language which I am using, because he is the sponsor of this Bill. If, on the other hand, he looks at this provision from the point of view of a lawyer and as a Member of this House, and not as the Minister in charge of this Bill, he would certainly agree with every word I have said. I only ask him to remind himself of the incidents that happened in Ellamaru. I need not go into the details of those incidents, but I submit that clause 17 of this Bill would certainly protect an officer who, in the *bona fide* discharge of his duties had unwillingly committed any excesses in that village. But, is the Hon. Minister satisfied that the officer who committed such excesses in Ellamaru had done so in the *bona fide* discharge of his duties? He has got all the records in his possession. He has got evidence from everybody, both official and non-official. Will it be possible for him to say that such an officer must be protected by means of a provision like this? Certainly not. Then this clause 20 must go. But, if on the other hand he says, "The Government will take action against such persons who do not act in good faith, and will see that the officers maintain discipline and act in a lawful manner and would punish officers who have not acted in good faith", then surely this clause should not find a place in this measure. The existence of this provision in this Bill would give a free guarantee to all officers to act in utter disregard of the rights of ordinary citizens. Really the incident at Ellamaru has proved that the existence of a provision like this would be dangerous in the interests of the public at large and that it would breed contempt and utter recklessness among the officers concerned in the discharge of their duties. Therefore this House should not agree to the retention of this clause in this Bill. That is why, I submit, Sir, that this clause 20 must be deleted."

* SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to second the amendment moved by my hon. Friend Mr. T. Viswanatham. At the same time, I can anticipate the argument that would be put forward by the Hon. Minister in respect of this clause, because, I know he would turn round and say, "You were there as the Law Minister of the Government at that time when this section was passed; why did you not object to it then?" Sir, my present objection to this clause is on two grounds. The first is that clause 4-A has been newly enacted. Previously there was one chance at least for the person detained to have the matter investigated by the High Court and thereby get a decision as to the legality of the detention by the Government. He could therefore go to the

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High Court and make an appeal. He might say, " There is a defect in the Government's orders of detaining me ". He might say, " I was not given an opportunity to put in my defence before the Advisory Council ". But now, this clause takes away that chance of vindicating his position. To whom can he now appeal? You have now blocked his only chance of taking his case before the High Court by introducing clause 4-A. That is my reason for really supporting this amendment. If clause 4-A had not been passed, or if my amendment to that clause had been accepted, I would certainly not raise any objection to this clause and would have been perfectly content to the retention of this clause 20 as it is.

" Secondly, Sir, if the Hon. Minister wants to safeguard any officer, there is enough protection under clause 17, if he acts *bona fide* in the discharge of his duties. If, on the other hand, it has been definitely proved that the defect, vagueness or insufficiency or delay in the communication of the charge, has occurred because of the *mala fide* intention of the officer concerned, there must be some chance for the person aggrieved to vindicate his position and get redress or damages from the person responsible for such acts. Therefore it is for that purpose that I support this amendment for the deletion of clause 20. If clause 4-A had not been enacted, certainly this clause 20 must be there; but because that clause has been introduced newly, I oppose the retention of this clause."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Amendment moved—

' That clause 20 be deleted.' "

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Mr. Speaker, I am really surprised that both my hon. Friends Mr. Viswanatham and Mr. Bhashyam should oppose this clause, the former moving an amendment for its deletion and the latter supporting the amendment. I may submit, Sir, that it was Mr. Bhashyam who drafted this clause, when it was originally enacted. But in justification for that, he now says that because clause 4-A has been newly brought in, therefore he opposes this clause. I submit, Sir, that there is no connexion between clause 4-A and clause 20, because clause 4-A deals with the grounds for detention, while clause 20 seeks to indemnify acts done after the expiration of the Madras Act I of 1947. To say that because of the introduction of clause 4-A, he opposes this clause, is a thing which is very difficult for me to understand. Perhaps it may be due to my limited capacity for understanding. But whatever it is, Sir, I cannot accept his argument in this respect.

" Then Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Viswanatham referred to the incidents that happened at Ellamaru and contended that such excesses would multiply in numbers, if this clause is retained in the Bill. I may submit, Sir, that the incidents at Ellamaru occurred before clause 4-A was introduced. They happened even when section 16 was there in the original Act of 1947, when I was not a Minister then. He could very well have used his influence

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then, with the Hon. Minister who was in charge of that Bill and sought for the deletion of that section. Ellamaru incidents happened even before the ordinance and before clause 4-A came in. Ellamaru should not be the reason for the deletion of clause 20. It was there even before the alleged Ellamaru excesses. Therefore I cannot accept the amendment, Sir."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Sir, the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon is very good at chronology and he has given certain facts. But on the merits of clause 20 he has not spoken. He has only said that it should be there. He has not even told us whether those who have committed excesses have been properly dealt with or not. Persons are to be deprived of their rights to proceed against these erring Government servants, who, even without a colour of exercising any official duties, have committed outrages. That is a position which I cannot accept. At the risk of repetition, I say that I am one with the Government in protecting officers who, in *bona fide* discharge of their duties, go a little bit out of the way without intending to do so. But I certainly can never agree to the proposition that there should be a general indemnity against every act for all time to come." 4-15 p.m.

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 20 was put and carried.

Clause 21 was put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

' *that the Bill as amended be passed into law* '.

" Both on the first reading stage and subsequently on the discussion on clauses, an exhaustive discussion has taken place. On both the stages, very valuable suggestions have been made, cautions and warnings have been given, and also sufficiently clear statements have been made that the House would not, but for the extraordinary conditions prevailing in the country, agree to this extraordinary legislation. It may be that in the course of the discussion in times of excitement there had been a little bit of digression, and things would have been said in excitement. That should not make us feel that there is any particular motive. It may be in the course of the debate for various purposes we may grow warm and get excited. Having passed all that, let us forget those unpleasant things, if any, and think only of the good intentions of all of us that we must maintain law and order in this extraordinary situation. At a time like this every attempt should be made for co-operative effort to meet the very difficult situation, or, if I may say so, meet the very root causes which are very near and dear to our heart and which everybody feels should be tackled so that a legislation like this may not be in existence at all. I am sure that the cautions and warnings that have been given are only to see that no excesses are committed. I entirely agree with the criticisms that have been made. The criticisms have been made

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saying ' you are taking very wide powers '. The situation demands that we should take so much powers. But as Mr. Bhashyam said ' Do not use it like a giant ', we shall be very careful in using it. I really appreciate the motive behind it. With that idea in view, we shall try to work this Act. Sir, I move that the Bill be passed into law."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved—

' That the Bill as amended be passed into law '."

* SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" Sir, we are glad that we have come to the end of the discussion of this extraordinary Bill. I must in the first instance congratulate the Hon. Law Minister on his piloting this Bill through. I am thankful to him for appreciating the position we were in in our criticism of certain of the clauses of the Bill. We are all agreed as he says on the main question of the maintenance of law and order in this Presidency and on strengthening the hands of the Government so that they may deal with the situation as it arises. But, Sir, we are also anxious that while they are so strengthened, they must so conduct themselves in such a way that they do not inflict any injustice on persons affected by the Act. Originally, what we did was to give the safeguard to the detenu of making a representation to the Advisory Council. That safeguard is to be really worked in the spirit in which it was put in. A fair and clear chance should be given to him and also all necessary information should be given to him so that he may present his case before the Advisory Council or even the Government. That is the only reason behind all the amendments which have been moved. If the amendments had not been accepted, it may be that it is not because the Government do not feel the responsibility themselves. But they have to be very careful and very cautious towards these persons who have been detained. But I think the Government are over-cautious in this matter and want all powers to themselves. We are sure that the various criticisms made by hon. Members in this House will be taken by Government as guidance. I only want to say that the root causes also have been thrashed out on the floor of the House. I do not believe that Government will be able to meet that situation by themselves, because the action to be taken does not rest solely with them. It can be done only with the co-operation or even direction from the Central Government. Reduction of the prices of commodities cannot be done by this Government alone. It has to be done by the Central Government. This Government should take all steps necessary, and the Central Government will agree with them, for restoring quiet and peace in the land.

" I should also like to congratulate you, Mr. Speaker, on the way in which you have conducted the discussion. In fact there was some heat on the question of a Member's right to speak and also his right to make criticisms. I am sure you will not mistake us when we really ask for time to speak. Sometimes you were pleased to grant it. I really think, Sir, you have been very fair to us."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" I have not been following the hon. Member. The hon. Member will please repeat what he said."

* SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" Well, Sir, I will have to start all over again. Before I conclude I should like to congratulate you, Mr. Speaker, on the way in which you have conducted the discussion. We have been given full freedom to express our opinion. What I wanted to say was that in some stages of the discussion there was some difference of opinion between the Hon. Speaker and some hon. Members. You have conducted the discussion so nicely without any sense of grievance to hon. Members at all. When Mr. Varadachari said that he had a right to speak, you were pleased to allow him to speak. We thoroughly appreciate that accommodating spirit. We only expect that from you. We expect the same accommodation when other Bills also are brought before us for consideration."

* SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must congratulate the Hon. Law Minister on the way in which he has handled a very unpleasant Bill which had been unfortunately twice before us and which has now come before us for a third time. At some stages no doubt we raised the very same objections which we had been raising in all the previous stages of the Bill and in each case it may have been passed over with the simple remark ' well; these things have been raised already, and they are repeating the same thing again '. Nevertheless, with considerable amount of patience the Law Minister has been trying to answer our points. The Government really had no option in the matter considering the present condition in the country. Conditions are such that a drastic remedy in the shape of a harsh Bill is required. Unfortunately that Act having been declared *ultra vires* and the subsequent ordinance, nine-tenths of which also having been declared *ultra vires*, the Government were compelled to bring forward this Bill. No doubt there are certain parts with which even now we are not in agreement. Surely, the Government think that those parts, particularly Clause 4-A, are necessary, and therefore the House has endorsed them.

" In his speech the Hon. the Law Minister stated that this repressive legislation was necessary inasmuch as the disease had to be tackled. He said that if the disease were to be tackled the symptoms would have to be dealt with before the root causes were dealt with. Last night when I was talking to an eminent doctor, he said that dealing with the symptoms was only the beginner's method, because dealing with the symptoms would never subside the disease. Simultaneously with dealing with the symptoms you must also deal with the root causes of the disease. Otherwise endlessly the symptoms may go on, and there will be no use of tackling the symptoms unless the root causes which produce the symptoms are also tackled. I have mentioned about the necessity for a drastic reduction in the prices of articles. The hopes that were raised in the minds of the poor people when we accepted the

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provincial governance and then afterwards when independence came, have not been fulfilled. The poor people were looking forward for a reduction of the rocketing prices. They were informed that the houseless people would be provided with house sites or measures would be brought by the Government for enabling them to construct houses. But now we find that the houses that have been constructed are only for the higher middle classes or for the richer classes, and it is being done by co-operative effort. We raised anticipations in the minds of the people that the landless would be given some lands to plough. We are still in the stage of thinking about it. We have been talking of complete efficiency of administration. The Secretariat and the whole Executive in the Province were, as a matter of fact, trembling in their shoes, and they thought that administration by the Congress Puritans would drive them to be absolutely honest and incorruptible. People find that as a matter of fact the officials are not now as much exercised over by the Congress Government as they were by the Government before. They are, as a matter of fact, really not trying to oblige the poor and are not trying to set their minds to solving the difficulties of the poor. All these have still to be worked out. It is undoubtedly true that the Congress administration in this Province has been responsible for some progressive legislation, which has not even been thought of in other provinces, e.g., the Zamindari Abolition Bill, the Prohibition Bill, etc. I am sorry to say in this connexion that my attention has been drawn to a particular Gazette notification which says that any person may get two ounces of brandy at any one time and for any number of times whatsoever provided he is given a certificate to that effect by the doctor. This has greatly shocked me. I think it is the very negation of Prohibition itself. We have done very good things. But this is a retrograde step taken by the Government. We also
4-30 p.m. find the Temple Entry Act and the Civil Disabilities Act. But there is one thing which we have still to keep in view in regard to the most essential things besides the Zamindari and Inams Abolition Act. With regard to the Civil Disabilities (Removal) Act, the Temple Entry Act and the Prohibition Act, we are still in the stage of having them to be completely carried out. We still find that they are not yet being carried out in the villages and we find that the Government have still to grapple with the problem of the poor Harijans. They thought that the power which the Government had under the Acts would immediately like Sugriva Yagna compel the people to do everything that the Congress Government wanted them to do. But the Government have now become slack and people are quite discontented and think that if they go on administering in some sort of way the Government will not come down on them. I think these form the root causes which enable the Communists to make their recruits. Irrespective of whatever party to which they belong, people find that they are satisfied with having 46 out of 52 seats in the district board in our place. I am very much exercised over the fact that though Congressmen had come in a majority, the actual percentage of the persons who voted against the Congress was 40 to 45 per cent, a thing which is almost

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similar in all the other places. Though the ultimate result in each division was success for the Congress in most places, still the actual number of people who voted is a matter that we have to take note of. The controls are, as a matter of fact, killing the poor. We find in a newspaper to-day that a poor man who committed a breach of the control law was sentenced to four months' imprisonment and a rich man for a similar offence had been let off with a fine and one day's imprisonment. These things are exercising the minds of the poor, and therefore, my suggestion is 'prevention is better than cure.' The question of prevention is not merely the enactment of these laws. These laws will tackle only those who are at the head of the movement, the brain of the movement, but the poor rank and file who are deluded by these leading Communists cannot possibly be at all converted and converted non-violently unless the Government take courage in both hands and tackle the problem. But they simply sit down and say 'Let all thtse vanaspathies remain.' I had been thinking that Gandhi Raj would come as soon as independence dawned and the Provincial Government came. I had been thinking that cottage industries would be thriving in every place and the unemployed people would have the benefit of having the cottage industries spread out everywhere. But instead of cottage industries being given grants, I find vanaspathi companies being given grants. These are things which the Government must remedy. Just as they are now enacting this Act for the purpose of public safety, they must think of the constructive side of it, namely, trying to see what are the items that the people expect must be immediately done. Before the Ordinance's time expires, we must think that the time given to us for the purpose of good Government is also expiring. Of course, one can very well say that the administration is going on and the administration as at present will naturally be good if it is a time of peace and plenty which almost an ordinary administration will do. But we have got opposing or disintegrating forces not only inside the country but also outside, surrounding us on all sides like a flood and under these circumstances, it is not sufficient that we merely govern or administer. We must administer in a way that the poor may come around us and that they may form the strongest support to us, and that the majority of the people may have faith in us and stand by us through thick and thin, bullets or no bullets. I was, in fact, very much pained to hear the Law Minister say that in a particular place on account of six persons, 5,000 persons would not come and give evidence before the Law Minister and the Premier, and what is the result of that? The result is that these people fear the hot Communists more than they feel safety under the Government itself. So, this is a matter in which I would earnestly request the Government to take the root causes immediately and simultaneously and solve them.

"Sir, there is one thing which I am absolutely unable to understand. The Communists have not got the organization and resources which an organised Government have. But I find that the Communists give us intelligence of what transpires in the

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police stations and in any section of the Government far ahead of the officials themselves. That shows that the secret police or the I.D.'s of the Government are not as efficient as the I.D.'s that are kept by the disorganized Communists.

"Sir, another thing is one which is impossible to talk about consistently. I have no doubt complimented the Police on the fact that they have tried to deal with the Communists well even at the risk of their own lives. But at the same time, with regard to preventive action, I am not at all satisfied. Right in the middle of the City of Mathurai, if you can imagine 90 persons coming together at 5 o'clock in the evening with a planned arrangement to set fire to the Congress office and then and there to get off scot-free, the Central Police station being only a furlong off, it requires much more effective steps to prevent such things. If steps had been taken to prevent this, all these things would not have occurred.

"Sir, one other thing which is oppressing me is this. We find all these cases. Why should not cases be brought forward with regard to those particular persons? The more the demands we make under the laws of detention, the less is there any attempt made to run down persons for specific offences. My submission is that the Government should see to it that as far as possible such criminals are punished for their individual criminal acts. The law of detention gives a long rope to the person who does not take sufficient steps to run down a criminal. These are my suggestions.

"I am glad the Law Minister has given us an assurance that excesses would be prevented as much as possible. Once more, I thank him for the spirit in which he has dealt with the criticisms and also you, Mr. Speaker, for giving us the fullest opportunity to place our views on the Bill."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, at this stage of the passing of the Bill into law, I do not think I need take much time of the House. My hon. Friend Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar has covered a very vast ground. He has dealt with not only the evil but also he has gone very widely through the root cause of the evil and he has, in his own inimitable style and with his vast experience of men and things, suggested how the Government should deal not merely with the evil as it is found in some parts of the country but also with the root cause. What he wants is that there should be a good popular Government, which should be liked by the people and which should be such that the people are prepared to co-operate with it and do not criticize every action of the Government. It is no exaggeration to say that the average man in the street is certainly dissatisfied with the present Government because he expected that there would be a different type of Government, after the deliverance of the country. He thought that through Mahathma Gandhi and his principles, the country would be governed differently from

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what is being done now. Rightly or wrongly, the people are talking differently about the Government. I am sure the Government themselves know about it and I daresay that they have been doing their best to rectify mistakes wherever found and trying to govern in their own way.

"So far as this measure is concerned, this is an old measure and it has been in force for sometime and the Government through this measure and the powers which it confers on them may have succeeded in putting down the evil or have failed in putting down the evil. Possibly, they have not succeeded because they want this measure to be continued, not in its original form only, but in a more undemocratic form for a further period. We believe that the Government is a democratic Government, a Government which has got a legislature. If it were an autocratic Government, it need not come forward with a Bill to the House of Representatives to take their consent and exercise the power that it wants to be given to it in the best manner possible. Because this is a democratic Government, I believe they have come forward with this Bill before the legislature to get their sanction and I believe that we are also working a democratic system of Government. Some of our hon. Members like Mr. Bhashyam, Mr. Viswanatham, Mr. Varadachari and Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar and some of us on this side also have been trying to criticize the Government not with a view to create any trouble or not being prepared to give them power under the law but only with a view to calling a halt whenever and wherever the Government try to surpass an ordinary canon of law as understood in this country and the world. I refer particularly to some sections in this Bill. Especially in regard to clause 4-A which has been newly incorporated in this Bill, some of us have spoken and I do not think much need be said now. Yet, Sir, I would like to say that this clause need not have been included in this Bill. Now the Government have taken a very extraordinary power which borders on autocracy and negatives the existence of the highest tribunal in the Province. Such a clause need not have been included.

"Now, Sir, the Bill, after several amendments have been considered, has come to the third reading stage and I believe it will become law. When once it becomes law and the powers are given to the Government to act according to the provisions of this law, the question arises how the Government are going to use these powers. Are they going to use them to put down the evil? Or, are they going to use them in such a way that the evil will increase in its volume and intensity? If they are going to use these powers in a human spirit realizing that they are dealing with human beings and with the full consciousness that it is the birthright of every individual to be not only free but also to have freedom of expression and freedom of all kinds. I do not mean licences—freedom as it is understood in the democratic countries—I am sure that they will succeed in putting

down the evil and at the same time they will secure the co-operation of the people. It is the co-operation of the people that is first wanted in order to make this Act successful.

4-45 p.m. "All the powers that this Government may assume by this measure and all the paraphernalia of officialdom that the Government may have at their command will not have any value whatsoever unless and until this Government use these powers in a humanitarian spirit. They will succeed if the people give co-operation to the Government. People will find out who the culprit is and who has gone underground. People will come forward to give the Government all the aid and assistance in finding out the criminal and the men who create damages to life and property. These, the people will do only if they are satisfied. If they are not satisfied with the Government they will simply keep quiet even if they knew particulars of a criminal who has gone underground, and will not give any information to the authorities concerned. Therefore, the first thing that the Government must do is to secure the co-operation of the people. Then how are they going to secure this co-operation? It is by satisfying the people with regard to their elementary wants and the bare necessities of life according to their capacity. When a man is not able to pay Re. 1 per measure of rice, and if you ask him to pay Rs. 1-4-0 or Rs. 1-8-0, then he gets dissatisfied. If you are not able to see that the man gets sufficient cloth at cheaper rates, then he is dissatisfied. If you are not able to give him shelter, then he is dissatisfied. If he does not get justice in Courts, then also he gets dissatisfied. Thus, there are various ways in which an ordinary man gets dissatisfied. Therefore, you have necessarily to create satisfaction in the minds of the ordinary man, who in return will give you co-operation in putting down these subversive activities. It is only then, Sir, that the Government will succeed in seeing that this evil, which they are now trying to put down, is effectively put down."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Very good words, very polite words and very soft words have been said by the Hon. Law Minister of the Madras Government. In fact, he proved himself to be in a very reasonable frame of mind at this stage of the third reading of this Bill. I, for one, am not enamoured of his words. Hon. Ministers give polite words only when they are in this House. Once they go to their rooms and to their offices, they are different persons, because they are entirely masters of themselves and nobody can question them. At the same time, I quite well understand the difficulties of the Hon. Law Minister. So many are under the impression that he and he alone is entirely responsible for the harassed detention of so many persons. It is not so, Sir. In fact, the operative part of this legislation is to be administered by the Hon. Premier. The Law Minister was only concerned with the latter part of the measure after the provisions of the Act have been put into force. Incidentally, I might say that it would have been better if the

Hon. Premier was present in the House during the discussion of this measure, so that he may appreciate the view points of the hon. Members of this House with regard to this measure. I wish the Hon. Premier would take stock at first hand how the hon. Members felt about this measure. One instance, Sir. Last year, when I approached the Hon. Law Minister to explain a particular case of wrong detention, he was very reasonable. But his hands were tied and he could not pass any orders as the files were with the Hon. Premier,—not the present Premier,—Sir, but it was Mr. O. P. Ramaswamy Reddiar. Nobody could approach the then Premier and could convince him in the matter of wrong and delayed detention; nor would he be convinced. The result was that a number of people were detained for a long time. It was really a curious thing that the Law Minister, though he was convinced in a particular case, could not release a detenu as the Hon. Premier was against it. In democracy, anybody can assume power. If the man who assumes power does not act according to rules and regulations, then the people will have to suffer. That is our apprehension, Sir. Therefore, I wish the Hon. Premier to consider all the points raised here, and take great care while enforcing the provisions of this Act. Sir, we all consider it our sacred duty to help this Government in the maintenance of law and order. We have got that feeling and that spirit in us. At the same time, we do not like that innocent people should be kept under detention on mere suspicion. In conclusion, let me hope that this Government while enforcing this Act, would do so with sympathy and see that innocent persons are not made to suffer in the hands of the various officials of the Government who will administer the provisions of this Act."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no gain saying the fact that every hon. Member of this House agrees on the fact that law and order ought to be maintained in the Province. Sir, everyone of us knows that every good thing is based upon the maintenance of law and order. There is no disagreement whatsoever on this fact. Everyone in the Province is prepared to co-operate with the Government in the maintenance of law and order. That being the case, we want to know whether such a measure as this one which is before the House is at all necessary. What I would urge is if the Government and the authorities who are entrusted with the maintenance of law and order have been taking prompt action in appropriate time, such a measure as this would become superfluous. The Government would not have been put to the necessity of thinking of such a measure at all. As it is, this measure is addressed to the whole population of the Province. It implies that the people are not of a law-abiding nature. Therefore such a drastic measure which has been characterised by one of the hon. Members as atrocious and aggressive, is being resorted to by the Government. This measure says to the people that 'you are not law-abiding; you are not helping us. Therefore we have brought forward this measure to punish you.' This is not intended only to punish the

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people who are indulging in violence, but is also intended to punish people who are suspected of aiding them in any way or condoning the action of those people. That is the implication of this measure. Then people will surely take exception to such a measure. This is not the action which a popular Government ought to indulge in. This will not in any way enhance the popularity of the Government. Then, what is it that is really at the root of all the trouble that the Government are trying to meet now. That has been dealt with by more than one hon. Member, at the first stage and also just a few minutes before. The Government must pay more attention to the question of ameliorating the conditions in which the people are at present living. When people are dissatisfied with the conditions under which they are living, some take advantage of this and try to exploit the situation. The Government make promises many a time that they would do this and that and other things. I do not know whether they are conscious of their ability to keep their promises at a future date; even though however, they make promises. As time goes on, people find that those promises are not kept. Then, what is it that happens. There are exploiters and this discontent is being converted into a fertile ground for all the troubles that are being created. Therefore, Sir, the real remedy is not in such a drastic measure as this. The real remedy is the amelioration of the conditions of the people. What the Government must do is to sit, think and plan as to how the condition of the people has to be improved. In this connection, I have to refer to one or two statements made by the Hon. Law Minister. Because hon. Members belonging to a particular party made certain remarks, the Hon. Law Minister thought it fit to attack the whole community and that great organization to which those hon. Members belong. He said, Sir, that there must be a Communist League axis. Sir, our Hon. Law Minister is a gentleman of good heart. That I know from my experience. I have found him to be very considerate and very accommodating. I had approached him on many occasions and I cannot remember one occasion on which I did not receive sympathetic consideration from his hands. Then, how did it happen that such a person as that made himself responsible for such a statement as this. The most charitable view that I can take on this is that his tongue has run away from his heart, on the heat of the moment. That is the only explanation that can be given to his statement. Otherwise, he cannot quote one fact which justifies such a statement as this."

MR. SPEAKER:—"After the Leader of the Opposition finishes his speech, I think we can sit till consideration of the Bill is over. I think the Hon. Minister will finish within ten or fifteen minutes."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Sir, the Hon. Minister knows that the Muslims are a group of people who are set firmly against the Communists. Also, he might probably know that it is the Muslims and the Leaguers who have been helping in many

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cases to trace and to chase these people who broke the law. They have even come forward, at the risk of their lives, to give evidence before Courts, against the Communists who were responsible for committing violence and breaches of law. There have been encomiums from no less a person than the Leader of the House.

"I cannot understand this, Sir. Again and again, our friends 5 p.m. on the Treasury Bench speak of a sense of frustration from which the Muslims are suffering. I do not know what that sense of frustration they are speaking of is. Perhaps, it is wishful thinking on their part. (Muslim League Members: Hear, hear). I want to make it clear that the Muslim League Members are not suffering from any such frustration. Perhaps they mean that the Muslims, finding no place in the Ministry for them, feel frustrated. If that is the case, I may say that they had not approached any authority for such an inclusion and this fact every one of the members of the party in power will bear witness to. After all, there can be a sense of frustration among my party-men only if they had asked for inclusion in the Cabinet and had been refused. We also know that statements were made by certain hon. Members that we as a party cannot function as a Government. I do not know, Sir, how and on what grounds that statement is made. Sir, when a Menon and a Reddi and a Mudaliar can join together and form a Ministry, we cannot see why an Ismail, a Hameed Khan and an Anwar cannot form a Ministry. When the time comes, they will find that there is nothing at all that could prevent us from running a Government, a popular Government and an efficient Government, as they do now. (A voice: But not in the name of the Muslim League.) Nobody says that it is the Muslim League alone that is going to run the Government and nobody can say that Muslim League as such cannot be responsible for bringing into existence a new Government. Therefore, I do not know why it is said that the Muslims are writting under a sense of frustration. Perhaps, it is their wish, Sir, as I have already said. They are speaking as party-men. They speak for their party. They wish that all other parties in the country should be dissolved and their party alone should be in existence. That has been natural with them. But what I say is, as members of Government they cannot make themselves irresponsible. Even when replying to Mr. Seethi Sahib, he referred to an incident wherein the Muslims went to the help of a Congress leader in Malabar and said that it only proved what he said. I do not know how it proves what he said. Perhaps, it proves that there are Communists who are bent upon creating violence. It does not at all prove in any sense that there were any such acts as were imagined by our friends. Again, the Hon. Minister says that he has nothing to be grateful for to my party or to my community. But then, Sir, that kind of gratitude has been expressed more than once on the floor of this House and on the floor of other Houses of Legislature in the country. How the members of the party have been responsible for the maintenance of law and order, how they have co-operated in an admirable manner with the Government, have all been

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appreciated and acknowledged and this kind of appreciation and acknowledgment have come even from some of the highest authorities of the land. Sir, in the face of these, I do not understand how our Hon. Minister says that he has nothing to be grateful for. Perhaps, there again, he speaks as a Congressman. Perhaps it detracts from the imagined omnipotence of his party. He need not be grateful to us as a Congressman. We do not want it Let him be grateful to us as a Government Member."

" MR. SPEAKER:—" It is already 5-5. How long will the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition take? "

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" I have taken only ten minutes, Sir. I shall finish within five minutes. The Hon. Minister knows full well that the Government have not been able to make themselves popular. They are not able to make the people give them active support. They also know that the people are now very clearly in the know of the failings and shortcomings of the Government. Sir, in order to divert the people's attention from these shortcomings and failings they are out for finding a scape goat. The people of my party are the easiest scape goats they can find here, and as a matter of diversionary tactics, they indulge in such activities. But then, Sir, this kind of thing cannot go on for long because people know facts. They know these diversionary tactics cannot give them food, house and clothing. They know, in spite of our friends' sayings, they are what they are. Therefore, I would request the Government to give up such tactics and go to the root of such things. The policy they adopt now is not the way to rally people round the Government for maintenance of law and order. People must be made to support them, even if they have got any suspicion. Any reasonable and sensible person would say 'you must co-operate with us', notwithstanding any suspicion that may be entertained against him. But you see as clearly as day light what this set of people do. I have been more actively than anyone co-operating with the Government in the maintenance of law and order. When you know that, it is, to say the least, ungraceful for anybody to say that we are forming an axis with the breakers of the law whom the Muslims have called the enemy of not only the progress of this country but the progress of the whole world. Sir, once again I would request the Government to be considerate when they speak about communities, big parties and organizations. The Hon. Minister said that everybody must co-operate with him and I may assure him that so far as my party-men and members of my community are concerned they will continue to co-operate in spite of the provocations given to them—such provocations as I am referring to now They know that they have certain difficulties but yet they have been helping the Government in the maintenance of law and order because they realize that the country cannot get on without that. The Muslims are as much citizens of the country, sons of the soil, as anybody else. Therefore, nobody need appropriate or try to monopolise the love of

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the country only for himself. They are patient in the interests of the country. They are under hardships and yet they are out to help Government in this regard.

" Finally, Sir, I would request the Government to administer this Act with all consideration and sympathy. Now they are armed with almost a deadly weapon. But they need not use it unnecessarily. While using it, however, they must see that innocents are in no way harassed or injured. But if any innocent man is injured, whether he may be a single man or a few in the midst of thousands and lakhs—that should not go with impunity, because justice is justice, whether it concerns one man or millions of men. I, therefore, once again request that the Government must proceed, while administering this Act, with all consideration for human feelings and human rights."

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am obliged to Mr. Vaidyanatha Iyer, Mr. Bhashyam and others who have spoken good of me, although it has fallen to me to pilot a 'bad' Bill. Of course the Bill is drastic enough and it goes against the grain of persons like myself. But all the same, we have to pass such a Bill since the conditions in the Province are such, and the circumstances obtaining now make us take such powers.

" Here, Sir, I would like to clear a misconception in the minds of certain members regarding the recent Gazette notification on the issue of brandy. The Hon. Minister for Prohibition tells me that there is no order in the Gazette notification prohibiting the issue of two ounces of brandy on the production of doctor's certificates by the dealers. What has been done now is that the conditions governing the issue of brandy are made applicable in the case of tinct. zingerberis and tinct. Aruntii. and brandy continues to be given as heretofore and no additional quantity is allowed. All that has been done is tinct, zingerberis and tinct. Aruntii have been brought to the level of brandy.

" Reverting to the subject under consideration, Sir, the hon. Member, Mr. Raza Khan said that he is not enamoured of my words, my sweet words. I would try to be as little sweet as possible while talking to him. But I feel that it would be better if I coat a 'bad' Bill like this with a little sugar. After all when we take a medicine we take it with a little sugar too to avoid bitterness. (A voice: No sugar is available now.) Sir, I am certainly doing my best to do what I have said. I do not know if I will succeed in my attempts. But all the same I am doing my best in fairness to all. Sir, many things have been said by the Leader of the Opposition. I do not want to get into controversies, much less with a gentleman like the Leader of the Opposition. But I want to make only one point clear and let there be no doubt about it. I have never attributed anything to or stated anything derogatory to any community. I want to make it clear that I attacked no community. I strongly repudiate the charge that I attacked the Muslim community for the Muslim

League is not the Muslim community. Again I do not agree with the theory that both are one and the same. And if the Leader of the Opposition feels that Congressmen are obsessed with the feeling that they can never do wrong I do not want to place such a flattering function unto myself though we, for our part, feel that the Muslim League cannot do anything but wrong. Here again, if I say that the League has done anything wrong, I have nothing against the Muslim community. In fact, I know many Muslims, good Muslims, outside the League. I have the greatest regard for them. There are also many Muslims in the League itself who are my good friends. Therefore, Sir, if I say that a particular political party has done anything wrong, it should not be taken as an attack against the community to which the partymen belong. Now about the remarks of the Leader of the Opposition that I should be grateful and graceful. I do not see, Sir, why I should be grateful to the Muslim League.

5-15 p.m. "Therefore, Sir, I do not retract from anything I have said. My appeal to the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition is not to credit me with things which I have not said or meant. If my attacking the attitude of the Muslim League towards the Communists is not the correct position, I am certainly ready to be corrected. Sir, I do not want to go into details. I have spoken on the basis of the information in my possession. I do not want to go into the matter any further. He said that Mr. Ismail Sahib and Mr. Hamid Khan Sahib may join together with some Menons and Reddis and occupy the benches here. But as long as the Muslim League works as a political party on a religious basis, I have my doubts about it. Even if it became possible, it would be a case of misfortune finding strange bed-fellows, as I thought that some Leaguers found strange bed-fellows with the Communists."

JANAB MOHAMED RAZA KHAN:—"What about the Congress and the R.S.S., Sir?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The R.S.S. people are also men and as long as they abjure violence in politics and do not bring in religion into politics, they are entitled to be my friends and to be in the Congress as any Muslim is entitled to be in the Congress. If a man belongs to R.S.S., it does not necessarily mean that he is wedded to violence and that his political theory is based on religion. (Interruption.) I do not want to go into the question of power politics. We can certainly separate religion from politics.

"I have nothing more to add, Sir. The hon. Member said that the Government have realized that they have not been able to make themselves more popular and wanted to make scape goats of others. I can retort in the same way, Sir. I can as well say that the Muslim League is finding itself gradually going down and they want to profit at the expense of someone else. These are all assertions which can be made on one side and can be met with counter-assertions on the other side, so that the less said about such things the better. Sir, the Leader of the Opposition wants me to give up such tactics. When such words are used, I am somehow habituated to use those words back again. I am not using any tactics in my reply at all.

"Sir, once again, I have to thank hon. Members for the very valuable suggestions they have made with regard to this Bill."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"I was very glad to hear the Hon. Minister say that he never combines politics with religion. If so, may I enquire why, when he went to Chingleput with Mrs. Madhava Menon in connexion with the inauguration of the separation of the judiciary from the executive, there was the performance of the puja and so on which are religious things?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I did not go there at all, Sir." (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Bill, 1949, as amended be passed into law'."

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed into law.

VI.—ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE.

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Mr. Speaker, with your permission, I want to ask the Hon. the Leader of the House whether he cannot adjourn the House to-morrow and the day after. It is well-known that a very important meeting in connexion with the formation of the Andhra Province is going to be held to-morrow at Vijayawada. Most of the Andhra members of the House would like to go there and participate in the proceedings. Besides, we go to an area which has been affected by the cyclone and we will have an opportunity of having a first-hand knowledge of the conditions there. The Hon. the Leader of the House has promised to have a discussion of this question on Monday next, 14th November. A visit to those areas would enable us to participate in the debate in an intelligent manner. I therefore request the Hon. the Leader of the House to agree to the adjournment of the House to-morrow and the day after."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I enquire whether the Hon. the Leader of the House will be here to-morrow and the day after?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I may not be able to be here to-morrow. I shall certainly be here the day after to-morrow if the train arrives punctually.

"With regard to the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee meeting that is being held at Vijayawada to-morrow, not many members of the House are, according to my information, members of the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"But all members would like to go there."

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I was trying to find out how many Members were likely to go there and I was told that only a dozen members were likely to attend the meeting. Therefore we thought we might continue to be in session even if the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee was scheduled to meet at Vijayawada to-morrow. There is no point in adjourning the House for two days. Then Sunday intervenes making the interval three days. It will be very difficult for several other members of the House who have come from the other districts to be here without transacting any business, all because only a dozen Andhra members of the House want to attend the meeting of the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee or visit the cyclone affected areas. We wanted that hon. Members should not be here without transacting any business and therefore we thought we should continue to sit to-morrow and the day after. Of course, if members who want to go had given me their names this morning or yesterday, and if the number was about 20, we could have considered the matter favourably. But the request made by the hon. Member just now is too late. Therefore we will do well to meet here to-morrow and the day after also."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The House will now adjourn and meet again at 11 a.m. to-morrow."

APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 45-A asked by Sri K. Brahmanandam Reddi at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 10th November 1949, page 256 supra.]

Statement showing the Revenue from and the Expenditure in the eleven Telugu districts of the Madras Province, during 1948-49.

(In lakhs of rupees.)

Districts.	Receipts. Land revenue including portion due to Irrigation.	Excise.	Stamps.	Registration.	Receipts under Motor Vehicles Act.
1 Vishakhapatnam ..	16·12	53·18	25·32	2·91	7·17
2 Godavari, East ..	56·43	42·35	30·68	3·43	5·22
3 Godavari, West ..	50·87	30·70	29·82	3·41	4·14
4 Krishna	47·88	31·21	37·71	4·05	7·96
5 Guntur	78·52	2·53	45·53	4·69	8·21
6 Nellore	25·84	1·26	11·82	1·45	4·13
7 Cuddapah ..	12·90	·69	6·69	·87	4·00
8 Anantapur ..	12·25	·30	7·87	1·05	2·96
9 Bellary .. .	22 20	·18	8·79	1·05	4·07
10 Kurnool ..	19·45	·39	8·81	1·01	2·67
11 Chittoor ..	4·31	·65	9·44	1·41	4·78
A Total for eleven districts ..	3,46·77	1,63·44	2,22·48	25·41	55·61
B Total for the whole Province of Madras ..	7,68·79	3,66·54	4,05·57	87·65	1,97·45
C Proportion of A to B	45 per cent.	45 per cent.	55 per cent.	29 per cent.	28 per cent.

Districts.	Receipts—*cont.* General Sales Tax.	Other taxes and duties (Entertainments Tax, etc.).	Other heads of account.	Total receipts.	Total receipts excluding excise.	Expenditure—Total expenditure on revenue account.
1 Vishakapatnam ..	44·59	4·15	10 75	1,64·19	1,11·01	2,11·14
2 Godavari, East ..	36·60	5·46	10·36	1,90·53	1,48·18	1,65·82
3 Godavari, West ..	29·09	4 38	6·22	1,58·93	1,28·23	1,17·85
4 Krishna	38·88	6·63	6·81	1,82·13	1,50·92	1,[illegible]

Statement showing the Revenue from and the Expenditure in the eleven Telugu districts of the Madras Province, during 1948-49 —cont.

(In lakhs of rupees.)

District.	Receipts—*cont.* General Sales Tax.	Other taxes and duties (Entertainments Tax, etc.).	Other heads of account.	Total receipts.	Total receipts excluding excise.	Expenditure—Total expenditure on revenue account.
5 Guntur	41·00	5·45	11·22	1,97·15	1,04·62	1,60·51
6 Nellore	15·43	2·01	5·96	67·90	66·64	99·18
7 Cuddapah ..	15·43	1·30	7·17	49·05	48·36	79·58
8 Anantapur ..	15·03	— 2·86	9·18	51·50	51·20	87·49
9 Bellary	25·26	3·36	8·11	73·02	72·84	98·75
10 Kurnool	20·40	1·07	8·35	60·09	59·70	91·42
11 Chittoor	15·86	2·91	9·35	48·71	48·06	91·53
A Total for the eleven districts..	2,98·57	37·44	93.48	12,43·20	10,79·76	13,31·71
B Total for the whole Madras Province ..	13,15·56	2,16·77	19,66·97	53,25·30	49,58·76	53,24·43 — 51·00 *
						52,73·43
C Proportion of A to B ..	23 per cent.	17 per cent.	5 per cent.	23 per cent.	22 per cent.	25 per cent.

Note.—The figures given above for the eleven Telugu Districts do *not* include the transactions of the Forest, Public Works and Electricity departments which are not accounted for by revenue districts. They also exclude the large transactions arising at the Presidency headquarters, e.g., expenditure of the heads of departments, High Court, Secretariat and His Excellency the Governor, debt charges, transactions in England, Provincial share of Income-tax, etc.

* Transfer to Revenue Reserve Fund.

SECRETARIAT 25 NOV 1949 MADRAS GOVT.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Friday, the 11th November 1949.

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.

MR. SPEAKER :—" There is a short notice question from the hon. Sri Vaidyanatha Ayyar. As there is no time for roneoing it and circulating it to hon. Members, I shall read the question now :

' * 60-A *Q.*—Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the report in this morning's (11th November 1949) *Hindu* and the *Indian Express* of a raid by an armed gang on a jewellery shop in Mathurai, the looting of thousands of rupees of jewels and serious injuries to the proprietor and watchman;

(*b*) whether the Government are aware of similar instances of looting with murder or attempt to murder in business houses recently in Mathurai;

(*c*) whether the Government are aware that in view of the latest incident, the measures taken by the Government have proved inadequate to prevent such recurrence;

(*d*) whether the Government are aware that such raids are causing a deep sense of insecurity in the minds of citizens and businessmen; and

(*e*) what steps the Government propose to take to prevent such incidents in the future? '

" I must know whether the Hon. Sri Madhava Menon proposes to reply now."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" On your informing me, Sir, of this question, I consulted the Hon. Premier. I can only give the information which the Government have got at this moment, and if further information is wanted, a statement will be made in the Assembly in the course of the session next week. The information we have is not much more than what we have seen in the papers. This is the information :

' On the 10th at 7 p.m., six persons, four armed with aruvals and country bombs, entered a jewellery shop in East Avani Moolam street, threw two bombs and subsequently cut the proprietor and the watchman. They smashed show cases

and removed jewellery worth Rs. 8,000. While escaping, a traffic constable caught one person, but he overpowered the constable and also threw a bomb. All of them escaped. One unexploded bomb recovered. No casualties.'

" Both the watchman and the proprietor are in the hospital. Regarding the other portions of the question of Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, a statement will be made on Monday or Tuesday next in this House. And about the steps the Government propose to take, certainly they cannot be disclosed, because it will be only giving notice to the miscreants to get over the steps that we propose to take."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member need not put supplementary questions now; when the full information is available to the House, he can ask one or two questions."

Beds in the Madras General Hospital for cancer patients.

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

(*a*) the number of beds now available in the Government General Hospital, Madras, for the treatment of cancer patients;

(*b*) the steps the Government have taken to increase the bed strength for in-patients at the above hospital in the Cancer Block; and

(*c*) how the Government have utilized the donation offered by the Madras Provincial Welfare Fund for the treatment of cancer?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" (*a*) & (*b*) Till September 1949, the number of beds available were—

Thirty-eight for men in the Munro Ward for cancer patients.

Twenty-eight in the Yale Ward (22 for men and 6 for women) for radium treatment.

There was no separate accommodation for women patients but about 15 to 20 of them were accommodated in the Buckingham Ward.

In September 1949, the bed strength has been ordered to be increased to 98 (38 for men in the Canning Ward, 28 for women in the Yale Ward and 32 for men and women in suitable accommodation in the Barnard Institute of Radiology).

" (*c*) The Government have accepted the offer of the Cancer Association of Madras to construct a Cancer unit pavilion in the Government General Hospital, Madras, partly with the aid of a donation of Rs. 50,000 from the Madras Provincial Welfare Fund and partly from the funds already collected by the Association. No pavilion will be used to revive and deal with all cases of out-patients to whom radium or deep X-ray has been decided to be applied and those to be periodically checked after such application."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" Is it not a fact that over six months ago, the Madras Provincial Welfare Fund sanctioned a sum of about Rs. 50,000 for an out-patient block for cancer in the General Hospital and that the Government did not come forward to utilize this amount? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I do not know the exact amount or the date; I want time if I am to give the information."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" Is it not a fact that the Government closed up the Out-patient department for six months, thus causing much hardship to the cancer patients, pending some decision which they said, they were about to arrive at? The Out-patient department was closed for about six months in spite of a large amount having been sanctioned by the Provincial Welfare Fund for Cancer Relief."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I want notice of the question "

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID :—" May I know whether a separate hospital could not be had for this cancer treatment in view of the dangerous nature of the disease? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I may assure the hon. Member that cancer is not an infectious disease, and as far as I know, it cannot be transmitted from patient to patient."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" There is an impression in the public mind that availability of this cancer treatment in the General Hospital is not an easy matter, and one has to pass a labyrinthian process of spending money to reach the destination by way of getting relief by this costly treatment. Is that true? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" If the hon. Member would give me specific information on the point he has raised, I shall enquire into the matter."

JANAB B. POCKER :—" Is there any proposal before the Government to open cancer clinics in the hospital in Kozhikode? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" We give this treatment in the General Hospital."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN :—" While admitting the fact that cancer is not an infectious disease, is the Hon. Minister aware that a number of eminent doctors in the City of Madras of the present day are of definite opinion that there should be a separate cancer hospital in the City of Madras? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It may be that younger people have got their own opinions, but it does not change the fundamental principle of the spread of cancer."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM :—" Do the Government realize that it is high time that some arrangements for cancer treatment are made in the District Headquarters Hospitals also? "

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The Government are contemplating such a scheme, and they have given instructions that the treatment should be spread over a few other places and they are making arrangements for it."

DR. S. SUBRAHMANYA AYYAR :—" Can the Hon. Minister tell us the percentage of cancer cases to the total number of admissions in the General Hospital."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I want notice of the question."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN :—" As it is very costly to come to Madras and get this treatment, will the Government consider the desirability of providing for this treatment in the mufassal hospitals as early as possible."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I have already answered the question. It is the desire of the Government to distribute the treatment over a number of places with all necessary equipment; and such equipment as may be necessary are now being arranged to be got to the places and suitable personnel trained for it."

SRI P. NATESAN :—" Sir, before taking up the question of expansion, may I know from the Hon. Minister whether cancer cases can be cured at all, or only preventive action is taken by keeping these people together? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" There is no question of prevention of cancer, because we do not know the cause. As regards the treatment, it can be treated if it is taken up early and that too successfully."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI :—" Is there any Indian medicine to treat cancer; are the Government aware that there are effective prescriptions in the Saraswathi Mahal Library at Tanjore to treat cancer, and if so, will the Government investigate into this matter? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" If my hon. Friend would refer the Government to any such specific records that may be available, I shall certainly get at them and see whether they could be properly utilized."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI :—" Is it not a fact that there is an increasing number of cancer patients seeking admission in the hospitals for immediate treatment? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I do not know whether cancer is increasing as rapidly as my hon. Friend thinks. I am of the feeling that cancer cases are not on the increase, but that cancer is being diagnosed by a number of people and when there is a tendency for its spread, it is brought to public notice."

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JANAB B. POCKER :—" Are the Government aware that the largest number of cases of cancer come from Malabar, and in view of that fact, have the Government included Kozhikode among the places where arrangements are to be made for opening clinics for cancer? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I am not aware of the specific increase in Malabar; but as far as I am aware, certain habits of the Malayalees are responsible for the development and growth of cancer; particularly instances like tobacco-chewing continuously for months together and for years at a stretch produce cancer in the cheek and the tongue and particularly this practice is more prevalent in Malabar than in other places."

SRI P. NATESAN :—" May I know if after so many years of treatment in the General Hospital in cancer, any patient has walked out with relief? " 11-15 a.m.

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" There are a good number of cases."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government is satisfied with the adequacy and efficiency of their treatment? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" As far as the efficiency of treatment is concerned, the Government are perfectly satisfied with the methods employed and it should be efficient."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN :—" Is it a fact, Sir, that the patients suffering from cancer and admitted in the General Hospital could not be treated properly because the radium needles in the General Hospital are of a defective nature? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The question of radium needles is different and quite distinct from what is being done to the patients in the hospital. There are needles with the Government and they are being used for such cases but whether they are all sufficient is another matter."

JANAB HAJI K. M. AHMAD KUTTY :—" As the Hon. Minister has admitted that most of the cancer cases are coming from the district of Malabar . . . "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I did not accept that proposition."

JANAB HAJI K. M. AHMAD KUTTY :—" Whatever may be the reason whether it be by chewing tobacco or for other reasons, will he be pleased to give high priority to Malabar? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" There is a priority for cancer treatment for cases all over the Presidency and the question has been taken up and we have provided for such cases. I may give for the information of the House that the

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idea of the Government is to distribute treatment and provide treatment in various district hospitals where facilities could be provided and treatment undertaken and not only to concentrate in Madras."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that in advanced countries there are separate hospitals for cancer with experts. If in Madras we do not have separate hospitals, let me at least know from the Hon. Minister whether he has got cancer experts attending to cancer cases? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" There is no separate class of people who are cancer experts; all surgeons and physicians who are trained in Medicine and Surgery know a good deal about cancer and what they should do. With regard to facilities for treatment it may not be available at every hospital all over the province but it is certainly available in Madras."

SRI B. ANANTHACHAR :—" Will the Government be pleased to take effective steps to see that the cancer spots in Malabar are localised and not allowed to spread to other parts? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I may inform the hon. Member that even with all the willingness in the world, no man can get cancer from another."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know if the Government are satisfied that they have provided in the Madras General Hospital the most up-to-date equipment that is available in many of the advanced countries of the world? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Yes, Sir, it is being provided."

JANAB B. POCKER :—" May I know whether Kozhikode is included among the places where the Government propose to give facilities for treatment of cancer in their general scheme? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" No, Sir, not yet."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN :—" The Hon. Minister being an eminent doctor, will he be pleased to tell us what exactly is the nature of treatment for cancer; is it by way of operation or by other means? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It is both by operation and by the application of radium and high power electricity."

DR. S. SUBRAHMANYAM :—" Can the Hon. Minister tell us whether any treatment for cancer is given in the hospital attached to the College of Indian Medicine and do they admit cancer patients? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Not according to the present system of medicine. But if the hon. Member could refer to any recipe that the College of Indian Medicine has in its possession, I shall enquire and let him know."

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SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH :—" Will the Government consider the desirability of providing facilities in the School of Indian Medicine for research work to find out treatment for cancer according to the principle of Indian medicine in view of the fact that according to the western system of medicine, there is a concensus of opinion that no specific for cancer has been found out? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The question of the Research department has been under the consideration of the Government and a separate Research department in Ayurvedic medicines is being constituted in the School of Indian Medicine. If it is possible to take up an investigation, it will be done."

JANAB B. POCKER :—" Will the Government be pleased to accord facilities in Kozhikode for cancer patients in view of the very large number of cases of cancer that come from Malabar? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" There is a well-equipped District Headquarters Hospital at Kozhikode and such of the cases as could be treated there are treated there and those that cannot be treated there are being sent to Madras for treatment."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" May I have a definite assurance from the Hon. Minister that there is now a definite change in the attitude of the Government with reference to the treatment of cancer, namely, that the Government no longer hold the view that cancer patients may be allowed to die because it is an insidious disease which proves fatal in many cases and that they will hereafter do all that lies in their power in the matter of the treatment of cancer? May I also know whether they would take effective steps to increase the bed-strength for cancer in the Women and Children Hospital also? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The hon. Member has raised a big issue, which involves finance, man-power and a lot of planning. As far as hospital accommodation and facilities for treatment are available, all that is available is given to such of those who come for treatment. No cancer patient has been refused admission not are they thrown out if effective progress is made towards cure."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI :—" May I know what the result is of the meeting which was held recently in Madras for the promotion of a cancer hospital? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I shall have to find out to what particular meeting the hon. Gentleman refers. I was at one of these meetings and I know the proceedings and I am at a loss to know what the hon. Member wants to know."

MR. SPEAKER :—" For this one question we have taken nearly 20 minutes. I shall pass on to the next question."

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Steps taken to improve and encourage Indian medicine.

*62 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have taken any steps to improve and encourage Indian medicine in this Province and if so, what they are; and

(*b*) whether the Government have got any proposal to open new colleges to train doctors in Indian medicine and if so, when and where?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative. A statement[a] showing the steps taken by the Government to improve and encourage Indian medicine in this Province is placed on the table."

" (*b*) The Government recently considered the question of opening a College or School of Indian Medicine at Tanjore and have deferred it for the present."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI :—" May I know the reason for deferring the opening of an institution at Tanjore? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" There are a number of reasons for deferring any subject. It is very difficult to answer that here by way of a reply to a supplementary question. It may be finance, perhaps a question of personnel and many other such things that go to make a success of a Government undertaking."

JANAB HAJI K. M. AHMAD KUTTI :—" Does it include homœopathy? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" We are now on the question of an Indian Medical School at Tanjore. I do not know what the hon. Gentleman wants."

DR. S. SUBRAMANYA AYYAR :—" Do the Government know that most of the students passing out of the College of Indian Medicine only practise allopathy? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It may be; I cannot give a definite answer to that question."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL :—" It has been stated in the second item of the paper on the table that a Research department of Indian Medicine has been started at Madras; I want to know whether a research into Siddha medicines also is included? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Such research as are indicated by the term 'Indian medicine' are included and I believe Siddha is one such."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA :—" Is it a fact that instruction was imparted in Telugu in the Indian School of Medicine and there was a Telugu section previously; may I know why it has been abolished now."

[a] **Printed as Appendix I on page 385 *infra*.**

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MR. SPEAKER :—" This is about the encouragement of Indian medicine; it is better for the hon. Member to put a separate question."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR :—" In item (4) of the paper placed on the table it is stated :

' To carry medical relief into rural areas, a village vaidya scheme has been sanctioned with the ultimate object of providing a recognized vaidya in each village with a population of 1,000 or more '.

May I know when it was sanctioned and whether it has been put into force in the Province? "

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

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI :—" If they are not inclined to open a new college at Tanjore, may I know, Sir, whether they would consider the desirability of publishing the valuable manuscripts in the Saraswathi Mahal Library at Tanjore on Indian medicine and of making it possible to adopt it in the Colleges of Indian Medicine? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The hon Member knows as well as I do that the Government have undertaken the publication of such valuable books as are available in the Saraswathi Mahal Library and already two volumes have been translated."

SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" Is it not more desirable to have a whole-time Director of Indian Medicine than to have the services of an eminent physician as honorary Director so that his full time can be given to Indian medicines? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I do not think that my hon. Friend means to say that the present Director is not doing his work properly."

SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" No, Sir. I do not mean to cast any reflection on him. Honorary Directorship means that the incumbent will devote such time as he is able whereas a full time is one who will devote all his time for this work."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It depends upon the question whether the honorary Director is giving the time necessary for the work and not what time is devoted. If that were so, the Government are perfectly satisfied with the amount of time the Honorary Director, is devoting to the subject."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" Public impression has been to the effect that the Hon. Minister for Medicine has scant courtesy in respect of the indigenous systems of medicine. May I know if he has been able to get over that feeling and does he really believe in the efficacy of the Indian systems of medicine and is trying to help them? "

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MR. SPEAKER :—" This is a most unparliamentary statement that can be made by an hon. Member of the House. I think the hon. Member had better withdraw the statement."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" I certainly withdraw the allegation though I do not feel there is anything defamatory in it."

MR. SPEAKER :—" It is unparliamentary to attribute motives and say that the Hon. Minister has no faith in the Indian systems of medicine."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" Lawyer as I am, I feel that there is nothing defamatory in it."

MR. SPEAKER :—" It is unparliamentary to attribute motives to an Hon. Minister saying that he has no faith in the Indian system of medicine."

SRI P. NATESAN :—" May I know what is meant by a recognized vaidya and what sort of medical course does he undergo?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" As far as Government are concerned registered practitioners of the system are doctors and those trained in the College of Indian Medicine will also be recognized."

11-30 a.m. RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that Government have got the services of Dr. Guruswami Mudaliyar, who is a great enthusiast and supporter of Indian medicine in spite of the fact that he is a leading allopathic physician? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Yes, Sir; it is so. Dr. Guruswami Mudaliyar is a very reputed physician, who has good knowledge of Ayurveda also. He has refused to accept remuneration at the hands of the Government; but would rather give honorary service for certain hours every day. And he has discharged his duty satisfactorily. The Government are perfectly satisfied with the way in which he is devoting himself to it."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, with regard to the answer given in item 4 of the printed pamphlet, where it is stated that a village vaidya scheme has been sanctioned and has been put into practice, may I know in how many villages with a population of 1,000 such vaidyas have been appointed? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" For the information of the hon. Member I will just state that four schools for training have been started, one in Tanjore, another in Eluru and one in two other places; and in each place about 65 village vaidyas have been gathered and they are undergoing a course of training."

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" Is it not a fact that the honorary Director of Indian Medicine, Dr. Guruswami Mudaliyar, is working hard from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.? Is he not putting selfless service and working even harder than paid doctors and that Government should be congratulated in securing the services of such an eminent doctor, who is very keenly interested in Indian medicine though he himself is an allopath? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It is regrettable that his valuable services should be denied to patients, more because he wanted his time to be devoted to the indigenous system of medicine."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH :—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that graduates passing out of the Indian School of Medicine are compelled to practise allopathy simply because there are no facilities for getting Indian drugs, if prescribed, and also is it not a fact that many of the most reputed allopathic doctors in our Presidency are prescribing Indian medicine in hopeless and chronic cases? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" This is a matter of opinion."

Opening of a Naval College at Visakhapatnam.

* 63 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government have had consultations with the Central Government on the necessity for opening a Naval College at Visakhapatnam?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" There is no proposal to open a 'Naval College' at Visakhapatnam; but the question of starting Marine Engineering Course in the Engineering College, Visakhapatnam (now at Kakinada) is under correspondence with the Government of India."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL :—" Sir, now that we have a ship-building concern at Visakhapatnam, and in view of the important role the college is likely to play in the defence of our country, will the Government press on the Central Government the opening of this college immediately? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Government of India are themselves proposing to have a naval college at Visakhapatnam."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI :—" May I know whether it is a fact that a site has been actually selected for the purpose of starting a naval and marine engineering college there? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Yes, Sir; the assigning of the site is under the consideration of this Government? "

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Private tuition by the teachers and headmasters of secondary schools.

* 64 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the teachers and headmasters of secondary schools managed by the Government and local bodies are prohibited from giving private tuition to pupils; and

(*b*) whether the Government have received any representations from them to remove this restriction and to allow them to give private tuition in their off-hours?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (*a*) No, teachers may give private tuitions subject to ordinary rule regarding private employment by public servants.

" (*b*) No."

SRI P. A. THANGASWAMI :—" Sir, has it not been brought to the notice of the Hon. Minister that in some places the institutions have asked for a share of the tuition fees earned by the teachers; and if so, will the Government declare what their policy is in the matter? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, with regard to the sharing of tuition fees by the Government schools or local board schools no instance has been brought to the notice of the Government. Regarding private schools, it is an arrangement between the management and the private teacher."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI :—" May I know if it is not a fact that with the permission of the management the pupils are allowed to have tuition from teachers? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Yes, Sir. In private institutions and aided institutions, it is a matter of agreement between the teacher and the management for taking a portion of the tuition fees by the management."

SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA :—" May I know whether the tuition cannot be given without receiving any fee? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" In the case of Government and local board schools it does not matter whether they take any remuneration or not. The rules require that teachers have to take the permission of the management before they undertake tuition work? "

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID :—" It it not a fact that the Hon. Minister said that tuition can be given under certain conditions. May I know those conditions? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Rules 46 and 47 govern tuition work. The main condition is that they must take the permission of the head of the department or the management, for they must be satisfied that their public work will not suffer by the undertaking of tuition work."

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SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" Does this rule prevent a teacher of the Government or local board school giving private tuition to his kith and kin (laughter) where tuition fee is not taken? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I do not know whether the rule prevents a father giving tuition to his son (laughter). The tuition my hon. Friend means is of a different kind. Where remuneration is taken, the previous permission of the head of the department or the management should be taken."

Judgments in the " Kandan Textiles, Limited," award case.

* 65 *Q.*—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have received copies of the separate but concurring judgments allowing an application made by Kandan Textiles, Limited, for the issue of a writ of certiorari to call for the records in the dispute between the workers and the management before the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, and to quash the award, dated 23rd May 1949 ?

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

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN :—" May I ask whether the Government have perused the judgment of Hon. Justice Mack, who has characterized the award as a very unfortunate one, bad in law, worse in its effects on labour in general, creating as it did disputes where none existed. May I ask what have the Government to say about this judgment? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Sir, that is the opinion expressed by one of the Judges of the High Court; and what further action has to be taken on the matter is being considered by the Government."

Condition of roads under the Highways Department in the Chidambaram taluk.

* 66 *Q.*—SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the condition of all the roads under the Highways Department is bad in the Chidambaram taluk of the South Arcot district?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The condition of roads in Chidambaram taluk was not good till 1948 as the materials required for road purposes had to be conveyed from distant quarries involving railway transport. Railway waggons were not released to the extent required by the Highways Department in spite of all efforts taken by the Department. Some arrangement had to be made. The condition of roads in Chidambaram in 1948–49 has considerably improved and in the current year, a sum of rupees one lakh

has been set apart in the budget for the improvement of roads in the area. This year all collection of road metal was completed generally in time and the spreading is in rapid progress and all works are expected to be completed and roads brought into good order by the end of December 1949."

Adoption of Kannada as the medium of instruction in Urdu schools in South Kanara district.

* 67 *Q.*—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received a communication from the Muslims of Shiroor, Coondapoor taluk, South Kanara district, objecting to the proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction that in all Urdu schools, Kannada should be adopted as the medium of instruction; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken in respect of the above matter?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) The proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction have already been cancelled by him."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" May I know, Sir, what is the attitude of the Government at present with reference to the medium of instruction in elementary schools? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The Government are of opinion that medium of instruction should be liberally allowed. Where there is a linguistic minority of ten students in a class or thirty students in a school who declare that their mother tongue is a particular language, then the medium of instruction should be provided for in that particular language."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR :—" May I ask why it was that order was passed first and then cancelled? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Due to the mistaken impression that Urdu was not the mother tongue of the pupils."

Inspectors for the administration of the Madras Shop Assistants Act.

* 68 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of inspectors that have been appointed for the administration of the Shop Assistants Act in this Province; and

(*b*) what their scale of pay is?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" (*a*) 193.

" (*b*) Rs. 150—5—200."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI :—" May I inquire whether the Government have received any complaint from the shop assistants and the public, and if so, what sort of complaints they are, and what action the Government have taken to redress their complaints? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" May I submit Sir, that this supplementary question does not relate to the number of inspectors and their scales of pay."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI :—" Are all these inspectors taken from the Government service or are there any new recruits by the Public Service Commission? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I would request the hon. Member to look into the notification by the Public Service Commission in the matter."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM :—" May I know whether any ladies have been appointed as inspectors? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Notice." (Laughter.)

SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" Is there any likelihood of increasing the number, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" This number has been felt to be adequate. If the nature of the work demands more, it will be considered."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI :—" Of the inspectors appointed, how many come from the Harijan community? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Notice."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" Sir, is it a fact that the exemptions given under the Shop Assistants Act have been so numerous that they have caused the working of the Act to be more a nuisance than of help? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" The question seems to be absolutely irrelevant." (Laughter.)

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR :—" May I know whether regularized candidates from departments are appointed in this department? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" If the hon. Member inquiries about the fact that some of the employees of this department are Government servants, it is, yes."

Revival of the post of the Deputy Directress of Public Instruction.

* 69 *Q.*—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state what decision has been arrived at by the Government on the recommendation of the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee to revive the post of Deputy Directress of Public Instruction ?

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The matter is still under consideration."

11-45 a.m. BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" Is it not a fact that, when I asked a similar question six months ago, I was told on the floor of this House by the Hon. Minister for Finance that the matter was under the active consideration of the Government and how is it that after six months the matter is said to be still under consideration? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" That active consideration was passive for some time and it has now been revived into active consideration."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR :—" May I know whether any department is implementing the report of the Retrenchment and Re-organization Committee and, if so, what steps have been taken by way of retrenchment in view of the financial difficulties of the Government? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The question is about the revival of the post of Deputy Directress of Public Instruction."

SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" May I know whether the Government feel the necessity for reviving the post of Deputy Directress and, if so, will they take the necessary steps urgently? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" It is not advisable to ask me to commit myself to the necessity or otherwise when I say that the matter is under consideration."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM :—" The Retrenchment Committee was appointed to suggest the possibilities of retrenchment of officers. May I know whether its report advises the Government to appoint more officers? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The Committee has recommended that one of the posts of the Deputy Director may be converted into that of a Deputy Directress."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" Is it not a fact that the revival of the post of Deputy Directress would not involve the Government in any additional expenditure and that its effect would be only to change the designation of one of the posts of the Deputy Directors into that of Deputy Directress. Is it also not a fact that the Inspectress of Schools, Central Circle, is discharging similar duties? Hence why should she not be called a Deputy Directress? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The point for consideration is not the expenditure involved, but whether there will be sufficient work for a Deputy Directress having regard to the number of boys schools and girls schools? "

SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" What is the difference between the work of a Deputy Director and a Deputy Directress? "

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" If the Deputy Directress is to deal only with women's education, there is some difference. Otherwise it is only the appointment of a lady to one of the posts of the Deputy Director."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR :—" Since we find from the newspapers that there will not be separate schools for girls hereafter, may I ask whether there will be any necessity for reviving the post? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I am not aware of any report that there will not be any separate schools for girls. Only the educational ranges for elementary schools for girls schools have been abolished."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—" May I know the grammatically correct designation—Deputy Director (Female) or Deputy Directress? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" English is not my mother tongue and I cannot say which one is correct. A woman Deputy Director is called a Deputy Directress."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID :—" Times out of number the Government promised to allow a debate on the report of the Retrenchment and Re-organization Commitee and may I know when the debate will take place? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" This does not arise as a supplementary question to the main question."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" If the Hon. Minister thinks that the work involved in woman's education alone will not justify the appointment of a separate ' Deputy Directress ', why should not there be a Deputy Director (Woman) to look after man's education as well? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" This matter is under consideration. If it is laid down that one of the Deputy Director's posts should be filled by a woman, a junior in service may have to be appointed in preference to seniors. This point has to be examined."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" In view of the fact that a number of women are employed as Deputy Inspectors, is it not necessary to have a woman Deputy Director? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I do not at all see why there should necessarily be a woman Deputy Director simply because there are women in the educational service. There are women in various other services also."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Question No. 70."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :—" Sir, I should like to put one supplementary question."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I have passed on to question No. 70."

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The "Rayalaseema Textiles".

*70 *Q.*—SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Directors of the Rayalaseema Textiles are related to him and if so, how; and

(*b*) what the dividend or net savings for the years 1947-48 and 1948-49 is?

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—"(*a*) No, Sir.

"(*b*) The Company has not yet been started. The question of savings or dividend does not therefore arise."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"The question was given notice of at a time when another gentleman was the Minister for Industries."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Then let us not put supplementary questions. Let us pass on to the next question."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"I want to make a submission . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"This is not the time to allow the hon. Member to make a submission. Let the Hon. Minister answer the question."

Liquidation of cloth and yarn stocks.

*71 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation from the textile traders and mill-owners for liquidating large stocks of cloth and yarn in our Province; and

(*b*) if so, what steps the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—"(*a*) & (*b*) Representations were received from the Associations of the cloth merchants and from the Southern India Mill-owners' Association suggesting lifting of control over distribution in view of the large accumulations with them. The following are the concessions granted to mills and merchants to enable them to liquidate their stocks of cloth and yarn:—

"(1) The Government of India have allowed the mills to sell one-third of their production in every category of cloth or yarn to licensed buyers of their own choice.

"The balance of the production of the mills is available for purchase by nominees of Provincial and State Governments. Such nominees must fully pay for and purchase the goods by the middle of the month following the months of production. If they fail to take delivery of any stocks by that date, the mills are free to sell the surplus stocks through licensed buyers of their own choice.

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(2) The Government have permitted the wholesale consignees and wholesale dealers in cloth to dispose of their stocks of cloth if the linked wholesale and retail dealers fail to take delivery of their allotment within five days from the date of intimation.

(3) 'No quota licences' to deal in cloth are issued to all persons who apply for them so that they may lift the stocks with wholesale consignees and wholesale dealers in cloth.

(4) The system of separate wholesale and retail dealers in yarn have been replaced by one set of dealers who may do either wholesale or retail business in yarn or both. Any dealer may, therefore, purchase directly from mills his requirements of yarn.

(5) All restrictions on inter-district movement of cloth and yarn have been removed.

(6) No quantitative restrictions have been placed in the off-take of cloth and yarn by the consumers."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the long answer, may I request that it be placed on the table of the House and that the question be taken up to-morrow in view of the fact that there are only five more minutes and also in view of the fact that the Hon. Speaker is in no mood to allow supplementary questions."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The answer will be printed or roneoed and circulated and the question will be taken up to-morrow for putting supplementary questions."

Alleged ill-treatment of Harijans in a certain village in Tirunelveli taluk.

*72 *Q.*—SRI B. S. MURTHI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact (i) that the Harijans of Mavadi village in Manur Police station limits in Tirunelveli taluk are not allowed to go through the streets of the main village with their upper cloth and chappals on; (ii) that the Harijan cart-drivers are compelled to get down at the entrance of the village street and walk along with the cart until they cross the whole length of the street; and

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"(*a*) No.

"(*b*) Does not arise."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know whether the report that has been received by the Government is from the Police or the Revenue authorities?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"It is from the Revenue authorities."

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SRI B. S. MURTHI :—" Is it not a fact that a Harijan Deputy Superintendent of Police has been approached by the Harijans of the village and that he has reported that their difficulties are increasing day by day because of ill-treatment by the Caste Hindus? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" There is no ill-treatment by the Caste Hindus in this particular village. Some Harijans have been following the usual custom of getting down from the cart and walking when they pass through Caste Hindu streets. The Caste Hindus have no objections whatsoever to the Harijans passing through their streets in the cart. The Harijan Welfare Officer took a number of Harijans through Caste Hindu streets on 17th October 1949 and there was no objection to, or resistance by, the Caste Hindus."

Appointment of certain Deputy Collectors for Harijan uplift work.

• 73 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state whether the Government have got any proposal to appoint eight Deputy Collectors to attend to the Harijan uplift work and if so, in which districts they will be appointed and what important functions they may have to perform?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The Government have selected the following eight districts, where the work relating to the Harijan uplift is particularly heavy, for appointment of Deputy Collectors as District Welfare Officers :—

(1) East Godavari; (2) Guntur; (3) Krishna; (4) Tanjore; (5) Ramnad; (6) Tirunelveli; (7) Chingleput and (8) Malabar.

" These officers will have to attend to the work relating to the amelioration of the condition of Harijans as well as the backward communities."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI :—" Will the salary of these officers be paid from the One Crore Fund or from the general funds? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The pay of the present officers is met from the general funds and therefore the pay of the officers that are going to be appointed also will be met from the general funds only."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI :—" May I ask whether the choice of these eight districts has been made with reference to the present volume of Harijan welfare work or with reference to the future programme of work? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" These districts have been selected on the recommendation of the Director of Harijan Welfare. Guntur, East Godavari and Krishna have the largest number of subsidized hostels. There are 43, 28 and 24 such hostels in them drawing grants amounting to Rs. 1,28,499, Rs. 86,250 and Rs. 86,700, respectively. They are in great need of strict and efficient supervision. In extent also, these districts are among the largest. Chingleput and Tanjore with 105 and 107 Labour schools, besides 15 and 7 subsidized hostels, are the third and the fourth, respectively, considered from the budget allotment (Rs. 3,83,769 and Rs. 3,37,976). Further house-sites for Harijans have to be acquired and provided in these districts on a large scale. Ramnad, Tirunelveli and Malabar have been chosen because Harijan ameliorative work has not sufficiently progressed in them and has to be pushed up vigorously. Hardships consequent on untouchability are said to be rampant in them and Malabar presents peculiar problems of its own for solution."

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SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR :—" May I know the number of cases of relief for Harijans, like the provision of house-sites and relief for loss by fire, accident and flood, recommended so far by the authorities in the Salem district? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" A separate question may be put."

Procurement of paddy in East Godavari district.

• 74 *Q.*—SRI K. LINGARAJU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) the estimated paddy crop in East Godavari for the Khariff year 1948–49;

(*b*) the estimated surplus for the same period;

(*c*) the total rice procurement target fixed;

(*d*) whether this target has been raised subsequently; and

(*e*) if so, what the reasons therefor are?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" (*a*) The estimated production of rice in East Godavari district in terms of cleaned grain for the Khariff year 1948–49 (November 1948 to October 1949) according to the final forecast report is 367,000 tons.

' (*b*) The estimated surplus after allowing for the requirements of the self-sufficient producers for family consumption, seed purposes and other agricultural expenses in the district is 122,000 tons.

' (*c*) *to* (*e*) The target or net procurable surplus of rice of the district was originally fixed by the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) at 110,600 tons in October 1948 on the basis of the preliminary estimate of production of 335,000 tons of rice then available. This target was subsequently raised to 122,000 tons by the Board based on the final forecast estimate of production of 367,000 tons. Later on, on a representation made by the Collector of East Godavari, that the ryots had paid wages in kind to agricultural labourers at rates in excess of the normal rates and that therefore this extra quantity of grain was not available for procurement, the Board reduced the target for the district from 122,000 tons to 105,000 tons, with a view to avoid unnecessary harassment to the ryots."

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12 noon. SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA :—" Sir, in view of the recent cyclone in the Andhra districts and the consequent damage to the crops and fall in the yield, will the Government revise their target of procurement, both for internal consumption and external transport, from people who have suffered thereby? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" Yes, Sir, the Collectors concerned have been instructed to do the needful in the matter."

Constitution of Grow More Food Committees in the districts.

* 75 Q.—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to constitute " Grow More Food Committees " in all the districts and if so, on what lines and for what purposes they are being formed?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" The Government have issued orders constituting District Food Production Committees in G.O. Ms. No. 846, Food and Agriculture, dated 30th August 1949. A copy of the Government Order [a] is placed on the table of the House."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL :—" May I enquire, Sir, whether these Grow More Food Committees are functioning in any of the districts now? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" This is a committee which is now to be appointed for increasing food production. There is no separate committee with regard to these maters."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR :—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that there are two committees in existence now, one the District Food Committee and the other, the Grow More Food Committee in each district, and if so, may I enquire, whether it would not be worthwhile amalgamating both of them into one? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" Both of them are almost the same committee, consisting more or less the same members, except that for food production, some few more members are added on."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH :—" In view of the fact, Sir, that these District Food Committee are constituted to hear the representation of ryots, seeking advice and assistance in the production of food-grains, do the Government consider that it would be possible for the ryots to come to headquarters of the district, or to the place of meeting of the committee, to represent their needs, as there are millions of such ryots in our Province? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" They can approach the committees in their respective districts and if that is not possible, they can directly represent their needs to the Government."

[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 386–387 infra.

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JANAB MAHIN SCHAMNAD :—" May I know, Sir, whether other parties in the district are represented in this Grow More Food Committees as also in the District Food Committees? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" Yes, Sir, it is quite possible that members of the different sections of the communities will be represented in these committees."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Questions are over; we will pass on to the next item in the Agenda."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :—" May I put a supplementary question, Sir, on the previous question? I was just on my legs just after the Hon. Minister replied, but before I could open my mouth, you have declared that the question time was over."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member knows that I told the House that I would take a few more minutes after 12 and have the questions finished. I have taken four minutes after 12, and when the Hon. Minister has finished his reply to the last supplementary question, I declared that the question-time was over."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :—" Sir, I was just getting up to put a supplementary question, when you have said, ' Questions over.' How can I get up before the Hon. Minister had finished replying to a supplementary question? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" I have explained the position already. Even now the hon. Member is not prevented from putting his question. He may write out the question and give it to me, and I shall pass it on to the Hon. Minister for being replied on the next occasion."

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

II.—SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS.

* JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise on a point of order. This morning the hon. Gentleman Mr. A. Vaidyanatha Ayyar brought in a short-notice question, which you have allowed and brought it to the notice of this House, without any papers relating to it being placed on the table of the House. That procedure seems to be rather unique. I should like to know from you, Sir, whether there is any precedent for this kind of procedure in the Mother of Parliaments, and whether other hon. Members could also follow the same procedure of handing over short-notice questions in a slip of paper and the speaker can bring them without giving prior notice to the Members of the House? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" Let me thank the hon. Member for bringing this matter to the notice of the House, because I myself wanted to do so, before he reminded me of it.

" First of all the House should be thankful particularly to the Hon. Sri Madhava Menon for his having been able to answer the

short-notice question within two hours. This kind of procedure is also obtaining in the House of Commons. I hope that hereafter also, our Ministers will try to answer short-notice questions in this manner.

" Let me inform the House what happened in this case. This morning the hon. Sri Vaidyanatha Ayyar sent me a short-notice question at about 9 o'clock and I passed it on to the Hon. Sri Madhava Menon and he was able to give the answer within two hours. This procedure is perfectly in order, and is also obtaining in the House of Commons. If other Ministers also follow this example in the matter of answering short-notice questions, we will be very nearly approaching the procedure of the House of Commons, which is our aim."

III.—ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE HON. SPEAKER.

(1) ELECTION OF A MEMBER TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY.

MR. SPEAKER :—" I have to announce to the House that Sri L. S. Karayalar, M.L.A., is the only candidate duly nominated for a seat in the Advisory Committee of the South Indian Railway. I hereby declare him duly elected."

(2) ELECTION OF A MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF INDUSTRIES.

MR. SPEAKER :—" I have to announce to the House that Sri R. V. Swaminathan, M.L.A., is the only candidate duly nominated for a seat in the Board of Industries. I hereby declare him duly elected."

IV.—GOVERNMENT BILL.

THE MADRAS ESSENTIAL ARTICLES CONTROL AND REQUISITIONING (TEMPORARY POWERS) BILL, 1949.

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to introduce the Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning (Temporary Powers) Bill[a], 1949 and move—

' that the Bill be taken into consideration at once.' "

SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, the House would be grateful if the Hon. Minister would give us some enlightenment on this Bill, because that would help us in the discussion of the various provisions of this Bill."

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, The Statement of Objects and Reasons to this Bill clearly explains the purpose for which this Bill is being introduced. On the 18th October 1949, the Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning (Temporary Powers) Ordinance, 1949 (Ordinance No. VI of 1949), was promulgated by His Excellency the Governor, re-enacting *in toto* the provisions of the Madras Essential Articles

a Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* Extraordinary on 31st October 1949.

Control and Requisitioning (Temporary Powers) Act, 1946, in view of a decision of the High Court pronounced on the 10th instant in respect of the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Act, 1947, and the Madras Maintenance of Public Order (Removal of Doubts and Amendment) Ordinance, 1949. By reason of that decision, (1) the extension of the provisions of an Act by a notification of the Provincial Government is not valid, and (2) Ordinance No. II of 1949 which was issued by His Excellency the Governor to cure the above defect in respect of the Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning (Temporary Powers) Act, 1946, and certain other Acts is also largely ineffective.

" The present Bill reproduces the provisions of Ordinance No. VI of 1949 with a few consequential changes."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Motion moved—

' that the Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning (Temporary Powers) Bill, 1949 be taken into consideration at once.' "

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I know that the Bill is merely a formality. The powers taken under an earlier ordinance, which then became an Act, are now being retaken because of some doubts raised in the recent judgments of the High Court. I am not now on that formality. But I wish to point out some defects in the working of this Act. I think, Sir, I have already taken up this question with the Government.

" Sir, I may point out that certain notifications made under this Act in respect of procurement of foodgrains state that even mere non-declaration of stocks can lead to the prosecution of a person. He might have made a declaration a few days later. But still, Sir, I know of cases which I consider very harsh and very unjustified, where for mere non-declaration of the stock in time, people have been prosecuted under this Act. In one case which has come to my notice, I have given over the connected papers to the Government, and that case is now under the consideration of the Government. There a leading landlord had given about 600 bags of paddy to the procuring officers in one year, and in a subsequent year 400 bags, in spite of drought and in the next year following, he had given about 300 and odd bags, but still he had been handed over for prosecution, simply on the ground that he had not complied with this formality of declaration of stocks before the stipulated date. I think, Sir, the Government generally publish these notifications in the District Gazette and also in the *Fort St. George Gazette*. But nobody knows what these declarations are and when they are published in these gazettes. You cannot expect every ryot to possess a copy of the notification and few ryots have access to these gazettes in which the notifications appear. Even leading ryots sometimes are so hopelessly unaware of this provision that declarations have to be made within a stipulated period of time. I

have brought to the notice of the Government four particularly bad cases which came to my knowledge and have suggested to the Government that the mere non-declaration of stocks, unaccompanied by a refusal to surrender them to the procurement officers, or by an attempt to obstruct procurement in the village by the procurement officers, should not by itself be deemed to be an offence. I hope, Sir, that the Government will take note of this serious matter.

" Sir, I came across another case also in which there has been a greater hardship caused. I was told that there was an order made under this law that no groundnut bags should be taken across a particular district at night in a lorry. Now, in the case I am referring to, a lorry which did not ply from that particular district, but was plying from some other neighbouring district where there was no such notification issued, passed through this district on a certain midnight, carrying a number of groundnut bags in it, and it was held up at that time and its contents were discharged and the man who was plying the lorry was hauled up and the owner asked to furnish a security for Rs. 16,000, which was the value of the stocks he was carrying. Such hardships are caused, because the trader do not know that some such notification had been published in the gazette prohibiting the movement at night of groundnuts through that district, while, as a matter of fact, there was no such notification issued in the adjacent district, from which the lorry actually came. (At this stage the Chairman Begum Sultan Mir Amuruddin occupied the Chair). I say that all these defects should soon be rectified. I know there was a prosecution launched subsequently.

12-15 p.m. The Government intervened, and then on the party giving security equal to the value of the stocks, the stocks were released temporarily. Of course, the case was ultimately decided according to law and on grounds of equity. But since the trade is put to enormous suffering, I suggest that a notification of this sort should first be communicated to the trades' association and to the merchants concerned with the trade in that particular commodity or commodities. If these were done, all abuse of powers under this Act can easily be avoided. It may be very necessary power. But even necessary powers should be used certainly with caution and with advantage to the vast community in regard to whom the powers are taken. If powers are taken and the community's interests are totally neglected, I say that that power is liable to be misused. These are cases which I have brought to the notice of the Government. It raises a general question of policy. It does not mean that the powers taken should continue for all time, nor does it mean that controls should be continuously in existence over the entire field of this Province—rural and urban areas. But I do not propose to discuss that question now within the limited scope of this Bill. I have pointed out to the Ministers these cases in order that they may instruct their District Officers and Secretaries that proper notifications which will be applicable to the trade or to the community at

large will be duly made available to them, and that formal non-compliance with certain provisions of the Act, which ryots may not know at all or which they may come to know with great difficulty, should not be seriously taken notice of. In the administration of this Bill, there should be greater care exercised. That is all, Madam, I wish to say on this Bill."

* SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—" Madam Chairman, the present Bill has been introduced because of the fact that there were legal defects about the continuance of the previous Act. And even an ordinance had not apparently served the purpose. Before power is taken under the provisions of this Bill, it is for us to consider how far the Act has served the purpose with which it was originally brought forward. The Control Acts were a remnant of the war period. It was essential for the then Government not merely to obtain the food supply for its troops during the war, but to some extent restrict the food supply to the people at large. At that time these stringent provisions were brought under the Defence of India Rules. Afterwards when the war ended, it was thought necessary that these controls should be continued for a limited time. Therefore, in 1946 this Act, for the purpose of extending for a limited period the powers of control over production, supply and distribution of essential articles, was brought forward. Even at that time it was pointed out by many Members of this House that this kind of controls promised to continue indefinitely, and that unless these controls were administered efficiently, it would not serve the interests of the people. Year after year we have been renewing these controls. It is time for us to see whether the objects and purposes with which this Act had been brought forward have been properly carried out, and whether we should entrust this power again with the Government. The Act says that it is for a limited period these powers are taken. This limited period has been there for three years. We are again extending that limited period up to 1950. The Government state that they do not want to control for their own purposes. Clause 3 says—

'3. (1) The provincial Government, so far as it appears to them to be necessary or expedient for maintaining, increasing or securing supplies of essential articles or for arranging for their equitable distribution and availability at fair prices or for directing, maintaining or increasing the production of any essential article, may, by notified order, provide for regulating or prohibiting the production, supply, distribution and transport of essential articles and trade and commerce therein.'

The question is how far these objects have been carried out as a matter of practice. We find that controls with regard to several commodities are coming in one after another. The very bringing in of controls at once drives most of the commodities underground, and, if we try afterwards to release controls, the prices rise. If we try to re-impose controls the prices go still higher up. Every time when control is relaxed or re-imposed the blackmarket price of the article when the article was controlled, becomes the market price for the future. It is within the knowledge of most of the hon. Members of this House that what we have been complaining last

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year to black-market prices are being gradually and steadily. stabilized by the Government. If the object of the Bill is to see that people obtain the essential articles at fair prices, the controls which have been administered so far have not served their purpose. I can categorically place before the House many articles the prices of which have been continuously rising. The most vital article is rice. Two years back we were having paddy at four measures per rupee. It was then thought that is was very unjust to have three measures per rupee. Now it is difficult to get decent rice at one measure per rupee. What is more extraordinary about control is that hon. Gentlemen here have been complaining that they are able to get better quality of rice in the blackmarket at a price a little less than the control price in the ration shop. We have been receiving complaints from districts that the rice in the ration shop is not as a matter of fact being disposed of because the price collected is not commensurate with the nature and the quality of the rice that is issued, and also because that it cannot be compared with the price and decency of the rice that can be purchased elsewhere. Attempts have been made by the Government to suppress blackmarket by sentencing poor women who go about hawking basket-loads of rice. But so long as people feel that their needs have to be supplemented and so long as the Government are not able to supply enough rice to the people, the people will purchase their rice from elsewhere. In fact it is doubtful whether anybody in these days lives all the seven days of the week on the rice that is supplied by the ration shop. Every housewife knows that she has to supplement the rations by means of rice purchased from elsewhere. What is the use of control if you are not able to fix a proper price or even issue good quality of rice. In our own district, it has been a matter of great tragedy that while very good rice is being produced there, our village rice is being sent away to Coimbatore or to some other place where it is necessary, and we are getting the Tadepalligudem rice which is impossible to consume. It is dirty and stinking. It is full of broken rice and there are big stones also. It is the complaint of every housewife. Not only that; the weight also does not correspond to the amount. When once you put it in water a portion of it is getting dissolved with the result the housewife is not able to get the required food for the children. That is how we are having the rice control. We have introduced a lot of changes in controls. We have tried to introduce the inter-district ban. That has not served the purpose. The Government first took away the chowkies and instead appointed a single officer to prevent inter-district movement. In our place, in the taluk to which I have the honour to represent, they have appointed a chowkidar for the purpose of controlling this inter-district movement. It has come to my knowledge by means of petitions that the person (chowkidar) himself is living in he very black-marketer's house, and he is, as a matter of course, carrying away the rice from one place to another. These are things which are honoured more in the breach than in the observance. So much with regard to rice, the most essential article.

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" Let us now take fuel. With regard to Madras City, since I brought to the notice of the hon. Members the rising price of fuel, I now understand that the price has gone up from Rs. 1-12-0 per gundu of 56 lb. to Rs. 2. If the price of fuel should rise like this in three days, where is the guarantee that Government are properly controlling the price of articles? Nothing has been done. If at all any person says ' I will assume control of the general public's getting essential articles ' the only excuse for that control is that he should properly control. If you are not able to do that, the result of control will be to do exactly the opposite of that for which you have taken powers to control. I am afraid something must be done to change the method. So far with regard to fuel.

" A very ugly feature of controls is that each time a control is imposed, there arises a kind of vested interest. Officials get appointed and the staff get appointed. They are at all times unwilling to go out of their jobs. Quite recently I was talking to the Members of the Government. They were trying to simplify the business by having one single licence instead of wholesale licences or retail licences, or three-point taxation. They were trying to simplify even at some cost to Government. But they met with considerable opposition from those who would not like to be sent out of their jobs. That is the position as it stands to-day. It is not without any purpose that people have been saying that if you have this kind of control, it will not work efficiently. It will only have the effect of crushing the poor people for whose benefit it is supposed to have been introduced.

" Another ugly feature of these controls is that there has grown up a system of licences and permits. Licences and permits are being granted to people who two months before they got licences were treated as black-marketers and profiteers, and as persons to whom licences should not be granted. But after two months they emerge with licences. In one case a wholesaler from Ramnad district was sent out on account of misconduct. But I found him walking into the Madura district and get a wholesaler's licence in respect of essential articles. I understand since raising this objection that he has been sent out on account of misbehaviour even in Madura district. I am afraid that the system of licences and permits has not been effective. It has not achieved its object. It has been only a source of patronage and a method for profiteering by unscrupulous persons. Therefore it has not produced any good result at all.

" Now, Sir, with regard to sugar. The latest instance will show how sugar is controlled. We find the Central Government making certain rules and regulations. We have the Sugar Control Act. The price of sugarcane is sought to be fixed at a high price. If sugarcane is put at a high price, where the price of jaggery is to be? In the case of sugar instead of our getting more sugar at a time of scarcity, it is stated that sugar control is imposed. In Madura, the merchants had 3,500 bags of sugar at the time control was imposed. As soon as the price was notified, it was stated by

the merchants that there was no controlled sugar available, i.e., sugar sent by the Central Government to the Madras Government who in turn sent that sugar to Madura for distribution. The merchants would not sell the 3,500 bags held by them. Though it was pointed out to them that they had 3,500 bags of sugar with them, they refused to sell it on the ground that with reference to the price they paid for it, they could not sell it at a rate lower than Rs. 1-9-0 per viss. I asked them, if Java sugar were imported in large quantities, would they not sell their sugar at Re. 1-4 10 per viss. However, they would not sell. On the other hand they waited in deputation on the Member of the Government all the time. Meanwhile there was no supply of sugar in Madura. It was two days before Deepavali, and people were getting restive. I had to appeal to the Food Minister that unless he released the sugar immediately there would be trouble in the nature of a sugar riot before Deepavali. It was only after the Food Minister interfered that we had at least 200 bags of sugar released for four lakhs of people in Madura City alone. That is the way in which sugar comes out. What happened to the 3,500 bags of sugar held by the merchants? What really happened was that in the interim period before the Government took a decision, these 3,500 bags were slyly sold. When they were actually worth only Rs. 90 or Rs. 100, they were sold at Rs. 250 to a coffee-hotel-keeper who could not continue his business without sugar. Unless it is purchased at thrice the ordinary price, it will go into the black-market and will be disappearing. We reported to the Collector that even the sealed bags were getting loose with the result that that sugar was sold surreptitiously at black-market prices. If you are going to introduce control with regard to a particular commodity, what is it that you should have done? All the materials should have been made available to the dealers beforehand. All the stock in hand should already have been checked and taken possession of. All the machinery necessary for administering control should have been appointed and then on a particular date controls should have come in. But as a result of this kind of inefficient control, we find everywhere the price of every article is rising. The price of jaggery has risen from 12 annas to Rs. 1-12-0 per viss and to-day we have brought it to Rs. 2. The prices of sugarcandy and palm jaggery have risen and the entire category in which sugar falls has been rising. I plead if, in reality, the poor have to be obliged by your trying to enable them to get commodities at the proper price, how is the proper price enforced at all? We find that the way in which commodities are controlled has in effect not been beneficial to the people. I wish, therefore, that before the Government take hold of these controls, they set their house in order and see that the control is one which is really effective and which redounds to the benefit of the poor people. We find in respect of every article that is controlled, it is only the business magnate that gains; it is only the rich man or the merchant that gains; the poor man still goes under, down and below where he was already. This is no use of control at all. If any machinery could have been devised for the

12-30 p.m.

purpose of helping the rich men, the merchants, the big producers and the mill-owners, it could not be better done than by the way in which the control is administered at present. Day after day, *The Madras Mail* has been writing that in the interval between decontrol and control, the price of sugar per maund was raised to the extent of nearly Rs. 14 and one Province made a profit to the tune of two crores. Why should we be made to pay higher prices to other persons in one province for the purpose of other provinces? If we want higher prices to be paid for our food products, the Centre objects and says 'Thou shalt not raise it higher.' But the price of sugar is sought to be raised by the magnates there. Why should we submit to them? Therefore, it is my suggestion to the Government that they should see that the controls are re-adjusted in a particular way so that there may be no more complaint by the poor man with regard to the administration of controls. If at all there is to be control, you must have sufficient stocks to go round. If you do not have those stocks, there is no use of introducing controls.

"Another thing with regard to sugar is this. There are people who use sugar and people who do not. But a common rule is introduced by which sugar is thrust into the man who has not got any use for sugar. Such a man takes the sugar and transmits it to the black-market. So, it must be so arranged that the poor man gets the benefit of the controls. I do not doubt the *bona fides* of the Government; I do not take it that they are not with the best of intentions in introducing these controls. But in the actual working, the control does not carry out the objects. Then can it be of any use? Good intentions cannot fill a man's stomach. Can the best of laws be of any use unless it is worked properly? It is my respectful suggestion to the Government that now that they want again to take control of these commodities they should give licences and permits in a proper way so as not to be abused. In fact, I have good reason to believe that even in the place where the control is to be introduced, information leaks out to the merchants much earlier so that they make prompt and wrongful use of such information. I would therefore request the Government in taking further powers to see that they are administered in a way in which the poor people may say 'Our Government have properly administered the control and we are getting the commodities at fair and proper prices.'

"Madam, I find an anomaly in respect of controls. There is power given under the Bill to take control of particular quantities of essential commodities so that the poor people may get. An amount of the sugar is kept in stock to be given to them. They are kept in the godown in several bags. But what have the Government done, when there is a scarcity of sugar, to see that all this sugar is commandeered and put into the open market itself? Absolutely nothing has been doing. The Government's orders are postponed by ten days after the event till the control becomes

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unworkable and it adds one more to the list of those which cause discontent from which the poor people suffer. I pray that in purporting to assume these controls, they may be able to administer them properly and see that there is no ground of grievance and that the Bill is made to serve the object. I pray that this Bill may not become a thing of oppression to the people but may be one of giving them the benefits."

* JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID :—" Madam, Chairman, with your leave, I beg to move—

' that the Bill be referred to a select committee.'

" Madam, my predecessor who has just spoken, Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, has referred to the several difficulties with regard to the availability of essential commodities in the market. The only operating market in the Province with regard to essential articles has sugar is the black-market. However much the controls are made rigorous and however much the Government may create administrative machinery, it is an open secret that in this Provnce black-marketng is thriving with impunity. All the difficulties at present existng are due to the fact that Government have no understood the methods by which articles could be procured and properly distributed. We have seen how controls have, instead of giving relief to the people, added to their miseries. The leaders of this country have been going about and have been crying from housetops that there must be more production. On the other hand, we find that production is not commensurate with the efforts of the great leaders of this country. Why? It is because the Government are making the controls so rigorous and so stringent that they almost freeze the enthusiasm for production. Few people are there who are prepared to indulge in black-marketing and heard the essential commodities. But Government are bringing measures which oppress the people as a whole. Therefore such of those people who really want to help the Government in the increased production of essential commodities are simply kept back. They are not willing to come forward to undertake production because the rigours of the control orders are there.

" Again, Madam, whenever controls are introduced, it has become almost a habit with this Government not to create any buffer stock. Take for instance sugar. One fine morning Government come round and say that they are going to freeze sugar in order to control sugar. When the people who trade in sugar hear the news, they freeze their own stock immediately and it goes underground. Thus people are put to considerable difficulty. Papers like *The Hindu* and *The Mail* have before pointed out the difficulties of the consumers, particularly in this City, and with regard to the difficulties of the consumers in the mufassal, we have been reading several harrowing tales in the ' Letters to the Editor ' of the various newspapers in the city. Therefore, several of the control measures adopted by the Government have not helped

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the people to get whatever they want. Therefore, Madam, I would wish that we reduce as far as possible all the control measures in order to assist production.

" With regard to the present Bill, I would like to say only a few words with respect to certain provisions. I find that some of the provisions, particularly clauses 14, 15, 16 and 17, have almost been taken from the Anti-Blackmarketing Bill which the Government wanted to introduce some time back. When the Anti-Blackmarketing Bill was published, the hon. Members of this House are aware what great agitation was set in motion by the people interested in the proper distribution of essential articles in this Province. That measure was something like a measure of inquisition. Now I find in this measure, the Government have simply copied several of the provisions included in that Bill. With regard to clause 14, it is said that with reference to a company or other body corporate, every director, manager, secretary or other officer or agent thereof shall, unless he proves that the contravention took place without his knowledge and that he exercised all due diligence to prevent such contravention, be deemed to be guilty of such contravention. Madam, you are aware how these corporations are constituted and how these limited companies are functioning in this Province. I ask how could you make responsible everyone connected with the limited concerns or corporate bodies for such offences? This is rather an unholy provision.

" Secondly, there is another provision with regard to burden of proof. It is rather very strange. I do not know whether it finds a place in any jurisprudence of this country or of our Province. Clause 16 reads :—

' Where any person is prosecuted for contravening any order made under this Act or continued under section 9 which prohibits him from doing an act or being in possession of a thing without lawful authority or excuse or without a permit, licence, certificate or permission, the burden of proof that he has such authority or excuse . . . shall be on him. '

This clause is rather peculiar. When a Police officer comes and accuses me of a certain offence, the burden of proof shall be on him and not on me when I have not really committed the offence. But here it is stipulated that the burden of proof with regard to offences committed under this Act, must be on the individual who is alleged to have committed a fraud or an offence. This provision is rather peculiar.

" Madam, there is also the usual provision that no court, shall have any authority to question the orders passed under this Bill. It is unfortunate that in all the enactments which this Government have made, they have invariably excluded the authority of the court of law. In any democracy, court of law is almost a sacred temple of justice to which the people have to look up, particularly during times when there is the excess of the executive officers. Unfortunately, the measures has come before this House with a provision

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which eliminates the jurisdiction of the court of law. There are several other clauses with such defective provisions and it is better that the Bill is referred to a select committee so that they can go into the various provisions and suggest improvements. When I say this, I am not arguing that we do not need a measure of this kind. I know the difficulties of the people in getting essential articles in the market. Therefore it must be the duty and responsibility of the Government to see that the provisions of this Bill are properly drafted. We will have to see that this measure does not become an engine of oppression. Therefore, Madam, I suggest that the Bill be referred to a select committee."

12-45 p.m.

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD :—" I second the motion for reference of this Bill to a select committee. While everyone of us in this House would like to give our support to the Government for taking powers to control the system of procurement and distribution and everything connected with that, we also wish that the legislation should be as reasonable as possible. I do not want to take much of the time of this House. My friend Mr. Majid has pointed out the necessity for going into the details of this Bill. Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar has also pointed out the necessity for looking into this legislation very carefully. Of course, we must congratulate ourselves that during the three or four years, procurement has been a great success and we must be thankful to all the people who have helped in making our procurement a success and who have willingly given their paddy and rice from the paddy-growing areas. It will be an act of ungratefulness if this House did not place on record this appreciation of the co-operation of all the persons concerned. Mr. Varadachari referred to certain cases of hardships where even for failure of submitting some returns in time, persons were prosecuted. Under the law, action might be justified. But, they will cause disastrous results which again will infuse a spirit of non-co-operation on the part of the land-owners, in various places. It will lead to less quantity of paddy procurement. We are all interested in more quantities of paddy being procured and distributed. I entreat this Government to take a reasonable view in enforcing the provisions of an enactment like this. There are certain enthusiastic officers against whom the Government must guard themselves. I have no doubt that the present Food Minister, who is a businessman, will look to his work in a businesslike manner. I hope he will realise that the co-operation of the public is very essential for carrying out his work. By a certain amount of trust, the results achieved would be far greater than by a certain amount of suspicion. So the motion before the House for a reference to a Select Committee must be considered favourably. I would like to assure the Hon. Minister that this motion is not made in a spirit of dilatoriness. The Select Committee can sit even this evening if they like and finish the work the same evening or by to-morrow. Then the Bill can come up before this House by the beginning of next week when the House can consider the

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views of the Committee and dispose of the Bill. Even on this assurance on the part of the Opposition, if the Government do not respond, then it will be an act of ungraciousness towards the members of the Opposition. I may even tell that it will be in utter disregard of the fears expressed on behalf of the public on the floor of this House. Why should the Government not put up with a few day's delay in this matter, Madam? Instead of passing this Bill on Friday, if it is passed next Tuesday, nothing is going to happen, unlsss it is said that this law ceases to exist at 11 o'clock to-day and this has to be passed by 2 p.m. But, that is not the position. Therefore, I would entreat the Hon. Minister not to come with the usual remark ' After all, this is only a routine legislation. We do not want a select committee.' If a Committee was appointed, the Members will go into the various questions and there may be amendments to a few clauses here and there. Why not the Government appoint a Committee and agree to carry out certain amendments here and there. That will satisfy public opinion. Nothing will be lost if the matter is considered from that spirit. The Hon. Minister will certainly have the entire support of this House in the move so far as the procedure is concerned. Unless there is going to be a serious catastrophe, there is no need to rush matters like this. I hope that the suggestion to refer this matter to a select committee will be accepted by the Government. I would like to entreat once again the Hon. Minister to treat the public who have been supporting him in the procurement policy with a great amount of consideration in all matters of administration of the controls. I think that it is essential that the Hon. Minister should convene periodical conferences of the various procurement officers and should tell them not to be rigorous unnecessarily in their procurement policy. Persuasion will yield better results."

THE CHAIRMAN :—" Amendment moved—

' That the Bill be referred to a select committee.'

The original motion and the amendment of Mr. Majid are now before the House for discussion."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—" Madam, Chairman, I would like to offer a few suggestions on this matter. Perhaps, it will be too late for me to question the necessity of these very controls of these essential articles. It was not long ago when under the able guidance of Gandhiji, both the Government of India and this Government saw their way to slowly relax these controls and bring everything to the normal. Somehow or other, a fear has got into their minds that by this decontrol, everything will go wrong and we will all be in utter confusion. But judged by the results, I am quite sure that there is no justification for all these fears. Now at this late stage, I do not think that anybody will see eye to eye with me if I say ' Off with the controls and everything will be alright.' Even if there should be control, it should not be administered in the way in which it is being done now. I will only bring

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one or two specific instances to the notice of this House to show whether we are justified in the way in which we are addressing ourselves to this matter of controls. Previous speakers have pointed out the grave discomfort to the poor people. I now rise to speak only on behalf of the lower middle class people who are most hard hit in every respect. Take, for instance, procurement. A man owning 15 or 20 acres of land is able to satisfy the officers, as he is able to give a good quantity to the Government. Take the case of a poor man owning 3 to 5 acres of land. The Government of Madras have recently issued a circular that the agriculturists are entitled to keep so much for their personal consumption and give only so much to the Government. Yet this is only in paper. As a matter of fact, a poor man in the village owning about 3 to 5 acres of land has to deplete his resources to the fullest extent. He cannot keep even half or one kalam of paddy for his consumption. I have heard that a Firka Supply Officer told one of these poor people 'You have no business to keep samba paddy for consumption as the kar crop has come in. You have to take only the kar paddy and surrender the samba paddy to the Government.' Is this the way in which controls are to be administered? If the poor agriculturists, who has grown the samba paddy by his hard labour, cannot keep a few kalams of the same for eating purposes, what does this measure that we are discussing here contemplate? The poor man has been able to give more than what is required to the Government, but still he could not keep one or two kalams of paddy for his consumption. I do not mean to say that the Government have passed such an order. But during the process of carrying out the provisions of this measure, great hardship has been caused to the poor people. This is one picture of the case where the poor man, to whom we want to ensure adequate supplies of foodgrains, is being subjected to all sorts of hardships.

"Madam, take Tanjore district. There, the Government have fixed ceiling prices. Yet the Government are not able to secure a fair price for the Tanjore cultivator. He is to-day selling at a price, Rs. 2 less per maund. What is the reason behind this? Is it not derogatory to the prestige of the Government that a price that has been fixed to be reasonable should not be made available to the cultivator who is supposed to have produced all the food that this Province wants. It is therefore up to us to look into and see that the proper price that is fixed to be reasonable by the Government is also made available to the Tanjore mirasdar or agriculturist. Then again take the question of these controlled commodities. Madam, these controls are working alright only in cities like Madras, Trichy and others. Take, for instance, the recent Sugar Control Order. I had the fortune or the misfortune to be in my native village Lalgudi during the Deepavali festival. Just seven days before Deepavali, there was no sugar in Lalgudi. We did without sugar even for coffee. We were not able to make any sweets for the festival. On the other hand, in Madras and other

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cities, there was at least one or two visses of sugar available. Do the Government mean that only people in these cities should be entitled to the ration of white sugar? If controls must be there, they should be only in villages and not in towns. Madam, in towns, you can get everything in blackmarket. You can get rice, you can get sugar. But the pity is, in villages there is no sugar at all even in black-market. Nobody is prepared to give sugar. If this is to be the fate of a major Panchayat like Lalgudi, I do not know what the position will be in other villages where the population is far less than 1,000.

"Then again, what is happening to this manure, sulphate of ammonia? Only rich people get this manure. The poor men have to go to the Agricultural Demonstrator or the District Agricultural Officer with his bandy and wait for days and yet he will not get the quantity that he needs. On the other hand, the rich people know long before when the wagons come and they get large quantities of these manure without any difficulty.

"Therefore I would very strongly urge that these controls should be more effective in the rural parts than in the towns where one can get things much easier. I see that there is no hotel in the City which is suffering on account of the shortage of sugar. Every hotel is preparing any amount of sweets. But when I go to my place, my wife complains that she has no sugar even for coffee."

THE CHAIRMAN:—"The hon. Member can continue his speech after lunch. As to-day is Friday, I now adjourn the House to meet again at 3 p.m."

(After lunch—3 p.m.)

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise on a point of order of constitutional importance. May I recall, Sir, that when the Yuvarajah of Pithapuram brought an adjournment motion, the other day regarding the cyclone havoc in Andhra Desa the Hon. Leader of the House promised to allot a day as soon as possible for the discussion of that subject. But I saw this morning from papers that the Members of the other House are likely to discuss the matter on Monday morning and we will not be able to discuss the same before they do. Sir, it is a matter concerning the privilege of this House, and the subject has to be discussed here first. The Members hailing from Andhra were very anxious to discuss this matter and an adjournment motion was moved; and you were good enough to fix a day. We are surprised now that the Government have not only failed to come to the rescue of the victims of the Cyclone in the Andhra Desa, but . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Do not speak about the merits of the case. The hon. Member will please state the point of order."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"The Government promised to bring this matter before this House for discussion.

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But we find that before we can have an opportunity, the other House is likely to take up discussion of this subject. Is it not a matter of constitutional importance?"

MR. SPEAKER :—" There is nothing of constitutional importance. Only Financial Bills used to be introduced first in the Lower House. In all other matters for instance, if the Hon. Minister wants to make a statement on a Resolution, the discussion may take place in any House at any time. I shall quote the relevant section from the Government of India Act, 1935—

' Section 82 (c) " . . . A Bill making such provision (for declaring any expenditure to be charged on the revenues of the Province) shall not be introduced in a Legislative Council.'

This is the practice obtaining not only here but everywhere. The discussion referred to does not relate to any Financial Bill. Probably, the Hon. Minister will make a statement regarding the flood havoc in Andhra Desa. The same thing can be discussed here also in the afternoon."

* SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" May I point out, Sir, that once a promise is given by the Government, it has to be kept? The promise was made that the first opportunity for discussion of the cyclone havoc in the Andhra Desa would be given to this House when the adjournment motion on the subject was moved on Monday. The Leader of the House also agreed to set apart a day for discussion by this House. Then, how is it, Sir, that I find now that it will not be so. I have my own fears that it will be taken up probably at 5 of the clock in the evening when a detailed discussion may not be possible."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I think, we will take it up at 2-30 p.m. on Monday and discuss it till 6 p.m. and also, if need be, continue it the next day. If we take up the question in the morning, it will not be possible for us to discuss the matter throughout the day, since members of the other House have also to discuss it. In the circumstances, I have no objection to sit till 8 of the clock or even 10 on Monday and continue the discussion the next day, that is, Tuesday. After all, it is a matter of convenience. Mr. L. N. Gopalaswami will now continue his speech."

* SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not much to add to what I have said in the morning except a few words. Some friends of mine have taken exception to my remarks that the rural people have been exploited to the advantage of the townsmen. I beg to bring to their notice some of the observations made by certain hon. Members during the budget debate in order that I may bring home my remarks. It was observed by the hon. Member from Kumbakonam that while the price of controlled rice in Tanjore and Kumbakonam on a particular day was Re. 0-7-3 and Re. 0-8-11, the price in Madras City on the same day was Re. 0-6-9 and Re. 0-8-0. May I ask, Sir, is this not exploitation? It is the

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Tanjore district that produces the rice and it is being exploited. I can say that this point applies largely to every other commodity and in every other sphere of activity. As an instance I pointed out in the morning what had happened in my place regarding the distribution of sugar. The Government have seen all these things and yet they cannot see their way to decontrol and bring everything to normal. Will the Government at least now, after the advice tendered by the ex-premier, Mr. Omandur Ramaswami Reddiar, see their way to decontrol commodities so that justice may be done to all and meted out, to the villagers and the townsmen alike. The benefit of this decontrol should reach every nook and corner of the land.

" Then, Sir, there is the question of blackmarketing. If really we are serious about administering these controls, we must have the co-operation of three people, first the officials and then the merchants and thirdly the public. Of course, official co-operation is bound to be there always. But even then, we must see to it that we choose the proper type of people to work it. Unless we do this, we are not likely to succeed in our efforts. So far as the merchants are concerned, I think they are the people who want these controls most, because they are assured of their income without any effort on their part. They need not go about in search of customers nor choose or deal in good articles and many find these rations of no use to them and therefore they are sold in blackmarket. They are therefore the happiest people if the controls are continued. Then comes the public who also in a measure contribute to the existence of blackmarket. The public are afraid of controls. They are not sure of getting the quantum fixed for them next time under the controls for it varies in accordance with the supply position. So, the moment they come to know that controls are likely to be introduced, the tendency on their part is to buy and stock and hoard. The fear of scarcity increases their craving to buy at higher prices, which ultimately breeds blackmarket. So, if everybody is guaranteed the quantity of sugar or rice or whatever it is which he requires, then this craving will disappear. There must also be a good band of honest officers to see that the merchants do not sell at high prices and that if they do, take serious action against them. Side by side with seeing that there are no infringements of the rules by the merchants, the officers must educate the public against the tendency for hoarding. Unless these things are done, the controls will not be effective.

" Finally, I would like to refer to the inordinate delay caused by the officials in the issue of permits and ration cards. If a poor and illiterate man goes to a ration office for a permit, he is asked to make out an application for what he wants. When he puts everything in black and white and hands over the application to the clerk, the clerk says that it should be in a particular form. And when that particular form is filled up and given, the poor man is told that that is not the form prescribed and that he should apply in the A form or the B form or C or D or E. What that E form is

the clerk will not enlighten him upon. Thus he is put to enormous trouble and being vexed at the inordinate delay caused, and also being not in a position to wait any further, he pays a higher price and gets the things he wants in the blackmarket. We know, Sir, that many people do not plan their requirements early and apply for their requirements in good time: they are therefore compelled to resort to the blackmarket due to the delay caused by the ration office. Thus for instance, if I want a thing I apply for a permit. I do not get it in time, and so make my purchases for the occasion from the black or white or brown market. And I get the permit after the occasion is over, when I no longer need the permit. The merchant offers the commodity to me. I have no inclination to buy nor have I enough resources. So, naturally I tell the merchant 'you take away this permit and give me something else in return for it.' The merchant takes it gladly, and what results is, blackmarket. You will, therefore, see, Sir, that these inordinate delays caused by the official red-tapism cause great hardship to the people. I request the Government, Sir, that if they cannot see their way to remove these controls, at least they should remove these hardships so that the rural as well as the urban population may be able to enjoy their benefits and also see that the former is not exploited to the advantage of the latter."

* MR. B. W. BATCHELOR :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the amendment, which I trust the Government will accept, to refer the Bill to a Select Committee. Although it is a re-enactment of a previous measure, it deserves careful scrutiny in the light of present needs. Sir, the powers which are sought by the Bill are dangerous and in many ways dictatorial. As has been pointed out by the previous speaker, such powers do not always produce the results which those who seek such powers desire. They are more often frustrated and produce entirely different results.

" Now, because this Bill is a re-enactment, I do not think it has received a great deal of study by Members of this House, and in support of my statement that the powers sought are dangerous and dictatorial, I would invite your attention to a few provisions.

" Clause 5 which relates to compensation lays down that the compensation for requisitioning movable properties can be determined only by the Government. In the case of immovable properties, it is determined by agreement, failing which, the Government alone have the power to appoint an arbitrator. Again, the right of appeal is limited to immovable property of a value of more than two thousand rupees. In fact, it appears from the explanation appended to this clause that the acquisition of property under this provision may be of a permanent character and this is an example where it would appear that the powers sought are outside the scope of emergency as is contemplated in the statement of objects and reasons.

" Then we turn to clause 4. I would draw your attention to clause 4 under which requisitioned property has to be vested in the

Provincial Government free of all encumbrances. Now, under that what will happen to a mortgagee? This point deserves an explanation from the Hon. Minister.

" Under clause 6, there is no guarantee of restitution to the owner of the property. The property may be given to anybody the Government like. If the original owner has a grievance, he has no other recourse except by appeal to a Government nominee. Then, we turn to clause 12 dealing with penalties. Now, under sub-clause (2), the Government are the agents and judge as to what goods they decide to forfeit and also the sole appellate authority. Section 16 again is another example of the principle of the man being assumed to be guilty until he has proved his innocence. That is a contravention of the accepted principles of justice with the maintenance of which this House should be particularly concerned. 3-15 p.m.

"Well, Sir, of course, this is not a very big Bill in the sense that the schedule of articles which are affected by it is restricted to a comparatively few. Only eleven articles or so are so far included in the schedule. But an important principle is at issue here and that is, is the emergency so great as to justify the denial of the customary democratic safeguards? If so, Sir, I would request the Hon. Minister to give this House an explanation of such necessity or better still, accept the motion to refer the Bill to the Select Committee which need not occupy much of his time or the time of the Members serving thereon. It will not perhaps take even half a day to produce a measure in which the public who may be affected by these orders are reasonably and suitably protected."

* SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I expected when the Bill was moved by the Hon. the Member in charge that he would make a survey of the work of the controls so far as it has gone for the last few years, for there has been so many complaints as regards the way controls are being worked by the officers concerned. There is a body of opinion favouring that the controls should go. Certainly, Sir, we feel sometimes that it is much better that the controls go. When the controls go, the merchants say that the prices go up and the articles disappear when the controls are put in. Therefore, between the two, the Government are placed in a difficult position as to how to act. Therefore, it is that the Government have got to weigh this matter very carefully and come to a decision as to what has to be done in respect of articles essential for the welfare of the people concerned. Therefore, it was that plenty of discussion was going on in papers and outside as regards controls and especially in recent days with regard to sugar scarcity. I think Government are not able to make up their mind one way or the other. In fact various control orders come in so quick and fast that nobody knows where he is. In fact, in the case of contravention of a certain control order, I had to wade through a number of notifications before I could come to a conclusion on the point and the High Court Judge was put to greater difficulty to find out where exactly the control orders were contravened. If that was so, as far as the lowyers and the Judges are concerned, I do

not know how the ordinary mirasdars and other persons concerned with the disposal of the stock are to know that they have really contravened any notification of the Control Act. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary that the Government must make up their mind once for all as to what has to be done in the matter and issue definite instructions and publish them all over so that all persons concerned may know what they are bound to do and what they ought not. Therefore, I complain especially in this matter of sugar. As I have said they issued or were supposed to have issued an order for the freezing of the sugar stocks all over the Presidency. Declarations were asked for as regards stock. But who checked the declarations? Except in one or two cases, there was no checking at all to see that the declarations were good or correctly done. In a few cases there were investigations. Because of this, large stocks of sugar had gone underground. Therefore, the first thing that the Government ought to do in the control of a certain article is to see what stock of that article is available in the country, whether with the merchants or with the manufacturers or with the trade dealers. If that is not done, there is no use of any control at all.

"I find now that every time there is some difficulty conferences are called up; and not only here. Conferences are called up of all the Ministers in charge somewhere up in Delhi, where they talk for a few days and come back. Things remain where they were, sometimes they get worse. Therefore, so far as this question of controls is concerned, unless some definite policy is pursued leading to a betterment of the situation, I think people are not going to take controls very easy. And this is especially so in the case of procurement of paddy and other essential articles in various villages. Only the other day—I must mention this to the House as an illustration of the harassment to which the villagers are put—a client of mine, a staunch Congressman, came over to me in connexion with a case. He told me a useful tale of how he was harassed by procurement officers. He had given all the things that he had to spare but still in his absence the procurement officers entered his house when the ladies were there and took away bags of paddy which he was not bound to give and what he wanted to do was to ask my advice, as to what had to be done. Considering the various provisions of the Act I could not do anything more than advise him to claim damages and to see if he can get something out of it. If he could get nothing out of it, at least there would be sufficient publicity so that other persons may not be able to suffer such things any more.

" I find also many complaints from Tanjore district which is a surplus district—' The Granary of South India'. I find from the figures given today that they give us about 178 lakhs of rupees or so and only Rs. 130 lakhs or so are spent. In other districts the expenditure is much more than what they contribute to the Provincial Exchequer. Therefore, in such a district as that, a surplus district, things are very bad with regard to procurement. The

people are prepared to give paddy but there is nobody to take it. How does it happen? In fact, what happens is, in many places persons having paddy are willing to sell at less than the prices fixed by the Government. Therefore, the miller or the dealer, either he is not able to get the money or he is unwilling to take the paddy so as to make the persons sell at lower rates than what they are entitled to get. Therefore, all the mirasdars of the Tanjore district are dissatisfied with procurement because in such cases they are obliged to sell to these dealers at a rate below the price fixed by the Government. I do not know how it happens. Whereas in other places procurement is not completed so as to reach the target. Weekly reports are received regarding difficulties in achieving the targets from Tanjore—that all paddy is available for procurement but as a whole there is no procurement done. I do not know where the difficulty lies. Unless there is some person who really goes into the question as to how it happens, it is difficult to understand the policy of Government. Now, Sir, there is also this question so far as procurement is concerned. We do not want that procurement in villages should be at the mercy of the local officers concerned. Therefore, it is much better if a conference of persons who are really representative of the various districts are called in for the purpose of finding out how best the system of procurement can be effected by the Government not only to the advantage of the persons in areas where rationing is there but also to the villagers concerned. So, Sir, the whole difficulty is that once you try to reform these things then there is the question of vested interests coming in. There is the miller, there is the licensed dealer, there are the other persons who don't want any change in the system; there are the officers and others, nearly 57 thousand employed, so far as procurement and Civil Supplies are concerned—fairly a large number. They feel that if the controls go or are relaxed in any manner, their job will be gone.

" Therefore, the question of how to deal with the present situation must be settled by the Government in consultation with various bodies concerned in the various districts, or producing districts and with persons from all over the Presidency where conditions vary, as it is necessary that different principles will have to be applied in different places according to the circumstances. That is one suggestion I have to make in respect of this matter.

" Then, the only point perhaps for the Government to consider is whether controls should be extended to all articles as a whole or fix a ceiling price and make it obligatory on the merchant to sell the goods to the persons who ask for it. During the time of the war it was done. It acted very well in that offences were brought to Court or at least dealt with properly as the selling price was fixed and it was obligatory on the persons to give a receipt for the goods sold. If they charged higher than the selling price, they were held up. That was a wholesome check. In those days the people were somewhat slightly better than they are to-day in regard to essential articles.

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" The other question I would like to point out is the question of procurement and how it affects the question of Grow More Food. The more serious position of the problem is that. The villager, if he is not coaxed for the purpose, is not willing to grow more food. If by procurement we take away the paddy that he has got reserved for himself and his family, and his servants—even if that quantity is taken away from him, he thinks it is not good, it is not advantageous for him to grow more than is actually necessary for him. The cultivators have therefore to be coaxed in the matter for the purpose of growing more food. I therefore submit to the House that his interest should be well considered. In the matter of Grow More Food campaign, any number of committees have been formed and I do not know what they do. These committees have been magnified out of the old committees. Are these persons in the committee going to take upon themselves the propaganda for Grow More Food? What I would like the Hon. the Minister in charge of the administration to do is to himself seriously consider how it is going to affect the Grow More Food campaign. I think I saw in the paper the other day that the Grow More Food campaign has not progressed very much at all. Grand eloquent schemes as regards irrigation, number of acres brought under cultivation, etc., are published. But, by all this, paddy has not come into the market and the scarcity for this has not eased in any manner. The Hon. the Minister will be well advised to look into the matter more carefully and relax the control in one or two cases, so far as the position allows and make it easier and better for the actual cultivator to Grow More Food in the land. That is why I submit to the House that the Hon. Minister should be good enough to make a survey of the whole matter when he replies to the debate, telling us what he has done so far and what he proposes to do hereafter. It will be enlightening to the hon. Members of the House.

3-30 p.m.

" Then, as regards the provisions of the Bill, there is an amendment for referring the Bill to a Select Committee. So far as the reference to a Select Committee is concerned, I should like to point out that this Act has been there for three years and some progress has been made in the matter. If no control had been there, things would have been much worse. Control is necessary. Everybody is agreed on that. But some hon. Members want a relaxation of it. But if there should be any relaxation, the merchants who have been responsible for black-marketing should not have any consideration whatsoever. Clause 16, to which Mr. Majid referred, puts the burden of proof on the person accused of contravening the Act. The onus must be placed on him and it must not be shifted. I am a lawyer and speaking as a lawyer I feel very strongly that the onus should be put on the person. When control is removed, prices soar very high and when control is put in, the articles disappear. Who is responsible for it? The Government cannot afford to have their eyes all over the Presidency. It is the merchant who is responsible for it. The Government are not able to find out the actual persons

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responsible for it, nor are the persons who buy in the black-market and who are accessory to the affair willing to go to the Court and make the thing public. Under such circumstances, when the present position is very critical, we must put the burden of proving his innocence on the person accused of contravening the Act. It is said that so far as food supplies are concerned, we are on a war footing. Therefore, we must take every possible care to see that there is no leakage. Investigation by the Police or the other authorities will not be successful, because all the materials necessary for the purpose of being placed before the Court and a conviction obtained are in the hands of the merchants themselves. If a merchant accused of black-marketing can account for the materials in his possession, it is allright; otherwise he is responsible. This provision is fully justified and I would rather not relax it, unless my hon. Friends are prepared to say that the merchants would behave better than they have behaved so far."

MR. SPEAKER :—" As a number of Members want to take part in the debate, I fix a time-limit of 10 minutes for each speaker."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM :—" Mr. Speaker, this Government seem to be obsessed with the idea that controls are a cure for all evils. For the last two or three days we have been discussing control over men and today we have been discussing control over essential articles. Surprisingly enough, the Hon. Minister in charge of this Bill has not made out any case for the Bill, except to move that the Bill be taken into consideration. With due respect to the Hon. the Law Minister, I should say that there seems to be no Law Department in this Province, because the Statement of Objects and Reasons says that His Excellency the Governor was pleased to extend the operation of the Act, but the High Court said that it could not be done and that is one of the reasons why the Hon. Minister for Food has come forward with this Bill. Sir, I support the very reasonable amendment of Mr. Majid that this Bill should be referred to a Select Committee. As Mr. Batchelor has said, we must take the advice of the Select Committee and see that the Bill is properly drafted. Neither Mr. Bhashyam nor the Hon. Minister has given any reason why this Bill should not go before a Select Committee, except that perhaps they think they have a majority here and can carry through whatever they want. No other argument has been advanced by them.

" There is also one other reason. With regard to this drafting business, the Hon. Minister for Food is new to this business, to this very portfolio, and therefore it is better that he takes the advice of a Select Committee. I have known how several times the Government themselves have come forward with amendments in select committees. Yesterday, in the House itself, the Hon. Minister for Law came forward with an amendment to the important clause 4-A of the other Bill. That shows clearly that if the Government think over the matter, there will be room for improving the drafting of the Bill. If the vast powers that are sought under

this Bill are not going to be exercised by the officers in an arbitrary manner as in the past, let the Government satisfy the hon. Members that they have taken every possible care to avoid mistakes in drafting—grammatical mistakes and so on—which we have noticed in Bills in these days.

" Sir, controls are not a panacea for all the ills as the Government seem to imagine. Take sugar for instance. Has the Hon. Minister for Food got a clear plan and a programme for the distribution of sugar? If he has got one, are the Collectors who are in charge of the work following his orders? There is confusion here. The Government wasted a lot of money in printing a Gazette Extraordinary announcing that they have controlled sugar and that it should be sold at such and such a rate. Nothing else. Everybody received this sheet of paper, this Gazette Extraordinary, signed by the Chief Secretary to the Government. In this connexion, I may, refer to a cartoon in *Shanker's Weekly* which has been reproduced in the *Mail* where the Ministers announce that sugar has been controlled at Rs. 27–8–0 or so but the people want to know wherefrom they could get this sugar. Of course, the Government have controlled sugar, but where is it available? What steps have the Government taken to see that people get the sugar they want? The Government sit here in Fort St. George and waste a lot of money in publishing an order that they have controlled sugar at Rs. 27–8–0 or so, but they do not say where the sugar can be got and they do not take the necessary steps to see that their local officers follow their orders and make this essential article reach the consumers.

" Sir, Mr. Bhashyam was referring to procurement. I do not know whether he comes from Tanjore or Kumbakonam."

MR. SPEAKER :—" He represents the University Constituency."

SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" I come from all over the place."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM :—" Mr. O. P. Ramaswami Reddiyar who had the benefit of experience of administration for two years has come forward with a thesis about procurement and distribution, but nobody seems to have taken notice of it. Two years' experience is better than no experience. Mr. Reddiyar has written about the levy system. I have also put a short notice question about this, but I do not know where it is lying now in this big Secretariat. We do not know whether the Hon. Food Minister has given due consideration to the observations of Mr. O. P. Ramaswami Reddiyar regarding this procurement system.

" Sir, certain articles are mentioned in this Bill and power is taken by the Government to include any article at any time. As Mr. Batchelor pointed out, the Government may take over immovable property or movable property. If I had a movable property and mortgaged it ten years ago, it does not matter; that mortgage

will go and the property also will go to the Government. Compensation will be given by an arbitrator in a very arbitrary manner. Mr. Raza Khan was referring to arbitrations made by the Government in industrial disputes. One of the High Court Judges has been pleased to remark that these references that the Government have made were ' bad in law,' and unnecessary and uncalled for. I shall read the exact words—

> ' This reference by the Government was a very unfortunate one, bad in law, worse in its effects on labour, creating as it does industrial disputes where none existed.'

The Government are not trying to stop disputes, but they are creating industrial disputes where none existed.

" The controls do not require these vast powers sought for. Proper distribution depends on the men at the helm of affairs. If the Government are not able to see to the proper distribution without all these powers, it speaks of the men at the helm of affairs. For proper administration of an Act, the Hon. Ministers and the Government are more important than the Act itself. Therefore, it is in the system of Government itself that a cure is necessary. It is therefore better that the Hon. Minister for Food agrees to the amendment of the hon. Mr. Majid to refer the Bill to a Select Committee, so that he can have the views of the Members."

SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" Sir, the question before us is whether this Bill should be re-enacted. Whatever be the reason for re-enactment, do we want this Bill so long as we have control? That is the only question. I think this Bill need not go before a Select Committee for the simple reason there is nothing to improve on it, as it is only a re-enactment. It is quite clear that it gives some powers to the Government and the powers are comprehensive also. For controlling essential articles such as food materials, the powers taken by the Government should be comprehensive in view of the fact that the merchants and the general public, except perhaps one section of it, are now not very much willing to help their neighbours or help the country, but are all for making money and profits. Under such circumstances, our country has been able to avoid famine only by having control of the essential articles. We are not able to appreciate the difficulty because every man is now able to get eight ounces of rice or essential food article as a result of control. If control was not there, these articles which can be hoarded for a long period by the cultivators would be hoarded. Then we would have the sorry spectacle of public roads full of dead bodies as a result of starvation. But now we are not able to appreciate it. The cultivators also are not able to appreciate it. They think that they are not able to sell the whole quantity at fabulous prices in the black-market. They are not satisfied in spite of the high prices given to them by the Government. Let it be in Malabar or Tanjore or the Circars, the people are not satisfied. But is that the way in which we must view the question? So long as essential articles are in short supply and the

people are not able to get them at reasonable prices, the Government must step in and control them. Control has become necessary as a result of the greed of the persons who are not willing to part with what they have at reasonable prices. But this control should be more strictly enforced. This is a defect which has to be cured by the Government. In certain cases, the poor man is punished but the rich escapes. An old woman who sells one or two measures in the black-market is prosecuted, but the rich man who sells large quantities in the black-market for a much higher price escapes. I agree that procurement is very effective in poor homes but not in the case of rich people who have distributed their grain in a number of small houses. Do not the officials know this? If they know, why do not they take action? I agree that procurement must be made stricter and distribution made equitable. Control is working more or less efficiently. It is working very efficiently in Malabar through the agency of the co-operative societies, although interested persons may accuse the societies. But still sufficient procurement is not made from the rich cultivators. The rich people somehow manage because they have got a certain amount of influence which always tells. We can only say
3-45 p.m. that things are not properly administered. There is no remedy for it now, remedy has to be found only hereafter. If the production is affected, I may say it is not at all affected by these controls. There is a change from production of food articles to the production of economic articles. The cultivator after all is not a senseless fellow; he is not afraid of procurement; on the other hand, he is even able to hoodwink the officials. The real fact is that the cultivator gets more price for his economic goods, things such as sugarcane, tobacco, etc. That is why he does not want to produce foodgrains; if the food grains also bring him as much price as the other economic articles, then he will surely cultivate food articles.

" Reference was made to the levy system. That is another trick, with all respect to the originators of the scheme. I am afraid it will not work. If it is for a whole village, then the rich man will make the poor man give everything and the poor man will have to suffer. If it is fixed at a particular quantity per acre, then also the poor man will part with a portion of what little he gets and the rich man will still have plenty with him, beyond his margin. Thus, there won't be equitable distribution of procurement and it will be very difficult to make the man with the surplus surrender what he does not want for himself. Thus, the levy system won't work. I submit there is nothing wrong with controls, as such. They do not affect production at all. Production is affected because in most cases the cultivator is poor and is not able to cultivate existing lands, and also, cultivable lands are not brought into cultivation. When compared to the bringing in of a new Agricultural Bill, I must say, section 7 of this Bill is a very reasonable provision; under it, the cultivator can bring into cultivation any land which can be cultivated. I do not find anything wrong in this clause 7 of the Bill. There are no clauses here which are harsh. We are in this Bill dealing with articles of food

which are very necessary for everybody. Sugar would have been quite easy to get if there was control; there was control only in the price of sugar. The dealers in sugar knew it; and so they secreted it, and you find sugar now travelling throughout the province, not once or twice, but many times; sugar can be had in plenty, only we have to pay Rs. 1–6–0 per lb. That, I say, is a wrong method of working the control. You cannot, however, on that account say that control itself is wrong. If Government want to have control in respect of any article, they must have it comprehensively, throughout. Prices are allowed to soar very high; the paddy man says ' I am not able to purchase my needs with the money I get for my paddy; so give me a higher price '. It is true he is not satisfied. In my view, the Government must control not a few articles only; they must control all essential articles, and the control must be comprehensive. If control is to bring any benefit to the poor man, it must be administered properly. Control by which you make the owner of one article get a particular price and compel him at the same time to pay a higher price for other articles is not good at all; that creates a lot of heart-burning. Control must not be administered half-heartedly. Cultivators are saying ' do not have control '; Government are saying ' what is it, everybody condemns control '. I say that control must be statutory in respect of every essential article, throughout the province, not control for paddy only. England is the only country where the prices rose to 35 per cent of the pre-war rate; that is because during the war they controlled the prices and the control continues still even after the war. We introduced controls in respect of certain articles as a war measure; but even after the war we are so badly off in regard to food articles as we were during the war. If we do not have controls, the rich man will continue to have his food somehow while the poor man will starve. If that state of things is to continue, I am afraid there will be a lot of rioting, for which the Government must be prepared. As I said, the real trouble is that our controls are not sufficiently comprehensive and effective; there are many loopholes.

" The question of sugar was referred to. I have already stated there is something wrong with the method of distribution. Sugar can be equitably distributed in ration areas. Do not give sugar to persons who are not habitually using it; you must have some authority who can say ' well, this man has been using sugar regularly '; sugar that is not wanted in any house must be equitably distributed in the village; and for that purpose you must have committees. But Government simply scrapped away these committees saying that undesirable elements got into them. No doubt some undesirable elements might have got in, but what was the remedy? You should have rectified the defects. So I say, it is not very difficult to equitably distribute sugar. What is the price of jaggery? And how can you control sugar when you do not control jaggery, when the one leads to the other? Sir, this Bill is very necessary; otherwise we will have to face very bad consequences. We have seen the result of decontrol in the case of

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cloth and again in the case of sugar. In the case of rice fortunately there is no question of our people dying of starvation, because every man is given at least 8 oz. though from a national point of view, his physique may deteriorate as a result of insufficient nutrition. As a matter of fact, we must thank our stars that we have this control of rice at least in our province.

" There is another point—the question as to how controls affect the grow-more-food campaign. The grow-more-food drive is not at all affected by controls; there are a lot of reasons for its slow progress, such as the Government not giving sufficient facilities, and the cultivator thinking that he will get more price for his economic produce. If the grow-more-food campaign has not succeeded, that is because the Government have not made sufficient efforts, they have not supplied sufficient manure, they have not given water facilities, they have not encouraged cultivation of cultivable lands, etc. That being so, what is the use of stating that because of these controls, the grow-more-food drive has not succeeded? This cry against controls is only a slogan wantonly adopted by a few people.

" Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar said something about the export of paddy. I come from a taluk which is surplus; one society was started; Government said ' keep the quantity necessary for the area, we will take the surplus ". But the next day came the order that because North Malabar was starving, all the stock should be given up; we had to say ' yes '. So, if the district of Tanjore or other surplus districts have to send their rice to other places, it is only with a view to help their suffering brethren in those places. So, it is not the mistake of control that bad rice is given. As a matter of fact, at five stages rice is being examined. If the concerned people do not examine rice properly and allow bad rice to escape, who is responsible for it—is it control or the officials? Of course I have nothing to say against the officials, officials may work efficiently enough; probably they are now putting in only 50 per cent efficiency; there must be more efficiency. There is a lot of loose control at every stage. If the mill-owners keep the rice for ten days and afterwards export it, there will be no danger; but they put it in the bag immediately, with the result that it emits bad smell and we are supplied with bad rice. I must say sometimes one or two measures of stones or mud are also mixed up; but still, I ask, is it the mistake of the miller or of the control?

" Let us take the example of the sales tax; the tax itself is not bad, but it is very badly administered and everybody has got a complaint against it. The supply department will prosecute only the small people and leave off the rich people. For taking one or two measures, the poor people are teased; of course the rich people also should not be teased, but you may excuse them provided they do not commit the mistake once again. On that basis, all this has to be done. That is why I say you should not complain against control itself.

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" In the matter of procurement, it must be a little more strict, and in the matter of charge-sheeting people, you have to be very careful. Finally, I would say, let us have proper control, an extension of control, make rationing statutory everywhere and procure more. If effective control is brought in at every stage and if procurement also is made a little more intensive, especially in the case of rich people, there can be nothing wrong in our food-grains position. You must be prepared to insist on having controls, if you want that poor people should not die. Prices also must be controlled, though not in the way in which sugar is controlled. The price of one article depends on the price of other articles also; and if you have control for one, you must have control for the others too.

" For these reasons, Sir, I do not think there is any necessity for sending this Bill to a Select Committee."

4 p.m.

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN :—" Mr. Speaker, I feel sure that by now the Hon. Minister for Food would be convinced that there is very good justification for referring the Bill to a Select Committee. I am sure the Hon. the Minister for Law would also agree with me; after all nothing would be lost by it. The Assembly is now in session and within two or three days, we will be able to thrash out some of the objectionable features of the Bill and make the necessary amendments. The Hon. Minister will do well to accept Mr. Majid's amendment. Fortunately the occasion has been made use of for discussing the question of sugar shortage in the City of Madras and also in the mufassal. My esteemed Friend Mr. Gopalaswami was wrong when he said that conditions regarding the sugar position are much better in the City of Madras than in the mufassal parts. I can appreciate the difficulties of the people in the villages having regard to the conditions obtaining in the City. Many hon. Members have said that the Government have not taken effective steps to see that sugar was properly distributed in the City of Madras. With such a thing happening in the City, I can well understand what the position would be in far off villages. In Madras they arranged for the distribution through certain retailers and the Triplicane Urban Co-operative Society but the distribution even by the Triplicane Urban Co-operative Society was not satisfactory. In a particular depot which might have been given some 20 to 30 bags, the few people who came in advance were given a viss and as the supply proceeded apace, the quantity given to each individual was reduced to 10 palams and 5 palams and eventually the rest went into the blackmarket, the supply being abruptly stopped. In this connexion, the publication which appeared in *The Mail* would be proof positive of how the people experienced difficulty even in the matter of taking their meagre supply of sugar. Either we should have a proper control or have no control at all: this policy will not help—neither the Government will be benefited nor the consumers will be satisfied—there is no use of half-hearted measures and the Government must know where they stand and how the people feel about it and they must not think, simply because they have issued a

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certain set of instructions, that every one is satisfied and there is no defect anywhere. I still am confident that the Bill may be referred to a Select Committee and therefore, am not referring to the clauses of the Bill as some hon. Members have done. About sugar, there was an article in *The Mail* which drew attention to the fact that we have to pay more price for sugar that we get from United Provinces or Bihar. I do not envy them; but if the Government of India had imported sugar from outside and built up a buffer stock here, we should have been able to get it at a price of annas 10 or 11 per viss. For a thing coming from our own country we have to pay nearly double the price, Re. 1–4–0 and Rs. 1–5–0 and with all that we are not able to get it. It is all because it is controlled and the Government of India had said that there should be no further imports into this country and that is why they are demanding such high price; they see nothing wrong in their cane-growers getting a better price so that they might pay to the zamindari abolition fund, as it was said in that article. The time has come for this Government to make a reference to the Government of India asking them why the people of this province numbering about five crores should be asked to pay more just to go into the pockets of people in Bihar and United Provinces. I am not saying this in a provincial or linguistic spirit but I feel that had a buffer stock been built up, we would not be having all these complaints about scarcity and high price and the prices will come down and the consumers will be able to get their demands. I find that the Government have said that they will try to increase production.

" Might I ask the Hon. Minister what he has done to increase production? Yesterday, my esteemed Friend Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar was saying how the prices of certain commodities both controlled and de-controlled had gone up. Take the case of firewood in the City of Madras; it is selling at Rs. 1–12–0 per gundu. The Government have simply said that they are trying their best to increase production. I wish to know what they have done. There is abundant supply of jungle wood from the jungles around and might I ask what action the Government have taken to ensure an adequate supply of wood to the City. There is no point in incorporating a clause that the Government will do this and that, unless it be that they want to be self-complacent that they have done everything for the people. Reverting to the question of sugar, I am sure that the Hon. Minister for Food will avail himself of this opportunity and try to come out with what the policy of the Government is with regard to sugar distribution. From the Press Note, we see that it is only a tentative arrangement and even that scheme is only applicable to the City of Madras where things could be easily done as you have got the ration staff and the data ready. What is to be done where you do not have ration? I do not want to take up the time of the House as people who have experience of controls and rations will help the Hon. Minister in effecting the necessary changes and return the Bill to the House to enable it to take it up clause by clause."

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* SRI R. SUBBA AYYAR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Government motion. In doing so, I should like to place before the House some facts relating to controls and allied matters, so as to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister for Food and seek redress.

" I agree with what the hon. Mr. Varadachari said this morning about the declaration of stocks by ryots. It is really hard upon ryots. I have come across a number of cases in my own taluk in Chingleput district, a number of prosecutions being launched against them for not having sent their declarations of stock under section 3 of the Act. Let me illustrate my point by a reference to income-tax procedure. A number of hon. Members of this House must be income-tax assessees. No doubt, the Income-tax Act requires the declaration of total world income on the part of the assessee before a particular date of the financial year. It is within our experience that most of the assessees do not send their returns until a printed form is received from the income-tax authorities and the assessees reminded that they should send it on a particular date. While this is so in the case of educated people—most of the income-tax assessees are educated and they know how to transact business—the publication is made in the papers that the assessees should submit their returns of total income before a particular date, then the prined form is sent containing some 12 pages of printed matter and the date is fixed for its return to the Income-tax office. When all this is done in the case of returns with regard to the payment of income-tax, in the case of declaration of stocks under this Act by the ryots, no such procedure is contemplated. May be that the stocks are required to be declared before a particular date by an announcement in the District or the *Fort St. George Gazette*. Very often, the ryot does not know that there is such a Gazette.

" Recently, in my own district of Chingleput, the Anti-Blackmarketing staff wanted to catch some cases. Finding that they had no cases to catch, they launched prosecutions, without reference to the Collector, against a number of people for not declaring their stocks in time. I believe these prosecutions are pending before the Government. The hardship involved in these cases has been pointed out to the Government and I belive a resolution was also passed by District Food Committee recommending to the Government the withdrawal of these cases. May I suggest to the Hon. Minister that before taking any action under this Essential Supplies Act against poor ryots, printed forms containing particulars in the form of questions to be answered be sent to them in advance—the Revenue Inspector may distribute them or the village munsif—and these people may be given some time. In such a way this declaration of stock can be got from the ryots. Just to prosecute people because they have not submitted the declaration within a certain time is too hard and this has produced a good deal of harassment and annoyance and coupled with the hardships of procurement and harassment at the hands of the procurement officials, I even fear there may not be an incentive on their part to produce more, although we may be crying from house-tops to produce more for the

people and not to import food from outside. I would suggest to the Hon. Minister that all these prosecutions for failure to declare stocks may be straightaway withdrawn, as a matter of policy.

" I have to bring to the notice of the Government certain facts regarding procurement. Innumerable instances have come to my notice and to the notice of several hon. Members that in a number of cases, procurement officials go to the same set of people and compel them to give more and more. In my own district which is a deficit district where the monsoons have failed for three consecutive years, people are there who cultivate one or half an acre of land by baling water from dried-up wells and it is to these people the procurement officials periodically go and insist upon them to give so many bags. It is really very hard. Very recently during the elections to the district boards when we went to these people, numerous instances were brought to our notice of how people were asked to part with what little they had after already giving very heavily to procurement. In one particular case, procurement authorities in the absence of the houseowner, locked up the house, sealed the bags and left nothing for his consumption. After he returned to the house, he had to hunt after them for nearly a week for getting rice to cook his food. Complains have been received by us that the authorities have even removed the quantity reserved for seed. This is all happening because the Government insist that the target shall be reached by every particular officer within a particular date. Because they are pressed from above, they press the people below, not the big ryots who have 400 or 500 acres but each time they go to these poor people who with the sweat of their labour cultivate half
4-15 p.m or one acre of land, baling out water from dried-up wells. There is a good deal of resentment in the villages and I submit there will be no inducement on the part of the ryots to produce more especially seeing that the Government do not guarantee to them adequate supply of agricultural implements, manure, seeds and other accessories. These difficulties have been pointed out by speakers who preceded me. Therefore I submit these hardships of the ryots must be immediately alleviated. Then, Sir, something was said about the levy system. I wish to state that we should introduce levy system on a slab basis as it is done in the case of income-tax. That would go a long way to alleviate the hardship of men with one acre and two acres.

" Then, Sir, again in the matter of controls and rationing I would very humbly submit, that statutory rationing in towns and municipalities for from being satisfactory is all a farce, and in the informal ration areas it is a nullity. I would request the Hon. Food Minister to go to any village ration shop and see what the off-take every week in any shop is. Due to the recent rains there had been some dry crop in the villages, and so the ryots do not resort to ration shop. And to-day what do you see even in statutory ration areas. Right in the heart of the metropolis, in broad daylight, in open streets, excellent polished rice is sold at 14 annas a measure whereas if you go to the ration shop you have to pay twelve annas for stinking rotten rice. So, you see, Sir, it is profitable to buy in the blackmarket. Now, what is happening in my own district of

Chingleput? It is not as if the people have not got anything there to eat. Invariably rotten stinking rice is dumped. At this time, while I am speaking here, there are thousands and thousands of bags of this rotten rice dumped in the godowns there. We have repeatedly represented to the Collector and the numerous ration officers, who between them consume two crores and odd of rupees of the Provincial revenues for redress, all in vain. Why should we eat this stinking rice? Is there no remedy? I ask, who is responsible for importing this rice? If the wholesale merchants are asked about it, they say, this rice is reserved for Chingleput. Have you not got any other place to send this rice to? All our representations have been in vain. What is the ultimate result? The poor people have been forced to buy a portion of this rotten rice along with a small portion of broken rice; and in fact they have to purchase four kinds of rice as ration. This is the result of Government's procurement and rationing. It seems there is no remedy for this state of affairs. So I request the Hon. Food Minister and his officials to see that good rice is sent to Chingleput.

" Then, Sir, very recently there was no raw rice in the ration shops. I myself represented to the authorities about this . . . . (At this stage, the Speaker rang the bell.) Only one point, Sir, with regard to fixation of price and I will conclude my speech. Invariably it happens, that the grains are allowed to rot in the godown before the Collector fixes the price. The Collectorate does not fix the price immediately the consignment is received. I shall give one case. Bengalgram was received some time before Dipavali and till to-day the price of it has not been fixed. What is the result? It is allowed to rot away in the godowns. And by the time the price is fixed and the article released for sale it will be moth-eaten and unfit for human consumption. This practice has been going on for the last six years. Have you not got your experience of six years? Can't you improve and rectify things from past experience? Surely this must be stopped at any cost.

" Then, Sir, with regard to sugar, it is the same story. We were told in the beginning of the year that there was a surplus of two lakhs of tons of sugar. How has all that disappeared? Between the Sugar Syndicate and the sugar merchants the consumers are suffering. I hope the Hon. Minister for Food would bestow some attention on our grievances and redress them at the earliest moment."

* JANAB MUHAMMAD ANWAR :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I see the Hon. Minister for Food seated with great dignity on the Treasury Bench (laughter) as befitting a great rotarian; and I know he is a great rotarian of our province. But Mr. Speaker, when I woke this morning and when I looked into the newspaper I was very disagreeably surprised to see how he should have been immortalized in a cartoon as a snake charmer. All eyes were on him, the Members of the Treasury Bench watching with great anxiety and the teeming millions watching with equal anxiety, as to what would be the outcome of his music. I know he is playing all his arts to solve the food problem; and yet all that we see and all that we know is that the food crisis is not nearer the solution.

Indeed one of his predecessors, and I believe a remote predecessor, that ex-producer-cum-consumer, the hon. Mr. Raghava Menon, has very rightly emphasized for control from start to finish. And we know when commodities are in short supply it is but natural and it is in the fitness of things and that is the rationale of administration, that we must have control. (At this stage Chairman Sri R. V. Swaminathan occupied the Chair.) But control, in order that it must be effective must be control of production and control of distribution. It is no use ordering one fine morning control of prices, when you don't have enough of buffer stocks; and that is the problem which we are having with regard to sugar.

" Now, Mr. Chairman, I know you are suffering from want of sugar. (Laughter.) If I offer you a sugar-coated pill (Laughter) you will say the sugar is not enough in it. But I ask you, Mr. Chairman, can we not have this self-denying ordinance to go without sugar. After all, is that (sugar) such a necessity that we should come to this Assembly and worry the powers-that-be and ask them to give sugar, more sugar and still more sugar. In fact the whole province can go without sugar or even jaggery.

" But Mr. Chairman, I am not here concerned with sugar so much, as with our food. The recent control order is more honoured in its breach than in its observance. And that for obvious reasons, in that the administrators are mostly wooden-headed. They do not seem to take stock of the reality of the situation. Mr. Chairman, I do not know, how many parties you have attended; (Laughter) and on how many occasions you have been invited for hospitality. I know for certain that bred up as we are with traditions of our ancestors extending over centuries, you cannot expect any hospitality befitting your honour and status now. (Laughter.) Orders have been issued regarding marriage parties restricting invitations to not more than thirty members. (A voice : Now it is fifty.) How is it, in our country, known all over the world for its hospitality, which has been proverbially described as flowing with milk and honey, possible to restrict invitations to thirty or fifty, or whatever it may be. My only point is, Mr. Chairman, that it is Government by such rules and regulations, which do not take stock of the reality of the situation, are allowing people to disobey more than observe the rules. It was only some time ago when, your immediate predecessor-in-office, the Hon. Dr. Rajan, when he was confronted with a question in the Assembly as to how a marriage could be possible in our country restricting invitations to such a small number, replied, 'Yes, we cannot help it.' Sir, we are having such traditions that we cannot easily overcome such traditions. And yet what is it we see. Very honourable parties have been given, and the parties are prosecuted and subjected to many harassments, may be on grounds political, may be on grounds communal or may be on grounds clannish. Several honourable parties have been arrested, because we know rules and regulations allow officials to proceed against such parties. In fact, officers have been waiting for opportunities when marriages will be performed, and naturally at a time when we expect blessings to take place there,

we see Police officials coming and waiting to take charge of the couples, and even their fathers-in-law. (Laughter.) It is to avoid all this I say that the rules and regulations under food control should be implemented properly by the Government.

" Now, Sir, you must have birth control (laughter) because, of all the controls, or rather the best of all controls is birth control. And if that was there in the country there would not be this control. (Laughter.) Really I do not know why my friends seem amused with that suggestion. May be, they cannot practise it by means of appliances. But let it be remembered that Mahatma Gandhi advocated it by continence. Our country cannot afford to feed all; we are having teeming millions; and we cannot be proud of such millions if we cannot afford to feed such millions. Mr. Chairman, we know we have to face now many troubles and problems. Our orthodox circles will not agree to birth control. But anyhow Government in order to meet the situation should take courage in both hands and see that it mobilises as many forces in the country as possible to see that there is birth control."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—" Mr. Chairman, do children come under essential articles? " (Laughter.)

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR :—" I shall enlighten him, Mr. Chairman. (Laughter.) I know to-day in our Province children are not essential. We have first to provide for the existing population before we are expected to provide for generations yet to come.

" So I would appeal to the Hon. Minister to see that while he is enforcing the rules and regulations let him as befits our traditions allow liberally to Indian marriage parties; and with that Mr. Chairman I close my speech."

4-30 p.m.

* SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI :—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இன்றையதினம் முக்யமான உணவுபொருள் சம்பந்தப்பட்ட சட்டத்தை சர்க்கார் கொண்டுவந்திருப்பதை ஆதரித்து சில வார்த்தைகளைச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். யுத்தம் முடிந்த நாள்முதற்கொண்டு நாளதுவரையில் உணவுபஞ்சம் இந்த மாகாணத்திற்கு ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இந்தக் கஷ்டம் சகிக்கமுடியாததாக இருக்கின்றது. சென்ற ஐந்து வருஷங்களாக எவ்வளவோ பெரிய கஷ்டங்களை சர்க்கார் இதுவரையிலும் சமாளித்து வந்திருக்கிறது என்பதை யாரும் மறுத்துவிடமுடியாது. இதற்குமுன் எவ்வளவோ பெரிய பஞ்சம் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. அப்பொழுது சூளை முனிசாமி என்பவர் சமீபத்தில்

' அரிசி படி இரண்டு பணமாகி முழிக்குது
ஐயோ ! பிள்ளைகள் கஞ்சிக்கு பஞ்சாக பறக்குது '

என்று ஒரு பாட்டு பாடினார். 70, வருஷங்களுக்கு முன்பு காது வருஷத்தில் ஒரு கருப்பு பஞ்சம் ஏற்பட்டது. அந்தப் பஞ்சத்தில் ஒரு படி அரிசி நான்கு அணவாக விறறும்கூட அந்தகாலத்து ஜனங்கள் அதை வாங்கமுடியாமல் செத்துப்போனார்கள் என்றும் அவர் பாடி வைத்தார். ஆனால் இப்பொழுது ஒரு படி அரிசி ஒரு ரூபாயாக விற்றேறது. Control-ல் அது 13 அணவாக விற்கப்படுகிறது. ஆனால் black-market-ல் ரூபாய் 1 அல்லது ரூபாய் 1-4-0 என்று விறகிறார்கள். இவ்விதம் black-market-ல் விற்றாலும் கூட வங்காளத்தில் பஞ்சத்தினால் ஏற்பட்ட மரணத்தைப்போல் இங்கும் ஏற்படாமல் அரிசியை ஜனங்கள் black-market-ல் வாங்கி இவ்வளவு நாளும் சமாளித்து செத்துப்போகாமலிருக்கிறார்கள்,

[Sri N. Annamalai Pillai] [11th November 1949

இன்னும் நமது ரேஷன் முறையை எற்படுத்தியும் இதை சமாளித்து வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். இவ்விதம் அவர்கள் சமாளித்து வந்ததற்கு நம் தேசத்து மக்கள் மந்திரி சபைக்கும் அரசாங்கத்திற்கும் கடமைப்பட்டிருக்கின்றார்கள். ஆனால் இனிமேல்பட ஜனங்களால் கஷ்டத்தை தாங்க முடியாது. இதுவரையில் ஜனங்கள் கஷ்டத்தை சகித்து வந்தாலும் இனி மேல் சகிக்கமுடியாது. ஆனால் இதை சமாளிக்க ஒரு உதாரணம் சொல்லுகிறேன். விறகை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளுங்கள் இப்பொழுது விறகு உற்பத்தியாகும் காடுகள் பூமிமட்டமாகிவிட்டன. காடுகளெல்லாம் அழிந்து போய் விட்டன. அந்தகாடுகளை வைத்து ஜனங்களால் பரிபாலிக்கமுடிய வில்லை. **Forest** பஞ்சாயத்துகளாலும் சமாளிக்க முடியவில்லை. இப்பொழுது காடுகளை யெல்லாம் வெட்டி யெடுத்துக்கொண்டு போகும் நிலைமைக்கு வந்துவிட்டது. என் இந்த நிலைமைக்கு வந்துவிட்டதென்று சர்க்கார் யோசித்து அதற்கு பரிகாரம் உடனே செய்யவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. பெட்ரோல் இருந்தால்தான் மோட்டாரை ஓட்டலாம். பெட்ரோல் இல்லாவிட்டால் கரி இருக்கவேண்டும். அதற்காக காடுகளிலிருக்கும் மரங்களை வெட்டி கரியாக்கி ரோடுகளில் பஸ்கள் ஓடும்படி செய்தாகிவிட்டார்கள். அதனால் காடுகள் அழிந்துபோய்விட்டன. ஜனங்களுக்கு விறகுவேண்டுமென்றால் காட்டிலிருந்துதான் வரவேண்டும். ஆனால் காட்டிலிருந்த விறகு மாய்ந்து விட்டன. பஸ்களுக்காக காடுகளை வெட்டி கரியாக்கிவிட்டதால் இனிமேல் தேசத்தில் ஜனங்களுக்கு வேண்டிய விறகிற்கு காடுகள் இல்லை. அதனால் உணவு பொருள்களை பயிரிடுவதற்கு மழையில்லாமல் திண்டாடும் நிலைமை எற்பட்டுவிட்டது. இந்த நிலைமையை போக்குவதற்கு என்ன செய்ய வேண்டுமென்பதை சர்க்கார் உடனடியாக கவனிக்கவேண்டும். மிளகு விலை எறிவிட்டது. காப்பிக்கொட்டை விலை எறிவிட்டது. சர்க்கரை விலை எறிவிட்டது. எதை எடுத்தாலும், எங்குபார்த்தாலும் விலை ஏற்றம்தான். சாதாரணமாக விற்றவைகளெல்லாம் திடீரென்று விலையில் மாறுதல்கள் எற்பட்டதற்கு காரணம் என்னவென்பதை பரிசீலனை செய்யவேண்டும். வெறும் பேச்சளவில் மாத்திரம் சர்க்காரைத் தாக்கிப்பேசுவதில் பிரயோசனமில்லை. இவைகளிலெல்லாம் சர்க்காருக்கும் எவ்வளவோ தொல்லைகள் இருக்கின்றன. **Procurement**-ல் கூட சர்க்காருக்கு எவ்வளவோ தொல்லை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. சில்லரை அதிகாரிகளால் தொல்லை, வியாபாரிகளால் தொல்லை. இந்த தொல்லைகளையெல்லாம் ஒழிக்க சர்க்கார் ஒரு வழியைக் கண்டுபிடிக்கவேண்டும். அதற்கு வழி ஒன்றே ஒன்றுதானிருக்கிறது. அதுவும் எனக்குத் தெரிந்ததைச் சொல்லுகிறேன். ஒரு மாதத்திற்கு இந்த சர்க்காரும் சரி, இந்த **Cabinet**-ம் சரி அல்லது இந்த சட்ட சபையிலுள்ள அங்கத்தினர்களில் அனுபவம் வாய்ந்த அநேகம் பேர்களிருக்கின்றார்கள் அவர்களும் சரி எல்லோரும் சேர்ந்து எகோபித்து வேறு வேலைகளை கவனியாமல் இதையே ஒரு மாதமோ அல்லது ஒரு வாரமோ யோசித்து பரிசீலனைசெய்து ஒரு முடிவுக்கு வரவேண்டும். சர்க்காரில் அநேகம் அதிகாரிகள் இருக்கிறார்கள் அவர்களும் கீழ் அதிகாரிகளும் தலைமை அதிகாரிகளும் நிர்வாக அதிகாரிகளும் ஒவ்வொருவரும் 15 நாட்கள் அல்லது ஒரு மாதம் கலந்தாலோசித்து இதே காரியமாக இருந்து ஒரு முடிவுக்கு வரவேண்டும். அவரவர்களுக்கு எது தோன்றுகிறதோ அதையெல்லாம் சொல்லி ஆலோசனை செய்து ஒரு முடிவுக்கு வரவேண்டும். அதனால் பிரயோசனப்படுகிறதோ இல்லையோ பாதகமில்லை. ஏதோ மனமாற யோசித்து விட்டுவிட்டோம் என்பதாக இருக்கவேண்டும். பிறகு இவைகளை நிவர்த்திக்க மார்க்கம் தோன்றும். பிறகு பஞ்சம் தொலைய வழி எற்படலாம். அதில் எல்லோருக்கும் சௌகர்யமிருக்கிறது. இவைகளையெல்லாம் செய்யாமலும் கவனிக்காமலும் பேச்சளவிலேயே இருந்துகொண்டிருந்தால் நம் நாட்டில் என்ன எற்படுமென்றால் அராஜகம்தான் எற்படும். அதனால் நாட்டில் குழப்பம்வரும். இனி ஜனங்களால் கஷ்டத்தையும் பஞ்சத்தையும் தாங்கமுடியாது. இப்பொழுது சர்க்கரைக்கு பதிலாக சாக்கரீனை காப்பியில் சேர்க்கிறார்கள். அதாவது சோடாபுட்டிக்கு சேர்ப்பதை. அந்த வாய் சர்க்கரையாகத்தான் தித்திக்கிறது. இந்த சாக்கரீன், சோடா புட்டிக்கு போடுவதை, காப்பியில்போட்டு கொடுத்துவிட்டால் மனிதன் இருப்

11th November 1949] [Sri N. Annamalai Pillai]

பதா அல்லது சாவதா என்பது தெரியவில்லை. இதை ஜனங்கள் குடித்து வருவதால் என்ன அனர்த்தம் வரப்போகிறதோ தெரியாது. ஜனங்களுக்குள்ள கஷ்டங்களை அகற்றவேண்டுமென்றால் இதற்கு பரிகாரம் ஒன்றே ஒன்றுதான். நான் சொன்னதுபோல் அடிக்கடி அதிகாரிகளும் அனுபவஸ்தர்களும் கூடி யோசித்தும் பிறகு ஒரு முடிவு செய்யவேண்டும். அதிகாரிகளின் மீது லஞ்சம் வாங்குகிறார்கள் என்று குற்றம் சொல்லுவதில் பிரயோசனமில்லை. **Procurement** ஊழல்களை எவ்வளவோ ஒழிக்கவேண்டுமென்று நினைத்தாலும் அது வளர்ந்துகொண்டேதான் வருகிறது. எவ்வளவோ குறைகளிருந்துகொண்டேதானிருக்கின்றன. அவைகளையெல்லாம் போக்குவதற்கு உடனடியாக சர்க்கார் நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுத்துக் கொள்ள வேண்டும். இவ்விதம் நடவடிக்கைகளை எடுத்துக்கொள்வதற்கு சில குறைகள் இருக்கின்றன. அவைகளையும் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இப்பொழுது நடந்துவரும் அரசாங்கத்தில் முனபு வெள்ளைக்கார அரசாட்சியிலிருந்துவந்த சிப்பந்திகள் அநேகம்பேர்கள் இருக்கின்றார்கள். அவர்களும் நிர்வாக நிபுணர்களாக இருக்கின்றார்கள். அவர்கள் இன்றைய தினம் சுதந்திர நாட்டில், சுதந்திர அரசாட்சியில் வேலை பார்த்து வருகின்றார்கள். அவ்விதம் வேலைபார்த்துவருகிறவர்களில் அநேகம் பேர்களுக்கு தாம் சுதந்திர இந்தியாவில் வேலை பார்த்துவருகின்றோம் என்ற உணர்ச்சி இல்லவே இல்லை. போலீஸ் இலாகாவிலும்கூட சிலபேர்கள்தான் சுதந்திர இந்தியா என்று நினைத்துவருகின்றார்கள். இன்னும் மற்ற இலாகாக்களில் கூட சிப்பந்திகள் தாங்கள் சுதந்திர இந்தியாவில் வேலை பார்த்துவருகிறோம் என்ற உணர்ச்சி எற்படாமல் வேலை பார்த்துவருகின்றார்கள். எனக்கு முன் பேசிய கனம் கோபாலசாமி அய்யர் அவர்கள் சொன்னதில் ஒரு கடுகு அளவுகூட பொய் இல்லை. அவ்வளவும் உண்மைதான். ரேஷன் ஆபீஸ்களில்போய் ஒரு தகவல் கேட்டால் **A-form** எழுத வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஆனால் **A-form** எங்கு இருக்கிறது என்று சொல்வது கிடையாது. எதாகிலும் தகவல்கள் வேண்டுமென்றால் சிப்பந்திகள் சொல்லுவதே கிடையாது. அதனால் அநேகம் ஜனங்கள் கஷ்டமடைகின்றார்கள். அதிகாரிகள் தாங்கள் சுதந்திர இந்தியாவில் சுதந்திரமடைந்த மக்களுக்கு சேவை செய்ய வந்தோம் என்ற உணர்ச்சி இன்னும் எற்படவில்லை. பழய மனப்பான்மையுடன்தான் இன்னும் இருக்கின்றார்கள். ஜனங்களுக்கு கஷ்டமில்லாமல் எல்லா சாமான்களும் கிடைக்குமபடி அதிகாரிகள் ஏற்பாடு செய்வதற்கு இன்னும் மனம் வரவில்லை. இன்னும் பல இடங்களில் கள்ளத்தனமும், லஞ்சம் வாங்கும் பழக்கமும் இருந்துகொண்டுதானிருக்கின்றன. ஆனால் எல்லோர் மீதும் குறை கூற நான் விரும்பவில்லை. அதிகாரிகளுக்கு மனம் மாற வேண்டுமென்று தான் சொல்லுகிறேன். ஜனங்களுக்கு மனம் மாற வேண்டுமே தவிர எவ்வளவு தூரம் பணம் கொடுத்தாலும் சரி, முயற்சி எடுத்துக்கொண்டாலும் சரி ஒன்றும் பிரயோசனப்படாது. ஆனால் மனம் தான் மாறவேண்டுமென்றும் எற்கனவே மகாத்மா காந்தி சொல்லியிருக்கிறார். தீண்டாமை ஒழிவதற்குக்கூட மனம் தான் மாறவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னார். அப்படியேதான் ஜனங்களுக்கு மனம் மாறுதல் அடைந்து தீண்டாமை ஒழிந்தது. அதைப்போலவே எல்லாக்காரியங்களிலும் முன்னேற்றமடைவதற்கு ஜனங்களுடைய மனதில் மாறுதல் எற்பட வேண்டும். சிப்பந்திகள் நல்லுணர்ச்சியுடன் வேலை செய்ய முற்படவேண்டும். அவர்களுக்கு எந்த விதமான சலுகையும் காட்டுவதற்கு சுதந்திர இந்தியா தயங்காது. இந்த பஞ்ச காலத்தில், கஷ்ட காலத்திலும் ஜனங்களின் மீது எவ்வளவோ கஷ்டமான சட்டங்களை சுமத்தியிருக்கிறோம். இந்தக் கஷ்டங்களை அவர்கள் சமாளிக்க முடியாமலிருக்கும்பொழுது இன்னும் மேலும் பாரத்தைச் சுமற்றிக்கொண்டிருந்தால் ஜனங்கள் சர்க்கார் மீது தினம் குறை கூறிக்கொண்டும் திட்டிக்கொண்டும்தானிருப்பார்கள். இதற்கெல்லாம் காரணம் அரசாங்கத்திலிருக்கும் சில அதிகாரிகள் தங்களுடைய மனதை இன்னும் மாற்றிக்கொள்ளாமலிருப்பதனால்தான். இதையெல்லாம் இங்கிருக்கும் சர்க்காரும், கனம் பிரதம மந்திரி உள்பட, மற்றவர்களும் உணர்ந்து யோசித்து ஒரு முடிவு செய்யாமல்போனால் சர்க்காருக்கு அனர்த்தமும் ஆபத்தும் விளையும் என்பதைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆகையால் மந்திரிகள் சுற்றுப் பிரயாணம் செய்வதையும்

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மற்ற வேலைகளைச் செய்வதையும் கொஞ்சம் நாட்களுக்கு ஒத்திப்போட்டுக் கொண்டு இந்த வேலையாக இருந்து தலைவர்களையும், அதிகாரிகளையும் மற்றுமுள்ள நிர்வாக நிபுணர்களையும் சேர்த்து ஒன்றுக இருந்து யோசித்து ஒரு முடிவு கட்டினால் தான் இந்தக் கஷ்டம் தீரும் என்பதாக நான் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, I entirely support this Bill and oppose the amendment, because this is not a new Bill but the re-enactment of an old Act. To invest the Government with comprehensive powers to carry out the controls effectively, this Bill has been introduced. Under the control system, there are two kinds of rationing—statutory rationing in municipal areas and informal rationing in rural areas. In my opinion, the Government can continue the statutory rationing and completely give up the informal rationing. To satisfy the wants of the people, they get foodgrains from distant places. It was very rightly pointed out by my esteemed friends Sri A. Vaidyanatha Ayyar and others that, when very good paddy was grown in neighbouring areas, it was not supplied to the local people, but paddy imported from distant Telugu districts particularly from Tadepalligudem was supplied. The most useless commodities which are not at all fit for human consumption are supplied. Once the people in my constituency, Salem, sent me a sample of the rice sold in the ration shops there put in a dealwood box to be shown to the Hon. Minister for Food. I brought it to the notice of the Hon. Minister and also to this House during the budget session. Members narrate their experience and urge the Government to take steps to rectify the mistakes which are committed by the officials and also inherent in the policy adopted by the Government. So far as my knowledge goes, up till now nothing at all has been done. We are simply talking in this House. No effect is given to our suggestions and I do not know the reason why. This is a popular Government. The Hon. Ministers are responsible to the people and every member is responsible to his constituency. In spite of that, I do not know why effect is not given to our suggestions. A number of taluks in the Salem district produce very good paddy. For instance, Attur taluk produces very good paddy. But it is not made available to the people of Salem town which is within a distance of thirty miles, whereas the paddy or rice imported from Tadepalligudem, which is a number of miles away, is supplied in Salem.

4-45 p.m. " Sir, let me say one thing in connexion with the quality of rice supplied. The sort of rice that is supplied in our ration shops is such a bad stuff and so hopelessly spoiled that even if anybody makes deliberate attempts to spoil it worse, cannot do so because, it is the worst possible quality that is supplied therein. It emits a very bad odour and the rice bags contain at least 25 per cent of mud, clay and dust. I have been bringing this to the notice of the Government for the last three years, but no steps have been taken yet to improve the quality, and there appears to have been no effect to any of our representations in the matter.

" Then again, Sir, with regard to the present policy of procurement, we have got to remember one very important thing, because

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it had a considerable repercussion during the recent district board elections. This procurement policy of the Government has been primarily responsible for the rout that had encountered the Congress Party in the recent district board elections, which had brought such a bad name to our Government. Wherever we went, people were telling us about the harassment the poor ryots in villages were subject to at the hands of the procurement officers and people in almost every village was cursing the Government with regard to their procurement policy. Sir, I shall just give the House a concrete instance which had come to my notice. Just on the border of the Salem municipal limit, there is a Harijan agriculturist, who has got about 3½ or 4 acres of land. He had a few bags of foodgrains, like ragi, cumbu and paddy, stored in his hut, which he had preserved for seed purposes for the next season, and the total value of all these put together was not more than Rs. 27. The village munsif of that place was not in good terms with this man and so he informed the taluk supply officer about this and the latter went to his hut and took away these few bags of foodgrains after paying a sum of Rs. 27, which was their value. That man came to me and complained about this and told me that because his seeds had been taken away, he had nothing to sow and that his lands had been left fallow this year. I then asked him to file a petition to the Collector and I also made a report about this to him, but in spite of all these attempts, he got no remedy up till now.

" Sir, we the Members of the House come here make speeches on the floor of this House, give out our experiences in the district, make our complaints to the authorities and express our disappointment about the inaction of the Government, but in spite of all these things, nothing practical is being done by the Government to put an end to these harassments, or remedy these defects and these have no effect on the district officials who are in charge of these things, and they go on continuing their old practice. I do not know what purpose is served by our speeches and complaints in this House and why they have no effect on the Government and on the district officials. I would earnestly request the Hon. Minister to take severe steps in this matter and see that the procurement officers do not cause such harassments to the poor ryots, because this is the very thing that brings a bad name to the Government. Perhaps these things may seem trivial, but it has a very psychological effect on the public, and they only judge your Government by the way that your district officers are behaving towards them. You may make laws, you may issue instructions, you may pass Government Orders, but these will not by themselves produce the desired effect, unless you put good, honest and sincere men on the job, who would enforce the law in the interests of the people and not for the prestige of the officials. Perhaps it may be that the officials in the higher ranks might have changed their old habits and practices but I may say that the lower order of the officials in the district have not yet changed and they are still what they were before under the previous British regime and they do not think that they are working a popular Government. I would even go to the extent of requesting the Government that instead of continuing this system of compulsory

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procurement, they could very well introduce the system of levy, with certain necessary safeguards. My hon. Friend Mr. Raghava Menon said that the levy system, if introduced, would cause more hardships to the poor ryots and would only help the rich ryots, but I submit Sir, that levy means a proportionate surrender of food-grains according to the extent of land owned by the person and if that system is introduced and worked out in a scientific manner, it will produce the desired effect and do greater good than the present system of compulsory procurement, which causes more hardships to the poor and less to the rich. If that is not accepted, the Government should at least prescribe a minimum holding below which they should not enforce procurement, that is to say, ryots holding such extents of land and below should be exempted from compulsory procurement by the Government. If that is done, it would at least help the smaller ryots and would not cause so much harassment as the present system of compulsory procurement does.

"Sir, this is after all a small Bill and therefore it need not be referred to a Select Committee, because that would involve a lot of delay and unnecessary expense. With these words, I support the motion of the Hon. Minister that it may be taken into consideration at once."

Sri A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, அவசியமான பொருள்களில் உணவுப் பொருள் மிகவும் முக்கியமானது. அப்பொருள் எல்லோருக்கும் கிடைக்க சர்க்கார் கொண்டு வந்துள்ள ரேஷன் திட்டம் நல்லதுதான். இருந்தாலும் தற்போது கொடுக்கப்படுகின்ற 12 அவுன்சை, 16 அவுன்சாகினுல் பொது மக்களுக்கு மிகவும் நல்லதாக இருக்கும். ஏனென்றால் தற்போது ஒவ்வொருவருக்கும் சர்க்கார் கொடுத்திருக்கின்ற அளவு ஒரு வாரத்தில் மூன்று நாளைக்குத்தான் வரும். அந்த வாரத்தில் மற்ற நான்கு தினங்களுக்கும் அவர்கள் பிளாக் மார்க்கெட்டில் அரிசி வாங்கிச் சாப்பிடுகிறார்கள். ரேஷன் ஷாப்புகளில் 13 அவுன்சுக்குக் கிடைக்கும் படி அரிசியை கள்ள மார்க்கெட்டில் ஒன்றேகால் ரூபாய் கொடுத்து வாங்கிச் சாப்பிடுகிறார்கள். உணவு பற்றாக்குறையில்லையே என்பதற்காக யாரும் உணவைக் குறைத்துக்கொள்ளவில்லை. மேலும் உணவு இல்லாமல் யாரால்தான் இருக்க முடியும். ஆகையினுல் இந்த ரேஷன் திட்டத்தினுல் கள்ள மார்க்கெட்டுதான் பெருகிக் கொண்டிருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் கள்ளமார்க்கெட்டையொழிக்க, ரேஷன் திட்டம் இருந்தாலும் தற்போது கொடுக்கப்படும் அளவை அதிகப்படுத்தவேண்டியதுதான். அதனுல்தான் கன்ட்ரோலை வைத்துக்கொண்டு அளவையே எடுத்துவிடலாமென்று நினைக்கிறேன்.

"மேலும் ரேஷன் ஷாப்புகளில் ஏழைகளுக்கும், ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கும் சரியானபடி ரேஷன் தானியம் கிடைப்பதில்லை. அதிகப்பணம் கொடுத்து அவர்களால் வெளியிடங்களில் வாங்க முடிகிறதில்லை. மேலும் ரேஷன் சட்ட விதிகளும் அவர்களுக்குச் சரியாக தெரியாததால் சில வாரங்களில வாங்க முடியாமற் போய் அவர்கள் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். எனக்கு முன் பேசிய கனம் மெம்பர் கூறியபடி அவர்களுக்கு எ-பாரம், பி-பாரம் என்பது தெரியவில்லை.

"சிதம்பரத்தில் 17 ரேஷன் கடைகள் இருக்கிறது. ஒரு கடையையாவது ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று ஷண்முகம் என்பவர் மனுச் செய்துகொண்டார். அவருக்கு ஒரு கடையும் கொடுக்கவில்லை. 1948-ம் வருஷம் அக்டோபர் மாதம் மனுப் போட்டார். ஒரு வருஷத்திற்கு மேலாகியும், கடை காலியாகியும் மேற்படி ஹரிஜன மனுதாருக்குக் கொடுக்கவில்லை. ஆனுல் ஐக்கிய நாணய சங்கங்களுக்கு கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று தீர்மானம் செய்தார்கள். முதலாண்டு நகர ஐக்ய

11th November 1949] [Sri A. S. Sahajanandam]

நாணய சங்கம் தவறு செய்ததால் கடைகளை ரத்து செய்தார்கள். கமிட்டியார் மறுபடியும் அச்சங்கத்திற்கே கொடுத்துள்ளார்கள். சிதம்பரத்திலுள்ள ஜில்லா சென்டரல் ஐக்கிய சங்கம் சிதம்பரத்திற்கு சமீபத்தில் வாங்கும் தான்யங்களை காட்டுமன்னார்கோயிலில் வாங்கியதாக தூரத்தைக் காட்டி கொள்ளை அடிக்கிறார்கள். சர்க்காருக்குத் தெரிந்து சென்ற ஆண்டில் 7,000 ரூபாய்கள் சர்க்காருக்குக் கட்டினுர்கள். சங்கத்தின் யோக்கியதை இப்படி இருக்கிறது.

"மேலும் ரேஷன் கடைகளில் கூட ஹரிஜனங்களைக் கடைக்காரர்கள் அலக்ஷியம் செய்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு ரேஷன் கொடுப்பதில்லை. அதற்குக் காரணம் ஜாதித் துவேஷம் பாராட்டும் முதலாளிகளும், மிராசுதார்களும் கூடிக்கொண்டே அவ்வாறு செய்கிறார்கள். மேலும் இவைகளை கலெக்டருக்கு புகார் செய்து அவர்களைத் தண்டிக்கவேண்டுமென்றால் தங்களுக்கு அதில் தலையிட சட்டமில்லை என்கிறார்கள். ரேஷன் கமிட்டிகள் தான் அதை சரிப்படுத்தவேண்டும் என்கிறார்கள். இவ்வாறு ரேஷன் கமிட்டிகளுக்கு பூரண அதிகாரம் கொடுத்திருப்பதால் அவர்கள் அம்மாதிரி பொதுக் காரியங்களில் கூட ஜாதித்துவேஷத்தைக் காட்டுகிறார்கள். தப்பான காரியங்களைச் செய்கிறார்கள். சட்டத்திலுள்ள குறையே தான் இதற்குக் காரணம். ஆகையினுலே அந்த ரேஷன் கமிட்டிகளுக்குப் பூரண அதிகாரம் இருக்கக்கூடாது. இதற்கு உதாரணமாக வேண்டுமானுல் தென்னற்காடு கலெக்டரைக் கேட்டுப் பார்க்கலாம்.

"இவ்வாறு ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு ரேஷன் ஷாப்புகளில் உணவு தானியங்கள் கிடைக்காததோடு, அவர்கள் ஒரு வாரம் இரண்டு வாரங்கள் வெளியூர்களுக்கு வேலையாகப் போய்விட்டு வரும்போது என் ஒரு வாரம் ரேஷன் வாங்கவில்லையென்றும், வெளியூர் போனபோது என் ரேஷனைக் குறைத்துக் கொள்ளவில்லையென்றும் அவர்களைப் பிடித்துத் தண்டிக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையினுல் ரேஷன் சட்ட திட்டங்கள் மிகவும் கடுமையானதாக இருக்கிறது.

"மேலும் சர்க்கார் ஐக்கிய நாணய சங்கங்கள் சரியாக நடக்கின்றதா யென்றுல் அதுவும் சரியாக நடக்கவில்லை. உதாரணமாக சிதம்பரத்தில், சிதம்பரம் நகர ஐக்கிய நாணயச் சங்கங்களும், சென்ட்ரல் ஸ்டோரும் சரியாக நடக்கவில்லை. இந்தச் சங்கங்களினுல் ஊழலும், ஏழைகளுக்குக் கஷ்டங்களும் தான் ஏற்படுகிறது. சர்க்கரை வீசைக் கணக்காவும் மணங்குக் கணக்காகவும் ஜனங்களுக்கு கொடுத்திருப்பதாக இந்த ஐக்கிய நாணயச் சங்கங்களில் கணக்கு எழுதப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆனுல் அவ்வளவும் பிளாக் மார்க்கெட்டில்தான் விற்பனை செய்யப்படுகிறது. ஹரிஜனங்களின் ரேஷன் கார்டுகளுக்கும் சர்க்கரை உண்டு என்றுலும் அந்த ஐக்கிய நாணயச் சங்கங்களில் ஒரு ஹரிஜனனுக்குக்கூட சர்க்கரைக் கிடைக்க வழியில்லை. அவர்கள் பேரிலே அவைகள் யாவும் கள்ள மார்க்கெட்டிலே தள்ளப்பட்டு வருகிறது. இப்படித்தான் ஐக்கிய சங்கங்களும் வேலை செய்து வருகின்றன. ஆகையினுல் இம்மாதிரியான திட்டத்தினுல் கள்ளமார்க்கெட்டை பெருக்கிக் கொண்டு வருவதைத் தடுக்கவேண்டும். ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு போதுமான வசதிகள் கிடைக்கும்படி செய்யவேண்டும். **(At this stage Mr. Speaker took the chair.)**

"இன்னுென்று சர்க்கார் நெல் பிடிக்கும் விஷயமாக நான் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். அவர்கள், அக்கிராம கர்ணங்கள் எந்த எந்த மிராசுதார்கள் எவ்வளவு நெல் கொடுக்க முடியும் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்களோ அதன்படி வசூலித்து வருகிறார்கள். அப்படி இருக்கும்போது அந்தக் கிராமத்துக் கர்ணங்கள் தங்களுக்கு வேண்டிய மிராசுதார்களாய் இருந்தால் 500 கலம் நெல் விளைந்தாலும் 50 கலம் தான் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். வேண்டாதவர்களாய் இருந்தாலோ உண்மையில் 50 கலம் விளைந்தாலும் 500 கலம் என்று பொய் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஆதலால் கர்ணங்களின் பேச்சை முழுதும் நம்பாமல் அதற்கு வேண்டிய ஏற்பாடுகளைச் செய்து உண்மையில் யார் யார் எவ்வளவு தான்யங்கள் கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென கணக்குச் சரியாக வைக்கவேண்டும். பில்லிலே கண்டபடி பூர்ண அதிகாரத்தையும் கமிட்டிகளிடம் கொடுக்காமல் பிரதேச சபைகளின் முடிவைக் கவனிக்க கலெக்டருக்கு அதிகாரம் கொடுத்திருக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்

கொள்ளுகிறேன். மேலும் வெளியூர்களுக்கு நெல் பிடிக்கும்பொருட்டு எஜெண்டுகளை அனுப்புவதால் சர்க்காருக்கு ரூ. 7,000 வரை நஷ்டமேற்படுகிறது.

"ரேஷன் ஷாப்புகளினால் உண்டாகக் கூடிய கஷ்டங்களை யெல்லாம் நீக்கும்படியாகவும், ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குச் சரியானபடி உணவு தான்யங்கள் கிடைக்கும்படிச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்றும் நான் கேட்டுக்கொண்டு முடித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"மேலும் இந்த நாட்டிலே எல்லோரும் காங்கிரஸ்காரர்களை முழுக்க நம்பிவிடுகிறார்கள். காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் அக்கிரமம் செய்யாவிட்டாலும், அவர்கள் மாதிரி வேஷம் போடுகிறவர்கள் அதிகம் பேர்கள். அவர்கள் சொல்லக்கூடிய விஷயங்களைதான் கேட்கிறார்கள். அரசாங்கமும் அவர்கள் சொல்வதைக் கேட்காமல் பொது மக்களுக்கு உண்மையில் நன்மை செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஏனென்றால் சமீபத்தில் நடந்த தேர்தல்களில் ரூ. 2, 3 கொடுத்து வோட்டு வாங்கி இருக்கிறார்கள். அதை கலெக்டர் மூலமாக சர்க்கார் விசாரிக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். கண்ட்ரோல்களினால் ஏழை ஹரிஜனங்கள் எந்த விதத்திலும் பாதிக்கப்படாமல் பார்த்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்றும் கேட்டுக்கொண்டு முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

MR. SPEAKER :—"The House will now adjourn to to-morrow till 11 o'clock."

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 62 asked by Sri A. Vedaratnam Pillai at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 11th November 1949, page 328 supra.]

Statement showing the steps taken by the Government to improve and encourage Indian Medicine.

A College of Indian Medicine has been opened at Madras for the provision of a higher standard of training and it is run side by side with the School of Indian Medicine.

2. A research Department of Indian Medicine has been started at Madras.

3. The number of beds in the Hospital of Indian Medicine attached to the College and School of Indian Medicine has been raised from 110 to 210.

4. To carry medical relief into rural areas, a village vaidya scheme has been sanctioned with the ultimate object of providing a recognized vaidya in each village with a population of 1,000 or more.

5. The entire administration of Indian Medicine has been entrusted to an eminent physician who functions as the Honorary Director of Indian Medicine.

6. The Government have generally approved a plan for the improvement of the College of Indian Medicine, the establishment of a Central pharmacy and Harbarium and for other desirable improvements.

7. The scale of pay of 'A' class practitioners in institutions of Indian Medicine under local bodies has been raised from Rs. 45—5/2—85 to Rs. 80—5—150 and the scale of pay of 'B' class practitioners in such institutions has been raised from a fixed pay of Rs. 40 per mensem to Rs. 70—3—85—5—100.

8. The rate of subsidy to practitioners of Indian Medicine has been enhanced from Rs. 600 to Rs. 780 per annum in the case of those in charge of dispensaries in plains and from Rs. 720 to Rs. 900 per annum in the case of those in charge of dispensaries in Agency tracts.

9. The Government are giving maintenance grant to four private institutions of Indian Medicine.

10. The Central Board of Indian Medicine has been reconstituted by raising the number of members from 15 to 26. Of these 26 members, 23 are elected and 3 are nominated.

11. As against an expenditure of Rs. 30,000 in 1924 on the development of Indian Medicine, the expenditure will be over Rs. 7 lakhs in the current year.

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APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 75 asked by Janab S. Muhammad Ismail at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 11th November 1949, page 342 supra.]

G.O. Ms. No. 846, Food and Agriculture, dated 30th August 1949.

Committees—District Food Committees—Conversion of existing Food Committees into Food Production Committees for intensifying food production in the Province—Orders passed.

READ—the following papers :—

G.O. Ms. No. 2723, Development, dated 20th May 1949.

G.O. Ms. No. 3694, Development, dated 11th July 1949.

G.O. No. 1047, Food, dated 19th November 1948.

From the Board of Revenue (Food Production), dated 2nd August 1949, No. N. 2/FP III/49-6.

Order—No. 846, *Food and Agriculture, dated* 30*th August* 1949.

In connexion with the reorganization of the Grow More Food machinery in this Province, for increasing food production, the Government suggested that formation of District Advisory Committees, the main functions of which will be—

(i) to hear representations of ryots seeking assistance for increasing production of foodgrains in their holdings,

(ii) to review the working of the various Grow More Food schemes in the district and submit periodical reports to the Provincial Committee at Ministerial level, and

(iii) to make recommendations to the Provincial Committee on Grow More Food measures.

2. The Board of Revenue (Food Production) has considered that there is no need to have separate District Committees and that the existing Food Committees in each district may be utilized for the above purposes by expansion wherever necessary. The matter was placed before the Cabinet Committee on Food Production at its meeting on 16th August 1949. The Government agree that it would be administratively inconvenient and unnecessary to have two entirely separate District Committees, one to deal with production and the other to deal with procurement and rationing and therefore direct that all the members of the District Food Production Committee should be members of the District Food Committee, which will consist of some additional members representing trade and other interests as at present.

The District Food Production Committee will consist of the following :—

1. The Collector (Chairman).

2. The Revenue Divisional Officers in the district.

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3. The Executive Engineer, Public Works Department (or his representative).

4. The District Agricultural Officer.

5. The Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

6. The Divisional Engineer, Electricity Department or his representative.

7. All members of the Provincial Legislature residing in the district.

8. Not more than five members representing agricultural interests.

The Collector will have also powers to invite any other person for the meeting of the committee on occasions when he considers his presence is necessary.

The above members will also be members of the District Food Committee which will consist of the following *additional members* :—

1. The District Supply Officer.
2. The District Rationing Officer.
3. The District Health Officer.
4. The President of the District Congress Committee.
5. One representative from the District Mercantile or Commercial Association.
6. One representative from the Harijans.
7. One lady representative.
8. One representative from the District Wholesale Co-operative Stores.

9. One representative from the millers in the district of West Godavari, East Godavari, Krishna, Guntur, Tanjore, Nellore, South Arcot, Chingleput and North Arcot only.

Item 8 above in the list for the District Food Production Committee will be inclusive of items 12, 13 and 14 in G.O. No. 1047, Food, dated 19th November 1948. This means that a maximum of two more members representing agricultural interests will have to be nominated to the District Food Production Committee and all the five will be on the District Food Committee.

3. The Board of Revenue (Food Production) is requested to issue instructions to the Collectors to see that the meetings of these two committees are held on the same day, one after the other, in order to avoid unnecessary travelling and waste of time.

4. The Board is requested to see that the District Food Production Committees are constituted within a month.

5. The orders issued in paragraphs 1 and 2 above will modify G.O. No. 1047, Food, dated 10th November 1948, so far as it relates to the constitution of the District Food Committees.

6. The rules in Section III-General in the annexure to G.O. No. 1047, Food, dated 19th November 1948 will apply *mutatis mutandis* to the District Food Production Committee.

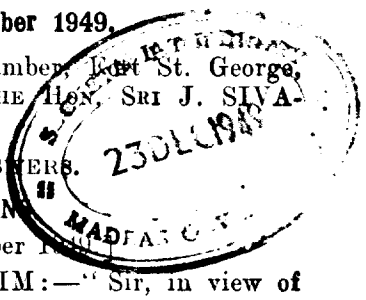
7. The Board is requested to submit a review of the working of the District Food Production Committees after three months.

(By order of His Excellency the Governor)

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Saturday, the 12th November 1949.

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.

* 71 *Q.*[a]—[Answered on 11th November 1949.]

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—"Sir, in view of the admitted fact that the piling up of stocks of cloth and yarn is not due to over-production but is due to the defect of control, may I ask the Government whether some further arrangement is necessary to release or liquidate the stock?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—"Arrangements have been made to liquidate the stock as far as possible. If any suggestions are made by hon. Members they will be considered by the Government."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the slump in the textile market is not due to the loss of markets outside where the handloom cloth was exported?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—"It is not due to want of export of handloom cloth."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I ask, Sir, whether, in view of the present position of cloth, will not the Government consider decontrolling cloth at least so far as distribution is concerned?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—"Decontrol has practically been done by the Government. There is only nominal control."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMY MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask the Government, Sir, whether they are aware that some mills are proposing to reduce the number of shifts or to close down for want of adequate supply of cotton; and, if so, what steps the Government propose to take to prevent another artificial scarcity in cloth being forced upon the consumer as it was done some time ago?".

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—"If it comes to the notice of the Government, they will take the necessary steps in the matter."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know, Sir, what the Hon. Minister means by 'nominal' control? If anybody wants to trade in cloth, can he do so without a licence?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—"He must have a licence. Anybody applying for a licence will be given."

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[a] Postponed from the list of questions of 11th November 1949 for supplementaries.

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SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I know what exactly this Government have done to gain back the markets which had been lost to the handloom industry? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" The hon. Member may put a separate question."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware that the handloom industry is deteriorating day by day, and, if so, what the Government are doing to protect this industry? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" A short notice question seems to have already been put. The answer will be given when ready."

JANAB M. V. HYDROSS:—" In view of the announcement by the Government of India that the price of cloth will be reduced by 10 per cent, may I know whether this Government are taking any steps to safeguard the interests of the merchants who have purchased cloth at a higher price? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" The Government of India have reduced the prices. In view of that we have changed the whole system. We have one system of dealers; no wholesaler and no retailer. They have also reduced the margin of profit to them."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that due to difficulties in buying this market has been dumped with unwanted cloth, and may I know from the Hon. Minister, Sir, whether he will permit wholesalers to get their requirements directly from the Bombay, Sholapur and Ahmedabad mills? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" It is being done now."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" May I ask, Sir, in view of the fact that the retail price, when compared with the ex-mill price, is more by 100 per cent, what steps the Government are taking to remove the intermediaries and thereby reducing the price of the cloth? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" There is only one wholesale consignee for cloth. The other man is wholesaler and retailer combined."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" Sir, the answer given to my previous question was not audible. May I ask, Sir, whether the Government are aware that the handloom industry is deteriorating day by day, and what the Government are going to do to protect the industry? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" The Government know that the handloom industry is deteriorating and the Government are taking steps to protect it. I think the hon. Member would have seen the communiqué on the subject issued on the 26th October 1949."

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SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—" Sir, is the Hon. Minister aware that two-thirds of the production given to the States have not been lifted and that stocks are getting accumulated on this account? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" If it is not lifted, the mills are at perfect liberty to dispose it of to their agents."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I ask, Sir, while the Government of India has removed the restrictions so far as export is concerned, what further steps are sought to be taken by this Government, with the consent of the Government of India, to see that exports of cloth are made easy without any restrictions whatsoever? May I also ask, Sir, what this Government are doing to see that the Government of India expedite the matter of finding a market for cloth in Pakistan? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" As far as Pakistan is concerned, it is for the Government of India to take action. As regards mill goods, I suppose hon. Members would have seen mill goods going outside India to a very large extent."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—"Are the Government aware, Sir, that the mills have not got sufficient and adequate stock of cotton and that the same is not available, and that due to kapas being sold at higher prices the mills are not able to get cotton at the ceiling price? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" Kapas was not under control formerly. It will come under control now, and then it will be easy for the mills to get the cotton."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—" Are the Government aware, Sir, that the price of the kapas not being under control many of the mills are closing their second and third shifts? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" We have referred this matter to the Government of India."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—" Are the Government aware, Sir, that Pakistan has not paid the moneys for which yarn was sent through the Textile Controller? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" I have no information on the point."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—" Sir, will the Hon. Minister consider the feasibility of limiting the manufacture of cloth at 30 counts, and below by the mills? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" It has been considered by the Textile Controller, Bombay."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" In view of the latest instruction of the Government, Sir, may I take it that the only control that is affecting the cloth trade is the fixation of price? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" Yes, Sir."

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SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—" Are the Government aware that due to sales tax being levied on cotton and also on yarn, the cost of yarn is high, and that the handloom weavers are not able to take delivery? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" The presumption is not correct. It is not due to that."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Will the Hon. Minister, Sir, admit the fact that these propped up co-operative societies have miserably failed to do business in cloth with the result huge and accumulated stocks are lying with them and their capital is being blocked up? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" We are trying to prevent co-operative societies from dealing in mill cloth hereafter."

JANAB M. V. HYDROSS:—" Arising out of the answer given to my question by the Hon. Minister, may I ask, Sir, whether this 10 per cent reduction will have to be suffered by merchants or is it a reduction in the actual value of the cloth? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" It is not in the actual price of cloth; but the consumer will get the concession."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that the present crisis in mill cloth and yarn is due to the Government not having considered the representation of the various trade organizations and chambers of commerce in this Province, and may I also ask, Sir, whether in future at least the Government will consider the representation of these organizations before they take up any control? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" Yes, Sir."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware, Sir, that the handloom industry is allowed to die on account of competition by mills in cloth below 30 counts? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" We are taking steps to see that they do not go in for competition with the handloom cloth."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—" As there is a delay in the repayment of compulsory excess profits deposits, will this Government, Sir, write and press on the Government of India that the compulsory excess profits deposits should be repaid to the mills very urgently as they are short of funds? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" If necessary we will write to the Government of India."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" Will the Government take necessary steps, Sir, so that mill cloth does not compete with handloom cloth? "

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THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" Recently we had a conference in Bombay where we considered the question of preventing certain items of mill cloth from competing with handloom cloth."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" Are the Government aware, Sir, that the suggestions that were made at the Bombay conference, would not at all help the production of handloom cloth? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" Let us wait and see whether it helps."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" In the administration of these control orders there is a discrimination now in favour of co-operative societies. Is it not desirable, as a Government, that there should be no discrimination between co-operative societies and the ordinary trade? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" The co-operative societies were allowed to deal in cloth and yarn when there were no normal trade channels. Now, after the coming in of normal trade channels, the business in yarn and cloth has been withdrawn from co-operative societies."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" May I know whether the Government will consider the desirability of reserving the manufacture of saris and dhoties to handloom industry alone ? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" The suggestion will be considered."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to refer to history and say when there were no normal trade channels in the history of man? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" We wanted that somebody should take up the business then. The Co-operative Societies first came forward to do the business."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" Sir, on account of the perpetual difficulties arising out of cloth control, will the Government consider the desirability of lifting the cloth control in so far as this Province is concerned or of encouraging the handloom industry in a better manner and also on a larger scale? " 11-15 a.m.

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" Already we are doing it, Sir."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I know whether the Government are aware that to-day mill-owners are paying a sort of purchase tax for buying cotton from the agriculturists ? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" The Government are not aware of it, Sir. If it is brought to the notice of the Government, they will look into it."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" Does not the Hon. Minister think that it is inconsistent with the sales tax ? "

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THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—"I think the hon. Member may put a separate question on this."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the cotton mills have to pay 4 annas per bale and that comes to a purchase tax and not to sales tax ?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—"The Member may put a separate question."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"Will the Government purchase all their requirements in handloom goods ?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—"We are purchasing our requirements in khadi, Sir. As far as possible, we will try to purchase them in handloom cloth also."

Legislation to amend the Malabar Tenancy Act.

*75-A *Q.*—JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have come to any decision with regard to the introduction of legislation to amend the Malabar Tenancy Act?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of Hon. Sri H. Sitarama Reddi):—"The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 798 (starred) given on the floor of the Assembly on 3rd March 1949. The question of introducing the Bill to amend the Malabar Tenancy Act as early as possible is under the active consideration of the Government."

JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY:—"Is it not a fact that this question has been under the active consideration of the Government for at least ten years now and are the Government aware that there is a feeling in the district that the Government are deliberately putting off this piece of legislation for reasons known to themselves? May I, therefore, know whether the Government will be pleased to give a categorical assurance at least now that this piece of legislation will be introduced very shortly?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Regarding the question whether this matter has been engaging the attention of the Government for ten years, it might have been under consideration ten years ago, but as far as this Government is concerned, they have taken up the matter actively during the last one year and odd.

"Regarding the feeling in Malabar, I absolutely deny any feeling that the Government are deliberately trying to postpone the measure though some persons might be attempting to create a feeling like that for their own purposes.

"As to when this measure will be ready, I may say that I am as anxious as, if not more than, the hon. Gentleman to bring it as quickly as possible."

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SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the matter is still in the drafting stage?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I can say, Sir, the matter is being very actively pursued."

JANAB M. V. HYDROSS:—"May I know who is in charge of the Bill?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The Revenue Minister is in charge of the Bill being actively helped by me because the matter relates to Malabar Tenancy."

JANAB K. M. SEETHI:—"May I know whether there is any likelihood of the Bill being introduced in this session?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"It is not likely to be introduced in this session. But if the session is extended to next month, it may possibly be introduced. I cannot say definitely, Sir."

JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY:—"May I know whether there is any truth in the report that this legislation was put off because the ex-Premier said that this matter could be considered along with the report of the Agrarian Reforms Committee?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"It was never put off for any such reasons. Of course, the matter was being pursued and now that the Agrarian Reforms Committee's Report has come, it will also be helpful to us."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"How is it that the Law Minister says that more than anybody else he is anxious to get through this legislation and at the same time nothing has been done except promises on the floor of the House which I have also been hearing for the last one or two years?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"For the obvious reason that I will be the person who will be considerably affected rather more than the questioner himself and I know the feelings of the country." (Laughter.)

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"Now that the zamindaris are also being converted into ryotwari lands, for having a uniform system of tenure throughout the Province, will the Government consider the desirability of bringing Malabar also into line with all other parts of the Province?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"However desirable it may be, the conditions of tenancy in Malabar are such that it may not be easy to do."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"As the Hon. Minister for Law has practically taken charge of the Malabar Tenancy Bill also, may I request him to expedite the matter and, if possible, to convene a conference of Malabar M.L.As. of both sides before it is actually introduced in the Legislature?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, the thing is actually moving and I do not think there is any necessity to call for a conference again. Already a conference of the

entire Malabar M.L.As. was held and the Government's proposals and the various amendments were placed before them. Their opinion was ascertained on each of the proposals and the decisions will be put in the form of legislation. I shall consider the question whether the Malabar M.L.As. should be consulted again before publication of the Bill."

JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY:—" Is it not a fact that the conference which the Hon. Minister referred to took place about a year back and still why do the Government take so much time to bring in this legislation? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" No, Sir, it was not about a year back but a few months back. Just in about February or March, Mr. Kala Venkata Rao and I went to Kozhikode and the hon. Gentleman knows that every proposal and every amendment that we wanted to make were printed and circulated to the members and discussions on them were made there."

SRI M. KUMARAN:—" May I know whether the publication of the Agrarian Reforms Committee's report has necessitated any revision of the Malabar Tenancy Bill? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" No, Sir. The Agrarian Reforms Committee's report refers to the entire ryotwari area, and the problems of Malabar Tenancy are different."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—" It is announced by the Hon. Minister that he is as much interested as any one of us in the matter. May I request him to allay all discontent and doubts in the district by giving out a definite date by which he promises to introduce the legislation? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" It is not possible for me to give a definite date in the matter. But I shall say that no day will be wasted in the matter of delay."

JANAB M. V. HYDROSS:—" May I know whether the help and co-operation of Mr. Kala Venkata Rao will be got for the purposes of this Bill as he has made a special study of this matter? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" If the help of Mr. Kala Venkata Rao is required, we shall certainly seek for it. He is a Member of this House still."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Whatever conditions may exist in Malabar, is it not desirable for the Government to have a uniform land tenure policy in this Province? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" There are many things which are desirable but may not be practicable."

JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY:—" May I know whether opinion is divided in the Cabinet on this matter? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I do not think I can divulge the secrets of the Cabinet at all here."

Shortage of sugar.

* 75-B *Q.*—JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) the reasons for the sudden shortage of sugar in the Province and for the re-introduction of control; and

(*b*) what steps the Government have taken to make the Province self-sufficient as regards the production of sugar?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" (*a*) The requirements of sugar of this Province is met only to half the extent by the factories of this Province and the balance has to be imported from the United Provinces and Bihar. But, in July and August last, the Indian Sugar Syndicate, which had undertaken to make sugar available to the public all over the country at agreed prices, was not able to put down the speculation among the sugar factories and merchants who had been charging premia over the ex-factory prices. Consequently, the prices steadily rose up and scarcity conditions were created all over the country. At this juncture, the Government of India stepped in and froze all the factory stocks and other control measures were taken in regard to prices and distribution. The present scarcity is due to the inadequacy of the stocks allotted by the Government of India to meet the normal demands of this Province.

" (*b*) The Government are implementing a long-range as well as a short-range plan to make the Province self-sufficient in sugar. Under the long-range plan, five existing factories have been permitted to expand their crushing capacity and ten new factories have been allowed to be started. The aim of the short-term plan is to maximize sugar production by the existing factories during the current season. The factories have been asked to start crushing as early as possible in the current season and to continue the crushing as late as possible, in order to maximize sugar production. The Government are also taking necessary steps to make the maximum crush available to the factories by reserving sugarcane areas for factories and by taking such other steps as are possible in this regard."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know whether the Government of Madras did not know that this sudden shortage would take place even in the last season itself and what steps the Government had taken to prevent the scarcity of sugar in our Province at least? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" No, Sir, we had no previous information about the present scarcity."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know whether it is not due to mal-distribution of sugar in the Province and the country as well as on account of the fact that when we do not have enough production in the Province, we do not think of importing cheap sugar from other countries? "

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THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" This Province is over 50 per cent short in sugar and we have always been relying upon supplies from Northern India to make up the deficit. So, it was not considered necessary to think of independently importing any sugar into this Province."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—" Are the Government aware that the United Provinces Government made nine crores from the United Provinces factories by way of taxation and that is why the distribution and also the production failed and shortage of sugar was created in the country? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" We are not officially aware of what happened in the United Provinces but from the reports received, it appears that things have not been properly handled in those areas."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" Why was the Government not in a position to foresee that there would be a shortage in a particular month in a year in a Province? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" As I said before this shortage came on us all of a sudden."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Are the Government aware that the unfortunate consumer in this country has been paying through his nose for the protection of the sugar industry and that the sugar industrialists have not played their game in properly catering to the needs of the consumer and are piling up their stocks and profiteering, and if so, has any representation been made by this Government to the Indian Tariff Enquiry Committee which is now on this question as regards the future attitude of the consumer? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Yes, Sir, representations have been made and they are under consideration."

11-30 a.m. SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have made any arrangements to produce palm-jaggery in this Province? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Palm-jaggery is already being produced in this Province even without the Government taking any steps."

DR. S. SUBRAHMANYA AYYAR:—" Is there no machinery available with the Government to study the conditions of the market both with regard to the stock available as well as the price fluctuations? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" There is no special agency here to look to these, except the Food Department."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know for how long sugar rationing will continue in this Province? "

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THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" There is no regular rationing here as the one which was introduced before. We are only controlling the prices and distribution. We are not sure how long this position will continue. Everything depends upon the supplies from North Indian and how soon our own factories are able to produce enough sugar."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that about 20 per cent of the sugar goes to the manufacture of sugar products like sweetmeats, etc.? Will the Government consider the question of importing at least that percentage of sugar from foreign countries and relieve the 20 per cent sugar that is now reserved, for consumption to the people? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" After the present shortage of sugar, we have already restricted supplies to the confectionaries and other sweetmeat stalls. They are now getting only 40 per cent of their normal requirements. With regard to importing sugar from outside to meet these requirements, representations have already been made before the Tariff Board regarding this matter."

JANAB M. V. HYDROSS:—" In view of the sugar shortage, may I know whether the Government would be permitting sweet-toddy tapping for purposes of manufacturing jaggery? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Yes, Sir. It is being encouraged as far as possible. Especially in Tirunelveli and other districts, a number of licences have been issued for the tapping of sweet-toddy. The production and manufacture of jaggery are being encouraged by co-operative societies."

SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL:—" Is it a fact, Sir, that 50,000 tons of sugar have been smuggled from United Provinces to Pakistan? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member's question is about United Provinces and the main question is about Madras."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—" Are the Government aware that due to the fact that it was published in the Press long ago that control would be reimposed on sugar, large quantities of sugar have gone underground and consequently, the price of sugar has gone up to the extent of Rs. 7 per viss in the mufassal districts? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" We were asked to enforce this control by the Government of India. Somehow, before we could take action here in the Province, the news must have gone round and that has created the mischief."

SRI V. S. SANKARASUBRAHMANYA MUDALIYAR:—" Are the Government aware, Sir, that the price of jaggery in Tirunelveli has gone up by 100 per cent, and if so, what measures the Government propose to take to bring it under control? "

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THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" There have been general complaints against this sugar control. We do not want to repeat the same process for jaggery also."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Are the Government aware that on account of the method of distribution that is in vogue at present, people who do not want sugar are given sugar and that sugar goes to the blackmarket? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" From tomorrow, we are introducing a more reasonable way of distribution. That is the only way of distribution that we can adopt at present. If any new suggestion is made to distribute sugar in a better and more equitable way, the Government would consider it."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that out of their zeal to reduce the cost of sugar without taking into consideration the cost of production, the Centre and the United Provinces Government have frozen large stocks which were available to the country and they have made large amounts of money amounting to crores of rupees and on account of this kind of looting, this Province has been put to much suffering and privations? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" If the Centre and the United Provinces Government do a particular thing, how, is our Government responsible for that? "

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—" I submit, Sir, that the Centre and the United Provinces have created this crisis and we are made to suffer for that."

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" I am not able to answer that question, Sir, because we have no full particulars about what has been going on elsewhere."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I know how the Hon. Minister thinks it possible that a cardholder with a family of ten persons to get on with half a viss per week, which is also refused at times by the ration shops? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Sir, from tomorrow the method of distribution is going to be revised and they will get more."

SRI T. K. T. N. R. TATACHARI:—" In view of the admittedly tremendous shortage of sugar in the Province, will the Government at least consider infusing diabetes among consumers? "

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—" May I know whether the Government have got enough stocks for the distribution of sugar to the people in all parts of the Province at the rate at which they have fixed now? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Yes, Sir. We can go on till the end of December provided we get the promised supply from the Government of India."

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JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" Why all this kind of luxury, Sir? Will the Government seek public co-operation for an austerity measure and ask the people to go without sugar? "

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" The cost of sugar in the East Indies is cheaper than that in India. Therefore, will the Government consider the desirability of importing sugar from Java and other places to supplement the present resources? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" That was the practice before, Sir. But, after the protection given to the Indian industries, the import of sugar was stopped. Probably it may be considered again if the situation does not improve in the country."

SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL:—" Sir, before control, sugar was available in plenty. May I know where all that sugar has gone now? "

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" In the early days of sugar crisis in the Province, the Government handed over 400 tons of sugar to many retailers without making any proper arrangement for their distribution. Is it not a fact, Sir, that by this arrangement the Government have merely handed over these 400 tons to the blackmarketeers? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" They were handed over to recognized concerns and co-operative societies and were not handed over to each and everybody who applied for the same."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—" Are the Government aware that sugar is available at blackmarket prices everywhere in the Presidency? Have the Government any machinery to find out and bring out the stocks which are held by blackmarketeers in the Presidency at present? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" We are watching the situation. Steps are being taken to get all the stocks and put them in a common pool."

SRI P. A. THANGASWAMI:—" In view of the extreme shortage of sugar in this Province, will the Government examine the possibility of directly converting the palmyra juice into sugar? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" The matter will be examined, Sir."

DR. S. SUBRAMANIA AYYAR:—" Will the Government assure us that there will be no discrimination in the quantity of ration allowed to each cardholder both in the city and in the mufassal? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" In the mufassal, the Collectors have been asked to make their own arrangements which will more or less be based on the arrangements in the city."

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JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Sir, apart from the little bit of bungling of the Government of Madras in the matter of distribution of sugar, will this Government make strong representations to the Government of India with regard to prices and also see that Madras gets adequate quantity?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"We are daily making such representations."

JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY:—"May I know whether the Government of Madras have impressed upon the Government of India the necessity of importing foreign sugar?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"As I said before the matter is entirely for the Government of India. Only when the present position cannot be handled, the question of import will come in."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that several of our sugar factories in this Province are not up-to-date and are not in a position to extract as much sugar as they ought to from sugarcane and may I know whether the Government will look into this matter?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"I cannot speak about the working of the sugar factories."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that all the mistakes in control are due to the fact that the Government are taking more responsibilities than they can faithfully discharge and controls should really be made effective only in few cases?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"I would like to have more detailed particulars about these proposals."

Recent incidents that occurred in the Central Jails at Vellore and Cuddalore.

*76 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) the details of the incidents that took place recently in the Central Jails at Vellore and Cuddalore; and

(*b*) whether any enquiry was conducted to ascertain the reasons for these incidents and if so, what the result of such an enquiry is?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—"(*a*) The hon. Member is referred to the Press Notes issued by the Government on the 4th August 1949 and the 12th August 1949.

"(*b*) The Government have no doubt that the reasons which led to these incidents were the persistent violation of jail rules by the detenus and also their defiant attitude in preventing the jail staff from carrying out their legitimate duties, by violent resistence. They consider that no enquiry into the incidents is called for in the circumstances."

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JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY:—"If the Government are not prepared to conduct an enquiry, may I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister himself personally went into this question and enquired into the matter?" 11-45 a.m.

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Certainly, Sir, I personally went into the question."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"In view of the misapprehension in the minds of the public about this incident and the peculiar and strange nature of it, will the Government please see that a non-official committee is appointed to enquire and investigate into this matter in the interests of the detenus and the jail officials there?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I do not at all accept the premises of the hon. Gentleman that there is a considerable feeling of the public in the matter. The Government are not prepared to have a non-official enquiry into this."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"While such incidents have become common in the course of the last two or three months, Sir, does it not stand to reason that the Hon. the Law Minister should have a concrete enquiry so that the Government may have an idea in future of how to prevent such incidents?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, I have already stated that I am satisfied that there is no necessity for an enquiry in this case, about the causes and the nature of the incident."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"Since the prisoners are in a position to get arms, to acquire arms, and originate violence, will the Law Minister be pleased to see whether it is a lack of discipline among the jail staff that has contributed to the possibility of such incidents in the jail?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"There was no question of acquiring arms. The prisoners only broke certain articles of furniture and used them to beat the jail officials. They also used certain pieces of firewood for this purpose."

Abolition of the Ramapadasagar Division.

*77 *Q.*—SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI (on behalf of Sri K. Linga Raju): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have passed orders abolishing the Ramapadasagar division at Polavaram; and

(*b*) if so, why?

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The detailed investigation of the Ramapadasagar having been completed in its main aspects, the Ramapadasagar Division at Polavaram has been abolished. The Government have sanctioned however the continuance of one subdivision at Polavaram and some additional staff for the Godavari Western Division for attending to the work yet to be done in connexion with the closure of the detailed investigation, of the Project."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I know, Sir, whether all the material and equipment that was there has been transferred from that place? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Yes, Sir. They have been transferred."

SRI B. S. MURTI:—" Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. the Minister that the investigation has been completed and the division has been abolished, may I know where is the need for keeping a skeleton of a subdivision there? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The answer is contained in my original answer which I have read."

Dust nuisance in crowded localities.

* 78 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state what steps the Government propose to take to avoid dust nuisance in public roads, especially in crowded localities?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The five-year plan for development of roads other than National Highways provides for cement concreting of 189 miles of roads and black top surfacing of 201 miles of roads, depending upon the intensity of traffic. Works are being taken up every year from this plan depending upon relative urgency on the recommendation of local officers. Where black top with precoated chips is sufficient, it is being done under maintenance grant wherever necessary and possible. So far estimates aggregating to about Rs. 142 lakhs have been sanctioned by the Government for dustless surfacing of roads under their control.

" In respect of schemes of dustless surfacing of roads within the areas of the local bodies, the Government provide half-grants in the Provincial Budget of every year after considering the schemes as Part II Scheme proposals. The Government are also giving half-loans to such of the local bodies as are not able to meet them their own funds their share of the cost of these schemes.

" Though dustless surfacing is desirable the Government are unable to provide for dustless surfacing at more roads in urban areas in view of the slender resources of the Province, and also in view of the need to give priority to development

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of roads in rural areas which have hardly any roads. However, the Government are doing what they can consistent with their responsibilities towards the rural population."

[* 79 *Q.*—

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I request that Question Nos. 79, 82 and 88 may be taken up on Monday, Sir."]

MR. SPEAKER:—" The Hon. the Leader of the House wants Questions Nos. 79, 82 and 88 to be taken up on Monday. So, these questions are postponed for being taken up on Monday."

Alleged collection of rents by landholders from ryots and tenants by coercive steps and at old rates.

* 80 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representations from the ryots and tenants for stopping landholders from realizing all rents due to them at the old rates by coercive steps; and

(*b*) if so, what steps the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) The Government consider that it would not be proper for them to interfere in cases where landholders take coercive steps to realize the rents due to them for fasli 1356 and prior faslis. The question of providing for adjustment of excess payments made by ryots for fasli 1357 and subsequent faslis is separately engaging their attention."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that in the collection of current faslis, the landlords are bringing the holdings to sale for arrears of rent? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I would like to to be informed if the hon. Gentleman has any information about it. So far as I know, I have got two petitions from Tanjore which are being dealt with by the Government. As I have already said in reply to the hon. Gentleman, the question is now being examined by the Legal Department."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I know, Sir, what coercive steps are being taken by the landholders and whether it is not a fact that the Government through the Board of Revenue have intimated the Courts not to allow the lands to be sold in public auction? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" The coercive steps referred to are really the usual steps that are allowed under the Act; but I do not know what my hon. Friend is referring to in regard to the Board's orders. I would like to be enlightened upon that."

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SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know, Sir, how the Government can permit high-handed coercion to be resorted to by the landlords in collecting rents from the helpless tenants?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I never said that the Government is allowing high-handed coercion. But there are certain steps allowed under the law and they are being taken."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to instruct the Revenue officials who are now in charge of collection of rent in the estates for faslis 1357 and 1358 to render their accounts to the landholders as early as possible, when collections are completed and will the Government be pleased to state whether they will try to avoid delays in this matter?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Sir, under the Abolition Act, if an estate is notified and taken over certain duties are to be performed by the officers concerned and they will certainly do them properly."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"My question has not been understood, Sir. May I repeat it? I am not concerned with the Abolition Act. Under section 3, clause 4 of the Rent Reduction Act requires Government to collect the rents and render accounts to the landholders. Now in the case of the small estates where collections have already been made by Revenue officials, will the Government see to it that delays are avoided in the remittance of moneys to the landholder?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"With the explanation of my hon. Friend now, I am able to understand the question. That will be done, Sir."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Government will speed up the matter of rent reduction in estates?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The matter will be speeded up, Sir."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"May I know, Sir, what the difference between the rents collectable prior to and after fasli 1356 is?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The hon. Member was here when the Bill was discussed, and he knows everything about it."

[* 81 *Q.*—

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I request you, Sir, to postpone Questions Nos. 81 and 84 for being taken up on Monday? Members of our party want to put a number of supplementary questions on them?"]

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yes. Questions Nos. 81 and 84 will be taken up on Monday."

* 82 *Q.*—Postponed.

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Development Board for Ramnad district.

* 83 *Q.*—SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have under consideration a proposal to constitute a Development Board for Ramnad district?

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

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether this question is under the active consideration of the Government and when the Board will be formed?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Sir, the matter has been referred to the Board of Revenue."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"May I know, Sir, the special reason for constituting this kind of Board?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Sir, I believe, that this question was raised during the last Budget debate by one of the hon. Members coming from Ramnad district and the Hon. Minister in charge of Public Works seems to have given an assurance on the occasion that he would consider the question sympathetically. In pursuance of that assurance, we are now acting."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Ramnad district is one of the badly neglected districts and it has no irrigation facilities at all and whether this district requires special treatment by the Government?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The Government feel that all areas which are under-developed should be specially attended to, and this being one of the areas in the Presidency which have not been properly developed, the question of constituting a Development Board has been taken up which, it is hoped, will help the expeditious disposal of the matter."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"Will the Hon. Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government will consider the case of some taluks in the Tirunelveli district like Koilpatti, for constituting a Board?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"We are discussing about Ramnad district and not Tirunelveli."

SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN:—"Sir, I do not understand the meaning of the words 'Development Board.' So, will the Hon. Minister explain the meaning and functions of 'Development Board'?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Such Boards are constituted to expedite the economic development of a particular area."

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JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Sir, am I to take it from the Revenue Minister that Ramnad is a very backward district since the present Premier comes from that place? Is it because that Ramnad district has within it the Chettinad and has produced so many rich persons and big businessmen, it is considered to be a poor and backward district? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Sir, that has nothing to do with the Board. For instance, the Rayalaseema has produced a Raza Khan who is a Member of this House and yet it has a Board." (Laughter.)

* 84 *Q.*—Postponed.

Abolition of the Original Side of the Madras High Court.

* 85 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal before the Government for the abolition of the Original Side of the Madras High Court;

(*b*) whether any representation has been received by the Government recently, opposing the abolition referred to in clause (*a*) above; and

(*c*) whether any, and if so, what action has been taken on the representation?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*c*) The matter is under consideration of the Government."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government is satisfied as to the financial implications of the abolition or the retention of the original side of the High Court."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The abolition of the original side will definitely be financially advantageous, Sir."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have taken the opinion of the Judges of the High Court in the matter and whether they have received any representation from the Advocates' Association objecting to the proposal? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The Government have consulted the High Court and after consultation a Bill has been prepared. This is now under the consideration of the Judges of the High Court."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Sir, Does the fact that Government is preparing a Bill on these lines, mean that they have agreed to or accepted the principle of abolition of the Original Side, and if so, is it not necessary for them to see that the policy should be made known to the public at large as early as possible? ".

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Yes, Sir. It has been decided upon by the Government and as it requires amendment to a number of Acts, a Bill has been prepared, and this has been publicly known."

Auctioning of municipal markets for the year 1949–50 by the Special Officer, Guntur Municipality.

* 86 *Q.*—SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI (on behalf of Sri K. Linga Raju): Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Special Officer of Guntur Municipality had notified the auctioning of all municipal markets for the year 1949–50 early this year;

(*b*) whether any particular market has been exempted by the Government from being auctioned in the usual course;

(*c*) if the answer to (*b*) is in the affirmative, why and under what provisions of the District Municipalities Act;

(*d*) whether the market has been given on lease subsequently by or under the direction of the Government to any contractor without auction;

(*e*) if so, what his name is and for what amount; and

(*f*) whether any petitions have been received by the Government offering higher amounts for the same market and, if so, what the amounts are?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" The answer[a] is laid on the table of the House."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" It is conceded that there were two persons offering Rs. 50,000 each and another Rs. 48,000 and why did not the Government take into consideration the higher amount when Syed Kazim Sahib was given only for Rs. 41,000." 12 noon.

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" If we go into the whole history, the facts would be otherwise. The Government cannot be led away by mere telegrams given by certain individuals."

Cycle manufacture in the Province.

* 87 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government have agreed to subscribe Rs. 25 lakhs towards an enterprise to start cycle manufacture in the Province?

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" Yes, Sir, subject to the promoters finding Rs. 30 lakhs first, under the provisions of section 20 (*g*) of the State-Aid to Industries Act."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" Which is the company and who are the promoters? "

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[a] Printed as Appendix on page 465 infra.

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THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" M. C. T. Chidambaram Chettiar and Tyagaraja Mudaliar."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know whether the Government is holding any share and, if so, the percentage of the share? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" No share now, Sir."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—" May I know, Sir, whether the company is registered and the capital is subscribed."

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" No, Sir."

* 88 *Q.*—Postponed.

Fixation of the price of foodgrains for the coming khariff year.

* 89 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether this Government have been consulted till now by the Central Government in the matter of fixing the price of foodgrains for the coming khariff year; and

(*b*) if so, what opinion this Government have advocated in the matter?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" (*a*) Yes.

"(*b*) This Government have suggested to the Government of India that the existing procurement prices should be continued without any change till the end of fasli year (July 1949 to June 1950)."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" Is it not a fact that the Government have assured the producers that the cost price or the procurement price will not be reduced in any event."

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" I could not hear the hon. Member."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" Is it not a fact that the Government repeatedly assured the House and the public that the producer would not be asked to reduce the price with regard to procurement in foodgrains? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Assurance was given only on this basis, Sir."

Purchase of a high-speed launch for pursuing and capturing smugglers.

* 90 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state with reference to the answer given by the then Premier to question No. 153 on 3rd September 1948 regarding the purchase of a high-speed launch for pursuing and capturing the smugglers, what steps the Government have taken further in this matter?

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THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" The question of taking effective steps for preventing the smuggling of foodgrains and other essential commodities from this Province to Ceylon is under the active consideration of the Central and Provincial Governments. It will not be in the public interest to disclose what measures have been or are proposed to be taken in this regard."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware that various unauthorized ports are functioning in the Coramandel Coast and smuggle essential articles to Ceylon and import prohibited articles into India from Ceylon? If so, what action, the Government have taken to prevent this effectively."

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" It is only based on these reports that steps are being considered."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" May I know Sir, why smuggling is so popular in Tanjore district."

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Because it is so very near to Ceylon and it produces large quantity of rice."

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

II.—MOTION *RE* CHANGE IN THE ORDER OF BUSINESS OF THE DAY.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The first two items in the Agenda may be taken up after the Essential Articles Control Bill which was not finished yesterday. I move, Sir:

'*That the Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning (Temporary Powers) Bill*, 1949, *be taken up now* '."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I have no objection to the change. The Hon. Minister has proposed that the first two items in to-day's Agenda, that is, Bills in the name of Hon. Sri N. Sanjeeva Reddi be taken up afterwards and we should continue yesterday's Bill."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" It is most unfortunate that the Government do not make up their mind with regard to the business of the House. They issued a programme yesterday. Members came prepared on the subject. But suddenly the Hon. the Leader of the House now says that this may be postponed. I would like to know, Sir, whether the Hon. Ministers really think that the Members of this House take no interest and come to the House simply to make some speech and go away. I want a ruling in the matter, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" There is no question of giving a ruling on this. The Hon. the Minister will answer."

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Once all the items are included in the Agenda, Members are ready with them and whatever preparation the Members have made will not go a waste even if it is taken to-morrow."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Even Hon. Ministers never come prepared with the subject."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Ministers are prepared to answer hon. Member, Mr. Raza Khan."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The motion is—

' That the first two items in to-day's Agenda be taken up after finishing discussion on the Essential Articles Control Bill '."

The motion was carried.

III.—THE MADRAS ESSENTIAL ARTICLES CONTROL AND REQUISITIONING (TEMPORARY POWERS) BILL 1949—*cont.*

12-8 p.m.

*SRI B. VENKATANARAYANA REDDI:—" అధ్యక్ష, కంట్రోల్స్ విషయములో అనుకూలముగను ప్రతికూలముగను గౌరవ సభ్యులు కొందరు వారివారి అనుభవములను పురస్కరించుకొని తమ తమ వ్యక్తిగత అభిప్రాయములను నివేదించి యున్నారు. మరికొందరు ఈ కంట్రోల్సును సక్రమంగా అమలుచేయుటకు ప్రభుత్వమువారు హెచ్చు శ్రద్ధ తీసికొనవలయుననియు, లేనిచో ప్రజలు పడు బాధలకు ప్రభుత్వమువారే బాధ్యులగుదురనియు చెప్పియున్నారు.

" ముఖ్యంగా మా ఉత్తర జిల్లాలలో ఈ కంట్రోల్సువల్ల ప్రజలు పడుచున్న బాధలు, వారు ఈనాడు ఎట్టి పరిస్థితులలో ఉన్నారో అనెడి విషయములను గూర్చి కొందరు సభ్యులు ఇచ్చట చెప్పియున్నారు. ఇదివరలో చెప్పిన విషయములను గురించి కాకి చెప్పని కొన్ని విషయములను గురించి, ముఖ్యముగా ఒకటి రెండు విషయముల గూర్చి ప్రభుత్వమువారికి మనవిచేయదలచినాను.

" గత సంవత్సరములో మా నెల్లూరు జిల్లా ప్రాంతములలో సరియైన వర్షములు లేక అనేక మెట్ట ప్రాంతములలో పంటలు ఎండిపోయి ప్రజలకు తినటానికి తిండి దొరకని పరిస్థితులు ఏర్పడినవి. మా జిల్లాలో రెండు, మూడు తాలూకాలు మాత్రమే డెల్టా తాలూకాలు మిగతావి మెట్ట తాలూకాలు డెల్టా తాలూకాలలోనే పంట పండినది. మెట్ట తాలూకాలలోని వారు వారికి కావలసిన ఆహార ధాన్యములను పల్లపు తాలూకాలనుంచి తెచ్చుకొనకుండ ప్రభుత్వమువారు Inter-Tank Movement Ban నిషేధించి యున్నారు. ఇంతే కాకుండ ప్రభుత్వమువారి రేషన్ డిపోల ద్వారా ప్రజలకు ధాన్యము సక్రమంగా ఇవ్వించలేక పోయినారు. దీనివల్ల బీద ప్రజలు చాలా బాధలు పడవలసి వచ్చినది. ప్రక్కన ఉండే పల్లపు తాలూకాలనుంచి ఆహార ధాన్యములు తెచ్చుకొనకుండా నిషేధించడమువల్ల, వారికి కావలసిన ఆహారధాన్యాలు సప్లయిచేయించలేక పోవడంవల్ల ప్రజలలో చాలా అశాంతి ఆసంతృప్తి ఏర్పడినదని చెప్పక తప్పదు. ఇది గత సంవత్సరారంభమున జరిగినటువంటి సంగతి. ఈ సంవత్సరము ఆక్కడక్కడ వర్షములు పడి కొంత పంట పండియున్నది. ముఖ్యంగా డెల్టా తాలూకాలలో ఇప్పుడు ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఏర్పరచిఉన్న procurement పద్ధతి చాల ఆసంతృప్తికరముగా నున్నది. రైతులవద్ద నుంచి ధాన్యము కొనుగోలుచేసే అవకాశము ఏ కొద్ది

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మందికో ఏర్పాటులకు మాత్రమే ప్రభుత్వమువారు కల్పించేసినారు. కాని ఆ ఏర్పాటులు రైతులవద్ద నుంచి సకాలములో ధాన్యము కొనుగోలు చేయటంలేదు. ఈ విధంగా ప్రభుత్వమువారు నియమించిన వర్తకులకు కాకుండ ఇతరు లెవ్వరికిని రైతులు ధాన్యాన్ని అమ్మకూడదు. ఈ కారణముచేత డబ్బు వసతిలేక రైతులు చాల బాధపడుతున్నారు. వారిపద్దనున్న ధాన్యము విడుదల అగుటకు చాల ఆలస్యమగుచున్నది. ఇట్టి పరిస్థితులలో ఏ విధంగా ఈ కంట్రోల్సును ప్రభుత్వంవారు సక్రమంగా నిర్వహించవలెనో నాకు బోధపడటంలేదు. ఇంతే కాకుండ ధరల విషయములోకూడ ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఒక నిర్ణయం చేసినారు. వారు నిర్ణయించిన గరిష్టధర (maximum price) 22 మణుగుల తూకముగల ఫుట్టి రెండవ రకపు ధాన్యమునకు 184 రూపాయలు అయియున్నది. అటువంటి ఫుట్టి ధాన్యము ఇప్పుడు గవర్నమెంటు కొనుగోలు ఏజెంట్లు సరిగా కొనక పోయినందువలన డబ్బు అవసరముల్ల రైతులు తక్కువ ధరకు అనగా 165 రూపాయలు చేసినూడ అమ్మకలసి వస్తుంది. ఈ విధంగా తక్కువ ధరకు అమ్మదలచిన కూడ (procurement) ఏజెంట్లు ధాన్యాన్ని కొనుగోలు చేయలేకపోతున్నారు. ఇందువలన డబ్బు సర్దుబాటుకాక రైతులు ముందు వ్యవసాయపు పనులు చేసుకోవటానికి చాల ఇబ్బందులు పడుతున్నారు. కాబట్టి ఇప్పుడు విస్తరచి నట్టుగా రైతులు తమవద్ద అధికముగానున్న ధాన్యమును ఏ కొద్ది మంది వర్తకులలో మాత్రమే విక్రయించవలెనన్నట్టి నిబంధనను తొలగించి జిల్లాలోని వివిధ తాలూకాలలోనివారికి అమ్మవచ్చునని మార్చినట్లయితే రైతులకు సక్రమమయిన ధర గిట్టుబాటు అగుటకును, ధాన్యము కావలసిన మెట్ట తాలూకాలలోనివారికి సరిపడినంత ధాన్యము సక్రమమైన ధరకు దొరుకుటకును అవకాశములు ఏర్పడగలవని ఈ విధంగా చేయడము ప్రభుత్వమువారి బాధ్యత అని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. ఆ విధంగా చేయక ఇప్పుడు ఉన్నట్టి విధానాన్నే ఇకముందుకూడ అమలు జరుపదలచినట్లయితే ప్రజాసామాన్యానికి ప్రభుత్వమువారిపై అసంతృప్తి ఏర్పడగలదేగాని ప్రజలకు అహోర ధాన్యములు సక్రమంగా అందజేయలేమని ప్రభుత్వమువారు గుర్తించగోరుతారు.

" ఈ బిల్లులో సెక్షను 7 (1) లో రైతులను వారి భూములలో కొన్నికొన్ని పైరులను పెట్టుకోనకుండ నిషేధించే అధికారమును ప్రభుత్వమువారు తీసుకోదలచినారు. ఏ పొలములలో ఏ కాలములో ఏ పైరు వేయాలో రైతులకు తెలుసును. ఇప్పుడు కొత్తగా ప్రభుత్వ ఉద్యోగస్తులకు రైతులు పండించే పైరు నిర్ణయముచేసే అధికారము ఇచ్చినట్లయితే రైతులకు చాలా నష్టమువచ్చే పరిస్థితులు ఏర్పడవచ్చు. అంతే కాకుండ రైతులు ఈ అధికారులయొక్క దయాదాక్షిణ్యములమీద ఆధారపడవలసి వస్తుంది. ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఇటువంటి అధికారమును తీసుకోవడం తప్పని సరి అని భావించినట్లయితే రైతులకు నష్టము జరుగకుండా చూడడము అత్యవసరము. రైతులు తమ యిష్ట ప్రకారము ఏ పైరు వెట్టదలచుకున్నారో ప్రభుత్వోద్యోగస్తులు ప్రత్యేకంగా ఏ పైరును సాగుచేయాలని నిర్బంధించగలరో గమనించి ఇందువలన రైతుకు ఎంత నష్టము వస్తుందో ఆంచనావేసి దానిని ప్రభుత్వమువారే రైతుకు నష్టపరిహారము ఇచ్చే అవకాశము ఈ సెక్షనులో కలుగజేయవలసినదని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. లేనిచో రైతులకు చాల నష్టము కలుగుతుంది. ప్రభుత్వము ఎడల వారికి అసంతృప్తి ఏర్పడకుండ చూచుటకు గాను ఇట్టి అవకాశమును ఈ బిల్లులో ఏర్పాటుచేయవలసి ఉంటుందని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

" ముఖ్యంగా కంట్రోల్సును ఏర్పాటు చేసేటప్పుడు ఆవి ఎంతమట్టుకు మనము సక్రమంగా అమలు జరుపగలము, ఎంతవరకు వీటివలన ప్రజలకు సహాయపడగలము

అనే విషయములను ప్రభుత్వంవారు గమనించవలసి యుంటుంది. కంట్రోల్సును అమలుచేయుటకు మరికొందరు ఉద్యోగస్తులను నియమించినంత మాత్రమునే అవి సక్రమముగా అమలు జరుపబడజాలవు. ఈ నాడు కంట్రోల్సును అమలు జరిపే ఉద్యోగస్తులలో నూటికి వి పదిమందో తప్ప మిగత 90 మందిలోను లంచగొండి తనము ఉన్నదని చెప్పుటకు విచారించుచున్నాను. ఇటువంటి ఉద్యోగస్తులపైననే హెచ్చు మంది ప్రజా సామాన్యము ఆధారపడవలసియున్నది. అందువలననే ఈ నాడు ఎక్కడ చూచిన ప్రజలు ఆహార ధాన్యముల పంపకము సక్రమంగా జరగటంలేదని వారు చాల బాధలకు లోనుగావలసి వస్తూయుందని ప్రభుత్వమువారికి విజ్ఞప్తులు చేసుకొంటు న్నారు. కాబట్టి సాధ్యమైనంతవరకు అత్యవసరమని తప్పనిసరి అని ప్రభుత్వమువారు అనుకొనే వస్తువులపైనే తప్ప మిగత వాటిపై కంట్రోల్సు దొలగించడం మంచిదని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. మొట్ట మొదటి కాంగ్రెసు ప్రభుత్వంవారు కంట్రోలు వస్తువులను గ్రామములలోని ప్రజలకు సక్రమంగా పంపకం చేయటకుగాను కమిటీలను నిర్మాటు చేసియున్నారు. అదే విధంగా ఈ ప్రభుత్వంవారు కమిటీలను నిర్మాటు చేసినట్లయితే గ్రామస్థులు ప్రభుత్వముపారిని నిందించే అవకాశాలు తగ్గుతాయి. గ్రామస్థులే ఈ వస్తువులను స్వయముగా పంపకము చేసుకొనే అవకాశము నిర్వడుతుంది. ఇదివరలో ఆక్కడక్కడ కమిటీలలో కొన్ని చిక్కులు వచ్చినవనే కారణముచేత ఆ కమిటీలను ప్రభుత్వమువారు రద్దుచేసియున్నారు. ఇది చాల పొరపాటు. ఈ చిక్కులు ఇదివరలో ఈ కమిటీలకు సభ్యులను nominate చేయడమువల్ల కలిగినది. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వము వారు ఈ విషయమై పునరాలోచించి రాష్ట్రమంతట కంట్రోలు వస్తువులు సరిగా పంప కము చేసే నిమిత్తము జిల్లాలవారిగా, తాలూకాలవారిగా, గ్రామాలవారిగా ప్రజల ఎన్నికద్వారా కమిటీలను నిర్మాటుచేసి ఆయా కమిటీలకు కోటాలను నిర్ణయించి తద్వారా ప్రజలందరకు కంట్రోలు వస్తువులు పంపకము చేయించిన సరియైన ధర లకు ప్రజలకు లభింపగలవు. ప్రభుత్వమువారికి నిందలు తప్పగలని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. ప్రభుత్వమువారు ప్రజా సౌకర్యమే పరమావధిగా తలచి అందుకుగాను అనేకమైన

12-15 p.m. మంచి పనులను చేస్తున్నారనే విషయము అందరకు తెలిసినదే. కాని ఈ కంట్రోల్సు వల్ల ప్రజలు తమదైనందిన జీవితంలో అనేక ఇబ్బందులు పడుతున్న కారణంచేత ఈ మంచి పనుల నన్నింటిని మరచి చెడ్డలనే ఆధారంగా తీసుకొని ప్రభుత్వమువారిని విమర్శి స్తున్నారు. ఈ అసంతృప్తినే అవకాశంగా తీసుకొని కాంగ్రెసు వ్యతిరేకులు ప్రజ లలో కాంగ్రెసుయెడల ఈ ప్రజాప్రభుత్వముయెడల ద్వేషాన్ని కలిగించే ప్రచారాన్ని చేస్తున్నారు. ఈ కంట్రోల్సులోని లోటుపాట్లను ఇతర పార్టీలవారు ఈ విధంగా ఉపయోగించు కొంటున్నారు. ఇవి కొంతవరకు వారికి తోడ్పడగలవేమోననే అభిప్రా యముకూడ అనేకమంది మిత్రులు వెల్లడించి యున్నారు. అందుచేత ముఖ్యంగా గ్రామ కమిటీలను తాలూకా కమిటీలను జిల్లా కమిటీలను ఎన్నికలద్వారా నిర్మాటుచేసి వాటి ద్వారానే రాష్ట్రములందలి ప్రజలందరకు కంట్రోలు వస్తువులు, పట్టణవాసులు గ్రామస్థులు అనే తేడా పాటించకుండా, సరిగా సరిపడా చేసే విధానాన్ని వెంటనే అమలు చేయవలసినదని, లేకపోయినట్లయితే ఎంతమాత్రమూకూడ న్యాయముగా కంట్రోలు వస్తువులు పంపకము కాజాలవు.

"ఇంకొక విషయాన్ని గురించి మనవి చేస్తాను. 7 వ సెక్షనులో రైతులు ఏయే పంట పండించాలో ఏయే పంటలు పండించకుండా నిషేధించాలో అనే విష యాన్ని నిర్ణయించే అధికారాన్ని ప్రభుత్వంవారు తీసుకొంటున్నారు. ఇది తప్పని సరి అని వారు అనుకొన్నట్లయితే మేము ఆంగీకరించక తప్పదు. కాని ఒక్క విష

యాన్ని మాత్రము ప్రభుత్వంవారి దృష్టికి తేదలచినాను. ఈనాడు రైతులకు వ్యవ సాయ పనిముట్లు దొరకడం చాలా కష్టంగా ఉన్నది. వారికి కావలసిన బండి కట్టాలు, నాగలి, కర్రలు, పారలు, పలుగులు మొదలైనవి వారు ఎంతో ప్రయాసతో బ్లాక్ మార్కెట్‌లో కొనుకొనవలసి వస్తుంది. పలానా పైరు నాటాలని రైతులను నిర్బంధించే ప్రభుత్వం ఆ రైతులకు అత్యవసరంగా కావలసిన వ్యవసాయపు పనిముట్లను మాత్రం చక్కగా తయారుచేయాలని మిల్లులవారిని ఎందుకు నిర్బంధించ లేకుండనున్నదో యీ విషయమై వారి ఉద్దేశ్యమేమో నేను తెలుసుకోకుండలేక యున్నాను. ఇదే ప్రశ్నను రైతులుకూడ వేయగలరని ప్రభుత్వంవారు రైతులకు ఈ విషయంలో సహాయ పడక పోయినట్లయితే వారి ఆహ్వీ పణకు అగ్రహానికి విమర్శకు మనము గురి కావలసి వస్తుందనే విషయాన్ని గమనించవలసినదిగా ప్రభుత్వంవారిని కోరుతున్నాను. ఈ నాడు రైతులలో చాల ఆసంతృప్తి పెర్పడియున్నదని అందరకు తెలుసును. (At this stage the Deputy Speaker occupied the chair.) వారు ఆనుభవించుచున్న ఇబ్బందులవల్ల ప్రభుత్వము చేయుచున్న మంచిపనులను గుర్తించకుండాయున్నారు. కాబట్టి ఈ కంట్రోల్సును సాధ్యమైనంతవరకు సడలించి ప్రజా విశ్వాసాన్ని ప్రజా మోదాన్ని ప్రజాబలమును సంపాదించవలసిందిగా నేను ప్రభుత్వము వారిని కోరుచున్నాను."

* SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, it is my painful duty to make certain observations which are very necessary for considering this Bill. We think that controls are necessary nowadays, because the pre-war economic structure of the country has been shattered. After the war, we have been almost compelled by the Central Government to have control over food, sugar, steel and also other articles. Now we are introducing a Bill for controlling the production, supply, distribution and transport of other essential articles for this Presidency only. I think it is very necessary now to take stock of the position with regard to the working of the control of other articles which have been imposed on us. For instance take the newly introduced sugar control. We find that even the machinery for distribution is failing or not properly working. The existing stocks of sugar have disappeared and have come out again in the blackmarket. The Government are not able to prevent such a state of affairs. And with regard to the working of the foodgrains control, the less said about it the better. It is a matter for shame. I think it is parliamentary to use that word. We should be ashamed of the working of the Food Supply Department at present. The procurement and distribution of foodgrains has not satisfied even a single person in the Province except the profiteers and the officials of the department who extend their patronage and get profits.

"Madam, we see that the producers in Tanjore district get a lower price than that fixed by the Government for paddy. The wholesalers or the licensees purchase paddy at a low price, add to it the cost of transport, etc., allowed by the Government and sell it and reap enormous profit. Is it not open blackmarketing? Can anything be worse than this? Again, as has been pointed out by the previous speaker, good foodgrains produced in surplus areas

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are transported elsewhere and rotten stuff which is unfit for human consumption is distributed in the ration shops in the surplus areas. What is this, Madam ? Not only that, in the method of procurement, see how cruelly it works ! The small ryots are harassed and tyrannised. They are unable to make complaints and their grievances are not brought forward. I know that recently in Mathurai district demand notices have been given to ryots holding less than three acres of wet land and in some cases to ryots owning even less than one acre. I know instances where ryots holding less than one acre have received demand notices for six or eight bags of paddy. The servants of the licensees go to the threshing floor of the ryot and compel him to part with the paddy. If the ryot goes to the Firka Supply Officer or the Taluk Supply Officer to make a complaint, he will not be able to find him out for two or three days. In the meanwhile the paddy gets rotten. Even then the ryot gets no relief. The strange thing is that the Government have announced that their policy is not to procure any paddy from owners of three acres of land or less. They have announced this decision in a communique and they have also stated in the meeting of the Provincial Food Advisory Committee that they had instructed the District Officers not to procure grains from small landholders holding not more than three acres of wet land or five acres of dry land. But these instructions have either not reached the Local Officers—the Firka Supply Officers, the Taluk Supply Officers and the Tahsildars—or if they had reached them they are completely ignoring them and not caring for them and disobeying them. It is a fact so far as the taluk of Nilakottah is concerned. This was pointed out to the District Collector who is a very good man and tries to do good as far as possible, but only has not got the strength or grit to do so. When I laid these complaints before him, he said that he had not received such an order or instruction from the Government. Not only that; he says 'we will procure from all people who have a surplus'. And when I ask him how he expects surplus paddy from people who own less than one acre, he says it is quite possible. There is some Supply Officer there who says that if a couple, husband and wife, go to work in the harvest season, they will get their wages in kind, which will amount to 20 or 30 kalams of paddy, and therefore he believes there will be surplus. Is there any reason or rhyme in this ? Do you believe that people with one acre and less, even if they are only husband and wife, will go out to harvest paddy and get their wages in kind ? Somehow, that gentleman says it is possible. It seems there was a case like that on the banks of the Tambraparni in the Tirunelveli district; and on that basis he says everyone who is owning even one acre and less must have some surplus; he believes it. Is there anything more absurd than this ? Unfortunately the vested interests have made a sort of monopolistic combination with these officers. Probably some of the big landlords in the place have pointed out that small ryots should deliver more because, according to them, the small ryots will be able to cultivate their lands better and get greater produce, and a man

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owning one acre of land should be able to get about 60 bags of paddy and therefore should be able to deliver 40 bags to the Government. That is what a rich landholder owning 2,000 acres of land in Mathurai district says; and the officers approve it, they smile and nod. Then I put this point before the House, that the Mathurai district will not be a deficit district at all; it will be a surplus district if every acre there produces 60 bags of paddy and it will be able to export paddy to two or more deficit districts. The Periyar irrigated area alone covers an extent of nearly two lakhs of acres, some 5,000 or 6,000 acres less. That is how things are going on. Do they not understand it ? Really, does any officer believe that a poor ryot who owns a small piece of land is able to deliver the paddy that is demanded of him ? And if he does, how? I believe, Madam, it is the great degeneration that has set in is the cause of all this. It is the inefficiency, corruption and nepotism which are prevalent everywhere in this department that is the cause of all this. Everywhere we have been hearing that we should grow more food; and we have been rather producing more of discontent everywhere. We have been producing these Communists; we have seen that it is the inefficiency and corruption and nepotism of our services that are the main cause, or perhaps one of the main causes of . . ."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR :—" Is it fair on the part of an hon. Member of this House to condemn the services of a department wholesale as being guilty of nepotism, favouritism and things of that kind ? "

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER :—" He is just making some general remarks; he is allowed to do it."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH :—" When I say cholera is prevalent everywhere, we do not mean that everyone is attacked by cholera and everyone is dying (Laughter). I say it is prevalent almost everywhere in the services; not all the men in the department are like that; there are honourable exceptions; I do believe there are honest men and good men. But good men are unable to do any good. For instance, there is the Collector of Mathurai an honest man; he was not corrupt."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER :—" There is no need for so much of explanation. Your time is over; will you finish in one or two minutes ? "

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH :—" In view of such experience in the working of the control of foodgrains, I think, Madam, we should be cautious in extending control over the production and distribution of other articles."

* SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI :—" கனம் உப அக்கிராசனரே அவர்களே, இந்த தீர்மானத்தில் சில யோசனைகளை நான் கூற விரும்புகிறேன். இந்த control, இந்த கொளமுதல் விலைகளுக் கெல்லாம் உத்யோகஸ்தர்கள், விலைகளனைத்தையும் பரிபாலிக்கக்கூடிய இந்த பெரிய இலாகாவை வைத்துகொண்டிருப்பதற்கு பதிலாக உடனே இந்த உணவு கட்டுப்பாட்டை அடியோடு எடுத்துவிடுவது உசிதம் என்று

[Sri A. Vedaratnam Pillai] [12th November 1949

நான் கூற விரும்புகிறேன். இந்த விஷயத்தை தைர்யமாகச் செய்ய முன் வந்தால் கனம் மந்திரியவர்களே இந்த மாகாண மக்கள் அனைவரும் வாழ்த்துவார்கள். இந்த கட்டுப்பாடு இருக்கும் காரணமாக யாராகிலும் 8 அவுன்ஸ் அரிசியில் காலம் தள்ளுகிறார்களா என்பதைப் பார்த்தால் ஒருவர்கூட இல்லவே இல்லை என்றுதான் கூறலாம். இப்பொழுது இந்த எட்டு அவுன்ஸ் அரிசியைக்கொடுத்துவருவதால் இந்த மாகாணத்தில் இதுவரையில் ஒருவரும் இறந்துபோகவில்லை. ஆனால் கட்டுப்பாட்டை வைத்துக்கொண்டு மக்களை கள்ள மார்க்கெட்டில் வாங்கும்படியான இழிவான வாழ்க்கையில் ஈடுபட்டுக்கொண்டுருப்பதற்குதான் இந்தக் கட்டுப்பாடு இருக்கிறதேயொழிய வேறு எந்தப்பலனும் இல்லை என்பதை நான் நிரூபிக்க விரும்புகிறேன்.

"இந்தக் கட்டுப்பாட்டை அவசியம் வைத்திருக்கவேண்டுமென்பதற்காக இந்த இலாகா, கணக்குகளை ஜோடித்து தயாரித்து வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். இந்தக் கட்டுப்பாடு அவசியம் இல்லை என்பதை நம் மாகாண மாஜி பிரதம மந்திரி நன்றாக எடுத்துக் காட்டியிருக்கிறார். அதையே அவர் ஒரு **statement** மூலம் வெளியிட்டிருக்கிறார். இன்னும் பெரிய பெரிய மனிதர்கள்கூட அது அவசியம் இல்லை என்று சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள். நமது தலைவர் மகாத்மா காந்தி அவர்கள் இதுவரையில் உயிருடன் இருந்திருந்தால் இந்தக் கட்டுப்பாட்டை எடுக்கவேண்டுமென்பதற்காக ஓர் உண்ணாவிரதம் ஆரம்பித்து அதையும் நிறுத்தியிருப்பார்கள் என்பதை நான் இந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் ஞாபக மூட்டவிரும்புகிறேன்.

"இன்னும் இந்த உணவு இலாகா இருக்கவேண்டியதன் அவசியத்திற்காக 100 மனிதர்கள் இருக்கக்கூடிய இடத்தில் 150, 175, 200 பேர்கள் என்று ரேஷன் கார்டுகளைக் கொடுத்து ஜனத்தொகையை அதிகப்படுத்திக் காட்டிவருகிறார்கள். இதை விளக்கமாக அறிவதற்கு சர்க்காருடைய ரேஷன் கணக்கைப் பார்க்கலாம். இருக்கும் ஜனத்தொகையை அதிகப் படுத்தி இரண்டு மடங்கு அல்லது மூன்று மடங்காக காண்பித்து கணக்கு எழுதி வைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றார்கள். இதேமாதிரி ஜனத்தொகையை அதிகரித்துக் காட்டியிருப்பதைப்போல உற்பத்தியையும் குறைத்துக் காட்டி, அதனால் ரேஷன் அவசியம் என்பதையும் அதற்காக இந்த இலாகா அவசியம் என்பதையும் காட்டுவதற்காக இந்த இலாகா கணக்குகளை ஜோடித்து வைத்திருக்கின்றார்கள். வாஸ்தவத்தில் இந்த பெரிய இலாகாவை வைத்துக்கொண்டு இந்த **control**-ஐ நடத்தவேண்டியது அவசியம் இல்லவே இல்லை என்பதைக் கூறவேண்டும். இந்த இலாகாவை எடுத்துவிட்டால் அதில் வேலை பார்க்கும் உத்யோகஸ்தர்களுக்கு வேலை யில்லாமல் போய்விடும் என்பதற்காகவே இந்த இலாகாவை வைத்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள் என்று பெரிய பெரிய நிபுணர்கள் கூறி இருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதைச் சுட்டிக்காட்ட விரும்புகிறேன்.

"அரிசி பற்றுக்குறையைப் போக்குவதற்கு கைக்குத்தல் அரிசியை உபயோகிக்கலாம் என்று பலர் எடுத்துகாட்டியிருக்கிறார்கள். இப்பொழுது உணவு தான்யத்தில் பத்து சதவிகிதம் பற்றுக்குறையாக இருக்கிறது என் பதற்காக கைக்குத்தல் அரிசியை உபயோகிப்பதன்மூலம் அந்த பற்றுக் குறையை நிவர்த்திசெய்து விடலாம் என்று பல நிபுணர்கள் சுட்டிக்காட்டி இருப்பதை நான் கூறவிரும்புகிறேன். திருவனந்தபுரம் சமஸ்தானத்தில் ஸ்ரீ சி. பி. இராமசாமி அய்யர் அவர்கள் அதிகாரத்தில் இருக்கும் காலத் தில் ஒரேயடியாக ஒரே நாளில் இந்த மில்கள் வேண்டாம் என்று நீக்கி யுள்ளார். அப்படி நீக்கிவிட்டு அங்கே இருந்த நெல் அரைக்கும் இயந் திரங்களை நிறுத்திவிட்டு அவைகளை மற்ற இதர பாசன வேலைகளுக்கு உபயோகிக்கும்படியாகச் செய்து இந்த கைக்குத்தல் அரிசியையே ஜனங் களுக்கு விநியோகிக்கும்படி ஏற்பாடு செய்தார். அதேமாதிரி நம் மாகா ணத்திலும் தைர்யமாக ஏற்பாடு செய்ய முன்வரவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"இன்னும் அதிகமாக உற்பத்தி செய்வதற்கு எத்தனையோ ஆயிரக் கணானக்க எக்கர் நிலங்கள், சாகுபடிக்கு லாயக்குள்ளவைகள், தரிசாக கிடக்கின்றன. அவைகளை யெல்லாம் சீர்செய்து சாகுபடிக்குக்கொண்டு

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வருவது என்று எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் இன்னும் எவ்வளவோ அதிகமான உணவை உற்பத்தி செய்யலாம். அதையெல்லாம் கவனிக்காமல் உற்பத்தி யாகும் தான்யத்தை வைத்துக்கொண்டு அதை பங்குபோடுவதிலேயே நாம் காலத்தைக்கழித்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறோம். தஞ்சாவூர் ஜில்லாவில் நல்ல பாசன வசதிகள் இருக்கின்றன. அப்படியுள்ள இடத்தில் பத்தா யிரம் எக்கருக்குமேல் அதிகமாக சாகுபடிக்கு லாயக்கான நிலம் சும்மா தரிசாக கிடக்கின்றன. அவைகளை யெல்லாம் சாகுபடிக்குக் கொண்டு வந்தால் அவைகளுக்கு சிறு சிறு பாசன வசதிகளை செய்தால் நம் மாகாணத்தில் இப்பொழுது குறைபட்டிருக்கிற ஐந்து லட்சம் டன் தான் யத்தை ஈடுசெய்வதோடு மேலும் அதிகமாகவே உற்பத்தி செய்யலாம் என்று நான் கருதுகிறேன். அப்படி உற்பத்திசெய்தால் நம் மாகாணத் தின் குறைவை ஈடுசெய்வதோடல்லாமல் இதர ஜில்லாக்களுக்கும் கொடுத்து உதவலாம் என்றே நான் கருதுகிறேன். இந்த உணவு கட்டுப்பாட்டிற்காக வைத்திருக்கும் இலாகாவை வைத்துக்கொண்டே இந்த அதிக உற்பத்தி க்கு உபயோகித்துவந்தால் இந்த குறைபாட்டை நீக்கிவிடலாம் என்பதை ஞாபகமூட்ட நான் விரும்புகிறேன்.

"இதே சமயத்தில் **procurement** செய்யும் விஷயமாக சொல்லும் பொழுது **procurement** செய்யப்போகும்பொழுது அறுவடை காலம் வந்து விட்டது எனறு சொல்லி உற்பத்தியாளர்களிடமுள்ள தான்யங்களை எல்லா வற்றையும் எடுத்துக்கொண்டு வந்துவிடுவதோடு அவர்களை கஷ்டமான நிலைமைக்கு விட்டுவிடுகிறார்கள். அப்படி இல்லாமல் அவர்களுக்கு போதிய உணவை வைத்துவிட்டு பாக்கியை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று கேட் டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"அடுத்தபடியாக உணவு தான்யங்களை விநியோகிக்கும் விஷயத்தில் நகரில் செய்யப்படுகிற வசதி கிராமங்களில் இல்லை என்பதை நான் ஞாபக மூட்ட விரும்புகிறேன். கிராமவாசிகள் கிராமங்களில் இருக்கின்றார்கள் என்ற ஞாபகம் நகரவாசிகளுக்கு இல்லை என்றே தோன்றுகிறது. கிராமங் களிலுள்ள கிராமவாசிகளுக்கு சாப்பாடு கிடைத்தால் சாப்பிடவேண்டியது இல்லையானால் பட்டினிகிடந்து மரிக்கவேண்டிய நிலையில் விட்டிருக்கிறார் கள். நகரங்களிலுள்ளவர்களுக்கு கிராமவாசிகள்தான் சாகுபடி செய்து உற்பத்திசெய்துகொடுக்கவேண்டியதாக இருகிறது எனபதை நான் குறிப் பிட விரும்புகிறேன். உற்பத்திசெய்கிறவர்கள் குறிப்பாக அதிகமாக தஞ் ஜூர் ஜில்லாவில்தானிருக்கிறார்கள். அகில இந்திய விலையைக்காட்டிலும், உற்பத்தியாகும் தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவின் விலை 83 **point** குறைவாக வைத் திருக்கிறார்கள். இந்தக் கட்டுப்பாடு நீங்கினால் அகில இந்திய விலையோடு தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவின் விலையை சமமாகவைப்பதற்கு சௌகர்யமாக இருக் கும். அப்படி விலைவாசிகள் சமமாகவருமானால் தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவாசிகள் இன்னும் எவ்வளவோ உத்சாகமாக சாகுபடியில் ஈடுபடுவார்கள் என்பதை இந்த சமயத்தில் ஞாபகமூட்டவிரும்புகிறேன். உற்பத்திசெய்கிறவர்களுக்கு மாத்திரம் விலையை கட்டுப்பாடு செய்துவிட்டு மற்ற விலைகளை அதிகப்படுத்தி விட்டால் உற்பத்தியாளர்களுக்கு அதிக கஷ்டத்தை உண்டுபண்ணக்கூடிய தாக இருக்கிறது. அகில இந்திய விலைக்கு குறைவாக தஞ்சாவூர் விலையை வைத்தால் அவர்களால் மற்ற சாமான்களை வாங்கமுடியாமலிருக்கின்றார் கள். உதாரணமாக வெங்காயம் இப்பொழுது 1,336 **point**-க்கு மேல் ஏறி இருக்கிறது. அதைப்போலவே மற்ற விவசாய சாமான்களும் ஆயிரக்கணக்கான **point** விலையில் ஏறி இருக்கின்றன. இந்நிலைமையில் இந்த சாமான்களை உற்பத்தியாளர்களுக்கு விலையைக் கட்டுப்படுத்தி வாங்கிக் கொடுக்காமல் அவர்கள் எல்லாவற்றிற்கும் அதிக விலை கொடுத்து வாங் கும்படியாக செய்துவிட்டு அவர்கள் உற்பத்திசெய்யும் தான்யங்களைமட்டும் கட்டுப்படுத்திய விலைக்குக்கொடுப்பது என்பது நியாயமான விஷயமா என்பதை கனம் உணவு மந்திரி அவர்களைக் கேட்கிறேன். ஆகையால் ரயில்வே உத்யோகஸ்தர்களுக்கு சாமான்களை குறைந்த விலைக்குக் கொடு த்துவருவதுபோல் இந்த உற்பத்தியாளர்களுக்கும் விவசாய சாமான்களை குறைந்த விலைக்குக்கிடைக்கும்படி செய்தால் ரொம்பவும் நன்மையாக இருக்கும்.

விவசாயிகள் உணவு உற்பத்திசெய்வதில் சர்க்காரோடு ஒத்துழைக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஆனால் உற்பத்தியாளர்களோடு அரசாங்கமும் மற்ற யாவரும் ஒத்துழைக்கவில்லை என்ற விஷயத்தைக்குறிப்பிட விரும்புகிறேன். அதிக உற்பத்தி செய்வதற்கு வேண்டிய உரம், இன்னும் இதர சாமான்கள் மற்ற கருவிகள் இவைகளுக்கான எந்த வசதியையும் அரசாங்கம் செய்து கொடுக்காமல்இருக்கும்பொழுதும் அவர்களுடன் ஒத்துழைக்காமலிருக்கும்பொழுதும் அதே உற்பத்தியாளர்களே உற்பத்திசெய்வதில் அரசாங்கத்தோடு ஒத்துழைக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டால் அதில் என்ன அர்த்தம் இருக்கிறது என்பதை ஆலோசிக்கும்
12.45 p.m. படியாக கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். கட்டுப்பாட்டை எடுத்துவிட்டால் அந்த இலாகாவில் வேலை பார்க்கும் உத்யோகஸ்தர்களுக்கு வேலையில்லா திண்டாட்டம் வந்துவிடுமே என்பதற்கு அஞ்சுகிறதாகவே தோன்றுகிறது. அதற்காகத்தான் இந்தக் கட்டுப்பாட்டை எடுக்காமல் இந்த இலாகாவை வைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள் என்று நிச்சயமாக நான் சொல்லுகிறேன். அவ்விதம் வேலையில்லா திண்டாட்டம் வராமலிருப்பதற்கு அந்த இலாகாவை வைத்துக்கொண்டு அதிக உற்பத்திக்கு ஏற்படுத்திய இலாகாவாகவே மாற்றிக்கொள்ளலாம் என்று தோன்றுகிறது. இன்னும் ஒரு யோசனையும் சொல்லவேண்டுமென்று நினைக்கிறேன் இப்பொழுதுகூட கல்வி மந்திரி அவர்களும் இங்கே இருக்கிறார். இப்பொழுது நாள்தோறும் கலாசாலைகளும் ஹைஸ்கூல்களும் விருத்தியாகிக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றன. அதனால் கலாசாலையிலிருந்தும் ஹைஸ்கூல்களிலிருந்தும் அநேகம் மாணவர்கள் தேர்ச்சியடைந்து வெளியே வருகிறார்கள். அதனால் வேலையில்லா திண்டாட்டமும் அதிகமாகிக்கொண்டேயிருக்கின்றன. அப்படி வெளியாகிவரும் பட்டதாரிகளைக்கொண்டு உணவு உற்பத்திக்கு உபயோகித்துக்கொள்ளலாம் என்று தோன்றுகிறது. இவர்களை உணவு உற்பத்திக்கு உபயோகித்துக் கொள்வதற்கு ஒரு யோசனையைக் கூறவிரும்புகிறேன். கலாசாலைகளிலிருந்தும், ஹைஸ்கூல்களிலிருந்தும் வெளியேறும் பட்டதாரிகளுக்கு ஒரு ஆண்டு அல்லது இரண்டு ஆண்டுகளுக்கு உணவு உற்பத்தியில் பயிர்ச்சி அளித்து அதில் தேர்ச்சிபெற்றபின் அவர்களுக்கு பட்டங்களை அளிக்கப்படும் என்று ஏற்பாடு செய்தால் இந்த பற்றாக்குறை என்பதை வெகு சீக்கிரத்தில் நீக்கிவிடலாம். அந்த பட்டதாரிகளைவைத்துக்கொண்டும் இந்த கட்டுப்பாடு இலாகாவை வைத்துக்கொண்டும் உற்பத்தியில் ஈடுபட்டுவந்தால் நம்முடைய மாகாணத்தின் பற்றாக்குறையை நீக்குவதோடு இதர மாகாணத்திலுள்ள பற்றாக்குறையையும் நீக்கிவிடலாம் என்பதைச் சொல்லவிரும்புகிறேன். ஆகையால் இப்பொழுதிருக்கும் பற்றாக்குறை என்பது ஏட்டளவில் இருக்கிறதே யொழிய உண்மையில் இல்லை. ஆகையால் control-ஐ வைத்து சமாளிப்பதற்கு பதிலாக உற்பத்தியில் சமாளித்துவந்தால் மக்களுடைய கஷ்டங்களை எவ்வளவோ நிவர்த்திசெய்துவிடலாம். இந்த control-ஐ வைத்துக்கொண்டுதான் மக்கள் சாப்பிடுகிறார்களா என்பதை மந்திரியவர்களைக் கேட்க விரும்புகிறேன். ஆகையால் இந்த control-ஐ உடனே நீக்கிவிட முன்வரவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டு என் உரையை முடித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

SRI G. SANYASI RAO :—"ఉపాధ్యక్షురాలగు అమ్మా, కంట్రోల్సువల్ల రాష్ట్రములోని ప్రజలు ఎంత కష్టపడుతున్నారో ఆనే విషయముపై అనేక మంది గౌరవ సభ్యులు ఈ సభలో ఉపన్యసించియున్నారు. ఈ నాడు ప్రజా సామాన్యాన్ని విసిగిస్తున్నది. ఈ కంట్రోలు విధానమే మని చెప్పక తప్పదు. ఈమధ్యన మూతూరు గోదావరి జిల్లాలలో జిల్లా బోర్డు ఎన్నికలు జరిగినవి. ఎన్నిక ప్రచారమునకై నేను అనేక గ్రామములకు వెళ్ళినాను. ఎక్కడ చూచిన ప్రజలలో కంట్రోల్సు ఎడల అసంతృప్తే కనిపిస్తూయున్నది. ఎక్కడికి పోయిన ప్రజలు ఎప్పుడు ఈ కంట్రోల్సు పోతాయి. ఎప్పుడు మాకు మంచి రోజులు వస్తాయి. ఏ నాడు మేము కడుపునిండ తినలేని మేము తినటానికి అవకాశము కలుగుతుంది. కంట్రోల్సు తీసి ఎప్పుడు విడుతుంది అనే ప్రశ్నలే తప్ప వేరు ఏమి విజ్ఞప్తులు వినిపించటం లేదు. ఎక్కడ

చూచిన, ముఖ్యంగా మా ఉత్తర జిల్లాలో, ఇదివరలో ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఒక సంవత్సరము పాటు కంట్రోల్సు తీసివేసినప్పుడు, మేము ఎంతో హాయిగా ఉన్నాము. తినటానికి బియ్యము దొరికాయి. కాని, మళ్లీ కంట్రోల్సు పెట్టారు. బియ్యము దొరకటం లేదు. బ్లాక్‌మార్కెట్ రేట్ హెచ్చిపోయింది. ఎక్కువ ధరచే కొనలేకుండా ఉన్నాము. ఎప్పుడు మరల కంట్రోల్సు తీసివేసే శుభదినము వస్తుంది అని ఆడుగుతున్నారు.

"ప్రభుత్వమువారు అవలంబిస్తున్న రేషనింగు విధానమువల్ల పట్టణాలలోను పల్లెలలోను కూడా రేషనింగు అమలు పరుస్తున్నారు. రేషనింగు ఆనేటివంటిది పట్టణాలలో అవసరమేమో కాని గ్రామాలలో అవసరం లేదు. పట్టణాలలోని ప్రజలు ధనమున్నవారని ఆందోళన చేస్తారని ఆందుకే వారికి మంచి రకము బియ్యము గ్రామాలలోని వారు ఏమి చేయలేరనే కారణముచేత వారికి తక్కువ రకము బియ్యము ఇస్తున్నారని ఆపోహం గ్రామస్థులలో ఈనాడు కనిపిస్తూంది. గ్రామస్థులు కష్టించి కంటలు పండిస్తారు. గ్రామాలను పీడించి బస్తీలలో వారిని పెంచుచున్నారు. గ్రామాల వారికి వాసన కొట్టే బియ్యము ఇవ్వడం, యదార్థంగా ఆలోచించి చూచినట్టయితే చాలా హాస్యాస్పదమైన విషయం. ఇదివరలో వాళ్లు ఎప్పుడు ఇటువంటి ఇబ్బందులు పడలేదు. చాలవరకు తమ గ్రామాలలో తాము కష్టించి పండించిన ధాన్యమే తింటూయుండేవారు. కాని ఈనాడు వారికి ఆ అవకాశము లేదు ఈ సందర్భములో మరొక ముఖ్యమైన విషయముకూడ మనవి చేస్తాను. గ్రామాలలోని రైతులవద్దనుంచి ప్రభుత్వమువారు నియమించిన procurement ఏజెంట్లు ధాన్యాన్ని తక్కువ ధరలకు కొనుగోలు చేస్తారు. తిరిగి గ్రామస్థులకు బియ్యము రేషన్ కార్డులద్వారా ఎక్కువ ధరలకు సప్లై చేయిస్తున్నారు. దీనివల్ల వాళ్లకు మంచి బియ్యము దొరకటంలేదు. సరిదా హెచ్చు డబ్బు కూడ ఇచ్చుకోవలసి వస్తుంది. ఈ విధానం వల్ల బస్తాకు 5, 6 రూపాయలవరకు మధ్యవర్తులకు దక్కుతుంది కాని గ్రామస్థులకు ఏ విధంగాను ఉపకారము జరగటంలేదు. కాబట్టి గ్రామాలలోని వారు ఆ రైతులవద్దనుంచే నేరుగా ధాన్యము కొనుకొనే, అవకాశము. కలుగజేయడంవల్లగాని, లేనిచో గ్రామాలలో procure చేసిన సరకును కొంత ఆక్కడే ఉంచుటవల్లగాని గ్రామస్థులకు మంచి సరకు తక్కువ ధరలకు ఇవ్వటానికి అవకాశం ఉంటుందని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. ఉద్యోగస్థులు కంట్రోల్సు తీసివేయవద్దని ఎప్పుడు ప్రభుత్వానికి తెలియజేస్తారు. ఈ కంట్రోల్సువల్ల లాభించేవారు ఉద్యోగస్థులేకాని ప్రజలు కాదు. కాబట్టి వెంటనే decontrol చేయవలసిందని ప్రభుత్వంవారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

"Procurement విధానములోకూడా చాలా అన్యాయము జరుగుతున్నది. F.S.O. లు T.S.O. లు మొదలైన ఉద్యోగస్థులవల్ల వేధ రయితులు బాధింపబడుతున్నారు. ఈ ఉద్యోగస్థులు ఆయా గ్రామాలికి కోటాలను నిర్ణయిస్తున్నారు. ఆంత ధాన్యము సేకరించే సందర్భములో వారు అనేక కారణాలచేత పెద్ద రైతులను వదలి వేస్తున్నారు. ఏదో విధంగా చిన్న రైతులనే బాధిస్తున్నారు. ఈ విషయమై అనేకమంది రైతులు మాకు చెప్పియున్నారు. ఈ ప్రభుత్వోద్యోగస్థులు పెద్ద రైతులవద్దనున్న ఆధనపు ధాన్యాన్ని వసూలు చేయలేక పోవడము వారి టార్గెట్‌ను చేరటానికి నిర్ధాక్షిణ్యంగా బీద రైతులను నిర్బంధించడము చాలా హాస్యాస్పదమైన విషయము. ఈ చిన్న ఉద్యోగస్థులలో లంచగొండితనము పెరిగిపోయిందనికూడ ప్రజ అభిప్రాయ పడుతున్నారు. ఈ F.S.O. ల, T.S.O. ల రిపోర్టులపైనే ఆధారపడి జిల్లా కలెక్టర్లు procurement చేయిస్తున్నారు కాని

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రైతుల, ప్రజల బాగోగులను గమనించటంలేదు. ఇంకలో wholesale dealer లు, retail dealer లు కూడ అన్యాయం చేస్తున్నారు. దీనికంతకు కారణము ఉద్యోగస్తులనుండి లంచగొండితన మేనని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. కంట్రోల్సు ఉన్నంత కాలము లంచగొండితనము తగ్గదు. ప్రజలలో ఆసంతృప్తి పెరిగిపోతుంది. ఇటు వంటి శాసనాలు చేసినంత మాత్రాన ప్రజలకు సౌకర్యము కలుగదు. ప్రణాళికాబద్ధాన్ని సంపాదించాలంటే ముందు ఈ కంట్రోల్సును రద్దుచేయాలి. ఈ విధంగా చేయటానికి ప్రభుత్వంవారు అంగీకరించినట్టయితే, వారి ఉద్యోగస్తులలో ప్రబలిపోయిన లంచగొండితనాన్ని నిర్మూలించడానికి, గట్టి కట్టు దిట్టాలకు చేయాలి. అంతవరకు ప్రజలలో అందోళన తగ్గదు. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వం వారు హెచ్చు శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొని సాధ్యమైనంత త్వరలో కంట్రోల్సు రద్దు చేయిస్తారని లంచగొండులను నిర్దాక్షిణ్యంగా శిక్షిస్తారని ఆశిస్తున్నాను.

"మరొక ముఖ్యమైన విషయము మనవి చేస్తాను. ఇది తమ జిల్లా అయిన విశాఖపట్నం జిల్లా గురించి ఈ విషయమై ఈ మధ్యన మా జిల్లాలో టూర్ చేసిన ఆహారశాఖా మంత్రి గౌ॥ శ్రీ రోచి విక్టోరియా గారికికూడ మనవిచేసియున్నాము. మా విజ్ఞప్తులను పరిశీలన చేస్తామని మంత్రిగారు తెలిపిచ్చినారు. మా విజ్ఞప్తుల సారాంశమిది. మిగులు జిల్లాలైన తూర్పు గోదావరి, పశ్చిమ గోదావరి జిల్లాలను, తరుగు జిల్లాలైన విశాఖపట్నం జిల్లాను చేర్చి ఒక zone గా ఏర్పాటుచేసి ఒక జిల్లానుండి మరొక జిల్లాకు తాత్కాలికంగా ఆహార ధాన్యాలను తెచ్చుకొనే అవకాశం కలుగజేయ వలసినదిగా వారికి మనవి చేస్తాము.

"ఈ విధంగా చేసినట్లయితే ఒక చోటనుండి మరొకచోటికి వివిధ ఆహార ధాన్యాలు సరఫరా కాబడానికి వర్తకులు competition మీద తక్కువ ధరలకు ప్రజలకు బియ్యం సప్లయి చేయటానికి అవకాశాలు ఏర్పడుతాయి. ఈ విషయమై మంత్రిగారు ఆలోచిస్తామని చెప్పినారు. కాని ఇంతవరకు ఏమిచేసినది తెలియదు. ఈ మూడు జిల్లాలలో decontrol చేసి ఈ zone విధానాన్ని try చేయవలసినదిగా వారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

"గ్రామాలలోని రైతులవద్దనుంచి ఇప్పుడు బస్తా ఒకటికి సుమారు రూ 16 లు. చొప్పున ధాన్యము procure చేస్తున్నారు. తిరిగి ఆ గ్రామస్థులకు ration shop ద్వారా బస్తా రూ 20 లు, రూ 21 లు వరకు అమ్ముతున్నారు. ఇదికాల విచారకరమగున్నది. ఇటువంటి అన్యాయాలను తొలగింపవలసినదిగా మంత్రిగారిని కోరుచున్నాను. ఈవిధంగా హెచ్చు ధరకు అమ్మినందువల్ల wholesale dealer లకు retail dealer లకు లాభిస్తుందేకాని పాటకజనమునకు మాత్రం ఇబ్బందిని కలుగజేస్తుంది. కూలినాలి చేసుకొనేవారికి బియ్యం తక్కువ ధరకు ఇవ్వాలంటే వివిధ ప్రాంతాలలో ఉండేటువంటి పెద్ద పెద్ద గ్రామాలలో godowns ఏర్పాటుచేసి చుట్టుపట్ల గ్రామాలలో procure చేసిన ధాన్యాన్ని నిలువచేసి ఆయా గ్రామస్థులకు కావలసినపుడు తిరిగి godowns లో నుంచి సప్లయి చేయిస్తే transport ఖర్చులు చాలమట్టుకు తగ్గుతవి. తక్కువ ధరకు బియ్యం ఆమ్మటానికి అవకాశం ఉంటుంది. కాబట్టి నా సలహాను పరిశీలించవలసినదిగా మంత్రిగారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

"ఈ బిల్లులో 7 (1) వ సెక్షనులో ఏ రకం పంటలు రైతులు పండించాలో నిర్ణయించే అధికారాన్ని ప్రభుత్వంవారు తీసుకొంటున్నారు. దీనివల్ల రైతులకు నష్టము కష్టము వచ్చినచో [illegible] కలుగుతుంది. ఉదాహరణంగా మా

12th November 1949] [Sri G. Sanyasi Rao]

విశాఖపట్నం గురించి మనవిచేస్తాను. మా జిల్లాలలో నీటివసతులు తక్కువ. చాలా ప్రాంతము వర్షాధారమువల్లనే సాగు ఆవుతుంది. సారవంతమైన ప్రాంతాలు చాలా ఉన్నాయి. ఈ భూములలో వేసుడు, నాలుగు వర్షాలున్న చెరకు సాగుచేయవచ్చు. మంచి పంటకూడ పండుతుంది. కాని నిత్యము నీరు కావలసిన వరిలాంటి పంట ఈ ప్రాంతాలలో పండింపలేము. ఆహారధాన్యాలు తక్కువగా ఉన్నాయనే కారణముచేత ఈ మెట్ట ప్రాంతాలలో వాటినే పండించాలి, చెరుకు ముదలైన వైరులు commercial crops పండించగూడదు అని అంటే చాలానష్టము వస్తుంది. జొన్న మొదలైన పంటలు పండిస్తే రైతుకేమి గిట్టుబాటుకాదు, సక్రమంగా, ఇష్టతతో రైతులు వ్యవసాయంచేసే అవకాశాలు ఉండవని మనవి చేస్తాను.

"ఇంక blackmarketing కేసుల విచారణలలో జరిగే ఆక్రమాలు చాల హెచ్చుగా ఉన్నాయి. ప్రతి రోజు ఎక్కడో ఒకచోట blackmarketing case లేకుండ ఉండదు. అనేక సందర్భాలలో ఉద్యోగస్తులు blackmarket చేసేవారిని పదలి వేస్తున్నారు. వీటన్నిటికి కారణము వారిలో ఉండే లంచగొండితన మేనని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. ఈ మధ్యన "సైతాన్‌పేట" అనే గ్రామంలో blackmarket చేయుటానికి తీసుకపోతున్న ధాన్యాన్ని Assistant Collector గారు పట్టుకొన్నారు. కేసు బుజువుఆయ్యే అవకాశాలుకూడ చాలఉన్నాయి. కాని ఎందుచేతనో ఆ నేరస్థులు యింతవరకు శిక్షింపబడలేదు కారణము ఏమిటని తెలుసుకొంటే ఆ ధాన్యం పట్టించే వారెవరో బల్లవాళ్లుతప్ప చెప్పేవారు లేరని ఉద్యోగస్థులు చెప్పారు. కొన్నవాళ్లకూడ దొరకినారు. ఈవిధంగా ఉద్యోగస్థులు తమ విధులను నిర్వర్తించకపోవు blackmarket ఆగదు సరిగదా దినాదినాభివృద్ధి చెందుతూంది. నేరస్థులను శిక్షిస్తాము అని మీమీ ఇస్టే ఇటువంటి blackmarket వ్యవహారములను చూపగలమని కేసులు రుజువు చేయగలమని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. ఈ విషయాల్లోకూడ పెద్ద పెద్ద వర్తకులను ఉద్యోగస్థులు ఏమిచేయలేకపోతే నేరు, రెండు సేర్లు తీసుకోపోయేవారే పట్టుకొనే నేరస్థులు. ఈ అన్యాయాలన్ని నిర్మూలం కావాలంటే వెంటనే ఈ procurement, rationing విధానాలను రద్దుచేయాలని ఇది ప్రజాభిష్టమని మరల ప్రభుత్వంవారికి తెలియజేస్తున్నాను.

"ఇప్పుడు ప్రభుత్వంవారు అధికాహారోత్పత్తి చేయవలయునని రైతులను కోరుతున్నారు. ఇక్కడ మద్రాసునుంచి, అక్కడ డిల్లీనుంచి నిత్యము అవిరామంగా ప్రచారము జరుగుతూంది. నాయకులు statement లు ఇస్తూయున్నారు పెద్ద సిబ్బందిని నియమించి ప్రచారం చేయిస్తున్నారు. కాని రైతులలో, ప్రజలలో, ఏ విధమైన ఉత్సాహం కనిపించడంలేదు. దీనికి కారణం ఈనాడు అమలులోనున్న ఈ కంట్రోలు విధానమేనని నిస్సందేహముగా చెప్పవచ్చు. గ్రామాలలో రైతును కూలీలకు ఏ విధమైన మటువంటి సమపాయకులు కలుగజేయటంలేదు. కాని, ఆతనిమీద ఉద్యోగస్థుల జులుము హెచ్చిపోతూయుంది. రైతులలో ఏ విధంగాను ఉత్సాహం కనిపించడంలేదు. రైతులు ప్రభుత్వానికి తోడునీడగా ఉండాలంటే వాళ్లపై ఈ కంట్రోళ్లను తొలగించాలని లేనిచో మనము ఎన్ని ఎన్ని శాసనాలు చేసినా సత్వరంగా ప్రజాభిష్టానుగుణంగా అమలుపరచ జాలమని మనవిచేస్తూ ఇంతటితో నేను విరమిస్తాను."

* DR. S. SUBRAHMANYA AYYAR:—"Madam Deputy Speaker, this is a Bill to provide for the continuance during a limited period of powers to control the production, supply, distribution, transport and prices of certain essential articles and the 1 p.m.

essential articles are mentioned in the schedule attached and they are: firewood, charcoal, livestock, non-edible oilseeds, manures, electrical energy, dyes, other dyes used for textile printing, artificial silk yarn and motor vehicles. It can, of course, include anything the Government may notify. I do not know whether a discussion on the control of foodgrains would be quite relevant but in view of the fact that everybody who has preceded me has discussed about the control of foodgrains, procurement and distribution and everything about it, I shall also take the cue in the matter and continue what my predecessors have done.

" Controls are there and the people affected by it are the officials, the merchants and the consuming public. So far as the consuming public are concerned, they would be only too thankful to Government and are praying to God that control should go totally. These are the people affected and they know full well the evils of the business. So far as the merchants are concerned, they are praying to God that controls should continue *ad infinitum*. Regarding officials, their attitude makes a very sad reading, because most of the officials in the Food Department except those at the top like the Secretary and the Deputy Secretary who had been Collectors, are young boys; if you go into the Secretariat, you will see that that is the only section where you have got young boys as Assistant Secretaries. It is to their interest to see that this is continued as long as possible, as long as they would like to have it and it is in their interest that things are so manipulated things are so adjusted and presented to the country that there is short supply in the country and that the control must continue. But one thing that the officials forget is that in spite of the rigorous enforcement of the rationing and control orders, you find that foodgrains are still available to the public of course at some extra cost. Wherever we go whether into the rationed areas or areas where informal rationing is in force, we are able to get as much quantity of foodgrains as we would be able to get in a ration shop. I have even extracted admissions from even the biggest of officers in charge of the Department that nobody lives on the 8 ounces of rationed rice and that everybody is supplementing it by foodgrains purchased outside but at a little higher price. This shows that the figures of production have been purposely put down low and a short supply is shown and that is why those who come from the mufassal who know how the system of procurement works, how controls are executed and how rationing is worked out in villages tell the Government pointblank that these controls should go at a moment's notice and it should not be there any longer and we cannot tolerate it. Let me tell the House, Sir, that controls are worked not to the advantage of the people but to the advantage of officers. It is said by some of the Rationing Officers that statistics are required by their higher authorities as to the number of prosecutions launched by them and just to make up figures, they resort to very ingenious methods. I can give an instance, a very ingenious one and it has come to light. The onus

of proof, contrary to all principles of jurisprudence, is on the person who has got the stock that he holds it lawfully and it has some interesting sequels. A producer had given his stock to the rationing authorities. The Rationing Officer came to his house and said: 'How much stock did you have and how much did you produce ? ' The man said: ' I have given to you, Sir, but I have not the records wherewith I can convince; I have no receipt.' The Officer replied: ' It is for you to get a receipt and it is for you to prove that you have given the stock and so I am prosecuting you.' When the Collector was approached in the matter as it was a fit case for his interference he too was powerless. Surreptitiously, we were able to ask some of the staff of the office to find out if the records were available and fortunately, this man had supplied in Form E and it was there in the office and there the thing ended. Just because the department wanted the Rationing Officer to produce a certain number of prosecutions every month, this Rationing Officer purposely—or rather he did not care to verify whether the stock was given by that particular man—proceeded against him. Another case I would like to bring to your notice. A lunatic Rationing Officer—I would proposely and deliberately call him as such, because he had no sense—interpreted the Rules regarding the grant of a ration of 16 ounces per adult if he is a producer, thus: The Producer means only one in the family and as such only one of the family is entitled to the enhanced ration of 16 ounces and the others will get rations just as for the others; he held that the person who actually holds the plough in the field is entitled to 16 ounces. I took up the matter and it was a big correspondence with the Collector. The rules are there and the ration manual is clear on the question but yet the officer would not yield. I went to Mathurai and got written orders from the Collector. He said that he would send the orders to the Rationing Officer in due course but I insisted that I must have it with me and he called the stenographer, dictated the orders and the matter was settled. I would, therefore, urge upon the Hon. Minister and the Secretaries to Government that before a man is sent out as Rationing Officer, Taluk Supply Officer, Firka Supply Officer every one of them must receive certain amount of training on the rules of procedure regarding rationing. Most of the people come from different departments of Government—I see people from the Registration Department, from the Co-operative Department and in fact from all Departments, except the Police Department; they are the only people I have not seen. What will a person belonging to the Registration Department do, seeing that he has been only used to putting seals on documents produced before him? Very few of them care to make a study of the rules of procedure concerning rationing. The expenditure on this department comes to nearly two or three crores of rupees and if the controls are removed, this amount could be usefully given as a subsidy to the ryots so that they might grow more and bridge the gap between supply and demand which is only 10 per cent. By this they can bring more lands under cultivation, use

better manure and seeds and better implements and thus improve production. There is the question of disparity of punishment between the rich and the poor. The rich man is fined a thousand rupees and the blackmarketer is not afraid of a fine of a thousand rupees because he is sure to get two thousand rupees tomorrow. The poor man who posesses one or two measures of rice is given imprisonment. I know of one case where a poor man who made use of half a Madras measure of rice for making *iddlies* in his house was fined Rs. 50. I am mentioning all these cases so that the department might take note of it and call for remarks from the gentlemen concerned or from the Collector of the district concerned. There is much difficulty for a consumer to get his card, if he is a new-comer to the place of rationing. He makes his application and he has to wait for two or three days before the Inspecting Officer turns up to find out whether the person is there and check whether the number of persons for whom he has applied for rations is correct and then only is the card issued. I would suggest immediately the person calls at the Rationing Office for a card, he might be given the card and he might be taken at his word and then we might see if the person had given correct particulars; if he has not, then we shall proceed against him according to law. Another interesting instance, I wish to bring to the notice of the Government. A head of a family wanted to change his ration card as his daughter had completed her twelfth year and she had to be counted as an adult for purposes of rationing. He applied and imagine the audacity of the Rationing Officer who asked him to produce the girl before him in his office. That is why I called him lunatic. He could have sent a man to verify or the officer himself should have been sent to verify whether his brain was all right. (Janab Muhammad Raza Khan: 'You would have no objection to examine him if he is sent to you'?) I would have no objection if he is sent to me for examination.

"Another thing is the question of the price of rice. We get our rice from Tanjore and we pay from Rs. 10 to Rs. 11 per bag of 48 measures of paddy and what the actual cultivator gets is a little bit less, say a rupee or two. The small cultivator is in a hurry to sell so that he can get some money to meet his needs. He does not wait for the full price being given by the Government Agent and he is prepared to sell for any amount, I know instances where people have sold their rice in Tanjore up to Rs. 3 less and it is the merchant who makes the profit. Instead of that I would suggest, in order that one middleman in Tanjore might be eliminated and the prices might be brought down, that importers in other districts might be asked to go to Tanjore and to make direct purchases. I have frequently suggested this to the Collector of my district and I am making this suggestion to the department to examine and see whether this could be done so that they might be enabled to make purchases direct from the producers in Tanjore. Another thing that I would like to mention is the question of cross-movement of foodgrains. It has now become a

common feature of the administration and this cross-movement must stop. For instance I am asked to take my rice from Tiruchendur which is in the extreme south in Tirunelveli whereas another person in Aruppukkottai is allowed to get it from Tiruvadanai, which is twenty miles from my place; why do not you ask me to get it from Tiruvadanai and the Aruppukkottai man from Tirchendur? These are some of the anomalies which are exploited to the full by friends of the Communist party by means of propaganda. During the recent District Board election, when we went to the villages the one thing they used to ask is: 'When are you going to remove the controls? We are much suffering on account of its existence. I feel, Sir, that decontrol must be introduced immediately; if you have controls, have it in municipalities and Tanjore is there to supply the needs of the municipalities."

1-15 p.m.

*SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL :—" உப அக்ராசனாதிபதி அவர்களே, இந்த உணவுப் பொருள் கட்டுப்பாடு சட்டத்தைப் பொறுத்து நேற்றிலிருந்து, இன்று வரை விவாதம் நடந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறது. ஒவ்வொருவர்களுடைய பேச்சிலும், கட்டுப்பாடு சரிவர நடக்கவில்லை; கட்டுப்பாட்டை எடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்வதைத் தான் நான் நேற்றிலிருந்து தெரிந்த வரை கேட்டுக்கொண்டு வருகிறேன். ஆனால் இந்த உணவுப் பொருள்களில் எது முக்கியம், எது முக்கியமில்லை என்று யாரும் சொல்வதற்கில்லை. உப்பிலிருந்து, கற்பூரம் வரையில் மனிதர்களுக்கு அத்தியாவசியமாக இருக்கிறது. ஏழை ஏழைகளுக்கும், எல்லா பொருள்களும் அவசியமாகயிருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் எல்லா பொருள்களுடைய விலையும் இப்பொது ஒரு மடங்கிலிருந்து நான்கு, ஐந்து மடங்காக ஏறிப்போயிருக்கிறது. இதில் எந்தப் பொருளை கட்டுப்பாடு பண்ணுவது, எதைக் கட்டுப்பாடு பண்ணுமலிருப்பது என்பதில்லை. கட்டுப்பாடு பண்ணிய பொருள்கள் நமக்குச் சாதாரணமாக, தாராளமாக கட்டுப்பாட்டு விலை பிரகாரம் கிடைக்கிறதா என்றால் இல்லை. இப்போது கட்டுப்பாடு பண்ணுத பொருள்களுக்கு என்ன விலை கொடுத்து வாங்குகிறோமோ அதை விட மூன்று மடங்கு, நான்கு மடங்கு அதிகமாகக் கொடுத்தால்தான் கிடைக்கிறது. மேலே சொன்னமாதிரி எல்லாப் பொருள்களும் அத்தியாவசியமாக இருப்பதால் கட்டுப்பாடு இல்லாத பொருளைக் காட்டிலும் கட்டுப்பாடு செய்த பொருள் மூன்று மடங்கு நான்கு மடங்கு ஏறி விற்றபோதிலும் வாங்க வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. உதாரணமாக தீபாவளி சமயத்தில் இந்த சர்க்கரையை வீசை என்ன விலை கொடுத்து வாங்கியிருப்பார்கள் என்றும் சனக்கெடுத்துப் பார்த்தால், கட்டுப்பாட்டு விலையைக் காட்டிலும் அதிகமாக 2 மடங்கு கொடுத்திருப்பார்கள்.

"ஆகையினால், இப்போது கவர்ன்மெண்டார் சென்ற நான்கு வருஷ காலமாக அத்தியாவசியமாக வேண்டிய பொருள்களைக் கட்டுப்பாடு செய்து வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். இம்மாதிரி செய்து வந்திருப்பதால் கட்டுப்பாடானது ரொம்ப **effective** ஆக நடந்து வந்திருக்கிறதாயென்றால், இல்லை. இப்போது நாம் எல்லோரும் பேசியதிலிருந்து இல்லையென்ற முடிவுக்கு வந்துவிட்டோம். ஒவ்வொரு இடத்திலும், ஒவ்வொரு கிராமத்திலும் இந்தக் கட்டுப்பாட்டினால் பொருள்கள் கிடைக்காத கஷ்டம் மாத்திரமில்லை, அதிகாரிகளுடைய சங்கடங்கள் ரொம்ப ஜனங்களுக்கு இருந்து கொண்டிருக்கின்றன. ஆகையால் இந்தக் கட்டுப்பாடு **effective** ஆக நடக்க முடியாது என்பதை சர்க்காரும் ஜனங்களும் நன்றாகத் தெரிந்துகொண்டு விட்டார்கள் என்று நான் நிச்சயமாகச் சொல்வேன். ஆகையால் இந்தக் கட்டுப்பாடு அவசியமா என்பதை நாம் ஒவ்வொருவரும் தீர்மானித்து முடிவுக்கு வந்து கூடிய சிக்கிரத்தில் கட்டுப்பாட்டை எடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று மத்திய கவர்ன்மெண்டாருக்கு சொல்ல வேண்டியவர்களாயிருக்கிறோம்.

கட்டுப்பாட்டை எடுக்க வேண்டுமென்றுல் மாகாண கவர்ன்மெண்டு கையில் இல்லை என்பதாக மந்திரிகள் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். வாஸ்தவம். இதை மத்திய கவர்ன்மெண்டார் தான் செய்கின்றது. ஆகையால் நம்முடைய மாகாண ஜனங்கள் எல்லோரும் சேர்ந்து அவர்களைக் எங்கள் மாகாணத்திற்குக் கட்டுப்பாடு வேண்டாம், எடுத்து விடுங்கள் என்று சொல்லவேண்டியவர்களாயிருக்கிறோம். அழுத்தமாக நாம் அவ்விதமே சொல்லி இந்த அசெம்பிளியில் அவ்விதம் ஒரு தீர்மானத்தைப் போட்டு அனுப்பினுல் இந்த மாகாணத்தில் இருக்கின்றவர்களுடைய எண்ணம் அவர்களுக்கு நன்றுகத் தெரியும். ஒவ்வொரு மாகாணத்திலும் ரேஷன் இருந்து வருகிறது. நம் மாகாணத்தில் கட்டுப்பாட்டை எடுத்துவிட்டால் நமக்கு சௌகர்யமென்று நான் நிச்சயமாகச் சொல்லுவேன். கனம் டாக்டர் ராஜன் அவர்கள், உணவு மந்திரியாக இருந்த காலத்தில் கட்டுப்பாட்டை சில மாதங்கள் எடுத்திருந்தார்கள். இரண்டு மூன்று மாதங்கள் விலை ஏறிக்கொண்டிருந்தது. பிறகு அந்த விலை குறைந்து கொண்டே சரியான விலைக்கு வரும் சமயத்தில், கவர்ன்மெண்டார் கட்டுப்பாட்டை மறுபடியும் போட்டு விட்டார்கள். இந்த மாகாணத்தில் கட்டுப்பாட்டை திருப்பி ஏற்படுத்தாமல் இருந்திருந்தால் எவ்வளவோ சௌகர்யமாக இருந்திருக்கும். ஜனங்களின் கஷ்டமும் குறைந்திருக்கும். இதற்கென ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிபார்ட்மெண்டின் வேலைகளும் குறைந்திருக்கும். அதனுல் சிப்பந்திக் குறைவால் சர்க்காருக்கு எவ்வளவோ லக்ஷக்கணக்கான ரூபாய்கள் மிக்கனமும் ஏற்பட்டிருக்குமென்று நான் சொல்லுகிறேன்.

"இந்தக் கட்டுப்பாடு முறை இருப்பதினுல் எந்த அதிகாரிகளிடத்தும் ஜனங்களுக்கு சந்தோஷமே இல்லை. அந்த அதிகாரிகளும், ஜனங்களிடத்தில் நேர்மையாக நடந்துகொள்ளவில்லை. எப்பொழுது பார்த்தாலும் அதிகாரிகளின்மேல் ஜனங்கள் புகார் செய்வதும், ஜனங்களைப்பற்றி அதிகாரிகள் புகார் சொல்வதிலிருந்தே இதை நாம் தெரிந்துகொள்ளலாம். கட்டுப்பாட்டை நீக்கினுல்தான் மறுபடி அமைதி நிலவுமென்று நான் நிச்சயமாகச் சொல்லுவேன். ஆகையால் இந்தக் கட்டுப்பாடு இருக்கும் வரையில் நம்முடைய மாகாண மக்கள் ரொம்ப தொந்தரவுக்குள்ளாக வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. இதை நிவர்த்திக்க வேண்டுமென்றுல கட்டுப்பாட்டையே அடியுடன் ஒழிக்க வேண்டும்.

"அநேக கிராம வாசிகள் கட்டுப்பாட்டையொழிக்க வேண்டுமென்று ஒரு பக்கம் சொன்னுலும், பட்டண வாசிகள் கட்டுப்பாடு, ரேஷன் இருக்க வேண்டுமென்றே சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஆனுல் எனக்கு முன் பேசிய நண்பர் கனம் வேதரத்தினம் பிள்ளை அவர்கள் சொன்ன பிரகாரம், கட்டுப்பாடு இருப்பதால், ரேஷனை மாத்திரம் வைத்துக்கொண்டு சாப்பிடுகிறவர்கள் எத்தனை என்று நாம் கணக்கெடுத்து விடலாம். ரேஷனுக்கு உள்பட்டு சாமான்கள் வாங்குகிறவர்கள் ரொம்பக் குறைவு. அநேகமாக 75 சத விகிதத்திற்கு மேல் ஜனங்கள் அவர்களுக்கு தேவையான சாமான்களை எல்லாம், எந்த இடத்திலாவது, எப்படியாவது வாங்கிக் கொண்டுவருகிறார்கள் என்பதை நாம் நன்றுகத் தெரிந்து கொள்ள வேண்டும். இல்லையென்றுல் ஜனங்கள் பேசாமல் இருந்துகொண்டிருக்க முடியாது. கட்டுப்பாட்டினுல் ஜனங்கள் இங்கே கிராமத்தை விட நகரங்களில் பட்டினியால் வாடுகிறார்கள், அரிசி கிடைக்கவில்லையென்று சொல்வதற்கு இல்லை. கிராமங்களிலிருந்து இந்த பட்டணங்களுக்கு அரிசி வந்துகொண்டிருப்பதை நாம் தினந்தோறும் கண்கூடாகப் பார்த்துக் வருகிறோம். ஆகையால் இந்தக் கட்டுப்பாடுகளினுல், கள்ள மார்க்கெட் வியாபாரம் செய்கிறவர்களுக்கு அதிக இடம் இருக்கின்றதே யொழிய இந்த கட்டுப்பாடு நன்மையைக் கொடுக்கவில்லையென்று நான் நிச்சயமாகச் சொல்லுகின்றேன். ஆகையால்தான் மகாத்மா காந்தியடிகள் அவர்களும், இந்தக் கட்டுப்பாட்டினுல் ஊழல்கள் தான் வருகின்றன என்று அபிப்பிராயப்பட்டார். ஒழுங்கினம் ஏற்படுவதைவிட, கட்டுப்பாடுகளை எடுத்துவிட்டு மக்கள் அதனுல் செத்தாலும் பரவாயில்லையென்று வற்புறுத்தியிருக்கிறார் நம் ஒப்பற்ற தலைவர் காந்திஜி. ஆகையினுல் கட்டுப்பாடுகள்

எங்களுக்கு வேண்டாமென்று மாகாண மக்கள், மத்திய கவர்ன்மெண்டாருக்கு அழுத்தமாக ஒருமுகமாகத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்று நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"அதோடு கூட எல்லாப் பொருள்களும், அதிகமாக விலையிலிருப்பதால் அந்த வியாபாரிகளையெல்லாம் ஒன்று கூட்டி பேசி அவர்களுக்கு தூதுகோஷ்டி வைத்து அவர்களை இன்ன விலைக்கு விற்கவேண்டுமென்று அவர்களுக்குச் சொல்லி கட்டுப்பாடுகள் செய்துவிட்டால் நம மேஷன் போனலும் அந்த மாதிரி அதிகமான விலை விற்காமல் பார்த்துக்கொள்ளலாம். அதற்கு வியாபாரிகளுடன் ஒரு ஒப்பந்தம் செய்யவேண்டும் என்பதை நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இந்த வியாபாரத்திலுல், பெரிய பெரிய வியாபாரிகளுக்குத் தான் அதிக லாபம் கிடைக்கிறது. சில்லரை வியாபாரிகளுக்கு லாபம் அதிகம் கிடைப்பதில்லை. பெரிய வியாபாரிகள் தான் இதில் ஏராளமாக பணம் சம்பாதிக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால் நாம் இந்தப் பெரிய வியாபாரிகளுடன் ஒரு ஒப்பந்தம் செய்துகொண்டு கட்டுப்பாடு செய்தால் மக்களுடைய கஷ்டம் குறையும். அதுமாத்திரம் இல்லை. எந்தப்பொருள் அதிகமாக கிடைக்கப் படவில்லை, பற்றுக் குறையாக இருக்கின்றது என்று சொல்லப்படுகின்றதோ அதை உற்பத்தி செய்யவேண்டுமென்பதாக சொல்லப்படுகிறது. இப்போது நம் முடைய மாகாணத்திற்கு பத்து சத வீதம் அரிசி பற்றுக் குறையாக இருக்கிறது. இந்த பத்து சத விதத்தை நாம் எளிதில் உற்பத்தி செய்துவிடலாம். இந்த உற்பத்தியை நல்ல முறையில் பெருக்க முயற்சி எடுத்துக் கொண்டால் வெகு சீக்கிரத்தில் வெற்றிகரமாக செய்துவிடலாம். உலைவை பெருக்குவதற்கென்றே ஒரு டிபார்ட்மெண்டு வேலை செய்வதில் குறைவு ஒன்றும் இல்லை. ஆனுல் அது நல்ல முறையில் நடத்துவில்லை. எத்தனையோ பெரிய பெரிய கல்யாணங்கள் பெரிய பெரிய சாப்பாடுகள் இன்னும் ஆயிரக் கணக்கில் நடந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறது. அவைகளையெல்லாம் நம் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் இன்னும் நல்ல முறையில் குறைக்கவில்லை. 30 பேர்களுக்கு மேல் சாப்பாடு போடக்கூடாது என்று இருந்த போதிலும் 100 கணக்கான பேர்களுக்கு சாப்பாடு போட்டுக்கொண்டு இருக்கிறார்கள்: இதை நல்ல முறையில் நிறுத்த முன்வரவேண்டும்."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON began to speak in Malayalam.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"May I know for whose benefit, the hon. Member is speaking in Malayalam. The hon.. Member knows English well."

. SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"Madam, Srimathi Lakshmi Sankara Ayyar and Sri Vedaratnam Pillai spoke in Tamil."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"If there is somebody for whose benefit you are speaking in Malayalam, I can understand. But all the Malayalee Members present here know English well; and so you may speak in English."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I wanted to speak in Malayalam with your permission; because I thought after the advent of the Andhra province, we, Malayalees will be troubled with a number of Tamil speeches. (Laughter.) If you do not permit me I have to speak in English."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"I do not say you should not speak in Malayalam. I only say, it is better you speak in English."

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SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"I accept your direction, Madam. I support the motion of Government and I oppose the motion to refer the Bill to a select committee. For, we know this Bill is only a re-enactment of the Act which we had till recently. According to my view, so long as there is a shortage of supplies in essential articles we cannot but have control. Madam, we have got great respect for the large number of persons who advocate removal of control. We had quite recently a communication published by no less a person than our ex-Premier, Sri Omandur P. Ramaswami Reddiyar (who perhaps had gone into the question) had advocated abolition of controls. He was moved to do so by the fact that to-day things are abundant in the blackmarket, and that was in addition to rationed and controlled articles available to consumers in the ration shops. It may be true. But the question is, 'is there supply to such an extent as to do away with control?' Madam, Deputy Speaker, I feel unless there is abundant supply, unless there is enough supply, which can move merchants to sell cheaply, and which will help consumers to purchase cheaply and in plenty, till we come to that position, control is a necessity. I am afraid we shall have to continue control till the time when there is no difficulty for the consumer to get articles. To-day if we have no control for food articles my fear is the poor consumers will not get their food without difficulty. Whatever you may say about rationing, there is one advantage or merit to its credit. Due to it, there has not been a single case of death due to starvation in our whole Province till now. If we had not this food control there would have been a large number of cases of starvation in one part of the Province, while there should have been large stocks held up in another part of the Province. Now we are able to prevent that by this rationing."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The House will now adjourn and meet again at 2-30 p.m."

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

2-30 p.m. SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON (*cont.*):—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, no Minister is present in the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Does it mean that we should stop the proceedings? If the hon. Member is not very particular that the Minister should hear his speech, let him continue."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"I was saying that, whatever might be the position, the circumstances are such that we are compelled to continue the controls for sometime more. Some hon. Members of this House have been taunting me saying that I am advocating the continuance of controls since I come from a deficit district. I admit that I come from a deficit district. Malabar unfortunately is in the position of a deficit district at present. But may I ask the hon. Members with due respect: 'Who is responsible for making Malabar a deficit district?'

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For the last one hundred and fifty years or more, Malabar has been included in the Madras Province. Irrigation and other facilities for production in Malabar have been neglected all these years by the rest of the Province. For the sins committed in the past, the rest of the Province must continue to feed Malabar for some more time. Controls must continue. But so far as we see, there is no effective control over the departments administering controls. No doubt the rules and regulations framed by the Government are good, but the officers concerned are not properly administering them. There must be more control over the officers concerned than over the essential articles."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"On a point of order, Sir. Can the House proceed with the business when not even a single Minister is present?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Ministers will come. If the hon. Member who is speaking is very particular about their presence, let him sit down till they come."

[Sri M. P. Govinda Menon sat down.]

MR. SPEAKER:—"I wish to know whether any other Member wishes to speak who is not particular that the Minister should hear his speech."

[The Hon. Sri P. S. Kumaraswami Raja entered the Chamber just then.]

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"Sir, I am very sorry that I was absent from the House."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall resume my speech since the Hon. Premier is adorning the Treasury Bench. We are dealing with the question of control over essential articles. But who is to control the Ministers? I hope the Hon. Premier will see that the Ministers are courteous to this House.

"As regards controls, my complaint against the Government is that they do not have effective control over the officers in the control departments. Prosecutions are launched for violation of rationing regulations. As many hon. Members pointed out, prosecutions are launched against poor people for petty offences like being in possession of half a measure of rice in excess of the prescribed quantity. The Government are really undermining the whole system by harassing the poor villagers. There must be more effective administration of controls. The rich people and people in command of large quantities must be prosecuted for violations of the law instead of the poor people being harassed I hope the Government will consider this point seriously and issue instructions to the district officers to desist from harassing the poor people.

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" In the control of production and distribution, will it not be better to associate non-officials? No doubt, there are Taluk Committees and District Committees to advise the Government. But the real advice must come from the villages. There must be a non-official board for each village. There was a Village Committee in every village during the Prakasam Ministry. Those committees were working efficiently and were a check on the vagaries of Government servants. By one stroke of the pen they have been done away with. Will the Government seriously consider their revival? They will be of considerable help in the production, distribution, assessment of crops and other phases of control. They will also act as a check on those who administer controls. Therefore, I request the Hon. Minister to go back to the days of the Prakasam Ministry and revive the Village Food Committees.

" With these words, I support the measure."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, speaking on this very important measure one would be tempted to draw the economic picture of the Province and narrate the sufferings of the people for want of distribution of essential articles properly and in adequate quantities. On account of the short supply of foodstuffs and other essential articles, the Government of the day feel the necessity for controlling their production, distribution and supply. We are here to empower the Government to control foodstuffs and other essential articles that are required for consumption within the Province and to prohibit their export to places outside the Province. The schedule of the Bill before the House does not contain a large number of essential articles. That is due to the fact that the Government believe that rice, wheat and other foodgrains only constitute the articles of food. There are several other articles like vegetables, fruits, etc., which go to make up the food of the average citizen in this Province. We know that control has become necessary for various reasons. One of them is the shortage of production and the other is the unsocial conduct of some of the dealers in these articles. The merchants either raise the price or hoard with a view to sell at a higher price. In these very difficult conditions, one is tempted to give ample powers to the Government to control the production and distribution of essential articles. But at the same time we know what controls mean to the average citizen. They are helpful to him in certain respects; but they are unhelpful and even dangerous in many other respects. Control means official control, and official control very often leads to corruption. On account of the difficulties experienced by the people due to controls, one is tempted to suggest that controls might be removed altogether. Then the danger follows. If controls are removed, the prices soar up and all the essential articles of food and other necessaries are hoarded either by the producers or by the merchants or by persons who could afford to buy and stock huge quantities of them for selling them afterwards in the blackmarket. If hoarding is resorted, prices

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again soar up and again control is imposed. Therefore the ordinary consumers and people in towns and cities, find themselves, between the devil and the deep sea. Therefore, whether it is control or decontrol, people are put to the same difficulties, and so some *via media* must be found between control and decontrol, whereby essential articles of food and other things could be available to the people at fair and reasonable prices. What should the Government do in order to see that prices do not go up and at the same time the merchants do not hoard but sell articles at reasonable prices? So far as foodgrains are concerned, they must go on with their present policy of compulsory procurement. But it will not do for the Government to resort to the policy of procurement only, nor should they procure the entire stock from the surplus producers, without leaving adequate quantities with them. Perhaps they may procure about 50 per cent of their produce, or even less, say 25 per cent, and leave the remaining 75 per cent in the hands of the cultivators, or the producers or the millers, so that the usual trade channels could carry on their normal transactions unhampered by the Government procurement, and the 25 per cent of the produce procured by the Government should be sold in important cities and towns in the Province at some fixed and reasonable prices at fair-price shops. These fair-price shops should be spread over in such a way that no private merchant should dare sell similar foodgrains and other essential articles at a higher price, lest they should be found out. In spite of this arrangement, if any merchant hoards up the stock, and resorts to blackmarketing stern action should be taken against him by the Government and he should be booked. It is because of the absence of such an arrangement, that people are put to sufferings and hardships and are forced to purchase their requirements of foodgrains in the blackmarket. If the Government's arrangements for procurement, rationing and distribution are perfect, I cannot understand how it would be possible for persons to bring into cities and towns, 10 measures, 20 measures and 30 measures of rice from the neighbouring villages, and sell it from house to house and also for big merchants to get large quantities of foodgrains and supply them at the blackmarket. Now we see such things are happening in this very city. How could the Government explain this position? Therefore it is perfectly obvious that the Government are not able to carry on their policy of control successfully, and therefore I submit that they should try the arrangement that I have just now suggested, namely, partial control, that is to say, procuring only 25 per cent of the produce and distributing it in important towns and cities at a fair and reasonable price through fair-price shops, and leaving the rural parts to shift for themselves. This arrangement may be tried not only with regard to foodgrains, but also with other articles of consumption, such as vegetables, fruits and the like. The Government must set up and run fair-price shops of their own and at the same time see that merchants who deal in these articles do not sell them to the people at a higher price. That arrangement, in my opinion, would be a surer way

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to eliminate blackmarketing on the one hand and of ensuring to the public the quality and quantity of foodgrains supplied and of putting down corruption, on the other.

"Now, Sir, in the City there are any number of cardholders of rice and other foodgrains, who do not want that quantity mentioned therein, because it is impossible for them to find the necessary money to buy those quantities from week to week. Take for instance the distribution of sugar to these cardholders. Now according to the present arrangement, every cardholder of rice is given half a viss of sugar per week, and no difference is made between a family consisting of only two adults and another family consisting of four adults and four children. This kind of maldistribution results in certain cardholders getting more than their requirements and certain others not being able to get the quantity they need for their family. Those cardholders who do not need sugar and yet who are supplied with the same, as per their ration-card, resort to selling it in the blackmarket, and there are any number of coffee-hotel keepers and small tea-shop vendors, who send their men with money to these people and buy the sugar at a higher price. That is the way in which sugar is distributed and how blackmarket is going on. The Government should immediately take steps to stop this kind of maldistribution. If they accept my suggestion of partial control, and resort to the method of procuring only 25 per cent of the produce, from foodgrains down to even vegetables and fruits, leave the rest to be transacted through the normal trade channels, and open fair-price shops, and distribute this 25 per cent procured at reasonable prices certainly they will be able to bring down the soaring prices, eliminate blackmarketing and put down corruption.

"Then, Sir, the list of articles included in the schedule to this Bill is certainly inadequate. There are very many articles which are essential and necessary for our daily consumption, and use, which should also be included in the list.

"As I have several times expressed before on the floor of this House, there is always a danger of corruption creeping in, if you introduce the system of permits in your policy of control. If you want to eliminate corruption, you must do away with the permit system altogether.

"Therefore, Sir, if you accept the suggestion. I have made, namely, partial control and decontrol, to a large extent you will be able to eliminate all chances of corruption and at the same time, enable the normal trade channels to function properly and then you will be able to bring down prices, and I hope that the Government will give serious consideration to the suggestion I have made just now."

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I feel really sorry for coming late to the House this afternoon. I was held up at the level crossing gates and I apologize to the House for the same."

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SRI D. KADIRAPPA:—"అధ్యక్షా, తెలుగులో మాట్లాడుటకు నాకు అవకాశమిచ్చినందులకు తమకు నా కృతజ్ఞతాపూర్వకవందనములను అర్పించుచున్నాను.

"ప్రజలకు అత్యవసరమైన వస్తువులపై కంట్రోలును విధించుటకుగాను ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఈ కంట్రోలు బిల్లును ఈ శాసనసభలో ప్రవేశపెట్టినారు. ఇటువంటి కంట్రోలులను విధించుటవల్ల ప్రజలకు వివిధంగా గవర్నమెంటువారు సహాయపడగలరో నాకు బోధపడుటలేదు ఈనాడు కంట్రోళ్లవలన ప్రజలు బాధలుపడుతున్నారే గాని వాళ్లకు ఎటువంటి సదుపాయము జరగటంలేదు. ఈ కంట్రోలు విధానాన్ని బిటిష్ ప్రభుత్వమువారు, వారిసౌకర్యార్థమే విధ్వంసుచేసినారుకాని, ప్రజలకు ఈ కంట్రోలు వస్తువులను సరిగా సరఫరా చేయించేటందుకుగాదు, నేను నా టూరిలలో ఎక్కడకు పోయినా, ముఖ్యంగా గ్రామాలలోని ప్రజలు ఈ కంట్రోళ్లవలన బాధలు పడుతున్నామనే చెబుతున్నారు గాని, వారికి వివిధంగాను సుఖంగాలేదని, ఈ కంట్రోలు వస్తువులు వారికి ఏంత మాత్రంకూడా దొరకటంలేదని, ఈ వస్తువులన్నీ ఉద్యోగస్థులకు మాత్రమే లభ్యమవుతున్నాయిగాని. రైతులకు, కూలినాలి చేసుకొనే వారికి చిక్కటంలేదు ఈ కంట్రోళ్లవలన రైతులు అనేక ఇబ్బందులు పడుతున్నారు. కంట్రోళ్లను అమలు జరిపే ఉద్యోగులు రైతులకు అనేక విధాలుగా బాధలు కెడుతున్నారు. రైతులకు ఏ విధమైన సదుపాయాలు, సౌకర్యాలు చేయ బడటంలేదు, అనేకచోట్ల నదులలోని నీరు నిరుపయోగంగా పోతోంది ఇటువంటి వాటిమీద ఆనకట్టులుకట్టి రైతులకు వ్యవసాయం చేసుకోవటానికి వసతులు కలుగ చేయటంలేదు. కాని ప్రభుత్వంవారు రైతులు కష్టపడి పండించినటువంటి ధాన్యాన్ని వాళ్లు తిండికైనా సరిపోయినంత ఉంచకుండా తీసుకొని పోతున్నారు. ఇటువంటి అక్రమాలు అన్యాయాలు జరుగుచున్న కారణంచేత రైతులలో చాలా అసంతృప్తి విర్పడుతోంది. ప్రభుత్వంవారి విధానాలవల్ల వాళ్లు చాలా బాధలుపడవలసి వస్తోందని, కంట్రోళ్లను వెంటనే తొలగించాలని, అవిధంగా చేసినట్లయితేనే వారు సుఖంగా ఉండగలరని రైతులు చెబుతున్నారు. ఇప్పుడు ప్రభుత్వంవారు అనేక డిపార్టుమెంటులను విస్తారుచేసినారు, కాని ఈ డిపార్టుమెంటులవల్ల రైతులకు వివిధంగాను ఉప 3 p.m. కారం జరగటంలేదు.

"ఈ బిల్లులోని విడవ సెక్షన్‌లో రైతులు తమ భూములలో ఏ విధమైన పైర్లను పండించాలో నిర్ణయించే అధికారాన్ని ప్రభుత్వంవారు తీసుకొంటున్నారు. ఇటువంటి అధికారాన్ని ప్రభుత్వంవారు తీసుకొన్నట్లైతే పేద రైతు చాలా బాధలు పడవలసి వస్తుందని ప్రభుత్వంవారికి మనవి చేస్తున్నాను ఎటువంటి పొలములలో ఎటువంటి పైర్లను సాగుచేయవలెనో ఏ కాలంలో ఏ పైరు పెరుగుతుందో అనే సంగతులన్నియు రైతులకు బాగుగా తెలుసును. కాబట్టి ఇటువంటి అధికారాన్ని ప్రభుత్వంవారు తీసుకొనుటకు ఏ మాత్రము ఆవసరంలేదు. ఈ విధంగా రైతులు పండించవలసిన పంటలను నిర్ణయించే అధికారాన్ని ప్రభుత్వోద్యోగులకు కనుక ఇచ్చినట్లైతే వారు రైతులను అనేక విధాలుగా బాధలు పెడుతారు నదులమీద ఆనకట్టలు కట్టించి మంచినీటి సదుపాయములు కలుగజేయనిదే రైతులను ఫలానా పంటలనే పండించాలని నిర్బంధిస్తే వారికి చాలా దండగవస్తుంది. ఏ పంటలను పండిస్తే వారికి గిట్టుబాటు అవుతోందో, ఏ పైరు వ్యవసాయం చేసినట్లయితే వారికి జీవనోపాయం కలుగుతుందో రైతులకు బాగుగా తెలుసును. కాబట్టి రైతులపై వివిధమైనటువంటి నిర్బంధాన్ని పెట్టవద్దని ప్రభుత్వం వారిని ప్రార్థిస్తున్నాను.

[Sri D. Kadirappa] [12th November 1949

"ఇప్పుడు గవర్నమెంటువారు అమలు జరుపుచున్న రేషనింగువలన ప్రజలు, ముఖ్యంగా, కూలిపని చేసుకొని జీవించే హరిజనులు మొదలైన కార్మికజనులు చాలా బాధలుపడుతున్నారు. వాళ్లకు ఆహారధాన్యాలు దొరకటంలేదు. ధరలు చాలా ఎక్కువగా పెరిగి పోయినాయి కాబట్టి రేషనింగును, కంట్రోళ్లను రద్దుచేయించ వలసినదని ప్రభుత్వమువారికి మనవిచేస్తూ ఇంతటితో విరమిస్తున్నాను."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Abdul Rahman will now make his maiden speech."

JANAB ABDUL RAHMAN:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே இன்றையதினம் உணவு மந்திரியவர்கள் கொண்டு வந்திருக்கும் "பில்" சம்பந்தமான விவாதத்தில் அதை ஆதரிப்பதா அல்லது ஆதரிக்காமலிருப்பதா என்பதாக இல்லாமல் விவாதம் வேறு ஒரு வழியில் திரும்பி விட்டது. அதாவது control வேண்டுமா வேண்டாமா என்ற விஷயத்தில் திரும்பி இருக்கிறது. சிலர் control கூடவே கூடாது என்றும் சிலர் control இருக்க வேண்டுமென்றும் பிரியப்படுகிறார்கள். ஆனால் என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயம் control எடுக்கப்படவேண்டுமென்பதுதான். வெள்ளை முறை சென்ற 4, 5 வருஷங்களாக ரேஷன் இருந்ததால் ஜனங்களுக்கும் விவசாயிகளுக்கும் கஷ்டம் ஏற்பட்டதே தவிர பொது ஜனங்கள் எந்த விதத்திலாவது அதை ஆதரிக்கவில்லை என்ற விஷயம் எல்லோருக்கும் தெரியும். பல மெம்பர்கள் இந்த விஷயத்தைப்பற்றி அழுத்தமாகவே சொன்னார்கள். நான் ஒரு கிராமவாசி. கிராமங்களில் ரேஷனால் ஜனங்கள் கஷ்டப்பட்டவைகளை நேரில் பார்த்தேன். ஆகையினால் அது விஷயமாக ஒன்றிரண்டு விஷயங்களைச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன்.

"அதாவது control-ஐ ஏற்படுத்தியிருக்கிறார்கள். அது எந்த விதமான முறையில் நடந்திருக்கிறது என்பதை கவனிப்போம். எங்கள் பக்கம் மலை அடிவாரம். அங்கே சோள தான்யம் அதிகமாக விளைகிறது. இரண்டு மூன்று கிராமங்களிலும் சுமார் 40,000 டன் கூட விளையும். சோளம் அறுவடையாகக்கூடிய காலம் மூன்று மாதங்களுக்கு முன் வந்தது. அறுவடையான சோளத்தை அளப்பதற்கு ஆரம்பத்தில் கவர்ன்மெண்டாரால் வியாபாரிகள் நியமிக்கப்படவில்லை. ஆனால் ஜனங்கள் தாங்களாகவே அறுவடையான சோளத்தை விற்கக்கூடாது என்று கவர்ன்மெண்டார் உத்தரவு போட்டுவிட்டார்கள். அதை எந்த விதமும் செய்யக்கூடாது என்றும் கட்டுப்படுத்திவிட்டார்கள். ஆனால் பக்கத்தில் ஒரு மைல் தூரத்திலிருக்கும் திருவாங்கூர் சமஸ்தானத்திற்கு இந்த சோளம் ஜாஸ்தியாக வேண்டியிருந்தது. அங்கே சோளத்தை மூட்டை மூட்டையாகக் கொண்டு போய் விற்று வந்தார்கள். அப்படிப் போவதை போலீஸ் பந்தோபஸ்து போட்டு தடைப்படுத்திவிட்டார்கள். இவ்விதம் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் தாங்களும் சோளத்தை வாங்குவது இல்லை விவசாயிகளையும் விற்க விடுவதில்லை. இவ்விதம் ஜனங்கள் ஒருத்தமடைந்து கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். இதைப்பற்றி ஆபீசர்களைக் கேட்டால் நாங்கள் என்ன செய்ய முடியும், வியாபாரிகள் சோளத்தை வாங்கமாட்டேன் என்கிறார்கள் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். இவ்விதம் ஜனங்கள் வியாபாரிகளிடத்தில் கொடுக்காமலும் தாங்களாகவே விற்க முடியாமலும் மிகவும் கஷ்டப்பட்டார்கள்.

"இது இப்படி இருக்க நெல் அறுவடை ஆரம்பித்தது. அப்பொழுது வியாபாரிகளுமிருந்தார்கள். அவர்கள் உடனே நெல்லை அளந்துகொண்டு போனார்கள். அப்படிப் போய் ஒரு மாதமாகியும் இன்னும் பணம் கொடுக்கவில்லை. விவசாயிகள் நெல்லைக் கொடுத்துவிட்டோம் இன்னும் ரூபாய் வரவில்லை எனறு சொல்லுகிறார்கள். கொள்முதல் வேலையிலும் இவ்வித மிருந்தால் என்ன செய்வது சரியான முறையில் நிர்வகிக்கக்கூடிய சக்தி இருந்தால் அந்த வேலையை நடத்தவேண்டும். நிர்வகிக்க முடியாத நிலை

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மையில் control-ஐ வைத்துக்கொண்டிருந்தால் அது ஜனங்களுக்கு கஷ்டத்தை உண்டுபண்ணக்கூடிய மிகுந்த முக்கியமான விஷயமாக இருக்கிறது. இந்தக் கஷ்டங்களெல்லாம் கிராமங்களில் சுற்றுப் பிரயாணம் செய்து பார்த்தால்தான் தெரியும்.

"இன்னும் இப்பொழுது நாம் செய்யவேண்டிய காரியங்கள் என்ன என்பதையும் அவசியமாக எதைச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்பதையும் நாம் உணராமல் எதைச் செய்யவேண்டுமோ அதைச் செய்யாமல் விட்டு விட்டு நாம் வேறு மார்க்கத்தில் சென்றுகொண்டிருக்கிறோம். நமக்கு வேண்டிய உணவு நூறுக்கு பத்து per cent தான். அதையும் நாம் வெளிநாடுகளிலிருந்து வருஷம் ஒன்றுக்கு 130 கோடி ரூபாய்க்கு தருவிக்கிறோம். இந்த பத்து percent-யும் நாமே உற்பத்தி செய்ய முடியுமா என்பதில் நாம் பூராவும் கவனத்தைச் செலுத்தவேண்டும். அந்த வழியில் நாம் கவனத்தைச் செலுத்தினால் நாம் இப்பொழுது பற்றுக்குறையாக இருப்பதை நீக்கிவிடலாம். இந்த விஷயமாக நான் என்னுடைய ஒருசொந்த அனுபவத்தைச் சொல்லுகிறேன். என்னுடைய நிலங்களில் கழிவான இரண்டு மூன்று எக்கர் நிலம் இருந்தது. இரண்டு வருஷங்களுக்குமுன் அதைச் சீர்ப்படுத்தி உரம் போட்டு வேலை செய்ய ஆரம்பித்தேன். பிறகு இவ்விதம் சாகுபடி செய்ய ஆரம்பித்தபொழுது முதலில் கண்டதைப்போல் இரண்டு மடங்கு விளைத்தது. பிறகு அடுத்த வருஷம் அதைப்போல் இரண்டு பங்கு அதிகமாகவே மகசூல் கிடைத்தது. இவ்விதமாக நாலு பங்குகள் கிடைத்து வருகின்றன.

" செல்லான் கிழவன் இருப்பின் நிலம் புலந்து
இல்லாளின் ஊடியிடும். "

என நாயனார் கூறியிருக்கின்றார்.

அதாவது ஒருவன் தன் மனைவியை கவனிக்காமலும் பார்க்காமலும் பேசாமலுமிருந்தால் அவளுக்கு எப்படி வருத்தம் உண்டாகி விடுமோ அதைப் போலவே பூமியையும் கவனிக்காமலும் பழுது பார்க்காமலும் உரம் சேர்க்காமலுமிருந்தால் அதற்கு பூமிக்கு சொந்தக்காரனிடம் வருத்தம் ஏற்பட்டுவிடும். நிலச்சுவான்தார்கள் பூமியை அடிக்கடி கவனித்து வந்தால் வேண்டிய பலன்கிடைக்கும். அவ்விதம் செய்யாமல் அதிக உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களுக்கு வேலை கொடுத்து control-ஐ வைத்துக்கொண்டிருப்பது அவசியமில்லை என்று கனம் எ. வெங்கடத்தம் பிள்ளை அவர்கள் சொன்னதை நான் பூர்ணமாக ஆதரிக்கிறேன். ஆனால், அதே உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களை வைத்துக்கொண்டு எப்படி பயிர் செய்யவேண்டும், எப்படி உரம் போட வேண்டுமென்று கிராமங்களில் பிரசாரம் செய்து வந்தால் இப்பொழுது நமக்கிருக்கும் 10 per cent பற்றுக்குறையை எளிதில் நீக்கிவிடலாம். ஆகவே, எல்லா ஜில்லாக்களிலும் பற்றுக்குறையாக இருக்கும் கிராமங்களுக்கு உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களை அனுப்பி பிரசாரம் செய்யச் சொல்லி உற்பத்தியை பெருக்குவதற்கு வேலை செய்யவேண்டும்.

"அடுத்தாற்போல் அரசாங்கத்தார் உரம் supply செய்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் ஜனங்களுக்கு பயிரிடுவதற்கு வேண்டிய உரம் கிடைப்பதில்லை. உரத்தில் இரண்டுவிதம் இருக்கின்றன. ஒன்று அம்மோனியம் சல்பேட், மற்றொன்று அம்மோனியம் பாஸ்பேட். அம்மோனியம் சல்பேட்டின் குணம் பயிரை நன்றாக வளரும்படி செய்யும். அம்மோனியம் பாஸ்பேட்டின் குணம் கதிர் நன்றாக வெளிப்பட்டு அதிகம் நெல் கிடைக்கும்படி செய்யும். ஆகவே, இந்த இரண்டு உரங்களையும் சேர்த்து போட்டால்தான் பலன் நன்றாக கிடைக்கும். அதனால் என்னுடைய சொந்த நிலத்திற்காக உரம் கொடுக்க விவசாய இலாகாவிற்கு எழுதிக் கேட்டேன். இந்த இரண்டு உரமும் வேண்டுமென்று எழுதினேன். அவர்கள் அம்மோனியம் சல்பேட்டை மட்டும் வேண்டிய அளவு கொடுப்பதாயும் அம்மோனியம் பாஸ்பேட் ஸ்டாக் கருக்கமாக இருக்கிறதென்றும் சொன்னார்கள். அம்மோனியம் சல்பேட்டை மட்டும் போட்டுவிட்டு கொஞ்சம் பொருத்தாவது அம்மோனியம் பாஸ்பேட போடாவிட்டால் பலன் கிடையாது. என்னைப்

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பொதுள்ள ஒரு சட்டசபை அங்கத்தினருக்கு கூட வேண்டிய அளவு கிடைக்க வில்லையென்றால் ஒரு சாதாரண மனிதனுக்குக் கிடைக்குமா என்பதை யோசித்துப் பார்க்கவேண்டும். ஆகவே உணவு உற்பத்தியைப் பெருக்கு வதில் வேண்டிய நடவடிக்கைகளை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு இப்பொழுதிருக்கும் **10 per cent** பற்றாக்குறையை நீக்குவதில் வேலை செய்யவேண்டுமென்று மிகவும் அழுத்தமாக எடுத்துக்கூற விரும்புகிறேன். அவ்விதம் செய்யாமல் இப்பொழுது **control**-ஐ ஏற்படுத்தி ஜனங்களுக்கும் விவசாயிகளுக்கும் கஷ்டத்தை உண்டாக்கி இருக்கிறோம். இந்தக் கஷ்டத்தை நிவர்த்திக்க எதைச் செய்யவேண்டுமோ அதைச் செய்யாமல் **Control**-ஐ ஏற்படுத்தி ஜனங்களுக்கும் விவசாயிகளுக்கும் கஷ்டத்தை நாம் கொடுத்து வருகிறோம். ஆகையால் எனக்குமுன் பேசிய மெம்பர்களை கூறியதைப்போல் இந்த **control** வேண்டாம் என்பதை நான் பலமாக ஆமோதிக்கிறேன்.

"மூன்றுவதாக இந்த தான்ய விற்பனை வியாபாரிகளிடத்திலிருக்க வேண்டியது அவசியம். கவர்ன்மெண்டார் வைத்துக்கொண்டிருப்பது தப்பு. தான்யங்கள் பழுதடையாமலும் கெட்டுப்போகாமலும் பந்தோபஸ்தாக வைத்திருப்பது வியாபாரிகளுக்குத்தான தெரியும். லட்சக் கணக்காகவோ கோடிக்கணக்காகவோ மூட்டைகளிருந்தால் அவைகளை வியாபாரி களால்தான் பந்தோபஸ்தாக வைத்துக்கொள்ளமுடியும். ஆனால் கவர்ன் மெண்டார் வைத்துக்கொண்டால் அவைகள் உளுத்துப்போய் மக்கிப்போய் ஜனங்களால் சாப்பிடமுடியாமல்போய்விடுகிறது. இப்பொழுது கவர்மெண்டி னிடம் தான்யங்கள் இருப்பதில் அவைகளில் பெரும்பாகம் மடிந்துபோய் இருக்கின்றன. அதைத்தான் நாம் வாங்கி சாப்பிடுகிறோம். ஆகவே தான்யங்கள் பந்தோபஸ்தான நிலையில் இருக்கும்படி செய்யவேண்டு மானால் தானிய சம்பந்தமான பொருப்புகளை வியாபாரிகளிடம் ஒப்படைக்க வேண்டும். கவர்ன்மெண்டார் இதை எடுத்துக்கொண்டது தப்பாகும். என் னிடத்தில் ஒரு பெரிய தான்ய வியாபாரி ஒரு விஷயத்தைப் பற்றி சொன் னார். அவர் ஒரு பெரிய தானிய வியாபாரி. கப்பல் கப்பல்களாக மொத்தமாக வியாபாரம் செய்யப்பட்டவர். அவர் இந்த மாகாணத்தின் உணவு கமிட்டியில் ஒரு மெம்பர்கூட. அவர் மதராஸ்காரர்தான். அவர் ஒரு தடவை உணவு கமிட்டி கனம் மந்திரி இராஜன் தலைமையில் நடந்த போது ஒரு விஷயத்தை கூட்டத்தில் தெரிவித்தாராம். அதாவது இதே சமயத்தில் இந்த கண்ட்ரோலை எடுத்துவிடுங்கள். பின்னால் வைக்கவேண்டு மா என்ற பிரச்னையே வராது. இந்த மாகாணத்திற்கு மட்டுமல்ல. இந்த இந்தியா பூராவும் எடுத்துவிடவேண்டும். பிறகுதான் உணவை சப்ளை செய்கிறேன் என்று அவர் **guarantee** கூட சொன்னாராம். எந்த ஜில்லாவது சாப்பாட்டிற்கு தானியம் இல்லை என்று தெரிவித்தால் உடனே தன்னை சுட்டுவிடலாம் என்றும் தெரிவித்தாராம். எவ்வளவு தான்யம் வேண்டுமென்றாலும் சப்ளை செய்ய முடியுமென்றும் தெரிவித்தாராம். அதை கவர்ன்மெண்டார் கவனிக்கவே இல்லை. அந்த வியாபாரிக்கு இந்தியாவில் 84 கடைகளிருக்கின்றனவென்றும் உலகில் எல்லா இடங்களிலும் தனக்கு ஏஜென்சி இருக்கிறது என்றும் எந்த இடத்தில் தான்யம் குறைவாக இருக்கிறதோ அந்த இடத்திற்கு சப்ளை செய்ய முடியுமென்றும் தெரிவித்தாராம். அதை யெல்லாம் கவர்ன் மெண்டார் கவனிக்காமல் ஜனங்களுக்கு கஷ்டத்தைக் கொடுத்துக்கொண் டிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால், இனிமேல் இந்த **control** வேண்டாம். மனி தை சலங்கம் இல்லாமல் நிலைமையை சீர்தூக்கி ஆராய்ந்து பார்த்தால் கண்ட்ரோல் வேண்டாமென்பது திட்டமாக தெரியும். ஆகையால், இந்த **control**-ஐ உடனே எடுப்பதற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டுமென்றும் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"அடுத்தாற்போல் சர்க்கரை விஷயமாக சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். ஒரு வாரு சர்க்கரை நலலவிதமாக கிடைத்துக்கொண்டிருந்தது. எல்லோரும் வாங்கி வந்தார்கள். ஒன்றிரண்டு அணுதான் கூடுதலாக ஜாஸ்தியாகி இருந்தது. என்ன காரணம் என்று தெரியவில்லை. திடீரென்று சர்க்கார் **control**-ஐ வைக்கப்போகிறோம் எனறு சொன்னவுடன் சர்க்கரையே கிடைக்க வில்லை. ரேஷன் கார்டுகளுக்கு கொடுப்பதாக ஏற்பாடு செய்தார்கள்.

12th November 1949] [Janab Abdul Rahman]

ஆனால் அவர்களில் பலர் கொடுத்ததாக கணக்கெழுதிவிட்டு **blackmarket**-ல் விற்று வருகிறார்கள். ரேஷன் கார்டு வைத்துக்கொண்டிருப்பவர்களெல் லாருக்கும்சர்க்கரை தேவையில்லை. இவ்விதம் தேவையில்லாதவர்களின ரேஷன் கார்டுகளை கடைக்காரர்கள் வாங்கி வைத்துக்கொண்டு அதில் பதிவு செய்து **blackmarket**-ல் கூடுதல் விலைக்கு விற்றுவருகிறார்கள். இவ்விதம் நடக்கும்பொழுது மறுபடியும் கண்ட்ரோல் வேண்டுமா? யுத்த காலத்தில் மிலிடெரி சப்ளைக்காக பிரிட்டிஷ் அரசாங்கத்தார் இந்த **control**ஐ கொண்டு வந்தார்கள். மகாத்மா காந்தி இந்த **control** வேண்டாம் என்று சொன் னதையும் தட்டிவிட்டோம். அனுவசியமாக இந்த **control**-ஐ வைத்துக் கொண்டு கஷ்டத்தையும் தொந்திரவுகளையும் ஜனங்களுக்குக் கொடுக்க வேண்டாம். இனிமேலாவது இந்த **control**-ஐ பூராவும் எடுப்பதற்கு முயற்சி எடுக்கவேண்டும். இந்தியா முழுவதும் எடுக்காவிட்டாலும் நம் மாகாணம் சம்பந்தப்பட்டவரையிலாவது உடனே எடுத்துவிட வேண்டு மென்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டு இத்துடன் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Twenty-five Members have so far taken part in the debate. I fix a time-limit of five minutes for every speaker hereafter. Sri M. A. Easwaran will now speak."

* **SRI M. A. EASWARAN:**—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, many hon. Members have spoken about controls and their disadvantages. In these three years we have seen how controls have worked. These controls have created great discontent among the ryots. It has created discontent among the consuming public. The procurement officials have procured more grain from the smaller ryots and left out the bigger ryots. The consuming public are not able to get good quality of grain because at the time of procurement some officer is sent out to procure, and he does not procure good paddy. He procures paddy mixed with chaff and other foreign matter. This is passed on to the consumer. When the consumer purchases rice, out of three measures he gets only two measures after cleaning, and the other one-third goes to waste. In this way the quality of rice has deteriorated. We must find some method whereby this discontent among the ryots and the consuming public is removed. We must evolve a system in which the ryots will have no cause for discontent and people also will be able to get good quality of rice. No doubt there are Government servants who would not be able to pay more for the foodgrain. There must be a fair-price shop for them, where all Government servants should be able to purchase their rice. A levy system must be introduced throughout the Province by which the cultivators are not put into trouble and the number of acres under cultivation should be increased. Some amount of grain we must try to get by levy system. Supposing a man possesses 20 acres of land, he must be asked to give five or six bags of paddy per acre to the Government. He must be allowed to dispose of the balance of foodgrains in the open market. In France there is a system prevailing by which a certain percentage of the yield is given to Government and the remaining grain is allowed to be sold in the open market. That kind of system can be followed here and the ryots also induced to produce more. Most of the ryots who cultivate lands do not possess any lands. They have taken the lands for cultivation from big landlords on lease. Suppose we can ask these people who actually

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cultivate the lands to directly give the grain to Government, it will be more easily delivered to the Government. The money can be paid to the landlord. Some assurance must be given to the cultivator who directly cultivates the lands that at least for 5, 6 or 10 years, or till the food problem is solved, the lands will not be transferred to anybody else. Then the cultivator will willingly cultivate the lands and deliver the grain to the Government. Some such system must be found out so that the cultivator is induced to produce more foodgrains and deliver the grains to the Government. The consumers also must be able to get good quality of rice.

" With these suggestions, Sir, I resume my seat."

* **Sri M. P. PERIYASWAMI** :—" கனம் தேவர் அவர்களே ! கண்ட்ரோல் கொண்டுவந்திருப்பதை நான் ஆதரித்து, அதிலுள்ள சில குறைகளை எடுத்துக்கூற ஆசைப்படுகிறேன். கண்ட்ரோல் வந்ததிலிருந்து விவசாயிகளுக்கு கஷ்டமாகயிருக்கிறது. **C.T. Act** ஆல் என்னென்ன கஷ்டங்கள் ஏற்படுமோ அதே மாதிரியாக இந்த **procurement** அதிகாரிகள் விவசாயிகளுடைய வீட்டில் திடீரென்று நுழைய எதுவாக இருக்கிறது. அவர்கள் சாப்பாட்டிற்காக வாங்கி வைத்திருக்கின்ற கூலியை, குருணி. பதக்காயிருந்தாலும் பிடுங்கி விடுகின்றனர். அதனால் விவசாயிகள் வீட்டில் குருணி நெல்கூட வைத்துக்கொள்ளமுடியாமல் ரொம்பவும் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக் கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள் என்பதை தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" அதோடும்கூட சில இராபங்களில் விவசாயிகள் பயிரிடவேண்டிய இடத்தை உழுது விதைத்த வுடனேயே இந்த கலக்குபிள்ளைகள் போய் 6 அணு, 8 அணு, 12 அணு மாசூல் என்று மதிப்புப் போட்டுவிடுகிறார்கள். நிலம் அறுவடை சமையத்தில் என்ன நிலைமையில் விளைந்திருக்கின்றது என்பதைப் பார்க்காமல் விதைத்தவுடனேயே அந்த மாசூல் மதிப்பைப் போட்டுவிடுகிறார்கள். கடைசி வரையிலும் இந்த 12 அணு மாசூல்தான் நிலம் விளையாவிட்டாலும் அப்படியே யிருக்கிறது. வேண்டியவர்களாயிருந்தால் 12 அணு மாசூல் 6 அணுவுக்குக்கூட வந்து விடுகின்றது. வேண்டாதவர்களாய் இருந்தால் 6 அணு மாசூலே 12 அணுவாகக்கூட செய்து விடுகின்றார்கள். இந்த மாதிரி **procurement** காலத்திலே ஏற்பட்டு வருகின்றது.

" இந்த **procurement** பண்ணக்கூடிய அதிகாரிகள் சிலபேர் ஏழைகள் கூலி வாங்கி வைத்திருந்ததையும்கூட எடுத்துவிடுகிறார்கள். பற்றாக்குறை ஜில்லாக்களில் கூலிக்காரர்கள் கால் மூட்டை, அரை மூட்டை வைத்துக் கொள்ளலாமென ரேஷன் அதிகாரிகளுக்கு உத்திரவு போடவேண்டும். என்னுடைய சேலம் ஜில்லாவில் நாமக்கல், ராசிபுரம் எரியாவில் சில வீடுகளிலிருந்து கொஞ்சம் நெல் இருந்ததை எடுத்துவந்துவிட்டார்கள். அதனால் ரொம்ப ஏழைகள் **procurement** சமயத்திலே கூலி கூட வாங்கி வைத்துக்கொள்ளமுடியாமல் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். 'எனய்யா எங்களை கஷ்டப்படுத்துகிறீர்கள்,' என்று ஜனங்கள் அவ்வதிகாரிகளைச் கேட்கும் போது, " அதற்கு நாங்கள் என்ன செய்யலாம். நீங்கள் ஒட்டு போட்ட காங்கிரஸ் சர்க்கார்தான் உங்கள் நெல்லை யெல்லாம் எடுத்துவரச் சொன்னார்கள்,' என்று தாராளமாக சப்பை ஆபீசர்கள் (**procurement** ஆபீசர்கள்), சில பேர்கள் ஜனங்களிடத்தில் போய் பிரசாரம் செய்துவருகிறார்கள். இம்மாதிரி பொய்ப் பிரசாரம் செய்கின்ற அதிகாரிகளை கவர்ன்மெண்டார் விசாரித்து சரியான நடவடிக்கை அவர்கள்மீது எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். இந்த **procurement** சமயத்திலே ஜனங்களிடத்தில் தப்பு அபிப்பிராயத்தை ஏற்படுத்தி விடுகிறார்கள் சில அதிகாரிகள்.

" சில ஹோல்சேல் வியாபாரிகள் சில்லறை வியாபாரிகளுக்கு அளந்து கொடுப்பதற்கு ஒரு படி வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். தாங்கள் நெல் பிடிக்கும்

12th November 1949] [Sri M. P. Periyaswami]

போது தங்களுக்கென அந்த 'ஹோல்சேல்' வியாபாரிகள் ஒரு படி வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். இதை வாங்கி விற்கின்ற சில்லரை வியாபாரிகள் ஜனங்களுக்கு அளந்துகொடுக்க ஒரு தப்புப் படி வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆக ஜனங்கள் கையிற்குப் போய் சேரும்போது அளவு ரொம்பக் குறைந்து விடுகிறது. இதை ஒரு சமயம், நான் ஒரு அதிகாரியை வைத்துக்கொண்டு கண்டு பிடித்த பிறகு, 'இது இப்படி யல்ல—அப்படி' என்று மாற்றிக் கொள்ளுகிறார்கள்.

" பிறகு இந்த ஏழை ஜனங்களுக்கு இந்த ரேஷன் கார்டுகள்கூட சில பேர்களில் கொடுக்கப்படவில்லை. ரொம்ப நாள் கழித்து தகராறு செய்து ரொம்பக் கஷ்டப்பட்ட பிறகு ரேஷன் கார்டு கொடுத்துவிட்டார்கள். இந்த முறையை கவனிக்கவேண்டியிருக்கிறது.

" சர்க்கரை, சர்க்கரை யென்று சொல்லுகிறார்களே. இந்தச் சர்க்கரை விலையை கட்டுப்பாடு என்ற வுடனே அதிகமாகிவிட்டார்கள். பதினைரு மணுவை எங்கள் ஊரில் ஒரு பொதி என்று சொல்லுவார்கள். அது ரூ. 180 விலை யென்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். 180 ரூபாய் 11 மணு விலை ; ஆகையால் நமது அரசாங்கம் அதற்கு ஒரு அளவு குறிப்பிட்டு, இவ் வளவுக்குமேல் விற்கக் கூடாதென்று சொன்னால் அதற்குமேல் விற்கிறவர் களையும் வாங்குகிறவர்களையும் கடுமையாக தண்டிக்கவேண்டும்.

" எங்கள் சேலம் ஜில்லா, நாமக்கல் தாலுக்காவில் சில பகுதிகளிலும், திருச்சி ஜில்லா கரூர் தாலுக்காவில் சில பகுதிகளிலும் காவேரித் தண்ணீர் பாய்கிறது. அதில் வாழை, கரும்பு, கொடிக்கால் மூன்றுந்தான் அதிக சாகுபடி செய்யப்படுகிறது. நெல் மூட்டைக்கு எவ்வளவு ரூபாய் கொடுத்தாலும் கூட வாழை, கரும்பு, கொடிக்கால் தான் சாகுபடி செய்கிறார்கள். இரண்டு வருஷங்களுக்கு முன் இந்த நெல் சாகுபடிக்காரர்களிடமிருந்து கணட்ரோல அதிகாரிகள் ஒரு எக்ராவுக்கு இரண்டு மூன்று மூட்டை வாங்கிக்கொண்டு வந்தார்கள். ஆனால், இப்பொழுது எல்லாவற்றையும் ஏதோ ஒரு அளவு போக பாக்கியை பிடுங்கிவிடுகிறார்கள். வாழை, கரும்பு, கொடிக்கால் சாகுபடி செய்கிறவர்களுக்கு தொந்தரவில்லை. நஞ்சை சாகுபடிக்காரர்களுக்குத்தான் இந்தக் கஷ்டம். அதனால், இந்த நஞ்சை சாகுபடிக்காரர்கள் தங்கள்வீட்டிற்கு வேண்டிய நெல்லைக்கூட சாகுபடி செய்துகொள்ள முன்வருவதில்லை. எல்லோரும் நஞ்சையே பயிர் செய்யாது கரும்பு, வாழை, கொடிக்கால் போட்டு விடுகிறார்கள். இரண்டு எக்ராவிற்கு மேலுள்ளவர்கள் 3-ல் ஒரு பங்கு நஞ்சை பயிரிடவேண்டு மென்று உணவு கமிட்டியில் தீர்மானம் செய்தோம். அதே மாதிரி வாழை, கரும்பு பயிரிடுகிறவர்களுக்கு ரேஷன் கார்டு கொடுக்காமல் தன் குடும்பத்திற்காவது நஞ்சை பயிரிட ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டு மென்று சொல்லி இந்த தீர்மானத்தை ஆதரிக்கிறேன்."

* **Sri M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR** :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, following up my hon. Friend Mr. Vedaratnam Pillai I wish to say that it is very desirable that decontrol is effected, or recommended. But this Government are not independent to that extent. The whole country's programme has been formulated by the Centre, and the Provinces are asked to formulate their own policies in respect of production, distribution and price. In the circumstances I am afraid we have to accept some sort of control over distribution and prices. I am the very person who wanted decontrol at the time of the last budget session. I do stand for the same idea now. But in the interests of production, we must have a remodelled control over distribution and price with the experience gained. In the common interests of the entire country, and following up the principle that had been laid down by the Central Government, we must

turn our attention now and justify our claim for decontrol by augmenting production. It is a matter to be carried out in practice and not to be talked over. In the matter of production many difficulties do arise. Many matters of fact have to be attended to in the process of producing more. In the interests of production, the present system of distribution must be changed as also the procurement methods. The inclination of people in the country to-day is ' why should I produce more for the enjoyment of others '. This is certainly a fissiparous tendency and an anti-social act into which our people have got in without respect to humanity. This is more due to various troubles and hardships in the present procurement rules and regulations. The procurement rules as they stand at present should be re-modelled. Certain changes in the rules should be made to encourage production. Again the price of the produce must be varied. To-day the difference in prices between cereals and millets is not very much. Since the price of paddy is not much more than the millet price, people who are accustomed to use and who do use only millets are taking to rice.

3-30 p.m. " Now in respect of procurement, millets are being given a go-bye. Millets are not properly procured. Now when there is a small increase in the production of millets, the procurement agents are evading procurement. Sir, in my constituency there have been complaints that procurement has not been done of certain millets which had been harvested just now. When I asked why those millets had not been procured, it is said that if the wholesalers procured the present available millets, they might not have sufficient money for procurement of the later productions.

." Sir, taking up the question of production, I would very much request a change on the following lines: Firstly, the actual cultivators must be given double the present rations. The ration at present given is sufficient only for keeping the life in his body. Now we want him to work hard and produce more. Unless he is given sufficient grains, he will not be able to produce more and he won't be interested. Secondly, regarding price, the production cost must be taken into consideration and the price fixed. In various lands where rice could be produced, we find other commercial crops are produced in order to get more money. If in a given area, Rs. 100 can be realized by producing other commercial crops, the cultivator is not inclined to grow paddy because he may in that case get less money. Thirdly, the supply of essential implements for agriculture must be based on the quantity of grain tendered for procurement. If more foodgrains are given, the quantity of implements supplied to that cultivator may be more. This will also encourage him to produce more. Fourthly, regarding financial implications, agriculture and especially paddy, requires very constant financial aid at every stage, at the stage of ploughing, puddling, transplantation, weeding, harvest, etc. This financial aid has been cut off because controls have been introduced. My suggestion is that wholesalers in the locality who procure the grains may be asked to supply this financial aid also to the ryots. If

this is not possible with the large area now allotted to each wholesaler, a limited area may be allotted to him and he may be asked to give this financial aid to the ryots and adjustment of the amount may be made at the time of procurement."

* JANAB ABDUL KADHAR JAMALI :—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, கனம் உணவு மந்திரி அவர்களால் கொண்டுவரப்பட்ட இம் மசோதாவை பொறுக்குக் கமிட்டிக்கு அனுப்பவேண்டுமென்று நண்பர் ஜனப் அப்துல் மஜீத் கொண்டுவந்த தீர்மானத்தை ஆதரித்து பேசும் பொழுது சில வார்த்தைகளைக் கூற விரும்புகிறேன். தலைவர் அவர்களே, நேற்றையதினம் இந்த சபையில் மாஜி சட்ட மந்திரி கனம் பாஷ்யம் அவர்கள் இந்த மசோதாவை பொறுக்குக் கமிட்டிக்கு அனுப்பவேண்டியதவசியமில்லை என்றும் இந்த மசோதாவானது ஏற்கனவே இருந்ததின் திருத்தம்தான் என்றும், அதனல் அதைப் பொருக்குக் கமிட்டிக்கு அனுப்பி நிறைவேற்றுவது அவசியமில்லை என்றும் சொன்னர். ஆனல் மாஜி சட்ட மந்திரி அவர்கள் அவர்களுடைய காலத்தில் பல திருத்தி அமைக்கப்பட்ட மசோதாக்களை பொறுக்குக் கமிட்டிக்கு அனுப்பித்திருந்தும்கூட இந்த மாதிரி பேசியது மிகவும் வருத்தப்படவேண்டிய விஷயம். இந்தச் சட்டமானது 1946-ம் வருஷத்திலேயே கொண்டு வரப்பட்டிருந்தது என்பது எல்லோருக்கும் நன்கு தெரிந்திருக்கும். இந்த நான்கு வருஷ காலமாக இந்த சட்டத்தை மாகாண கவர்ன்மெண்டார் அமுல் நடத்தி வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த நான்கு வருஷ அனுபவத்திலிருந்து சர்க்காரும், பொது ஜனங்களும், வியாபாரிகளும் சட்ட சபை அங்கத்தினர்களும் என்ன தெரிந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதை சிந்தித்துப்பார்க்கவேண்டும். இன்று எதிர் கட்சி மாத்திரமல்ல சர்க்கார் கட்சியினர் கூட இந்த கட்டுப்பாட்டை எதிர்த்து பேசி இருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதைச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இந்த நான்கு வருஷ அனுபவத்திலிருந்து இந்த மசோதாவை மீண்டும் சட்டமாகக் கொண்டுவருவது தவறு என்றே எல்லோரும் கருதுகின்றார்கள். இந்தக் கட்டுப்பாடானது இதுவரையில் எட்டளவில் இருந்ததேயொழிய செயலளவில் இல்லை என்பதை இந்த நான்கு வருஷ அனுபவத்தால் எடுத்துக் காட்டுகின்றது.

" அதுமாத்திரமல்ல. நமது புதிய உணவு மந்திரி கனம் ரோச் விக்டோரியா அவர்களுகூட தாம் பதவி ஏற்ற தினத்தில் விடுத்த ஒரு அறிக்கையில் என்ன சொல்லியிருந்தார்கள் என்பதையும் கவனிக்க வேண்டும். தன்னுல் முடிந்த வரையில் இந்தக் கட்டுப்பாடுகளை தளர்த்துவதற்கு எற்பாடு செய்வதாகவும் சொன்னர். அவரும் ஒரு வியாபாரி விஷயத்தைத் தெரிந்தவர்தான். அவர் அப்பொழுது விடுத்த அறிக்கையின் படியும் இப்பொழுது இந்த சட்ட சபை அங்கத்தினர்கள் இந்தக் கட்டுப்பாடு வேண்டாமென்று சொல்லும்பொழுதும் அவர் என் தைர்யமாக இந்தக் கட்டுப்பாட்டை எடுக்கக்கூடாது என்று கேட்க விரும்புகிறேன். அது மாத்திரமல்ல, இப்பொழுது நம் நாட்டில் உணவு பற்றுக்குறையாக இருக்கிறது. அதனல் எல்லோருக்கும் இந்த உணவை பங்கிடும் வகையில் நீங்கள் இந்த சட்டத்தைக் கொண்டுவந்து அமுல் நடத்த விரும்புகிறீர்கள். சமீபத்தில் மாஜி பிரதம மந்திரி கனம் ஓ. பி. இராமசாமி ரெட்டியார் அவர்கள் விடுத்த அறிகையில் இந்த நாட்டில் உணவு பற்றுக்குறை என்பது பெயரளவில் இருக்கிறதே தவிர உண்மையில் இல்லை என்றும், உத்யோகஸ்தர்களால் கொடுக்கும் கணக்கை வைத்துக்கொண்டு கணக்கிடக் கூடாது என்றும் சொல்லியிருக்கிறர். அதற்கு நம் சர்க்கார் என்ன நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதைக் கேட்க விரும்புகிறேன். ஆகவே இப்பொழுது சர்க்கார் கொடுத்துவரும் புள்ளி விவரங்கள் தவறு என்பதாகவே நான் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். ஏனென்றுல் இந்த புள்ளி விவரங்கள் ஆரம்பத்தில் தயாரிப்பவர்களெல்லாம் கிராம கணக்குப் பிள்ளைகள்தான். அந்த கிராம கணக்குப் பிள்ளைகளும் தாங்கள் தயாரித்துவரும் புள்ளி விவரங்களில் பல விதமான தவறுதல்களைச் செய்து வருகிறார்கள். ஒருவனுக்கு

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நூற்றுக் கனக்கான ஏக்கர் நிலம் இருந்தால் அவன் **Procurement**-ல் இவ்வளவு நெல் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கணக்குப் பிள்ளைகள் கணக்குப் போடுகின்றார்கள். அவர்கள் தங்களுக்கு வேண்டியவர்களுக்கு ஒரு வித கணக்கும் வேண்டாதவர்களுக்கு ஒருவித கணக்கும் கொடுத்தும் வருகிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு படிப்பு வாசனை எனபதில்லாமலிருப்பதாலும் விஷயம் தெரியாதவர்களாக இருப்பதாலும் இவ்விதமாக தவறுதலான கணக்குகளைக் கொடுத்து வருகிறார்கள். அப்படி படிப்பு வாசனை தெரியாத கணக்குப் பிள்ளைகள் கொடுக்கும் புள்ளி விவரங்களை ஆதாரமாக வைத்துக்கொண்டு நாட்டில் உணவு பற்றுக்குறையாக இருக்கிறது என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டிருப்பதில் அர்த்தமே இல்லை. அது மாத்திரமல்ல. இப்பொழுது சர்க்கரையை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளுங்கள். நம் நாட்டில் . . . ."

Sri K. RAJARAM NAIDU :—" **On a point of order** கனம் மெம்பர் பேசும்போது படிப்பு வாசனை இல்லாத கிராமக் கணக்குப் பிள்ளைகள் கொடுக்கும் புள்ளி விவரங்கள் என்று சொல்லுகிறார். அப்படி படிப்பு வாசனை இல்லாதவர்கள் என்று சொல்லுவது சர்க்காரைக் குறைத்துக் கூறுவதாக இருக்கிறது."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" படிப்பு வாசனை இல்லாதவர்கள் **2, 3** பேர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்றுதான் சொல்லுகிறார், எல்லோரையும் சொல்லவில்லை."

Sri K. RAJARAM NAIDU :—" படிப்பு வாசனை இல்லாதவர்கள் என்று சொல்வது சரியல்ல படிப்பு தெரியாமலிருந்தால் அவர்களை கணக்குப் பிள்ளைகளாக நியமிக்கமாட்டார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு இங்கிலீஷ் படிக்கத் தெரியாவிட்டாலும் கனம் மெம்பர் அவர்களைப்போல் தமிழ் பண்டிதராக இல்லாவிட்டாலும் தமிழ் படிக்கத் தெரிந்தவர்களைத்தான் நியமிப்பார்கள் என்பதாக தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

Janab ABDUL KADHAR JAMALI :—" விஷயம் தெரியாதவர்கள் கிராம அரசியலில் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்று நான் சொல்லுகிறேன் அவர்கள் சரியான உண்மையான புள்ளி விவரங்களைக் கொடுக்கவில்லை என்பதை நான் **Challenge** செய்ய விரும்புகிறேன்.

" அது மாத்திரமல்ல. இந்த மசோதாவில் நிலங்களில் எந்தெந்த இடத்தில் எந்த பயிர் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று 7-வது உப பிரிவில் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள். அதன் முக்யத்தை எடுத்துப் பார்க்கவேண்டும். நம் நாட்டில் இப்பொழுது ஒரு திட்டமிருந்து வருகிறது. அதாவது **Crop Planning** செய்வதற்கு. அதன்மேல் நம் சர்க்கார் என்ன நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள்? அது நம் மாகாண திட்டம் மட்டும் அல்ல. அது ஒரு அகில இந்திய திட்டம். அதை நாம் அனுசரித்தால் உணவு உற்பத்தி செய்வதற்கு எவ்வளவோ அநுகூலமாக இருக்கும். அவ்விதம் உற்பத்தி செய்து நாம் வெளி நாடுகளுக்குக் கூட உணவு பொருள் அனுப்பி நம் நாட்டின் பொருளாதாரத்தை விருத்தி செய்துகொள்ளலாம். நம் பொருளாதாரத்தை விருத்தி செய்வதற்கு நமக்கு சக்தி இருக்கவேண்டும். எந்தெந்த நிலங்களில் எந்த பயிர் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கணக்கு வைத்துக்கொண்டு அதன்மேல் அதிக உணவு உற்பத்திக்கு நாம் இறங்கவேண்டும். இது மாகாணத்தைக் பொறுத்தது மட்டுமல்ல. அகில இந்திய திட்டம் அது. அந்த **Crop Planning** திட்டத்தை நாம் அனுசரித்து நம் நாட்டின் உணவு பஞ்சத்தை விரட்டியடித்துவிடலாம்.

" இன்னுமொரு முக்யமான விஷயத்தைப் பற்றி பேசிவிட்டு முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இப்பொழுது கொண்டுவந்திருக்கும் சட்டம் சரியான படி ஜனங்களுக்கு பயனளிக்காது. இதுவரையில் மக்களும் ஒத்துழைக்கவில்லை. சர்க்காரும் ஒத்துழைக்கவில்லை. அதிகாரிகளும் ஒத்துழைக்கவில்லை. வியாபாரிகளும் பொது ஜனங்களும்கூட ஒத்துழைக்கவில்லை.

12th November 1949] [Janab Abdul Kadhar Jamali]

ஒருவரை ஒருவர் குறை சொல்லிக்கொண்டே இருக்கிறார்கள். நமது சர்க்கார் முக்யமாக ஒரு விஷயத்தை கவனத்தில் வைத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டும். அதாவது இப்பொழுது இருக்கக்கூடிய உணவு பஞ்சத்தைப் போக்க வேண்டுமென்றால் நாட்டிலிருக்கும் பொருளாதார பெருக்கத்தை அதாவது பணப்பெருக்கத்தைக் குறைக்கவேண்டும். பணப் பெருக்கத்தைக் குறைக்கவேண்டுமென்றால் நிச்சயமாக சர்க்கார் தங்களுடைய சிலவினங்களைக் குறைக்கவேண்டும். அதோடுகூட நம் சட்ட சபை அங்கத்தினர்களும் சர்க்காருடன் பூர்ணமாக ஒத்துழைக்கவும் முன் வரவேண்டும். இப்பொழுது தங்கள் தங்கள் ஜில்லாக்களில் இந்த இந்த திட்டங்கள் வேண்டுமென்பதை சட்ட சபை மெம்பர்கள் இப்பொழுது வற்புறுத்தாமல் நாம் எல்லோரும் தைர்யமாக கவர்ன்மெண்டுடன் ஒத்துழைக்கவேண்டும். நாட்டிற்கு வேண்டிய பெரும் பெரும் திட்டங்களை விட்டு விட்டு சர்க்காருடைய சிலவுகளை குறைத்து பணத்தைப் பெருக்கவேண்டும். இவைகளையெல்லாம் செய்தால் பணப் பெருக்கத்திற்கும் உணவு உற்பத்திக்கும் ஒரு வழி செய்வதாகும். இன்னும் இப்பொழுது **Control**ஐ எடுத்து விட்டால் திடீரென்று விலைகள் வறிவிடும் என்று நினைக்கின்றார்கள். முன்பு **Control**ஐ எடுத்தவுடன் விலைவாசிகள் உயர்ந்துவிட்டது உணமையே. எனென்றால் அப்பொழுது சரியானபடி சரக்குகள் போகுவரத்துக்கும் நடமாட்டத்திற்கும் இடமில்லாமல் போய்விட்டது. அதனால் அது வெற்றியுடன் நடைபெறவில்லை. ஆனால் இப்பொழுது கன்ட்ரோலை எடுப்பதுடன் தாராளமாகப் போக்குவரத்திற்கும் இடமளிக்கப்பட்டால் நிச்சயம் வெற்றி கிடைக்கும். உள் நாட்டிற்கும் வெளி நாட்டிறகும் உணவுப் பொருள்களை அனுப்பிவந்தால் நமது காரியம் வெற்றி பெறும். ஒரு வியாதியஸ்தனுக்கு டாக்டரிடம் **Injection** போடுகிறோம். உடனே அவனுக்கு ஜுரம் அதிகமாகிறது. பிறகு ஜுரம் குறைந்து அனுகூலமாகிறது. அதைப் போல் தான் இந்த **Control** திட்டமும். **Control**ஐ எடுத்தவுடன் விலைகள் கொஞ்சம் உயரத்தான் செய்யும். பிறகு அது தானாகவே குறைந்து போகும். ஆகவே அவசியம் **Control**களை எடுத்துவிடவேண்டும். ஆகவே இந்த மசோதாவை பொறுக்குக் கமிட்டிக்கு அனுப்பி ஆலோசனை செய்து பிறகு கொண்டுவரவேண்டுமென்று ஜனப் மஜீத் அவர்கள் கொண்டு வந்த தீர்மானத்தை ஆதரித்து என்னுடைய பேச்சை முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

* **Sri A. KAMESWARA RAO**:—" **Mr. Speaker, Sir, the controls came into existence during the war time when the Britisher wanted to feed his country and his army. Just as all controls tend towards official patronage and corruption, in those days these controls played havoc in the social life of our people. Either through patronage or by taking bribes, the officials gave procurement wholesalership or retailship to those they liked and in that way they created a class of war profiteers and blackmarketers during the war. After we came in, we blindly followed the very same system and we have not evolved any method of correctly planning out the production, the needs of the people and the correct distribution. Thus it is even to-day a matter of doubt whether there is any deficit at all in food for, if my friend remembers the article written by Mr. Sidhwa, a Constituent Assembly Member, though afterwards contradicted by the Central Government, even in the Central Government they only say that there may be a deficit of 10 per cent—practically the food administration has been bungled. The controls have unnecessarily been introduced and if we had any foresight, if we had listened to Mahathma Gandhi, removed the controls and waited and seen what would happen, I think within three or four months there would have been normal and free trade in this country and there would have been no deficit.** 3-45 p.m.

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Of course, it is not merely in the case of food supplies. As regards other commodities also, we could very easily understand how much is produced in the factories, how much is coming from outside, how much is necessary for the people and then control them. Sir, during the early months of our administration, there was a lot of confusion—to-day one order and to-morrow another order and like that. Even the other day when the Hon. Minister for Food, Mr. Roche Victoria, came to Guntur, I pointed out to him the uselessness of appointing the wholesalers. I showed him their accounts which were published by eminent people. There were pamphlets distributed that these wholesalers were people who were merely removing a bag of rice from one place to another and make huge profits. If at all a wholesaler is necessary, it is necessary in the mufussal and not in towns and especially in districts which are surplus. For instance, in Guntur town there are 70 retailers, and about 6 or 8 wholesalers have been appointed. Each wholesale licensee has to remove nearly 6,000 to 8,000 bags of rice and gets for removing these bags and giving them to retailers Rs. 1-8-0 per bag. And what else is happening? The wholesaler removes some rice, adds some stone or paddy and makes it weighty; thus he gains about 8 annas. Then again, he puts this rice not in a new bag but in an old bag costing less but at the same time charges the price for a new bag from the retailer. Thus he earns a net profit of Rs. 2 per bag. Such a system must be immediately cancelled. I approached the Collector too but nothing has happened till now and the paper is lying. It is a pity that we are not administrators, we have not known what administration is and from the day these Food Ministers came, there has been a lot of confusion in the Department, and in the Department too there are no experienced people. They are playing with the lives of the people. One day you will see no rice at all in the whole town and people will be running from here to there. Another day you will have no dhall at all. Why all this confusion? If there is a better man with better brain sitting at the helm of affairs and controlling the whole affair with his finger tips, then alone the commodities can be controlled. What is happening in Britain to-day? The Britishers are suffering a lot of privations; they are given one egg per week. Recently a friend wrote to me that they were not able to get sugar. Even milk is controlled there. If Britain could control the essential articles effectively why not India and why not Madras Presidency? Unfortunately we only cried 'Mahathma Gandhiki Jai', and put on khaddar but we have not been able to follow his advice. Let us admit it frankly and openly.

"Now, Sir, coming to the surplus districts, we know what was the fate of the people during the rationing times. It was impossible for anybody to get the best rice or even good rice. In the Wholesale Co-operative Stores at Guntur, I was told that some 100 bags of wheat had become useless, they had become rotten and they were fit to be thrown away. That means to say in some other places rice has become rotten. Of course the Government have

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stored them but they did not know how to distribute them. I only wish to say that the Government, both Provincial and Central, should take courage into their hands remove these controls altogether, control the production, and imports, and see that people get the commodities essential for them. Supposing a blackmarketer raises the price of sugar to Rs. 3 or Rs. 4, you say, that there is no control; then you will see that the poor man gets the thing at a lower price, or proper price, not the blackmarket price by taking the law into his own hands. The difficulty is you do not allow the consumer to control nor do you control. I beg of the Government to take immediate steps to see that the wholesalers are at once scrapped. There is one notorious T. Jallayya Rao Bahadur, ex-Chairman of our municipality, who has got 2 wholesale licences. How has it happened? He gets licences from the officials by dancing attendance on them and by offering bribes and corrupting them. I can quote many instances, but I have no time. I hope the Government will take steps to remedy such defects."

* DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very complicated question. I can realise the difficulties which the Minister for Food is labouring under. But, Sir, it is easy to be wise after the event. Some years ago just at the beginning of the war, we ought to realize what our condition was in Madras, before the control system was introduced. I remember one instance in my family. We were one day reduced almost to a quarter of a measure of rice. I happened to tell this to a friend of mine who very kindly sent me one measure of rice. My men were going to the bazaar to buy rice every day. They were sent back after being kept there for three or four hours to come the next day when rice would be doled out to them. This went on for a week. With the one measure that my friend was able to send me, we pulled on for three or four days with great economy. Ultimately we were reduced to a quarter of a measure. We could not get any rice anywhere in Madras. I took courage to approach the Collector of Madras who happened to know me. Then he took his peons with him, went to the nearest shop and had the shop opened. There were tons and tons of rice there, and yet not a measure was sold to the outside public. He took the law into his own hands and sent two rupees worth of rice with a bill that the money be sent to him. Two or three days afterwards the rice rationing came in. That was a unique occasion when the Collector had the grit and courage and humanity to make use of the opportunity and help those who were in need. Even to-day the situation is such that if the heads of our Government who rule the presidency or province would have the courage to break the monopoly that is enjoyed by a few people, I think the situation could easily be redressed. No doubt, Sir, we are told that there is scarcity, and yet there is plenty. On the one hand, you cannot get rice. But there is always rice in the blackmarket. I have spoken to several people who take it as a routine, after the first half of the week is over, to get rice from the blackmarket. Even during the recent

scarcity of sugar, there was always sugar available in the black-market. Of course, we are told that black-marketing and rise of prices are not unique to India; the same high level of prices rules all over the world. I am not quite conversant with the fact as to what level the prices have risen in other countries. But in Britain my friends assure me that prices have not risen more than 33 to 35 per cent and that blackmarket price would be slightly more than that. But in our country the prices have gone up hundred per cent, 200 per cent, 300 per cent and in some cases even 400 per cent. On the top of that, there is blackmarketing. We yet call ourselves the most spiritually minded nation in the world. I think the Government ought really to take steps to break the monopoly of the blackmarketing. That could only be done by the Government determining not to hold on to office but to take the country in their confidence and say ' Unless you do this, we will walk out '. Only such daring courage will solve the problem. Merely mincing matters here and there won't solve the problem.

" Secondly, we are often told that one meal a day is better than no meal a day and at the same time the man in the street believes that all this evil is due to the Government control. They hold the idea that what is good is the enemy of what is better. They think that if only controls are removed, the idea would so spread that there would be a temporary rise in prices but ultimately the prices would fall down or come down.

4 p.m. " It is said that there is a tendency in human nature, particularly in the mercantile community to raise the prices. There is no use of blaming the merchants when there are a great number of people who are not merchants, but who happen to have money, who go into blackmarket and buy the grains and encourage such a kind of deal. Therefore, there ought to be a kind of moral propaganda among the people not to go into blackmarket and buy the grains and make things so hard for the poor people. In the case of sugar, I think the best way in which the Government can meet the shortage in this Province is to import foreign sugar and keep it in stock so that when the prices are unnecessarily raised by the merchants, the Government would have enough stock to rush into the market and bring down the prices. Unless some such heroic methods are adopted, mere manipulation and tampering would not solve the problem. Secondly, the grow more food campaign should not be only on mere speech making basis in the Assembly and public meetings. But there ought to be a realistic attempt on the part of every individual and Government should give all encouragement to see that the grow more food campaign is carried on in right earnest. One great difficulty with regard to this, is where are we to get really good seeds to the agriculturists. No doubt they are expected to have their own seeds. But a great quantity somehow or other gets spoiled. The agriculturist cannot be dependent on his seeds only, as at times, the seeds or a good portion of them could not be made use of. Therefore, the Government must have a store of very good seeds and see that it is kept well so that the

grain that is sown would really yield fruit. Thus, some sort of practical efforts should be made so that production is really increased. I am told that the Government are having some new methods to solve this problem and we hope that the scare that is being created about food scarcity in the country would soon be obviated and we should be able to find out our own level in the near future. There is uncertainty everyhere. The prices of foodstuffs rise up and the prices of all things rise. Consequently, the poor people are suffering. I am sorry to realise that our Government is geting the credit for increasing the prices and keeping the level up so that people ask over and over again ' Is this what we expected from the Congress Government? ' While I sympathise with the difficulties of the Food Minister, may I appeal to him to face this problem courageously? We can solve this problem only by desperate means."

* THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Sir, it has to be mentioned at the outset that a good deal of criticism levelled against the Bill is based on a misapprehension that the provisions of this Bill or the provisions of the Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning Ordinance, 1949, which the proposed Act is going to replace, are new. This is not the case. The Madras Ordinance VI of 1949, which was promulgated by His Excellency the Governor and which is now sought to be replaced by the Act, re-enacted *in toto* the entire provisions of the Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning (Temporary Powers) Act, 1946. The present Bill reproduces the provisions of the Ordinance with only a few consequential changes.

" I shall mention briefly the circumstances leading up to the introduction of this Bill. After the expiration of the Defence of India Act, the Defence of India Rules and the Central Orders issued thereunder on 30th September 1946, it was found essential to possess powers to control production, supply and distribution of essential articles in the interest and welfare of the Province. This Government considered that they should possess the powers to continue the existing controls subject to relaxation or modifications as circumstances rendered permissible. Legislation to provide for the continuance during a limited period of powers to control the production, supply, distribution, transport, and prices of essential articles and trade and commerce therein and requisitioning of property was therfore undertaken in 1946 and the Madras Essential Articles Control and Requsitioning (Temporary Powers) Act, 1946, was enacted. The intention of the Government in making such a legislation was to have control over such of the essential articles as were not specifically covered by the Central Act XXIV of 1946, which conferred powers only with regard to foodstuffs, textiles and certain other articles. Under the powers conferred by section 3 of the Madras Act IV of 1946, this Government in its various departments issued several notifications. According to section 1, sub-section (4) of the said Act, the period of the Act extended up to 30th September 1948. The

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Provincial Government have however been empowered by the same sub-section to extend the period for a further period or periods not exceeding two years in the aggregate. Accordingly, the Act was extended by one more year up to 30th September 1949 in the first instance. When the Act was about to be extended for one more year from 1st October 1949 to 30th September 1950, the validity of the Notification was questioned by the Federal Court and the Ordinance known as the Madras Acts (Removal of Doubts) Ordinance 1949 (Ordinance II of 1949) was promulgated to keep alive till 30th September 1950 some of the Madras Acts including the Madras Act XIV of 1946. But by reason of the judgment of the High Court delivered on 10th October 1949 in the matter relating to the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Act, 1947, and the Madras Maintenance of Public Order (Removal of Doubts and Amendments) Ordinance, 1949 (i), the extension of the provisions of the Act by a notification of the Provincial Government has been considered to be not valid, and (ii) the Ordinance II of 1949, which was issued by His Excellency the Governor to cure the above order in respect of the Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning Act, 1946, and certain other facts become ineffective. It is in view of these facts that the Ordinance VI of 1949 was promulgated by His Excellency the Governor.

" It will thus be seen that the provisions of this Bill have been continuously in existence as law ever since 1946. The Government find that as far as these provisions of law are concerned, they have worked smoothly and do not call for any alteration at this stage. One of the hon. Members, Janab Abdul Majeed referred to the provisions of clauses 14 and 16 and termed them as ' unholy ' measures, alleging that they have been copied from the Madras Prevention of Blackmarketing Bill, 1949. It has to be pointed out that clauses 14 and 16 in the Bill are the same as those already included in the earlier Madras Act IV of 1946. It is not as if they have now been copied from the Madras Prevention of Blackmarketing Bill, 1949. Only clause 10 of the Anti-Blackmarketing Bill is similar to clause 14 of this Bill. Clause 14 deals with offences by Corporations and the Government with a view to mitigate hardship, if any, that might arise on account of the provision of this law have ordered recently that sanction for prosecution in respect of food offences involving vicarious responsibility, should be accorded by the Government themselves. As regards clause 16 relating to the burden of proof, Mr. Bhashyam and Mr. Raghava Menon have made it more than clear that this is not a provision unknown to law and that such a provision of law would be quite necessary for effectively dealing with the control measures. Mr. Batchelor took exception to the provisions of clauses 4, 5, 6, etc., relating to the powers of Government to requisition property, payment of compensation, delivery, etc. It is again to be pointed out that these provisions of law have been in existence for the last three years

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and over, and no case has come to the notice of the Government of any undue hardship caused by the application, in practice, of these provisions of law.

" Though the facts mentioned above should be sufficient to allay the fears of the hon. Members regarding the provisions of this Bill, I shall however deal briefly with some of the criticisms levelled against the working of the existing control orders. These criticisms however do not disclose any particular defects in the provisions of the law as such, but only in the manner in which they are worked. It was urged that the ryots are greatly harassed by the officials in enforcing the control measures. I may mention that the Government have issued constant and stringent instructions to subordinate officers that they should do all that is possible to cause no such harassment. Every case of harassment brought to the notice of the Government is carefully enquired into and action taken wherever necessary. I may however observe that in most of the cases, it is found on detailed enquiry that there is generally no truth in these allegations and the petitions are generally filed with a view to forestall prosecutions or to escape from delivering the foodgrains that is actually due from the ryots. Mr. Vaithyanatha Ayyar and Mr. Gopalaswami referred to certain prosecutions for technical offences, such as, non-declaration of stocks. The law as it stands empowers Collectors to call for a declaration of stocks from producers before a fixed date and if the producers fail to do this, they are liable for prosecution. The Government have recently considered that the non-declaration of stocks should not be viewed seriously as either due to ignorance of the rule or other causes, the majority of the people were likely to commit this offence. They have therefore instructed the Collectors that they should not launch prosecutions as a matter of course for non-declaration of stocks, unless there were other aggravating circumstances. These orders were issued on 20th July 1949. Individual cases of prosecutions for non-declaration of stocks brought to the notice of the Government in the Chingleput, North Arcot, and Coimbatore districts are being carefully examined by the Government after getting reports from the Collectors. In some of the cases pending in the courts, adjournments have been obtained for further examination. In the cases pending in Coimbatore, the Government have taken a decision that they can make no distinction between the rich and the poor ryot and that some cases pending against the former should take the usual course of law.

" Mr. Gopalaswami urged that there is inordinate delay in issuing permits and licences by officers and a sort of patronage is exercised by this sort of system and that this leads also to blackmarketing. The Government have repeatedly issued instructions in this regard and have ordered that no hardship should be caused by reason of any delay in the issue of permits, etc. In the matter of appointment of wholesalers and retailers for the purpose of distribution of foodgrains, etc., the Government have

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issued orders that any person, who had been in the foodgrain trade prior to 1942 could apply to the proper authority and get a licence provided his antecedents are satisfactory. The Government propose to clarify these orders further. Thus, there is no question of patronage in making these appointments. The only matter that is left to the discretion of the Collector is to find out whether the antecedents of the persons who apply to him for licences are good or bad.

" Mr. Salam has referred to a system of levy advocated by the ex-Premier and suggested its introduction. The Government are carefully considering whether such a system can be introduced and how the details have got to be worked out. They have not yet come to any final decision in the matter. They have so far exempted only dry lands of less than five acres because the owners of such lands will not have any surplus to give to Government. Mr. Gopalaswami is apparently referring to this as no system of levy has so far been introduced in regard to paddy.

" Mr. Bhashyam has referred to hardship caused to the ryots in Tanjore district where it is alleged that the ryots do not get the ceiling price notified. The position is this: the Government have fixed the village-site ceiling price for the purpose of procurement. These prices are payable only if paddy or rice satisfies the standards of specification specified by the Civil Supplies regulations, i.e., they should be in a reasonably dry condition and should not contain more than the toleration limit of foreign matter, admixture, etc. The procuring agents are expected to give the full village site price provided the grain offered by the ryots satisfies these standards. At the same time, the procurement agents could reduce the price if the condition of the grain does not satisfy the specification. In such a case, the price to be paid is open to negotiation between the procuremnet agent and the producer. But, in order to see that the procurement agents do not unnecessarily depress the price to be paid to the producer, the Government have instructed them to mention in the 'E' form, i.e., the form of receipt which they give to the producer for the purchase of the foodgrains, the actual price they have paid for the grain and if their price is lower than the village site price, the reason for the payment of the depressed price. This is intended to ensure that the ryot becomes aware of the fact that he is paid less than the village site ceiling price and the reasons for which that payment was made. This is the utmost that the Government can do in the matter. The complaint which has been made from Tanjore apparently relates to the kuruvai paddy, which is now offered to the procuring agents, out of the recent harvest. It is likely that the paddy which is now offered is not reasonably in a dry condition and hence, the depression in prices. It is not unusual even in ordinary times for the ryots to pay 3 or 4 annas less than the market price soon after the harvest.

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" Mr. Subbier referred to the poor quality of Tadepalligudem rice, that is being imported into Chingleput district. Such criticisms against the Tadepalligudem rice have been received by the Government in the past and elaborate instructions have been issued for procuring only good quality rice and to export from that area, only such rice. The member may rest assured that the matter will be looked into further and all possible steps taken to see that only good rice is distributed. As regards his further observations that no raw rice was available for a long time in Chingleput and that there was much delay in the issue of Bengalgram on account of delay in the fixation of prices, the Government will enquire into these and set right the defects.

" In regard to the criticism of Mr. Kandaswami Pillai, that though good quality rice is produced in Salem itself, it is not made available to the public but, that they are forced to purchase some other inferior kind of rice, the Government have had occasion to examine this and they have issued necessary instructions to the subordinate officers to see that export of rice from deficit districts is reduced to the minimum and as far as possible the locally-produced rice itself is distributed. But owing to exigencies of circumstances, such as, storage, scarcity conditions in adjoining areas, etc., this cannot always be adhered to.

" Mr. Anwar Sahib has in particular referred to the austerity measures that are in vogue. I may in this connexion point out that the Government of India have recently ordered that the austerity measures in all Provinces and States should be uniform and have laid down certain restrictions. In view of this and in view of the unsatisfactory supply position of cereals in force, these austerity measures have to be enforced with even greater rigour than before. The Government look to the public to give their fullest co-operation in this matter.

" While certain members have advocated the removal of controls or relaxation of the existing control orders, there was also suggestion from certain others for imposition of new controls. It has been suggested by Mr. Annamalai Pillai that control of firewood and charcoal should be re-imposed. While the Government are anxious to restrict the controls to the minimum limit possible, they have been watching the rise in prices of firewood, jaggery, etc., and are carefully studying the situation. As far as firewood and charcoal are concerned, the controls were in force till 1st July 1948, when they were removed as the supply position was considered to be satisfactory. No scarcity conditions have yet been brought to the notice of the Government either in the Madras City or outside and the present rise in prices must be particularly attributed to the general rise in prices of other essential commodities.

" A considerable amount of criticism has been levelled against the recent control orders regarding sugar. The attention of the

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members is invited to the Press Note issued by the Government on 3rd November 1949 in this matter. It has been brought to the notice of the public that the Government were suddenly faced with a situation in September last when the Government of India freezed the stocks in the factories all over the country and made available for distribution in this Province only 14,700 tons for the four months September to December 1949, which roughly worked out to 40 per cent of the normal requirements of the Province. The Government was given no opportunity or time enough either to freeze the stocks all over the Province with the merchants or to set up the necessary machinery for such seizure and subsequent distribution of sugar. It was not also the intention of the Government of India to reinstate full-fledged control over sugar right up to the retail stage including rationing. Having fixed the ex-factory prices, they were anxious that the Provincial Governments should take up the responsibility for making the price control as effective as possible up to the consummers' stage. This Government, however, had therefore to promulgate several control orders immediately, statutorily controling the prices and distribution up to the wholesale stage. It would be granted that until some satisfactory arrangements for distribution were completed, stocks could not be released as otherwise the object of control would have been entirely frustrated. There was naturally some time-lag and the Government could only possibly see that this was made as short as possible. Mr. Bhashyam pointed out that declarations were obtained from wholesalers, but no attempts were made to seize their stocks. No such declarations were obtained and in fact, the wholesalers' and retailers' stocks were not freezed because it would have created a vacuum in the trade and the consumers would have been put to the worst suffering. It may be mentioned that only half the quantity of sugar of 14,000 tons was made available, since the other half had to move from the North Indian factories. In spite of best efforts, it has not been possible to get this sugar quickly and the North Indian sugar has only just begun to arrive in the City and in the districts. The quantity so allotted under the zonal scheme to the districts did not permit of any introduction of any regular formal or informal rationing. The Collectors have been asked to make an equitable distribution of the small quotas allotted to them and they are trying to do this. Meanwhile the Government have called for reports regarding the system of distribution working in each of the districts and will carefully examine them with a view to see whether any improvements could be effected. As far as Madras City is concerned, though the quantity available is small, the Government have introduced a system of informal rationing, by which all card-holders will get some small quantity of sugar, depending on the number of members in the family. Certain income groups will also get a higher quota of sugar. This scheme will come into force from the 13th instant. The hon. Member from Tiruchirappalli has pointed out that there was no

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sugar available in the rural parts, while the Madras City has plenty of sugar. While speaking of Madras City, another member has pointed out that in Madras City also sugar is scarce. This would only show that the quantity of sugar available for distribution is small and the scarcity is felt not only in the urban parts, but also in the rural parts. It is the Government's intention that the essential consumers of sugar do get equitably at least a small portion of the sugar available for distribution.

" Now, Sir, I would try to meet the other remarks made by hon. Members during the discussion. I would touch upon them one by one.

" It was said, Sir, that the Rationing Officers and the Taluk Supply Officers must be given some training before they are sent out on work and posted to different places. Of course, at one time, they were directly recruited and posted to duty owing to the urgency of the matter then. They are, however, being gradually trained, and Government will consider any other suggestion also, if made. One of the hon. Members complained that there is delay in the enquiry for and the issue of temporary ration cards, etc. All this also, I may assure you, Sir, will be looked into. The same member suggested that the merchants of the deficit districts should be sent to the surplus districts for making purchases from the ryots there. Sir, this scheme was once tried but was subsequently given up as it was found impracticable. Another hon. Member said that a lot of wastage is going on during marriage and other festivals. As I have already said, we are trying to tighten up the austerity measures in this Province in accordance with the directions of the Government of India in the matter from time to time. And now, regarding hand-pounded rice, it is true that it will be a very good thing if hand-pounded rice is introduced wherever possible. But unfortunately in so many places, the people have entirely forgotten what hand-pounding is. There was, however, a suggestion made in this connexion at the recent Food Ministers' Conference at Delhi and it is worthwhile following it. It was said that by means of an attachment to the existing rice mills it was possible to get paddy husked by sending only the unhusked portion of the grain round the roller, instead of feeding the machine with both husked and unhusked grain. This process ensures that the grain is not fully husked and that the unhusked portion of the grain alone is sent back again into the mill. By this means, it was explained to us there was a good deal of saving. Now that the Food Commissioner is here, I wanted to suggest to him that he might send down that expert who has given this idea, to this Province early, as it was promised at the Delhi Conference that the expert would be sent round all the Provinces to show how the attachment or improvement could be made to the existing rice mills. I hope, this will, as explained and demonstrated in several places by the expert, increase our output of rice considerably and to some extent increase our supplies.

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4-30 p.m. "Hon. Member Mr. Anwar said that birth control may be one of the means of reducing the population and meeting our food situation. This is a very old question, Sir, which has been considered and dropped long ago as being a question which not only affects the religious principles of many of our people but also as being scientifically not a sound thing because its estimated malady to the community and to the nation is very great. The great Food Expert, Sir John Boyd Orr, has said: 'These pessimists fail to take account of the powers of modern agricultural and engineering science. Food can be increased much more rapidly than the population can increase. Further, it is unlikely that the present rate of increase of human population will continue indefinitely, in which case, of course, the problem would be insoluble.' As the standard of living and of education rises, the birth rate falls, as it did in Western Europe, where before the war Governments were offering bribes to women to have children, but it will be many years before the standard of living and education in the overcrowded countries rise to the level of Western Europe. We must reckon on the pre-war population of two billion rising to three billion in the next 30 or 40 years.

"There is no doubt that if modern science were applied on a global scale, sufficient food could be produced to provide a satisfactory diet for all without reducing the level of the diet in the well-fed countries.

"Regarding some of the suggestions made for the modification of the present control, one of the suggestions made at Visakhapatnam when I was there—this was also mentioned by an hon. Member—was a sort of a zonal system by which one surplus district goes to the rescue of the neighbouring district and in that way the whole Province is made to divide into a sort of zones by which we need not have to send the surpluses over very long distances and increase the cost of transport and so on. In that way every zone becomes more or less self-sufficient. That was also one of the proposals made sometime ago, Sir, and it will be considered in due course. At the present moment when we are now very much affected by the serious floods in the Circars this kind of zonal arrangement, I think, will have to lie over for some time. In regard to surplus districts it was represented to us that statutory rationing in surplus districts was unnecessary and was causing unnecessary hardship. We have been able to remove the rationing from the statutory rationed areas of the surplus districts in the northern districts. With regard to rural rationing that we have introduced in some of the deficit taluks of the surplus districts that also will be modified if sufficient statistic are given to Government that they are not necessary and are not sufficiently beneficial to the people. Regarding Dr. Subramaniyam's points, he had many suggestions to make out of his own personal experience in dealing with and clarifying certain of the provisions of the control orders and

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so on. I am very glad that the doctor had rendered such a very good service to the people who were ignorant about these matters. Government are also trying to broadcast as much as possible, the provisions or the rules concerning the issue of permits and the issue of licences so that the public may not suffer on that account and there may not be any delay in the issue of the permits. With these words, Sir, I think that a reference to the Select Committee is not necessary."

*SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—"In the Hon. Minister's reply one important point which was referred to during the debate has not been mentioned or explained. We were pointing out the question that one of the objections to the Act is fixation of fair prices. Government took powers, extraordinary powers, to control commodities in 1946 and from 1946 the prices of rice and paddy—the price of rice as a matter of fact—increased by 50 per cent or so. The price of rice was $2\frac{1}{2}$ measures per rupee and now we have come to $1\frac{1}{2}$ measures per rupee in the ration shops. The price was responsively rising because the prices of other articles were also rising with the result that on the one hand the cultivator was raising the price and on the other the overall rise in prices. The most important question was and the most essential thing to be done under the control, viz., the question of fair price fixation, whether that has been achieved by Government has not been answered by the Hon Minister."

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"After the last conference of the Food Minister in Delhi, it has been suggested and we are also busy trying to reduce the price at different stages. With regard to the foodgrains it was also made clear to us at Delhi that besides reducing the price of foodgrains, prices of other commodities should simultaneously be reduced so that the ryot who will be receiving less price than what he was getting should also be able to get his requirements such as manure, steel and iron, clothing and so on at reduced price. So, the prices of all these essential articles are receiving the attention of the Government not only at the Centre but also in the Provinces. We are trying to reduce the price level of the commodities simultaneously so that the ryots may not be affected by the reduction of price of his own commodity and the general public may not suffer on that account."

*JANAB M. A. MUHAMMED IBRAHIM:—"The Hon. Minister has not explained this. The purchasing officers formerly used to charge 8 annas per maund or so as surcharge on what they purchased. Now it has been increased to 13 annas. Where is the necessity for the department to increase the surcharge or the administrative charge from 8 annas to 13 annas. If the difference of 5 annas is given as remission it will decrease the price to the consuming public. An explanation is required on this point, viz., how it became necessary to increase the surcharge from annas 8 to annas 13."

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THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" It is proposed to reduce it from 12 annas to 5 annas."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Is the Hon. Member withdrawing his amendment to refer the Bill to the Select Committee."

* JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Mr. Speaker, I am really sorry that a very reasonable Minister like the Hon. the Minister for Food did not accept my amendment, viz., to refer this Bill to the Select Committee. It has been argued by the Hon. Minister himself and also several hon. Members of the House, particularly by my friend, Mr. Bashyam, an ex-Minister of this Government, that this Bill is nothing but a re-enactment of an old Ordinance. I am not really able to understand the argument put before this house like that, Sir, because it is a re-enactment, should it be argued that we should not refer it to a Select Committee and improve it. Is it not a fact, Sir, that several of the Acts which have been in existence for the last one hundred and fifty years are being amended and amended? Can the Minister himself give a guarantee to the members of this House to-day, Sir, that the several Acts which they are passing to-day will not be amended? The Bill before us is not like Laws of the Meads and the Persians—immutable and unalterable. There is the truism 'Better is no enemy of the good'. If the Hon. Minister's Bill itself is good, I am only saying that we can make it better by sending it to a Select Committee. I feel sorry that a Bill of this type which contains several provisions and which is really going against the interest of the consumers of the Province must not be looked into and improved. With regard to the question of onus of proof, they say, it is there and it has been accepted. I am not a lawyer to argue but as a constitutionalist who believes in democratic principles, I am opposed to this particular provision which says that the onus of proof must be on the accused. It is something against the fundamentals of democracy, against the very rule of law. Therefore there are such provisions which could be easily improved. If it is the intention of Government not to accept my amendment, I am not here to press for it."

The amendment was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is:

'That the Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning (Temporary Powers) Bill, 1948, be taken into consideration at once.'"

The motion was carried.

Clause 1.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The motion is:

'That clause 1 do stand part of the Bill.'"

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THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Sir, I move:

'*That in clause* 1, *after sub-clause* (3) add *the following sub-clause, namely*:—

"(4) *Upon the expiry of this Act, the provisions of section* 8 *of the Madras General Clauses Act,* 1891, *shall apply as if this Act had then been repealed by a Madras Act*".'"

MR. SPEAKER:—" Amendment moved—

'That in clause 1, after sub-clause (3) *add* the following sub-clause, namely:—

'(4) Upon the expiry of this Act, provisions of section 8 of the Madras General Clauses Act, 1891, shall apply as if this Act had then been repealed by a Madras Act."

The amendment was carried.

Clauses 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 of the Bill were put and carried.

The schedule was put and carried.

The preamble was put and carried.

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Sir, I beg to move that the Bill be passed into law." 4-45 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved—

'That the Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning (Temporary Powers) Bill, 1949, be passed into law'."

SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—" Sir, the Bill has passed through the second reading and it is going to become an Act again. I think that the two days' debate would have drawn the veil from the eyes of the Government. They have been imagining that because the control Acts have been in force from the time of the war, therefore the people were welcoming control. But during the last two days, Member after Member both from the Government side and from the Opposition side have been protesting against controls continuing. It was with some degree of surprise that I heard the Hon. Minister for Food making a statement that the Control Act has worked smoothly and satisfactorily. In fact, I could not find even a single member of the House who had suggested that the Act was working smoothly and satisfactorily. Now whenever any Government takes up control over food and other essential articles, it takes a great responsibility upon itself. The only excuse for having control is that it should be worked in the interests of the consumers. It was that statutory assurance contained in this Act that enabled this House to register its mandate for the acceptance of the Act three years ago. Yet we find that year after year the prices of foodstuffs are rising. The cultivator's argument is that the prices of other

articles have been rising and therefore he is not in a position to reduce the price of food. I think he is the least sinner in this respect, although he has raised the prices to the extent of 200 per cent while the other articles have increased in price to the extent of 400 per cent. I have been putting this matter before the House and before the Cabinet for the last two weeks and waiting for an answer. I put the question specifically to the Hon. Minister for Food and I was told that the Central Government was considering the reduction of prices of other articles by degrees. The prices of articles increase by jumps. Overnight the prices of some articles have increased from Rs. 1-12-0 a gundu to Rs. 2. Since the last de-control, the price of food has risen 50 per cent. Rice was selling at $2\frac{1}{4}$ measures a rupee and it now sells at $1\frac{1}{2}$ measures a rupee. When are we ever going to have reasonable prices? The prices are jumping by 20 per cent, 50 per cent, 100 per cent, 300 and 500 per cent. So far as the ryot is concerned, the cotton seed that he was getting for Rs. 4, he is not able to get even for Rs. 25. During question time, we were told that while the Central Government were trying to have reduction of 10 per cent in prices, the Madras Government are reducing the prices by 3 per cent. When the prices rise by 50 per cent and 100 per cent, if the Government reduce the prices by 3 per cent only, when will we ever get back to fair and equitable prices? I was also requesting the Government that they should give first priority not to the question of the separation of the Andhra and Tamil provinces, but to the question of the reduction of prices to an extent when people will be able to live. Member after member has been urging that first priority should be given to this question. The Members of the Cabinet should not attend to any other question till they are able to evolve some formula or find some method by which they could reduce the prices at least by 50 per cent. If such a course is not followed people will suffer a great deal. The civil expenditure is rising by leaps and bounds. Why does it rise? Because the people cannot afford to live on what they get. So long as the prices continue to rise, you will find that people will ask for more salaries and wages and there will be strikes. When wages rise, the prices of food-stuffs also rise and then wages have to be increased again. It goes in a vicious circle. If you take courage into your hands, face the situation boldly and bring down the prices by 50 per cent, you will not have need for raising the salaries of the civil service. They can be easily reduced. There will not be pressure upon the Government. There will not be strikes of N.G.O's. and the Government need not have to consider the grant of cash rewards for loyal servants. The post and telegraph servants will not ask for more. You will not have all these industrial disputes and arbitration tribunals. I once again entreat this Government that they should press the Central Government for a drastic reduction in prices. This will solve many of our problems which will have to be solved one day or the other. If prices go on increasing in geometrical progression and if this

state of affairs continues for four months more the independence that we have achieved and the republic that we are going to declare on the 26th of January next year will be followed by a state of affairs when people will not be able to live at all. After all, Sir, what is revolution? It is not atom bomb or shooting; it is only an idea by which people think they will be able to solve their troubles drastically. Therefore, Sir, I say that the Government should take courage in both hands and do this work; otherwise this Act will be a piece of waste-paper and we will be the cause of all the irregularities that our people have been complaining of. In fact I don't know even a single person who had said that the control was being worked satisfactorily. It only fell to the Hon. Minister for Food to take a certificate for himself that the control has worked well. I do not think he would have done it himself; simply because his office says that it has worked well, he also says the same. That is not what the poor people think of it. Let him go into a bus and hear what the conductor or the driver or other people say. They say: 'Let these controls go; we will rather fight for our food get some morsels than undergo all these ordeals.' I ask the Government to take note of the warning. Loyal people, people pledged to support the Government, have thrown their discretion to the winds and hon. Members like Mr. Vedaratnam Pillai and a number of others have said that this control should go root and branch. It is no pleasure to them to say so, because they are pledged to support the Government. But at the same time, they are reflecting the opinion of their constituencies, the opinion of the poor people. Therefore, I would request the Hon. Minister for Food to take a message from this House to the Cabinet and to his department that it would be much better that this control was removed at the earliest possible time. The Government may open fair price shops, fix prices if necessary and may even purchase large quantities and under-bid the merchants and bring down the prices. I hope the Hon. Minister will carry this message of the Assembly to the Cabinet."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was fondly hoping that this Bill would be referred to a Select Committee. When I heard that the third reading of the Bill was going on, I imagined that the Select Committee probably met yesterday evening and the third reading was being taken up after the consideration of the report of the Select Committee. I am really surprised that on a matter like this, there has been no select committee. Further I understand that the Bill is going to be passed without any change except for a Government amendment. Therefore the responsibility of the Government has become all the greater. The Hon. Minister for Food should treat every suggestion made here as a vital amendment to the Bill. That is the only way in which he can carry out the best intentions of the House. His Secretaries and other officials here

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may be willing to carry out his policy, but he has got an army of officers spread all over the country down to the taluk and the village and I hope, especially after the valuable suggestions that have been made here, that the Hon. Minister will give an unequivocal assurance that the control measures would be worked in a sympathetic and humane manner, and that procurement and distribution will be made in a generous way. Sir, I will not deal with the sugar muddle or any particular item, as it is too late now to take up the time of the House over such matters. But with regard to procurement of paddy, after the prices have been reduced now, I have great doubts whether some of the people who have co-operated in procurement in the past, especially in the districts of Tanjore and other granary districts, will now respond fully to the procurement drive. It all depends on the persuasive manner in which the Collectors and the procurement officers deal with these people. Yesterday, Mr. Vedaratnam Pillai gave instances of small lapses with reference to the submission of statements where the lapses were absolutely *bona fide*. In such cases, the Government officers ought to take a generous view and should not harass the people. They should show a lot of patience and generosity. The Hon. Minister for Food can then rest assured that the results will be successful. Many other suggestions have been made regarding rationing, and the utilisation of co-operative societies and so on. I do not want to take up the time of the House to discuss these matters now except to wish the Food Minister good luck. He has taken a blank cheque signed by us with closed eyes, because he has not accepted any amendment. This is an ordinance which has been in force for some time and certain clauses have been added to it. The addition of a comma or a semi-colon may make vital changes in the ordinance. Such eminent lawyers as Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar have pointed out many defects. The Hon. Minister should see that the hardships caused to the people in the working of the ordinance are removed in the working of the Bill. I once again request the Food Minister to give an assurance that the Bill will be worked in a sympathetic manner. If the Hon. Minister gives such an assurance, it will have a salutary effect on the actions of the officers who administer the Act. They know very well that the
5 p.m. Minister has given an assurance on the floor of this House that while interpreting the enactment and administering it in the districts, if they go away from the assurance, they will be taken to task. That will really have a salutary effect, and I do hope the Hon. Food Minister will, while accepting our good wishes, be good enough to respond to our request."

MR. SPEAKER:—"There is only one more Member who wants to take part in this debate, Mr. Ibrahim. As soon as he finishes, I shall put this to the vote of the House."

* JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—"Sir, I do stand for the policy of full decontrol from top to bottom; but at the

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same time, I do not grudge the Government taking power to control foodgrains for some time to come until we get sufficiency in the matter of foodstuffs. One of the important functions of Government is the fixation of prices of foodgrains and to see how best the prices of foodgrains could be reduced. That is the chief problem of the Government; and in regard to this problem, I only want to make two suggestions. The first is they are now getting annas 8 food subsidy from the Government of India per maund of paddy procured. They may at least forego some portion of it, if not the whole of it, in favour of reducing the price of procurement, thereby reducing the price of the foodgrains. Secondly, if they purchase paddy and other foodgrain from a locality and distribute it in that locality itself, the surplus alone being carried to some other locality, the price of the article in the locality procured will be less. In these two ways, I think the prices can be brought down to a satisfactory level."

* SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to say a few words about this Bill. It is very easy for the Government to get a Bill like this passed. But the difficulty will come only when they apply the Act and when they approach the people with the new Act. The local authorities in the districts who implement that measure always create some sort of complication; and that is why bitterness against the Government is created in the minds of the people. It is very easy to have control. When they control a particular article and fix a price for it, then that article goes into the black-market. You can easily control, but the demand is more and the thing available is very restricted. Therefore, the Government should see that sufficient stock is available. You can try to produce more foodstuffs; but he Government are not taking care to do so. That is one point. Another point is: when the Government pass a measure like this and put it before the public, the public are not very much encouraged. That should not be the case. They should see whether it really satisfies the public. The food problem is not an ordinary thing. It requires the entire attention of the Government at this period; even the existence of the party to which the Government belong rests on the work done for the relief of the people in this respect. Therefore, the Hon. Minister for Food should see that this measure and such other measures as are passed by this House are properly administered in such a way as to be helpful to the public. With these words, I support the Bill."

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already spoken at the time of the introduction of this Bill and I have given the assurance to hon. Members that all the suggestions which have been made on the floor of this House during the discussions will be carefully considered, and we will be giving them our best consideration. It is not possible to immediately promise any great reduction in the price of any of these

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essential articles. Only as far as our province is concerned, we can do what is in our power. As regards reduction of prices of articles especially which are in short supply in our province, we have depend on the co-operation of the Government of India. That is why I said we are trying our best to reduce the prices all round simultaneously. I never said that I was quite satisfied with the working of the controls or that I would take credit for it, as the hon. Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar said. I never said it was working quite satisfactorily or entirely to our satisfaction. I merely said that it is in the working of this measure that so many difficulties and complaints have arisen and as they come up one by one, we are trying to deal with them. I can say this much that ever since this Government came into power, we have done some things with a view to reduce the hardships of the ryots and generally of the people; and I think we have been responsive to their needs and to the complaints they have made to the Government. I now once more assure the House that whatever has been said on the floor of this House in favour of reducing the sufferings of the people and with a view to avoid harassment and difficulties of the ryots will be carefully considered, and besides the steps we have already taken, the Government will try to do as much as they can do in the matter.

"With these words, Sir, I request that the House will be pleased to pass this Bill into law."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'That the Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning (Temporary Powers) Bill, 1949, be passed into law.'"

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed into law.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I now adjourn the House to 2-30 p.m. on Monday, the 14th instant."

* PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

G.O. No. 2096. *L.A., dated* 11*th October* 1949, *ordering the inclusion of Sri Kotilingappa Chetty in the list of valid nominations for Palmaner Panchayat Board (Chittoor).*

* Laid on the table on 11th November 1949.

APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 86 asked by Sri D. V. Ramaswami (on behalf of Sri K. Linga Raju) at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 12th November 1949, page 409 supra.]

(*a*) Yes. Date of auction, 28th February 1949.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative.

(*c*) Does not arise.

(*d*) On 16th February 1949, Syed Khasim Sahib, the lessee of the right of collecting fees in all the municipal markets for 1948–49, put in a petition that the Government might direct the Special Officer, Guntur Municipality, to renew the lease of the right of collecting fees in the municipal markets for a period of three years from 1949–50 in his favour, on the basis of the lease amount paid by him for 1948–49 (Rs. 41,000) without having recourse to public auction, on the ground that he had sustained heavy loss on the contract during 1948–49 owing to the reduction of the rates of fees leviable in the market ordered by Government. The Special Officer who was consulted in the matter recommended the renewal of the lease of the markets in favour of the existing lessee for one year only (1949–50) on the ground that he was a substantial and reliable businessman and that he had been regularly paying the lease amounts during the years 1947–48 and 1948–49 when he held the lease, unlike previous contractors who had all given trouble. It was also felt that owing to the agitation by previous contractors with the market vendors, the lessee had lost on the contract for 1948–49. In these circumstances, the Government, on the recommendation of the Special Officer, permitted the Special Officer to lease again the right to collect fees in the municipal markets to the petitioner—the lessee for 1948–49—on the basis of the lease amount paid by him for 1948–49 (Rs. 41,000) which is a larger amount than the lease amounts of any previous year except 1947–48, dispensing with the sale in public auction of the lease.

(*e*) Syed Khasim Sahib. The lease amount is Rs. 41,000.

(*f*) Yes. Two unconfirmed telegrams, one from Kosaraju Subbiah Chowdry and another from Sri Vasireddi Venkateswara Rao each offering Rs. 50,000 for the lease, were received. A petition was received from Sri S. Bala Kotaiah offering Rs. 48,000 for the lease.

LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY 14 NOV 1949 MADRAS GOVERNMENT

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, the 14th November 1949.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Fort St. George, at 2-30 p.m., Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUKHAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Sudarsan Oil Mills, Katpadi.

*79[a] *Q.*—MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is not in his place. The answer will be printed in the proceedings."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Sudarsan Oil Mills, Katpadi, have started manufacturing vegetable oil;

(*b*) if so, when;

(*c*) in how many instalments the State-aid was granted to the firm and their dates;

(*d*) whether the shareholders' personal properties are liable for the loan granted to the firm;

(*e*) whether any of the Directors are related to the Hon. Finance Minister and if so, how;

(*f*) who the Managing Director is; and what his pay is; and

(*g*) what the net savings of the firm for the years 1947–48 and 1948–49 are, either as profit or dividend distributed?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"(*a*) Yes, Sir.

"(*b*) From 1st February 1946.

"(*c*) In five instalments, namely, on 22nd October 1948, 11th November 1948, 26th November 1948, 10th January 1949 and 14th April 1949.

"(*d*) No, Sir.

"(*e*) Of the Directors, one is a direct relative and five others are relatives of the second to the sixth degree. The company is not owned by the Directors who are periodically elected by the shareholders who are the owners of the company. There are 588 shareholders out of whom 329 belong to North Arcot District.

"(*f*) Messrs. Raghu and Company manage the affairs of the Company. None of the Directors draws any pay as such. They get only sitting fees and travelling allowances for the meetings they attend. The Managing Agents are entitled to get an office allowance of Rs. 1,000 per annum and 10 per cent of the net profits.

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[a] Postponed from the list of questions for 12th November 1949.

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"(*g*) During the year 1947–48, the profit earned by the company amounted to Rs. 13,759–3–4. It is understood that the accounts for the year 1948–49 are being audited."

Alleged proposal to remove Islamic History and Culture from the subjects taught in the Arts College, Madras.

* 81[a] *Q.*—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government intend to remove Islamic History and Culture from the list of subjects taught in the Government Arts College, Madras?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"There is no intention of removing the courses as such altogether but the possibility of substituting in their place Honours courses in Arabic, Persian and Urdu together with a University combined course of the study of Islamic and Hindu cultures, etc., is under examination."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware that there is no subject combining Islamic culture and Hindu culture in the Madras University and that it would take some time for such a subject to be introduced as a course of study in the Madras University? May I therefore have an assurance from the Hon. Minister that he will not abolish Islamic History and Culture from the Government Arts College unless he has consulted the Muslim Members of this House in regard to this matter?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"It is true there is no such course now in the Madras University, and we have taken up the matter with that University. I can certainly assure the hon. Member that I will not make a change in this matter without consulting the Muslim Members of this House."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—"May I know whether a secular state is bound to maintain and encourage the study or culture of any religion, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"This question does not arise, i.e., the question of secular state does not come in here. There is a subject provided by the University by name 'Islamic History and Culture' and it is going on in the Government College now. It will not be taken away without consulting the Muslim Members of this House. The course has been provided, and it is optional for anybody; even Hindu students have applied for this course."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Is it not a fact that Islamic History and Culture is being taught in foreign countries as well and is not the Hon. Minister aware that the late Prof. Syed Hussain, who was a friend of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was a Professor of Islamic History and Culture in America?"

[a] Postponed from the list of questions for 12th November 1949.

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I am thankful to the hon. Member for this information; I did not know it."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"May I know whether there are a sufficient number of students who have taken this subject?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"This year the number of students that have taken up this course is 3."

Recruitment of sergeants in the Madras Police Service.

* 82[a] *Q.*—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Inspector-General of Police has recently invited applications for appointment as sergeants in the Madras Police Service; and

(*b*) the total number of vacancies and the communities which are entitled for selection and their number—communitywar?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—"(*a*) Yes.

"(*b*) The total number of vacancies is 40. The communities which are entitled for selection and the number of vacancies allotted for them are as follows:—

Non-Brahmans (Hindu) 19.
Backward Hindus 6
Brahmans 6
Harijans 6.
Anglo-Indians and Indian Christians 3.

"Muslims have been excluded as they are already over-represented in the service."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Will the Hon. Minister bring statistics relating to this particular cadre of Police Sergeants and try to prove it to the House? The Muslims are not represented to the extent of even half a per cent as far as Police Sergeants are concerned?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"According to the information available to the department, Muslims have now a representation of 18·2 per cent in the rank of Sergeants as against 7·15 per cent, to which they are entitled on the population basis."

JANAB MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM:—"May I know what are the other communities which are over-represented just like the Muslims, and if so, whether they are also banned for recruitment?"

[a] Postponed from the list of questions for 12th November 1949.

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We have no information as to how the other communities are represented; and even if they are over-represented, there is no proposal before the Government to exclude them from recruitment."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" I am sorry the Hon. Leader of the House has not given proper information, I do not like to use any harsh words. The subject pertains only to the Police Sergeants. Can the Hon. Minister give us the total strength of the Sergeants and prove that Muslims are represented to the extent of more than half a per cent? Let him not combine the Police constables, head constables, etc.? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I thought, Sir, the hon. Member was listening to my answer. This is what I said: Muslims have now a representation of 18·2 per cent in the rank of Sergeants as against 7·15 per cent to which they are entitled on the population basis."

JANAB MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM:—" In view of the fact that there must be some method even in madness, may I know whether this exclusion of Muslims is based on over-representation, and if so, whether if other communities are over-represented, why they are not stopped from recruitment? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Sir, we do not want that in this security service that any particular community should be over-represented."

JANAB P. P. HUSSAN KOYA:—" The Hon. Minister said that Muslims are over-represented in the service, and therefore they are excluded. At the same time, he said that even if the other communities are over-represented, they will not be excluded from the service. May I know whether it is on account of over-representation of Muslims that they are excluded or because they are Muslims, and if so, on what principle? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Whatever it is, all the communities cannot be over-represented; when I say Muslims are over-represented, it must be at the cost of some other community, and that community must be under-represented for the time being."

JANAB B. POCKER:—" May I point out that the Hon. Minister has not given the answer which Mr. Koya asked for? What he wanted to know was whether the fact that the Muslims are over-represented is the only reason for excluding them especially as the Hon. Minister admits that even if other communities are also over-represented, there is no proposal to exclude them? Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to give an answer to that question? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I have no information to state whether other communities are over-represented; I know that Muslims are over-represented and there it must end."

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SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" Arising out of the answer that no community will be allowed to get over-representation, may I know what about those communities that are under-represented? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" They will certainly get their chance when direct recruitments are made."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" I request, Sir, to give your ruling in this matter; because I put the question of a particular cadre, viz., Police Sergeants; as far as I know, for a long time only Anglo-Indians and Indian Christians were occupying the posts mostly. May I know whether the Hon. Leader of the House can give us the real statistics, because I can challenge . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I have already told the House times without number that if hon. Members are not satisfied with the answers given by the Government, the best way is to give notice of a cut motion; a number of times I have told the House like that."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" With regard to this subject, the hon. Member may put down a separate question, i.e., as regards the number of Sergeants and the communities to which they belong. I will certainly give all the statistics that may be necessary."

JANAB P. P. HASSAN KOYA:—" Is the Hon. Minister going to say that his statement that if other communities are over-represented, they will not be excluded, is correct? Does he say so, or is it that he has no information in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Whatever is the general rule, in this security service, it is not desirable that particular communities should be over-represented; there must be a balance of communities."

JANAB MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM:—" Arising out of the answer that the discrimination is based not only on figures but on some other grounds, may I know if the Government will reconsider the matter very soon? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" It is always open to the Government to reconsider their decision; and according to the exigencies of the time, their decisions also must be changing. For the time being, the present rule may continue."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" As the Hon. Minister said just now that Muslims are over-represented at the cost of other communities, may I know Sir, whether preference will be given only to the other communities which are under-represented? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" No, Sir."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" If recruitment of Muslims is stopped in this way—formerly they were getting a

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better share, but now they are getting no share at all—may I know whether this policy will affect the Cabinet also, because in the present Cabinet also one community predominates."

MR. SPEAKER:—" This question does not arise out of the question on paper."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that this policy of stopping Muslim recruitment was formulated at a time when conditions were somewhat different? Now that conditions have improved, will the Cabinet reconsider the question *de novo* and enunciate a new policy with regard to recruitment of Muslims to the services in general? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" If they are satisfied that things have changed, certainly the Cabinet will discuss the question *de novo*."

Maintenance of status quo *in the Muslim educational institutions.*

*84[a] *Q.*—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government intend to maintain the *status quo* with reference to Muslim institutions for five years?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The Government have no intention to change their declared policy in respect of Muslim schools."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" It cannot be said that this policy has been consistently maintained, because as the Hon. Minister is aware, the Muslim Women's College and other Muslim institutions have been abolished. May I know whether it is the policy of the Government from now onwards, to see that the *status quo* is maintained with reference to Muslim institutions? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" What I have said was that there would be no change in the declared policy of the Government in respect of Muslim schools. Colleges are different from schools, Sir."

2-45 p.m. JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" As a result of the conference held between the then Minister, Mr. Avinashilingam Chettiyar, and the Muslim representatives, was not a definite promise given to the Muslims that all the existing institutions intended for Muslims, both schools and colleges, will be maintained for a period of five years, the Government having the option to revise it after the expiry of the five-year period? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The hon. Gentleman is not correct in his statement. The Government Order has been passed in pursuance of the proceedings of that meeting. There is a reference to schools in it and not to colleges."

[a] Postponed from the list of questions for 12th November 1949.

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the Muslim Girls Secondary and Training School at Guntur has been handed over to a private management? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I am not aware of it and I want notice of it."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" I am aware that the Government Communiqué subsequently issued makes a reference to schools; will the Hon. the Minister for Education consult the then Minister for Education and get the truth whether he has not given a definite assurance that the existing institutions intended for Muslims will be continued for a period of five years? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The assurance that has been given has been embodied in G.O. No. 266, dated 7th February 1948, and this is what is stated—

'*The Government have considered the question and had discussion with the members of the Legislature and other representatives of the Muslim community. They have considered the memorandum and in deference to their wishes expressed in it they have decided in the following manner*:

While Government are against the starting and maintenance of separate schools, the present separate schools may be continued for the next five years without any commitment to continue them after that period; in the secondary schools and in standards VI, VII and VIII of higher elementary schools, the regional language will be the medium of instruction; in the elementary schools, where the regional language is not now being taught, the study of the regional language will be introduced in standard III or earlier, that the present arrangement for religious instruction for Muslims in the existing Muslim schools may be continued under a syllabus to be approved by the Government and that the Government if they think fit may close down such of those schools which are not economical or for other reasons'.

" These are what have been recorded."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" Since the answer has covered what I proposed to ask, I am not putting any question, Sir."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Government Order referred to by the Hon. Minister is entirely different from the decision arrived at the Conference called by the previous Minister for Education? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I can speak only from facts which are recorded on paper; the preamble says 'As a result of the conference with the Members of the Legislature and the Leader of the Opposition and others

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representing the community and the memorandum presented by them', and the demands made by them have been mentioned and what the Government have conceded has also been mentioned."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"May I correct one misunderstanding perpetrated in the Government Order that it was not a memorandum submitted by the Leader of the Opposition and others to the Hon. Minister at that stage; it was a copy of the minutes of the proceedings of the conference between the Hon. Minister and the Muslim representatives and it represented agreement arrived at between the Ministers and the members concerned and that copy was supplied to him at the express wish of the Minister. It was not a Memorandum that the Leader of the Opposition and others supplied to the Minister to be considered *de novo* by the Government."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"This is the preamble of the Government Order:

'The Government have been having under consideration the matter of separate schools for Muslims. The Government would like to state as their policy that they are against the maintenance of these separate institutions which they have found in the past, created separatist tendencies in our people and the Government are of opinion that those schools should be discouraged. As a result of the discussions the Muslim community have agreed to accept the Government's policy. . . Janab Muhammad Ismail, Leader of the Opposition on behalf of himself and other representatives of the Muslim community has submitted a memorandum setting forth his views in the matter . . .'."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"That is exactly what I am trying to correct. That was not a memorandum setting forth the demands of the Muslim M.L.As. and the other Muslim representatives; on the other hand, that was a document setting forth the understanding and the definite arrangement and agreement that were arrived at between the Minister for Education at the time and the Muslim Members."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"It is on that memorandum that orders have been passed and that is what I see from the papers."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"May I know, Sir, whether the policy applies only to schools maintained by the Government and may I enquire whether local boards maintaining separate schools are debarred from closing them down owing to financial or other reasons?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The Government would like the local boards to respect the understanding."

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JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"I do not want to carry on a controversy with the Government on this matter. May I request the Government to refer the matter to the previous Education Minister and ask him whether what I say is correct or not?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I cannot be going on asking others on matters actually recorded in the files."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the Government are trying to get rid of Muslim institutions by handing them over to private management?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"We have no idea of getting rid of Muslim institutions. Where by means of private management we could continue an institution with as much efficiency if not more, we can certainly hand it over to them."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister that he would like the local bodies to respect the understanding the Government have come to with Muslim representatives, may I know if the Government have issued any instructions to local bodies with regard to this matter; if not, whether the Hon. Minister will consider the desirability of issuing special instructions to the local bodies on the lines of the Government Order he has mentioned?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I do not think any instance has come to the notice of the Government where any local body has not respected the terms of the Government Order. If the hon. Gentleman can point out any difficulty anywhere, we shall communicate with them. I may also say that G.O. No. 266, of the 7th February 1948, was published and a copy thereof was given to the Leader of the Opposition and he has not protested against what is contained in it."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In view of the difference with regard to the veracity of the entire record, the so-called memorandum, will not the Hon. Minister himself consider the question of Muslim education inasmuch as it is as much alive as it was before?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I cannot understand the hon. Gentleman's reference to it as the so-called memorandum; it is a real fact that it is a memorandum as I can see from the records."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that not only Muslim institutions but other institutions as well are transferred to private management if it is found necessary and desirable?"

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

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know whether the Muslim Girls' School at Bellary has been abolished and whether there is a proposal also to abolish the Muslim Girls' School at Salem? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" My recollection, Sir, is that the hon. Member told me so in the course of a private conversation and on verification, it was not correct; I shall, however, verify again."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know whether the Government is at least keeping to the terms of—I will not call it the so-called—memorandum on which they seem to take their stand? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Not on the memorandum but on the decision they have come to upon it. "

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Muslim Girls' Training School at Salem was abolished for want of strength; there were only seven students on the rolls and that was the reason why it was abolished? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I have no information; I was not aware of the fact that it was abolished at all."

Sales tax on exports outside the Province.

*88[a] *Q.*—JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have withdrawn sales tax on all exports outside the Province and if so, whether this action has been taken under the advice of the Central Government; and

(*b*) what the estimated loss is that will result from this?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (*a*) This Government have not withdrawn the general sales-tax on exports from the Province where it was being levied before.

" (*b*) This question does not arise. "

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" In view of the recommendations of the Export Advisory Board that exports should be increased, will the Government consider the desirability of exempting goods intended for exports outside the Province? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We do not take any action just now because it has gone into the constitution and they have prescribed a time-limit and I think we may continue to levy it till the 31st March 1951."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" May I know, Sir, if some of the enthusiastic Commercial Tax Officers are interpreting the transfer of goods from this Province to others as sales and are collecting sales tax and also collecting licence fees from merchants? "

[a] Postponed from the list of questions for 12th November 1949.

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I do not know whether there are many enthusiastic Commercial Tax Officers who are doing so; if there are such cases, certainly appeals can be preferred to the Board of Revenue or they can be challenged in a court of law."

JANAB P. P. HASSAN KOYA:—" May I know, Sir, what has happened to the proposal to have a Sales Tax Appeal Tribunal and at what stage the matter now rests? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We want to have the Tribunal after the Manual has been prepared and the question has not yet been taken up."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have under consideration any proposal to levy sales tax on railway tickets sold in the Province? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We have no powers; if we have, perhaps we would have considered it."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" May I know, Sir, whether there was not an announcement by the Central Government to the effect that they had issued a directive to the Provincial Government not to levy sales tax with a view to accelerate exports and may I know what the decision of the Government is on that matter? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I said just now, Sir, that it has gone into the Constitution and we are awaiting the finalization of the Constitution and also they have given a time-limit, I think the 31st of March 1951, and we may wait till then."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that in several of the sales tax appeals to the Board of Revenue, their decision is merely agreeing to the recommendation of the subordinate authorities and is it not, therefore, necessary that some other tribunal is immediately constituted so that suffering people may be able to get relief? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I do not have any statistics just now on how many cases confirmation orders are issued by the Board of Revenue and in how many they had interfered with the orders of the Commercial Tax Officers. But even then, Sir, they can be certainly challenged in a court of law."

MR. B. W. BATCHELOR:—" The Hon. Minister replied to a previous question that the matter of the levy of sales tax in the case of goods exported has been embodied in the Constitution and a time-limit therefor has been provided, namely, up to the 31st March 1951; he did not explain the reason and I would, therefore, like to know; is there any reason for waiting for eighteen months before doing good? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" But doing good means loss of revenue."

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SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I know, Sir, if sales tax is levied on public auctions conducted by companies? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Yes, Sir; that question came up and I am not quite sure of the decision whether they are commission agents or actual dealers. That, as a matter of fact, has to be considered. If they are commission agents, they would not be subjected to tax."

3 p.m JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" Sir, the Hon. Leader of the House said that if he cares for the good of any section of the trade it would mean loss of revenue. May I ask him whether this temporary benefit which the Government get in the shape of sales tax would not cause permanent injury to trade and thereby cause permanent reduction of revenue accruing to the Province as well as to the Centre? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The hon. Gentleman is asking for opinion rather than for information."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask whether the Government can give us an idea as to the amount of tax now collected from this source of revenue, namely, levy of sales tax on exports from this Province? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Previcusly we were not maintaining any correct details; but from this year we are maintaining a large number of details. So hereafter we may be able to give such information. It may be over a crore."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" Sir, is it not a fact, that the request that is being made for exemption of certain commodities from sales tax is made for the reason that trade would otherwise be affected? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I am not quite sure whether it will have any detrimental effect on the trade itself. But, Sir, certain articles like coal from Bihar and textiles from Bombay will be subject to sales tax at the exporting Province and the importing Province. So there will be a double tax. All this must have been considered on this question."

JANAB P. P. HASSAN KOYA:—" May I know whether it is not a fact that regarding sales tax, one and a half years back, the Hon. the Finance Minister gave a definite assurance that a tribunal would be constituted without delay. May I know what action has been taken in that regard and whether that will be taken up immediately? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I do not know what promise I made eighteen months back (laughter); but I think that is conditioned by other things, namely, the Manual has to be prepared first, and till then, the tribunal cannot be set up."

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JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" I am trying to point out to the Hon. Finance Minister that these Commercial Tax Officers are making mistakes even in the procedure as enunciated by the rules and by law under the Act. When such irregular procedure is adopted by them, why should a man be driven to appeals to the Board of Revenue and to a court of law to get redress? Why not the Government ask their officers to be acquainted with the rules? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I do not accept the premises that the Board of Revenue is simply confirming the act of Commercial Tax Officers in respect of incorrect procedure."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" I am afraid the Hon. Finance Minister has evidently misunderstood my two hon. Friends, the Leader of the Opposition and Mr. Majid. The point is not about the neutralization of the sales tax on exports from Provinces. I want to know what was proposed to the Central Government by the Export Advisory Board? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I am not aware of any such recommendations, and I have not seen any recommendations sent by the Export Advisory Board."

JANAB P. P. HASSAN KOYA:—" May I know whether it is not a fact that appeals filed in the Board of Revenue in 1946 are still pending decision? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" That only shows that they are going into the question very deeply." (Laughter.)

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Is the Hon. Finance Minister aware that when sales tax accounts are finalized and when it is found that merchants have to get some moneys from the Government, these merchants have to wait for years to get their moneys back? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" This is the first time a complaint has been made on this point."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that the levy of sales tax over exports outside the Province has adversely affected the exports of this Province to some extent? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I have no data to agree with the hon. Gentleman."

Alleged molestation of Moplah women by the Police.

* 91 *Q.*—JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL (on behalf of Janab K. M. Seethi): Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representations were made to him when he visited Kondotti during the period of his office as the Hon. Minister for Agriculture and Jails, by a number of Moplah women that some public servants of the Kondotti Police station were molesting them;

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(*b*) what action, if any, was taken on the said representation; and

(*c*) whether any complaints of molestation by the Police were received from the jurisdiction of other Police stations in the Ernad and Walluvanad taluks?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"(*a*) Yes. A representation was made to him at Kondotti by Moplah women and men that they were being unnecessarily harassed by Police.

"(*b*) The Deputy Superintendent of Police, Kozhikode, was directed to look into the matter.

"(*c*) Yes. There was a complaint about the alleged molestation by a police constable, one Kunhappa, when he was boarding a bus at Kondotti in January 1949."

JANAB B. POCKER:—"May I know what steps the Government have taken with reference to this complaint?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The complaint of harassment by these women was to the effect that they were drying pappadam on the road and for that they were prosecuted. The case was gone into by the Deputy Superintendent of Police. Out of ten cases filed eight were withdrawn and two were convicted." (Laughter.)

Construction of the Arantangi-Karaikudi railway line.

* 92 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any action has been taken as regards the construction of the Arantangi-Karaikudi railway line;

(*b*) when the work is expected to be completed; and

(*c*) whether any other new lines were recommended by the Provincial Government to the Central Government and if so, what they are and what the result is?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"(*a*) & (*b*) The construction of the Arantangi-Karaikudi line has been recommended by this Government and the Central Board of Transport. In May 1940, the Central Board of Transport recommended to the Government of India that sanction should be accorded to the construction of this line without any guarantee from this Government and that the project should be included in the construction programme for the year 1950-51. The Board gave the first priority for this line among the lines included in the priority list. Further communication from the Government of India regarding sanction to the construction of the line is awaited. It is not known when the work can be expected to be completed since action rests with the Government of India. That Government have recently stated that the question of funds available for new line projects in 1950-51 is under consideration.

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"(*c*) Yes. The following nine other new lines were recommended by this Government to the Central Government:—

(1) Calingapatnam-Srikakulam road—Srikakulam line,
(2) Kovvur-Ramapadasagar Dam site line,
(3) Diversion of the main line via Kakinada,
(4) Eluru-Sabari Valley line,
(5) Chinnasalem-Chingleput line,
(6) Mangalore-Hasan line,
(7) Kollengode-Trichur line,
(8) Tanjore-Pattukkottai line,
(9) Dindigul-Gudalur line.

These lines were considered by the Central Board of Transport at its meeting held in May 1949 and it was decided that the proposals for the construction of Calingapatnam-Srikakulam road—Srikakulam line and Kollengode-Trichur line should be dropped, and that surveys should be undertaken immediately in respect of proposals for the construction of Kovvur-Ramapadasagar Dam site line and diversion of the main line via Kakinada. In regard to the construction of the Dindigul-Gudalur line, the Board decided that sanction should be accorded to the construction of the Theni-Gudalur portion of the line, the project being included in the construction programme, partly in 1950-51 and partly in 1951-52. The Board also decided that the proposals for the construction of the other lines referred to should be held over for the present. Necessary action for implementing the decisions of the Central Board of Transport has to be taken by the Government of India in the Ministry of Railways and, as stated in the answer to clauses (*a*) and (*b*), that Government are considering the question of availability of funds for new line projects in 1950-51."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"In view of the fact that the construction of this Arantangi-Karaikudi railway line is long overdue, will this Government persuade the Central Government to include this work at least in the coming Budget year?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"We have done all we can; but we should also appreciate the difficulties of the Government of India."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"In the lines, the Government have recommended to the Central Government, may I know whether they have recommended the construction of a line from Manamadura to Maniyachi, as it will be the shortest route to the southernmost parts of the Province?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"There is no prospect of the Government of India taking up all the nine lines, and so there is no meaning in recommending this line also."

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SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know what about the restoration of the Kotipalle-Kakinada line? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" This is not a new line. We are now not dealing with restoration of dismantled lines."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" Apart from the Government of India taking up the scheme on the recommendation of the Provincial Government, I want to know whether the Madras Government have recommended this line of Manamadura to Maniyachi, particularly in view of the great importance of this line? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" But this Government feel that there is no early prospect of this line being taken up. So there is no meaning in recommending this line."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—" Sir, the construction of the line from Gudalur to Dindigul was recommended by the Madras Government. But the Central Government have sanctioned the construction of the portion of line between Gudalur and Theni only. May I know whether the Central Government have dropped continuing the line from Theni to Dindigul? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" No, Sir, the Central Board of Transport have agreed to take up the line from Mathurai to Theni as the first phase of the Gudalur to Mathurai line."

SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL:—" Is there any proposal of constructing a railway line from Tirunelveli to Cape Comorin? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I am not aware of any such proposal."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—" May I know whether our Government have recommended to the Central Government the restoration of the Bobbili-Salur line in Visakhapatnam district? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I have already said in this House before that this Government have recommended the restoration of all dismantled railway lines."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" Will the Government take the earliest opportunity of recommending the construction of the line from Manamadura to Maniyachi to the Government of India? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" If the hon. Leader of the Opposition will derive satisfaction by our recommending this line (laughter), we have no objection to do so."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Will the Government consider the construction of a line from Parvatipur to Srikakulam, as Srikakulam will be the headquarters of a new district that is being formed? "

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" If more details are given we shall examine them and then we shall consider this line also."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" Apart from the proposals for new lines, may I know whether the Government will bring to the notice of the Central Government the urgent need for the restoration of all lines that have been dismantled as a war measure, and that they should be given first priority? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I have already answered that this Government have urged on the Central Government the restoration of all dismantled railway lines."

SRI PYDAH VENKATANARAYANA:—" May I know whether a survey of the main line via Kakinada is under consideration? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Yes, Sir; the Central Board of Transport have agreed to do this survey."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I know whether this Government have represented to the Central Government that instead of constructing new lines, restoration of dismantled lines will be more economical, as expenditure will be less on them? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" There is no question of economy in this. The restoration of a particular line may give satisfaction to the constituency of the hon. Member. But that will not satisfy another hon. Member who requires a new line elsewhere."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" May I know if the Government of India will give high priority to the Tanjore-Pattukottai line because of its commercial and traffic possibility? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I am afraid this line cannot be given a higher priority than the Arantangi-Karaikudi line."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government of India have postponed the construction of all the works in the list sent up by this Government except a select few? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I have no information."

SRI B. VENKATARATNAM:—" May I inquire, Sir, whether there is any chance of restoring the Kotipalle-Kakinada line? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I do not remember at this distance of time the discussions held at the meeting of the Central Transport Board."

SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI:—" சார், அச்சரப்பாக்கம், எந்த வாசி, திருவண்ணாமலை. திருப்பத்தூர் முதலிய இடங்களுக்கு ஒரு லயன் போடுவதாக உத்தேசம் சர்க்காருக்கு இருந்ததா ? "

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVASTALAM:—" இம்மாதிரி எத்தனையோ லயன்கள் போடவேண்டுமென்று சர்க்காருக்கு உத்தேசமிருக்கிறது. அதையெல்லாம் கவர்மெண்டார் செய்வதாகயிருந்தால் பொம்பவும் கஷ்டமாயிருக்கும்."

3-15 p.m. SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" As the opening of new lines will involve additional expenditure, will it not be advisable to press on the Government of India the restoration of the old lines in preference to the opening of new lines?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" One is not related to the other, as I have already stated."

SRI PYDAH VENKATANARAYANA:—" The Hon. Minister said that the Central Board of Transport have agreed to survey the main line via Kakinada. I would like to know whether survey work has been commenced?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I have no information."

SRI B. VENKATARATNAM:—" If the Hon. Minister said that it would not be possible to restore the Kakinada-Kotapalli line, will the Madras Government see that at least the obstruction of the railway line is removed?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" If I remember aright, the Hon. Minister for Railways in the Government of India said at a meeting of the Central Board of Transport that the restoration of the Kotapalli-Kakinada line would be taken up along with the question of the diversion of the main line via Kakinada."

Amount spent on the " Velayudha Padayachi murder case."

* 93 *Q.*—SRI K. LINGARAJU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state the amount spent on what is known as Velayudha Padayachi murder case in Tiruchirappalli district which resulted in the acquittal of all the accused?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The Government have incurred expenditure of Rs. 10,570 on account of special police staff employed for the investigation of the case. The Special Public Prosecutor who conducted the prosecution has claimed Rs. 7,868 as his fees and travelling allowance."

SRI K. LINGA RAJU:—" Is it not a fact that the District Magistrate withdrew the case once?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Yes, the District Magistrate ordered the withdrawal of the case once."

SRI K. LINGA RAJU:—" May I enquire why the Government took more than ordinary interest in pursuing this case?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The insinuation that the Government took more than ordinary interest is absolutely wrong."

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SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—" வேலாயுத படையாச்சி கேஸ் சம்பந்தமாக மேல் கோர்டுக்கு (High Court-க்கு) போகும் உத்தேசம் சர்க்காருக்கு உண்டா?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" எனக்குத் தெரியாது."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Is it a fact that the then Cabinet took a decision that there should be no further prosecution after the withdrawal by the Collector and how is it that the Premier was so persistent in launching the prosecution?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I repudiate the insinuation that the Premier was persistent in launching any particular prosecution. I am not prepared to divulge to the hon. Gentleman the Cabinet decision in the matter."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" May I know whether the Government took expert legal opinion and satisfied themselves with the soundness of the prosecution before spending such a large sum of money?"

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

Exemption of fish from sales tax.

* 94 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any oral or written representations were made to the Government by the fishermen to exempt fish from the levy of sales tax; and

(*b*) if so, what the Government propose to do in the matter?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The fishermen of Kurumbranad taluk, Malabar district, the President of the Deseeya Fishing Labour Union, Quilandy, Malabar district, and the President of the Kannada Mogaveera Mahajana Sangha, Moolky, South Kanara, sent representations requesting that the sale of fish should be exempted from sales tax. They were informed that their requests could not be complied with."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" Since Mr. R. K. Patil, Central Commissioner for Food Production, has advocated the encouragement of fish industry, will the Government be pleased to exempt fish from the levy of sales tax?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I have not seen his statement in the Press."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" What is the difficulty in granting the exemption? Is it only financial or any other cause?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" It is only financial. There is no philanthrophic motive in this."

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JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" Are the Government aware that many of these fishermen are illiterate and that they find it difficult to maintain accounts for inspection by the Sales Tax Officer? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We cannot put a premium on illiteracy. There are illiterates among the vegetable-vendors and they are paying sales tax if their turnover exceeds Rs. 10,000."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Will not the Finance Minister, who is a vegetarian himself, be a little more considerate to non-vegetarians? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" If I am a vegetarian, I have taxed the vegetables."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" In view of the necessity for augmenting the food resources of the Province, will the Government consider the absolute desirability of exempting fish from sales tax? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" When we come to a decision to exempt all foodstuffs from sales tax, exemption of fish also will be considered."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" In view of the fact that fishing involves a lot of labour and also danger to life to those who are engaged in it will the Government consider the desirability of exempting fish from the sales tax? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" No, Sir, not for the present."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" May I know whether the Hon. Finance Minister is aware that fish is a perishable commodity and that there is no jurisdiction for imposing sales tax on it? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Vegetables also are perishables and they are subject to sales tax."

SRI A. SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—" తుపానువల్ల కంటిలు పాడై పోవడమే కాకుండా చాపలుపట్టే పల్లెవాళ్లకు నాలుగైదు మాసాలు దాక పడుపులోను వెరుపులలోను, కాలువలులోను ఉన్నదే చాపలు కొట్టుకోనిపోతాయి. కనుక ఆ ప్రాంతములో ఉండే చాపల వాళ్లకు పన్నులు లేకుండా చేస్తారా? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" If there is no fish to catch, there will be no fish to sell and, therefore, there will be no sales tax."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" As the dealers in fish and vegetables cannot stand the levy of the sales tax, will the Government consider the desirability of exempting fish and vegetables apart from other foodstuffs? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The question whether mutton, fish and vegetables should be taxed or not was considered as early as in 1939 both on the floor of the House and in the Select Committee and it was decided that they should be subject to sales tax, and the position continues."

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JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Arising out of the answer that the Hon. Minister would consider the exemption of fish along with the exemption of other food articles, may I know when we can expect him to take a decision on this very important matter, particularly in view of the fact that a Grow More Food Campaign has been inaugurated in the Province and in the country as well? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I must say that there is no proposal before the Government to exempt foodstuffs from sales tax. Of course, suggestions are coming up from the Government of India, committees and things like that. If they take a final shape, the Government may consider and decide."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" Have the Government received any representation from the Tuticorin Bhandaris to exempt the fish auctioner, as he is only a part-time middleman? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" As I said, we have received some representations from Malabar and South Kanara districts. It may be that we have received representations from some other districts also, but I have no information just now."

Contribution demanded by the Highways Department from local bodies.

* 95 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the rate of contribution the Highways Department is demanding from local bodies, panchayats and municipalities for providing dustless or tarred roads?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The Highways Department has not so far demanded any contribution for providing dustless or tarred surfacing to reaches of Government roads lying within district board or panchayat limits.

" The contribution is at present confined to roads under the control of this Government and within municipal limits. On the analogy of the suggestions made by this Government to the Government of India in regard to the sharing of the cost of improvement works on National Highways within municipal limits this Government have tentatively decided to demand from the municipal councils a contribution of 25 per cent of the cost of improvements to stretches of Government roads within their limits. This decision is being applied in respect of the schemes sanctioned as Part II for 1948–49 and the subsequent schemes. The decision is subject to any revision that may be considered necessary after a decision has been taken on the question of sharing of cost of improvements to National Highways within municipal limits."

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Final B.A. (Hons.) Examination in Mathematics in the Presidency College.

* 96 *Q.*—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of students who appeared for the Final B.A. (Hons.) Examination in Mathematics from the Presidency College this year; and

(*b*) the number of students who passed in that examination from the Presidency College?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" (*a*) Twelve.

" (*b*) Three passed and two were recommended for pass degree."

Re-appointment of persons retrenched under G.O. No. 326, Finance, dated 5th April 1948.

* 97 *Q.*—SRI M. KANNIAPPAN: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state whether there is any proposal before the Government to take back all those who were retrenched with reference to G.O. No. 326, Finance, dated 5th April 1948?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—" The position in regard to the absorption of the menial staff retrenched with reference to G.O. No. 326, Finance, dated 5th April 1948, is as follows: The Collector of the district arranges for the re-appointment of the discharged permanent members in temporary vacancies in the Revenue Department or any other department. They will, in due course, be absorbed in subsequent permanent vacancies in their parent offices. The discharged non-permanent members, i.e., approved probationers and probationers, are entitled to re-appointment in subsequent vacancies in the concerned units in accordance with their seniority. The retrenched temporary persons, i.e, those who have not acquired probationary rights, are not, however, entitled to re-appointment."

Prosecution of salt manufacturers of Arumuganeri.

* 98 *Q.*—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any report from the District Magistrate, Tirunelveli and the Labour Commissioner, Madras, for the prosecution of the salt manufacturers at Arumuganeri, Tirunelveli district; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (*a*) A report has been received from the Commissioner of Labour regarding a dispute between the salt manufacturers and the labourers

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but the purport of the report or the nature of the recommendation cannot, for obvious reasons, be given on the floor of the House.

" (*b*) The report is under the consideration of Government."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" Is it a fact that the report was received by the Government six months back? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I do not have the exact date. But I may inform the hon. Member that the matter has been referred to the Advocate-General and that we are awaiting his opinion."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" Are the Government aware that this delay has created an impression in the minds of the public that the Government are indirectly supporting the employers? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" After hearing my answer, my hon. Friend will certainly go and remove that misconception."

Relaxation of Prohibition rules.

* 99 *Q.*—SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government have, since question No. 830 was answered on 10th March 1949, relaxed the Prohibition rules by issuing permits to all the visitors to Ootacamund from the other provinces where there is no Prohibition?

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" No."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Are the Government aware that the Collector of the Nilgiris issued an order, which was circulated among a number of private clubs that permits for drink will be issued to those who apply? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" He might have said that he would recommend the applications to the Government but not that he would issue the permits himself directly."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" In view of the fact that the order was issued by the Collector of the Nilgiris as pointed out by me, will the Government enquire and find out on what authority he issued the order? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" The Collector has certainly no authority to issue permits. If he did issue, it was wrong and unauthorized."

Bus and transport services in the City and in the districts.

* 100 *Q.*—JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) what steps have been taken to maintain and continue the nationalized bus service in the City of Madras and the Motor transport services in the districts on account of the cut in the petrol quota for the Province of Madras; and

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(*b*) whether diesel oil motor vehicles are, in the long run, more economical and lasting than petrol motor vehicles and if so, whether the Government have considered the desirability of introducing a larger number of diesel oil motor vehicles?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"(*a*) A cut of 25 per cent has been imposed for the quarter ending 31st December 1949 on the quota of petrol allotted for all buses in the districts. For the Government buses in the City, the consumption is restricted to one lakh gallons per mensem. The services would be maintained and continued with perhaps slight cuts in the number of trips. Conversion of vehicles to producer gas will greatly offset the cut in petrol.

"(*b*) Sufficient data are not yet available to come to a decision on this point."

3-30 p.m. JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"May I know, Sir, whether there is any likelihood of further cut in the quota of petrol and whether this Government has got any information with regard to that, and if so, whether the services are going to be reduced still further?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, we have not received any quota for the next quarter beginning from January, but according to the information I gathered from the Secretary of the Provincial Motor Transport, who was here just now, it seems that there might be a still further cut in the next quarter also."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Is it a fact, Sir, that the Government have passed orders that vehicles registered after a certain date will not be given petrol?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It might be for buses or lorries, Sir, but not for private cars."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know, Sir, how many buses have gone out of the road, as a result of the cut in petrol, and what is the estimated loss in income that the Government are likely to incur thereby?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We have no information as to how many buses have gone out of the road, because of the cut in petrol; but I do not think that any bus would have gone out of the road, and probably the number of trips might have been reduced."

SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—"May I know, Sir, whether in view of the short-supply of petrol, the Government will consider the question of cutting short the quota to lorry-owners who do not carry perishable goods?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Lorry-owners are now given a very much reduced quantity of petrol. I think, they are now given four gallons a month."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"May I know if the Hon. Minister for Transport will go into part (*b*) of my question and consider the matter and find out whether it will not be feasible to put diesel oil buses in larger numbers on the road?"

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"My own personal opinion is that these diesel buses may be economic in the long run, although our initial capital outlay may be more."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that in the course of this one year, the Hon. Minister for Transport who is also the Minister for Finance has not only increased the number of buses on the road but also increased the taxation and if now he is going to reduce the quota of petrol to them, how are these people to carry on their business in this Province?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"For the increase in the number of vehicles, I am not responsible, Sir. It is the Central Road Traffic Board and the Regional Transport Authorities that are responsible for this. For increase in taxation, I and the hon. Members of this House are responsible. For the decrease in the quota of petrol, it is the Government of India that are responsible."

Valuation of suits filed in the original side of the Madras High Court for 1948–49.

* 101 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the total valuation of suits filed in the original side of the High Court of Judicature for the year 1948–49 is; and

(*b*) what the total amount of day fees realized by the High Court for the same is?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"(*a*) The total valuation of the suits filed is Rs. 1,04,12,808–13–7.

"(*b*) The total amount of day fees realized is Rs. 6,780."

Grant of State-aid to Sudarsan Oil Mills, etc.

* 102 *Q.*—SRI T. VISWANATHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) the members of the Board of Industries that were present at the meeting at the time or times when the loan or State-aid applications of the following companies were considered:—

(1) The Sudarsan Oil Mills, Katpadi;
(2) The Mohan Tile Works, Tenali;
(3) The Rayalaseema Mills, Limited, Adoni; and
(4) The Kurnool Cement Works (Factory), Kurnool;

(*b*) whether the Government will place on the table of the House the proceedings of the Board of Industries relating to the same; and

(*c*) what the nature and the value of the assets of the various companies referred to in clause (*a*) above are that were taken into consideration at the time of sanctioning the State aid?

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—"(*a*) The Kurnool Cement Works (Factory), Kurnool, have not applied

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for State aid. The names of the members of the Board of Industries, who were present at the meetings when the applications of the other three companies for State aid were considered, are furnished in Statement I [a] placed on the table of the House.

"(*b*) It will not be in public interest to place the proceedings of the Board of Industries on the table of the House.

"(*c*) The information is furnished in Statement II [b] placed on the table of the House."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"May I know, Sir, from the Hon. Minister for Industries whether newspapers also in this Province can get loans under the State-aid to Industries Act?"

THE HON. C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—"I request the hon. Member to put a separate question, Sir."

Scrutiny of certain Government files and documents by some M.L.As.

* 103 *Q.*—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) under whose authority and under what rules Government files and documents were shown to Messrs. T. Prakasam, M.L.A., T. Viswanatham, M.L.A., K. R. Karanth, M.L.A., and Koti Reddi, M.L.A., regarding certain charges of corruption against the Hon. Ministers; and

(*b*) the number of files and documents that were shown to these persons and for how many days they were scrutinizing the files in the office of the Hon. Premier in the Madras Secretariat?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—"(*a*) Under the authority of the Premier.

"(*b*) It is not possible to state exactly the number of files shown to them. But only such of those files which were deemed relevant for the investigation were shown to them. The investigation commenced on 3rd August 1949 and lasted till 24th August 1949. It did not, however, proceed continuously from day to day, but with intervals of break, now and then."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Arising out of the reply of the Hon. Minister that these files were shown to some of the Members of this House, under the authority of the Hon. Premier, who was anxious to show these confidential files to the Members of the Legislative Assembly, may I know, Sir, what is the necessity to show such confidential files to them?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The Hon. Premier is competent to judge whether those files which were shown to them were confidential or otherwise."

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[a] and [b] Vide Appendix on page 518–520 infra

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JANAB P. P. HASSAN KOYA:—"May I know, Sir, whether under the oath of secrecy, the Hon. Premier has authority to show files to strangers and Members of this House?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Yes, Sir, the Hon. Premier has authority to do so, whenever it is necessary under extraordinary circumstances."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that on a previous occasion when a similar question came up before the House, the Members of the House expressed the view that the Government files and documents should not be shown to non-official members and, if so, whether it is right on the part of the Hon. Premier to have shown such files to the Members of the Assembly, and whether Members of the Legislative Assembly, like us can also ask for and have access to the Government files?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not think, Sir, that the House came to any particular decision with regard to the showing of files to certain members, whether they are Members of the Legislative Assembly or otherwise. There was a debate on this matter, but no such decision was taken and if any hon. Member wants any information from the Hon. Premier, the Hon. Premier is certainly competent to show files or give the information to him, either by letter or by demi-official or otherwise."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister to tell us under what authority or under what rules, has the Hon. Premier the right to show Government files to Members of the House or to any person outside?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Under the residuary inherent right vested in the Premier." (Laughter.)

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that when these Members were allowed to look into the files, the Secretariat looked like a public reading room?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"No doubt, Sir, I was also in the Secretariat at that time, and it did not look to me like a public reading room at all."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"Having shown these confidential records and files of the Government to non-official members, does the Hon. Minister or the Hon. Premier still expect that these records and files are confidential?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I have already stated, Sir, that no confidential records were shown to them."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Does not the Hon. Minister realize that from the manner in which these Government files and documents were shown to non-officials, the prestige of the Government has been greatly affected thereby and that the

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Government files are not at all of a confidential nature and that any non-officials could see or have access to them if they make certain protests or charges against them? ''

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" But there are occasions, Sir, when the prestige of the Government will be enhanced by taking Members into their confidence and showing their records to them."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" Are the Government aware that a lot of things were told about the contents of these files and documents, and therefore, is it not in the public interests to publish them? ''

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We have not heard any such stories being made about them, and, therefore, I do not think there is any need to publish them, Sir."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" From all these questions and answers, may I take it, Sir, as a definite assurance from the Hon. Minister that whenever hon. Members of the House demand that certain files should be shown to them or placed at their disposal on certain important matters, the Hon. Premier and the Members of the Cabinet will be good enough to do so? ''

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I do not think, Sir, that I gave any such categorical assurance to the hon. Members of the House. It is certainly a matter for discretion vested in the Hon. Premier to show records or give any information either by demi-official or by letter or otherwise."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" May I know, Sir, when the files were shown to certain hon. Members of the House, they were also requested not to divulge the things they had seen in the files? ''

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Yes, Sir."

* 104 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—I am not putting the question, Sir."

Restrictions on the number of guests invited for feasts, etc.

* 105 *Q.*—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any restriction placed these days on the number of guests that may be invited to feasts and parties at which food is served; and

(*b*) if so, what the restrictions are?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" (*a*) Yes; the restrictions have been in force since 1946.

" (*b*) There are two orders, viz., one restricting the number of persons to be fed at marriage parties and the other at parties other than marriage parties. On the marriage day, no person shall provide food or cause or allow food to be provided for more than two principal meals or for more than fifty persons at each such meal. Fifty persons include the bride, bridegroom, the relatives of either and the guests. On other days, no person shall give or allow to be given or take food at any party at which the number of persons to whom food is served in any form including the person or persons giving the party, exceeds thirty.

" These two orders do not apply to parties where parched gram, nuts, fruits and drinks, biscuits and cakes made of non-cereals only are served."

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" How is it, Sir, that these rules are respected more in their breach than in their observance, and that people are flouting these rules with impunity? ''

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" There are many important occasions on which exemption might be given, but whenever any case of flagrant violation was pointed out, it was sufficiently punished, Sir."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" May I know, Sir, whether any exemption was given to functions where the Hon. Ministers were invited and, if not, whether it is not a fact that, when the Ministers go there, there is no limit to the misuse of these rules on those occasions? ''

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Yes, Sir, even if Hon. Ministers are invited to any party, these rules are observed."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" Does the Hon. Minister know that for purposes of marriage, the Indian family means dozens of cousins, dozens of uncles and dozens of remote relations or kith and kin, who could easily constitute 200 in number, even on a modest estimate? '' (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" It is true, Sir, according to Indian traditions, but in view of the present food shortage in the country, we have to make such restrictions."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that the previous Minister promised on the floor of the House that there will be some latitude shown on such social functions, as are now being discussed? ''

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Whatever concessions were shown formerly, Sir, there have been further restrictions now, owing to the restrictions imposed by the Government of India."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Does the Hon. Minister realize that a certain amount of general exemption will achieve better results and particularly considering our social

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conditions and customs and would it not be advisable for the Government themselves to grant exemptions on marriage parties and such other important functions which are unavoidable?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"Certain exemptions have been given formerly, Sir, on such important occasions, but however when any such deserving cases are brought to the notice of the Government, they will be treated as special and exemptions granted, if necessary."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Were there any cases where these rules have not been observed, which have been brought to the notice of the Government and, if so, may I know what action was taken in those cases, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"The persons responsible for such a violation had been prosecuted, Sir."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"May I know, Sir, why the Government have so far not taken up the slogan 'Miss a meal a week' rather than restrict the number of people on marriage occasions, and is it not better to propagate that idea, and save a lot of food?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"That propaganda is being carried on in other provinces, Sir. It has not so far reached this Province."

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—"May I know, Sir, whether this restriction in the number of guests on marriage parties are observed in the non-statutory rationed areas also?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"Yes, Sir, it is observed everywhere."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that certain District Collectors, out of mere spite and vindictiveness, launch a number of prosecutions against innocent persons?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"Each case has to be considered on its merits, Sir."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Export of handloom cloth outside this Province.

1 *Q.*—SRI M. P. PERIYASWAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state whether any arrangement or scheme is contemplated for the export of handloom cloth outside our Province?

A.—The Government of India are allowing free movement of handloom cloth within the Indian Dominion and are also permitting the export of handloom cloth freely to all foreign countries till 31st December 1949. This Government have recently addressed the Government of India to instruct their embassies in foreign countries to take positive steps to explore, build up and establish trade connexions between the handloom co-operatives and other approved organizations of India and foreign countries in respect of the handloom goods of the former. They have further, under their consideration, the constitution of a Provincial Handloom Committee to look after the interests of the handloom industry in this Province. They have no other arrangement or scheme for purchasing the stock of handloom cloth from the traders in this Province and exporting the same to foreign countries or other Provinces and States; nor do they have the facilities or the machinery required for the purpose. Notwithstanding anything that may be done by Government the quick disposal of handloom products either within the Dominion or outside the Dominion depends largely on the scope of the industry to produce attractive varieties of good quality at competitive prices.

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Investigation for gold, iron and other minerals in the Kuthiraimozhi Reserve Forest.

2 *Q.*—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have made researches in the Kuthiraimozhi Reserve Forest of Tiruchendur taluk, Tirunelveli district, and found that gold, iron, and other minerals are available in the said forest; and

(*b*) if so, what steps the Government propose to take to get such minerals from the forest?

A.—(*a*) The Kudiraimoliteri Reserved Forest in the Tirunelveli district was investigated by an officer of the Geological Survey of India, during the field season 1946-47. No occurrences of gold, or iron or any other minerals, except that of ilmenite in small quantities (which are not economically workable) have been reported in that area.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Removal of silt from Kadambakulam.

3 *Q.*—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the original depth of the Kadambakulam in Tiruchendur taluk, Tirunelveli district, and its present depth; and

(*b*) what steps the Government propose to take for the removal of the silt from it?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answers given in March 1949 to clauses (*c*) and

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(*d*) of unstarred question No. 96 put by him on the same subject, page 325 of Volume XVIII, No. 5 of the Proceedings of the Assembly, dated 3rd March 1949.

Formation of a road from Tuticorin to Tiruchendur.

4 *Q.*—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any memorandum, petitions and deputations to form a road from Tuticorin to Tiruchendur (via) Mukkani, and Palayakayal; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken on them?

A.—(*a*) Yes. Government have received numerous petitions requesting the formation of a road from Tuticorin to Tiruchendur (via) Mukkani and Athoor. A deputation of the members of the Road Committee, Tuticorin, also waited on the Hon. Minister for Local Administration in March 1949.

(*b*) The question whether the work should be included in the recast five-year plan of Post-War Road Development works and a grant sanctioned for it in the current year is engaging the attention of Government. It is proposed to obtain the views of the newly constituted District Board in the matter.

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

GOVERNMENT MOTION.

II.—SITUATION CAUSED BY THE RECENT CYCLONE IN ANDHRA DISTRICTS.

3-45 p.m. * THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Sir, I move—

'that the situation caused by the recent cyclone in the Andhra districts be considered'.

Sir, as the hon. Members are already aware, the northern Circars and the Ceded districts suffered severe damage and went through extreme hardship as a result of the floods of last September. The public have already been made aware of the damage caused by the floods of September and the relief measures adopted through a Press Note issued by the Government towards the middle of last month. Heavy rains towards the latter half of September 1949 resulted in high floods in the Pennar, Krishna and Tungabhadra rivers and in other minor streams mainly in the districts of Nellore, Guntur, Krishna, Bellary, Cuddapah and Kurnool. The flood damage was particularly severe in the districts of Guntur, Krishna and Nellore, less severe in the districts of Bellary, Cuddapah and Kurnool and negligible in the other districts.

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" It is unfortunate that within less than a month, the cyclone, another calamity of greater severity should have befallen. The districts of Guntur and Krishna, which were badly affected by the floods of September again suffered considerable damage in the cyclone of October. The northern-most districts of the Province, viz., Visakhapatnam and the Godavaries, which remained practically unaffected by the September floods were badly hit by the cyclone of last month. The India Meteorological Department gave warning of the impending cyclone on the 26th. On the 27th, through the All-India Radio, Vijayawada and Madras, the public were warned of the severe cyclone moving north-westwards. The warning had been communicated to the Collectors of the affected districts who in turn seem to have informed the subordinates and others concerned.

" Crops over a wide area were badly affected. Telegraph and telephone communications went out of order and remained interrupted for several days. Road and rail communications in a number of places were suspended on account of the breaches. There was a failure of electricity and water-supply in a number of towns. Large areas of several towns and villages were inundated; large numbers of dwelling huts either collapsed in the floods or had their roofs blown away in the heavy gale. Even pucca houses did not escape damage. There was damage to irrigation sources through breaches and otherwise. There was loss of livestock in almost all the affected districts and loss of human life has also been reported. Several families were rendered homeless and yet others had their few belongings washed away by the floods.

" A statement setting out in detail the damage caused in each district and the relief measures adopted has been prepared and has been separately supplied to the hon. Members. So I do not propost to take up the time of the House with reading the detailed account of the damage. Yet, in order to facilitate the hon. Members to get an idea of the magnitude of the calamity, I may deal with it in broad outline.

" In Nellore district, in the floods of September, breaches occurred in as many as ten of the important roads and also in the flood banks of the Pennar. Over sixty irrigation tanks were also damaged besides Nellore and Sangham Anicuts. Over 1,500 dwelling houses and huts were washed away and standing-crop in about 700 acres of land was damaged. Road communications in Kurnool and Cuddapah districts sustained damage. Over thirty irrigation tanks in Kurnool, the Kurnool–Cuddapah canal and its branches were breached. Standing-crop in about 20,000 acres and over 9,000 acres in Cuddapah received damage. Over 19,000 houses in Kurnool and Nandyal towns were damaged as also several houses in Bellary district.

" In Guntur, the floods of September caused damage to crops in about 51,000 acres and also to over 6,000 dwelling huts. There were breaches in several roads including the main trunk road and

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the railway line and it was some days before railway communications were restored. The cyclone of last month caused damage to paddy crop in an area of about 38,000 acres and other crops over an area of 18,000 acres. There was appreciable loss of live-stock during the September floods. In Krishna, the floods washed away or partially damaged several thousand dwelling huts and houses, some of them in the towns of Vijayawada and Masulipatnam. Masulipatnam received a rainfall of 20 inches in the course of 24 hours and the town remained flooded for a considerable time. The loss of human lives is great in this district, which is 651. This is for Krishna district alone.

" In West Godavari district, Kollair lake and some other water sources were in floods and damaged crops in an area of over 9,000 acres in September. The cyclone of October caused loss of human life and live-stock mostly in the coastal taluks through a tidal wave. Loss of life through the collapse of buildings and huts was reported from the interior taluks. It is feared that the long-term crops suffered total and widespread damage while damage to short-term crops may be as much as 75 per cent, but in this as in all other similar cases, the actual damage will be known only after some time when a thorough inspection has been made. A tidal wave swept over the coastal taluks in the East Godavari district and all villages within a distance of five miles from the coast are reported to have been submerged in two of the coastal taluks. Fifty-six persons in the district are reported missing or dead as a result of the tidal action or through collapse of houses. Over 4,000 cattle are said to have been lost, most of the loss being in the coastal taluks. Several public buildings were damaged throughout the district including the sub-treasury and police lines at Tuni. Several of the irrigation canals and tanks breached and the number of hut sand houses either washed away or partly damaged will, it is feared, be over 40,000. Paddy harvested and kept ready for thrashing was submerged in some places and standing-crop in an area of about a lakh and a half acres has probably been damaged. Coconut gardens in the coastal taluks are said to have suffered total loss. Rail and road communications were badly damaged through breaches. In Visakhapatnam district, Sarada, Vamsadhara and Nagavalli rivers were in spate and inundated large areas. There were also breaches on the railway line and on the roads. The contents of the sub-treasury at Anakapalle were partly damaged. Varying degrees of damage to standing-crop in several thousands of acres is apprehended. Several hundred huts all over the district were damaged.

" Prompt action was taken by the officials in all the affected districts to provide shelter in public buildings to those rendered homeless and to arrange for the rescue of those in danger from flood. With the aid of local charity, arrangements for feeding the homeless were made. Clothes were supplied to the affected. Non-officials came forward to assist in the arrangements and local relief committees were formed everywhere. I take this opportunity of

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conveying to all those persons the Government's appreciation for the very valuable services rendered by them for the relief of the distressed.

" The Government instructed the Members of the Board of Revenue to tour the affected districts and to submit detailed reports of the damage to enable relief to be given without delay. The Board Members gave instructions to the Collectors on the spot for the grant of monetary relief to the affected persons and for the free supply of building materials. A sum of Rs. 4 lakhs—one lakh each for Krishna and Guntur, and half a lakh each for the districts of Bellary, Cuddapah, Kurnool and Nellore, was sanctioned for affording relief to the victims of the September floods. A further sum of Rs. 2,45,000-Rs. 75,000 for Visakhapatnam, Rs. 50,000 for East Godavari, and Rs. 40,000 for each of the districts of West Godavari, Krishna and Guntur was sanctioned for the relief of persons affected by the cyclone. In addition, a sum of Rs. 35,000 was sanctioned from the Krishna and Godavari Cyclone Relief Fund. Besides various funds opened locally for relief work by the Relief Committees, His Excellency the Governor of Madras, has issued an appeal for contributions to the Provincial Welfare Fund to be earmarked for ' Food and Cyclone Relief '.

" Supplies of rice and other foodgrains were rushed to the affected areas for feeding the homeless. Free rations were given for a few days in all the affected areas to the poor. Relief shops for the supply of essential commodities at fair prices were opened.

" Poor families rendered homeless in Guntur district were supplied in addition to building materials like bamboos, palmyrah trees and leaves, cash grants varying from Rs. 5 to Rs. 10. In Krishna, a cash grant of Rs. 25 to each family rendered homeless has been sanctioned. Wherever possible, free supply of building materials has also been made. Cash grants for the construction of huts and building materials have been given in all the affected areas. Special revenue staff has been engaged wherever necessary so that there may be no delay in the distribution of relief.

" As regards communications, diversion roads were made wherever possible. The work of repairing the damage to road communications was taken on hand without delay. Normal communications have been restored in most places affected by the September floods and in other places, the work is proceeding apace. Instructions have also been given for according the highest priority to the repair of damaged irrigation sources, including those in proprietary areas. For their speedy restoration, special staff has been sanctioned in Krishna and Nellore districts. My colleague, the Minister for Public Works, after my statement, is going to make a statement about what has been done on the Public Works Department side.

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" Instructions have been issued to the Director of Public Health to make arrangements for the deputation of a special staff to the districts affected by the cyclone with the necessary stores and equipment to ensure that there is no outbreak of epidemics.

" For the rehabilitation of the poor families who have lost their cattle and agricultural implements, orders have been issued for the grant of interest-free takkavi loans upto a maximum of Rs. 500, in the districts of Guntur, Krishna and Nellore. The question of extending the orders to the districts of Visakhapatnam, East and West Godavari will be taken up. Instructions have been given to the subordinate officers to ensure that there is no delay in the disposal of these loan applications.

" Orders will shortly issue that preference should be given to the areas most affected by the floods and the cyclone in supplying water for a second-crop.

" Under the Board's Standing Orders, Collectors have powers of sanctioning remission of land revenue in certain circumstances. It is realized that remission on a more liberal scale will be necessary in the districts affected by the floods and cyclone. As soon as detailed proposals are received from the affected areas, the question of granting land revenue remission will be taken up. It has been suggested that remission should also be granted to coconut gardens and other garden crops and for lanka lands which suffered damage. This suggestion will be examined. Some other suggestions have been made by various non-officials in communications sent to the Government or to the Press; all these will be duly taken into consideration.

" An appeal for contributions for relief has already been made by His Excellency the Governor, who has also contributed Rs. 5,000 towards relief. Several organizations have come forward to help in the collection of funds for relief. A dark cloud is hanging over the Andhra area. The distress and the misery of the poor people can very easily be imagined. The silver lining in the cloud, Sir, is the host of non-officials who have come forward with generous contributions and immediate help and personal service in giving a helping hand to the sufferers.

" As you are aware, Sir, a part of the affected area is infested with elements who do not hesitate to use even the distress of their fellow-men for their party or political ends. The officers in the area have had to deal with this distressing situation caused by the cyclone in addition to their duties. I am glad to say that the officers of Government of all departments have acted with speed and sympathy and have harnessed the local resources for the relief of the distressed. The co-operation between officers and non-officials has been admirable and is, as it ought to be under a popular Government.

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" This calamity to the rich rice-growing area of our Province is going to affect the food position of the whole of Madras Province. The peasantry which has slaved hard to grow the crops has sustained loss of not only the fruit of their labour but has been deprived in some cases of their dwellings and cattle. On the speedy rehabilitation of these people, depends greatly our future food position. The Government doing their best in this direction.

" It is an area, Sir, which has always come forward generously with monetary help to relieve distress in every part of India at all times. I hope, Sir, that liberal contributions will be made by the public to relieve the suffering of the people and help in their rehabilitation. "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved—

' That the situation caused by the recent cyclone in the Andhra districts be considered '.

" The Hon. Minister for Public Works also wants to make a statement. I have also received three amendments. I suggest to the House that all the amendments be moved formally. Then there will be the debate on the motion and the amendments. I have received a chit from the Whip that 20 Members propose to take part in the debate. We have got one hour today, tomorrow we have got 1½ hours (because we are not meeting in the afternoon), and we will have to take up the debate on Wednesday also. '

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Will it be carried on in the afternoon of Wednesday also? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The Hon. Minister will reply only in the evening."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We may conclude by 1-30 p.m. on Wednesday."

MR. SPEAKER:—" We shall try.

" The Hon. Minister for Public Works will now make his statement."

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to make a brief statement explaining the position relating to irrigation works in this area.

" I can appreciate the anxiety of this House over the devastat- 4 p.m.
ing floods which took a heavy toll of life and property in the Circars. It is desirable, that on such occasions, hon. Members should focus attention on the gravity of the calamity, so that avoidable shortcomings in the administration of departments charged with flood protection and irrigation, are brought to light and corrected. In order to assess how far these departments and the Government are responsible for the recent havoc, hon. Members should examine the map showing the location of our irrigation tanks in the uplands above the delta. All the tanks in a basin

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or valley lie interconnected, the surplus of the higher tank supplementing the supply of the lower tank. Some of these basins or valleys contain over 100 tanks, the surplus of the last tank of the basin emptying its surplus into a river or stream. If we get a heavy spell of rain when these tanks are lying empty, no great damage is done, because the water is held up in all these tanks and very little is left over after filling the last tank. But if at a time when all the tanks are full, another heavy spell of rain follows, the entire rain-waters will have to find their way to the sea, because the tanks can hold up no more. If during that period one of the upper tanks breaches, the storage in that tank gushes forth and swells the next lower tank in a few hours, overflows its surplus weirs and bunds and causes breaches in the lower tank. This process is repeated in the other lower tanks also and the flood waters gather size and momentum like an avalanche. This is an unavoidable feature in our minor irrigation systems and we have taken the consequences of this feature during cyclones all through the centuries. In the September floods, we had over 9 inches of rain in the uplands of Krishna and Guntur and all the irrigation tanks were full. Within four weeks of this, came the present cyclone with 13 inches of rain in 36 hours. The tanks were already full and had no reserve capacity. The heavy gale reaching 80 miles per hour, set up wave action which ripped up the bunds and caused breaches in the upper tanks. When once the upper tanks started breaching, it was a question of a few hours before lower tanks breached in large numbers releasing heavy floods. It is not only the rain waters of the present cyclone that came down, but also the waters stored up in the tanks during the earlier September rains.

"In the taluks of Nuzvid and Tiruvoor alone there are about 650 zamin tanks of which no less than 300 have breached. If these zamin tanks had been well-maintained ones, perhaps the number of breaches would have been small; but even well-maintained tanks are not proof against abnormal weather conditions of this kind. Cyclones in the past may not have done this much of damage, but that was because the tanks had not been so full as on this occasion when the cyclone commenced. In assessing responsibility, hon. Members should not forget that damage of this kind is an unavoidable evil of the system in which our tanks lie one below the other in a chain.

"I do appreciate the necessity of harnessing up the Budameru in its upper reaches so that the intensity of floods may be moderated. Actually a reservoir has been investigated with a capacity of about 1,500 m.c. ft. capable of irrigating about 10,000 acres at a cost, on present day rates, of about one crore of rupees. The difficulty with this project is that it would submerge about 2,400 acres of existing cultivation including valuable wet lands. The bulk of the ayacut will also be covered by the Ramapadasagar, when that project materialises. These were the reasons, and they are indeed good reasons, why we have not taken up this scheme so far. But hon. Members should not gain the impression that if this scheme

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had been completed, it would have arrested the present floods. The Budameru has a catchment area of 700 sq. miles before it enters the Collair lake. At the proposed reservoir site it has a catchment of only 200 sq. miles. Even this proposed reservoir would have been full by the September rains, and so it would have had little value as a flood-moderator in the present cyclone. About 30,000 m.c.ft. of water passed through the Budameru during this cyclone. A reservoir of 1,500 m.c. ft. could have held up only one-twentieth of that water. Again the Collair lake has a catchment of 2,000 sq. miles of which the catchment of Budameru is only one-third and the portion of the catchment above the proposed reservoir only one-twentieth. Therefore, as far as the present floods are concerned, the omission to construct a reservoir on the Budameru could have made little or no difference.

"A scheme has been investigated for widening the Upputeru drain at a cost of about Rs. 85 lakhs. A special revenue staff is now examining the revenue aspects of this scheme. This scheme will be of considerable assistance in normal years by relieving submersion of about 10,000 acres of land lying on either side of it. An equal extent of land may also be reclaimed by this scheme and therefore the question of its execution will be considered by the Government as soon as the Board's report is received.

"The Public Works Department and Revenue staff are doing their very best to repair the breach damages to irrigation works. The Additional Chief Engineer visited the area and organised special repair gangs at all places. A special breach-closing division has been constituted and is now engaged on the Ellore canal which has breached in 75 places. One thousand and five hundred coolies are working there today and it is hoped that the canal will carry water in a day or two. The regular staff that could be gathered up from different parts of the Province, have all been put on special duty in this area. The Samalkot canal which was also heavily breached has been repaired and is now carrying water. Repairs are going on with vigour on all the breached sections of all canals. Fortunately no appreciable damage has been caused to the Krishna anicut and headworks. Instructions have already been issued that preference should be given to areas affected by floods in the matter of permission for second crop cultivation. Repairs to irrigation tanks are also going on side by side, the first effort being to put up ring-bunds over breaches so that sufficient water may be preserved for the season for existing crops. Another special P.W.D. division is being organized under the Food Commissioner to attend to zamin tanks and this division will assist the breach-closing work in zamin areas. I can assure the House that everything possible will be done to repair the damages without avoidable delay and for that purpose the Chief Engineer has already been authorised to incur expenditure in anticipation of Government's sanction"

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MR. SPEAKER:—" I shall suggest to the House that the hon. Members may have the amendments formally moved. Then we shall have a debate not only on the main motion but also on the amendments."

THE YUVARAJA OF PITHAPURAM:—" Sir, I move—

' Add *at the end the following*:—

" *and on such consideration this Assembly requests that a sum of rupees three crores be immediately allotted to the relief of the cyclone-affected people* ".' "

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" Sir, I second the amendment moved by the Yuvaraja of Pithapuram."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Amendment moved—

Add at the end of the following:—

" and on such consideration this Assembly requests that a sum of rupees three crores be immediately allotted to the relief of the cyclone-affected people.' "

SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—" I move—

' *Add* at the end the following:—

" *and on such consideration this Assembly requests Government to bring out a Bill to protect the leaseholder from the landholder in cyclone-affected areas* ".' "

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—" I second the amendment."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Amendment moved—

' *Add* at the end the following:—

" and on such consideration this Assembly requests Government to bring out a Bill to protect the leaseholder from the landholder in cyclone-affected areas ".' "

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" Sir, I move—

' *Add* at the end the following:—

" *and on such consideration this Assembly requests that a sum of two crores be set apart by Government for affording relief to the millions affected by the cyclone and the floods* "."

The amendment was duly seconded.

MR. SPEAKER:—" Amendment moved—

' *Add* at the end the following:—

" and on such consideration this Assembly requests that a sum of two crores be set apart by Government for affording relief to the millons affected by the cyclone and the floods ".'

" Now the motion as well as the amendments are before the House for discussion."

SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. the Leader of the House assured the Assembly that

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a day would be allotted for the discussion on the cyclone. But I am sorry to state that it is already 4-10 and to-morrow we will have only 1 or $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours and day after to-morrow also we will have only about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I shall consider the question and have a talk with the Hon. the Leader of the House."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are all glad at the opportunity given for considering the question of the disaster that has be fallen a part of this country, South India. Sir, words cannot be found in adequate measure to express . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I am sorry. I thought that the hon. Member was going to raise some point of order. But since the Yuvaraja of Pithapuram has moved an amendment, he must be given preference to speak."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" I have no objection, Sir. But since you called me, I began to speak, Sir."

SRI G. LATCHANNA:—" On a point of information, Sir. Can we have a copy of the statement made by the Hon. Minister for Public Works, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I can supply to the hon. Member a copy, Sir. But if it is your idea that it must be circulated to all the Members, it will be done to-morrow, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" It is better that it is circulated to all the Members."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—I can do it to-morrow morning, Sir."

* THE YUVARAJA OF PITHAPURAM:—" Mr. Speaker, in participating in this debate, I have to make a few remarks which would not, by the very nature of things, make a very pleasant theme for me. My long association with the party in power, my respect and affection for such luminaries of the party in power as the Governor-General Rajagopalachari, and the Prime Minister Nehru in those birthday celebration we rightly rejoice, make it no easy task to differ from the policies of the party in power both at the Centre and in the Province. Yet, duty has to be done many times; the surgical operation has to be carried out. Often the body has to be given up to keep the soul alive. Sir, many times forces of destiny and nature have combined and played with the efforts of man. Many times man thought he had conquered them and established his regime. But anon the nemesis set in and the forces of Nature and Destiny asserted themselves in cyclones, earthquakes and revolutions and had done away with man altogether. (At this stage, the Deputy Speaker occupyied the Chair.)

" No doubt, Madam, the present cyclone is one of those catastrophic happenings. No doubt we have heard from the Govern-

ment about their efforts with reference to rushing help to the cyclone-affected areas and the measures they propose to take further. But I ask the Government through you, Madam, whether in view of the magnitude of the catastrope the efforts that they have made and are making are sufficient, and whether the paltry amount that is spent would be enough to alleviate the unprecedented distress inflicted on the poor people. In view of these things, I move my amendment requesting the Government to immediately sanction an amount of Rs. 3 crores towards relief. I know, Madam, the Government would in their reply plead lack of finance as an obstacle. But I only like to submit that when a catastrophe of this kind overtakes innocent people, no consideration should stand in the way. We have our programmes of nation-building activities. Madam, in this case, help must be rushed in time; otherwise it is not help.

"I must also point out, Madam, how the Government by the very nature of things, is not in a position to command that con-
4-15 p.m. fidence among the people which alone can galvanize the national effort on a provincial basis and rush help to those victims. Here I must point out that the party in power at the Centre and the Government of the Province are one and the same and, therefore, the actions—commissions and omissions of the party in power, whether at Delhi or in this Province have inevitable repurcussions on the body politic on all matters which essentially are provincial. I like to show, Madam, with your permission how the people have been discouraged, and how they are in a depressed mood, because of the various things that have been done by the party in power No doubt, the party in power have a number of things to their credit. But that should not make us shut our eyes to the defects and to the omissions that find their echo in the day-to-day things of this Province. The very decision, Madam, of the party in power to remain in the Commonwealth of Nations has cut across the very basis of our great national aspiration, i.e., to be a Sovereign Republic."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"On a point of order, Madam, I would like to know what has India remaining in the Commonwealth to do with the cyclone which we are discussing."

* THE YUVARAJA OF PITHAPURAM:—"May I explain, Madam, through you to the Hon. Minister that as I already prefaced my remarks, I am just trying to show how the depression in the minds of the people has been caused by the omissions and commissions of the party in power and how because of that depression, the Government are not able to get proper support from the people concerned."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"I am sorry it has really no connexion with the subject. I did not listen to the hon. Member until the Hon. Minister pointed out this."

* THE YUVARAJA OF PITHAPURAM:—"In view of your ruling, Madam, I would only like to say that the various things

that have happened on account of the doings of the party in power have made things very difficult for the Government. Now, coming to the very important point, namely, the activities of the Provincial Government, which made the people of the Province lose their confidence in it, I like to catalogue a few things which I hope the Chair would not rule out of order as things not connected with the cyclone debate."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"I would like the hon. Member to repeat his last sentence. I am not able to follow the speech. There is, perhaps, too much noise here or the mike is not alright."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"There is absolute silence here. Only, the mike is not all right."

* THE YUVARAJA OF PITHAPURAM:—"I have been submitting to you that I like to catalogue a few things—commissions and omissions of the present Government of the Province which make it very difficult for the Government to carry on their task of galvanizing and counting on public support."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"What has it to do with the cyclone debate?"

* THE YUVARAJA OF PITHAPURAM:—"Madam, I am just trying to show how cyclone relief is affected very seriously, by the Government not being able to do the right thing and thus forfeiting the confidence of the people who did not belong to any particular party. In a situation like this, I will mention one point. There is Prohibition, a much debated point. It cannot be argued that Prohibition is a thing which is far removed from the palmirah trees of the cyclone affected area. I submit, that this Prohibition has depleted the funds of the Province and as such made it impossible for the Government to rush to the aid of the cyclone victims in the way they should.

"As I have already said, all sorts of events have made things unpleasant for the people at large. Therefore, when the Government goes to the people and says, 'We want your help. Come to our help', I submit that help is not forthcoming. Therefore, I tried in vain to catalogue the various things that happened here and elsewhere which have a direct bearing on this matter. But in view of your ruling, I am afraid, there is nothing else to be said on that point, except to say that a Government, a popular Government, to be able to discharge its duties efficiently and quickly, should bank on the support of the people. When that is not accepted, it is impossible for any Government to do what is to be done.

"I also like to mention one point here and that is this. Certain very serious charges are pending against some of the Ministers of the present Government of Madras. These charges have been given publicity in the Press. I am sure I will be understood when I say that these charges remain unanswered and the persons concerned remain unvindicated and in the judgment of an impartial tribunal and the very stature . . ."

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SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—"Madam, on a point of order, I would like to know, what is the relevancy of the Yuvaraja's reference to Ministerial charges in the cyclone debate. I think it has nothing to do with the cyclone on which he is speaking now."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"I have also asked, how it has any relevancy. He says that cyclone relief work is affected because of the public not having confidence in the Ministers or something. We may listen to the whole speech and then see."

* THE YUVARAJA OF PITHAPURAM:—"I thank you, Madam, for the temporary protection. I only wanted to show that these charges were responsible to some extent. I did not want to go into details, because this is not the proper place or time. How can Ministers try to do anything effectively, before the verdict of a tribunal exonerates them or disposes of the question one way or the other? The people in the Province do not have that confidence which is so necessary at a time of such a provincewide catastrophe. Therefore, I have been labouring to show that irrespective of party considerations or isms, aid must be rushed to these parts in an efficient and speedy manner. For that, I submit, Madam, the present Government is not suitable. I only submit that the time has come when on such important occasions like this, ignoring party considerations, efforts should be galvanized and directed through the right channels and people who are suffering should be helped out of the chaos in the not distant future."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I shall not take up much of the time of the House except to say that this is a great catastrophe that has befallen a few districts of our Presidency. While we appreciate the steps that have so far been taken by the Government, I am sure, there will not be a second opinion with reference to our demand for more help and succour to those areas. I am sure, the members of the Government would be more anxious than anyone else to see that relief is given immediately and the Government's work is fully appreciated. I am glad that they have sent the Members of the Board of Reenue who are very able officers of Government, whose usefulness is always available to the Government. May I say that even now, it is not too late for members of the Government to be camping there. On occasions like this, one should expect half the number of the Cabinet to live in those districts for a few days. While I say this, I say it with a full sense of responsibility. If the members of the Government see the disaster personally, it would no doubt be helpful. I know some of them have been there recently on account of some conferences. Even now, I would entreat the members of the Government to tour round the places and improve the various measures or increase the various measures that have been taken. We have heard in detail the steps taken so far from the speeches of the Hon. Revenue Minister and Hon. Minister for Public Works. We are glad that some costly materials for housing and building huts

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and also some takkavi loans have been given. From the figures that I have heard, I may be permitted to say, Madam, that the extent of help given is inadequate, considering the damage as reported by the Government themselves, leaving out of account any reports of others, non-officials, which may be exaggerated for purposes of argument. I would not say now that Rs. 2 or Rs. 3 crores should be given. But, I can say that the help so far given is not enough. They can spend more money. Members of the Government can have the satisfaction that whatever they spend in the coming weeks will be approved by this House when a supplementary demand is put forward. If the Hon. Minister for Finance thinks that a supplementary demand is to be put forward, let him come forward with it. We will sanction. But, I do not think there is any necessity for that because there will not be any voice raised against any supplementary demand which may be put forward later and if the money is spent now. Madam, on occasions like this, ordinary prosaic reports from the officials being received, opened, filed, read and noted have no value at all. I would be glad if the Government appoint a Special Officer for this purpose with special powers probably, the Government may appoint one of the Members of the Board of Revenue to be stationed in that area with full powers to deal with the entire situation, such as food, clothing, housing, etc., and to take all steps that are necessary.

4-30 p.m.

"As it is, the Collectors submit a report to the Board of Revenue, the Board of Revenue make recommendations to the Government in the Revenue and the Public Works Departments, the recommendations are noted upon by the respective Secretaries and then the matter is placed before the Cabinet for final orders. This is not the manner, Madam, in which relief should be afforded. I know that the Government mean well. They want to give all help they can to the poor victims. But what I would like to suggest is that the relief should be of a speedy nature. I am sure that the Government will agree with me on this point. The Hon. the Revenue Minister is nodding his head. It means, perhaps, that relief would be quick. If he openly says something to that effect, then it will help our discussion and also hon. Members to be fair in their criticisms. I would request the Government to come out with a statement as to how much money has so far been spent for relief work and how much more they propose to spend on this. After all, I ask for this information not with a view to moving any amendment to the Motion. For instance, if the Government say that they intend spending 25 to 30 lakhs of rupees, I would not move an amendment that three crores or two crores or one crore of rupees should be spent. It is not for me to suggest such things. It is a matter for Government to do. And we shall only be too glad to say 'yes' if Government come forward with a request that they have spent 25 lakhs of rupees over relief work and they need something more. I feel this is the way in which the work has to be attended to and no amount of nice words will soothe the victims. It is alright to say that private charity is

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welcome. But private organizations take a long time to make collections and it would be very difficult for them to cope with such a terrible calamity. I am very glad that the District officials and others spread over the villages have rendered good service and that the non-official committees and the District and the Panchayat Boards have lent a helping hand to the officials in their work. The question before us is not one of what kind of machinery should be set up for this work but how much money is going to be spent on it. I am not a person to ask meticulously that every pie of the amount sanctioned should be carefully spent. After all in a calamity like this 25 lakhs is not a huge sum to be accounted for with meticulous accuracy. It does not matter even if there were a few lapses in accounting. What I would impress upon the House is that the help afforded and the result achieved should be the sole guiding factors in sanctioning relief measures. I hope that the Government, who have rightly taken the opportunity of consulting the House on this important matter, will make an announcement as to what amount they have allotted earlier in the debate so that the debate may take a constructive shape. After all the extent to which relief can be given depends upon the extent to which the Government go in the matter of monetary grants. I would, therefore, entreat the Government to see that the quantum of Government help is such as to achieve the desired result, namely, rehabilitating the cyclone-affected people."

* DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue and the Hon. the Minister for Public Works have made statements on the measures taken by Government to relieve the sufferings of the people affected by the recent cyclone in the Circars. Madam, I am concerned more with the Ceded districts where in September last, heavy rains followed by floods and cyclone caused severe damage to crops and brought down many houses belonging to the labourers. I was given to understand by the Collectors of Kurnool and Cuddapah that they had sanctioned per head or per house a sum of Rs. 15 to 20 to put up thatched huts. Also, at one of the meetings of the District Committees where this subject was discussed, it was decided that those who were affected by the heavy floods should be given Rs. 15 or 20 for putting up huts. I would like to ask the Government whether a person or a family which has been affected by the floods and whose hut has been levelled to the ground, can raise another with this small sum. I have personal knowledge of the impossibility of raising huts with such small sums. Recently I visited the Proddattur taluk in Cuddapah district in which nearly ten villages have been very badly damaged. Even now no hut has appeared in the place of those already destroyed and this I myself saw while I was coming from place for attending this session. I made a suggestion to the Collectors of these districts that free permits might be given to these people to get the necessary posts and bamboos from the forests to construct the huts. But so far they have not done anything in the matter.

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At this rate, I fear they may not be able to put up houses without the proper materials required for construction of huts. Secondly, Madam, I would like to make a suggestion regarding the tanks mentioned by the Hon. the Minister for Public Works as having been breached due to the connecting link between a series of tanks. I would request the Government to overhaul some of these tanks in Kurnool and Cuddapah districts and see whether they can make any tangible improvements to these tanks so that breaches may not recur in future due to floods."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—" I would like to point out that the subject before the House is ' the situation caused by the recent cyclone be considered.' It has nothing to do with the floods."

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—" In the statements made by the Hon. the Revenue Minister mention has been made about the floods also. Therefore, we are concerned both with the floods and the cyclone."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—" I would like the Hon. the Minister to make the point clear."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" My statement refers to both the floods and the cyclone. Cyclone includes floods." (Laughter.)

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—" No. If it was mentioned in the Motion as ' cyclones ', I could have understood it. But there is reference only to the last (recent) cyclone."

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—" Since the report published by the Government includes our Cuddapah and Kurnool districts under the ' very badly affected areas,' either by the floods or by the cyclone, I submit that very early steps should be taken to give relief to the homeless in these parts. The only Minister who has visited these areas is the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition and Housing. He knows the condition of the people there and I believe he would have represented to the Government the difficulties people there face. I would once again entreat the Government to take early action in providing facilities to the homeless to put up new constructions and in reclaiming their lands which have suffered damage on account of floods."

* SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, I would like to speak about the West Godavari district. As the House must be aware, West Godavari district is the worst affected by the recent cyclone. The whole area to-day presents a deserted appearance. The vast paddy fields look like a burial ground. They are covered with nothing but hay. We went round certain areas and examined what looked like paddy in the fields. But we found no grain at all in it. These facts I need not apprise the Government of as they must have seen from the reports of the District Collectors as well as the Board of Revenue that nearly 80 per cent of the crops have been damaged.

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Here I would like to state one thing. That is, in certain cases, the Board of Revenue has under-estimated the extent of the loss of crops. For instance, the Board says that only about 25 or 30 per cent of a particular variety of crop called *Akkullu* was damaged. This is wrong. The loss is much more than this. In another case, i.e., *Krishnakatukulu*, the loss is cent per cent, whereas the Board has put it at something less. Now, Madam, more than 15,000 cattle have been lost in West Godavari alone, and more than one and a half lakhs of huts belonging to the poorer classes have been destroyed. But I must point out that the help rendered by the officials and the non-official committees is indeed very little. It was said by my hon. Friend Dr. Samuel that 15 and 20 rupees would not be sufficient for constructing huts. But, as the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue has himself said, instructions were issued to the revenue officials in the matter of relief to the poor victims of the floods and they have been trying their best to help the people to construct huts with the help of wood from trees grown on revenue poramboke lands. As a matter
4-45 p.m. of fact even 3 to 4 crores of rupees by way of help to them cannot go to a very great extent. These are my suggestions which may be taken into consideration by the Government to give real help to this cyclone-affected area. In 1945, there was a similar cyclone. After the cyclone was over and landlords tried their level best to demand their pound of flesh from the leaseholders, that is the entire lease amount fixed by the landlord. If supposing the lease was fixed at 15 bags or 16 bags or 10 bags as the case may be, the entire quantity was demanded from the leaseholder by the landlord after the complete destruction of the paddy in the fields even when the leaseholder pleaded his inability. When the leaseholders were not in a position to supply even one bag of paddy to the landlord, they filed suits in the courts in hundreds. I know, Sir, in hundreds of cases the landholders mercilessly demanded their pound of flesh from the leaseholders. In all the cases and in every court decisions or the decrees were given by the courts in favour of the landlords and all the 15 bags were collected from the leaseholders. These leaseholders had to sell away their remaining huts, even the *thalies* from their wives' necks and bangles from the hands of their women to give the paddy that was fixed by the landlord. There were many such cases where the leaseholders were helpless. I strongly plead on behalf of the leaseholders of the Andhra Desa especially in this cyclone-affected area that the Government may bring out a small Bill to see that these leaseholders are protected from the clutches of these merciless landlords. I do not say that all the landlords are merciless or heartless. But there are a number of landlords who do not care for the leaseholders and they demand their pound of flesh. Say in an acre which was expected to yield 20 bags, only 2 bags remained after the cyclone destruction. A Bill should be brought to the effect that this 2 bags should be divided equally between the landlord and the leaseholder. This is my suggestion. Government may consider

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this and bring out a suitable Bill. Throughout the area, wherever I went, this was the request and prayer from the leaseholders. If possible even the courts may be instructed by the Government with the help of a Bill that such suits may not be allowed in the courts against the leaseholders; at any rate for this year.

" For the second crops in the cyclone affected area, supply of seeds must be expedited for the whole of the Andhra Desa. Before the cyclone, Krishna, Guntur and Rayalaseema were affected. Due to floods now, the remaining districts in Andhra Desa were completely destroyed. Hence seeds are not available in Telugu districts at all. Now, I do not know where the seeds are available. I am told seeds could be exported from Tanjore to Andhra Desa. The supply of seeds from Tamilnad should therefore be expedited so that it may be helpful for the second crop and also the coming first crop. The supply of manure is very essential because due to this heavy tidal wave all the soil is completely affected with saline water and without the help of manure this year it is very difficult for the cultivator to produce anything on the land. The cultivator to-day requires long term loans from the Government. Government may provide the necessary funds through the Banks or the Co-operative Societies and they may be asked to sanction long term loans to the ryots so that they may cultivate their lands, purchase cattle, agricultural implements and so on. I request the Government through you, Deputy Speaker, to allow an increase in the second crop area for this year because every year apart from the rotation and so on, an additional second crop is granted in West Godavari to the extent of 30 thousand acres. I request that this year this may be extended to 50 thousand acres. The irrigation department may be instructed to go into the matter in detail and see that the water is not wasted but properly supplied with a target of cultivating 50 thousand acres. By this we may make good the shortage in grain. As I have already submitted, West Godavari district is completely damaged. I feel that the Government should declare this district as a deficit district though it has been a district which has been supplying to the other districts. The procurement should be stopped immediately. The Members of the Board of Revenue have reported that the crop is very much damaged. The grant of remission is widely expected in the area. The Hon. Minister for Revenue has also definitely promised that remission will be granted wherever necessary and found essential. If the projects of Budameru and Uppuleru had been taken up and constructed this amount of damage and destruction would not have been there. At every Budget and other meetings of this House promises were made, estimates were made and all things were promised but nothing came out of these schemes, these estimates and promises. Now at lease the Government should take these up so that we may not hear any more promises but actually find the projects in existence.

" Coming to my amendment, I consider this amendment as an important one, and I expect my colleagues here would support

it and the Government would take it up and do the needful. The amendment is: 'This Assembly requests the Government to bring out a Bill to protect the leaseholders from the landlords in the cyclone affected areas.' Unless and until this measure is taken up and some remedy found, the leaseholders cannot be protected. Already the harvesting season is fast approaching and landlords have begun to tease the poor leaseholders who are mostly Harijans. They are sure to be dragged to the courts soon. If remission is granted that only helps the landlord and not the leaseholder. This fact must also be taken into consideration. The only help that we can give to the tiller of the soil is that this Bill must be taken up and brought out by the Government immediately and orders issued that the leaseholders should not be teased and that only half of the produce remaining after the cyclone should be demanded. (At this stage Mr. Speaker took the chair.) This is the only suggestion on which I stress very much. This is the greatest help that a popular Government can do to the tiller of the soil."

* SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, a calamity of the greatest magnitude in recent history . . ."

AN HON. MEMBER:—"The amendment has not been formally seconded."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It has already been seconded."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"I second it. I reserve my speech for tomorrow."

* SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"Mr. Speaker, I was submitting that a calamity of the greatest magnitude . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is it the desire of the House that we should sit till 6 o'clock to-day."

HON. MEMBERS:—"No."

* SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"A calamity of the greatest magnitude has fallen on the Andhra districts and in so saying I would submit that this calamity ruined the surplus districts of the province in Andhra Desa. I dare say that the calamity affects the food position and the happiness of the whole province. We cannot now, think in terms of mere districts and situated as we are with the controlling power of the Central Government, we have practically to look at the tragedy in terms of the whole province and find out ways and means of how best to face the calamity and recommend measures whereby as far as possible such calamities may be, even if they recur, lessened in their tragic effect. Sir, even from the excellent note drafted by the department giving details of the havoc done by this cyclone and floods in the various districts, I find, Sir, that as many as eleven

hundred thousand acres of land, wet and dry, and 4 lakhs of huts, 32 thousand cattle and several topes, etc., in addition to about 5 to 6 hundred lives, or about 8 hundred lives, human lives, have been practically the toll demanded by this cyclone and floods. Even supposing that these estimates are not considerably enhanced after a complete account of the tragedy is received by the Government, I feel that the amount necessary for giving immediate relief to the millions of people affected by the tragedy should be earmarked by the Government at once."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may continue his speech tomorrow. The House will now adjourn and meet again at 11 a.m. tomorrow."

APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 102 asked by Sri T. Viswanatham at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 14th November 1949 at page 492 supra.]

STATEMENT No. I.

Statement showing the names of the members of the Board of Industries, who were present at the meetings when the applications of (1) *the Sudarsan Oil Mills, Ltd., Katpadi*; (2) *The Mohan Industries, Ltd., Tenali and* (3) *the Rayalaseema Mills, Ltd., Adoni, were considered.*

Messrs. Sudarsan Oil Mills, Ltd., Katpadi and Mohan Industries, Ltd., Tenali—

(1) T. M. S. Mani, Esq., I.C.S., Director of Industries and Commerce, Madras (Chairman).
(2) Dr. D. W. Dodwell, Esq., I.C.S., Secretary to Government, Finance Department, Madras.
(3) Sri J. C. Ryan, Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Madras.
(4) Sri R. V. Swaminathan, M.L.A.
(5) Sri M. Bapineedu, M.L.A.
(6) Sri G. D. Naidu, Coimbatore.
(7) Sri Ranganatha Punja, B.A., B.L.
(8) Sri C. Seshachalam, M.A., B.L.
(9) Sri Bhavanidass O. Khanderia.
(10) Mr. M. H. Cassim Sait.
(11) Sri V. Dattatreyan, B.E., Deputy Director of Industries and Commerce (Secretary).

Messrs. Rayalaseema Mills, Ltd., Adoni—

(1) T. M. S. Mani, Esq., I.C.S., Director of Industries and Commerce (Chairman).
(2) T. N. S. Raghavan, Esq., I.C.S., Secretary to Government, Finance Department, Madras.
(3) Sri M. Bapineedu, M.L.A.
(4) Sri C. Seshachalam, M.A., B.L.
(5) Sri Bhavanidass O. Khanderia.
(6) Mr. R. W. Theobald.
(7) Mr. C. W. Stephenson.
(8) Mr. M. H. Cassim Sait.
(9) Dr. B. Natarajan (co-opted for the meeting).
(10) Sri V. Dattatreyan, B.E., Deputy Director of Industries and Commerce (Secretary).

STATEMENT No. II.

Statement showing the nature and the value of the assets of (1) *The Sudarsan Oil Mills, Ltd., Katpadi*; (2) *the Mohan Industries, Ltd., Tenali and* (3) *the Rayalaseema Mills, Ltd., Adoni, that were taken into consideration at the time of sanctioning the State aid.*

1. Sudarsan Oil Mills, Ltd., Katpadi—

Value of assets offered as security—

	Existing.	To be purchased.	Total when completed.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
(*a*) Land	52,035	2,965	55,000
(*b*) Buildings	2,53,232	3,96,768	6,50,000
(*c*) Machinery and equipment.	9,26,297	14,04,641	*23,30,938
	12,31,564	18,04,374	30,35,938

* This includes—

	RS.
(i) Cost of pipes and fittings, etc.	2,50,000
(ii) Cost of electrical installation and water-supply. ..	1,20,000
(iii) Cost of erection of machinery	1,00,000
Total ..	4,70,000
Total value of assets when completed ..	30,35,938
Deduct cost of pipes and fittings, electrical installation and custom charges and water-supply.	4,70,000
Deduct debentures issued already	2,50,000
Net value of assets taken into consideration as security for the loan	23,15,938

2. Mohan Industries, Ltd., Tenali—

Value of assets offered as security—

	Value of existing assets.	Value of assets to be acquired.	Total.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
(*a*) Land	7,800	12,000	19,800
(*b*) Buildings	90,000	..	90,000
(*c*) Machinery and equipment.	56,610	45,000	1,01,610
Total ..	1,54,410	57,000	2,11,410

3. Rayalaseema Mills, Ltd., Adoni—

Value of assets offered as security—

	Expenditure incurred up to 31st December 1947.	Expenditure to be incurred.	Total value of assets on completion of construction.
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS.
(*a*) Land ..	7,377 14 6	2,622 1 6	10,000
(*b*) Buildings ..	1,82,955 14 7	8,27,044 1 5	10,10,000
(*c*) Machinery and equipment.	53,700 4 0	17,04,299 12 0	17,58,000
Total ..	2,44,034 1 1	25,33,965 14 11	27,78,000

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday, the 15th November 1949.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Inclusion of the Madras City in Tamil Nad.

* 105-A *Q.*—JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Hon. the Minister for Public Works expressed at the Tamilnad Congress Working Committee meeting and also at the recent Tamil convention held at Madras that the City of Madras should be included in Tamilnad; and

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, whether the opinion expressed was his individual opinion or whether it was the opinion of the Government?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) The opinion expressed by the Hon. Minister was his personal opinion."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" When the Hon. Minister for Public Works knows fully well that the Cabinet is going to meet shortly and come to a decision on this important question, was it fair on his part to go to a public meeting and just play to the gallery on such a controversial issue? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The opinion expressed by me was absolutely in accordance with the J.V.P. Report which has been accepted by the Provincial Congress Committees. It is also in accordance with the views expressed by this Government last year against the proposal to form Madras City into a separate Province."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that one of the authors of the J.V.P. Report, Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya, the President of the Indian National Congress, has said that Madras City cannot be included in Tamil Nad and must be constituted into a separate Province? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" This Government are not aware of it, Sir."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Whatever difference of opinion there may be in the Cabinet on this question, is it proper on the part of the Hon. the Leader of the House to expose his colleague by saying that it is his personal opinion? "

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"There is absolutely no difference among the Members of the Cabinet and there is no question of exposure."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"When Andhra Ministers can freely express their views in the matter, what is the harm in Tamil Ministers doing the same, Sir?"

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Is the Hon. Minister for Public Works aware that there is joint responsibility of the Cabinet and whenever some of the Ministers participate in controversial discussions, don't they feel that they are doing something against the joint responsibility and that there is no point in saying that they are expressing their personal views?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"The Members of the Cabinet are fully aware of their sense of joint responsibility and they have not done anything to infringe that."

JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY:—"When the Cabinet considered this question, may I know whether they considered also the claims of Malayalees to the City of Madras?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"When the Cabinet considered the matter and took a decision, they did consider all the aspects of the question."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"May I get an assurance from the Hon. Minister that in future when he speaks on such questions, the first thing he would do is just to inform the public that he is speaking in his individual capacity and not as a member of the Madras Cabinet?"

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Since it has been the policy of this Government and particularly of the Hon. the Leader of the House to say that Ministers cannot have their own personal opinions on any subject, I cannot understand his saying in this case that it is the personal opinion of the Hon. Minister for Public Works. May I ask how he reconciles the two?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"It is not correct to say that Ministers cannot have their personal opinions. They do have their own personal opinions. So far as this particular opinion is concerned, I have already stated that it is in accordance with the views expressed by this Government and the Provincial Congress Committees."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—"Is the Hon. Minister for Public Works aware that the J.V.P. Report does not include Madras City as part of the Tamil Nad?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"The opinion expressed by me was an inference. The J.V.P. Report said that the Andhras should abandon their claim to the City of Madras and it has been accepted by the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee. This Government also has decided to express its view that the City should not be formed into a separate Province. Therefore, the opinion I expressed is in accordance with the view of the Provincial Congress Committees and this Government."

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SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"In view of the answer of the Hon. Minister, may I point out that his interpretation of the J.V.P. Report is not correct and that nowhere in that report has it been said that Madras should be included in Tamil Nad?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"It is a matter for opinion and interpretation by experts."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Is it not a matter of reading the report and not a matter of interpretation?"

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that saying that Andhras should abandon their claim to Madras City is quite different from the claim of the Andhras to have Madras City constituted into a separate Province? Nowhere in the J.V.P. Report has it been said that Andhras should not claim any share in Madras City itself?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is going away from the main question."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"On this question that has been answered by the Hon. Minister for Public Works, may I ask the Hon. the Leader of the House what his personal opinion is?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not want to express any opinion on the matter just now."

Alleged prohibition of slaughter of cattle at Venkatagirikota.

• 106 *Q.*—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Collector of Chittoor promulgated an order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, against Janab Ali Sahib and others at Venkatagirikota, Chittoor district, prohibiting them from slaughtering cattle on the ground that there was a likelihood of disturbance of public peace; and

(*b*) whether the Collector held any enquiry and satisfied himself that sufficient grounds and reasons existed before passing the order under section 144?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of the Hon. the Premier):—"(*a*) An order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, restraining the slaughtering of cattle in Kuppam Zamin area was issued. The order in question was issued not by the Collector of Chittoor but by the Subdivisional Magistrate, Chittoor.

"(*b*) Does not arise: it may however be stated that the Subdivisional Magistrate, Chittoor, satisfied himself about the necessity for an order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code."

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JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Is not the Hon. Minister aware that when this matter came up before the High Court, the Judge passed severe strictures on the way in which orders were passed under section 144 in a very light-hearted manner, particularly in Chittoor?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I am not aware whether the judgment referred to this particular instance."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Will the Hon. the Leader of the House make an enquiry whether orders under section 144 are not passed in a very light-hearted manner putting the people to a great deal of trouble and inconvenience and will he also take the strictures passed by the Judges of the High Court into consideration?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not accept the view that orders under section 144 are passed in a light-hearted manner. In this particular case, there was definitely necessity for issuing the order."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"May I know whether the cattle were slaughtered in a public place or in slaughter-houses?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Whether it was in a slaughter-house or in any other place, is not the question. There was a ban in Mysore State on the slaughter of cows and a large amount of beef was taken from Kuppam to the Kolar Gold Fields area. To prevent that sort of thing and to prevent any public disorder on that account, orders under section 144 were issued."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—"Were any representations made to the Government against indiscriminate slaughter of cattle?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"There was an alarming increase in the number of cattle slaughtered in Chittoor as a result of the enforcement of the Cow Protection Act in Mysore. There was a panic among the rural population and the cultivators that the district was being depleted of cattle. Obviously there must have been representation to the Sub-divisional Magistrate and he must have taken cognisance of the feeling among the people and issued the order under section 144."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"May I know the policy of the Government, Sir, in issuing such orders under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, whether they are for preventing the exercise of any lawful right by any citizen or for restraining those who want to obstruct or interfere with the lawful exercise of the right of the citizen?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"There is no particular policy in the issue of orders under section 144. It depends on the exigencies of the situation, the nature of

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the place, the occasion and so on. Orders will have to be issued even to stop lawful action if the lawful actions would lead to a breach of the peace."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Does the Hon. Minister consider that an order under section 144 should be issued simply because some beef was transported from Kuppam to Kolar Gold Fields?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"It is absolutely wrong to say that because some beef was being transported, an order under section 144 was issued. The slaughter of cattle must also have been likely to lead to a breach of the peace. That must have been the reason for the issue of the order."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Would a breach of the peace occur in the course of the ordinary normal transaction of every day?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Obviously there was an abnormal situation there."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Arising from the answer of the Hon. the Law Minister that even lawful actions, if they exceed certain limits, will be prevented, may I ask whether it is the policy of the Government to put down even the actions of the people who are acting within the law and thus give a premium to those who are preventing the lawful exercise of the rights by other people?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I never said that every lawful act can be prevented. But even a lawful act may at times necessitate the issue of order under section 144 to prevent a breach of the peace. A procession may be a lawful act, but a procession taken out on a particular occasion may create a sensation or excitement and the District Magistrate may have to stop that. It all depends on the conditions in the locality at a particular time. On certain occasions and under certain conditions even lawful actions may have to be prevented for proper reasons."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"Is it not a fact that two years ago a lawful Hindu procession had to be stopped under section 144 as the Muslims of the locality wanted to create a disturbance and a breach of the peace was apprehended?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Exactly so. There are hundreds of cases like that where processions had to be stopped, even though they were quite lawful, because for instance the Hindus objected to cow being led in procession for slaughter or the Muslims objected to a procession going before a mosque with drums beating and so on."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Was it not because in such cases the rightness or the wrongness of the action was not clear and was in dispute?"

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Not at all, Sir. The Magistrate concerned may pass an order temporarily restricting the rights of the parties and leave them to have the question settled in a civil court."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Is the Hon. the Law Minister aware that the parties affected brought the matter to the notice of the High Court and the High Court passed a judgment that in such cases the District Magistrate or the authorities concerned should not enforce section 144 unless they are fully satisfied that there is necessity for it? Will he consider that aspect of the matter, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"There are a number of cases where the appellate court has reversed the order of the lower courts. It does not mean that the lower court has not done the thing properly. It may be wrong in the opinion of the appellate court. It is quite possible that in this particular case, the High Court may have held that there were not sufficient grounds for an order under section 144."

11-15 a.m. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that even when civil rights have been established, by civil courts, still there have been cases where there was necessity to restrict them for fear of slight disturbances in the locality?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Yes, Sir; there have been a number of such cases. In Nellore for instance where civil rights had been established for taking processions, the Government had to stop one by an order under section 144 because of a fear of breach of the peace."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Are there not equally large number of cases where the Government have always given protection to the citizens, whether Hindu or Muslim, to see that he carried out his lawful rights?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"That is the business of the Government, to enable every person to carry out his lawful rights, but if the carrying out of the lawful rights of an individual will harm the whole society, then the individual will have to be restrained from carrying out that lawful right."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"With reference to such cases—which are the subject-matter of discussion now—may I ask whether it is not the policy of the Government to give protection to subjects as a rule in the exercise of their lawful avocations and to restrain people who want to interfere in such clear cases of the lawful exercise of one's right?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"That is not a question of policy. It is the duty of every Government."

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Private electricity concerns in the Province.

*107 *Q.*—SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the number of private electricity concerns in the Province;

(*b*) the number of companies that operate them;

(*c*) what rates they are charging per unit;

(*d*) whether the Government propose to acquire their interest for the State; and

(*e*) if so, on what basis of payment of compensation?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"(*a*) Forty-eight.

"(*b*) Thirty-two.

"(*c*) Different rates are charged for various purposes of supply and the rate per unit charged by licensees for any particular item is not uniform. The Government observe that statements of these rates will be voluminous and they do not consider it worthwhile to print and place such voluminous statements on the table of the House. Information in respect of any particular rate of supply will be given to such hon. Members as may ask for it.

"(*d*) Yes.

"(*e*) In the case of licensees other than Local Authorities, the compensation will be fixed under any one of the three bases specified below, the licensee having the option of choosing any one of them:—

(i) *Basis A.*—An amount equal to 20 times the average net annual profit of the undertaking for a period of five account years preceding the vesting date;

(ii) *Basis B.*—The aggregate value of all the shares of the undertaking, the value of each share being reckoned at its average value over a period of three years commencing on 1st April 1946;

(iii) *Basis C.*—The book value less depreciation of the works and other assets of the undertaking actually handed over to the Government together with solatium."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know whether the Government are considering any scheme to take over all private concerns of electricity, so that the maximum electric energy can be utilized for agricultural and other purposes?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I have already given notice of a Bill which will be introduced in this session."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"May I know within how many years the acquisition will be completed and whether the parties have been intimated the time of the acquisition?"

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" This question will be taken up when the Bill which is to be introduced is passed into an Act."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" Considering the fact that there are only a few electric concerns, a small percentage, in the hands of private management, may I know if it is not better to leave them alone, so that you may compare yourself in regard to efficiency, with the private managements? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" That is not considered conducive for the purpose of rural development of electricity practically for agricultural purposes."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I know at present how many private companies have been taken over by the Government in all? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I have already stated that it will be taken up for consideration after we pass the Bill to be introduced."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" My question was: how many private companies have been taken over by the Government so far? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Only two private companies, if I remember aright, have been taken over."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—" Pending consideration of the Bill that has been given notice of, will the Government immediately take over those private concerns which have completely failed, and if so, will the Government seriously think of taking over the Narasaraopet private electric concerns ? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I have already told the hon. Member that he should persuade the shareholders of that concern to agree to the terms of the proposal made, in which case the Government will be prepared to take it over."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I think hon. Members will have more time to discuss this question when the Bill is before the House."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" I should like to know what is the special inconvenience the Government feel in continuing the small percentage of electric concerns now in the hands of private management unless it be that the private managements refuse to comply with the rules and orders of Government in relation to the advancing of rural development? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Yes, Sir; private undertakings are not able to proceed ahead with rural connections, and even when we ask them to take it up, they want a loan; they take from us bulk power and they want loans; what else are we to do? "

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SRI P. NATESAN:—" If the Government are not in a position to extend the power to a particular place for facilitating rural connection, is it not a case of inability to supply power? "

THE HON SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Perhaps it is a specific case; but the hon. Member cannot make it a general issue."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know how many private electricity concerns are now working at a loss and whether the Government propose to subsidize them ? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" There is no question of subsidizing."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know how many electricity concerns are actually working at a loss? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I have no information."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—" Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister for clauses (*a*) and (*b*), may I know whether the number given includes concerns for generation of electricity alone or both for generation and distribution also? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The number includes both."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Arising out of a previous answer, may I ask the Hon. Minister whether he is aware that not only with regard to rural areas but even with regard to urban areas, the Government are not in a position to supply the energy required by private licensees for distribution? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" That is a different question; it is true that Government have their own difficulties."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—" May I know whether the Government have got enough resources for buying up all these electric concerns? "

THE HON SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The hon. Member need have no apprehensions about it."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" May I know what is the amount required for paying compensation to these companies? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" About Rs. 3 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ crores will be required."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask whether it is not a fact that representations have been made to the Hon. Minister during his tour, of the urgency of the State acquiring all the private concerns with a view to meet demands under agricultural loans, and whether the Government have got a programme for the acquisition of these various private companies, as otherwise in the fairness of things, the private companies may not know when they are to be acquired by the Government? "

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"The question put by the hon. Member is the answer to the solicitude expressed by certain other hon. Members in favour of certain private concerns. Regarding the programme, I have already stated that we shall consider and announce it after we pass the Bill."

SRI K. LINGA RAJU:—"Where private companies have already expressed their willingness to hand over the concerns to the Government, will there be much delay and difficulty, pending the passing of this Bill?"

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Is it not enough that private concerns should agree to hand them over?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"And they must also agree to accept the terms under the legislation, and then we will consider the question of taking them over."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In view of the fact that the Government do not command the requisite finance for developing the concerns which they themselves have on hand, will they do their best to assist these private companies in carrying out their work satisfactorily?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"We are also doing that."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Since when did the Government think of rural electrification scheme?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I shall explain that when I introduce the Bill."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"May I know whether the taking up of these private enterprises is part of the grow more food campaign, and if it were so, may I ask the Government whether it is not more advisable just at present when we are in the midst of an emergency, that they must put their hands more in the direction where they have not done anything or where they have more to do, than interfere with these private enterprises for the time being?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I must say that the proposed acquisition is also in pursuance of this grow more food campaign."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"May I know on what basis the Government propose to give compensation, the market value, the book value or scrap value?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I have already answered it, and I shall again explain when I introduce the Bill."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I want to know why the Hon. Minister has not repudiated the statement of Mr. Natesan that the Government are not doing as much as private concerns are doing, so far as spreading electricity is concerned?"

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I do not think the hon. Mr. Natesan put forth that preposterous claim, and so there was no necessity for me to repudiate it."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—"May I ask whether the Government will not be driving away private capital to the extent of Rs. 3½ crores, as alleged by the Hon. Minister, by this acquisition?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"This private capital will not go to the sea, Sir."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"The Hon. Minister said 'Mr. Natesan would not have made such a preposterous claim;' there was no such preposterous claim, but I certainly repudiate the claim of the Madras Government that they have done much more in the matter of rural electrification than the private licensees."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Mr. Natesan is not only an hon. Member of this House; but he is also a licensee, and therefore it is a question of opinion." (Laughter.)

Total capital outlay of the Government on electricity schemes.

*108 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the total capital outlay of the Government on electricity schemes up to 31st March 1949 is; and

(*b*) what the percentage of return on the said capital outlay is?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"(*a*) Rs. 1,270·11 lakhs. This figure does not include the heavy capital expenditure that is now being incurred on new schemes such as Machkund, Moyar, etc., or extensions to old schemes such as the Pykara plant extension, Madras plant extension, etc. Expenditure on these items will be kept under a separate head till the schemes mature, the interest for the period being added to the capital costs as a part of the cost of construction.

"(*b*) Eight per cent per annum on the average."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—"What will be the rough estimate of the expenditure now going on, as capital outlay on electricity?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I would like to have notice."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know when the Machkund project will come into existence?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Sir, I expect it will come into existence by 1952."

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JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" In view of want of sufficient data with regard to current expenditure on electricity, are the Government satisfied that a return of 8 per cent on capital outlay is the correct figure arrived at? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" This is on the old investment, Sir."

Udayarpalayam murder case.

* 109 *Q.*—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received a copy of the judgment delivered by the Sessions Judge of Tiruchirappalli in what is known as 'Udayarpalayam murder case' in which Sri B. Venkatachalam Pillai, M.L.A., and eleven others were charged for alleged conspiracy to murder; and

(*b*) what the reasons or basis for the Government were to prosecute further Sri B. Venkatachalam Pillai, M.L.A., and others when the then District Magistrate withdrew the prosecution as there was not sufficient evidence to proceed with the case?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) On the material gathered by the C.I.D., the Government thought that the matter should be placed before a Court of Law for decision."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Is it not a fact that after the withdrawal by the Collector, without having sufficient information, the Madras Government sent Special C.I.D. men from Madras and wanted them to make out a case against these men? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" That is absolutely wrong; after the Collector's withdrawal, no C.I.D. men were sent from Madras by the Government."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—" May I ask whether it was more a case of persecution than of prosecution? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" That may be the view of my hon. Friend, but that is not the case."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" Arising out of the answer that the District Magistrate had withdrawn the case, and on the advice of the C.I.D., the Government instituted the case, may I know whether the Government have called for an explanation from the District Magistrate for having withdrawn the case? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" There was no necessity to call for an explanation from the Collector on the point; he withdrew the case since he felt there was no sufficient evidence; but the Government felt the sufficiency of the evidence should be left to a court and so they left the matter for the court to decide."

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SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" In view of the strong remarks of the learned Judge in respect of the prosecution in this case, may I know what steps the Government propose to take in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I have not seen any strong remarks of the Judge except that the evidence is not reliable."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Was not the attention of the Hon. Minister drawn to the remarks of the High Court that the C.I.D. were over-jealous in the matter? " 11-30 a.m.

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I do not remember the High Court having considered the case at all, Sir."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" Will the Government be pleased to send for a copy of the judgment in the case and look into the remarks made by the District Judge so that, if the Government feel necessary, they may take necessary action in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" We are in possession of the judgment; in reply to the first question, I have already said so."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Collector of Tiruchirappalli was transferred on account of his having withdrawn the case? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Not at all, Sir; so many Collectors are transferred for administrative reasons."

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN:—" தலைவர் அவர்களே, இந்த கேஸ் சம்பந்தமாக பொது மக்களுடைய அபிப்பிராயத்தைத் தெரிந்து ஹை கோர்ட்டில் ஏதாவது செய்வதற்கு உத்தேசம் இருக்கிறதா என்று கேட்கிறேன். "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" இந்த கேள்வியைத் தான் நேற்று நீங்கள் கேட்டு நான் பதில் சொல்லியிருக்கிறேன். "

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—" Did all the twelve accused who were charged with murder in this case survive the trial; if not has anybody died during the trial; if so how, when and where did he meet with his death? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I am not aware of any of the accused not having survived the case."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" As one of the accused is an hon. Member of this House, may I know whether the Government will do the needful so that the slander he was subjected to by this prosecution, which has been characterized by the District Court as unjust, might be wiped out and he might enjoy public confidence and integrity? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" There is nothing for the Government to do in the matter, Sir; if anybody has been charged with the murder, it is not because he was a Member of the House but because there was evidence to warrant proceeding with the case and the court said it has not been proved."

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JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" When is it that the prosecution was withdrawn and who ordered the prosecution subsequently; was it the Hon. Law Minister or the Hon. Premier or the Cabinet as a whole? "

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

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—" Will the Government consider the question of compensating the accused for the loss that they had been subjected to due to this unnecessary harrassment? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" No, Sir."

Treasury Bills of the Madras Government.

* 110 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the average rates of interest per annum for the Madras Government Treasury Bills during 1948–49 and during the current financial year are; and

(*b*) whether the amount offered by the public towards the Madras Government Treasury Bills in the *current* year is shorter or more than the amount of tenders called for by the Government?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (*a*) The average rate of discount for the Madras Government Treasury Bills during 1948–49 was Re. 0–10–0 per cent per annum. During the current year the rate of discount was Re. 0–9–0 per cent per annum in respect of each issue in August and September 1949.

" (*b*) The two amounts were equal to each other on each occasion."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that the rate the Madras Government has accepted with regard to the treasury bills is very high compared with what other provinces have done? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I do not think the hon. Member's information is correct."

Condition of Indians in Ceylon.

* 111 *Q.*—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) what action has been taken on the resolution passed by this House regarding the condition of Indians in Ceylon; and

(*b*) what the result is?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" (*a*) A copy of the resolution was forwarded to the Government of India, Ministry of External Affairs on 29th October 1948 for necessary action and copies of the proceedings of the House were forwarded to them on the 18th November 1948.

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" (*b*) This Government have yet no information."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" இப்பொழுது இலங்கையிலிருக்கும் 10 லட்சம் இந்தியாகளில் நூறுக்கு 90 பேர்கள் தமிழாகள் எனபது அரசாங்கத்திறகு தெரியுமா எனறு கேட்கிறேன் ? இப்பொழுது இலங்கை சர்க்கார் குடியேற்ற . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—"ஒவ்வொரு கேள்வியாகக் கேட்கவேண்டும். "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" எவ்வளவு பேர்கள் என்று கணக்குப்பார்த்து வைபம் தெரிய வேண்டும் எனருலும் பொது வாகத் தெரியும."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" இபபொழுது இலங்கை சர்க்கார் குடியேறின இநதியாகள வெளியேற்றுய சட்டதைத இநத நவமபர மாதம 1-ம மததியலிருநது அமுல நடதது வருவதில ஆயிரக்கலைகாக அங்கே permanent ஆக இருந்தவாகள இலலைகக்குப பாகமுடியாமல தவிக கினறாகள எனபது அரசாங்கத்திறகு தெரியுமா ? இநத விஷயதைப பறறி இநத அசெமபளி அங்கதத்பர்கள சாகாரிடதில ஒரு மெமோ ராணடம கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்களா."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" கனம் அங்கத்தினர் உள்பட சில அங்கதத்தனாகள கொடுத்திருகிறாகள. அதபறறி கவனக்கிறும மதய அரசாங்கத்திறகு எழுதியிருக்கிறோம்."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" இந்த இலங்கைவாழும் இந்தியர்களின் நிலைமையை சமாளிபபதறகும அவாகளுடைய சௌகரியங்களை கவனிப்ப தறகும அரசாங்கதது தனியாக ஒரு டிபார்டுமெண்டை create பணணி மணடபம camp ல ஒரு அதிகாரியை நியமித்து அங்குள்ள இநதியர் களின நிலைமையை பரிசீலனை செய்து குறைகளை கவனிக்கும படி ஏறபாடு செயது ஒரு முடிவுக்குவருவதறகு மநதிரியாகள ஏறபாடு செயவாரகளா ? அவவிதய முயறசியை இநத Assembly கூடடம முடிவதறகுள ஒரு ஏற பாடு செய்து விட்டோம என்று தெரிவிக்க முடியுமா."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" இவைகளையெல்லாம் கவனிக்கப்படும், ஆனால் இநத சட்டசபை முடிவதறகுள செய்து விட முடியும என்று உறுதிகூற முடியாது."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" In view of the fact that the present condition of Indians in Ceylon has worsened and new difficulties have been created, will the Government be pleased to allot a day for discussing the subject of the condition of Indians in Ceylon so as to enable the House to express its opinion and the Government may be authorized to take strong action through the Government of India? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member should know that this is a Central subject; but so far as this House is concerned, it has passed a resolution requesting the Central Government to take up the matter with the Ceylon Government."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" I am fully aware, Sir, that it is a Central subject; I wish to bring to your notice that there are a million Indians most of whom are Madrasis, and in that view of the matter this Government should take interest in them and afford an opportunity to this House to express its opinion and to urge the Government of India to take strong action; one million Indians have been denied citizenship rights in Ceylon and new difficulties have been created and I would, therefore, ask if the Government would be prepared to allot a day for dismissing the subject? "

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We shall consider the suggestion."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" It is nearly a year since this House expressed its views regarding Indians in Ceylon; may I know, Sir, why the Government have failed to bring to the notice of the Government of India the urgency of the matter and to impress upon them that prompt action was called for? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The Hon. Minister has already answered a similar question put by Mr. Kosalram."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" May I know, Sir, whether this Government are prepared to recommend to the Government of India to pass rules and regulations by which Indians from here having trade relations may have easy passport facilities to go over to Ceylon? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The Government are attending to that question."

JANAB P. P. HASSAN KOYA:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister is aware of the fact that the Government of Ceylon are so using exchange control, so vindictively and bitterly, as to make the position of Indians in that country uncomfortable? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Again, I have to tell the hon. Member that that is a question which must be addressed to the Central Government."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I wish to answer that question, Sir. We have already addressed the Government of India on this matter."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that the present activities of the Government of Ceylon are based upon their anti-Indian feeling and may I also ask whether the Hon. Minister is aware of the disparaging propaganda carried on by one of the Ministers of Ceylon in a foreign country? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I wish to know the hon. Member how this question is relevant; I have already told him that this is entirely a Central subject."

JANAB P. P. HASSAN KOYA:—" May I know, Sir, if the Hon. Minister is aware of the fact that when applications for permits are filed by Indians who are resident here, inordinate delay is experienced by them and will the Government instruct their subordinate officers that, when these applications are made, there should not be any delay? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" That question is engaging the attention of the Government."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" நண்பர் கோயா கேட்ட கேள்வி சம்பந்த மாக சென்னை சர்க்கார் அதிகாரிகளாகிய Revenue Divisional Officer, ராமமூன்சீப், தாசில்தார் இவர்களுடைய certificate வாங்கிப்போவதற்கு கஷ்டப்படுக்கொண்டிருப்பதால் முனிசிபல் கவுன்சிலர், சட்டசபை அங்கத்தினர், ஜில்லா போர்டு மெம்பர் இவர்கள் certificate கொடுத்தால் போதும் என்று யாராவது சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்களா? அப்படி சொல்லியிருந்தால் அதைப்பற்றி ஏதாவது நடவடிக்கை எடுத்திருக்கிறார்களா?

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" கனம் அங்கத்தினர் அவர்களை மேறகூறிய யோசனையை கொடுத்திருக்கிறார். அது சர்க்காரால் யோசிக்கப்பட்டு வருகிறது."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" Arising out of the answer to clause (b), as this is a matter which is essentially a concern of this Province, may I know, Sir, whether the Government would contact with the High Commissioner in Colombo for necessary information as regards the action or the proposed action taken so far on the resolution passed by this House? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I have no doubt that the High Commissioner has already taken up the matter and is doing his very best in the matter."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" May I suggest to the Hon. Minister, in view of the fact that the Governments have failed to come together so far, that a non-official deputation of the Members of this House may be arranged to go to Ceylon and meet the representatives of the people there, not on a Government-to-Government basis, but on the people-to-people basis . . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I might remind the hon. Member that this being a Central subject, such a thing could not be done by this Government."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" I am suggesting that this Government might move in the direction I have indicated, not that they themselves can do it, but they can prevail upon the Central Government to accept the proposal, so that they may take necessary action."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The Government will examine the proposal put forth by the hon. Member."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" Sir, கனம் பாஷ்யம் அவர்கள் கேட்ட கேள்வி பிரகாரம் இந்த விஷயங்களை துரிதமாக நடத்துவதற்கு மந்திரி அவர்களின் தலைமையின் கீழ் நம் அங்கத்தினர்களிலும் இரண்டு மூன்று பேர்களையும் சேர்த்துக்கொண்டு மத்ய அரசாங்கத்தின் பிரதம மந்திரி பண்டித நேரு அவர்களிடம் ஒரு deputation போகும்படியாக இந்த சாக்கார் ஏற்பாடு செய்வார்களா?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" இது கனம் பாஷ்யம் அவர்கள் கேட்ட கேளவிதான். அதற்கு பதில நான் ஏற்கனவே சொல்லியிருக்கிறேன்."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" என்னுடைய கேள்வி என்னவென்றால் இங்கிருந்து ஒரு deputation இந்திய பிரதம மந்திரியை பார்க்கப் போக வேண்டுமென்பது. இலங்கைக்குப் போகவேண்டுமென்பதல்ல."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" இந்த யோசனையையும் நாங்கள் கவனத்து வருகிறோம்."

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN:—" தலைவர் அவர்களே, சிலோனிலுள்ள இந்தியாகளை மிகவும் கேவலமாக நடத்தப்படுவதாக தெரிகிறது. அதனபடி இந்திய அரசாங்கத்தின் High Commissioner-ன் ரிபோர்ட்டை சமர்ப்பிக்க முடியுமா என்று கேடகறேன்?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" அதை இங்கே செய்ய முடியாது. அதை மத்ய அரசாங்கம்தான் செய்யவேண்டும்."

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Concessions to converted Harijans reconverted to Hinduism.

*112 *Q.*—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a reference was made to the Government by the Director of Public Instruction as to whether a Harijan convert, who re-embraced Hinduism, could be granted the concessions which the Harijans were entitled to; and

(*b*) if so, what the orders that were passed by the Government on this reference by the Director of Public Instruction are?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"(*a*) Yes.

"(*b*) The Director was informed that there was no objection to Christians who are reconverted to Hinduism being granted educational concessions provided other conditions relating to the grant of the concessions are satisfied and that authenticated certificates regarding the conversions from Christianity to Hinduism are produced. The Government have since reconsidered the matter and they decided that change of religion for purely monetary advantage should not be encouraged. They have, therefore, directed that full-fee concession admissible to Harijans shall be granted to Harijan converts to Christianity reconverted to Hinduism only five years after such reconversion. In the meanwhile such reconverts to Hinduism should be treated as belonging to the Backward Classes."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that this policy of the Madras Government in the matter of trying to give help to people not because they are poor but because of their religion, has been strongly condemned by the Archbishop of Madras, the Rev. Dr. Mathai?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Not at all, Sir. The Archbishop has not condemned it and whatever he has said, he has written to me saying that he has withdrawn."

SRI L. C. PAIS:—"In view of the professedly secular character of the State, are the Government satisfied that the concessions granted to persons reconverted to Hinduism from Christianity amount in actual practice to penalty for becoming a Christian and reward for reconversion to Hinduism?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Not at all, Sir; the latest orders of the Government are that if a Harijan, who had been converted reconverts to Hinduism, he will be treated as a member of the Backward community for five years and if he still continues to be a Harijan, he will have all the concession that is afforded to Harijans."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"While thanking the Government for the concession shown to re-converted Harijans, might I ask whether in view of the fact that they are suffering from all the limitations, whether the Government will show more concession to them than are shown to members of the Backward communities?"

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THE HON. SRI K MADHAVA MENON:—"I do not concede the existence of a Harijan Christian and on that basis there must be Muslim Christians or Brahman Christians; I do not concede anything like that; once he is reconverted, he can only be a Hindu and all concessions which Backward classes are entitled to are extended to him."

SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN:—"Sir, supposing a person who comes from a family which was converted to Christianity over a hundred years ago wants to embrace Hinduism to-day, is that person entitled to get that concession?" 11-45 a.m.

MR. SPEAKER:—"A similar question has already been answered."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—"Are the Government aware that very many of these Harijans who have been converted to Christianity still go under the Hindu name so that they may get the facilities offered now by the Government?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, I cannot help it."

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Government did issue orders in a Press Communiqué to the effect that Harijans who are reconverted to Hinduism should be given all the concessions given to Hindu Harijans, some time back?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I am not aware of any such Press Communiqué."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister for Education that while conversion from one religion to another religion by a Harijan does not mean any advancement in his financial status but gets some other concessions, may I know why a Harijan who has not changed his religion but continues in Hinduism is denied the same concessions given to a Harijan reconverted to Hinduism?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"We have not withdrawn any concessions enjoyed by anybody previously."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Sir, the Hon. Minister for Education said that those Christian Harijans who became Hindus will be given concessions only after five years. Is it not, Sir, that after five years the Harijan community would have reached such status when they would not require such concessions?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Nothing would please me and the Members of this House more than that, if they attained that status in five years."

JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"Sir, arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister, when he said that 'a Christian Muslim converting into a Hindu' (laughter), may I know how can there be a Christian Muslim?" (Laughter.)

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"There can be a Christian Muslim only in the same way as there can be a Harijan Christian." (Laughter.)

Alleged high-handedness of some Police officials at Sethiyathope.

*113 *Q.*—SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any memorandum from the Secretary of the Firka Congress Committee, Sethiyathope in Chidambaram taluk, regarding the high-handedness of some of the Police officials; and

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) above is in the affirmative, what steps the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—"(*a*) & (*b*) In March 1948, the Government received a copy of a petition from Sri K. Balasubrahmanyan of Sethiyatope addressed to the Secretary, Sethiyatope Firka Congress Committee, containing allegations of high-handedness against the local head constable. Disciplinary action was taken against the head constable and he was suitably dealt with.

"In January 1949, the Secretary, Sethiyatope Firka Congress Committee, sent a letter to the then Hon. Premier containing allegations against the local police. The Deputy Superintendent of Police, Chidambaram, conducted an enquiry. Departmental action is being taken against the Police officials at fault."

The "Madras Information".

*114 *Q.*—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal to discontinue the publication of the *Madras Information*?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"No."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Sir, in view of the need for economy, may I know why the Government are not considering the discontinuance of the *Madras Information*, which, as a matter of fact, does not supply us any additional information besides what is contained in the ordinary newspapers, apart from the broadcast talks of Ministers, their tour programmes and their photographs?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"The information supplied by this journal may not be valuable to hon. Members here but it is valuble to the villagers."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Sir, without meaning anything wrong to the Hon. Ministers, may I ask what is it

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that we find in the Madras Information except Ministers' photos, Ministers' tour programme and talks through the All-India Radio. Does not that constitute all the information contained in it?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Whatever is contained in this journal, the Government consider is useful for the people."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know the number of copies published in English, Telugu, Tamil, Kannada and Malayalam?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"The number of copies published in October was as follows: English 3,900; Tamil 5,100; Telugu 2,900; Kannada 2,250; and Malayalam 2,800."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"Is it not a fact that this Government publication gives the necessary information about the activities of the Government of Madras to the people of the province at a very low cost?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"It is exactly so; I am obliged to the hon. Member for putting this question."

JANAB B. POCKER:—"Are the Government aware that the general feeling among the public is that the money spent on this journal is *sheer deliberate waste of public money* and that Government should *stop* it at once?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"That is only the view of the hon. Gentleman, who has expressed it in such vehement terms." (Laughter.)

DR. U. PADMANABHA MALLAYYA:—"May I know whether the Government will consider improving the type of the Kannada section of the Madras Information, inasmuch as it is not at all attractive at present?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I shall consider the suggestion."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that other provinces and States are doing the same thing and publishing information about their province and publishing broadcast talks?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Yes, Sir; that is exactly so. The journals in other provinces are even costlier."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Of the number of copies published just given by the Hon. Minister, may I know what percentage is represented by the number subscribed, and what percentage constitutes free distribution?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I have no information ready at hand. Free distribution is a very small percentage."

SRI K. LINGA RAJU:—"May I know how many copies are actually sold?"

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Free copies are only very few. The other copies are either subscribed or sold individualy."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Do the Government consider it wrong to give publicity to their acts which they do in the interests of the people? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The Government do not consider at all that it is wrong to give publicity to their activities which are done in the interests of the public."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister will take steps to improve the Telugu edition of the Madras Information, where the translation does not seem to be Telugu at all? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I would invite the help of the hon. Member who is a Telugu scholar and poet to improve the Telugu edition."

JANAB B. POCKER:—" May I know what is the net amount of expenditure incurred for running this journal? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Notice, Sir."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Is it not a fact that the Central Government have suspended the publication of a similar journal, which they were bringing out? In view of the need for economy; will not this Government follow suit particularly as this journal is but a poor specimen of journalism which was adverted by His Excellency, Sri C. Rajagopalachariar, the Governor-General, when he came here? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I remember to have seen such news reported in the newspaper. But the Central Government have other methods of publicity, and they do at much higher cost than what we do here."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" From the contents of the ' Madras Information ' does it not appear that now the journal should not be called ' Madras Information ' but ' Ministers Information? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" If that is the view of the hon. Gentleman, he can satisfy himself by putting the question to himself." (Laughter.)

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister why this " Madras Information " is not put on a commercial basis by trying to get advertisements and to improve the reading matter? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" So far we have not taken in advertisements: and we shall consider the suggestion made by the hon. Member."

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JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know why the Government have not appended a few pages in the journal for publicity being given for the work done by the Legislature? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I would like to have specific suggestions from the hon. Member and I would consider them."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" May I know whether the information given on the floor of the House about the Madras Information will be published in the Madras Information? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Whatever the editor considers it worthwhile will be published."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" In view of certain remarks by some Members about the photograph of Ministers alone appearing in the journal, will the Hon. Minister consider the desirability of publishing the photograph of all the Members of this House in that journal? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" It is not possible to publish all the photos in one issue; but we shall publish it in parts." (Laughter.)

SRI M. KUMARAN:—" Will the Government consider the desirability of appointing organisers in each district to popularize this journal as there are many areas where the publication of this journal is not known? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" It is not possible to appoint organisers. I would invite the co-operation of the hon. Member to popularise this journal."

Basic training schools.

* 115 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of basic training schools that have been newly opened this year by the Government and the number opened by private bodies and the total number of basic training schools that are existing at present;

(*b*) the number of students that appeared for the examination last year and the number of them that passed; and

(*c*) whether the Government have provided employment to those who have passed their basic teachers' examination?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" (*a*) The number of basic training schools that have been newly opened this year by Government is nine and the number opened by private bodies is two. The total number of basic training schools that are functioning in this Province at present is 36 of which 28 are under Government management and the remaining eight under private management.

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"(*b*) The number of students that appeared for the junior and Senior Basic Training School Leaving Certificate examination in April 1949 and the number that passed are furnished below:—

Grade.	Number appeared.			Number passed.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Junior Basic ..	128	43	171	102	25	127
Senior Basic ..	25	9	34	24	9	33
Total						160

"(*c*) Since it is not the policy of the Government to run all basic schools under Government management, Government cannot guarantee employment to all basic trained teachers. But some of the senior basic trained teachers will be absorbed in the Government Basic Training Schools and model schools attached to these schools whenever vacancies arise."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"May I inquire whether the Government consider that at this rate they can convert all the elementary schools as basic schools within five years, if not what is their proposal?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"We are trying to increase the number of training schools as quickly as possible."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state the number of basic schools which have Hindustani as the medium of instruction?"

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

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I inquire whether the Government have a definite policy of creating as many basic schools as possible, and may I know whether they will consider the desirability of appointing a Deputy Director of Public Instruction to be solely in charge of basic training and basic education?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The idea of the Government is to convert all the elementary schools into basic schools as quickly as possible, so that elementary education and basic education may go together. The suggestion of the hon. Member will be considered."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—"Are we to understand that those who have come out after training have been employed by the Government?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Not all but most of them have been employed."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"May I inquire whether the students trained in basic schools are working as teachers in basic schools. If not, what are they doing?"

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Most of them are working in basic schools, and some of them are working in ordinary schools. We are trying to do our best to take in all those who are trained in basic schools."

Loans floated by the Madras Government.

*116 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state— 12 noon.

(*a*) what the short-term and long-term loans are which the Government propose to float during the current year and for what amounts; and

(*b*) what the loans are which the Government are to pay off during this year?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"(*a*) (1) *Short-term loans.*—Short-term borrowings of the Government are dependent on the day to day requirements. So far, three issues of treasury bills have been made for an aggregate amount of Rs. 500 lakhs. It is estimated that the short-term borrowings in the current year will be so arranged that the outstandings at any one time do not exceed Rs. 10 crores. It is also expected that all short-term loans will be completely repaid before the close of the financial year.

"(2) *Long-term loans.*—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to the Legislative Assembly Starred question No. 41 by Janab Muhammad Ismail in which it was stated that the matter was confidential.

"(*b*) No long-term loan raised in the market or obtained from the Government of India falls due for repayment in the current year."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"Do this Government have any idea of introducing bearer bonds?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"No, Sir. That is a matter which the Government of India are considering."

Communist prisoners in Vellore jail.

*117 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a search was made recently in the Vellore Jail in the block where Communist prisoners are kept;

(*b*) what the unauthorized articles seized from the Communist prisoners are; and

(*c*) how it was possible to these prisoners to possess such articles in the prison?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"(*a*) Yes.

"(*b*) Some stones, brick-bats, sticks, lathis, etc., and also one stick with odd pieces of tin stuck on to it, were seized from the detenus.

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"(*c*) The unauthorized articles found in the possession of detenus, were mostly improvised from various part of the articles of furniture supplied to them, such as chairs, tables, cots, etc., and also from firewood. Stones and brick-bats must have been collected from the compound and the buildings."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I wish to remind the House that a similar question came up before the House day before yesterday."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"Are the Government aware that the Communists who are kept collectively in one jail conspire and do havoc as soon as they are released and, if so, will the Government see that such things do not recur?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"We are certainly watching the conduct of those who are released."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Since the manufacture of these articles will take a long time, how is it that the jail authorities were closing their eyes when the manufacture was going on?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Nothing was manufactured. Only parts of the furniture supplied to them like the arms of chairs were used as lathis."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"May I, with your permission, repeat my question whether, in view of what has happened in the jail, it will not be better to order a public enquiry?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"May I again inform that I do not think it is necessary at all to have an enquiry?"

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"In view of the aggressive propaganda carried on by the Communists both in this country and outside, will the Government give publicity to the activities of the Communists not only in this Province and this country but also in countries outside India?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"They are published in the leaflet 'charge-sheet against Communists' copies of which are sent to the Central Government and the other Provincial Governments. As regards publicity outside this country, I shall consider the suggestion."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"When there is a reasonable demand and necessity for an enquiry, I cannot understand how the Hon. Minister for Law can say that he does not see the necessity. Were not Tottenham and Maxwell using the same language in 1942 in the Central Assembly?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"If the hon. Gentleman cannot understand, I cannot help him."

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The Madras Estates Abolition Act.

*118 *Q.*—SRI T. VISWANATHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any correspondence took place between this Government and the Government of India and the Hon. Deputy Prime Minister of India in connexion with the implementation of the Madras Estates Abolition Act (Act XXVI of 1948) subsequent to the assent given to the Act by the Governor-General; and

(*b*) whether the Government will place the correspondence on the table of the House?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"(*a*) Yes.

"(*b*) The correspondence is confidential and the Government do not consider that it will be in the public interest to place it on the table of the House."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I know what the public interests are that will be jeopardise if the information is given to the public?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I have already stated that the correspondence is confidential and that the Government do not consider that it will be in the public interest to place it on the table of the House."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I know whether it relates to compensation?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I am not prepared to go any further in this matter."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"In view of the divergence of opinion on the mode of payment of compensation, is it not better that the Government, in the interests of their own credit, publish the entire correspondence about compensation?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The Government know how to protect their credit and they will take due steps towards that end."

Issue of petrol for essential and non-essential services

*119 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the principle on which one class of service is treated as essential and another as non-essential for purposes of issuing petrol ration?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"At present in the matter of issue of (1) supplementary rations for motor cars and motor cycles, and (2) rations for goods vehicles, a distinction is made between essential or non-essential vehicles. As regards supplementary rations, motor cars and motor cycles in the use of persons whose quick and unhampered transport is vital to the society are treated as essential.

"Similarly goods vehicles engaged in the transport of commodities which are very vital to the society are treated as essential and the rest as non-essential."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—"May I ask whether this distinction is based on humanitarian motive or merely the official or non-official character?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"All motives are taken into consideration."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know whether doctors and lawyers are classed as essential?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Yes."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know the units allowed for essential users?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It all depends upon the horse power of the vehicle."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Are the Government aware that the petrol given to essential users is not sufficient and, if so, will they enhance the quota?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The quantity of petrol given to this Province being limited, we cannot increase the quota for essential users. But every case is considered on its own merits."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Does the Hon. Minister realize that petrol given on the basis of horse power leads to absurdity in certain cases? For instance, a man living in Gandhinagar will have to travel a longer distance than a man living close by to the fort. Will he modify the rules?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We cannot go into the question of where each man resides and what distance he travels. Therefore we go by the horse power."

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—"Since merchants are collecting and paying sales tax to the Government, why should not they be treated as essential users?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Some merchants do not stir out. They sit in the shop, collect sales tax and pay it to the Government. I do not see why they should be treated as essential."

Working of the 'Control' in the Province.

*120 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any report regarding the working of the 'control' in our Presidency in recent months on oilseeds; and

(*b*) if so, what action has been taken on such report?

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THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"(*a*) It is not quite clear as to what report the hon. Member refers to. There is no control at present over the price, transport, etc., of oil seeds. Some representations have however been received both from commercial bodies and individuals to the effect that large quantities of groundnuts have been finding their way out of this Province resulting in increase in prices and that due to internal scarcity of stocks and the anxiousness of shippers to fulfil their export obligations, speculation in futures has been rife, especially in the Adoni Market. A request has been made to the Government to suppress such speculation in futures.

"(*b*) The Essential Supplies (Temporary Powers) Act, 1946 (Central Act XXIV of 1946) covers such speculations and section 11 provides for the prosecution of offenders. The attention of the Collectors has been drawn to this provision of law and they have been directed to take necessary action."

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

II.—SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, I present the Demands for Grants for Further Expenditure and Detailed Supplementary Estimates thereof for the year 1949-50, a copy of which has been placed on the table of the House. As stated in the Introductory Memorandum to the Supplementary Statement, the Demands are for token sums in respect of schemes which are treated as new service and which have been sanctioned or approved by the Government during this year till about the middle of October. This includes grow-more-food schemes sanctioned against the lump sum provision already made in the budget. I do not propose to go into the details of the Demands at present. Necessary information will be found in the Detailed Supplementary Estimates laid on the table of the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"General discussion on the Supplementary Demands will take place on the 19th and the voting on the 22nd November."

GOVERNMENT BILL.

III.—THE MADRAS BUILDINGS (LEASE AND RENT CONTROL) AMENDMENT BILL, 1948 (L.A. BILL No. 24 OF 1948).

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"Sir, I present the report[a] of the Joint Select Committee on the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Amendment Bill, 1948 (L.A. Bill No. 24 of 1948).

"The Bill was introduced in both the Houses of the Legislature during the last session and was referred to a Joint Select Committee. The Committee considered the Bill and submitted a

[a] Printed as Appendix at pages 569-581 infra.

[Sri N. Sanjeeva Reddi] [15th November 1949

report on 17th May 1949. After giving due notice of motion, the presentation and consideration of the Joint Select Committee's report were included in the agenda of the last meeting of the Assembly held in June 1949. The report was not, however, presented and taken into consideration as a doubt arose regarding the validity of the continuance of the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act, 1946, from 1st October 1948. In the judgment of the Federal Court relating to a Bihar case, it was held that the continuance of an Act by a notification of the Provincial Government was not valid. In view of this judgment, an Ordinance was promulgated on 16th August 1949 validating the continuance of the Act from 1st October 1948. But this Ordinance has proved to be infructuous by reason of a recent judgment of the Madras High Court in respect of a similar Ordinance promulgated to validate the continuance of Madras Act I of 1947. As a result of this the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act, 1946, ceased to be in force since 1st October 1948 and consequently the Amendment Bill could not be proceeded with. Therefore I beg leave of the House to withdraw the Bill. The report of the Joint Select Committee is however presented to the House as required under Rule 86 (1) of the Rules for the Madras Legislative Assembly."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister wants the leave of the House to withdraw the Bill."

JANAB P. P. HASSAN KOYA:—"We do not find the report of the Joint Select Committee on the table of the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It was already circulated."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I take it that now there is no law similar to the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act, 1946?."

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"The Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Ordinance, 1949, is in force, and it will be enacted into law in this session."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know how the Government have come into this unfortunate position? They have got a legal department to advise them. An Act is passed and it becomes invalid by reason of a judgment of the Federal Court. An Ordinance is passed and it becomes invalid by reason of a judgment of the Madras High Court."

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"It is not the main Bill that I am withdrawing, but the Bill as reported on by the Joint Select Committee."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"What is the present position?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The Bill reported on by the Joint Select Committee is an amendment to the Act of 1946. When the Act itself is not there, the amending Bill

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automatically drops out. Under the rules, the report of the Joint Select Committee has to be placed before the House, though the Bill is to be dropped. But the Ordinance is there."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is not the duty of the Government, now that the Assembly is sitting, to come forward immediately with a Bill in order to see that the ordinance does not function any longer?" 12-15 p.m.

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"The Bill is there, and notice has been given already for consideration in this session. It has already been put on the agenda."

SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—"On a point of information, Mr. Speaker, the Bill that was before the House had gone through the Select Committee and the Select Committee had made a number of amendments to it. That Bill as it emerged from the Select Committee is now being withdrawn. I want to know, Mr. Speaker, whether the Government propose to bring forward the entire amendments again by means of an amending Bill shortly?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Yes, Sir, the entire amendment as suggested by the Select Committee *plus* the suggestions of the Hon. Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar and also certain other amendments which were thought necessary by the Government in the light of the present circumstances,—all these will be incorporated in the Bill which will be brought before the House in the course of this session."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Sir, the present position, as I understand it, is this. There is now an ordinance and this has been promulgated because of the legal opinion expressed by the Bihar High Court. This gives us time to consider how best to put this Act into operation. Now the ordinance which is to be brought before the House within the time prescribed by the rules, in the form of a Bill, is already, there. I not only urge that the Select Committee which sat on the original Bill and which debated it for several days and which arrived at certain decisions and suggested certain amendments, and the report of which is now being withdrawn, should again consider *de novo* the whole problem in the light of the present Bill, and also the Government themselves through their Legal Department and through the regular department which administers the Rent Control Act, should examine those amendments again and see that they are incorporated in the Bill which is to be brought forward in this session of the House. Sir, there will be ample time for the Members and for the Government to make up their minds on the new provisions to be placed before the Assembly for the ratification of the ordinance."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"Can we take it, Sir, that the original Bill without the amendments of the Select Committee is still before the House?"

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THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"There is no Bill now before the House, Sir. The ordinance only is there. The suggestion of my hon. Friend Mr. N. S. Varadachari is that the Government themselves should incorporate the amendments suggested by the Select Committee in the new Bill which is to be brought forward in the present session to replace the ordinance and also take into consideration the amendments proposed by other Members of the House; and I submit, Sir, that his suggestion will also be considered."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I hope the House grants leave for the Hon. Sri N. Sanjeeva Reddi to withdraw the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Amendment Bill, 1948 (L.A. Bill No. 24 of 1948)."

The Bill was by leave of the House withdrawn.

IV.—SITUATION CAUSED BY THE RECENT CYCLONE IN ANDHRA DISTRICTS—*contd.*

MR. SPEAKER:—"Now the hon. Member Sri D. V. Ramaswami will continue his speech on the debate on the cyclone havoc in the Andhra districts."

* SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, reading from the report which has already been placed before the House, one can very well see the extensive damages caused by the recent cyclone in the Andhra districts, particularly in the districts of East and West Godavari, Guntur and Krishna. I am sure, Sir, that this House and the Government will agree that any amount of contributions that could be made both by the Government and by the public, however large they may be, to relieve the distress among the people caused by the cyclone, will not be too much. If a correct estimate of the loss is made, I think it may go even as far as 80 to 100 crores. I submit, Sir, that the estimated loss in my own district of Visakhapatnam, as stated in the report of the Government is hardly correct. The September floods themselves have caused enormous loss and this was reported by the inspecting officers, like the Collector, the Revenue Divisional Officers and the M.L.As. concerned. The tanks of Kondakarla and Sarvasidhi, which were breached, had done considerable damage to the crops. The October cyclone and floods had very largely aggravated the situation and I really wonder how the Government arrived at the figure of 50,000 acres only of wet lands, the standing crops of which had been damaged and submerged under water as they only damaged. In the taluks of Anakapalle and Yellamanchili alone, almost all the wet lands—about 50,000 acres in all—had been completely submerged under water and there are also vast extents of land in which sugarcane, turmeric, betel leaves and onions were cultivated, all of which had been flooded and damaged. The estimated loss of crops in the several taluks lying on either side of the Sarada, Vamsadhara and Nagavalli rivers, which were in spate, would be about 120,000 acres. I am

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sure, Sir, if a more careful and a more correct estimate of the loss is assessed in regard to the districts of East and West Godavari by the Collectors of the districts concerned, it would reveal what an extensive damage has been caused, and how much the people are suffering. I would therefore urge, Sir, that a more detailed investigation by the Collector should be made and a report called for, in respect of the district of Visakhapatnam again.

"Sir, the floods in the Budameru and Kollair rivers alone had been extraordinarily severe. I had myself an opportunity of visiting the Budameru river recently and saw with my own eyes what a havoc had been wrought by the floods, although I went there several days after the river was in spate. I saw a large sheet of water extending over several thousands of acres, submerging the wet lands wherein paddy had been grown, and wherein all the standing crops had been turned into absolute hay. One would find it extremely difficult to estimate the loss correctly. Lakhs of villagers have been deprived of their homes and their livelihood. I am sure, Sir, that our Andhra Ministers for Finance, Revenue, Co-operation and Forests will certainly do their best to appraise the Government of the havoc caused by the cyclone and the Hon. Minister for Public Works also whose affection for the Andhras is great—all of them have now an unique opportunity and I hope that all of them will do their utmost to cut short the red tape and direct their heads of department, like the Chief Engineer for Irrigation and other senior officers if necessary, to shift their headquarters to Vijayavada and give expeditious orders and sanctions to their subordinate officers on the spot to carry out the rehabilitation work among the ryots affected in those areas. (At this stage, Madam Deputy Speaker occupied the Chair.)

"Madam, I shall now come to my next point. The Hon. Minister for Public Works, in the statement which he made yesterday on the floor of this House, observed that, as far as the present floods are concerned, the omission to construct a reservoir on the Budameru could have made little or no difference. There I entirely beg to differ from him. If, as we had suggested, steps had been taken to construct a reservoir on the Budameru in 1947, it would have been completed by now, and there would not have occurred this serious loss. This is a matter on which I do not want to enter into any controversy with him. The urgent problem at present is, how we can successfully tackle with the present crisis and how we can bring down succour and relief to the people in distress."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member's speech is not audible; he may kindly go to the next mike and continue his speech."

* SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"Madam, I was just submitting that immediate and short term measures should be taken to bring relief to the people who are in distress. I suggest Madam, that things which are immediately required by the ryots

to rehabilitate them, such as, seeds, manure, agricultural implements, building materials like bamboo poles and splits, zinc-sheets etc., should be rushed to them. Large subsidies and takkavi loans should be freely given, in addition to tax remissions, which the Government have promised. There is also an immediate necessity to open relief shops, wherein articles of food and other necessities should be made available to the people at fair prices, particularly in the centre of the flood-affected areas of the Andhra districts. A conference of the local officials of all departments should be held in Visakhapatnam and immediate steps should be taken to repair all the breached channels and seeds should be supplied free to the ryots so as to enable them to raise a second crop at a very short time. Otherwise their distress will become greater, because their food position will become grave.

"Madam, at the same time, I want that the Government should work out a long term plan to check the possibility of damage due to similar floods in future by these rivers and tanks, by expediting the construction of projects like the Budameru and Kolair reservoirs, because they alone are the real solution to checkmate such periodical ravages. These projects will really prove a blessing to these millions of people who are affected by these periodical calamities. Madam, it has been published in the papers that the extent of damages caused and the sufferings of the people who are victims to such floods, have been fully realised by people all over India, and that the Governors of five Provinces have already sent telegrams expressing their sympathy towards the victims, and that attempts were being made to raise a big fund to alleviate their sufferings. Madam, I submit, that our own Government should not lag behind them in their efforts to bring succour and relief to the distressed, they should also see that advantage is not taken of this crisis by the parties which are ranged against the Government, to exploit any delay or callousness or indifference on the part of the Government.

"Madam, we have heard of great calamities like the Bihar and Quetta earthquakes and also of the Bengal floods, but no greater calamity had befallen this country, than the recent cyclone havoc in the Andhra districts and I am sure, if Mahatma Gandhi were alive to-day, he would have himself started a cyclone relief fund to alleviate the distress among the people of the Andhra districts. I think, Madam, that it is not too late for our Ministers and other responsible officers of the Government to show their personal sympathies towards the people in distress by touring frequently in those areas and bringing some sort of consolation and encouragement to those people and by doing the needful. They could give necessary instructions to the Collectors on the spot and place large sums of money at their disposal as discretionary grants, so that they may be able to tackle this extraordinary situation. I therefore pray that my amendment which simply seeks to give a token grant of Rs. 2 crores may be accepted by the Government. As I submitted at the beginning, if you wish to assess the correct estimate of the loss sustained by the

people, it would even go as far as Rs. 80 to 100 crores, but it will be impossible for any Government to spend such a huge sum to alleviate the people affected. As an earnest of their goodwill and as a realization of the tragedy that has overtaken the Andhra districts, I hope that the Government will accept my amendment and see that a sum of Rs. 2 crores is earmarked for bringing relief to the distressed people of the Andhra desa."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I dare say that the motion of the Hon. Minister contains words that this House sympathises with the sufferers from the cyclone and floods that have come upon the people of Andhra desa and Ceded districts. I am sure that the Government will come forward with adequate help to rehabilitate them. The colossal loss of human lives, property and crops, has brought about disaster of a very severe type of unprecedented dimensions. It is true that the Government started moving in the matter as soon as the disaster overtook these unfortunate districts. I should say that in addition to the orders that the Government issued from time to time to their officers to institute a thorough enquiry as regards the effect of the cyclone and floods in these unfortunate districts, it would have been very much better, if they had convened a conference of the Members of the Legislature who come from those districts, to find out what they have to say as to the nature of the disaster, the suffering of the people, and the extent of loss in men and property. After all Members of the Legislature coming from those areas are, to a certain extent, better judges of the conditions obtaining there rather than the officials. It is true that the Members of the Board of Revenue did go to these areas. What they have done would be to consult their Collectors and others as to what had happened. They might have gone only to some places. It would not have been possible for them to go to all the affected places. The best judges and the people who could give more and detailed information are the Members of the Legislature representing those districts, and some other leading members of those areas. It would have been very much better if they had also been consulted. Speaking subject to correction, I am afraid that has not been done. It is not too late even now for the Members of the Government, particularly the Hon. Revenue Minister and the Hon. Public Works Minister, to call a conference of all these gentlemen who are here, both Members of the Assembly and the Council, to tell them (Government) what they have to say in the matter. Then I am sure the Government will get sufficient data to go upon so far as the rehabilitation of those affected areas are concerned. 12-30 p.m.

"It is very unfortunate that at this juncture the people of Andhra districts are—not the people so much as the leaders—asking for a separate Province. (Interruption.) I am not prepared to say that the people of Andhra desa are equally anxious to have a separate Province although the leaders may be very anxious. It is very unfortunate that such a disaster should have overtaken

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the Andhra Desa at a time like this. The Government have spent some lakhs of rupees in order to give help to the suffering people. From all accounts that one has heard, it has come to the knowledge of the people of the Province and the Members of the Legislature, that the amount that is sought to be spent or has already been spent does not go to satisfy even the fringe of the demand of those areas for rehabilitation. People have lost their homes and their belongings have been washed away. All the elementary requirements of the people have been lost. All these unfortunate losses have to be made good by the Government. After all, the taxes are collected from the people, and, if they are not to be utilized for giving shelter and to purchase at least those utensils which are very necessary for people to live, and also to purchase foodstuffs and other necessaries of life, the Government cannot, certainly, claim to have discharged their duty by the people. Medical aid is also required. Non-official agencies are going about serving the people. I suppose there will be lot of epidemics like cholera and other diseases spreading all over the place on account of the insanitation likely to result because of the floods and the cyclone.

" Madam, it is not only the circars that have been affected by the cyclone. The Ceded Districts also have been affected. Yesterday, some hon. Members referred to what has happened in Kurnool and Cuddapah. The most important parts of the Kurnool and Cuddapah districts have been affected. Thanks to the fact that the depression in the Bay and the storm passed northwards, Madras City escaped any havoc. It may have affected the City of Madras if the cyclone did not proceed north-westwards. If Madras had been affected to the extent to which the Andhra districts are affected, we would have personally known the extent of the damage.

" Madam, I was stating that the Kurnool and Cuddapah districts were also affected. People living on the banks of the rivers have lost their houses and all their property. The number of dead bodies floating down the rivers will show that a number of lives have been lost in Kurnool and Cuddapah districts. Such being the gravity of the situation caused by the cyclone, I am sure the Government will come forward generously to the help and succour of the people who are suffering. One hon. Member's estimate is that it may go up to many crores of rupees. There are actually amendments to the Government Motion moved in the House by hon. Members. One amendment is by the Yuvaraja of Pithapuram. That amendment is that Rs. 3 crores should be allotted towards the rehabilitation of the people. Another amendment moved says that at least Rs. 2 crores should be set apart for the relief of the people. The Government may, perhaps, think that this is all an exaggerated amount, and that the people are really asking for the moon. As a Government they must be in possession of facts, and their officers might have given them a very clear and detailed account of the losses suffered by the people. On account of the loss of crops, it is going to affect the food position of the whole Province. I am sure the amount of Rs. 3 crores or Rs. 5

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crores may not ultimately be a big sum to be allotted for giving relief not only to the people of those districts which have been affected, but also to the whole Province who are likely to suffer indirectly as a result of the loss of crops in those delta areas. The Government should not stand on their prestige by depending only on the information that they get from their officers. They ought also to collect information from non-official sources, particularly, from the Members of the Legislature. I, therefore, propose that we in this House send not only our profound sympathy to the suffering people in those areas but also translate those sympathies into action, and send them adequate money and relief of various kinds."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, we have been hearing harrowing tales of the sufferings in which the people of some of the districts of Andhra Desa have been involved as a result of the recent floods and I am sure the heart of every one in this House goes out to those unfortunate persons who have been subjected to terrible hardships. Madam, Deputy Speaker, you are aware that some years ago when I presided over a conference of the women of Andhra Desa, held at Cuddapah, at which you also were present, the women there at that time had the foresight to pass a resolution to the effect that the Government should be requested to set apart a sum every year for flood relief and thus a Floods Relief Fund be created to meet emergencis. That resolution was sent to the Government. Unfortunately, however, the Government of the day, which was then a bureaucratic Government under the control of Advisers did not implement our resolution. But, though they did not create a Floods Relief Fund, as it were, they created what is called a Revenue Reserve Fund which can be utilized even for flood relief."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Madam, I should like to inform the hon. Member that the Famine Fund can be utilized, and the Act has been suitably amended for using the Famine Fund for flood relief also."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" It may be so; but the amount in the Famine Fund may not be enough. So, we thought it would be better to have a separate Floods Relief Fund in addition to the Famine Fund because some districts are subject to floods during the monsoon season. The Advisers did not create a separate Flood Relief Fund, but they have put by substantial amounts in what is called the Revenue Reserve Fund. I am of the opinion that that fund should be drawn upon now for the relief of the distressed in Andhra Desa. I entirely endorse the amendment that has been moved by the hon. Member Mr. D. V. Ramaswami that the Government should spend to the extent of Rs. 2 crores for the relief of the distressed in the Andhra Desa. It is very essential that adequate relief should be made available to those unfortunate sufferers and, if not two crores, at least one crore should be drawn from the Revenue Reserve Fund for this purpose. Relief of the distressed in Andhra Desa is all the more essential in view of the fact that there are subversive elements at work there.

The Communists there are preparing to make capital out of the present conditions of distress among the people. Their policy is to make the best of such situations and play upon the passions of the people. If the subversive elements are to be checked and unrest allayed, it is imperative that the relief given to the sufferers from the flood should be adequate and that nothing should be stinted. It is not Public Safety Acts that will curb the Communist menace but economic relief to the people. Let the Government, therefore, not hesitate to draw from the Revenue Reserve Fund which is generally intended for meeting such emergencies.

"I am very glad to note that the Members of the Board of Revenue have toured the affected districts. I hope the Hon. Ministers will also make it a point to tour these districts and personally acquaint themselves with the conditions that obtain there and with the urgent needs of the sufferers. Another point
12-45 p.m. that I should like to mention is that since Collectors have multifarious duties to perform, instead of their being entrusted with the task of affording relief, it would be better to appoint, for the time being, a Special Officer for the purpose who could tour the various districts and suggest suitable ways and means of tackling with the new problems that have cropped up.

"I should like to draw the attention of the members of this House to the fact that the Provincial Welfare Fund has already started a cyclone relief fund and that in response to an appeal launched by the Governor of Madras, who is the patron of that Fund, large amounts are being collected. His Excellency the Governor has himself made a donation of Rs. 5,000 for this purpose and Messrs. Parry & Co., Ltd., have sent a cheque for Rs. 10,000. Further subscriptions to this fund are pouring in. The people of Andhra Desa must be told that such a fund exists and asked to get into touch with the Secretaries of the Fund in the districts. I may inform that this Fund has branches all over the districts. Hence it would be better for people to contribute to this Central Fund instead of giving their donations to other smaller organizations, which are not so well-managed. The Chief Justice of Madras is the Chairman of the Provincial Welfare Fund and it has a strong Executive Committee representative of all interests. I should like the Members of this House to inform their constituencies about the existence of such a fund and ask them to send their donations to it at an early date so that adequate relief may be afforded to the distressed without loss of time."

* SRI K. LINGA RAJU:—"Madam Deputy Speaker, coming close after September floods this cyclone has done considerable havoc in the Circars which on all accounts is unprecedented. Some people who had some knowledge of the Bandar cyclone say that this was much more intensive and of a longer duration. Last month on the 27th, 28th and 29th, the people of those areas spent very anxious time; they did not know how many would survive and what would be the amount of losses to their person and property. Considerable damage has been caused and I do not want

to recount at length all the accounts of damage in the various districts, as reports have already appeared in the newspapers and we are discussing the matter at a very late stage. The damage is very heavy and a lot of cattle, food, house properties, etc., have been lost and it will take a very long time and also involve a lot of expenditure to rehabilitate the people in those areas. At a time when the people of those areas needed above all sympathy, we were very sorry to hear from a feeble voice in the radio that the Premier of this Province considered that newspapers are exaggerating reports. It was too bad to be believed, but when it was seen in cold print, we had no alternative but to believe it. But at least after the extensive tour undertaken by the General Secretary of the Congress who must have informed the Premier of the conditions there, I think the Premier and along with him, his Government have revised their opinion about the extent of damage.

"Madam, I would like to confine myself to the damage in East Godavari with which I am personally acquainted. The figures given in the official statement are very much underestimated. I would rather say that they are not complete reports or by the time the report was submitted by the Collector, he was not able to guage the situation. He was himself locked up in Amalapuram and he could come out of that place only after four days. So, the reports submitted by him ought to be incomplete. Madam, in the report of the damage done, Pithapuram was not mentioned where, according to even official estimates, the amount of losses runs up to 60 lakhs. Chilli, sugarcane and plantain crops have been damaged and due to the excesses of the Yeluru river all the tanks have been severely damaged in some places, sand deposits are formed in very fertile lands. So the relief of 2 crores or 3 crores that we ask for is nothing if you think in terms of reparations.

"Even in the matter of loss of life the account seems to be incomplete. In East Godavari the number is put at only 56. From reports that I gathered, in some of the coastal areas, deaths cannot be estimated even now because some people had run away from homes and have not yet returned and therefore no true account is available. In Tuni, a promising gentleman, Dr. Ramadas, was washed away for whose loss more than even their property the people are regretting.

"Coming to the question of relief, Madam, some temporary relief has of course, been given, but from the figures supplied you will be able to see that the relief is not enough compared to the needs of the situation. I would like to add my strength in support of the previous speakers in regard to supply of seeds, manures, loans, etc. I do not want to repeat their suggestions, but I only pray that whatever relief is given should be given expeditiously.

"I would like to suggest one more thing. That is, in the areas affected by tidal wave, an immediate sweet water flush may

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be very helpful. Our experience on similar occasions in the past has shown that it had yielded better crops. Therefore, I suggest that it may be arranged.

" Madam, to the coastal districts the cyclone is not an infrequent visitor. We are having cyclones of a smaller or bigger nature almost every five or six years. Breaches of railway lines between Nellore and Waltair are fairly frequent. This is mainly due to the fact that the M. & S.M. Railway when it was under company management, perhaps for reasons of economy, narrowed the culverts and prevented rain water from going to the sea. But now that it is in the hands of the Government of India, this Government should press upon the Government of India the need for widening the railway culverts and providing for a larger number of culverts. I would like to make particular reference to the Thandava river near Tuni where every 15 or 20 years we are having flood of a very severe nature and railway lines breach owing to the overflowing of the river. In the year 1928 or so, the Tuni Sub-Magistrate's Court hall recorded the flood level as 6 feet above the ground; now it has recorded 15 inches more and I do not know if the Government intend to keep this Court hall permanently as a flood gauge. In this connexion, I would like to suggest that to avoid this flood trouble permanently Government should appoint forthwith a Commission presided over by a senior administrator and consisting of two or three experienced engineers to go into the whole question and to provide for temporary relief as well as permanent relief. A few crores of rupees may be set apart to get over this periodical trouble permanently. I would like the Government to seriously consider this aspect and even empower them with powers of execution.

" Usually in all these troubles it is the labour and lower middle classes that suffer most. In Tuni and also in the coastal areas the houses of labourers were washed away. They are victims of fire also. At least after this calamity something good must come. Government should at once think of properly housing them expeditiously without taking their own time, and not depending on labour officers, who generally take years and years to acquire lands for them.

" Again, Madam, in East Godavari and West Godavari districts lanka lands were badly hit and the Government reports do not seem to take any account of the losses there. The lanka lands naturally are very fertile and mostly they are in the hands of poor Harijan cultivators and their losses are enormous. Government should think of liberally granting not only remission but also aid to enable them to raise another crop this year.

" Before I conclude, I would like to add one word about the zamin tanks. Pithapuram estate was one of the first batch of estates to be acquired. I received a pathetic letter day-before yesterday from the ryots of that place where they have mentioned that the zamindars had done well in the past in repairing the

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tanks after similar calamities. In olden days when tanks breached, leaders of the village repaired the tanks on their own account and when they submitted the accounts to the zamindar, at least 70 or 80 per cent of the cost was realized by them. Now, an administrator of Government has been appointed and he is in charge of the estate. All the tanks have breached and when the people approached him for aid, they were told that the Revenue Board had to sanction the same. It was gratifying to note that the Revenue Minister yesterday was pleased to say that the Food Commissioner was authorized to move quickly in this matter, but already it is too late. Apart from the damages caused by the breach of the tanks, all the necessary water in the tanks will go into the sea and for long-duration crop like Krishnakatugalu which requires water, water will not be available. I would request the Government to see that quick arrangements are made to repair these tanks.

" In conclusion, Madam, I would like to re-state my request about the appointment of a Commission to consider permanently avoiding damage by cyclone and to give expeditiously whatever relief you want to give. Of course, I am in an unfortunate position of supporting an amendment which asks for only Rs. 2 crores while there is a liberal gentleman in the Yuvaraja of Pithapuram trying to get a grant of Rs. 3 crores. But it is not the amount that matters. Whatever assistance you give, please give it as quickly as possible and see that the relief is really felt as relief by the people."

1 p.m.

* SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to narrate some of the woeful tales and accidents that have taken place during the recent cyclone in Andhra districts. I was myself an eye-witness, Madam, and I have gone to places in Guntur and Krishna districts which were not easily accessible by car or by cart. It was a terrible thing, the like of which, I am sure has not been witnessed by the Andhra area in recent years. I am told that several decades ago, there was a cyclone which swept away Machli Bandhar. That also, I am told is not so severe and cruel as the present cyclone. The extent of damage has not yet been gauged. The reports that have been collected by the Government, either from the Collectors or from the Members of the Board of Revenue, are not complete and I am sure that the Government will accept my statement that much more field has to be covered to get full details of the damage than has been so far done. Madam, as even you yourself will admit as you have gone into these areas, many places are even to-day not to be reached, because of the impediments that have been caused either by dislocation of communications or by the culverts being broken and roads being not fit for traffic. Therefore, the Government should not cease with their present reports, but should collect full data. I have no objection to the Government making any arrangement whatsoever in order to collect full details. But, it may not be possible for any Government servant to get full details. Therefore, it is in the fitness of things to accept the suggestion made by my hon. Friend, Sri Linga Raju, to appoint a

commission which will go into the matter and see what damage has been done and how to prevent this damage and how to give succour to the victims of the cyclone. This cyclone has done terrible havoc and could be compared only to the Bihar floods and the Japanese earthquake that had taken a good toll of life. The figures given in the statement furnished by the Government are not full; because, as it is, it is stated that somewhere about 70,000 or 80,000 huts have been destroyed. Even taking these incomplete figures as they are, I can only say that twice or thrice the figures that have been furnished by the Government should have been destroyed or washed away, especially poor houses where Harijans have been living. I have seen several villages, Madam, where Harijan cheries have completely been swept away, no trace of even a small hut being left. Only fallen huts and heaps of debris are there to show that here were hutments where Harijans used to take shelter. I am sure that nearly 1½ lakhs of huts have been destroyed, so much so, nearly 7 to 8 lakhs of people are rendered homeless. Most of these people are not having even raiments to cover their bodies in this chill weather. In many places, rice is not available. I am thankful to many philanthropic gentlemen and officers in the area who rushed to the rescue of these Harijans and gave them succour. I am sure as many as 2,000 lives have been lost according to the non-official estimate. Most of these people must be poor agricultural labourers, especially Harijans. Property worth at least Rs. 20 crores or 30 crores has been destroyed and several thousands of cattle have been lost and these things are terrible and staggering when we think of them. But, we are helpless; the cyclone has come; it did utmost havoc and we are to-day to face the realities with a realistic approach and try to rehabilitate these poor victims. We must save the victims from further pain and tribulations. First of all, the Government must rush to the rescue of these victims. It is not enough to simply offer this or that as a preventive measure. It is not enough, Madam, to cover the field even with Rs. 3 crores to give the victims; food, raiments and shelter. At least Rs. 5 crores must be immediately allotted and the Collector should be requested to go to these areas and see that the poorest of the poor get first-aid assistance. But, in many places, it is not the poorest of the poor; it is not the real victims, it is not the helpless that get help, but only the 'haves', because they are able to see the Collector and other officers and get nay, even snatch help from them. Therefore, in this connexion, I request the Hon. Revenue Minister and the Ministry as a whole to take special care to see that the real sufferers are given succour and comfort which they are in much need of. I would also request that an Ordinance must immediately be issued by the Government protecting the tenants from the landlords. It is unfortunate, Madam, that in a country which is known for Dharma and for self-help and the help of the poor, an accident is made to become, to make the rich richer and the poor poorer. The tiller of the soil has been expecting a good harvest this year. He has borrowed money at a high rate of interest and has cultivated his land thinking that he could pay back the debt

and also the share to the landowner and save something for him and for his family. But, unfortunately the cyclone has occurred and because of the vicissitudes of this cyclone, he is rendered to-day helpless, his backbone being broken. Therefore, it is high time that the Government take this into consideration and issue an Ordinance protecting all the tillers, and agricultural labourers who have taken lease of lands and see that no hard-hearted landlord puts them into courts of law or demands his pound of flesh from the tiller.

"Madam, the Government must also immediately stop procurement in these areas. A cousin sister of mine, the wife of an officer, residing in Narasapur, has written to me a letter. She says that for her children, she is not able to get rice and she had to go from place to place and even see the Deputy Collector who was camping there to get a permit to get only one-fourth measure of rice per day which is not enough even for one square meal. If this is the case in a taluk centre like Narasapur, and if this is the plight of the wife of an officer, what would be the fate of those several poor landless agricultural labourers who are far away from the taluk centre where stocks of rice are not available? It is no exaggeration, Madam, that to-day many, many people are now suffering for want of food and perhaps it will not be long when we will hear that many hundreds of thousands have died of hunger. Not only that, in many places, cholera is spreading. Already in some villages, cholera has taken a toll of some persons. Thus, pestilence and scarcity of foodgrains are also threatening the victims of the cyclone. Therefore, the Government must take immediate steps to see that not only food supplies are rushed to these places, but also that pestilence is not spreading and take a toll of the lives of these people. I also request, Madam, that the Ministers must immediately take a tour in these districts. The hon. Members are voicing their feelings about the great difficulties that have come upon the people in their constituencies, but Members can only carry the opinion to the Ministers. It is, therefore, high time that Ministers go to those areas and see what has happened at least after a month of the occurrence so that the people will not only feel that the Ministers have come to them but also feel that from to-morrow they will get what they want. (Interruption.) I know that some of the Ministers have visited some of the areas. I have seen my friend, Mr. Chandramouli, and I have also seen my friend, Mr. B. Parameswaran. Others have also come. But others did not leave the station. I do not want to say here which Minister has come and which has not. But I know that some parts that have really been affected, have not yet been visited by any of the Ministers. I am glad that the Hon. Revenue Minister has been pleased to ask Members of the Revenue Board to go to the areas and collect figures of damage. That is not enough. Official information is always onesided and all the official information cannot be taken as gospel truth. I want the popular Ministers to rush to these parts and see for themselves the extent of damages, destruction and devastation that have been done. More than that, they

[Sri B. S. Murthi] [15th November 1949

must give a word of solace to the people who have been suffering. I request the Government with bended knees that they must go soon and give the victims comfort, lest there should be much more harm to these victims. Standing on bended knees, if I am able to meet your hearts and make you feel the gravity of the situation, I will be quite happy. My only request is that the Hon. Minister for Land Revenue, with a smiling face always, with his brilliant eyes beeming forth (laughter), with his spectacled spectacular appearance, must go and see the people. I have made a few suggestions and I want the Hon. Minister for Land Revenue to take them into consideration with regard to issuing an Ordinance allotting Rs. 5 crores, rushing supplies to these areas and asking the Health Department to see that necessary precautions are taken so that cholera, plague and other diseases do not spread in these areas."

1-15 p.m

SRI G. SANYASI RAO:—"ఆధ్యక్ష గవర్న మెంటువారి మనకు ఇచ్చిన స్టేటు మెంటును చూచినట్లయితే దానిలో మా విశాఖపట్నము జిల్లా విషయమై ఏమియు తెలియజేయబడియుండలేదు. దీనికి కారణము తెలియదు. మా జిల్లా కలెక్టరుగారి నుంచి రిపోర్టు రాలేదో, లేక ఆ జిల్లాలో ఏమీ నష్టము జరుగలేదని ప్రభుత్వము వారి అభిప్రాయమో నాకు బోధపడటంలేదు. కాని యథార్థవిషయాన్ని చూచినట్లయితే మా విశాఖపట్టణం జిల్లాలోకూడ అపారనష్టం సంభవించిందని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. మా జిల్లాలో పర్యటన సరిగా ఏ ప్రభుత్వోద్యోగి చేసినట్లులేదు. హోమ్ మాడీగారుగూడ జిల్లాలో నష్టమైన ప్రాంతాలకు పోలేదు. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వోద్యోగులు పంపే రిపోర్టులు యథార్థ పరిస్థితులను తెలియజేయలు మంత్రిగారు స్వయముగా మా జిల్లాలో పర్యటన చేసినట్లయితే రైతులకు ఎంత సంభవించిందో తెలుసుకొనగలరు.

"అంతేకాకుండ ఈ స్టేటుమెంటులో విశాఖపట్నం జిల్లాగురించి ప్రాసినదానిలో నర్సాపూర్ డివిజన్‌లో దండగ జరిగినదని యున్నది. మా జిల్లాలో నర్సాపూర్ అనే డివిజను లేదు. బహుశ: అది నర్సీపట్నం డివిజన్ అనుకొంటాను. నర్సీపట్నం కు బదులు నర్సాపూరు అని ఆచ్చు పొరపాటువల్ల ప్రాసియుండవచ్చును. ఈ నర్సీపట్నం డివిజనులో ఉన్న సర్వసిద్ధి, నర్సీపట్నం మొదలగు తాలూకాలు నా నియోజక వర్గంలోనివి. ఈ తాలూకాలలో ఆహారనష్టం కలిగింది. అనేక వేల ఎకరములలోని పంట తుడుచుకపెట్టి పోయినది. రైతులకు ఎన్నో కోట్ల రూపాయలు విలువగల ఫలసాయం పోయింది. అసలే మా జిల్లా ఆహారధాన్యాల విషయంలో కొరత జిల్లా. ఈ తుపానులవల్లఉన్న కొద్ది వరి పంట ఎంతో దెబ్బతినినది. ఇంత నష్టం సంభవించినప్పటికి మా జిల్లాగురించి తగిన శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొనబడినట్లు లేదు. ప్రభుత్వోద్యోగులు వారికి వీలుగాఉన్న ప్రదేశములను కొన్నింటిని చూచివచ్చి దండగ లేదని ప్రాసియుండవలెను. మా జిల్లాయెడల ఇటువంటి చిన్నచూపు ఎందుకు చూపు తున్నారో నాకు అర్థంకావటంలేదు. దీనికి కారణం బహుశ: మా జిల్లాకు చెందిన వారు ఎవ్వరు మంత్రివర్గంలో లేకపోవడంవల్ల నేమోనని ప్రజలు అనుకొంటున్నారు. ఇది కారణం కాకపోయినట్లయితే ఆపారనష్టం సంభవించినప్పుడుకూడ ఉద్యోగులు శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొనక తప్పు రిపోర్టులు పంపడానికి ఇంతవరకు తుపాను భీభత్సం జరిగి రమారమి మూడు వారాలు అవుతున్నప్పటికి ఏ మంత్రికూడ ఆ జిల్లాకువచ్చి నష్టాన్ని స్వయంగా చూడకపోవడానికి కారణం కనిపించడంలేదు. అందుచేత ఇప్పుడైనను వెంటనే శ్రద్ధ

15th November 1949] [Sri G. Sanyasi Rao]

తీసికొని రివిన్యూ మంత్రిగారు, ప్రధాన మంత్రిగారు, పబ్లిక్ వర్క్స్ మంత్రిగారు మా జిల్లాలో పర్యటనచేసి పరిస్థితులను స్వయంగా చూచి నష్టబడిన ప్రజలకు తగిన సహాయం చేయవలసినదని కోరుతున్నాను.

"మా దక్షిణ విశాఖ జిల్లాలోని నదులన్నియు తుపాను రోజులలో హెచ్చుగా పొంగినవి. ముఖ్యంగా అనకాపల్లి వద్దనున్న శారదానది, పెనుగొల్లువద్దనున్న వరాహ నది, తునివద్దనున్న తాండవా నది పొంగడంవల్ల సర్వసిద్ధి, నర్సీపట్నం, పీరవల్లి, అనకాపల్లి తాలూకాలలో సంభవించిన నష్టాన్ని ఆంచనా వేయడం చాలా కష్టం. ఎన్నివేల ఎకరములలో పంట నాశనమైనది చెప్పలేము జలమయము అయిపోయి ఈ తాలూకాలలో వివిధ గ్రామాలకు వెళ్లటానికి కూడ ఏ విధమైన అవకాశం లేకుండా యున్నది. ప్రభుత్వోద్యోగులు, రెండెడ్లబండ్లమీద, సైకిళ్లమీద, కాలినడకన కొన్ని గ్రామాలకు వెళ్లి చూచినారు. కాని మిగత గ్రామాలకు వెళ్లలేకపోయినారు. శాసన సభ్యులమైన మేము ఇతర కొందరు ఉద్యోగస్తులతోగూడ అనేక గ్రామములకుపోయి ప్రజలకు కలిగిన నష్టమును స్వయముగా చూచినాము. రోడ్లన్నియు మునిగిపోయి బండ్లు వెళ్లుటకుకాని కాలినడకలు పోవటానికిని వీలుగాని గ్రామాలకు చెరుకు వెనమల మీద వెళ్లవలసి వచ్చినది. ఈ విషయములన్ని మా జిల్లాలోని తహసీల్దార్లకు, డిప్యూటి కలెక్టర్లకు, కలెక్టర్లకు పూర్తిగా తెలుసును. విశాఖపట్నం జిల్లాలో ఎలమంచిలి తాలూకా చాలా ఎక్కువ దెబ్బతినినదని కలెక్టరుగారే అన్నారు. అటువంటి సందర్భ ములోకూడ మా జిల్లాలో ఎక్కువ దండగజరగలేదని అనడం చాలా అన్యాయంగా ఉన్నది. కాబట్టి ఇంతవరకు ఉద్యోగస్తులవద్దనుంచి వచ్చిన రిపోర్టులనే యథార్థంగా తీసికొనక మంత్రులు మా జిల్లాలో పర్యటనచేసి పరిస్థితులను పరిశీలించవలసిందిగా మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

"తుపాను బాధితులకు సహాయం చేసేనిమిత్తం గవర్నమెంటువారు కొంత డబ్బు నేంక్షను చేసినారు. ఈ డబ్బు నిజమైన బాధితులకు సక్రమంగా చేరటంలేదని కొంత అనుమానం ఉన్నది. ఈ విషయంలో అధికారులు తగు శ్రద్ధవహించాలని బాధితులకు పూర్తి సహాయం అందజేసే విధ్వాటులు చేయాలని ప్రభుత్వంవారు గట్టి కట్టుదిట్ట ములను చేయించ గోరుతాను. మా తాలూకాలలో జరిగిన దండగను గురించి కొంత మనవి చేస్తాను.

"మాయలమంచిలి తాలూకాలో కొన్ని చోట్ల తమలపాకు తోటలు ఉన్నవి. ఈ గాలివానవల్ల ఈ తోటలన్నియు నేలమట్టమయిపోయినవి. రైతులకు అపారమైన నష్టము కలిగింది. తమలపాకులను పెంచే ఈ రైతులందరు చాల పేద రైతులు. ఒక్కొక్కనికి ఆర ఎకరమో, డెబ్భై సెంట్లో మాత్రమే ఉంటుంది. ఈ చిన్న చిన్న రైతులకు చాల దండగ జరిగింది. వీరి విషయం ప్రభుత్వంవారు గమనించి తగిన సహాయం చేయగోరుతాను. మా తాలూకాలో ఉన్న 158 గ్రామాలలో ఏ పదో పదిహేనో గ్రామాలుతప్ప మిగతా గ్రామాలన్ని దెబ్బతినినవి. చాలా గ్రామాలకు దార్లు కనిపించటంలేదు. పొలాలు, కాలువలు, చెరువులు అన్ని ఒకేవిధంగా నీటితో నిండియున్నవి. ఒకచోటనుండి మరొకచోటికి వెళ్లవలసిన మనుష్యులు నీటిలో ఈదుకొని వెళ్లవలసిన పరిస్థితులు వీర్పడినవి. వరిపంట పూర్తిగా నీటిలో మునిగిపోయింది. రసంగి, బసంగి రకపు వరిపైరు సర్వనాశనం అయిపోయింది. ఈ పంట ఎంతమాత్రము కూడ రైతుకు దొరకదు. ఇటువంటి నష్టం ఇదివరలో జరుగలేదనికూడ రైతులు అను కొంటున్నారు. వరిపైరు పూర్తిగ పోవటంవల్ల రైతులవద్ద తింటానికి గింజలులేక్ర. రేపనింగుకూడ సరిగా జరగటంలేదు. ప్రజలు బియ్యంకై ఆరాటపడుతున్నారు. రేప

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నిరాశ అధికారులు బియ్యం సరఫరా చేయిస్తున్నారని ప్రభుత్వంవారు ప్రకటనలో యున్నది. కాని నాకు ఈ విషయంలో నమ్మకం లేదు. నేను వచ్చేటప్పటికి పరిస్థితులు ఆందోళనకరంగానున్నవి. పాటక జనానికి తిండి దొరకక బాధపడుతున్నారు. నేను వెళ్లినతరువాత బియ్యం రేషనింగు సక్రమంగా జరుగుతున్నది లేనిది చూచి తమకు తెలియజేస్తాను.

"ఇప్పుడు ప్రభుత్వంవారు శ్రద్ధతీసుకొని ఈ ప్రాంతాలలోని తుపాను బాధితులకు సరియైన సహాయం చేయటానికి ప్రయత్నించాలి. మనము ఇక్కడి అసెంబ్లీలో చర్చలు జరుపుతున్నంత మాత్రముచేత ప్రజాబాధలు తొలగవు. మనము ప్రజాపతినిధులము. ప్రజలు ఇబ్బందులు పడుతున్నప్పుడు వారికి తగిన సహాయం చేయడము గవర్నమెంటువారి విద్యుక్త ధర్మమైయున్నది. ముఖ్యంగా ప్రజలతరపున పరిపాలనను నడుపుచున్న ఈ మంత్రులు, ముఖ్యంగా ప్రధాన మంత్రి, రివిన్యూ మంత్రి, పబ్లిక్ వర్క్సు మంత్రి, వ్యవసాయక మంత్రి వెంటనే మా జిల్లాలలో పర్యటన చేసి ప్రజలకు ధైర్యం కలిగించడం ధర్మం. ఈ విషయము గురించి నేను మంత్రులకు మనవిచేసినాను. వారు మా సలహాలను మన్నించి మా జిల్లాలోని ప్రజల స్థితిగతులను చూస్తారని నమ్ముచున్నాను.

"మా జిల్లాలలో చాల జమీందారీ ప్రాంతముంది. ఏ ఒకటి రెండు జమీందారీలనో తప్ప మిగతా వాటిని ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఇంకా స్వాధీనం చేసుకొనలేదు. ఈ జమీందారీలలోని చెరువులు, కాలువలు మొదలగు జలాశయములకు చాలకాలము మంచి మరమ్మతులులేక పూడిపోయి ఉన్నవి. ఈ తుపాను వరదలవల్ల వాటిలో చాలా భాగము గట్లులేగి గండ్లు పడిపోయినవి. ఇందువలన చుట్టుప్రక్కల ఉండే భూముల లోని పైరును ముంచివేసినవి. అనేకచోట్ల పైరు సర్వనాశనమైపోయింది. భూములు మేటవేసిపోయినవి. ఈ మేటలను తీయించినట్లయితే గాని ఇక ముందైనను పొలములు సరిగా పండవు. కాబట్టి ఈ మరమ్మతులన్నియు చేయించుటకుగాను రైతులకు వెంటనే వడ్డీలేని పద్ధతి (Interest-free loans) మీద అప్పు ఇప్పించే ఏర్పాటు చేయవలసిందని ప్రభుత్వంవారిని కోరుతున్నాను.

"తుపాను గాలివల్ల చాలా తాటాకు ఇల్లు పడిపోయినవనే సంగతి ప్రభుత్వము వారికి తెలిసినవిషయమే. ఈ ఇండ్లలో నివసించేవారు కూలినాలిచేసుకొనే పేద ప్రజలు.. వారు తిరిగి ఇండ్లు కట్టుకోవటానికిగాను ప్రభుత్వమువారు తమ ఆడవులలో నుంచి ఈ ప్రజలు ఇండ్లు కట్టుకొనుటకు కావలసిన తాటాకులు, చిన్నకలప, వెదుళ్లు మొదలయినవి తెచ్చుకొనుటకు అవకాశంలు కల్పించవలసినదిగా కోరుచున్నాను.

"ఆనేక గ్రామాలు నీటిమయమై పోయిన కారణంచేత ముఖ్యంగా చెరకును పండించే రైతుల బెల్లపు పెనాలు, ఇతర పనిముట్లు ప్రవాహాలలో కొట్టుకొని పోయినాయి. కాబట్టి ఈ రైతులు తిరిగి పెనాలు తయారు చేయించుకోవటానికి గాను వారికి పెనములకు సరిసమానమైన ధరలకు సప్లైచేయించవలసినదిగా ప్రభుత్వము వారిని కోరుతున్నాను.

"కొన్ని కొన్ని గ్రామాలలో గడ్డి మేట్లుకూడ కొట్టుకొని పోయినవి. మనుష్యులు తినవలసిన ఆహారధాన్యాలు కొరతవస్తే వారు మరొకచోటనుంచి తెప్పించుకొనగలరు. కాని పశుగ్రాసము సంపాదించడము చాలా కష్టము. కాబట్టి ఈ ప్రాంత ములలోనున్న పాడిపశువర్ధనము మొదలు ఆడవులు పొరుంబోకులలో రైతులు పశువులను మేపుటకు వ్యవస్థ ఏర్పాటులను చేయవలెనని ప్రభుత్వంవారిని కోరుతున్నాను.

15th November 1949] [Sri G. Sanyasi Rao]

"మా జిల్లాలో చాలాభాగములో రెండవ పంట వేయరు. రెండవ పంటకు అవకాశమున్నచోట్ల సాగు చేసుకొనుటకు సదుపాయములను వెంటనే కలుగజేయవలెను. ముఖ్యంగా వీరవల్లి తాలూకాలో ఉన్న పెద్ద చెరువు (లక్ష్మీపురము చెరువు) శారదానది పొంగుటవలన నిండి గట్లు తెగిపోయి చాలాచోట్ల దండగయినది. ఈ చెరువు కింద రెండవ పంటకూడ వేసే అవకాశము ఉన్నది. కాబట్టి ఈ చెరువు గట్లను వెంటనే మరమ్మతు చేయించి రెండవ పంటను పండించుకొనుటకు అవకాశములను కలుగజేయవలసినదని కోరుతున్నాను.

"ముఖ్యంగా ఇంకను ప్రభుత్వంవారు స్వాధీనం చేసుకొననటువంటి ఎస్టేట్లలోని రైతులకు జమీందారుల వల్ల ఇబ్బంది కలుగకుండా చూడవలయును. జమీందారీ ప్రాంతాలలో రెమిషన్ లేదు. దీనివల్ల పంటలు పాడైపోయిన రైతులు జమిందార్లకు శిస్తు ఇచ్చుటలో అవసరము లేకుండా చేయగోరుతాను. ముఖ్యంగా జమీందారీలలో ఉన్న చెరువులు, కాలువలు మొదలైనవాటిని ప్రభుత్వంవారు తామే మరమ్మతు చేయించవలసినదని కోరుచున్నాను. ఈ జమీందారీ రైతులకు కూడ భూములను మరమ్మతు చేసుకొనుటకు వడ్డీ లేకుండా అప్పులు ఇచ్చి సహాయం చేయవలెనని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

"మా జిల్లా తరువాజిల్లా ఆని ప్రభుత్వంవారికి తెలిసినదే. ఈ తుపాను తరువాత పంటలు పాడైపోయిన తరువాత బియ్యం దొరకటం లేదు. ధర కూడ చాల హెచ్చుగానున్నది. ప్రజలు బియ్యము దొరకక చాల బాధపడుతున్నారు. కాబట్టి అన్ని తాలూకాలలోను రేషనింగు సక్రమంగా ఆములు జరిగేటట్లు చూడవలసిందని ప్రభుత్వంవారిని కోరుతున్నాను.

"సముద్రప్రాంతములో ఉండే భూములలోనికి ఉప్పునీటి కెరటము రావడమువల్ల పంటలు పాడైపోయినవి. తాండవ నది పొంగుటవలన పాయకరావుపేట ప్రాంతములోని భూములన్నియు ఇసుకమేట వేసుకోపోయినవి. రైతులకు సంభవించిన నష్టం ఇంతని చెప్పలేము. ఇటువంటి పేదరైతులకు సకాలములో సహాయం చేయడం ప్రజాప్రభుత్వం యొక్క విద్యుక్త ధర్మం. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వంవారు తమ ఉద్యోగస్థులందరు ప్రజలకు సహాయ పడవలసిందని ఉత్తర్వులు జారీ చేయవలసినదని నేను తెలియజేసిన సలహాలు పరిశీలన చేయించవలసినదని కోరుతూ విరమిస్తున్నాను."

* SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, never in the living memory of our history, we had the misfortune to experience such a terrible cyclone as the recent one with a velocity of 80 miles accompanied by 14 inches of rain per day bringing in its train such a devastation and destruction and loss of life. It is true, Madam, we had cyclones in 1901, 1925, 1939, and 1945 and 1949 itself. But this cyclone, Madam, which passed through the district which you also represent, was unprecedented in its velocity, variation and the destruction it caused to human life and property. The cyclone in the Krishna district took a different shape and direction from East Godavari. In Krishna, it started from the land to the sea, but in East Godavari, from the sea it struck the land. The loss of life in these districts has already been mentioned by the Hon. the Minister in his statement. Taking our own district, West Godavari, about 59 persons lost their lives and cattle worth nearly 4 lakhs of rupees were washed away. As regards damages to the dwelling houses and huts, the loss is estimated at 107,726

houses costing about 59 lakhs of rupees. There are other losses also besides these. The plantain gardens in Narasapur, Tanuku and Bhimavaram have been completely levelled to the ground, while the coconut trees in these areas are lying prostrate. About 80 per cent damage has been reported in this regard. Sugarcane wrapped and propped has almost escaped damage, with a little destruction here and there. In West Godavari, the total ayacut area is reported to be 907,886 acres and the damage, both to dry and wet ayacuts, is given as 548, 875 acres. As has already been reported by the officials and as stated by the Hon. the Revenue Minister, the loss in the district as regards paddy crop alone is more than 60 per cent. We are thankful to the District Collector and the other officials and non-officials who started relief work promptly. We are particularly thankful to the Public Works Department people who rushed in time to repair the breaches caused to the tanks."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"I am sorry to interrupt the hon. Member. He can continue the speech to-morrow when the House reassembles at 11 a.m., as it is now time for lunch. I adjourn the House to meet again to-morrow at 11 a.m."

The House then adjourned.

APPENDIX

[Vide item III at page 549 supra]

To

THE HONOURABLE THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,
MADRAS.

THE JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to consider the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Amendment Bill, 1948 (L.A. Bill No. 24 of 1948), has the honour to make the following report.

2. The Bill was published in English in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 27th April 1948.

3. The Joint Select Committee was appointed on the 20th January 1949.

4. The Joint Select Committee met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, on the 24th January, 7th, 9th, 10th, 14th and 22nd February, 4th March, 1st and 2nd April 1949, and 3rd May 1949 and concluded the consideration of the provisions of the Bill.

5. The more important among the changes made by the Joint Select Committee are—

(i) If a building which is taken up for the purposes of the Government is a residential building, it shall not be converted by any structural alteration into a non-residential building without the consent of the landlord;

(ii) The provisions of section 6 of the original Act have been made applicable also to cases where fair rent was not determined;

(iii) A landlord who is occupying only a part of the building may apply to the Controller for possession of the remaining part of the building for his *bona fide* requirements.

6. The other changes made in the Bill are all shown in the Bill as amended. It was not considered necessary to refer to them in detail.

7. The Joint Select Committee decided that as the changes effected by it were of a minor character, it was not necessary to re-publish the Bill.

8 A copy of the Bill as amended by the Joint Select Committee is annexed.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
17*th May* 1949.

DR. S. GURUBATHAM,
Chairman.

[15th November 1949

ANNEXURE.

[*Note.*—**The changes made by the Joint Select Committee are shown in clarendon type and the portions omitted are shown by dots.**]

(L.A. BILL No. 24 OF 1948)

(As amended by the Joint Select Committee)

The Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Amendment Bill, 1948.

A Bill to amend the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act, 1946.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act, 1946, for the purposes hereinafter appearing; It is hereby enacted as follows :— Madras Act XV of 1946.

Short title. 1. This Act may be called the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Amendment Act, 1949.

Amendment of section 1, Madras Act XV of 1946. 2. In section 1 of the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act, 1946 (hereinafter referred to as the said Act)—

(i) for sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely :—

"(2) (*a*) **This Act, except section 3, sub-section (2), shall apply** to the City of Madras and to all **other** municipalities in the Province.

(*b*) **Section 3, sub-section (2), shall apply to the City of Madras or any other municipality in the Province, if the Provincial Government, by notification in the Fort St. George Gazette, so direct.**

(*c*) The Provincial Government may, by notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, apply all or any of the provisions of this Act **except section 3, sub-section** (2), to any other area in the Province with effect from such date as may be specified in the notification, and may cancel or modify any such notification." ;

(ii) in sub-section (4), for the words "extend the continuance of this Act", the words "extend the continuance of all or any of the provisions of this Act" and for the words **"two years"** in the second place where they occur, the words **"three years"** shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 2, Madras Act XV of 1946. 3. In section 2 of the said Act—

(i) to clause (3), the following Explanation shall be added, namely :—

"*Explanation.*—Any person who sub-lets shall be deemed to be a landlord within the meaning of this Act" ;

(ii) after the same clause, the following clause shall be inserted, namely :—

"(3-A) 'prescribed' means prescribed by rules made under this Act ;".

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Substitution of new section for section 3, Madras Act XV of 1946. 4. For section 3 of the said Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely :—

Notice of vacancy. "3. (1) Every landlord shall, within seven days after the building or any portion thereof becomes vacant by his ceasing to occupy it, or by the termination of a tenancy, or by release from requisition, or for any other reason, give notice thereof in writing to the officer authorized in that behalf by the Provincial Government (thereinafter in this section referred to as the "authorized officer") :

Provided that this sub-section shall not apply to a building or portion thereof in respect of which the landlord has obtained an order for being put in possession of the building or portion on any of the grounds specified in section 7, sub-section (3).

(2) In any municipality to which this sub-section has been applied under section 1 (2) (b), where, after the commencement of the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Amendment Act, 1949, the tenant of a building puts another person in occupation thereof and does not re-occupy it within a period of two months, then, on the expiry of such period, the tenancy shall be deemed to have terminated and it shall be the duty of the tenant, and also of the landlord if he is aware of such termination, to give notice thereof in writing to the authorized officer within seven days of such termination :

Provided that where the tenant obtains written permission from the authorized officer to re-occupy the building within a period of six months, this sub-section shall have effect as if for the period of two months specified therein a period of six months were substituted.

Explanation.—This sub-section shall not apply where the building or any portion thereof has been sub-let by a tenant entitled to do so, after giving due notice to the authorized officer under sub-section (1) and in conformity with the provisions of this section.

(3) If within ten days of the receipt by the authorized officer of a notice under sub-section (1) or sub-section (2), the Provincial Government or any officer empowered by them in that behalf does not intimate to the landlord in writing that the building is required for the purposes of the Provincial or of the Central Government . . . or of any local authority . . . or of any . . . public institution under Government control or for the occupation of any officer of any such Government, the landlord shall be at liberty to let the building to any tenant, or if the authorized officer on application made by the landlord, permits the landlord to do so, to occupy the building himself.

(4) The landlord shall not let the building to a tenant or occupy it himself, before the expiry of the period of ten days specified in sub-section (3), unless in the meantime he has received intimation that the building is not required for the purposes, or for occupation by any of the officers, specified in that sub-section or he has received the permission referred to therein.

(5) If the building is required for any of the purposes, or for occupation by any of the officers, specified in sub-section (3), the landlord shall deliver possession of the building to the authorized officer and the Provincial Government shall be deemed to be the tenant of the landlord, with retrospective effect from the date on which the authorized officer received notice under sub-section (1) or sub-section (2), the terms of the tenancy being such as may be agreed upon between the landlord and the tenant and in default of an agreement, as may be determined by the City Civil Court in the City of Madras and elsewhere by the Subordinate Judge's Court having original jurisdiction over the area in which the building is situated or, if there is no such Court, by the District Court :

Provided that the rent payable shall not exceed the fair rent which may be payable for the building under the provisions of this Act :

Provided further that if the building is a residential building, it shall not be converted by any structural alteration into a non-residential building without the consent of the landlord.

(6) In cases not falling under sub-section (5), where the landlord lets the building to any tenant after giving notice to the authorized officer under sub-section (1) or sub-section (2) and without having occupied the building himself, the date of commencement of the tenancy shall be deemed to have been put back by the period during which the landlord was prohibited from letting the building to any tenant by virtue of sub-section (4), and the tenant shall be liable to pay rent for such period.

(7) Where a landlord has two or more residential buildings in the same city, town or village which have not been let by him subsequent to the 30th September 1946, then, within fifteen days from the commencement of the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Amendment Act, 1949, the landlord may choose any one of such buildings for his own occupation, and shall give notice to the authorized officer that every building not so chosen is vacant ; and thereupon the provisions of this Act shall apply to every such building as if such notice had been given in respect thereof under sub-section (1).

(8) Any landlord, tenant or other person occupying any building in contravention of the provisions of this section may be summarily dispossessed by any officer empowered by the Provincial Government in this behalf ; and if free access to the building is not afforded to such officer, he may, after giving reasonable warning and facility to withdraw to any woman not appearing in public according to the customs in the country, remove or open any lock or bolt or break open any door or do any other act necessary for effecting such dispossession.

(9) Nothing contained in this section shall apply to a building or portion thereof, the monthly rent of which does not exceed fifteen rupees."

Amendment of section 5, Madras Act XV of 1946.

5. (1) Section 5 of the said Act shall be renumbered as sub-section (1) of that section and in the section as so renumbered, for the words and figure "under section 4", the words "under this Act", and for the words "under this section" in the two provisos, the words "under this sub-section" shall be substituted.

(2) To the section as so renumbered, the following sub-section shall be added, namely :—

"(2) Where after the fair rent of a building has been fixed under this Act, there is a decrease or diminution in the accommodation or amenities provided, he may claim a reduction in the fair rent as so fixed :

Provided that any dispute between the landlord and the tenant in regard to any reduction so claimed shall be decided by the Controller."

Substitution of new section for section 6, Madras Act XV of 1946.

6. For section 6 of the said Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely :—

Landlord not to claim or receive anything in excess of fair rent or agreed rent.

"6. (1) Where the Controller has determined the fair rent of a building—

(a) the landlord shall not claim, receive or stipulate for the payment of, (i) any premium or other like sum in addition to such fair rent, or (ii) save as provided in section 5, sub-section (1), any rent in excess of such fair rent :

Provided that the landlord may receive, or stipulate for the payment of, an amount not exceeding two months' rent, by way of advance ;

(b) save as provided in clause (a), any premium or other like sum or any rent paid in addition to, or in excess of, such fair rent, whether before or after the commencement of this Act, in consideration of the grant, continuance or renewal of the tenancy of the building after such commencement, shall be refunded by the landlord to the person by whom it was

paid or at the option of such person, shall otherwise adjusted by the landlo d :

Provided that where before the determination of the fair rent, rent has been paid in excess thereof, the refund or adjustment shall be limited to the amount paid in excess for a period of one year immediately before such determination.

(2) Where the fair rent of a building has not been so determined—

(*a*) the landlord shall not, after the commenc:ment of the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Amendment Act, 1949, claim, receive or stipulate for the payment of, any premium or other like sum in addition to the agreed rent :

Provided that the landlord may receive, or stipulate for the payment of, an amount not exceeding two months' rent, by way of advance ;

(*b*) save as provided in clause (*a*), any sum paid in excess of the agreed rent, whether before or after the commencement of the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Amendment Act, 1949, in consideration of the grant, continuance or renewal of the tenancy of the building after such commencement, shall be refunded by the landlord to the person by whom it was paid or, at the option of such person, shall be otherwise adjusted by the landlord.

(3) Any stipulation in contravention of sub-section (1) or (2) shall be null and void."

Insertion of new sections 6-A and 6-B in Madras Act XV of 1946.

7. After section 6 of the said Act, the following sections shall be inserted, namely :—

Right of tenant paying rent or advance to receipt.

"6-A. (1) Every tenant who makes a payment on account of rent or advance shall be entitled to obtain a receipt in the prescribed form for the amount paid, duly signed by the landlord or his authorized agent.

(2) In case of failure to give the tenant such a receipt, the Controller, upon a complaint by the tenant within three months from the date of the failure, may, after summary inquiry, impose upon the landlord a penalty not exceeding twice the rent or advance paid, unless the Controller is satisfied that there was reasonable cause for such failure.

(3) Any penalty so imposed may, on application made by the Controller to any salaried Magistrate within whose jurisdiction the person on whom the penalty is imposed resides or any property belonging to him is situated, be recovered by the Magistrate, as if it were a fine imposed under the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, and shall, on recovery, be credited to the revenues of the Province.

Central Act V of 1898.

Right of tenant to deposit rent in certain cases.

6-B. (1) Where a landlord evades to receive or refuses to accept any rent lawfully payable to him by a tenant in respect of any building, or where the address of the landlord or an authorized agent of the landlord is not known to the tenant, he may deposit such rent, together with such fee as may be prescribed for the service of the notice referred to in sub-section (2), before such authority and in such manner as may be prescribed, and continue to deposit any rent which may subsequently become due in respect of the building before the same authority and in the same manner, until the landlord signifies by a written notice to the tenant his willingness to accept the rent or until the address of the landlord or his authorized agent becomes known to the tenant, as the case may be.

(2) When any deposit is made under sub-section (1), the Controller shall cause notice of the deposit to be served on the landlord in the prescribed manner, or where his address is not known, by affixture at his last known place of residence and in such other manner as may be prescribed ; and the amount deposited may, subject to such conditions as may be prescribed, be withdrawn by the landlord on application made by him to the Controller in that behalf.

(3) Where any *bona fide* doubt or dispute arises as to the person who is entitled to receive the rent for any building, the tenant may deposit such rent before such authority and in such manner as may be prescribed and shall report to the Controller the circumstances under which such deposit was made by him, and may continue to deposit any rent which may subsequently become due in respect of the building before the same authority and in the same manner until the doubt is removed or the dispute is settled by the decision of a competent Court or by a settlement between the parties or until the Controller makes an order under sub-section (4), clause (*b*), as the case may be.

(4) (*a*) The Controller to whom a report is made under sub-section (3) shall, if satisfied that a *bona fide* doubt or dispute exists on the matter, direct that, pending removal of the doubt or settlement of the dispute as aforesaid, the deposit be held by the authority concerned.

(*b*) If the Controller is not so satisfied, he shall forthwith order payment of the amount deposited to the landlord.

(5) Where the Controller passes an order under sub-section (4), clause (*a*), any amount or amounts deposited under sub-section (3) may be withdrawn only by the person who is declared by a competent Court to be entitled thereto, or in case the doubt or dispute is removed by a settlement between the parties, only by the person who is held by the Controller to be entitled to the amount or amounts in accordance with such settlement."

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Amendment of section 7, Madras Act XV of 1946.

8. In section 7 of the said Act—

(i) in sub-section (1), in the opening paragraph, the words "in possession of a building", "therefrom" and "and whether before or after the termination of the tenancy" shall be omitted;

(ii) in sub-section (2), in clause (i), after the words "for which the rent is payable", the following shall be inserted, namely :—

"provided that the landlord has sent a registered notice to the tenant intimating the default and the tenant has failed, within fifteen days of the receipt of the notice by the tenant or the refusal thereof by him, to pay or tender the rent **or to deposit the same in accordance with section 6-B** ";

(iii) in the same sub-section, in clause (ii), for the words "after the commencement of this Act", the words and figures "after the 23rd October 1945" shall be substituted;

(iv) in the same clause, in sub-clause (a), after the words "portion thereof", the words "if the lease does not confer on him any right to do so" shall be inserted;

(v) in the same sub-section, in clause (iv), for the words "occupiers of buildings in the neighbourhood" the words "occupiers of other portions in the same building or of buildings in the neighbourhood" shall be substituted;

(vi) in the same sub-section, after clause (v), the following word and clause shall be added, namely :—

"or

(vi) that the tenant has denied the title of the landlord or claimed a right of permanent tenancy and that such denial or claim was not *bona fide*,";

(vii) for sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely :—

"(3) (a) A landlord may, subject to the provisions of clause (d), apply to the Controller for an order directing the tenant to put the landlord in possession of the building—

(i) in case it is a residential building, if the landlord requires it for his own occupation and if he is not occupying a residential building of his own in the city, town or village concerned;

(ii) in case it is a non-residential building which is used for the purpose of keeping a vehicle or adapted for such use, if the landlord requires it for his own use and if he is not occupying any such building in the city, town or village concerned which is his own or to the possession of which he is entitled whether under this Act or otherwise;

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(iii) in case it is any other non-residential building :—

(1) if the landlord is not occupying for purposes of a business which he is carrying on, a non-residential building in the city, town or village concerned which is his own or to the possession of which he is entitled whether under this Act or otherwise ; or

(2) if the landlord requires the non-residential building for the purposes of a business to be started within two months of the date of the application, and a non-residential building of his own in the City, town, or village concerned will not be available for such purposes :

Provided that a person who becomes a landlord after the commencement of the tenancy by an instrument *inter vivos* shall not be entitled to apply under this clause before the expiry of one year from the date on which the instrument was registered :

Provided further that where a landlord has obtained possession of a building under this clause, he shall not be entitled to apply again under this clause —

(i) in case he has obtained possession of a residential building, for possession of another residential building of his own ;

(ii) in case he has obtained possession of a non-residential building, for possession of another non-residential building of his own.

(b) Where the landlord of a building, whether residential or non-residential, is a religious charitable, educational or other public institution, it may, if the building is required for the purposes of the institution, apply to the Controller for an order directing the tenant to put the institution in possession of the building.

(c) A landlord who is occupying only a part of a building, whether residential or non-residential may, notwithstanding anything contained in clause (a), apply to the Controller for an order directing any tenant occupying the whole or any portion of the remaining part of the building, to put the landlord in possession thereof, if he requires additional accommodation for residential purposes or for the purposes of a business which he is carrying on, as the case may be.

(d) Where the tenancy is for a specified period agreed upon between the landlord and the tenant, the landlord shall not be entitled to apply under this sub-section before the expiry of such period.

(e) The Controller shall, if he is satisfied that the claim of the landlord is *bona fide*, make an order directing the tenant to put the landlord in possession of the building on such date as may be specified by the Controller

and if the Controller is not so satisfied, he shall make an order rejecting the application :

Provided that in the case of an application under clause (c), the Controller shall reject the application if he is satisfied that the hardship which may be caused to the tenant by granting it will outweigh the advantage to the landlord :

Provided further that the Controller may give the tenant a reasonable time for putting the landlord in possession of the building and may extend such time so as not to exceed three months in the aggregate." ;

(viii) after sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely :—

"(3-A) No order for eviction shall be passed under sub-section (3) against any tenant who is engaged in any employment or class of employment notified by the Provincial Government as an essential service for the purposes of this sub-section, unless the landlord is himself engaged in any employment or class of employment which has been so notified."

(ix) sub-section (4) shall be lettered as clause (*a*) of that sub-section and in the sub-section as so lettered, after the words "does not himself occupy it within one month of the date of obtaining possession", the words "or having so occupied it, vacates it without reasonable cause within six months of such date" shall be inserted and after the words "the Controller shall make an order accordingly", the words and figure "notwithstanding anything contained in section 3" shall be added ;

(x) to the same sub-section, the following proviso shall be added, namely :—

"Provided that in case possession of a non-residential building is obtained for starting a business, the provisions of this clause shall have effect as if for the words "one month of the date of obtaining possession", the words "one month of the date of obtaining possession or two months of the date of the application, whichever is later" were substituted ;

(xi) to the same sub-section, the following clause shall be added, namely :—

"(*b*) Where a tenant who is entitled to apply for possession under clause (*a*) fails to do so within one month from the date on which the right to make the application accrued to him, the Provincial Government or the officer referred to in section 3, sub-section (1), shall have power, if the building is required for any of the purposes, or for occupation by any of the officers, specified in that sub-section, to give intimation to the landlord that the building is so required, and thereupon the provisions of section 3, sub-sections (5) and (8) shall apply to the building :

Provided that this clause shall not apply to a building the monthly rent of which does not exceed fifteen rupees."

9. In section 8 of the said Act— Amendment of section 8, Madras Act XV of 1946.

(i) after sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely :—

"(2-A) If the tenant satisfies the Controller that the amenities were cut off or withheld with a view to compel him to vacate the building or to pay an enhanced rent, the Controller may pass an *interim* order, directing the landlord to restore the amenities immediately, pending the inquiry referred to in sub-section (3).

Explanation.—An *interim* order may be passed under this sub-section without giving notice to the landlord."

(ii) after sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be added, namely :—

"(4) The Controller may in his discretion direct that compensation not exceeding fifty rupees—

(*a*) be paid to the landlord by the tenant, if the application under sub-section (2) was made frivolously or vexatiously ;

(*b*) be paid to the tenant by the landlord, if the landlord had cut off or withheld the amenities frivolously or vexatiously."

10. In section 9 of the said Act— Amendment of section 9, Madras Act XV of 1946.

(i) in the opening paragraph, after the words and figures "every order passed on appeal under section 12", the words, figures and letter "or on revision by the High Court under section 12-B" shall be inserted ;

(ii) the following shall be added at the end, namely :—

"Provided that no order passed in execution under this section shall be subject to appeal."

11. After section 10 of the said Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely :— Insertion of new section 10-A in Madras Act XV of 1946.

"10-A. Every order passed by a Controller under this Act shall be pronounced in open Court on the day on which the case is finally heard, or on some future day of which due notice shall be given to the parties." Orders of Controller to be pronounced in open Court.

12. In section 12 of the said Act— Amendment of section 12, Madras Act XV of 1946.

(i) in sub-section (1), clause (*b*), for the words "date of receipt of such order", the words "date of such order" shall be substituted and the following paragraph shall be added at the end, namely :—

"In computing the fifteen days aforesaid, the time taken to obtain a certified copy of the order appealed against shall be excluded." ;

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(ii) to sub-section (3), the following Explanation shall be added, namely :—

"*Explanation.*—The appellate authority may, while confirming the order of eviction passed by the Controller, grant an extension of time to the tenant for putting the landlord in possession of the building." ;

(iii) for sub-section (4), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely :—

"(4) The decision of the appellate authority, and subject to such decision, an order of the Controller, shall be final and shall not be liable to be called in question in any Court of law, except as provided in section 12-B."

Insertion of new sections 12-A to 12-E in Madras Act XV of 1946.

13. After section 12 of the said Act, the following sections shall be inserted, namely :—

Costs.

"12-A. Subject to such conditions and limitations, if any, as may be prescribed, the costs of and incident to all proceedings before the Controller or the appellate authority referred to in section 12 shall be in the discretion of the Controller or the appellate authority, who shall have full power to determine by whom or out of what property and to what extent such costs are to be paid, and to give all necessary directions for the purpose.

Explanation.—The appellate authority may set aside or vary any order passed by the Controller in regard to the costs of and incident to the proceedings before him.

Revision by High Court.

12-B. (1) The High Court may at any time, on the application of any aggrieved party, call for and examine the records relating to any order passed or proceeding taken under this Act by the appellate authority referred to in section 12, for the purpose of satisfying itself as to the legality, regularity or propriety of such order or proceeding, and may pass such order in reference thereto as it thinks fit.

(2) The costs of and incident to all proceedings before the High Court under sub-section (1) shall be in its discretion.

Explanation.—The jurisdiction of the High Court under this section shall extend also to orders passed or proceedings taken at any time within six months before the commencement of the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Amendment Act, 1949.

Order under the Act to be binding on sub-tenants.

12-C. Any order for the eviction of a tenant passed under this Act shall be binding on all sub-tenants under such tenant, whether they were parties to the proceeding or not, provided that such order was not obtained by fraud or collusion.

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Proceedings by or against legal representatives.

12-D. (1) Any application made, appeal preferred, or proceeding taken, under this Act by or against any person, may, in the event of his death, be continued by or against his legal representatives.

(2) Where any application, appeal or other proceeding could have been made, preferred or taken, under this Act by or against any person, such application, appeal or other proceeding may, in the event of his death, be made, preferred or taken by or against his legal representatives.

Summonses to public servants.

12-E. Subject to such conditions and limitations as may be prescribed, the Controller may, in his discretion, issue summonses to public servants requiring them to attend in person to give evidence or to produce documents in their custody in connexion with any proceedings before him."

Amendment of section 16, Madras Act XV of 1946.

14. In section 16 of the said Act—

(i) in sub-section (1), for the words, brackets, figures and letter "sub-section 1) of section 3, clause (a) of section 6", the words, brackets, figures and letters "sub-sections (1), (2), (4), (5) and (7) of section 3, sub-sections (1) (a) and (2) (a) of section 6" shall be substituted ;

(ii) in sub-section (2), the following shall be added at the end, namely :—

"or for the contravention of any rule made punishable under section 17 (3)".

Amendment of section 17, Madras Act XV of 1946.

15. (1) In section 17, sub-section (2), of the said Act—

(i) clauses (*a*) and (*b*) shall be re-lettered as clauses (*b*) and (*c*) respectively and the following shall be inserted as clause (*a*), namely :—

"(*a*) all matters expressly required or allowed by this Act to be prescribed ;" ;

(ii) the following clauses shall be added, namely :—

"(d) setting aside ex-parte orders passed under this Act ;

(e) applications for making legal representatives of deceased persons, parties to proceedings under this Act and the time within which such applications shall be preferred."

(2) In the same section, sub-section (3) shall be renumbered as sub-section (4) and the following shall be inserted as sub-section (3), namely :—

"(3) In making a rule under this section, the Provincial Government may provide that a person who contravenes any of the provisions thereof shall be punishable with fine which may extend to two thousand rupees."

Application of Act to pending proceedings.

16. Any application made, appeal preferred or other proceeding instituted under the said Act and pending at the commencement of this Act shall be disposed of as if this Act had been in force at the time when such application, appeal or proceeding was made, preferred or instituted

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, the 16th November 1949

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.

Resolution of the Madras Corporation regarding the inclusion of the Madras City in Tamilnad.

* 120 *Q.*—JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a resolution recently passed by the Corporation of Madras by an overwhelming majority to the effect that the City of Madras should be included in Tamilnad;

(*b*) whether the Corporation has forwarded the above resolution to the Government; and

(*c*) whether any action has been taken in this matter?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—" (*a*) & (*b*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*c*) This Government have informed the All-India Congress Working Committee and the Government of India that they accept the J.V.P. Report and agree to the formation of the Andhra Province in terms of the report."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Is it not a fact that the resolution of the Madras Corporation gives a final touch to the question of the City going to the Andhra or Tamil Nad? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" It is a resolution of a Municipal Council and it is taken for what it is."

The Madras Maintenance of Public Order Act, 1947.

*121 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) when this Government began to entertain doubt as to the validity of the two notifications extending the continuance of the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Act, 1947; and

(*b*) on what date they addressed the Governor-General for instruction under the proviso to section 88, sub-section (1) of the Government of India Act, 1935?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The whole thing was discussed at the time when the Bill was being discussed by the House.

" (*a*) & (*b*) The attention of this Government was first drawn to an article which appeared in the " Hindu ", dated 28th

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June 1949, wherein the Calcutta High Court appeared to have held that the West Bengal Security Act was ineffective for the reason that there was no valid extension of the provisions of the Act after its expiry, as the Governor was not a party to the motion for such extension, which was passed by the Provincial Legislature. This was based on the decision of the Federal Court of India in Jyotindra Nath Gupta's case under the Bihar Maintenance of Public Order Act, 1947. The attention of this Government was also drawn to another article published on the same day announcing that the Bihar Maintenance of Public Order Ordinance, 1949, was also declared *ultra vires* by the Patna High Court on the ground that the Governor of Bihar had no power to promulgate the Ordinance when the Legislature was in Session and was prorogued three days later.

As the life of the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Act, 1947, was being extended in this Province from year to year by notification of the Provincial Government, the question was examined whether the continuance of the Act from year to year was legal in the light of the observations contained in the judgments referred to. This Government began to entertain doubts about the validity of the orders continuing the Act towards the end of July 1949, and it was finally decided to enact a validating Ordinance. On 2nd August 1949, the Government of India were approached to obtain the Governor-General's assent to the promulgation of such an Ordinance. The Governor-General's assent was received on 11th August 1949 and the Ordinance was promulgated the same day."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—"Sir, may I know whether the Government could not have summoned the Legislature which had not been prorogued and passed this Bill instead of promulgating an Ordinance?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"There was no time to summon the legislature. It was thought necessary to have an Ordinance passed and take the consent of the House afterwards."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"May I ask why the Legal Department and the Advocate-General were not aware of the simple fact that it is only the Legislature that has got the right to extend the Act and not the executive?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I am very sorry that the hon. Gentleman has forgotten what has happened in the discussion the other day. I gave instances of half a dozen English Acts and a dozen Central Acts which have been extended in this way. Even in 1947, the Advocate-General and the Legal Department were consulted and it was considered there was nothing wrong in doing it as there were a number of precedents for it."

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JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Sir, was there anything to prevent the Government from summoning the House urgently at short notice in connexion with this measure?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"We are absolutely sure that the House would be reasonable enough to approve our action in urgent cases."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Sir, these precedents may be justifiable in the regime of the Advisers and in a bureaucratic regime. May I ask the Hon. Minister whether he is justified in following them in a Ministry which is supposed to be democratic?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Good precedents are good for everything."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Arising from the answer of the Hon. the Law Minister that he was quite sure that his party would approve of his action. . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"He said 'the House' and not 'his party'."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I stand corrected, Sir. The Hon. Minister said that he was quite sure that the House would give its *imprimatur* to his action. May I ask whether he did not rely only on the vast majority behind him and not on the fact that this is a democratic Legislature?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I am sorry for my hon. Friend's conception of democracy. If democracy means rule by majority, my party having a majority in this House is no sin, Sir."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"The Hon. the Law Minister says that he took the decision of the House for granted on such an important matter as this, and that it was why he did not summon the House for considering this question. In that case what use, does the Hon. Minister think, this House serves in the matter of administration and legislation in this Province?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"In introducing the Public Safety Bill I stated the reasons why the Legislature was prorogued and an Ordinance was issued. There was absolutely no time for us as the orders had to be validated in a day or two. It was impossible in the circumstances to summon the House and have the legislation passed. We did consult you, Sir, in the matter before we took action."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"I understand from the answer that it was on the 2nd August 1949 that this Government addressed the Central Government. Do I understand from it, Sir, that from the 2nd August to the 6th November, there was no time to summon the Legislature?"

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The consent of the Governor-General was obtained on the 11th August and the Ordinance was passed on that date and not in November, Sir."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Is it not a fact that the attention of the Government was drawn to the invalidity of the law in June itself and was there no time for this between June and August?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The reports of the decisions appeared in the press in June and we began to examine the question. There was considerable difference of opinion whether extension by notification was right or wrong."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"May I ask whether such undemocratic acts will ensure the Government continued majority in this House for eternity?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"It is not at all undemocratic, Sir. I do not want to take lessons or ideas in democracy from the hon. Gentleman, Sir."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Sir, has there not always been a tendency on the part of the executive, particularly of the Law Minister of the Madras Government to take all powers for himself and even to take away the powers of the Legislature? Has not the Madras High Court showed them their position and said that in future they should not encroach on the rights of this House which is the supreme body?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The Madras High Court has said nothing of the kind which the hon. Gentleman has said. I have nothing more to add to what I have said about the procedure adopted by the Government in issuing the Ordinance."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—"May I ask whether there is no provision for the issue of Ordinance in a democratic system of Government?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Even in the draft constitution approved by the Constituent Assembly there is provision for an Ordinance."

Consulting Engineer to Government.

* 122 *Q.*—JANAB M. A MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any post in existence at present known as Consulting Engineer to Government (Electricity Department); and

(*b*) if so, what the pay of the incumbent is and what his duties are?

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"(*a*) No.

"(*b*) Does not arise."

[Starred Questions Nos. 123 and 124—Vide pages 6–9 *infra*]

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"We shall take up * 125 Q. first as the answer to that question is the same as the answer to * 123 Q."

Printing of S.S.L.C. Text-books in the Government Press.

* 125 *Q.*—SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI (on behalf of Sri M. G. Natesa Chettiyar): Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the text-books for the S.S.L.C. for the current year are undertaken to be printed in the Government Press itself;

(*b*) when the High schools in the Presidency were re-opened and when the text-books were made available for sale; and

(*c*) what the consequences of the delay in making the text-books available are?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"(*a*) The text-books for the S.S.L.C. Examination are not printed in the Government Press. Text-books in English, Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada and Sanskrit for the S.S.L.C. Examination are published by the University of Madras and those in Telugu and Urdu by the Andhra University. The Universities make their own arrangements for printing them.

"(*b*) Most of the High Schools in the Province re-open in the month of June and the text-books were actually available for sale as noted below:—

English	21st June 1949.
Tamil	19th July 1949.
Malayalam	19th July 1949.
Kannada	21st June 1949.
Sanskrit	21st June 1949.
Telugu	4th July 1949.
Urdu	29th June 1949.

"(*c*) The consequences are obvious. For a short period of time teaching could not be done from the prescribed text-books."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Sir, cannot some arrangements be made whereby the text-books can be printed either in May or early in June before the schools re-open for the academic year?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"That is the thing that should normally be done, Sir. We have taken up the matter with the University and they have said that they would see to it that text-books are printed in time."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"My information goes to show that the dates mentioned in the Hon. Minister's reply are

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not correct and that the books were not available to the students on those dates. May I know whether my information is correct, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The books were available for sale either with the booksellers or in the University book depots on the dates mentioned."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that some of the books are in short supply with the result that the students in the mufassal are not able to get their books and are put to a great deal of inconvenience? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I take the information from the hon. Gentleman. The present complaint is not about short supply but about the lateness in supply."

Non-availability of S.S.L.C. English and Tamil text-books.

*123 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any complaints from the public regarding the non-availability of S.S.L.C. English and Tamil text-books for the year 1950; and

(*b*) if so, what steps the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The hon Member's attention is invited to the answer to question No. 125 pertaining to the same subject."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" May I ask whether the Government will see that in future all these text-books are placed on the market as soon as the schools re-open after the recess? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I have already stated that it is the Universities that are publishing these text-books. The views expressed in this House will be conveyed to the Universities and they will be requested to see that the books are made available to the students in time."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" Is it not the responsibility of this Government as they conduct the S.S.L.C. examination? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" But the students have to go to the University courses. The text-books are prescribed and printed by the Universities."

11-15 a.m. JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" Does it not naturally arise that as a result of this responsibility, they must see that all the text-books prescribed for the S.S.L.C. examination are made available to the students appearing for that examination, in time? "

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Yes, Sir; they should be made available in time, and steps will be taken to see that they are made available in time."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—" May I ask whether the delay is in the selection of the passages or in the printing of the books? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" It is in the printing."

Retrenchment in high-paid services.

*124 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether this Government have any idea of effecting retrenchment in the high-paid services (in respect of those getting Rs. 1,000 and over per month) in the current financial year?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The information is furnished below:—

Public Works Department.—(i) The Retrenchment and Re-organization Committee recommended the abolition of the posts of Regional Superintending Engineers in the Highways Department and the retention of two Superintending Engineers at Headquarters to assist the Chief Engineer (Highways) in the inspection of roads, etc., and another Superintending Engineer for work connected with bridges. The recommendation is under consideration. Pending issue of final orders, one post of Superintending Engineer was abolished in January 1949, thereby reducing the number of Regional Superintending Engineers from five to four. The question of retention or otherwise of the other posts of Regional Superintending Engineers is under consideration.

(ii) In the Port Department, one post of Port Officer at Masulipatnam in the scale of Rs. 600—1,200 has been retrenched during 1949–50.

Public Department.—As a measure of retrenchment the Madras Fire Services Department has been re-organized and placed under the control of the Inspector-General of Police, and the following posts have been abolished from 1st October 1949. Director of Fire Services on rupees 1,300—50/2—1,500 per mensem. Chief Regional Fire Officers (3 posts) on Rs. 850—50—1,000 per mensem.

Education and Public Health Department.—The question of abolishing the posts of Divisional Inspectors of Schools is under the consideration of Government. A post of range Assistant Director of Public Health has already been retrenched in the current year as per the recommendations of the Retrenchment and Re-organization Committee.

As regards other departments, there are no proposals for retrenchment in respect of posts carrying a salary of Rs. 1,000 and more."

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SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" With regard to this question, may I ask the Hon. Leader of the House what happened to his assurance given in this House that he would give a chance to discuss on the report of the Retrenchment Committee in the House? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I think at this distance of time, no useful purpose will be served by a discussion."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" What about the Veterinary department? There was some recommendation made in the Retrenchment Committee report about that department. Has no retrenchment been effected in that department? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Perhaps it was not found possible to retrench."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" May I know whether the Government, following the Government of India's policy to save money, propose to insist upon higher-paid officers to compulsorily save something out of their pay? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We have not received the full communiqué issued by the Government of India in this respect. When it is received, it will certainly be considered."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" If the Government are not able to effect retrenchments, have they any proposal to cut the pay of the high-paid officials as has been done by the Central Government? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" No, Sir; the officers of this Government are not getting the salary which the Government of India are paying their servants, and therefore no proposal for reducing their salary is now under the consideration of the Government."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Is it not a fact that by this sort of retrenchment, i.e., cancelling of so many very important posts, the efficiency of administration in all these departments will be affected adversely? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" All aspects of administrative efficiency have been considered, and therefore it is we could not accept in many cases the recommendations of the Committee."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" May I know what were the amounts that have been saved by the retrenchment of high-paid services and of inferior services? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I have given some of the salaries for the posts in the Fire Service, etc., but a separate question may be put, if any specific information is sought on the point."

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Is it not a fact that even in this Province, there are officers who are getting salaries of Rs. 3,000 and Rs. 4,000, such as members of the Civil Service and the High Court Judges? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" No servant of this Government who is not a High Court Judge, gets Rs. 4,000 in this Province. The highest salary is drawn by the Chief Secretary and the First Member of the Board of Revenue, and that is Rs. 3,750."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Even that is high salary I suppose? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" But they are all governed by the assurance given by the Secretary of State and the Governor-General on the 15th of August 1947; they cannot therefore be touched."

Memorandum from the Secretary of the Andhra Khadi Producers' and Dealers' Congress Association.

* 126 *Q.*—JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN (on behalf of Janab Mohamed Abdul Salam): Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a memorandum has been submitted to him by the Secretary of the Andhra Khadi Producers' and Dealers' Congress Association in June 1949;

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, what the contents of the memorandum are; and

(*c*) what action has been taken in this matter by the Government?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" (*a*) *to* (*c*) No memorandum from the Association was received by the Government in June 1949. But certain suggestions were made by the Association in a letter, dated 12th April 1949. The suggestions made and the orders of the Government thereon are indicated below:—

(i) The first suggestion was that the licences issued to producers and dealers under the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949, should permit the sale of khadi by licensed producers to licensed dealers of their choice. The licences issued provided for this and therefore no action was necessary on this suggestion.

(ii) The second suggestion was that the private producers and dealers should be permitted to operate in areas not taken up by the All-India Spinners' Association. Licences to producers and dealers were issued on this basis, and hence no action was necessary here also.

(iii) The third suggestion was that the maximum retail price of khadi should be fixed at 20 per cent over the cost of production against 15-5/8 per cent fixed by clause 17 (i) of the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949. The

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Government had carefully considered the matter before issuing the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949, and took into consideration the corresponding figure adopted by the All-India Spinners' Association and also the fact that there are no intermediaries between a producer and a dealer in khadi trade. The Government therefore found no reason to amend Clause 17 (i) of the Order as suggested.

(iv) The fourth suggestion was that clause 7 of the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949, which gives power to the Development Officer to suspend or cancel a licence and clause 24 under which the Development Officer may, by notification, prohibit the sale or delivery to and the purchase or procurement by any producer or dealer, of handspun yarn produced in such areas as may be specified in the notification, should be deleted or amended. No reasons were given for this suggestion. The provisions of clauses 7 and 24 were considered necessary to enable the Development Officer to carry out the purposes of the Order effectively. The suggestion was therefore not accepted.

(v) The fifth suggestion was that a permanent Khadi Advisory Committee might be constituted. The Government considered that this Committee was not necessary because the Provincial Firka Development Board is competent to advise them on matters relating to the development of khadi."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" I think, Sir, you have ruled times without number that whenever the reply to a question is very lengthy, the Government should print it and place it on the table of the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Not a ruling; I have said so on requests from the hon. Members."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" In view of the fact that mill-made cloth is available to a very large extent in our country, and that there is no fear of anybody coming forward to make spurious khadder to compete with khadder made by the Spinners' Association, will not the Government give freedom to anybody to manufacture and sell khadder instead of putting restrictions on the manufacture of khadder? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" It is not possible."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Is it not the declared policy of the Government to increase the production of khadder? If so, may I know why they prevent private agencies from availing themselves of this opportunity and why they wish only to give the opportunity to All-India Spinners' Association? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" There is another question coming up, question No. 130."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" And question No. 132 also. The Hon. Minister will answer definitely then."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Will the Hon. Minister at least permit these stock-holders to sell the khadi and exempt it from the operation of the khadi order? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" I do not think it is possible."

[* 127 *Q.*—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" I do not like to press this question, Sir."]

Barring of promotion of officers after the age of 50.

* 128 *Q.*—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the rule, barring the promotion of officers after the age of 50 has been modified in the case of the following posts:—

(*a*) Headmaster, Madrasa-i-Azam;

(*b*) Inspectresses, Superintendents and Headmistresses of Girls' Schools; and

(*c*) District Educational Officers?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Yes. For appointment by transfer as Headmaster, Government Madrasa-i-Azam, and Superintendents and Headmistresses of Girls' Schools in the Madras Educational Service, the upper age-limit of 50 was completely abolished in July 1948. In the case of Inspectresses and District Educational Officers and other administrative officers in the service, the limit has been recently altered from 50 to 52."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know why in the case of the Inspectresses and the District Educational Officers, the rule was not abolished? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Because they have to do out-door executive work; they are not like headmasters of institutions, and so, it was considered they must have at least three years to serve. Otherwise, the experience gained by them will not be of much use."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Is it not a fact that even in the case of the veterinary service where physical fitness is required, the rule of promotion being debarred at 50 has been abolished? May I know why the same latitude has not been shown in the case of Inspectresses and District Educational Officers in whom physical fitness is not required, but only mental altertness? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I do not think the work of the other officers is the same as the Inspectresses and District Educational Officers have to do."

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Report of the Committee regarding the working of the Government Transport in Madras.

* 129 *Q.*—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government will place on the table of the House a copy of the report of the three-man Committee appointed by the Madras Government to enquire into the working of the Government Transport in Madras; and

(*b*) what the proposals of the Committee are which have been so far implemented by the Madras Government?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The report of the three-man Committee is still under the consideration of the Government. It is not advisable in public interest to place it on the table of the House at this stage. Certain recommendations of the Committee not specifically requiring the orders of the Government are already being implemented by the Transport Commissioner."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" If the Members of the House are given at least a preliminary report of the Committee, will they not be in a better position to give very good ideas and suggestions to the Hon. Minister for Transport, so that he may consider and implement them? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Not necessary, Sir; if necessary, the report will be placed before the Transport Advisory Council, and we will see if they have any remarks to offer."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" The Hon. Minister said that in the interests of the public, it was not advisable to place it on the table; I cannot understand this Sir. After all, it is a report, giving suggestions."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member is not putting questions; he is arguing with the Hon. Minister."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" I said it by way of explanation. May I know what is the speciality in the ' public interest '? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We have appointed a committee to advise our department and the benefit of that advice need not be made available to the transport companies in the Presidency."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister before coming to a conclusion on the report of the three-man Committee about the working of the Transport service in the City, whether he will take some one centre in the mufassal and try the results and then come to a conclusion? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Extension of nationalization was not a specific point referred to the three-man Committee, and I do not think they have made any recommendation with regard to extension of nationalization or otherwise."

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SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" May I ask what are the recommendations that have already been implemented by the Government? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" They are minor technical details which I need not trouble the House with." (Laughter.)

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Am I to take it that this committee has passed serious remarks about the working of the Transport service, about the efficiency and this and that and naturally, therefore, the Minister for Transport does not like to place it on the table of the House? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" There is no ' this and that ' about it. There are no disparaging remarks about the Transport department either in that report; and it is not because of that that we are withholding the report from publication."

SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—" May I know whether after reading that report, the Hon. Minister is not convinced as to the desirability of extending the service throughout the whole Presidency? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" That report did not discuss the question of extension of nationalization at all. How best to improve the existing service in the City, was the point that was considered by them and reported upon."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" May I know whether the three-man Committee say anything about the efficiency with which the present Transport system is working? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" They have made some suggestions with regard to the better management of the department and the better maintenance of the vehicles."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" Will the Government be pleased to place before the House the balance sheet of the working of the bus service? " 11-30 a.m.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I think that the auditor has completed the examination of the accounts and it will be available within a short time."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—" May I ask, Sir, what is wrong in the benefit of the advice contained in the three-man committee report being made available to the mufassal transport agencies? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Every agency must pay for expert advice and why should this expert advice be made available to them? "

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" May I know, Sir, whether the three-man committee says that the people are satisfied with the working of the transport system? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I am not sure what they said about the people; but I think there is no disparaging remarks about the department."

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SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know, Sir, whether the committee took into consideration the difficulties experienced by passengers, and if so, what recommendations they have made?"

MR. SPEAKER:—" The Hon. Minister has already answered this question."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know whether the Government are considering the question of implementing any suggestion made by the committee to improve and provide more facilities for the passenger public?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The report mainly dealt with technical aspects, how best to maintain a vehicle and how to improve the management of the entire department and they did not go into the question whether a particular route wants more buses, or whether people are stranded on the roads for more than ten or fifteen minutes."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—" The Government have considered the three-man committee report; may I know, Sir, who these three gentlemen are; are they experts, or officials or non-officials; will the Hon. Minister divulge their names?"

MR. SPEAKER:—" It was only last session that the Hon. Minister gave the names of the members of the Committee."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" One is an official and the other two are non-officials who are connected with transport systems."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" The Hon. the Leader of the House speaks of making people stand for a long time on the road and then not providing them with sufficient number of stands as not being part of good management of the transport system. May I know, Sir, whether he realizes that these will tell upon the efficient working of the bus system and whether this does not form part of the good and efficient management of the bus system?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" It does not matter whether these matters were discussed by the three-man committee or not; but whatever is necessary in the interests of the public must be done by the department."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that some of the disruptive fordes along with motor magnates all over the province are already anxiously waiting to hear that the transport experiment has been a failure?"

MR. SPEAKER:—" We are now concerned with the Transport Committee Report."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" After all, Sir, the efficient working of bus transport in the City consists in meeting the demands of the travellers and may I know why the Government have not included a person representing the public so that the difficulties experienced by them could have been brought to the notice of the Committee?"

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MR. SPEAKER:—" The question was put previously and the Hon. Minister has already answered it."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" I am not asking why a Member of the House was not included; I am asking why a member of the passengers' association was not taken in as a member of that committee."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I do not know if the Hon. Minister wants to answer the question."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" Might I ask, Sir, if the three-man committee had indicated anywhere that they are satisfied with the way in which the transport system is working?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" As far as I remember, they have not said in that manner; but a separate question may be put."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" I want to have a categorical reply from the Hon. Minister whether it is a fact that one of the terms of reference to that Committee is to report whether the services are working efficiently or not and what reply they have given; whether they are satisfied with the working of the system or not?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" A separate question may be put on this specific point and I will certainly give the information."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" I am sure the Hon. Minister has by now read the Report of the Committee; what does he feel about the working of the transport system comparatively with the others working outside?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" It is not very easy to compare; but when I compare our department with the departments of other provinces, namely, Delhi and Calcutta, etc., there is nothing on our part to feel ashamed of this department."

SRI PYDAH VENKATANARAYANA:—" What does the Report say about the continuance or otherwise of the lady conductresses in buses?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I suppose the three-man committee that went into the question did not have much time to deal with the question of lady conductresses."

SRI B. ANANTHACHAR:—" May I know, Sir, where this Committee Report will transport us ultimately?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" It will certainly transport us to a great degree of efficiency."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—" Am I to understand that the Government are not interested in the other systems of transport operating elsewhere that are not run by the Government themselves?"

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I am certainly interested in them and in fact, I am the biggest protagonist of private operators but that does not mean that I can pay for expert advice which may benefit them."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—" Is it possible for the Government to divulge at least what the terms of reference of this committee are? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Certainly it can be made available if a separate question is put."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" While there may be room for improvement in the efficiency of the administration, will the Government not delay the extension of this system of nationalized transport in the interests of putting down corruption and in the interests of providing useful, good and lawfully run services for the benefit of the people? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Am I to understand that this question arises out of the main question? "

Sale of khadi under the Madras Khadi (Control) Order, 1947.

* 130 *Q.*—JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that many khadi merchants, who were allowed to trade until February 1949, under the Madras Khadi (Control) Order, 1947, have not been licensed under the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949; and

(*b*) what provisions have been made under the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949, to enable persons who are not licensed, to dispose of their stock on hand?

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

" In order to control effectively the activities of producers and dealers of khadi with a view to ensure genuineness of the material produced and distributed, it has been decided to limit their number to the minimum necessary.

' (*b*) Persons, who, having obtained licences under the Madras Khadi (Control) Order, 1947, are holding stocks of khadi but have not been given licences under the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949, are permitted, on application to the Provincial Firka Development Officer, to sell their stocks in specified quantities to specified dealers holding current licences."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Is it not the declared policy of the Government to encourage the production of khadi; if so, why should they insist on the All-India Spinners' Association alone availing itself of the opportunity denying similar opportunities are denied to private merchants."

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THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" The question that the hon. Lady Member has now put will be answered in question No. 132."

SRI T. VISWANATHAN:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that the deterioration in the quantity and quality has synchronised with the passing of this Order? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" No, Sir."

Age restriction regarding promotion of Sub-Judges as District Judges.

* 131 *Q.*—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that after the age of 52 a Sub-Judge is debarred from promotion as a District Judge?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The position is that some years ago (i.e.), long before India became independent the Secretary of State for India laid down that promotion of officers who would reach the age of superannuation within three years of the date from which their promotion would take effect should be avoided. This meant that officers of 52 and over were shut out, but the Secretary of State had laid down that the rule was not intended to be rigidly applied and that officers of ability who had officiated for some time should not be regarded as being completely debarred from promotion merely because they had less than three years service before them. The Secretary of State's control having lapsed on 15th August 1947, the position at present is that there is no rule fixing 52 as the age limit for the promotion of Sub-Judges. Each case is considered on its merits."

Selection of licensees under the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949.

* 132 *Q.*—JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the All-India Spinners' Association (A.I.S.A.) had any hand in selecting the licensees under the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Government have decided not to grant licences to *bona fide* khadi merchants in places where the A.I.S.A. is operating; and

(*c*) if the answer to (*b*) is in the affirmative, what the names of the places where licences will not be issued, are?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The All-India Spinners' Association (A.I.S.A.) have had no hand in the selection of licensees under the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949. Only the Secretary of the All-India Spinners' Association, Masulipatnam, who has been advising the Government in working the Intensive Khadi Scheme as

Honorary Regional Khadi Officer for the Andhra Desa helped in the selection of genuine producers and dealers of khadi from among the large number of applicants. But he later declined to assist in view of the general policy of the All-India Spinners' Association (Central) who are not in favour of the Government issuing licences to producers and dealers of khadi and who desired that the All-India Spinners' Association should be left to " certify " producers and dealers under their own rules. The matter was discussed in detail by the Government with a representative of the All-India Spinners' Association and in view of the fact that the All-India Spinners' Association have done pioneering work in the field of production and distribution of khadi in many areas in the Province and have got the necessary experience, resources and personnel to carry on the work successfully. Government decided not to issue licences to producers and dealers in areas where the All-India Spinners' Association are operating.

" (*c*) According to the list furnished by the All-India Spinners' Association, they are operating in about 4,500 villages in Tamil Nad and 675 villages in the Andhra Desa. The Government consider that the printing of the lists of the villages involves considerable labour and cost without serving any useful purpose."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that because the price of khadi is kept up high, the Government are afraid of competition from producers of spurious khadi? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" The Government do not want to encourage the production of spurious khadi."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Is the All-India Spinners' Association able to cope with the demand in the area in which they are functioning? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" Yes, Sir."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Is it not dangerous to entrust the work of selecting dealers under the Khadi Order to private persons who work honorarily? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" They are experts and the Government do not think that there is any danger in it."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—" May I know, Sir, whether it is not a fact that the All-India Spinners' Association observe certain standards of fair dealing, while the other merchants exploit the poverty of the people and that is why this has been issued? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" That is one of the reasons."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Will the Hon. Minister tell us the stock of khadi and the amount it costs to the Government? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Does this arise out of the main question? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" A separate question may be put."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know the sort of machinery that is set up for finding out whether the licensees are carrying on their work properly because there are about 11,250 villages? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" The licences have been extended to only a limited number of villages and therefore, there is ample machinery to check the dealers and to find out whether they are doing real work or mismanaging it."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—" May I know, Sir, whether the All-India Spinners' Association branch at Chicacole, which is capable of producing fine khadi, has not been able to produce, due to lack of funds? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" I take the information from the hon. Member."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" May I know whether these honorary experts come under the disciplinary action of the Government, if they commit an error or are found abusing their power in issuing licences or recommending licences? " 11-45 a.m.

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" They are responsible people on whom we depend upon. I do not think till now the Government have received any information with regard to their wrong recommendation."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know whether the Government are subsidising the All-India Spinners' Association? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" I have answered that question exhaustively. I would suggest to the hon. Lady Member to put a separate question."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" May I know whether the Government are aware that some merchants are mixing mill yarn with khadi and deceiving the people, and whether the Government have taken any action? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" Their licence will be cancelled if specific instances are brought to the notice of Government."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" Is it not a fact that these Inspectors are reputed to be persons who have put in twenty years of solid khadi service in the All-India Spinners' Association? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" Notice."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" Sir, my question has not been answered. I asked the Hon. Minister, what machinery has been set

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up by Government to see that spurious khadi is not mixed with khadi yarn. May I know whether there is any inspectorate to go into the matter? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" There are the All-India Spinners' Association Inspectors to do it."

Taxes paid by the Government on account of State Tradings, etc.

* 133 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total amounts of income-tax, super-tax and Corporation-tax paid in 1948–49 by the Government of Madras for its (1) State tradings and business; (2) State undertakings and enterprises including manufactures; (3) State utility services; (4) State controlled financial corporations; and

(*b*) the total turnover involved in each of the above cases?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (*a*) None. Under section 155 of the Government of India Act, 1935, the Government of a Province is not liable to Federal taxation in respect of income accruing, arising or received in British India.

" (*b*) In view of the answer to (*a*) above, it is not considered necessary to collect the figures of turnover for each undertaking, etc."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" Is it not a fact that trade controlled by corporations is liable to income-tax? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" No, Sir, not at present."

Details re: lands taken for pyrethrum cultivation in Nanjanad village.

* 134 *Q.*—SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of people from whom lands in Nanjanad village, Nilgiris district, were taken by the Forest Department for Pyrethrum cultivation;

(*b*) their names and the number of acres taken from each; and

(*c*) the amount of compensation paid to each?

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" (*a*) Lands in Nanjanad village, Nilgiris district were taken over in March 1943, for Pyrethrum cultivation, by the Forest department from one individual only, with his consent; and subsequently in September 1947, were taken over permanently.

" (*b*) The name of person is Sri N. Giriappa Gowder of Ootacamund and the extent of land taken from him is 85.54 acres.

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" (*c*) A sum of Rs. 4,619 was paid as rent for 85.54 acres at the rate of Rs. 12 per acre per annum for 4½ years from March 1943 to September 1947. An area of 81.68 acres in the same village has been ordered to be assigned to him in exchange for the lands taken over."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that this land which has been allowed or rather granted to Mr. Giriappa Gowder by way of assignment is more valuable than the land which has been taken by the Government from him? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" It is quite possible. This land was wanted by the Forest department, and the other land was a waste land in the hands of the Revenue department, and a small portion of it was in the hands of the Forest department and it was given in exchange."

Classification of 'essential service' for issue of petrol.

* 135 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether legal profession is being classified as " essential service " for the purpose of issuing petrol rations; and

(*b*) if so, what the reasons therefor are?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (*a*) & (*b*) Advocates have been classed as essential users in the matter of issue of supplementary rations as they may have to attend different courts on the same day in different places and a swift movement is essential if work of courts is not to be hampered. Further, this is only restoration of a practice which has been in vogue for a long time and kept in abeyance only temporarily and for a very brief period."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" Sir, why not pleaders also be included in the category of 'essential service' for the purpose of issuing petrol rations? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" All pleaders will shortly become advocates (laughter) and then they will also come under the category of 'essential service'. Even otherwise if pleaders make a representation it will certainly be considered."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Sir, are not advocates classified under two heads, one with very good practice and the other with no practice; (laughter) even then do they all get petrol? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" It is for the Income-tax department to go into the question of their income. As far as the Petrol Ration department is concerned they will have to deal with the question on broad lines and not go into the question of their income."

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SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know, Sir, whether touts will be included in the category of essential service?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I do not know if the hon. Member is championing the cause of touts with regard to petrol."

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

II.—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Sir on a point of information, I want to know the programme of work of the House. We seem to be sailing in the sea with an unchartered skipper. We do not know how long we sit and what our programme of work is. We do not know how long we are to discuss the resolution on cyclone havoc."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The hon. Gentleman does not seem to appreciate our difficulty in the matter. We are now in the debate on cyclone havoc and we do not know how long it will take; and hence our inability to chalk out any programme. Hon. Members must also understand and appreciate our difficulty in the matter. To-morrow and the day after, we do not sit as the Council sits to discuss important Bills. On the 19th instant we meet to discuss the supplementary demands. On the 20th, we do not meet as it is a Sunday. On the 21st instant, the Council discusses the supplementary demands. On the 22nd, we meet to vote on the supplementary demands. We perhaps sit on the 23rd and 24th; and we propose, if necessary, for finishing the rest of the business on the agenda, to meet in December or so."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Sir, while we appreciate the difficulties of the Government, may I suggest to the Hon. Leader of the House to take the Members of the House into confidence and give them the information in time and not wait for an hon. Member to get up and ask him as to on what days we meet and what work is expected to be transacted?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" There is nothing wrong for an hon. Gentleman like Mr. Majid or Mr. Hameed Khan getting up and asking for the programme of work, and whatever information is available with the Government will be given to them. There is nothing wrong in asking for the programme of work."

MR. SPEAKER:—" We shall now take up the debate on cyclone havoc in Andhra districts."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" May I know how long this debate will go on?"

MR. SPEAKER:—" It will be finished to-day."

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JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" Are we sitting in the afternoon also to-day?"

MR. SPEAKER:—" Yes."

III.—DISCUSSION ON THE DAMAGES DONE BY CYCLONE IN ANDHRA DESA—*cont.*

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" Sir, I rise to ask on a point of order whether a non-official Member in this Assembly can bring an amendment which involves a large amount of money without the permission of the Cabinet or His Excellency the Governor."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Probably the hon. Member has in his mind section 82 of the Government of India Act, which runs as follows:—

'(1) A Bill or amendment making provision—

(*a*) for imposing or increasing any tax; or

(*b*) for regulating the borrowing of money or the giving of any guarantee by the Province, or for amending the law with respect to any financial obligations undertaken or to be undertaken by the Province; or

(*c*) for declaring any expenditure to be expenditure charged on the revenues of the Province, or for increasing the amount of any such expenditure,

shall not be introduced or moved except on the recommendation of the Governor. . . .'

" Probably this is based on the House of Commons Standing Order No. 63 which runs as follows:—

'This House will receive no petition for any sum relating to public service or proceed upon any motion for a grant or charge upon the public revenue, whether payable out of the consolidated fund or out of money to be provided by Parliament, unless recommended from the Crown.'

Thus it will be seen that section 82 is copied from the Standing Order No. 63. The difference is that in England permission of the Crown is necessary; but here, it is the permission of the Governor.

" I shall now read the commentary on it by Dr. Anson in his book 'Law and Custom of the Constitution':

'It is possible for any member of the House of Commons to move a resolution to the effect that public money might profitably be expended upon purposes specified in the resolution, and if the House agreed to the motion it thereby commits itself to a general approval of such outlay, but it would not be in accordance with the rules of the House for a private member to move that a specific sum be granted for a specific purpose. Such a motion can only proceed from a Minister of the Crown.'

" So we learn that in England a private member cannot move a motion to spend money from the revenue. The question whether a non-official Member can bring in a motion of this nature without the permission of His Excellency was raised in Madras during the time of Sir P. Rajagopalachariar in 1921 and he ruled it out of order. Again during the time of Mr. L. D. Swamikannu Pillai, a similar motion was brought forward by Mr. Satyamurthi. I shall read his motion as I hope hon. Members would

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like to know what our old friend Mr. Satyamurthi wanted to move. (Cries of Yes, Yes.) The following is the motion of Mr. Satyamurthi:—

'This council recommends to Government that it should move in the Council as early as possible for a supplementary grant of ten lakhs of rupees for the purpose of affording relief and repairing damages in the districts of the presidency recently affected by floods.'

It was ruled out of order by Mr. L. D. Swamikannu Pillai. During the time of Mr. Ramachandra Reddi a similar motion was moved by Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar. The motion of Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar runs as follows:—

'This Council recommends to Government that at least a lakh of rupees be set apart from the Provincial Revenue to relieve the unemployed in the city and in the mufassal.'

As nobody raised a point of order, the motion was passed."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Was it implemented?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am glad the Hon. Minister is raising that point. In England, non-officials are not allowed to move a similar motion. But when the Ministers bring it with the permission of the Crown it is implemented. I do not know whether Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar's motion was implemented. Twice in the Speakers' Conference this question was taken up, and it was found that in other provinces similar motions were made in the Legislature. I wish to know what hon. Members have to say on this question before I give my ruling."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"We are thankful to you for enlightening us. But even after your explaining the position, I feel there is doubt in one matter. I agree that it is not possible for a private Member to move a resolution as such with your permission or the permission of the House. You have given us a ruling in Parliament and also Sir P. Rajagopalachari's ruling. You have not told us whether it was a direct resolution moved by a private member of the House or whether it was an amendment to a Government motion. I want to submit for your consideration that the present situation in this House is slightly different from the situation to which the previous rulings relate. The provocation for this amendment is a motion moved by the Government Member himself. This is not a substantive motion moved by a private Member but an amendment to a Government motion. The request made in the amendment is only recommendatory and not mandatory and it is open to the Government to implement or not to implement the recommendation. I submit that it is in order for a private Member to move an amendment to a Government motion. I would like to submit this aspect for your consideration in view of the fact that the rulings you have given do not mention that they relate to an amendment."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Section 82 of the Government of India Act refers to a 'Bill or amendment'."

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RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"The Government of India Act may say several things. So far as this House is concerned, the interpretation of the Act is entirely in your hands. You have given us the rulings given by distinguished persons in the past about the interpretation of the Act. But those rulings relate to slightly different circumstances. Here the circumstance is that the opportunity for the amendment is provided by a Government motion itself. As I said, the amendment is only recommendatory. Therefore it is in order and I request you to consider this aspect."

*SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have been good enough to quote some previous rulings in which you made reference to non-official or private Members. I find that, section 82 of the Government of India Act makes no distinction between private Members and Government Members. The only point is that a resolution or Bill which, if enacted, would involve expenditure from the revenues of the province, shall be discussed only on the recommendation of the Governor, and not whether it is moved by a private Member or Government Member. As the Government have sponsored the motion, they will do the necessary things to legalise whatever expenditure they incur for the relief of those who have been affected by the cyclone. If on the other hand the view is taken that any amendment or suggestion, which would involve the province in some expenditure, cannot be discussed except on the recommendation of the Governor, we would be strictly satisfying the letter of the Government of India Act but certainly not the spirit. Ninety-nine per cent of the suggestions we make will involve some expenditure or other. Therefore I would ask you to give a very liberal interpretation to the Act and allow the debate to proceed."

*SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"The Hon. Speaker has rightly read out section 82 of the Government of India Act. That section refers to Bills introduced in the House and amendments to Bills so that the Government may not take the house by surprise. It intends to lay down that no sum of money be sanctioned by the House without a definite commitment having been previously considered by the House on its own merits. That is the *raison d'etre* of section 82. But it does carry the thing a little further than the section itself would admit in regard to resolutions. If the Government came forward with a resolution specifying the sum of two or three crores of rupees, there would have been no trouble. Then it must be assumed that they would have come out with a plan which would definitely commit them to this expenditure and which they have previously considered. The whole object of section 82 is to prevent springing of surprises upon the House and presenting it with a *fait accompli*. What the previous speakers pointed out is true—that all proposals made involve us in some kind of expenditure or other. Suppose there

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is a proposal to raise the salaries of the non-gazetted government servants. A very general resolution to that effect can be adopted."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Similar resolutions without specifying the amount were allowed here also previously."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"I am coming exactly to the point which you intend to cover. A general resolution like that does not commit the Government except to this extent that they must consider the proposal and come out with a plan.

"I do not agree with the hon. Gentleman of the Opposition who said that resolutions of the House might not be mandatory. Then there is no meaning in resolutions of the House being passed. We are doing serious business and if the Assembly resolves upon recommending certain expenditure, it must make it obligatory on the part of the Government to incur that expenditure. It is for the Government to accept or reject the amendments. But it is possible in matters like this to allow a discussion in very general terms and not commit the Government to any specific sum of money being spent. I think I have fairly covered the point."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"I would like to know what the legal effect will be if the amendment of the Yuvaraja of Pithapuram is passed by this House."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"After all, a motion specifying the amount does not become a mandate given by this House to the Government. So far as I can see, this is a recommendation to the Minister to see if its implementation is practicable and, if practicable, get the approval of the Governor and come before this House with a supplementary demand for the same sum or for a smaller or larger sum. That is all the effect of this motion. As such I do not see any illegality in it."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Sir, section 82 speaks of Bill or amendment to that Bill. It does not refer to resolution at all. Here it is a resolution and that too an amendment to a Government resolution. When the Government accept the amendment, it becomes part and parcel of their resolution. If there is any difficulty, that can be got over by the Government accepting the amendment. But it is open to the Government to accept or reject the amendment."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The point at issue is not the acceptance or rejection of the amendment but whether a non-official member is entitled to move it without the permission of His Excellency."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"If there is any objection in spirit, that can be removed by the Government adopting this amendment as part of their resolution. If there is any objection over and above this, they may get the permission of the

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Governor as has been suggested by several hon. Friends. Therefore you need not think that there is any legal difficulty in admitting the motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I will allow one or two members to speak and then ask the Hon. Law Minister and the Hon. Leader of the House to give their opinion."

* SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"I would like to submit that this is an amendment to the motion moved by the Hon. Minister himself. This is neither a Bill nor a resolution. My amendment simply requests the Government to set apart two crores of rupees. It is only a request and it is quite within the jurisdiction of this House to make the request to the Government. As this is not an amendment to a Bill or resolution, I feel that the point of order does not stand."

* SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, 12-15 p.m. You may kindly see that in the marginal note under section 82 of the Government of India Act, it is said, 'Special provisions as to financial Bills' and if you read section 82, sub-sections (1) and (2), you will find that such a resolution as the one now under discussion does not come under either of these two clauses. If at all it comes, it must come only under sub-section (3) which states that—

'A Bill which, if enacted and brought into operation, would involve expenditure from the revenues of a Province shall not be passed by a Chamber of the Legislature unless the Governor has recommended to that Chamber the consideration of the Bill.'

"Now, Sir, if you examine this sub-section, you will find that the word 'amendment' is carefully avoided. Section 82 (1) says:

'A Bill or amendment making provision—

(*a*) for imposing or increasing any tax; or

(*b*) for regulating the borrowing of money or the giving of any guarantee by the Province, or for amending the law with respect to any financial obligations undertaken or to be undertaken by the Province; or

(*c*) for declaring any expenditure to be expenditure charged on the revenues of the Province, or for increasing the amount of any such expenditure,

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.'

"Therefore, Sir, you will see that the resolution under consideration does not come under any of the clauses (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) of section 82 (1). As I said, if at all, it could come only under sub-section (3). That is very clear and the marginal notes are also very clear. If this House is to make any recommendation to the Government, suggesting something which involves an expenditure or for setting apart any amount for any purpose whatsoever, I think, Sir, it is not the intention of section 82 to defeat such a purpose."

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SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, the clause prohibiting the introduction of any amendment for declaring any expenditure to be expenditure charged on the revenues of the Province comes under section 82 (1) (c) which says:

'A Bill or amendment making provision for declaring any expenditure to be expenditure charged on the revenues of the Province, or for increasing any such expenditure, 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.'

I request you, Sir, to note the difference between the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council, occurring in this subsection. It means that the Legislative Council is debarred from voting on any grants, and even the discussion of the budget can only be general. Such being the case, any amendment which involves the voting of additional expenditure is debarred only in the Council, and not in the Assembly, and it is this point that I want to bring to the notice of the House and you, Sir."

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, with all respect to the House and to you, I may say, that my view is more or less the same as expressed by my hon. Friend Mr. N. S. Varadachari, that no motion for an increase of expenditure can be brought by any private Member under the Act and that all financial proposals will have to originate from the Government, and in certain cases with the permission of the Governor. That is clear enough, Sir. If we compare this with rule 128 (1) of the Legislative Assembly Rules, you will see that even on a budget motion, no member can ask for an increase of the demand, but he can only reduce the demand. Rule 128 (1) says:

'The Minister who moves a demand for a grant may make a statement explaining the policy underlying the demand. Any member may then make a motion to reduce the demand by a specified sum. No motion shall, however, be made which will have the effect of increasing or altering the destination of the demand.'

" Therefore even when the demand for grants is before the House, nobody can move a cut motion which would have the effect of increasing the demand or imposing a tax. In the present case, the motion before the House is that the situation created by the cyclone be taken into consideration, and the private member's resolution is in the form of an amendment, to the effect that a particular sum be set apart for the purpose. I submit, Sir, that under section 82 of the Government of India Act, no private member can bring in a resolution or move an amendment of such a nature, but that it can only be done by the Government."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I submit, that it is left to the Hon. Speaker to treat this non-official resolution either as a substantial motion or as an amendment. If you accept it as an amendment, then I do not know, Sir, whether any difficulties will arise as regards it being not legal."

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JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" On a point of information, Mr. Speaker. I want to know, Sir, whether a resolution when it is passed by the House, is binding on the Government and whether they should give effect to it."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Sir, the Government are responsible to the House and if a resolution, emanating from a private member, is passed by the House, I think, it is more or less binding on the Government. Ordinarily, if a resolution is passed by the House, it means that it is passed with the acquiescence of the Government themselves, because they command the majority in the House. But it is up to the Government to oppose and defeat it also. If it is passed, then I think it is binding on the Government to implement it. That is the ordinary position, Sir, so far as I understand, and it is in that spirit that a responsible Government ought to function.

" Then Sir, I do not think whether we can draw a distinction between a Bill and an amendment. Suppose a motion for a demand for grant is made for a crore of rupees under Police expenditure. It is not open to any private member to move an increase of that sum, although in view of the communist menace, it might be desirable to increase it. But, at the same time it is open to the members to move a cut motion, say for a token sum of Rs. 100 and to impress upon the Government the need for augmenting it, but it is done indirectly and not directly. No member can seek to increase the demand by any specific amount by means of a direct motion or amendment. That is not generally done and it is not also allowed. I do not know under what section of the Government of India Act it is not allowed, but perhaps it might not be under this section 82. I think, Sir, the same procedure must apply in this case also. If the recommendation or amendment or resolution of a private member is accepted, it will then become mandatory. But whatever may be the technical position, Sir, my own feeling in this matter is, that while the House is competent to make a recommendation to the Government, it is better that it does so in general terms by saying that the Government should spend more sums on relief measures to the flood-affected victims and the like and avoid specifying a definite sum for the purpose."

* SRI K. R. KARANTH:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would not have intervened at this stage except for the fact that I feel that an important right of the private members of the House is now in question. It is one thing for the Government to say that such a motion as this asking for the allotment of Rs. 2 or 3 crores for flood-relief is too much and therefore they would not allow it, and thereby vote it down. That, one can understand. But it is another thing to bring in a legal objection that a private member cannot even move a motion, or amendment or resolution involving an expenditure on the revenues of the Province. There

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are many resolutions which are in the form of requests or representations or recommendations to the Government. Several resolutions like that have been passed in this House. It is open to the Government to accept them or not to accept them."

MR. SPEAKER:—" But the point here is, whether a private or non-official member has a right to bring in a motion or amendment or resolution involving a specific expenditure of money to be voted upon by the House without the permission of His Excellency the Governor."

* SRI K. R. KARANTH:—" I submit, Sir, that the right of the House cannot be taken away except by a clear provision of the Government of India Act. The right of discussion has not been taken away under any provision of law not even by section 82 of the Government of India Act. I have gone through that section very carefully and I am of the opinion that it refers only to Bills. Sub-sections (1), (2) and (3) refer to Bills or amendments. That section says that every Bill involving the expenditure of money from the revenues of the State shall not be introduced or if passed by a Chamber of the Legislature it will not be valid unless it has received the sanction of the Governor. What I am going to say is this. If it is said that not even a discussion could take place on a motion like this, that would be depriving the House of a very important right. You cannot make a difference, whether the amount is specified or not. The illustration of a demand for grant is quite different. There with the previous permission or on the recommendation of the Governor, the Minister-in-charge places the demand before the House, and there is a specific rule in the Legislative Assembly Rules, which says that that sum shall not be increased. It may be decreased. But now, to say that a motion of this sort shall not be discussed in the House, simply because it specifies a certain sum being spent on relief measures and recommends to the Government to make a particular expenditure, is, I may submit, Sir, taking away a very valuable right of this House. I can quite understand a democratic Government saying, 'If you pass this motion, it will be rather difficult for us to find the necessary money to be spent for that particular purpose, and so we shall vote it down.' That would be a perfectly legitimate and proper procedure. But to say that we cannot even recommend a course of action, because it involves the expenditure of a specific amount, would, as I said, be depriving the non-official members of a very valuable right. Any resolution or amendment is in the nature of a recommendation to the Govenment. It is one thing to ask the Government to do a certain thing by way of a request or resolution or recommendation, but it is quite another thing to demand for the grant of an expenditure on a definite motion in the House."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the view taken by the Government, I may be

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allowed to submit that their difficulty appears to be more about the implementation of a resolution or amendment in this particular form, than allowing a discussion to proceed on it. Now we are concerned mainly with the discussion of the resolution and not with the implementation of the same, when it is accepted."

MR. SPEAKER:—" If the House accepts it, then the Government will necessarily have to implement it. The Government cannot flout the opinion of the House."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Sir, I can quote hundreds of instances where resolutions unanimously accepted and passed by the House have not been implemented by the Government. Assuming that this amendment or resolution specifying the allotment of Rs. 2 or 3 crores towards flood-relief is accepted by the Government, it is of course open to them to come and say later on, 'We have tried our best to implement the resolution, but we have not been able to find so much money for the purpose and therefore we have spent only so much.' That would perfectly justify their position. But the real question before the House is not that. The right of a private member to move an amendment of a recommendatory nature involving the expenditure of a certain sum of money, is the question before the House. I do not think, Sir, that it is the intention of the Government to deprive a non-official member of the right even to move a resolution or amendment of a recommendatory nature. We are not concerned with the material part of the resolution which says that a certain sum of money should be set apart for a specific purpose. If the Government feel that they cannot spend so much amount, they can say in reply that the amount envisaged is one which they cannot spend under the circumstances. But what they are now seeking to do is to rule out the resolution altogether by saying that a private member has no right to move a resolution in such a form. That would give the impression that the Government are against giving any sort of relief to the flood-affected victims. If they want to reject this amendment, the Government might themselves move another amendment saying that the Government do take steps to spend as much money as is necessary to give adequate relief, and thus get over the difficulty. I therefore submit, Sir, that the allowing of this amendment to be moved will not in any way endanger or embarass the position of the Government and it is in that view that the right of a non-official Member to move amendments has to be considered and protected, Sir."

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Sir, let us not go into the merits of the question whether the amount is so much or not. I do not at all say that the House cannot discuss a particular situation or even saying that money should be spent. But what amount should be spent, the House cannot discuss on the motion of a non-official Member. In the whole of the Act

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there is provision only for Bills and amendments. Mr. Brahmanandam Reddi said that it refers to resolutions also. Resolutions are moved under rule 115 of the Assembly Rules. Rule 115 says—

'Subject to the restrictions contained in the Act and the rules, any member may move a resolution. . . .'

No resolution can be moved on which a Bill cannot be moved. (Interruption.) Resolutions are moved under the rules framed by this House. The rule says that a resolution can be moved subject to the restrictions in the Act and the rules. In the Act there is a definite restriction regarding financial matters—that they can be moved only with the consent of His Excellency the Governor. Here the resolution moved by the Government is to take a particular situation into consideration. Whether the Hon. Speaker is pleased to give his substantive approval to the resolution asking the Government to spend a particular amount or not, it is a resolution asking the Government to spend a particular amount. If the Government have mentioned a certain figure, that may be reduced by hon. Members by a few rupees. But to ask the Government to spend a particular amount by means of a resolution cannot be done under the Act. The resolution is subject to restrictions under Section 82 of the Act."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, much discussion has been centred on the question of official and non-official resolutions. I wish to point out that in the Act no distinction is made between official and non-official resolutions. Whether it is moved by the Government or by a private Member, only the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor is contemplated under Section 82 of the Act. I see no point in the Hon. the Law Minister's contention that the Government can bring forward a resolution while a private Member cannot. This confusion should not be perpetrated."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let me tell the House that I was not taken by surprise when the hon. Member Mr. Vedaratnam Pillai raised this point of order. I have come quite prepared for that. During the leisure hours, I have gone through this. As I have already told the House, such a motion can only proceed from a Minister of the Crown. That is the position in England. Only the Minister of the Government can move; not others. The question is not whether a non-official Member can bring forward a resolution. The question is whether a non-official Member can bring in a motion for a specific grant which imposes a burden upon the public revenues without the permission of His Excellency the Governor. It may be a different matter if there is no specific amount mentioned in the amendment. I am of the opinion that a private Member, without the permission of His Excellency the Governor, cannot move that a specific sum be set apart for any purpose thereby imposing a burden on the provincial revenues."

*SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Sir, has it not been the practice when non-official Members send in resolutions or motions

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to be moved before the House, that your office took steps to see whether those resolutions required the consent of His Excellency the Governor, and, if required, took necessary steps to get His Excellency the Governor's permission or recommendation?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am glad the hon. Member has raised this point. The hon. Member Sri. D. V. Ramaswami gave notice of his motion at about 10-45 a.m. and the hon. Member the Yuvaraja of Pithapuram gave notice of his motion at 10-30 a.m. Therefore, we had no time to consider. However, I have gone into the matter already. I rule both the amendments out of order. Sri Bapineedu will now continue his speech."

*SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday I was pointing out how and with what velocity this unusual cyclone has brought about destruction to property and loss of lives bringing in its train all the after-effects. It has disturbed the economy of all the coastal districts. In my own district of West Godavari the loss of life came to 59, and the loss of property to Rs. 91 lakhs besides crops."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We have been carrying on this debate for so long. I now fix a time-limit of ten minutes to each Member."

*SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"In my district the loss of crops is estimated at Rs. 85 lakhs. West Godavari is one of the granaries of South India. We supplied food to the people of the south. On the eve of good bumper crop to be harvested, this unkind act of God has removed all prospects of good crop and supply of paddy. We expected very good crop in 9 lakhs of acres. By this cyclone, from 359,000 tons of paddy, it has come down to 148,000 tons, thus reducing it by 50 per cent. Some villages in Narasapur taluk have lost nearly 90 per cent huts. The tidal wave which came recently had the very unusual rising to 10 feet. It is very interesting to know how God has given a warning about this tidal wave. An hour before the wave, there was a big light called '*Deva Deepam*', otherwise called God's light, which served as a sort of warning to the people that a big tidal wave was soon expected. It is very difficult to estimate the loss. There is no doubt that it will run to many crores of rupees. This is a national calamity. Still we are surprised to find that there is no publicity about this in the North Indian papers. (At this stage Chairman Sri R. V. Swaminathan occupied the Chair.)

"Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is very unusual in a country like ours when such a calamity occurs, that no publicity is given and no statements are published by the North Indian papers. When a famine or flood overtook Bengal or Bihar, or an earthquake occurred in Bihar or in the Frontier, we organised relief measures. We conducted meetings to collect money. But unfortunately for this unkind act of God, no North Indian, big or small has sent money or even sympathy to us. I do not know why Mr. Patil,

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the Food Commissioner, who was here recently, was not directed by the Central Government or requested by the Madras Government to tour the affected areas. Now, let us face facts. I wish to bring before the House some relevant points regarding the Kolair lake and other areas that have been greatly affected. The Hon. Minister for Public Works has been kind enough to place some facts which will give us some hope that the schemes will soon be taken up. The Kollair lake deserves our attention. This covers 2,000 square miles with an ayacut of 30,000 acres. There are 44 lankas in West Godavari and Krishna districts. It easily supplies 15 lakhs of bags of paddy. To put it in terms of tons, it supplies one lakh tons both for the first and the second crop. Now, about 10,000 acres of paddy fields are under submersion. It pained me very much to see this. The other day when I visited all these acres in a boat, I saw the crop was ready, but it was all under water."

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"The hon. Member's time is up."

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"I am speaking for the first time and I may be allowed to speak for one or two minutes more. The three streams, namely, Budameru, Yerrakalva and Tammileru, Mondikodu and Rallemadugu merge in Kolleru and the water came up to 30,000 lakhs of cubic feet. How to stop this? Let us take Budameru. This is a treacherous, zigzag and narrow stream. The Hon. Minister for Public Works has pointed out that no purpose would be served by any scheme for this stream. This Budameru can be diverted to Krishna river. There are a good many breaches along the Eluru-Vijayawada canal. In 76 places there have been breaches. There are 100 tunnels in this canal. They are very narrow, and they can be widened. All the water in the Kollair lake has to be let out by Upputeru. Our Minister for Public Works was pleased to say that he was thinking about a scheme for this. There is a railway bridge on the Upputeru. This must be widened. All the breaches in the Eluru-Vijayavada canal must be filled up so that water may be available to the seedlings. Again, this Public Works Department must change its name from 'Please wait department' to 'Quick disposal department'. Near Eluru at Pedapadu, this Budameru has caused a breach resulting in the submersion of 10,000 acres. Some dam must be constructed there. With only a little time at my disposal, I shall try to place my suggestions before the House. Relief to Harijans is necessary. Rice and building materials should be supplied to them. Supply of boats and nets to fishermen and looms to weavers must receive the attention of Government. Seeds for paddy cultivation and manures have also to be supplied to the ryots. Let us stop export of rice from these areas. Let us concentrate on production instead of procurement. What about the crop insurance which we in this Province are not at all taking care of? We must introduce crop insurance. A good many people started lanka irrigation projects, but all were damaged. They must be supplied not only water for the second crop but also pumping sets. Water

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for the second crop to all the affected areas must be supplied irrespective of the zonal system, that is there. I am glad, Sir, that the Hon. Minister told us that orders have been issued in the matter. We are thankful to him for that. The Budameru and Tummaleru schemes must be taken up. Though not Ramapadasagar Project, let us have at least these schemes. Let us complete these schemes. We shall give food to the hungry, clothe the naked, and complete the schemes, and make up Nature's havoc. Thank you, Sir."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"On a point of order, Sir. A new situation has arisen in this House consequent on the ruling of the Speaker that the amendments of Mr. D. V. Ramaswami and the Yuvaraja of Pithapuram are null and void. Most of the Members who spoke yesterday or day before yesterday had the amendments before them and their whole effort was to see that the Government spent the particular amount. It looks as if those speeches have lost their value because those amendments have been ruled out. Therefore, I would like to know whether such of the Members who have participated in the discussions yesterday and day before yesterday will be given another chance by the Chairman to speak on the present motion." 12-45 p.m.

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"May I know the view of the Leader of the House?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, we have been discussing the situation created by the cyclone for the last three days and it is not desirable to continue it beyond to-day or perhaps this afternoon. Both the main motion and the amendments were before the House and subsequently the amendments have been ruled out of order. But the main motion is before the House and I do not think there is any need for the Members who have already spoken about the cyclone situation to speak again on this motion."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I think the House has not understood the object of the point of order that has been raised. The Hon. the Leader of the House has not realized that new situation has been created by the ruling of the Speaker and his argument does not hold water inasmuch as the situation that has arisen is quite different from what has been pointed out by him. I, therefore, hope that the Chairman will allow the hon. Members who have spoken under a very different situation to speak again. No doubt, the Hon. the Leader of the House . . ."

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"Please be brief."

SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—"Mr. Chairman, the hon. Gentleman, Mr. Raza Khan, was saying that with the ruling of the Speaker, there is no amendment before the House. But I want to submit that my amendment is still there.

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The amendment that was moved by me day before yesterday—' and on such consideration this Assembly requests the Government to bring out a Bill to protect the leaseholders from the landholders in cyclone-affected areas '—still remains."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" That amendment is before the House, Sir."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" I know for certain and the other Members also know full well that Mr. Alluri's amendment is there. My point is this. Yesterday Mr. Abdul Salam was speaking and he made most of his remarks with regard to the amendment of Mr. Ramaswami. He thought that the Government were not alive to the difficulties of the people in the affected areas. Now that amendment is not before the House. So, in view of the new situation that has been created on account of the amendments having been declared null and void, I want to know if those Members who have a desire to speak again will be given a chance to speak now."

MR. CHAIRMAN:—" First there were three amendments before the House. But on account of the ruling given by the Hon. Speaker, this morning, two amendments have been ruled out of order and Mr. Alluri's amendment alone is there. As the Members up till this morning spoke on the original resolution as well as the amendments were before the House and Hon. Members did express their opinion on all of them. They have had their say and have impressed upon the House and also the Government the difficulties experienced by the people in the cyclone-affected areas. Therefore, I do not think those Members, even if they are allowed to speak again, will have anything more to add to what they have already said. Hence, they need not be given another chance."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Mr. Chairman, the Government Whip, Sri Bapineedu, drew the attention of the Chair and this House to the fact that we have not had much sympathy from Northern India. Likewise, he found fault with the Food Commissioner for not having gone to the affected areas. But he has not referred to what the Hon. Premier of this Province and the Revenue Minister have done. Sir, the Hon. the Premier has said that the reports were exaggerated. I submit that it is not for want of publicity that we suffer but on account of immediate and necessary action not having been taken. I do not say that the officers, when the cyclone has occurred, have been slack. To the extent I have seen I have found officers were very vigilant. I have seen them going into the affected areas along with the non-officials of the area, as far as their jeeps or cars permitted, and in one case even a Collector took a life-belt in order to go into some of the areas which were submerged. Therefore, Sir, we should not find fault with the officers, or with the Food Commissioner. If at all we should find fault with anybody, it is with the heads of our own Province who said that the reports had been exaggerated.

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" Sir, more than 7,36,000 acres of wet fields and more than 1,67,000 acres of dry fields were submerged. They have gone to waste. The fields which were once green are now dark in colour. Yet we were told that our reports were exaggerated. More than three lakhs of houses, including about 2,000 tiled houses have been affected by this cyclone, 738 lives were lost, cattle to the tune of 27,000 have gone, about 500 minor and about 115 major irrigation sources have been ruined. Sir, I have not been able to go into the delta areas, but to the extent that I have been capable of seeing, in the district of Visakhapatnam, I want to submit to the Hon. Minister for Public Works that the damage that was done to the minor irrigation sources is not of a type which could ordinarily be imagined. Most of these minor irrigation tanks have become almost like football playfields. The water does not stay there and the fields nearly have become like one playfield. Sir, Visakhapatnam consists of four divisions and in the Narasapatam division itself, two taluks, Yellamanchili and Veeravalli, have suffered most; 30,000 acres of wet land and 1,000 acres of dry land have been submerged. Thirty thousand acres of wet land and 1,500 acres of dry land in Chodavaram have been submerged and their crops have gone to waste entirely. In the small division of Visakhapatnam itself particularly in the Anakapalle taluk which always presented to the traveller the most prosperous smiling fields that could be found in this Presidency, nearly 4,000 acres of wet fields have been ruined by these cyclone and flood. The fields that were once green, vast in extent with sugarcane interspersed, were a lovely sight but to-day as we travel in the train or along the road, this vast extent shows an appearance of purple dark colour. Crops are not there. They are not useful even for hay. Then in the Parvatipuram division also, in the Palaconda taluk which is a surplus taluk, about 3,000 acres of wet fields have gone to waste. In the Chicacole division which we in the ordinary parlance call North Visakhapatnam, 10,000 acres in the Chicacole taluk, 1,500 acres in Narasannapeta taluk, about 3,000 acres in Pathapatnam taluk, and about 1,000 acres in Sompeta taluk have gone to waste and the wet fields in the remaining portions of the division have also shared the same fate. Visakhapatnam which is a deficit district whose normal extent of land under paddy is just a little over 6 lakhs has now lost more than one lakh of acres of paddy on account of the cyclone. We used to import in Visakhapatnam about 90,000 tons and this year we have now lost one-sixth of our crops. The Government can imagine what it is that we have lost.

" Sir, I am not going into the details which have already been referred to by the hon. Members coming from the various cyclone-affected areas and particularly those who have come from my district. But I have to say one or two points which they have not touched upon. In my discussion with some of the non-officials and with some of the officials whom I had the opportunity to meet last Sunday, there was a difference of opinion as to the kind of relief that should be given to those who have been rendered

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destitute and whose huts have been washed away. In the speech of the Hon. the Revenue Minister, we find that in Guntur relief was being given at the rate of Rs. 10 per hut and also some bamboos. I do not know on what basis the calculations for bamboos and the few chips have been arrived at. Yet, judging by the present costs, it is almost impossible for anybody to renovate his hut unless he is given Rs. 50. Some of the officers said that the distribution of money relief was much better than the distribution of palmyra leaves and bamboos. Having had some experience in relief operations in the 1945 cyclone, I submit there is great force in what these officers have said. But at the same time I also submit that there are certain areas where any amount of money will not be of any use, and there Government will have to render help only in kind by the supply of bamboo and palmyra leaves. So far as Visakhapatnam is concerned, you are aware that the great zamindaris of Vizianagram and Bobbili have been taken over by the Government and those two zamindaris contain huge forests which have got a large amount of bamboo and palmyra trees. I submit the Government may issue immediate orders to the Revenue Department to take hold of these palmyra leaves and bamboos and rush help. Whatever the manner of relief that is given, whether in money or in kind, I submit according to the local conditions the nature of the relief may vary. At the same time, any relief whose cost does not go at least to the extent of Rs. 50 is of no use.

1 p.m. "Sir, vast extent of land has been sand-silted up to a depth of 4, 5 or even 6 feet. It is not easy to remove this. In 1945 also, the lands were sand-silted. Even they have not yet been completely reclaimed. While talking to the officials, I came to understand that we are absolutely short of technical personnel in order to reclaim these lands. May I suggest, Sir, that all the technical personnel that is available in this Province may be pooled and distributed over the cyclone-affected areas so that the work can be done as quickly as possible. One more suggestion which has not so far been covered is, with regard to the rivers. If the Hon. Minister for Public Works appoints a small commission to go into the matter, he will find that every time there is a cyclone and every time there is a flood, these rivers breach almost at the same place. Every time, whether it is in 1928 or 1931 or 1945, the rivers breached almost at the same places and the rivers have been taking their course only in the same direction. I submit that the Government must undertake all measures to control these rivers much more effectively than they have been doing hitherto. They should not be satisfied with mere patchwork repairs. They must exactly understand the nature and velocity of the current and where it is likely to breach and undertake the work of a permanent nature in order to prevent these things."

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"The time is over. Please resume your seat."

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* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Sir, we are in a very important stage of the debate. I have some more particulars, particularly, those relating to the Visakhapatnam district and I want to bring these to the notice of the Hon. Ministers. Ten minutes is hardly sufficient and a time-limit should not be fixed for these things. I do not think I am repeating my remarks. Therefore you should not cut me in the middle. I would like to have 5 more minutes at least."

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"The time fixed by the Speaker is ten minutes for each speaker. Hence, hon. Members should not ask for relaxing the time-limit."

SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Sir, on a point of information, I would like to say that every Member coming from the cyclone area should be allowed as much time as is wanted, even if the discussion is extended by one more day. There should not be any restriction as to time."

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"We have discussed this matter for three days. A number of speakers have spoken and many more want to speak. Therefore, it is not possible to extend the time."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am glad to have this opportunity of speaking under your chairmanship. Please allow me, Sir, first of all to congratulate you on the nice and courteous way in which you have dealt with the point of order that was raised on the floor of the House. Now coming to the cyclone debate, I very deeply sympathise with the victims of the havoc that was wrought recently in the northern districts by the floods and cyclone during the recent weeks. There has been a heavy loss of human life. Hundreds have perished and the loss of these precious human lives is indeed a very serious one so far as our Province is concerned. A huge amount of property, a very large amount of very useful and necessary cattle have been destroyed. Hundreds and thousands of acres of lands have been either devastated or damaged. This is really a calamity. I say this affects not only those districts which are directly concerned with that calamity, but it affects the whole Province and also the whole country. This is indeed a national calamity, Sir, which is not much different from the one that was wrought by the Bihar earthquake some years ago. Therefore, we must view this catastrophe from the point of view from which the Bihar Earthquake was viewed and dealt with. The heart of everyone of the members of not only my party, but of the members of the whole House goes to the people who are subjected to terrible sufferings on account of these cyclone and floods.

"The Government, of course, are taking steps to mitigate the sufferings of the people and we have been given a note on the different things which the Government are doing. The Public Works Minister has explained to us that it was not possible to have prevented the effects of the cyclone damage, all that was

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humanly possible was done and that human skill and ingenuity could not have prevented the damage that is facing the Province to-day. I take, Sir, that he is right and I accept the damage. However, I want to impress upon him one fact. Though the present cyclone is an extraordinarily virulent and violent one, we all know that that part of the country, the coastal districts of Andhra Desa, are being very frequently subjected to violent squalls and cyclones. This factor, the Government must bear in mind, and must really do something effective to prevent or to mitigate the sufferings that may be caused at least by the ordinary cyclones. There must be a way of doing this thing and there must be a way of saving the people from the effects of such phenomena of nature.

"Now, Sir, after all, what have the Government done? I want to know, whether the people have been sufficiently rehabilitated, and whether the people affected have been put on their legs. This is very very necessary, because epidemics may be the natural result of such sufferings as the one we are facing to-day. We have to do everything which is possible to prevent the spread of diseases and epidemics.

"Then again, another very important point is this. That is, these cyclones have already affected our two-year plan of food self-sufficiency. Our Grow More Food Campaign has been already thrown out of gear. We have gone back very much from the point from which we have started on, say, the 1st of August or so. Therefore, what is it that the Government are going to do? First of all, this is a humanitarian affair. The people who are directly involved must be helped from a humanitarian point of view. Then again, the people of the other parts of the Province also have to be saved from the effects of this cyclone. As I said, our two-year plan has already gone overboard. This has seriously affected our plan. Now with these cyclones and their effects, are we going to succeed to be self-sufficient in the matter of food in two years? This is a question which the Government have to consider very seriously and do everything that is humanly possible to see that the damage that has been caused is as much mitigated and restricted as possible.

"Now, another point which I would like the Government to consider is with regard to the building of houses for the people who have lost their houses. We know in what insanitary and unhealthy conditions our poor people have been living already. Now even these houses have been destroyed. The Government are helping them to build new houses. When they are doing that, they must have a plan and make the people build houses on such a model as would be able to withstand at least to a certain extent the effects of such a natural phenomena in future and houses which are more sanitary and more healthy.

"I suggest to the Government that they should appoint a non-official committee to go round the affected areas. That committee may not be a large one. It may consist of even five members.

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They may go and study the situation and put the Government in possession of all the factors concerning the havoc that has been wrought to these districts. Sir, now this is a matter in which it is not only the Government that have to do their best, but also the private parties. This is a time when the moneyed people, the class of wealthy men, have to justify their existence and they have to come forward liberally and generously to help the Government in their efforts to help the suffering humanity. We all know that mention has been made of the Provincial Welfare Fund. It has got branches all over the Province and it has been organized and administered and carried on in a very efficient manner under very high auspices. It is better in my view to canalize the efforts of affording relief through one important agency so that there may not be any wastage and overlapping of efforts. In this matter, we have to economize and put to the utmost use every ounce of energy that we can spare. Therefore, I think, Sir, that it is better that the Government also encourage the idea of affording relief through this Provincial Welfare Fund so that the work may be done very efficiently. Once again, I want to express my fullest and deepest sympathies towards the people who have suffered and that we are with those who are doing the utmost to mitigate their sufferings."

* SRI PYDAH VENKATANARAYANA:—"Sir, it is really unfortunate that the recent floods and cyclone have caused much damage to life and property in the Circar districts. I submit, Sir, that the official figures furnished by the Hon. Revenue Minister on the floor of the House do not reveal the real state of affairs. It is possible that the report was not complete and exhaustive in view of the communications being interrupted by the cyclone. I request the Government to call for an exhaustive and complete report so that it will be easier for the Government to take appropriate measures. It was unfortunate, Sir, that the Premier of this Province has chosen to make a statement that the non-official reports are grossly exaggerated.

"Sir, Sri Kala Venkata Rao, a Member of this House and an erstwhile Minister, had, to go to his native place in my district from Vijayavada and he had personal knowledge of the havoc caused by this cyclone and the floods. He had to swim and sail, travel by road and rail and in certain places walk and wait. He agreed with the non-official version of the extent of damage done. Also, one of the Members of the Board of Revenue who toured the Guntur district has stated that the non-official report is not an exaggerated one. Sir, the damage being so extensive, we thought that we could meet the Members of the Board of Revenue personally to apprise them of the condition in our district. But Members of this House as well as the other have had no knowledge of the tours of these officials, not to speak of the detailed itinerary. I wonder whether these officers have gone into the interior, the most affected parts in the districts and whether facts have been put to them in their proper perspective. Sir, we all thought that the 1-15 p.m.

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Hon. the Revenue Minister, the Hon. the Public Works Minister, the Hon. the Agriculture Minister and others would tour the affected areas and postpone the Assembly session from the 14th a future date. But that has not happened. I would now request the Ministers concerned to undertake an intensive and extensive tour of the areas affected. I understand that the Hon. the Revenue Minister is considering such tour. I would be thankful and grateful to him if he undertakes such a tour. I can give hundreds of instances of what had happened in my place and with particular reference to Kakinada. But the Hon. the Speaker, for want of time, has fixed only ten minutes for each Member. I would like to refer to a few cases in my district, and finish. The Yelleru rivers, east and west, the Thandava river and the Pampa near Annavaram have overflowed due to the breaches in the tanks and the catchment area being very large and the rains being torrential. The Hon. the Minister for Public Works has made a statement on the floor of this House giving, among other things some details relating to the technical side of tank irrigation. It appears he also came to the conclusion that such breaches during cyclones and floods were inevitable. But what I would point out to him is that these rivers and tanks, when even there is a breach, give way only at one and the same place. These portions must obviously be weak portions. I would request the Government to marshal and strengthen these weak points by attending to them immediately, so that future breaches may be effectively prevented to a great extent.

"Now, I would come to the official figures relating to the damage in Cocanada taluk. The figures under paddy actually run to several thousands. But the official figure puts it at 30,000 acres. Sir, I would like to point out that this 30,000 relates to partially damaged crops and the figure relating to fully damaged crops is between 36,000 and 40,000 acres. The Government have given no figures about sugarcane and plantains. About 1,500 acres of sugarcane and 500 acres of plantains have been affected. Sir, whilst that loss of property—crops, cattle, etc.—has been underestimated, the loss of human life has been grossly exaggerated. For instance, the preliminary report from the officials puts the loss of human life in our taluk (Kakinada) at 56 whereas only two or three have actually been killed. This figure 56 related to cattle, but loss of cattle has been recorded under 'human lives'. I, therefore, submit that the Government reports cannot be relied upon. Many people have been rendered homeless. They must be supplied with the necessary materials for putting up new constructions. The ryot has lost his implements, seeds and manure. He must be provided with these. The fisherman has no yarn to make nets. His needs must be attended to. Besides, Government must provide them with interest-free loans, subsidies and grants liberally and import foodgrains. Notwithstanding the Zonal system, the people in the affected areas should be given irrigation facilities for a second crop. With these words, Sir, I request once again that Government should do all that is needed to rehabilitate the people in the affected areas."

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JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are really sorry to hear about the sufferings of the people of Andhra Desa, particularly on the eve of momentous changes that are going to take place in those areas. With regard to the cyclone havoc, Sir, I do not propose to go into the question of the sins of commissions and omissions on the part of Government. But, I wish to make some concrete suggestions with a view to giving immediate relief to the people affected by the cyclone.

"In the first place, Sir, I would suggest to the Hon. the Ministers concerned that they should arrange to send the Sappers and Miners to the affected parts in order to reclaim the lands which have been flooded. It is no use entrusting this work to inexperienced men. On the other hand, if only the Government had rushed these Sappers and Miners to those areas, they would have rendered not only immediate help, but would have given an opportunity to the people there of knowing who defend their land and the Sappers and Miners, of knowing whom they are defending. Secondly, Sir, the services of the Home Guards should also be availed of for supervising construction of huts and for distributing hutting materials to those who have lost their huts. Thirdly, the services of the Scouts should be utilized for this work. Sir, the people in these areas have lost not only their houses but also vast tracts of land which have been submerged under water. Not only this. There are also other classes of people who need help other than what is provided for them for raising new constructions. I am speaking about the craftsmen living in these parts. The weaver has lost his loom, the smith his tools, the ryot his implements and the fisherman his nets. They have lost all their implements which earn them their livelihood. Sir, the Government must see that these craftsmen whose existence depends upon the various cottage industries going on in those areas, should be supplied all that they have lost so that they may take to their trade once again. Sir, again there are people, who out of their self-respect, may not go to those places where doles are given to the afflicted people. In the interests of these self-respecting people, higher-middle and lower-middle classes, relief should be taken at their very doors. Then about cattle, relief must be quick. The cattle which have been stricken by the floods must be given fodder immediately. Immediate arrangements should be made by Government to bring fodder from the surplus districts of Bengal and Orissa. The cattle are suffering to-day for want of food and other things. Sir, in the distribution of fodder care must be taken to see that it is properly distributed and that no exploiter takes advantage of the situation and tries to feather his own nest.

"Sir, in the wake of the cyclone, cold weather has set in, which breeds a number of diseases. I am afraid, cholera may break out any time. I wish, Sir, that Government should provide medical units in all those areas and see these epidemics do not break out. There are a number of voluntary organisations, for instance, the Servants of India Society, who are willing to undertake relief work. The Government must give such agencies all assistance and facilities they require.

[Janab M. S. Abdul Majid] [16th November 1949

"Lastly, Sir, the Government intend to constitute a Committee to enquire into this question. (At this stage Mr. Speaker occupied the Chair.) In this Committee, Sir, Government must see that non-officials also get a place so that they may be able to bring to the knowledge of the officials the exact sufferings of the people and their requirements. I hope, Sir, that some of my suggestions will be earnestly considered by the Government and relief given to the people who are actually suffering as a result of the cyclone and floods in those areas."

1-25 p.m. SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, ஆந்திர தேசத்தில் புயல் காற்றுலும், வெள்ளத்தாலும் பெரிய நஷ்டம் ஏற்பட்டிருப்பது வருந்தத்தக்கது. அதன் விளைவாக அநேக லக்ஷம் வீடுகள் அழிந்தன. அநேக லக்ஷம்மாடுகள் அழிந்தன. அநேக லக்ஷக் கணக்கான நிலங்களும், அதன் மாசூல்களும் பாழாயின. அநேகம் குடும்பங்கள் அழிந்தன. ரோடுகளும், வரிகளும் பாழாயிற்று. இவ்வாறு பல விதமான நஷ்டத்திற்கு ஆந்திர தேசம் ஆளாகியிருக்கிறது. அவர் களுக்கு வேண்டிய உதவியைச் செய்வது மிகவும் அவசியமாகும். இந்த உதவியை உடனே செய்கின்ற காலத்திலும் அங்குள்ள ஏழை மக்களைக் கவனிக்க வேண்டும். முக்கியமாக அங்குள்ள ஆதி ஆந்திரர் என்னும் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு உதவி செய்ய வேண்டும். இப்பொழுது வெள்ளம், புயல் முதலியவற்றால் ஆந்திர தேசத்தில் பல ஜில்லாக்கள் ஏராள நஷ்டம் அடைந்திருக்கிறன. ஆனால் தமிழ் நாட்டில் மழையே பெய்யாமல் பல இடங்களில் பயிர்கள் கருகி நாசமாகியிருக்கின்றன. ஆந்திர தேசத்தில் மழை பெய்து கெடுத்தது. ஆனால் இங்கே மழை பெய்யாமல் கெடுத்தது. இதற்குக் காரணம் தான் என்ன? என்று ஆராய்ந்து அதற்கு வேண்டிய பரிகாரம் செய்ய வேண்டியது அரசாங்கத்தின் கடமையாகும். அதற்குக் காரணம், தெய்வத்தின் கோபமே.

"மழையானது கடவுளுடைய அருள். மழையை மக்களால் பெய்விக்க முடியாது. அது ஆண்டவனால் தான் முடியும். அது ஆண்டவனின் அருள், கடாக்ஷம் பெரும் அளவில் மழை வடிவமாகச் சொல்கிறது. அந்த மழை யின் அருமையை நாம் இப்போது உணர்ந்திருக்கிறோம். அது கடவுளுடைய அருள் என்று காட்டவே தான், தெய்வப் புலமை மிக்க திருவள்ளுவ நாயனார், அதனை கடவுள் வணக்கத்திற்குப் பின்னர்

'கெடுப்பதும் கெட்டார்க்குச் சார்வாய் மற்றுங்கே
எடுப்பதும் எல்லாம் மழை'

என்று எழுதியிருக்கிறார்.

"பீஹார் மாகாணத்தில் ஏற்பட்ட பூகம்பம், வெள்ளத்தின் போது காந்திஜீ சொன்னார்கள், ஹரிஜனங்களைச் சரியாகக் கவனிக்காததால் இந்தக் கஷ்டங்கள் எல்லாம் வந்தது என்று. அதைப்போல நம் மாகாணத்திற்கு இம்மாதிரி கஷ்டம் வந்ததற்குக் காரணம் இருக்கத்தான் வேண்டும். அதாவது தெய்வ நிந்தனையே தான் அதற்குக்காரணம். சில ஆந்திரர்கள் விக்கிரஹங்களையும், சில பெரிய மகான்களையும் அவதூறாக வாயில் வந்த படியெல்லாம் பேசியிருக்கிறார்கள். அதனால் தான் அங்கே வெள்ளமும், புயலும் ஏற்பட்டது. தமிழ் நாட்டிலோ கடவுளேயில்லையென்ற பிரசாரம் வலுத்து வருகிறது. அதனால் தான் இங்கு மழையே பெய்யாமல் எல்லாம் கெட்டது. அதனால் மறுபடியும் பஞ்சம் வராமல் இருக்கவேண்டும். அதற்கு கடவுள் மனதை திருப்தி செய்யவேண்டும். மகான்களை மனதையும் திருப்தி செய்யவேண்டும்.

"ஓரிடத்தில் பகவான் கீதையில் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்—

உளவாம் உயிர் உணவால்,
உணவு உயர் மாரியின் உளவாம்,
வளவான் மழை உயர் வானவர் மகிழ்வால் வரும்"; என்று,

16th November 1949] [Sri A. S. Sahajanandam]

"அதாவது, உணவினால் தான் உயிரினங்கள் உயிர் வாழ்கின்றன. உணவு, மழை பெய்தால்தான் கிடைக்கும். இந்த மழையானது தேவர்களை திருப்தி செய்வதனால்தான் அடையலாமென்று பகவான் சொல்லி யிருக்கிறார்."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Sir, I am not quite able to follow my hon. Friend Swami Sahajananda. But as far as I am able to understand, I think he has said that Andhras are Godless people . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"No, no. The hon. Member is mistaken. What Swami Sahajananda says is that nowadays people do not care for God and that is why we are having all these sufferings."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"I suppose the remark is not confined to Andhras."

SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, அதனால் நாட்டிலே இந்த விதமான கஷ்டம் ஏற்பட்டதற்குக் காரணம் கடவுளை அவமதித்தது தான். ஆராதனை செய்யாததுதான். ஆகவே இனி யாகிலும் மக்களை அறத்தாறெழுகும்படி செய்து தேவாராதனை சரியாக நடைபெறும்படி செய்யவேண்டும். பள்ளிகளில் பிரார்த்தனை செய்ய வேண்டும். மகாத்மா காந்தியின் பிரார்த்தனை போல எல்லோரும் பிரார்த் தனை செய்ய வேண்டும். அதேசமயத்தில் வெள்ளத்தால் நாசமடைந்த பிரதேசத்தில் ஏழைக்குக் குடிசையும் உணவும் பெற உதவிசெய்ய வேண் டும். மிராசுதார்களுக்கு விதை, உரம் கால்நடைகள் கொடுத்து உதவி செய்யவேண்டும் என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டும், கடவுளை திருப்தி செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டும் நான் பேச்சை நிறுத்திக் கொள்ளு கிறேன்."

1-29 p.m. *SRI B. SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—"అధ్యక్షా, ఇటీవల ఆంధ్ర దేశంలో వచ్చిన తుపానువల్ల నష్టపడిన జిల్లాలో మా విశాఖపట్నం జిల్లాకూడ ఒకటి. ఆ జిల్లాలో ముఖ్యంగా సర్వసిద్ధి. గొలుగొండ, వీరవల్లి, ఆనకాపల్లి తాలూకాలకు చాల నష్టం కలిగింది. ఒక్క వీరవల్లి (Chodavaram) తాలూకాలోనే 30 వేల ఎకరముల వరిపంట పూర్తిగ నాశనమైపోయింది. కాని కలెక్టరుగారి రిపోర్టులో జిల్లాలో జరిగిన నష్టం యొక్క అంచనా చాలా తక్కువగానున్నట్లు కన్పించుచున్నది."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I adjourn the House to meet again at 2-30 p.m."

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

*SRI B. SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—"అధ్యక్షా, మా విశాఖపట్నం జిల్లాలో అనకాపల్లి, చోడవరం, ఎలమంచిలి తాలూకాలలో ఎక్కువ నష్టము కలిగింది. చోడవరం తాలూకాలో అనేక చెరకు తోటలు పాడైపోయినవి. అనేక లక్షల రూపా యల విలువైన పంట నాశనమయి పోయింది. రైతాంగానికి ఎంత నష్టమై పోయిందో అంచనా వేయటకు కష్టం. ఇంతవరకు మంత్రులుగాని, బోర్డు మెంబర్లు గాని మా దక్షిణ విశాఖపట్నం జిల్లాలో జరిగిన నష్టాన్ని చూచుటకు రాలేదు. కాబట్టి ఈ అసెంబ్లీ సమావేశములు పూర్తికాగానే మా విశాఖపట్టణము జిల్లా దయచేసి తుపాను దెబ్బతిన్న వివిధ ప్రాంతాలలో పర్యటనచేసి రైతులకు జరిగిన నష్టాన్ని స్వయంగా చూడవలసిందని కోరుతున్నాను. ఒక వీరవల్లి తాలూకాలోనే వెయ్యి ఇండ్లకుపైగా కూలి పోయినాయి. వీటిలో ఎక్కువ భాగము హరిజనులవి. ఈ నాడు అనేక చోట్ల హరిజనులకు నివాసమునకు నీడ లేకుండా యున్నది. కనుక ఒక్కొక్క

1-29 p.m.

హరిజన కుటుంబమునకు ఇల్లు కట్టుకొనుటకు రూ. 50 చొప్పున డబ్బు ఇచ్చి వారు ప్రభుత్వంవారి అడవులలో నుంచి వెదురు, కలప, తాటాకు మొదలైనవి ఉచితముగ తెచ్చుకొనుటకు ఏర్పాటు చేయఁబడినదని గవర్నమెంటువారిని నేను కోరుతున్నాను. శారదానది పొంగుటవలన అనకాపల్లి తాలూకాలో ఉన్న అనకాపల్లి, తుమ్మపాల మొదలయినటువంటి గ్రామాలు పూర్తిగా మునిగిపోయి ప్రజలకు చాల కష్టము కలిగినది అనకాపల్లి సబ్‌డివిజను జలమయ మయిపోయినది. ఆ రోజున జిల్లా కలెక్టరుగారు ఆక్కడ ఉండి 29-వ తేదిన వర్షము కురుస్తున్నప్పటికి శ్రమయనక జైలులో యుండే ఖైదీలను విశాఖపట్నం పంపించినారు. ఆ రోజున జిల్లా కలెక్టరుగారు ఆ తాలూకాలో ఎంత నష్టం సంభవించినది కండ్లార చూచినప్పటికి కూడ ఆ విషయములను వారి రిపోర్టులో తెలియచేసినట్లు కన్పించటం లేదు. అనేక వేల ఎకరాలలోని చెరుకు వరి పంటలు తుమ్మపాల అనకాపల్లి పకీరు సాహెబు పేట మొదలగు గ్రామాలలో శారదానది పొంగటంవలన పాడైపోయినవి. ఇప్పటికి కూడ ఆభూములు అల్లాగే ఉన్నవి. నదిలోనుంచి ఇసుక కొట్టుకొనివచ్చి భూములు ఇసుకతో మేటవేసుకొని పోయినవి. కాబట్టి ఆ ప్రాంతములలోని ప్రజలకు పూర్తి రెమిషన్ ఇచ్చి ఇసుకను తీయించుకొనుటకు గాను వారికి వడ్డిలేకుండ ఆప్పులు మంజూరు చేయించవలసిందని గవర్నమెంటువారిని కోరుచున్నాను. ఈ తాలూకాలలో తుపానువల్ల అనేక రోడ్లు తుత్తునియలుగా పాడైపోయినవి. అవస్తి జిల్లాబోర్డు ఆధీనంలో నున్నవి. వీటన్నింటిని బాగచేయించుటకు జిల్లా బోర్డులకు గ్రామ పంచాయతీలకు ధనసహాయం చేయవలసినదిగా ప్రభుత్వంవారిని కోరుచున్నాను. జిల్లాలోని ట్రంకు రోడ్డు కూడ బాగుచేయించాలి. గ్రామాలలో రోడ్లు మీద పడిపోయిన చెట్లను ఇప్పటికి కూడ కొన్నిచోట్ల తీయించలేదు. ఈ రోడ్లు చాల దెబ్బతిన్నవి. వెంటనే వీటిన్నింటిని మరమ్మతు చేయించుటకు వివిధ సంస్థలకు కొంత డబ్బు ఇప్పించాలని గవర్నమెంటువారిని కోరుతున్నాను.

"ఇంతేకాకుండ రిమార్కు మాతాలూకాలో ఉన్న 40 ఇరిగేషన్ ట్యాంకులు (tanks) గట్లు తెగి పాడైపోయినవి. చోడవరం తాలూకాలో ముఖ్యమైన లక్ష్మీపురం చెరువు గట్లు పడి చాల భూములు పాడైనవి. ఈ చెరువుక్రింద సాగయ్యేటటువంటి భూములలోని పంటలు ఎక్కువ భాగము పాడైపోయినవి. ఇది చాల పెద్ద చెరువు. దాని క్రింద రెండవ పంటకూడ పండిస్తారు. ఇప్పుడు చెరువు కట్టలు తెగి గండ్లు పడుటవలన దానికి ఏమి అవకాశం లేకుండ పోతుంది. అందుచేత వెంటనే చెరువుకు మరమ్మతులు చేయించవలసిందని రెండవ పంట పండించుటకు రైతులకు నీరు ఇప్పించవలసిందని జిల్లా కలెక్టరుకు ఉత్తరువులు ఇప్పించమని గవర్నమెంటువారిని నేను కోరుచున్నాను. ఇప్పటివరకు కూడ జిల్లా కలెక్టరుగాని, ఎక్సిక్యూటివ్ ఇంజనీరుగాని గ్రామములలోనికి వచ్చి ఈ చెరువులకు ఎంతెంత నష్టం సంభవించిందో చూడలేదు. ఈ చెరువులన్నింటిని మరమ్మతు చేయిస్తారా లేదా అనే అనుమానము రైతులకు కలుగుతూంది. కాబట్టి కలెక్టరుగారికి ఇతర అధికారులకు వెంటనే ఈ చెరువులకు మరమ్మతు చేయించవలసిందని ఆర్డర్లు పంప గోరుతాను. ఈ ప్రాంతాలలో ఎంత నష్టం సంభవించిందో తెలుసుకోవాలంటే మంత్రిగారు స్వయంగా అనకాపల్లి, విశాఖపట్నం రోడ్డు మీద కారులో ప్రయాణం చేసినట్లయితే స్వయంగా వారే చూడ గలరు. అనేక వందల ఎకరముల పంటతో ఉన్న పొలములు ఇసుకలో మునిగి పోయి యున్నవి. ఈ ఇసుకను తీసి వేయటానికి తగిన సదుపాయములు లేవు. కాబట్టి ఈ ప్రాంతములలో ఎంత నష్టం జరిగిందో వివరంగా తెలియజేయ వలసిందని కలెక్టరు గారిని ఆజ్ఞాపింపవలసిందని మంత్రిగారిని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

"మా జిల్లా లేరుగు జిల్లా. ఈ తుపానువల్ల సాధారణంగా ఫుడీ కొద్ది పంటకూడ పాడై పోయింది. రైతులకు వి కొంచెమో దక్కడంకూడ అనుమానం. కాబట్టి వెంటనే మా జిల్లాలో procurement ఆపు చేయించవలసిందని కోరుతున్నాను. ఈ విధంగా procurement ఆపక పోయినట్లయితే Civil Supplies, Revenue Department కు సంబంధించిన ఉద్యోగస్తులు రైతులను చాల బాధలు పెడతారు. వారు పెట్టే బాధలన్నిటిని గురించి, ఈ అసెంబ్లీలో రుజువు చేయడం చాలకష్టం. తుపానువల్ల పంటలు సంపూర్ణంగా పాడైపోయిన వను సంగతి ఆంధరకు తెలిసినదే కాబట్టి వెంటనే procurement ను ఆపు చేయించాలి లేకపోయినట్లయితే ఈ ఉద్యోగస్తులు రైతులు తమ స్వంత వాడకంకోసం ఉంచుకొన్న కొద్దిపాటి ధాన్యాన్ని అన్ని మిగల్చకుండా తీసుక పోతారు. ఈ ఇబ్బందులనుంచి రైతులను తప్పించాలంటే ముందుగా procurement ఆపు చేయాలి. ప్రభుత్వంవారు చేసే ఇతర సహాయల కన్న ఈ సహాయం రైతులకు అనేక రెట్లు ఉపయోగపడుతుందని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

"విజయనగరం జమీందారీ ప్రాంతములో ఉన్న రైతులవద్దనుంచి శిస్తు వసూలు చేయడానికి Estate Manager గారు ప్రయత్నం చేస్తున్నారు. అప్పుడే అనేక మంది రైతులకు నోటీసులు ఇచ్చినారు. తుపానువల్ల పంటలు పాడైపోయి రైతులు ఎంతో నష్టపడియున్నప్పటికి కూడ జమీందారులు శిస్తులు వసూలు చేయడానికి సర్వ విధాల ప్రయత్నం చేస్తున్నారు. ఈ విషయాలు మంత్రిగారికి తెలియనను కొంటాను. కాబట్టి తుపానువల్ల నష్టపడినటువంటి రైతులవద్దనుంచి శిస్తు వసూలు చేయటానికి ప్రయత్నించవద్దని Estate Manager గారికి తెలియ జేయవలసిందని మంత్రిగారిని కోరుతూ నేను ఇంతటిలో విరమిస్తున్నాను."

* SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, all the Members of the Legislature and the public are pretty well aware of the havoc and the damage, played by cyclone in Krishna district, cyclone and tidal wave as well, in the East and West Godavari districts, and flood and torrential downpour in Visakhapatnam district and heavy rains in Guntur, Cuddapah, Kurnool and other districts. The officials and non-official agencies have taken a great part in immediately visiting them and in collecting statistics in all areas affected. I now speak, Sir, of the floods which rose in the rivers Nagavalli, Vamsadara, Bahuda, Sarada and other rivers of Visakhapatnam district. From the 26th onwards of last month there was a heavy downpour in the plains and hills and as well as floods in river Nagavalli rose by leaps and bounds from 28th morning."

MR. SPEAKER:—"For want of time, I am fixing five minutes for every speaker."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—"I presume it would apply to speakers who would follow me and I would be allowed to speak for ten minutes."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yes."

* SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—"The floods in river Nagavalli were tremendous. They started on 28th and they were there on the whole of 29th also when everybody expected they would recede. But they increased by leaps and bounds on the midnight of 29th.

[Sri G. Kumaraswami] [16th November 1949

causing panic in the minds of the entire populace of Srikakulam. In the year 1931, on the 11th of October the floods rose up to 22 feet. Now they were a little less but caused more havoc. All the low-lying areas such as Balaga, Konna street, Bondilipuram, Illispuram and Baker Sahibpet were full of water. The current was strong and formidable. The entire town of Srikakulam was isolated for three days. There was no telephonic or telegraphic communication. Even the road communications were completely cut off. There was no news at all from the outside world. Three to four hundred houses were damaged in Srikakulam alone and about forty or fifty houses in the villages of Dusi, Kalivaram, Thogaram, Kottavalasa, Kamgulavalasa, Ponnam, and Thotada and Akkivaram of Srikakulam taluk. Some hundreds of acres of land were sand-cast in Srikakulam taluk. I must say, as my hon. Friend Mr. Viswanatham has stated that the officials have played a great part in rendering aid to the affected people. The Revenue Divisional Officer, Srikakulam, one Mr. White, Mr. Habibullah, the Subdivisional Officer, and Mr. Satyanarayana Dura, the Tahsildar, arranged accommodation for 3,000 people in the Executive Engineer's office, the Sub-Collector's office and other offices, and rushed provisions to the various centres and fed all the starving people. The poor affected people were there with their cattle, sheep, and goats and with all their belongings.

" The worst affected area in Srikakulam town was Balaga which could not be reached for three days. It is with a very heavy heart that I have to say, Sir, that the 25 Harijan houses in this locality were completely demolished and washed away and no trace of these huts can be seen now. It is up to the Government to see that something is done to people of this type, the poor Harijans. Some amount should be given to them in the shape of grants to reconstruct their huts. Interest free loans should be given to some. Luckily half or even more than half of Srikakulam town is situated on an elevated place and hence the people in the low-lying areas could be shifted there without any difficulty, or loss of life.

" I come now to the paddy crop that was affected by these floods. The paddy crop in the fields was completely submerged in some places. In the villages of Dusi, Kottavalasa, Ponnam, and Nagarikatakam of Srikakulam taluk and Partha, Kondapuram, Annavaram, Ampili, Sangam, Thalavaram and Bitiwada of Palakonda taluk about 3 to 4 thousand acres of land were sand-cast not to speak of large areas of submerged fields due to the Nagavalli floods.

" The Andhra Provincial Congress Committee and Sri Kala Venkata Rao, the General Secretary of the Indian National Congress, have given a four-fold and twelve-fold suggestion to be implemented for relief operation to the afflicted. The suggestions are the abolition in the East and West Godavari districts of the zonal second-class system during the coming season and supply of water to inundated areas, and grant of remission to paddy

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and coconut gardens, supply of seed and manure, and grant of rehabilitation loans, etc. It is desirable that people in the affected area should be vaccinated and the cattle inoculated. Seeds and manures and other things should be given to all the people who own lands to the extent of 5 acres and less free of cost and also loans free of interest. Others should be given some subsidies. Various relief measures have been suggested by one and all of the hon. Members on the floor of the House. No Government could of course be in a position to meet all these demands. So I suggest, Sir, through you, that a cyclone relief fund in the name of the President of the Indian National Congress should be started just as a fund was started in the name of Babu Rajendra Prasad in the year 1934 when there was a tremendous earthquake in Bihar. So also a Viceroy's Cyclone Relief Fund should be started. (A hon. Member: His Excellency the Governor-General's Cyclone Relief Fund.) In 1934 the Viceroy's Earthquake Relief Committee was started. Now His Excellency the Governor-General's Cyclone Fund as well can be organized. Well, Sir, this is not a question pertaining to Andhra alone, or Madras Province alone. It is a problem which concerns the whole ciuntry. It is a national disaster. So it is time that everybody should rise to the occasion and see that people in the affected areas are given adequate help. It is not a question of the Government spending 2 to 3 crores because the damage caused is estimated to be about 50 to 60 crores. It is gratifying to note that the Congress Legislature Party has given a token grant of Rs. 500. So many other individuals and institutions are contributing their mite in hundreds and thousands. It is not a question of five hundred, five thousand, or five lakhs or even five crores. These will not be sufficient. A time has come when the whole country both officials and non-official, should collect funds and see that adequate relief is rushed to the sufferers and the deserving poor and the Harijans and the low class people and others."

MR. SPEAKER:—" There is no such thing as low class people."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—" I withdraw, Sir, the word ' low class ' people. What I mean and suggest is that help should reach the deserving poor irrespective of caste, creed, race, religiin and community. Otherwise they would suffer. The time has come for us to rise to the occasion and act as one man."

SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry I was not present throughout the discussion and so I missed some of the speeches. I do not know what were all the points that were mentioned. But still, I am not going into the details of the havoc caused by the cyclone and the floods. The only thing I would like to say is that the devastation caused by the cyclone is immense and it is not easily imaginable by people who have not seen it. I happened to be in a place which was badly affected and when I was coming from there to Madras I had to pass through three or four districts which were the victims of the cyclone. I have heard of floods and cyclones and I have seen a

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few before, but really this is something that cannot be easily understood by people who have not really seen it. We have got the official reports here and we have also had the reports in the press. We have also heard the speeches of many hon. Members. Several people who have been coming from our districts have been describing the details of the havoc caused and they say that the official reports are not at all a proper estimate of what has happened actually. They say that the loss of human lives, cattle, paddy and dwelling houses is much more than what has appeared in the reports. Some of us may have thought that it was an over-estimate; on the other hand people who have seen the things properly have said that it is an under-estimate. We cannot challenge the official reports because the officials are expected to know better and assess the real damage. Perhaps some families may have entirely disappeared and there may be nobody to give an account of what has happened. So these things may not have come into the official reports.

"Sir, there is now no use of describing the havoc that has been caused. We have only to think of the method of dealing with it. This discussion has taken place because we want the Government to do something in the matter. It is not only the Government but the public also have to do a lot for the people affected. All classes of people have been badly hit. The poor of course have suffered much, the middle classes have suffered badly and the rich people also have lost a lot. But the rich people have something more for them to fall back upon. What is the kind of help that we really expect from the Government? There is no gainsaying the fact that the poor people have to be attended to immediately. The officials, as far as it was possible for them to do, have acted very promptly and have done what was really necessary and what was possible. They did not wait even for any official orders from the Government. They did what they thought it was possible to do under the circumstances. I was very glad to find that they realized that they were under a popular Government and that they should attend to the needs of the people immediately. They rushed to some places at once, but it was not possible in those days to reach all the places, because every small place was separated from the others and it was not at all possible to move from place to place on account of the heavy gales and the floods. All communications were cut off. It was really unimaginable. I wanted to contact my home, but there was no communication either by post or telegraph or telephone or train. Even under such circumstances, the officials rushed from place to place, they went in jeeps as far as they could go by jeeps and they walked the rest of the distance. They put a lot of courage in the hearts of the subordinates and made them work and they saw that something was done. In spite of their goodwill they could not do much, because the houses had completely collapsed, the clothes of the people had been completely washed away without even a trace and even the rice and paddy stored in the houses

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had disappeared. The people were absolutely helpless. It was very good of this Government to have given us time to talk about this matter in the House. It shows their good-will. But still I would have been happier if some of the responsible Ministers had toured the affected areas. They may ask, 'After all, why should we all go there?' It is not that. Our people understand when they hear that a particular Minister is visiting their village or district, but they do not know who the Food Commissioner or the Member of the Board of Revenue is. It does not matter at all to them if they visit those places. Of course it is necessary for them also to go, but the people would have appreciated better if the Hon. Ministers who are really the people's representatives had visited these places. They may say, 'We are doing everything necessary.' But if somebody is sick, you don't hand him over to a doctor and keep quiet thinking that he is being attended to properly. If you really feel anxious about his condition, would you not really like to be present by his bed-side? I am not suggesting that all the Ministers should go there. Sri Kala Venkata Rao said that the Assembly should not have been summoned. If the Assembly had not been summoned for some more days the members would have been free to tour in those areas and give courage to the people who were in distress. Whatever it is, it was not done. At least if the Government, in addition to what they intend to do, appeal to the people, to come forth with liberal donations, they might be able to distribute some of the essential things which the people are in need just now. In the past we used to go about collecting funds for calamities which occurred in other Provinces for instance the Bengal famine and the Bihar earthquake. We sent quite big amounts from this Province. I am sorry to say that so much of enthusiasm is not to be found in assisting the people who are suffering in our own Province. I do not know what it is due to. They may put it down to depression. Everywhere there is depression and depressions in the Bay of Bengal are also becoming more frequent. That is our misfortune. What is possible for us to do at least must be done.

"Sir, our Minister for Public Works is very clever. He tried to make us understand that if the projects had been taken up and the reservoirs built even then the intensity and immensity of the floods would have been the same. Somehow I am not clever enough to understand that. If tanks were full during the last floods the overflow must be smaller during the recent floods and it cannot be so much. If there were proper reservoirs and proper bunds for tanks, if these things had been dealt with properly the damage would have been much less. Our tanks and rivers would have been our assets instead of proving harmful to us, as they do now because they have not been properly handled. I am sorry to say that. Perhaps I do not know enough of engineering to understand that even if there had been these projects there would have been floods. There would have been floods, but they would not have caused so much damage. That is what I can

understand. Anyhow as other hon. Members from our districts have said, hereafter we do not want promises but only projects. We always hear of investigations being carried on. We do not see any finality about these things. I hope we will soon hear that our rivers and tanks are properly made use of, so that they may be useful to us and not prove harmful to us year after year. We have been hearing of the Budameru and Kolleru projects for a long time, but if they had been properly handled, people would not have to suffer from these calamities year after year.

" Sir, we may think of the dwellings which were destroyed and the human beings and the cattle that were lost. The people in charge of the distribution of the money, whether it is collected from the people or from the Government must be instructed to take proper account of the loss of each family and do the needful. In many cases, families who had just one buffalo or cow as their mainstay have lost it, and they have nothing more to depend upon. They must be given proper help. When we were passing through the roads, we saw a number of carcasses. When we had all these cattle and all the normal crops we had such a famine for food. Hereafter it will be very hard. Now when some of us went round for public charity, we were told, 'Why should you come for charity? Even if you are going to collect something it is not going to be of much use. Because it is not going to be a big amount. It is the Government who must do something for you ? We do not find that the Government have done anything although the tragedy occurred on the 27th of last month and we are now on the 16th of this month. I do not know what to say. We cannot expect the Government to do much, because the Government themselves are in bad straits, but they must at least help by holding public meetings and telling the people that it is their duty to help the people in distress. It is said that Guntur has subscribed so many lakhs and Nellore so many thousands and so on. It is not right on our part to expect people who are affected and already hard hit to do something. The other districts should come forward with their help. I do not know whether it will be enough if you just make an appeal through the papers and keep quiet. Even if you approach the people it will be difficult to get money now. Therefore if you just issue an appeal through the press, I do not know whether it will work at all.

8 p.m. " I appeal to all public organizations and to responsible people in the Government and outside to think of this more seriously, organize committees and set up responsible persons to go about for the collection of money and at least give a small relief to each of the persons affected. Rich people have lost thousands; but the poor people have lost their all—it does not matter to what class or community they belong, it does not matter to what grade of society they belong. All of them have suffered and so many of them are still suffering. Some people do not like to go and

ask others for help. Even though they are not very well off, they will not go and represent their difficulities to officials and others. The local officers must go and find out the difficulties of the people even if the people themselves do not come forward asking for help. They are all really in distress; hereafter at least we must . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Lady Member was not perhaps here when Swamiji said this morning that it was due to God's anger."

* SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA:—" Yes, I heard about it although I was not here. Whether Swamiji was absolutely correct or not, things have been going wrong; we have not been doing our bit, at least satisfying our conscience and so things have to go wrong; but if all of us do things that appeal to our conscience, things will not really go wrong. In our ancient literature, we find that whenever anything went wrong, there were big rishis who used to do tapas and bring forth relief. We need not now go into all these things; we need not even care for religion or God; if we conscientiously do not do any wrong, even nature will not go against us. So, I appeal to the public and also to the Government to deal with these rivers and canals that hamper our progress and destroy all things necessary for our life—I mean we should harness the rivers properly and make good use of them, for our benefit, and not allow them to do destruction such as has been done. It is very unfortunate really. I heard the Hon. Revenue Minister is going to the affected villages shortly and I am sure he is going really to put a lot of courage into the hearts of people who are in distress. I hope all of us will try to do whatever is possible for us to do and do our duty by the people."

* SRI M. NAGESWARA RAO:—" అధ్యక్షా, ఈ మధ్యన తెలుగు దేశంలో సంభవించినటువంటి రెండు విషాద ఘట్టములు సెప్టెంబరులో ప్రారంభమై ఆక్టోబరులో అంత్యమయినవి. ఈ విషాద సంఘటనవలన మా జిల్లాలలో ఎంతటి నష్టం సంభవించినదో ప్రజాసీకము ఎన్ని కడగళ్లపాలు కావలసి వచ్చిందో కొంతవరకైన ఈ సభవారికి తెలియజేయవలెనంటే కనీసము ఆరగంట కాలమైన కావలసి యుంటుంది. కాని నాకు మాట్లాడుటకు అవకాశమిచ్చిన ఈ 5 నిమిషములలో చెప్పడం చాల కష్టం. తుపానువల్ల సంభవించిన నష్టం అంచనా వేయడమే ప్రభుత్వో ద్యోగులకు కష్టమయిపోతూంది. అటువంటి సందర్భంలో ఈ రెండు మాసములలో వీమేమి జరిగింది ప్రజాప్రతినిధులమయిన మేము వీమి చేయగలిగినది, ఈ అల్ప కాలంలో చెప్పటానికి అవకాశం లేకుండయున్నది.

" సెప్టెంబరు 24 తారీఖున వచ్చిన వరదలవలన కర్నూలు జిల్లాలోని నదులు పొంగి గుండ్లకమ్మ ట్రంక్ రోడ్ బ్రిడ్జి వద్ద 20 గజముల పొడుగున గండి పడి పశువులను పొలములను ప్రాణములను మీకు పడి చాల నష్టము సంభవించినది. ఇదే విధంగా గుంటూరు తాలూకాలోను, సత్తెనపల్లి తాలూకాలోను కూడ హేరులు పొంగడం వల్ల అనేక గ్రామాలు జలమయమైపోయినవి 27 వ తారీఖున మేము కలక్టరుగారి స్టీమరు ఎంచి మీద జలమయిపోయిన ఆయాప్రాంతములకు ప్రదేశాలకు 50 బస్తాలు బియ్యము, కిరసనాయిలు, నిప్పపెట్లు తీసుకొని పోయినాము.

[Sri M. Nageswara Rao] [16th November 1949

మేము ఈ విధంగా వెళ్లుటవలన ఎన్నో ఇబ్బందులు పడుచున్నప్పటికి ఆక్కడి ప్రజలు అపరిమితానందభరితులైనారు. మాయందు వారు గొప్ప కృతజ్ఞతను ఆదరణను చూపినారు. ఆ గ్రామములలో అంతకు నుండు మూడు రోజులు నుంచి రేషను లేదు. ప్రజలు అకలితో ఆలమటించవలసి వచ్చినది. మేము ఇచ్చిన బియ్యము, చేసిన స్వల్ప ధనసహాయం చూచి వారు సంతోషించినారు. ఈ పరిస్థితులను తెలిసికొనుటకుగాను మంత్రిగారు స్వయంగా వచ్చి ఈ ప్రాంతములలో పర్యటనచేసి వారుకూడ ప్రజల మంచి చెడ్డలను పరిశీలించి మా రిలీఫ్ కమిటీవారికి 1,116 రూపాయలు విరాళము ఇచ్చినారు. (An hon. Member:—ఆ మంత్రిగారెవరు) గౌరవనీయులగు చంద్రమోహనగారు. ఈ తుపానువల్ల నష్టపడినవారికి సహాయం నిమిత్తం గవర్నమెంటువారు ఇచ్చిన లక్ష రూపాయలే కాకుండ నాటకరూపకంగా చందా రూపకంగాను మరి 2 లక్షల రూపాయలు ప్రోగుచేసి తుపాను బాధితులకు పంచిపెట్టినాము. ఈ పరిస్థితులలో పరల (October) 27 వ తేదిన మరొక ప్రచండమైన తుపాను ప్రారంభమైనది ఈ తుపాను ప్రారంభమైన రాత్రికూడ మేము ఇంకొక నాటకము ఆడిస్తున్నాము. తుపానుగాలి విపరీతంగా ఉన్నప్పటికి హెూరాహెూరివర్షము కురుస్తున్నప్పటికి అనేక వందల ప్రజలు ఆనాటకాన్ని చూచి దాదాపు 30 వేల రూపాయలు ఇచ్చియున్నారు ఇది జిల్లాలో కొద్ది భాగము వరదలవల్ల నష్టపడినప్పుడు జరిగినది. కాని ఈ రెండవసారి జరిగిన విషాద సంఘటన వలన ఇదివరలో నష్టపడని కూలూ కాల్నియ విపరీతంగా నష్టపడినవి. తెలుగుదేశము ఉన్న సగభాగము ఆపారినష్టానికి గురి ఆయినది ఇటువంటి విషాద ఘట్టములను చూచి ప్రజలు చెప్పనలవికాని ఇబ్బందులు పడుతుంటే ఈ శాసన సభలో అపరదృష్ట వంతులకు సహాయంచేసే నిమిత్తం కొంత డబ్బును మంజూరు చేయించవలసిందని ప్రభుత్వంవారిని కోటకు కూడ ఎంతమాత్రము వీలులేదని కొందరు సభ్యులు point of order ను తెలియజేస్తున్నారంటే చాలా హాస్యాస్పదమయిన విషయము. కష్టకాలంలో ప్రజకు అండగా ప్రభుత్వం నిలువక పోయినట్లయితే ప్రజాహృదయం ఎంత బాధపడుతుందో ఆ సభ్యులు గుర్తించగోరుతాను. ఈ నాడు మనము ఆనేక విషయాలలో ప్రజానాహాయం కావాలని పత్రికలద్వారా ఉపన్యాస వేదికలద్వారా ఘోషిస్తున్నాము. అట్టిప్రజ ఈనాడు మా ఆంధ్రదేశంలో విపరీత నష్టానికి గురి అయి ఉన్నప్పుడు వారికి మనము సహాయంచేయటానికి ఆడ్డంకుబు చెప్పుతున్నామంటే, సందేహాలు వెలుబుచ్చుతున్నామంటే, ఎంతహాస్యాస్పదమయిన సంగతి. ఇటువంటి పరిస్థితులలో ప్రభుత్వంవారు చేయవలసిన సహాయం ఎంతోయున్నది ఆనేక గ్రామాలలో కాటాకు ఇండ్లు ముఖ్యంగా హరిజనులవి పాడైపోయినవి. ఇటువంటి వేదవారికి వెంటనే సహాయంచేయడం ప్రభుత్వంవారి విధ్యుక్త ధర్మం వీరికి వసతి కల్పించుటకు గాను ఒక్కొక్క ఇంటికి కొంతడబ్బు చొప్పున ఇచ్చుటయేగాక వాసములు, తాటాకులు, వెదుర్లు, నార మొదలగు గృహనిర్మాణ ఎస్తులను వారికి ఉచితంగా ఇప్పించవలెను. ఇంతేకాకుండ తుపాను వల్ల ఇంటులు పాడైపోయిన రైతుకు సహాయం చేయుట అత్యవసరము. వీరికి జరిగిన నష్టాన్ని తీరుట మానవమాత్రులకు సాధ్యముగానటువంటి విషయం. ఈ రైతుబు మరల వ్యవసాయం చేయాలంటే వారికి కావలసిన వ్యవసాయపరికరములు, జనప విత్తులు, మొదలైనటువంటిని సరసమైన ధరలకు ఇప్పించి సహాయపడవలసిందని నేను ప్రభుత్వంవారిని ప్రార్థిస్తూ ఇంతటితో విరమిస్తున్నాను."

* Sri N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not going to dwell upon the calamity that has befallen Andhra. I propose briefly to outline what I consider to be proper for Government in directing relief measures. I see, Sir, that Members from all sides have dwelt upon the magnitude of the disaster; but I am

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not going to speak about that. I propose to Government that immediately they should constitute a committee of three officials, one representing the Civil Supplies Department."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" Will the hon. Member kindly raise his voice a little bit, so that he may be heard? If he wants, he may come to the Treasury Bench here."

* Sri N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Does not matter, Sir; I shall make myself audible. The second member of the committee may be of the rank of a Superintending Engineer who will look after the damage to tanks and rivers and canals and breaches and the like; and a third, a revenue official, a Senior Collector, a very efficient person who will immediately deal with the problems relating to his department. These three should not be entrusted with any kind of normal work in the districts; but in that small area affected which covers about two or three districts, they should be permitted to deal with problems of drainage and organise immediate relief and the like. They should be assisted, if necessary by an advisory committee; if non-official help is forthcoming, they should co-ordinate such non-official help with the official work of relief and rehabilitation. They should be given power to command things like seed, and manure in those districts, if it is at all found in those districts. It it is not available, the committee should determine the quantity that is immediately to be taken over to those areas and distributed as relief. They should also have power to commandeer transport throughout the area in order to run it not in normal routes, but for the immediate purpose of organising relief and rehabilitation. I suggest there should be also severe control instituted over prices in that area; it should cover anything from food, firewood, fodder, oils, matches, kerosene, chillies, tamarind and even to vegetables which may come to be sold at extraordinarily high rates. There is the danger of the area becoming the playground for those adept unlawful and subversive activities and if only Government would cease to think in terms merely of imprisonment of the subversive elements but take effective and quick action in putting down all profiteering and blackmarketing and putting down attempts by persons taking advantage of this serious calamity in order to make private profits for themselves. I say, Sir, we will have excellently served the purpose. Complaints have been made that non-official charity is not forthcoming is enough measure. I do not accept the complaint. It will come, but it will take time to flow, but there is no time to loose. I would urge on Government, even if the diversion of certain sums of money is to be ruled out of order, not to stint money in respect of expenditure on this calamity. If they take up the constitution of this committee immediately and co-opt to it preferably all the M.L.As. in those areas, if it can be started on its work with the finances which may be made available even by scrapping a portion of the new schemes, I say there would be enough work done, so that both Andhra and the rest of the Presidency may be saved from this calamity. The effect on Andhra may be felt even here; we have lost

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a considerable amount of grain this year; I know it may not be possible to move any grain from those areas in the immediate future to the other parts of the Presidency. We should now so effectively control the situation there and put back things in speedy repair, so that the havoc in Andhra may not have its repercussions elsewhere.

3-15 p.m. "I wish to urge upon the Government the necessity for administering the area with the severest control. It may be for a short time. I do not exaggerate the importance of controls. Of course, I am one of those who advocated in this House that there is a case in the immediate present of going forward with de-control; but when a calamity has overtaken us, we must immediately put into operation control measures in a limited area for a limited period of time, so that the effects of that calamity might not only be easily wiped out but also that other areas in the Presidency may not be affected."

*SRIMATHI V. SITAMAHALAKSHMAMMA:—"ఆధ్యక్ష! ఆంధ్ర దేశంలో ఈ మధ్య సంభవించిన తుపాను ప్రమాదంవల్ల మెట్ట మాగాణి భూములు, ముఖ్యముగా కోస్తా ప్రాంతములలో, సర్వనాశనమైపోయినవి. కృష్ణానది పొంగుట వలన మంచి సారవంతమైనటువంటి లంక భూములు, మెట్ట పంటలతో సస్యశ్యామలంగా ఉన్న ఇతర భూములు పూర్తిగా పాడైపోవుటవలన ఆక్కడి రైతులందరుకూడా దెబ్బతిన్నారు. కృష్ణానదికి ఇవతలనున్న జిల్లాలలో నష్టం సంభవించినపుడు అవతలనున్న జిల్లాలవారు సానుభూతి చూపించడం, అవతల జిల్లాలవారికి నష్టం కలిగినప్పుడు ఇవతల జిల్లాలవారు సహాయపడడం జరిగేది. కాని సెప్టెంబరు, ఆక్టోబరు నెలలలో సంభవించిన వరద తుపానువల్ల ఆంధ్ర దేశములోని అన్ని జిల్లాలకూడ నష్టం కలిగింది ఇటువంటి పరిస్థితులలో ఎవరు ఎవరికి సానుభూతి చూపించవలెనో విచక్షణచేసి చెప్పటానికి అవకాశం లేకుండపోయింది. ఇంత విపరీత నష్టం ఆంధ్రదేశంలో ఈ సంవత్సరం జరిగినది. కేంద్ర ప్రభుత్వంవారూ, రాష్ట్ర ప్రభుత్వంవారూ రైతులు కష్టపడి ఆధికాహారోత్పత్తి చేయాలని నిరంతరము బోధిస్తున్నారు. వారు ఆహారోత్పత్తి విషయంలో మనదేశం ఎంత ముందుకు పోవాలని వాంఛిస్తున్నారో ఆది అంత వెనుకకు పోతూంది.

"మా కృష్ణాజిల్లాలో బుడమేరు ముంపువల్ల రైతులకు కలిగిన నష్టం అంచనావేయడం కూడ చాల కష్టం. ఈ బుడమేటి ముంపులవల్ల రైతులు సర్వసాధారణంగా నష్టపడుతూ వస్తూంది. 1947 వ సంవత్సరంలో బుడమేటి వరదలు వచ్చినాయి. పంటలు ఆ ప్రాంతాలలో పూర్తిగా నష్టం అయినాయి. ఆ సంవత్సరం రైతులకు ప్రభుత్వంవారు వాయిదాలు లక్షల రూపాయలు రెమిషన్ యిచ్చినారు. 1948 వ సంవత్సరంలో పెద్ద వరదలు లేవు. ఈ సంవత్సరం మరల విపరీతమైన బుడమేటి ముంపువలన 40 వేల ఎకరముల భూమిలోని పంట సర్వనాశనం అయిపోయింది. ఈ విషయాన్ని మా ఎక్జిక్యూటివ్ ఇంజనీరుగారుకూడ యదార్థమని చెప్పినారు. ఈ విధంగా ఈ ప్రాంతాలలో నున్న రైతులు సర్వసాధారణంగా బుడమేటి ముంపువలన నష్టపడుతున్నారు. 1947 వ సంవత్సరంలో పూర్తిగా దెబ్బతిన్నారు. 1948 వ సంవత్సరంలో కొంత పండిందక్కింది. మరల 1949 వ సంవత్సరంలో ఈ విషాదకరమైన తుపానువల్ల అపార నష్టానికి గురి అయినారు. రైతులు నష్టపడినప్పుడు తాత్కాలికంగా ప్రభుత్వంవారు వారికి తోచిన రెమిషన్ విచ్చాటు చేయడం, తిరిగి ఆ రైతుల మొరలు ఆలకించకపోవడం పరిపాటైపోయింది. రెమిషన్ ఇచ్చామని ప్రభుత్వం సంతృప్తిపడుతున్నారే కాని,

16th November 1949] [Srimathi V. Sitamahalakshmamma]

ఎటువంటి నిర్మాణాత్మకమైన కృషినికూడ ప్రభుత్వంవారు చేయలేదు. ఎప్పటికప్పుడు రైతుల కళ్లనీళ్లు తుడువటానికి ప్రయత్నం చేస్తున్నారే కాని, ఈ బుడమేటి నీటి ముంపు తగ్గించటానికి, నీరు సద్వినియోగం చేయటానికి ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఎటువంటి చర్య ఇంతవరకు తీసుకోలేదంటే విచారించవలసినటువంటి విషయం. గత సంవత్సరం Irrigation శాఖామాత్యులు గౌ. శ్రీ భక్తవత్సలంగారు మా జిల్లాలో పర్యటనచేసి ఈ బుడమేటి ప్రాంతాన్ని స్వయంగా చూసారు. బుడమేటిమీద రిజర్వాయరు కట్టడానికి ప్రయత్నిస్తామని రైతులకు హామీ యిచ్చారు. ఎస్టిమేట్లు తయారుచేయించారు. కాని ఇంతవరకు పని విమాత్రంకూడ ప్రారంభింపబడలేదు. ఈ తుపానువల్ల కలిగిన నష్టమునుగురించి వారు మాట్లాడుతు బుడమేటికి రిజర్వాయర్ కట్టినాకూడ ఈ ఉప్పెన వల్ల ప్రయోజనంలేకుండ పోయుండేదని, రిజర్వాయర్ కట్టినప్పటికీకూడ బుడమేటి నీటిని ఆపడం కష్టమని, ఏకొద్ది నీటిసమ్మేళనమో ఆపగలముగాని చాలాభాగము నీరు పొంగి పొర్లి పోవలసిందేనని, ఈనాడు ఆ ప్రాంతములకు సంభవించినటువంటి నష్టాన్ని ఆరికట్టడము అసాధ్యమని వారు తెలియజేసియున్నారు. వారు ఈ ప్రసంగము నాకు చాలా ఆశ్చర్యాన్ని కల్గజేస్తుంది. ఏవిషయంలోనైన మనము మొట్టమొదటగా హృదయపూర్వకంగా కృషిచేయాలి. ఆ కృషిచేసిన తర్వాతకూడ ప్రమాదాన్నుంచి మనం తప్పించుకోలేకపోతే అది మనశక్తికి అతీతమైతే తరువాత దైవాదీనమని అనవచ్చును కాని మనము విమాత్రంకూడ కృషిచేయలేదు. కృషిచేసినకూడ ఇట్టి నష్టం సంభవించేదేమని అనడం హాస్యాస్పదమైనటువంటి విషయం.

"ఆధికాహారోత్పత్తి చేయాలంటే మా జిల్లాలో మొట్టమొదటగా బుడమేటిపై రిజర్వాయర్ కట్టాలి. దీనివల్ల పది, పదిహేనువేల ఎకరములభూమికి నీటీవసతి కల్పించడమేగాక, రమారమి 40 వేల ఎకరముల భూమి మునిగిపోకుండా చేయగలిగినవారవుతారని ప్రభుత్వంవారికి మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. కాని ప్రభుత్వంవారు రామపాద సాగరం ప్రాజక్టు కట్టుటకు ఆలోచిస్తున్నారు. కనుక ఈ బుడమేటి రిజర్వాయరును కట్టుదల ప్రస్తుతము ఆపుజేసినట్లుగా భక్తవత్సలంగారు వారి ప్రసంగంలో చెప్పిఉన్నారు. రామపాద సాగరం ప్రాజక్టు ఎప్పుడు కట్టుటకు ప్రయత్నిస్తారో ఎవరికితెలియదు. అందుచేత బుడమేరు రిజర్వాయర్ వంటి చిన్నచిన్న రిజర్వాయర్లను వెంటనే విచ్చాటు చేసి రైతులకు సహాయపడగలసినదని ప్రభుత్వంవారిని కోరుచున్నాను. ఆప్పుడే అనేక వేల ఎకరముల భూమిని సాగుచేస్తున్న రైతులకు రక్షణ కలుగజేసినవారమగుదుము. అంతేకాకుండా మాజిల్లాలోఉన్నటువంటి ఉప్పుటేరును widen చేయాలి. ఇప్పుడు ఉప్పుటేరు మురుగునీటినంతను తీసుకొనలేక పోవడంవల్ల మురుగునీరు పొంగి గుడివాడ, కైకలూరు తాలూకాలలోని అనేకవేల ఎకరముల భూములలోని పంటలు పాడైపోతున్నాయి. ఇటువంటి ముంపులను ఆపుచేయాలంటే ఉప్పుటేరును వెడల్పు చేయాలి. అప్పుడే మురుగునీరు పూర్తిగా పోవటానికి అవకాశముంటుంది. అధికాహార ధాన్యములను పండించుటకు వీలుకల్గుతుంది. కాబట్టి వరదలు వచ్చినపుడు రైతులకు రెమిషన్లను ఇచ్చి వాళ్ల కళ్లనీళ్లు తుడుచుటతో తమ విధిని సక్రమంగా నిర్వర్తించ గలిగినామని ప్రభుత్వము వారు సంతృప్తి పడకుండా ఈ చిన్న చిన్న స్కీములను వెంటనే అమలు జరుపవలసినదని కోరుచున్నాను. ఈనాడు మా ఆంధ్రదేశంలో రైతులు వ్యవసాయం చేసుకోటానికి నీటి వసతులు లేక పంట కాలువలు లేక కొందరు విడుస్తుంటే, పంట కాలువలున్న చోట్ల మురుగునీరు పోవటానికి సౌకర్యములు లేక మరికొందరు విడుస్తున్నారు. మన కాంగ్రెస్ వారు 1946-వ సంవత్సరంలో అధికారములోనికి వచ్చినారు ఇప్పటికి మూడు-నాలుగు సంవత్సరముల నుంచి ఈ రాష్ట్ర ప్రభుత్వము వారిచేతులలో నున్నది. ఈ కాలములో అనేక ప్రణాళిక

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లను మన ప్రభుత్వంవారు కొంతమొత్తములమీద తయారు చేసినారు. కాని ఇంతవరకు ఒక అభివృద్ధి ప్రణాళికనుగూడ అమలు జరిపినట్లు కనుపించదు. ప్రణాళికలను తయారు చేయించినంతమాత్రమునకే ప్రభుత్వమువారి బాధ్యత తీరినదని వారు అనుకొనరని ఆశిస్తున్నాను.

"అంతేకాకుండా అంధ్రదేశంలో ఈ తుపానులవల్ల కలిగిన నష్టాన్ని పత్రికలలో ఎజ్జాజిరేట్ చేసినారని మన ప్రధాన మంత్రిగారు పత్రికలవారితో అనినట్లు పత్రికలలో మేము చూచినాము. ఏ ఏ ఆధారములను పురస్కరించుకొని వారు ఈవిధంగా అని నారో నాకు తెలియదు. ఇది మా అందరకు చాలా ఆశ్చర్యాన్ని కలిగించింది. మా జిల్లాలలో ఎంతనష్టము జరిగినదో జిల్లా కలెక్టర్లు, బోర్డు మెంబర్లు స్వయంగా వచ్చి చూచినారు. ఎవ్వరి కూడా నష్టము తక్కువగా ఉన్నదని అనలేదు. ఈ అధికారుల రిపోర్టులను చూచిన తరువాతనయినను ప్రధాన మంత్రిగారు వారి అభిప్రాయాలను మార్చుకొని ఉంటారని, అపరిమితమైన నష్టము అంధ్రదేశములోని రైతులకు సంభవించినదని వారు నమ్ముకొరని నేను విశ్వసిస్తున్నాను.

"మాజిల్లాలలో ముఖ్యమైనటువంటి వరిపంట ఈతుపానులవల్ల దెబ్బతిన్నది. సుమారు 10, 11 లక్షల ఎకరముల భూములలోని పంట పూర్తిగా పాడైపోయిందని ప్రభుత్వోద్యోగులే అంచనాలు వేస్తున్నారు. ఇలా కొమ్ములంటినట్లుమాటలను పచ్చే సంవత్సరం తిండికి గింజలు ఎట్లా దొరుకుతాయో తోచడములేదు."

Sri A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, it is very unfortunate that this very granary of South India, nay the whole of India, has been affected by this freak of nature, the cyclone and I stand up to support the amendment of my hon. Friend Sri Alluri Satyanarayana. It is really a pity that the landlords have no pity whatsoever for their tenants. Because they have agreed to pay a certain quantity of paddy, they have to pay it even in spite of the cyclone and in spite of the floods. Such a Bill or an Ordinance as my Friend suggested should be passed to the effect that these people should be exempted altogether from paying paddy to their landlords. By all ways, the poor peasantry should be protected. I wonder how, in spite of our experience of 20 years, when there had been two cyclones within a period of three years and so many places have been affected, the Budemeru and the Collair Projects have not yet been taken up. During the three years that we have been here, we have taken up nothing nor done anything. Take the example of Holland; it is a country below the level of the sea and a yard of land costs from two to three hundred pounds or even more and from Rotterdam to Amsterdam, they have built dykes to keep off the sea. Even with all such disadvantages, they have taken so much precaution, whereas here we are unable to tide over the Budemeru and Collair which are small ones indeed. Hon. Members have described how the poor have been left homeless and helpless and even their labour power could not be sold and nothing can be done. We hear from friends who have come from that side that corpses are smelling and while going on the road or by the trains, they can see the bones of cattle and human beings. There has not been the like of this cyclone before and this has been the heaviest in Andhra

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and there has been a loss of fifty crores. The Government, of course, will not be able to spend to that extent and I support the amendment moved by the Yuvarajah of Pithapuram."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"But it has been ruled out."

Sri A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"Though there is no amendment, I request the Government to allot at least 3 crores of rupees from the reserve fund for immediate relief. I would also submit that it is not proper on our part to be sitting here and be debating on this question instead of going to those very areas; it is no use trying to help them with words; we must help them when they are in distress and that substantially. I would suggest to the Government that immediate steps should be taken for clearing the corpses if there are any, by sending health squads to those areas and see that the question is dealt with on a war basis; even military medical units should be used for the purpose of inoculations and for taking up preventive and curative medical work. Everything connected with this must be done on a war footing and the civilian way, the tortoise way of doing things will not avail."

* Sri G. LATCHANNA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I need not waste my time and the time of the House by narrating the nature of the havoc created by the recent floods and the cyclone. I only want to impress on the Government the need to undertake real relief work in the real spirit. I hope the Government have no more any doubt about the reports published by non-officials regarding the havoc created by the cyclone. I am sure the Government would now at least realize that it is the greatest calamity which has be fallen our Province. Sir, one of our hon. Members has remarked that because we have never believed in God, we have to face this calamity. Sir, I think, cyclone is occurring every year in some place or other for centuries together. If at all there is any truth in the saying of the hon. Gentleman, I feel, if at all God is angry, and hence all this cyclone, He is angry because of the longstanding unfulfilled wavering promises of the Government, not only the present Government but of the past Governments also. They have been promising to the public so many schemes, so many irrigation works, every year, wherever the Ministers go, but nothing comes to fruition. That is why, if there is any truth in the saying of my friend, God has perhaps got angry with the unfulfilled promises, and has visited us with this cyclone." 3-30 p.m.

The Hon. Sri B. GOPALA REDDI:—"He has got angry with the Government and punished the people!" (Laughter.)

* Sri G. LATCHANNA:—"The Government are people and people are Government. Here, I want to stress another point. We are calling our Government as people's government, and we believe in that. We are asking for people co-operation. Whenever we go we are appealing to the people that they should co-operate with the Government. But in actual reality how does the position

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stand? The Government must realise that there is a great gulf between public opinion and official opinion. I do not mean to say it is the defect of the present Ministry alone. It is due to the old rotten policy of administrative affairs. The Government officers in many places do not hold the view of the public. Of course, I do not deny that here and there, officers do come into close contact with the people. But in several places it is otherwise. I am glad the Government realise the gravity of the situation, and I hope they will afford adequate relief. Sir, where there is a will there is a way, and they can do relief work in several ways.

" And here I want to bring to the notice of the Government one fact. Where a local official responds to public representation and forwards it to the District Collector, he is warned by the Collector. I know in last August in our district, we organized a kisan deputation. . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member should confine himself to the cyclone havoc."

* SRI G. LATCHANNA:—" We waited on deputation on the local officer. He received the memorandum and sent it up to the Collector with his note thereon. For that he was given a warning by the District Collector, saying that he was exaggerating things and merely sending reports on the basis of public representation. This sort of thing should be checked immediately. Sir, Government must promise only what they can do, and there is no meaning in their saying, ' we will do this, we will do that ' and so on and doing nothing. They should be sincere and do things in proper time in proper place."

* SRI PALLAM RAJU:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not want to speak about the extent of the damage caused during this cyclone; because other hon. Friends have already spoken at length on it. It is enough to mention a few instances to indicate the intensity of the havoc and the ferocity of the floods. A railway engine sunk in the bowels of earth in the 1928 floods came out to the surface during the recent floods. Some oxen which were carried and landed on the terrace of a building in Tuni had to stay there for three days before they were taken down by the people after the water had subsided. The temple car at Anthervedi which was there for the last four hundred years facing all the past cyclones was razed to the ground during this cyclone. All this I say only to indicate the intensity and ferocity of the recent cyclone.

" Regarding the suggestions to the Government as to what they should do, I want to say something. It may be, they may not be able to bring to fruition all schemes at once, for want of hands in the Engineering Department. But it is enough if they attend to minor irrigation tanks and major irrigation tanks by entrusting the works to the villagers themselves on rough estimates and giving them finance, so that the ryots may be able to raise crops in

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the coming year. Till now, the East Godavari district used to export about 72 to 120 thousand tons of rice to other parts of the country. But now this year, they have to go abegging for seeds to raise the second crop. That is the situation to which the district has been reduced. Seed should be supplied free to poor ryots holding less than 5 acres; manure should be brought from other districts. Then alone a second crop is possible in the district this year. When we are trying to wward off famine, the cyclone came in and interfered with the food problem. If we are very particular to see that the food problem is solved, the Government should give seed free to all the ryots to raise a second crop as quickly as possible.

" Regarding revenue remissions, the rules do not permit remission for garden crops like plantains and other garden crops. I request the Government to amend the rules suitably in this behalf. Regarding manure, our district is very deficient in oilcake, and so it should be brought from other districts. On the question of rehabilitation, poor people like fishermen have lost all their property. They have lost their boats; they have lost their nets. It costs lakhs and lakhs to provide them with boats to fish in the sea. As for nets, the Government are distributing yarn freely, and we thank the Government for that. Regarding weavers, their lot is also the same. The Government should supply them with looms and yarn. The labourers in our area have lost their houses; in fact whole villages have been swept off and it is better Government plan to build villages in a regular sanitary way. With these words I resume my seat."

* JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, Andhra, while it is still part of the parent province, has been afflicted and has come to grief just before separation. Our hearts go to our Andhra brethren in their distress. We have to view this affliction philosophically, and I think this affliction has come to them as a blessing in disguise. Perhaps it is a process of purification, by passing through the ordeal of water and wind, so that Andhra may arise Phoenixlike triumphantly if it is separated as an independent province for administrative purposes."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Hear, hear."

* JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" Mr. Speaker, on this occasion, I would like to express my personal grief and sympathy for those who have suffered heavy losses by the floods and cyclone. We know that our Government are doing their best to relieve the suffering. I feel sure the people of the entire Province irrespective of the linguistic area to which they belong will, extend their hearty and active co-operation and contribute liberally to the relief and rehabilitation of the afflicted people. On this occasion, I would like to express my view that Pandit Nehru, who has just returned to India and is a dynamic personality should lose no time to visit the afflicted area and come here as a great humanitarian on a mission of mercy to the aid of the people and organize a relief and rehabilitation fund in his own name on an all-India basis. I would

appeal to Hon. Prime Minister to rise to the occasion and demonstrate to us by appealing to everybody to contribute liberally whether he be in Andhra or Kannada or Tamilnad or any other part of India over whom he is holding sway to-day."

3-15 p.m. SRI N. VEERARAGHAVAYYA:—"అధ్యక్షా. ఈ మధ్యన మా ఆంధ్ర దేశంలో వచ్చిన తుపాను వల్ల రైతులకు ప్రజలకు ఎంతనష్టం కలిగిందో మా జిల్లానుంచి వచ్చిన గౌరవ సభ్యులు వివరంగా మనవి చేసియున్నారు. ఈ తుపానువల్ల మా కృష్ణా జిల్లాలో ఎంత దండగ జరిగింది అనే దానిని గురించే మాత్రమే నేను ప్రభుత్వం వారికి తెలియజేయ దలచినాను వందలాది మనుష్యులు వేలాది పశువులు లక్షలాది ఎకరముల లోని పైర్లు ఈ తుపాను వరదలవల్ల గాలివల్ల పూర్తిగా పాడైపో యినవి. మా జిల్లాలలో రమారమి నాలుగువందల చెరువులు ఉన్నవి. దాదాపు అన్ని చెరువులయొక్క గట్లు తెగిపోయినవి. ఈ చెరువులక్రింద సాగు అయ్యే భూములు, భూములలోని పైరు పూర్తిగా నీటిలో మునిగి పోయినవి. మామూలు రోజులలో కొన్ని పెద్ద చెరువుల క్రింద రెండవ పంటకూడ సాగు చేయడం మామూలు. ఈ సంవత్సరం ఈ చెరువులు గండ్లు పడిపోయినందువల్ల రెండవ పంట పండించుటకు అవకాశము లేకుండపోతుం దేమోనని రైతులు భయపడుచున్నారు. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వంవారు శ్రద్ధతీసుకొని ఈ గండ్లను అన్నిటిని వెంటనే మరమ్మతు చేయించే ఏర్పాట్లు చేయవలెను. వెంటనే మరమ్మతులు చేయిస్తేనే తప్ప రెండవ పంట పండించుటకు సాధ్యముకాదు. ఆహార కొరత రోజులలో ముఖ్యంగా వరి పండించే రైతులకు తగిన సహాయము ప్రభుత్వంవారు చేయవలసి దని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. ఈ చెరువులలో చాలా భాగము ఆనగా వంద చెరువులు బెజవాడ తాలూకాలోను 70 చెరువులు నూజివీడు తాలూకాలోను ఉన్నవి. ఈ రెండు తాలూకాలలోను ఇతర కోస్తా తాలూకాలలోవలె కూడ పంట లన్నియు పోయినవి. ఈ చెరువులను వెంటనే మరమ్మతు చేయించి రెండవ పంట పండించుటకు రైతులకు అవకాశము కల్గించవలసిందని మరల ప్రభుత్వంవారిని ప్రార్థిస్తున్నాను.

"ఇరిగేషను శాఖామాత్యులు గౌ. శ్రీ భక్తవత్సలంగారు వారి స్టేట్‌మెంటులో బుడమేరు రిజర్వాయరు కట్టనప్పటికీకూడ ఈ ముంపు ప్రమాదము తప్పదని, కొల్లేరు సరిస్సులో 4 అంగుళముల నీరు మాత్రమే తగ్గుతుందని దినివల్ల రైతులకు అను కొన్నంత లాభము ఉండదని చెప్పినారు. ఇది మాకందరికు కూడ చాలా ఆశ్చర్యమును కలుగజేయుచున్నది. ప్రభుత్వంవారి ఇంజనీర్లు మొదలైన అధికారులు ఈ విధంగానే ప్రభుత్వానికి సలహా ఇస్తూ ఉంటారు. ఈ బుడమేరు రిజర్వాయరు కట్టక పోయినందువల్ల ఎటువంటి ప్రమాదము జరుగుతుంది అనే విషయాన్ని దృష్టిలో ఉంచుకొనే ఈ స్కీమును ఆమలు చేయాలెగాని ఒక్క ఇంజనీర్ల అభిప్రాయముతోనే ఈ పాంతములోని ఉన్నదనించినట్లయితే ఏటేట కూడ ఇటువంటి నష్టము జరుగుతూ ఉంటుంది. ఈ బుడమేరు అనేటటువంటిది ఎక్కడ పుట్టింది, ఎల్లా ప్రవహిస్తుంది, ఎక్కడ పడుతుంది, దీని వృత్తమెంత, దీనివలన రైతులకు కలుగుతుండేటటువంటి కష్టనష్టాలు ఎటువంటివి అనే విషయాలను ప్రభుత్వంవారు గమనించాలి బుడమేరు మా జిల్లాలో కృష్ణానది ఉన్న తిరువూరు తాలూకాలో పుట్టి సముద్ర తీరాన్న ఉన్న కైకలూరు తాలూకాలో కొల్లేరులో సంఘమిస్తుంది. ఈ మధ్యన ఇవి 5 తాలూకాల గుండ ప్రవహిస్తూయుంది. వరదలు వచ్చినప్పుడు ఈ బుడమేరు ఈ 5 తాలూకాలలోని భూములను ముంచివేస్తూంది. ఈ యేరు పుట్టినప్పటినుంచి కొల్లేరు వరకు వరదనీరు పోవాలంటే సుమారు వారము రోజులు పడుతుంది. ఈ

వారము రోజులలో వరదలు ఎక్కువై లక్షలాది ఎకరముల భూమిని ముంచివేస్తుంది. ఈ విషయాన్ని ప్రభుత్వం వారు గమనించి బుడమేటి వరదలను కొల్లేరులోకిగాని మరొక దానిలోకిగాని తీసుకొని పోవుటకు మురుగు కాలువలు మొదలైనటువంటివి ఏర్పాట్లుచేయ గోరుతాను. ఈ సంవత్సరం వచ్చిన తుపానువల్ల బుడమేరు నలభైవేల ఎకరముల భూముల పంటను తుడిచి వేసింది. ఈ వరదల ఉధృతం ఎంత హెచ్చుగా ఉందో చెప్పుటకు గాను ఒక ఉదాహరణమును మనవి చేస్తాను. మాజిల్లాలో వేలేరు అనే ఒక గ్రామం ఉన్నది. ఇది మెరకన ఉన్న గ్రామం. ఇదివరలో ఎన్ని తుపానులు వచ్చి నప్పుడు గూడ ఈగ్రామం మునిగిపోలేదు. రైల్వేస్టేషనుకు సమీపంగా ఈ గ్రామం ఉన్నది. అనేక చెరువులు గట్లు తెగులు వల్ల ఒక చెరువులోని నీరు మరొక చెరువు మీద పడి నీరు పాల్లిపోయి ఈ మెరక గ్రామం కూడ మునిగిపోయింది. అసీటి ప్రవాహంలో 24 గురు మనుష్యులు కొట్టుకొని పోయినారు. ఈ 24 గురులో 20 మంది సంగతి తెలియలేదు. మిగతా నలుగురు ఆంటే ఇద్దరు మగవాళ్లు ఇద్దరు ఆడవాళ్లు మాత్రము వెల్లకాళ్ళ వీగలను పట్టుకొని ప్రాణములను ఎట్లో దక్కించుకొనినారు. ప్రాణ రక్షణ కోసరం ఆక్కడ యుండే మనుష్యులు వివిధంగా ఆగసాట్లు పడవలసి వచ్చిందో ఈ ఉదాహరణం పట్టి ప్రభుత్వం వారు గుర్తిస్తారని అనుకొంటున్నాను. భక్తవత్సలంగారు ఈ సంగతులన్నింటని గమనించి ప్రాణ నష్టం, పశు నష్టం, పంట నష్టం కలుగకుండా చేయుటకుగాను ఈ బుడమేటిపై రిజర్వాయరును కట్టించే ఏర్పాట్లు వెంటనే చేయించగోరుతాను. బుడమేరు రిజర్వాయరు కట్టినై 40 వేల ఎకరాల భూమిని కొత్తగా సాగులోనికి తీసికొని రావడమే కాకుండ 50 వేల ఎకరాలపంటను ముంపు బారినుండి తప్పించిన వారమవుతామని ప్రభుత్వంవారికి మనవిచేస్తున్నాను.

"తుపానువల్ల ఏరపాలాలే కాకుండ మాజిల్లాలో ఉన్నటువంటి నారంజ తోటలు, మూసంబి తోటలు, అరటితోటలు విశేషంగా దెబ్బతిన్నాయి చెరుకుకూడ చాల విపరీత నష్టం కలిగింది. కాని ప్రభుత్వం వారి రిపోర్టులో ఎకరానికి 8 నుంచి 10 టన్నులవరకు మాత్రమే దండగ జరిగినట్టు ఉన్నది. ఇది యదార్థము కాదు. ఇంకాఎక్కువ నష్టం జరిగింది. ఇటువంటి రైతులకు కూడ సహాయం చేయవలసిందని కలెక్టరుకు ఉత్తర్వులు జారీ చేయవలసిందని కోరుతున్నాను."

* SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the face of the calamity that has overtaken us, a national calamity transcending all provincial boundaries, it is very difficult for one to give adequate expression to his feelings without being choked up by emotion. In the wake of death and destruction, loss of life and property and the tale of woe and misery that we have been hearing these days, the immediate problem that confronts us should not to be overwhelm us with grief but spur us to action to see how best we can nurse back these people to their normal life. Many families, many villages have been yiped out and the destruction to property is probably incalculable. This is not the time for us to quarrel over the amount of loss or the districts which have suffered most or which less or what has been done or what has not been done till now. The main problem is what we should do immediately and with a long range view. It seems to me that the magnitude of the calamity has not been properly and fully realized. If it had been realized, we should have expected much better action than has been taken. In the areas that have been affected by cyclone and floods, numerous problems have cropped up. These problems have to be

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dealt with immediately because they do not brook any delay and delay will be dangerous. If the relief is to be effective and to bring comfort and solace to the people, action must be taken immediately. Relief delayed is relief denied.

" Within the short time of five minutes that you have been pleased to allot to me, it is very difficult for me to convey all the suggestions that I want to place before the Government for consideration. I shall therefore enumerate only a few importants. As I said, the emergent situation that has been created must be tackled immediately. I would suggest that an ordinance be issued forthwith. Though I would have suggested a Bill being brought before this Assembly and passed into law immediately, I have refrained from doing so, as the formalities have to be gone through which will take some time. Therefore I suggest that an ordinance may be issued to deal with the unsocial elements who may exploit the situation for their own party purposes and the blackmarketers who may exploit the situation for their personal ends. Typhus, cholera pneumonia and such other diseases may break out in the wake of destruction. People exposed to chill weather and cold wind may fall a prey to these diseases. All these problems must be tackled at once and I don't think the ordinary law or the ordinary machinery will be sufficient. So, I suggest an ordinance or an emergent measure to tackle the emergent situation effectively. Regarding the immediate measures that should be taken, certain friends have given details of what should be done. The long-range policy should be the construction of dams and such other measures which will prevent floods which have now became a recurring phenomenon. The other day I was reading a book on the Tennesse Valley Authority. The Tennesse Valley Authority has not only prevented the floods, which brought in devastation in their wake, but has also harnessed the flood waters for irrigation purposes and production of electricity. In three or four states of the United States of America, the Tennesse Valley Authority has done very tremendous and commendable work. Likwise, the floods of the Krishna, the Godavari, the Tungabhadra and the Pennar may be prevented by the construction of dams. These river basins may be constituted into economic regions and the waters brought down by these rivers may be harnessed for irrigation, electricity and other developmental work.

" A separate flood relief department may be created to tackle the emergent situation immediately so that the Collectors and other officers, who are weighed down by their own routine work, may be relieved of this work.

" Lastly I would make an appeal to the highest authorities in the land that this national calamity must be tackled on a national basis. I would suggest that a relief fund may be constituted. Editors of several newspapers, who have been giving so much of space in their columns and telling us, who are far away from the scenes of flood, what has happened there the sufferings and distress of people may also be pleased to open relief funds in their respective papers and appeal to the public to subscribe liberally.

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'The Hindu' and the 'Indian Express' did tremendous work during the Bihar earthquake. Likewise, transcending all provincial boundaries, these and other papers may, take a national outlook and help the Government and the flood-stricken people by opening their columns for subscriptions."

4 p.m.

SRI K. SURAYYA :—" అధ్యక్షా, ఈ మధ్యన ఆంధ్ర దేశంలో తుపాను వల్ల ఎంత ప్రమాదము సంభవించిందో, ప్రజలు ఎంత నష్టపడినారో ప్రాణ నష్టం, పశు నష్టం, పంట నష్టం ఎంత ఎక్కువగా కలిగిందో సభ్యులు తెలియజేసి యున్నారు. ఈ నష్టాని అంచనా వేయలేము. లక్షలాది ఎకరాల భూములలోని పంట పాడై పోయింది. వరిచేలు అందులో ముఖ్యంగా బస్సంగి కృష్ణ కాటుకలు దూడ్చిన చేలు విపరీతంగా దెబ్బ తిన్నాయి. ఈ నదులు దూడ్చిన చేలలోని పంట నూటికి 80 వంతులకు పైగా నాశనమై పోయిందని చెప్పవచ్చు. ఈ విడు గర్లపాన్ జిల్లా అయిన మా జిల్లాకు కూడ ఆహార పదార్థాల కొరత ఏర్పడుతుందేమో చెప్పలేము. ఆహార ధాన్యాలు సరిగా సప్లయి కాక పాటకపు జనము కాథలు పడుతున్నారు. కాబట్టి, ఇతర ఒల్లాలనుంచి ఆయిన బియ్యం తెప్పించి మా జిల్లాలలో పంచి పెట్టంచే ఏర్పాట్లు చేయించ వలసిందని ప్రభుత్వాను వారిని కోరుతున్నాను.

" తుపానువల్ల అనేక కాటాకు ఇళ్లు పక్కా ఇళ్లు కూడ పడి పోయినాయి. ఈ విధంగా నష్టపడిన వారిలో హరిజనులు, కూలి చేసుకొని జీవించే ఇతర కులాల వారు ఎక్కువమంది ఉన్నారు. వారు తిరిగి ఇళ్లు కట్టుకొనుటకుగాను వాసాలు, కాటాకు, వెదురు మొదలైన వాటిని ఉచితంగా సప్లయి చేయించ గోరుతాను.

" ఇది శీతాకాలము. తుపానువల్ల చాలామంది పేద ప్రజలు వారి బట్టలనుకూడ పోగొట్టుకొన్నారు. అటువంటి వారిందరికి ఈ చలిగాలినుండి కాపాడుకోటానికి గాను బట్ట సప్లయి చేయించడం అవసరం. ఈ మూడు పనులు అత్యవసరంగా చేయించవలసిందని ప్రభుత్వము వారిని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

" బస్సంగి కృష్ణకాటుకలు మొదలైన వరి పంటలు సాగుచేసిన భూములు విపరీతంగా దెబ్బతిన్నాయి. రైతులకు చెప్పవీలులేనంత నష్టము కలిగింది. వీరు మరల వ్యవసాయం చేయాలంటే రెండవ పంట పండించుటకు నీటి సప్లయి చేయించాలి. ఈ విషయంలో ఇదివరలో పున్న అడ్డంకుల నన్నిటిని తొలగించి రైతులకు సహాయ పడవలసిందని, కలెక్టరులకు, ఇంజనీర్లకు ఉత్తర్వులు జారీ చేయగోరుతాను. ఇంతే కాకుండ రెండవ పంట అయినను సరిగా పండుటకు రైతులకు కావలసిన ఎరువులను సరసమైన ధరలకు సప్లయి చేయించే ఏర్పాట్లు చేయగోరుతాను.

" మా జిల్లాలలోని గన్నవరం తాలూకాలో ఉన్న వీరవల్లి చెరువు తెగిపోయి ఆ చెరువు క్రింద సాగయ్యే భూమి చాలా పాడై పోయింది. రైతులకు కూల దెబ్బ తగిలింది. ఈ చెరువును వెంటనే బాగుచేయించగోరుతాను.

అంతే కాకుండ ఈ చెరువు తెగిపోవుటవలన దిగువ నుండే భూములు మెట్టవేసుకో పోయినవి. ఈ మెట్టను తీసివేయిస్తేనేగాని తిరిగి వ్యవసాయము చేసుకోటానికి అనువుగాయుండదు. ఈ మరమ్మతులు చేయించుకొనుటకు రైతులు సహకార సంఘముల ద్వారా గాని తగావి loans ఇప్పించి గాని సహాయం చేయవలెను. ఈ పని చాల తొందరగా చేయించిననైగాని రైతులు మరొక పంట పండించుటకు వీలుగా నుండదు. ఈ పనులలో non-officials యొక్క సహాయముకూడ తీసుకోవడం చాలామంచిది.

[Sri K. Surayya] [16th November 1949

"మా జిల్లాలో ఉన్న ఉప్పేరు బొడమేరు మొదలైనటువంటివి వరదలవలన వచ్చిన నీటిని చూస్తూ సముద్రములోనికి తీసుకొనిపోలేకుండ ఉన్నవి. డ్రైనేజ్ వసతులు సరిగా లేకపోవుటయు అనేక భూములు ఇటువంటి నష్టములు ఇక ముందు జరగకుండా ఉండుటకు గాను బుడమేరుపై రిజర్వాయరు కట్టించవలసినదని ఉప్పేరును వెడల్పు చేయించవలసినదని కోరుతున్నాను. ఈవిధంగా చేసినట్లయితే, ఆధికాహారోత్పత్తికి చాలా సహాయపడగలము. ఇంతేకాకుండ మా జిల్లాలో ఉన్న భీమవరం, గుడివాడ రైల్వేలైనువల్ల కూడ కొంత ఇబ్బంది కలుగుతూయుంది. ఈ రైల్వేలైన్ ఉన్న చోట మురుగు నీరు సముద్రంలో పోవుటకు తూములు ఎక్కువగా లేకపోవుటచేత పక్కనున్న పొలములను ముంచివేసి పంటలను పాడు చేయుచున్నది. అందుకుగాను రైల్వేలైనుక్రింద ఎక్కువ తూములను పెట్టించవలసిందిగా కేంద్ర ప్రభుత్వంవారిని కోరవలసినదిగా మన ప్రభుత్వంవారికి మనవి చేయుచున్నాను. కాబట్టి మీన ప్రభుత్వంవారు బుడమేరు రిజర్వాయరు కట్టించవలసినదని ఉప్పేరును widen చేయించవలసిందని మురుగు నీరు పోవులకు అడ్డుదలగల్గుచున్న చోట్ల రైల్వేలైన్లక్రింద ఎక్కువ తూములు పెట్టించవలసిందని మరల ప్రభుత్వంవారిని కోరుచు సెలవు తీసుకొనుచున్నాను."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Three more hon. Members, namely, Sri B. Venkataratnam, Sri Koti Reddi and Sri Kurmayya want to take part in the debate. After they finish their speeches, I shall call upon the Hon. Minister to reply. Now the hon. Sri B. Venkataratnam will speak."

* SRI B. VENKATARATNAM:—"ఆధ్యక్షా, నేను ఈమధ్యన మా ఆంధ్రదేశంలో సంభవించిన నష్టమును గురించి నా మనసులోనున్న బాధనంతను తెలియజేసికొనుటకు వీలుగా తెలుగులో మాట్లాడుటకు నాకు అవకాశమివ్వగోరుతాను. నేను ఆఖరు పంక్తిలో పడ్డాను. అందుచే నాకీ 5 నిమిషములే అవకాశమిచ్చినారు. ఇంత తక్కువ కాలములో proposals అన్నియు చెప్పుటకు వీలులేనందున అవి వేరే వ్రాసి ప్రభుత్వమువారికి దాఖలుచేస్తాను.

"మా జిల్లాలకు తుపాను దెబ్బ అప్పుడప్పుడు రావడం జరుగుతూంది. కాని ఈసారి వచ్చిన తుపాను చాల విపరీతంగా, ఉధృతంగా వచ్చి ఎక్కువ నష్టాన్ని కలుగ జేసింది. తుపానులవల్ల వచ్చే నష్టాన్ని పూర్తిగా నివారణ చేయడం మనుష్యుల సాధ్యమైన విషయం కాదు. కాని కొంతవరకైనను ఈ నష్టాన్ని తగ్గించటానికిగాను కొన్ని పనులను ప్రభుత్వమువారు చేయవచ్చును. ఆ పనులవలన రైతులకు కొంత ఉపయోగం ఉంటుంది. ఈ విషయమై ఇంతవరకు వి ప్రభుత్వముకూడ ప్రయత్నించిన పాపాన పోలేదు. ఒక నిశ్చయంతో గనక ప్రయత్నం చేసినట్లయితే చరకల ఉధృతాన్ని తగ్గించడం సాధ్యమౌతుంది. ఇప్పటికైనను మన ప్రభుత్వమువారు శ్రద్ధ వహించి మురుగు నీటి సౌకర్యములను కలుగజేసి కొండలలోనుంచి వచ్చే ఏరులలోని నీటిని వ్యవసాయానికి ఉపయోగపడేటట్టు చేసేటట్టయితే, అనేక వేల ఎకరముల భూములలోని పంటలు పాడైపోకుండ చేయడమే కాకుండ కొత్త భూమిని సాగులోనికి తీసుకొని రాగలము.

"ఈ తుపానువల్ల ఎంత నష్టం జరిగిందో చెప్పడం చాలా కష్టం. ప్రభుత్వమువారి లెక్కల ప్రకారం కొంత నష్టం జరిగిందని వారి అనుకోవచ్చు కాని మంత్రులు స్వయంగా మా జిల్లాలకు వచ్చి చూచినట్లయితే ఈనాడు రైతు ఎంత నష్టబడ్డాడో

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కళ్లారా చూడగలరు. అప్పుడుగాని ఈ తుపానుయొక్క ఉధృతము ఎంత ఉందో బోధపడదు. మనము ఈ Assembly లో వుండి నష్టాన్ని గురించి ప్రకటనలను చదివినంత మాత్రంచేత మనము నష్టాన్ని ఊహించలేము. కాబట్టి మంత్రులు మా జిల్లాలలో పర్యటనచేసి ప్రజలయొక్క బాధను స్వయంగా చూడవలసిన బాధ్యత ఉన్నదని మనవి చేస్తూయున్నాను.

"ముందూ ఈ బాధపడుతున్న ప్రజలను రక్షించడం అత్యవసరం. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వమువారికి వీలుగా ఉన్నంతవఱ్ఱుకు technicians లును ఇతర సాధన సామగ్రిని వెంటనే ఆ జిల్లాలకు పంపి ప్రజలకు సహాయం చేయించవలసినవసి మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. ఇంతవరకు ప్రజలకు సహాయం జరుగుతున్నట్లు లేదు. వేవవారికి బియ్యం దొరకటం లేదు. బియ్యం ధరకూడ blackmarket లో అపరిమితంగా పెరిగిపోయింది. కాబట్టి ఇతర జిల్లాలనుంచి ఆయినను ఆహార పదార్థాలను తెప్పించి ప్రజలకు పంచిపెట్టించమని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. యుద్ధం సంభవించినప్పుడు ఎంత త్వరగా చురుకుగా పనులు జరిపించాలో అంత త్వరలో ప్రభుత్వమువారి స్వాధీనంలో ఉన్న ఉద్యోగులను ధనాన్ని ఆ ప్రదేశానికి వెంటనే emergency basis మీద ఆక్కడికి పంపిలున్న ఆశక ఆడ్డంకులను తాత్కాలికంగా suspend చేసి సహాయ పడవలసినదని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. రెవిన్యూ మినిస్టరుగారు వారి ప్రసంగములో చెప్పినట్లు ఆంధ్రదేశంమీద రాయి బ్బులు కుమ్మియున్నవి కాని వారి సంపూర్ణ సహకారముతోను ప్రజల సహకారముతోను ఈ కారుమబ్బులు త్వరలో పోయి సూర్య భగవానులు ఆంధ్రదేశమును మరొక ప్రకాశవంతముగా జేయుమరని నేను దృఢముగా నమ్ముచున్నాను.

"ఈ తుపానువల్ల అనేక ఇండ్లు పూరి ఇండ్లు, పక్కా ఇండ్లుకూడ పాడై పోయినవి. ముఖ్యంగా హరిజనవాడలు తుడుచుపెట్టుకు పోయినవి. ఈనాడు అనేక మంది హరిజనులు మా జిల్లాలలో తల దాచుకొనుటకు గుడిసెలులేక ఈ చలికాలములో ఎంతో బాధపడుతున్నారు. సాధారణముగా వీరి పూరి గుడిసెలే తుపానువల్లగాని అగ్నిప్రమాదాలవల్లగాని నేలమట్టమైపోతున్నాయి. ఇటువంటి ప్రమాదాలు బీదవారికి ఇంత నష్టం జరగడం మనము ఆపివేయాలంటే వాళ్లకు చిన్నచిన్న పక్కాయిళ్లు కట్టించి ఇవ్వడం ఎంతో అవసరం. కొద్దిపాటి ఖరీదులో ఉండేటట్లుగా Co-operative Society లద్వారా ఈ హరిజనులకు ఇళ్లు కట్టించే ఏర్పాటు చేయగోరుతాను. ఈ పనులకు priority ఇవ్వవలసిందనిగూడ ప్రభుత్వమువారిని కోరుతూ ఇంతటితో విరమిస్తున్నాను."

* SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I should also like to add my voice of appeal to the Government to come to the rescue of the people who have been affected by the recent cyclone and floods. Sir, so far as my memory goes, there had not been an occasion hitherto when such a calamity had befallen the Andhra Desa, causing such an extensive damage to human beings, cattle and crops. Sir, within the time allotted to me, it will not be possible for me to give the House an adequate idea or a full picture of what has happened in the various parts of the Andhra Desa, but however, I shall confine myself to a few districts which have been so often complained of as dry districts, wherein water scarcity is proverbial. And it would indeed be surprising that we members belonging to the Ceded districts should come before the House to-day and ask for help for the flood-affected portions of

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those districts. It is very seldom, Sir, that our districts are affected by floods due to heavy rains and I remember that only in the year 1915, we had a similar flood in the districts of Cuddapah and Kurnool. But now, more than 30 years afterwards, we are witnessing a similar occurrence. Sir, in the districts of Cuddapah and Kurnool, there are two rivers Kundu and Sagileru which are tributaries of the Pennar river. Both of them were heavily flooded during the recent floods and both of them join the Pennar river in the Cuddapah district. All along these two rivers till they join the Pennar, there has been a heavy overflow of water, sometimes to an extent of ten feet and even more on either side. In some other places, water was flowing with a depth of even 15 feet. The result was that all the villages lying on either side of these rivers have been heavily flooded and were actually submerged under water for days together. Crops, cattle, huts and everything in these villages were affected. I know, Sir, that the attention of this House and the public has not been sufficiently drawn to this picture of the havoc that has been wrought in the districts of Cuddapah and Kurnool by the previous speakers. They were only describing the flood havoc in the Delta districts and the Northern Circars. But, coming as we do from those backward areas, we know what extensive damages have been caused in these areas by these floods, and because the people of those districts are not so vociferous as others, the real picture of the situation in these areas has not been properly and fully understood by the House and I submit, Sir, that these areas also stand in need of relief to the same extent as the Northern Circars. Sir, if we compare the loss of paddy crops sustained by the floods in the Krishna and Godavari deltas and our districts, it is true that we have not suffered so much. But the losses suffered by the ryots in many of the villages abutting those rivers in the Cuddapah and Kurnool districts on account of the destruction of not only their huts and houses, but also their dry crops, like turmeric, onions, betel-leaf gardens, etc., have been very considerable, because many of those villages remained water-logged for more than 18 hours, and most of these crops were destroyed.

" Sir the relief that should be afforded to the affected areas in the districts should not be judged by the number of amendments tabled on the floor of the House by hon. Members. Fortunately, Sir, you came to our rescue by overruling the amendments. I do not think that even two or three crores of rupees will be enough in order to give adequate relief to the people affected. Of course, if a real estimate of the damages is made, I think, it would go up to many more crores. It may not even be possible for the Government to assess the extent of damages caused, because it would take some considerable time to get the exact details in respect of each and every village.

4-15 p.m. " In the case of certain people, it is absolutely necessary that Government ought to come to their rescue in order to replace practically all that they have lost. I would here make a clear

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distinction between big and small ryots. If a ryot, whose property is worth only four or five thousand rupees, has lost two to three thousand rupees, if not the whole amount, how is it possible for him to rehabilitate himself unless the Government come to his rescue by way of implements, manure and other things? I find in some villages there has been heavy silting of sand. Government should take steps to remove all the silt by the use of bulldozers.

" With regard to land revenue remissions, under the rules, unless the ryots are affected consecutively for two or three years no remission can be given. But the cyclone has created very great damages, and an extraordinary situation has arisen. It has affected both wet and dry lands. Sufficient remission must therefore be given. I see a report from the Collector of Cuddapah that the paddy fields in the Cuddapah district under Kurnool-Cuddapah canal have been progressing. It is no doubt true that fortunately some time after the canal breached when we had practically no water in it. Afterwards there was some rain. That saved to a certain extent our paddy fields. But it is a fact that we would not be able to get more than 50 per cent of the paddy that we ought to have otherwise got. This is a serious loss. An ordinary ryot who had lost turmeric crop had to spend Rs. 500 per acre—Rs. 300 in the shape of manure and Rs. 200 in the shape of seedlings. Unless something is done for this ryot, he will be done for. Government should come to the rescue of these ryots, considering the extraordinary circumstances in which they are placed. There is the Famine Relief Fund to the extent of 80 lakhs of rupees. This is ordinarily expected to be used for famine due to want of rain in the Ceded districts. There is provision also for people affected by cyclone. I would appeal to the public and to the Government of India to give a substantial amount for the relief of all people affected by the cyclone."

* Sri V. KURMAYYA:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is impossible for any one of our Members to describe the sufferings of the people on account of the calamity caused by Nature. During the last 20 years the Andhra Desa got four cyclones. When I was a young man, in 1925 a cyclone took place and it lasted for about 2½ hours. In 1945 there was a cyclone lasting for four or five hours. The duration of the present cyclone was about 18 hours. On the 27th October I was in Eluru in a Harijan cheri residing in a thatched hut. I saw that house collapse, and young workers were going about from door to door for shelter. At that time it was impossible for any human being to give protection even to his own wife and children. But nobody could escape from this calamity. Myself and the President of the District Board went to the District Collector, West Godavari, and requested him to take all the necessary steps to help the sufferers during this period. The Collector himself started early relief measures and went to the cheris. He instructed his subordinate officials to go to all the affected villages and see that rice was distributed to all the people. Government officials subordinate to the Collector did not take care. The Collectors

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had taken all care and tried their best to help the victims of the cyclone. The Collector spoke to the Revenue Divisional Officer to go to all the affected places. The municipality has not taken care to remove the bodies which were lying on the roads. I was there for about five days as I could not go to Bezwada for want of communications. All these five days, the Health Department did not care to remove the bodies lying here and there. From Eluru I started to Bezwada on the 31st morning. All the way I saw so many dead cattle. I thought that the Health Department had not come to the rescue for want of communications. All the roads were washed away. Communications were cut off, water supply failed and electric power failed. It is impossible for any of us to describe the suffering of the people on account of this calamity. I went to some taluks in Krishna district. The Hon. Minister for Revenue has stated that proper steps were taken to distribute foodstuffs and controlled commodities through ration shops for the victims. It is my duty to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister that food supplies were not received from the Government. I do not think that proper steps were taken by the officers subordinate to the Collectors. I must tell the Hon. Minister that I was in Eluru. Half a seer or one seer of rice only was given to each family. For three days there were no rations, as the ration shops were not opened. Every Member from the Circars said that there must be strict control introduced for supply of controlled commodities. People living in remote villages are not cared for. I do not blame the officials as there were no proper communications. It was impossible for the Revenue Inspector to go to all the villages under his jurisdiction. Help should have been given to the people with missionary zeal. The Government during the flood havoc took expeditious steps to see that money was distributed to the victims. In the history of the Madras Government such a thing has never happened before. At least since the time I entered politics, some twenty years ago, I never saw help going to the victims as immediately as it now went. Persons affected by the floods have been given Rs. 25 each in Krishna district. In Guntur district every house owner was given Rs. 10 and also supplied with building materials. This havoc is to be considered as a national calamity. Relief must be on national basis. These are the districts which are supplying food to the rest of the Province. Even if we spend some crores of rupees, it will not be a loss to the Government because these are the districts which supply food to the rest of the Province. Sugarcane lands and garden lands have also been greatly affected. We can aviod floods if a reservoir is constructed for the Budameru waters. If the Budameru river is successfully tackled by our Chief Engineer, there will be no need for giving any remissions in Gudivada, Kaikalur and Gannavaram taluks. There have been floods very often, and remission is granted in almost all the years. We can prevent this by taking up the reservoir scheme which is now before the Chief Engineer. Along with this, I request Government to take up the rehabilitation scheme in all the areas and spend more money. I request Government to divert the funds

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allotted to Firka Development Schemes to these rehabilitation schemes to be prepared. We may draw a sum of Rs. 2½ crores from the Firka Development Fund and spend it on rehabilitating the people who are affected by the cyclone. Thank you, Sir."

* THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Mr Speaker, Sir, I should like to express my gratitude for the various suggestions that have been made by hon. Members. They have been able to furnish for the information of this House and for the guidance of the Government several things that they have personally been able to see or hear. Sir, the note that was placed before hon. Members before this debate began, contained information that had been received some time ago. It is quite probable that additional information has been received subsequently. Some hon. Members seem to think that the reports are not full and that there is the possibility of some areas, not mentioned in the note, being neglected. I should like to assure hon. Members that though some places may not have been mentioned in the note already circulated, we have asked our officers to tour the entire area and ascertain the quantum of damage and report to us. So, there need be no apprehension on the part of any hon. Member that any particular area is going to be neglected from the purview of relief and rehabilitation. That is the first point that I should like to assure hon. Members, because there seems to have been such a feeling, for instance, Members from Visakhapatnam were saying that the reports were sketchy, and that there were extensive damages. They seem to be worried that Government would feel that the damage to a particular area has been less severe than in the other areas. As I have already stated, special staff has been appointed to tour the entire area and then assess the amount of damage to the various standing crops, and then put up proposals. So, every area that has been damaged will be covered.

" Another point that has been mentioned by several hon. Members has been that the Government have not spent enough money already or that they have just allotted only a very small amount. I should like to mention to hon. Members that the amount that has already been sanctioned is not going to be the only amount that will be spent. They were amounts that were sanctioned for immediate relief so that when the Members of the Board of Revenue went to the various districts they would have adequate sums to pass immediate orders to grant relief to those who were in distress. Now, we have received reports from the various Collectors. Some Collectors have asked for four lakhs, some Collectors have asked for two lakhs, and some others have asked for more. After getting further information, Collectors will certainly ask for more. But I should like to assure hon. Members that whatever amounts are necessary for the relief and rehabilitation of the distressed people, will be sanctioned and spent, and there need be no apprehension on that score.

" Then there is another point that was made. Several hon. Members said that Government had not rushed to the spot. I

4-30 p.m.

really do not know what they mean. The cyclone took place on the 27th and 28th of last month. As the hon. Members themselves have said, there have been cases where they could not go from one place to another for three days, in some places for four days, and the last speaker Mr. Kurmayya said that there were places where papers could not reach for a week. So, if people could not rush there immediately, we also must have had the same difficulty which the other people had. But in spite of that difficulty, I can claim that our officers did go to several places and distribute relief which they could do and that has been acknowledged by several hon. Members. So, to say that the Government have been rather slow in rushing relief is not quite fair. I claim that we did rush relief and not only that, but we rushed relief that sufficient to meet the immediate situation. Subsequently we had information that there was the possibility of outbreak of epidemics. Immediately the Public Health Department was asked to contact the local officer or send some other officers to see that the epidemics do not break out or spread. Some hon. Members said that although the Public Health Department was instructed, none of the officials may visit a particular place. It is quite possible that the officials have not visited some places. But that does not mean that those places will not at all be visited. Let me assure you, Sir, that the Government are anxious to prevent the spread of epidemics because the damage that has already been caused by the cylone is very heavy and they realize the gravity of it as much as any hon. Member. Let me assure them that the Government are prepared to do its very utmost to give relief, whether it be from the point of view of the Public Health Department, Revenue Department or the Public Works Department. Orders have been issued already asking that the repair of breached tanks, canals and any other things that ought to be looked after by the Public Works Department must be given the highest priority and people have already been at work, and orders have been issued that what needed for, the second crop must be given immediately and those who have been affected by the cyclone must get the highest priority. I should also like to inform hon. Members that the Government have decided to suspend the rotational and zoning system in the delta area so that people in the area may have full opportunity of getting water for the second crop.

" Then, the supply of seeds also has been taken up. A few days ago representations had been received about the need for rushing supplies of seed immediately because it was felt that in that area the seeds may not be available, and the Agricultural Department have been asked to go ahead with the work of collecting the necessary seed and seeing that the people who need seed for second crop are given the necessary facilities.

" Another suggestion was made that seed of a type that would grow early might be imported from some other areas and sent over there so that people there who had lost their crops might be

able to sow that type of seed and have an early crop. Suggestions have also been made about the supply of manure. All these things, let me assure you, will be taken up and expeditiously disposed of.

" Then, there was another suggestion made that fishermen had especially suffered, particularly in some coastal areas, and that they had lost their nets and everything and that they must be given immediate relief. The Members of the Board of Revenue who happened to tour that area have recommended relief for fishermen and they have also suggested some amount of money. That amount of money will be sanctioned and so far as the fishermen are concerned, all relief will be given.

" Then, the question of supply of materials and money for those who have lost huts or buildings is also being considered and certain grants of money have already been made. But there is no need for special orders being passed because according to the Board's Standing Orders, the Local Officers have got certain discreation in the matter and they have been told specifically that if they find any difficulty they should not hesitate to write to the Government and the Board of Revenue, and every effort will be made to see that none of these ordinary things stand in the way of immediate relief being rushed.

" Sir, Mr. B. S. Murthi said that the relief that is being given or that is likely to be given is likely to go into the hands of ' haves ' and ' have nots ' will be neglected even in times of distress.' I should like to assure the hon. Members that it is not the intention to profit anybody. It is intended to relieve the really deserving people and I am sure I can expect the full and hearty co-operation of every hon. Member of this House and others outside the House to see that relief goes only to those people who have really suffered. So, any fears, on the score that any particular section of the community alone is likely to be benefited or that any particular section is going to be ignored, need not be entertained."

SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" Sir, of course it is not the intention of the Government that the benefit given by them should go into the hands of the ' haves ', but their intention is that it should go into the hands of the ' have nots '. But in practice the money is given to the richer people."

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

SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" Sir, I request that instructions may be issued by the Government to the officials to see that the relief goes to the deserving people who have really suffered and who need help."

* THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Sir, I see the anxiety of the hon. Member. Let me tell him that we are equally anxious about that and that can only be done with the co-operation

of the people and that is why I appeal to every hon. Member of this House who happens to be in that area to see that the relief reaches those people who really deserve it. It is not possible for either the Ministers or the Members of the Board of Revenue or anybody else to watch every disbursement of relief. It all depends upon our honesty and our capacity to behave well. If there are bad elements who want to take undue advantage of the cyclonic distress, they will be dealt with severely and I can assure the hon. Members that if any such case comes to the notice of the Government, very drastic action will be taken.

"Several suggestions have been made that black-marketing and the rise in prices and all other aspects of life must be controlled and that special care must be taken by the Government. Sir, however much the Government may pass orders, it all depends upon the people there as to how they act. It is up to the people to see that no abuse takes place of the amounts that have been sanctioned by the Government. I am sure, Sir where the calamity has been so great that everybody has been moved to sympathise. Even those unsocial elements, may stop their unsocial activities and see that only deserving people get the necessary relief. So far as the Government are concerned, every material needed will be certainly sent over to the area; the co-operation of the non-officials will also be taken and distribution of relief will be made in a proper way.

"Sir, some of the hon. Members paid glowing tributes to the good work done by the officers and I am happy to know that they have appreciated the work of the officers. It is quite probable, as Mr. Kurmayya said, that some officers may not have been as active as some others. It all depends upon human nature. But we expect that in vitw of the great calamity that has befallen, every officer will realize his duty do his very best to help in the relief work.

"Another good feature has been, as I have already said, active non-official co-operation. In the reports that have been received from the Collectors and also the Members of the Board of Revenue, everywhere I find very appreciative mention of the active co-operation received from the non-officials. I see that in several places immediately after this trouble non-officials have come forward with donations of grain or cloth or offered their personal services and help to those who were in difficulty. It is a very heartening news and I am glad to take this occasion to express the grateful thanks of the Government and I am sure all the Members of the House would join me in thanking those people who have come forward so generously to take upon themselves the duty of helping their distressed fellowmen..

"There was a mention made that in one district—I do not know which—the money has not been spent adequately compared to other districts. But I can only assure the hon. Member that

if there was need and perhaps if it had not been spent already, it might be that the Collector of that district did not have the full picture to see the necessity for moving in this matter and I will issue instructions to all the Collectors immediately to see that there is delay in the disbursement of monies if they have not already been disbursed by now.

"Sir, some hon. Members, and I believe the Leader of the Opposition also suggestion the appointment of a non-official committee to go round and report about the damage and suggest ways and means of relieving the sufferings of the people. I should like to tell the Leader of the Opposition that we have already sent four senior Members of the Board of Revenue. I do not say that every place that has been affected has been visited by them. If they have not been able to do that, the Collectors of the various districts have already toured the various areas and the subordinate officers are also touring. We are shortly going to get a full picture of the situation. It may not be possible to get it very soon. If it had been already received. I would have placed it before the House. The extent of damage being large, it will take time to assess the whole damage and the report is therefore likely to be delayed, and as soon as all the reports are received, we will be able to have a full picture and go ahead with the necessary scheme of relief. Even if the non-official committee suggested by the Leader of the Opposition is appointed, it will only be duplicating the work of the officers who have already gone round and seen. I do not really see how the non-official committee is going to do more than what has already been done. It may be that they may be able to think of long-term measures. If that is the idea, that is a question which has to be tackled separately. So far as the question of immediate relief is concerned, we have some picture of the situation and we are going to get some more details and I suggest that there is no need for a committee of this sort to be appointed. For whatever results that are likely to be achieved by the appointment of a committee would be achieved by the reports that will be received by the Government from the various officers in the districts.

"Then there is the question of the remission of land revenue. This can be considered only after we receive the Ajmash reports. The officers have to go to the various places and see the crops that are likely to be raised on each land, and then send us report. We have appointed Special Revenue Inspectors in each of the districts so that this work of ajmash may be expeditiously done. I have got reports to say that in some districts, about 30 Revenue Inspectors have been specially appointed for this purpose. I believe other Collectors are also going to ask for special staff and the necessary staff will be sanctioned by the Government so that there may not be any delay in all these matters. 4-45 p.m.

"Another suggestion has been made that the damage to coconut crop, lime gardens and plaintain gardens must also come under the purview of remission of land revenue. The present

Standing Orders of the Board of Revenue did not contemplate remission of land revenue in such cases. This is one of the points raised by the General Secretary, Indian National Congress, in a note that he has sent to the Government and we are examining that aspect of the question. I can assure the House that the Government realize that these people who have raised these fine crops for several for several years have lost their all. In some cases the loss is 25 per cent and in others it is 75 per cent. I am told that in some cases the entire plantation has been blown off. So I can only assure the House that the Government will take these into consideration and grant them whatever relief is necessary.

" It is not merely a question of remission of land revenue alone that has to be considered here. As some of the hon. members have suggested, I feel that the question of helping the people who have lost their crop to raise a second crop in that place should also be taken up, so that the over-all food position of this Province might be kept up. As I have already stated in my opening remarks, the Government are keen that the speediest measures must be taken to rehabilitate those areas as they form a rich rice-growing tract and the Government feel the importance of doing this work as early as possible, as it would improve the entire Madras food position and as the reports that have been received about the likely deficit of procurement in these areas (I do not have exact figures at the moment) are very vague. Unless we take immediate steps, I know that it would land us in great difficulties. I can assure the hon. Members that the Government are fully aware of all these difficulties and are going into this aspect of the question thoroughly. So, let there be no hesitation or anxiety on the part of any hon. Member over this aspect.

" Another suggestion was made that a fund may be constituted. Sir, . . ."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Sir, we have requested that procurement should be completely stopped in these areas. I am not able to exactly understand what is running in the mind of the Hon. Minister and would request him to state his views on the matter."

* THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" As I have alread stated, the reports received from the Board of Revenue state that procurement is likely to fall short in those areas by a very heavy figure. The question of stopping procurement in those areas should be considered in relation to the availability of stock to procure. If there is nothing to procure, the question does not at all arise. Certainly, the hon. Member can rest assured that the Government do not want to harass anybody. We are trying to rush relief and wherever there is no grain, we are trying to rush foodgrains to the people. The Government realize their responsibilities to the people. If in a particular area, there is something to procure, certainly there can be no harm in procuring

the same and passing on the grains procured to the neighbouring affected areas where no grains are left. Sir, I can only make this general assurance that the Government do not intend to harass the poor people. But, I cannot tell the hon. Member that there will not be any procurement in all these districts. That is a matter which can only be decided after going into further details and getting full figures about the damage caused to the crops and the stocks available. Naturally, this can be done only some time later.

" Sir, a suggestion has been made about the constitution of a fund for flood and famine relief. The Flood and Famine Relief Fund is already there. There is Rs. 88·4 lakhs under this Fund. Under the amended Act of 1938, the Government can spend some money from this fund for relief work in connexion with the present cyclone.

" Sir, very many hon. Members have said that the Government should immediately take steps to repair the irrigation tanks I may tell the hon. Members that even before the debate on the cyclone started, the Government have informed the Public Works Department that the first thing they should do is to repair, wherever possible, all the tanks, canals and other irrigation sources because, the Government felt that unless urgent steps were taken, the disaster would be much greater. So, with regard to this aspect, everything that is possible is being done.

" Then, there is the question of the Budameru that has been mentioned repeatedly by several hon. Members. This Budameru has been described as the villain of the piece in the other House. I have consulted my colleague the Hon. Minister for Public Works in the matter and he means to take steps to finish this villain and harness the Budameru (laughter). He intends to very seriously tackle this Budameru and all the other merus there.

" Some hon. Members have said that it is not merely a question of tackling this problem immediately and affording relief to the poor people in the affected areas, but the Government must think of long-term scheme so that the flood and cyclone damages may not recur. It is said that this kind of damage has been going on in the past. Some say that this kind of havoc has happened six times to their knowledge and some say it has happened more times according to their knowledge. This is a serious menace not only to that particular area, but to other areas as well in that everybody will suffer for lack of food. So, it is in the interests of the entire Province that we ought to tackle the problem of finding out the methods of preventing such damage by cyclones and floods. It was suggested that we might appoint a Commission which will examine the entire question. That is a very good suggestion, indeed. But the whole difficulty is this. We may appoint a Commission, the Commission will go into the details and put up their report giving various recommendations, the implementation of which will cost several crores of rupees. To-day, knowing the financial position of this Province

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as we do, the chief difficulty will be the question of implementation of the recommendations of the Commission. Of course, financial difficulty should not stand in the way of tacking this worrying problem that has been constantly causing damage to the people of that area.

"Sir, certain hon. Members, I believe, felt worried or aggrieved when some of the hon. Members, whether it be from the Treasury Benches or other places, tried to point out that the restriction of relief to any particular figure, say 2 crores or 3 crores was not proper and so the amendments that were brought forward, had to be withdrawn. Sir, none of these hon. Members need feel that because the particular amendments suggesting 2 crores and 3 crores have been withdrawn, the Government are going to spend less. The Government are determined to spend as much as may be necessary. I ask the hon. Members, why restrict the relief to a specified figure of 2 crores or 3 crores? I do not know what will be the amount that will be arrived at by the remission of land revenue. It may be that even if their suggestions were given effect to, it may not serve the interests of the people effectively. So, I say, Sir, that it would be unwise to restrict the amount of relief to any specified figure, as though the Government are hostile and do not want to give relief to these people. I claim that we are as anxious as anybody else to help these poor people. Why restrict this figure? On examination, if the Government find that 10 crores of rupees is necessary, the Government are prepared to spend it.

"Now coming to the amendment of Mr. Alluri Satyanarayana Raju which suggests that legislation should be made to protect the tenants from being compelled to pay to the landlords the full amounts of the stipulated rents, I want to say that I have great sympathy for these poor tenants, who have cultivated these lands and for no fault of theirs have lost their crops. It is inequitable for any landlord to demand from them to pay the contractual amount that is due. I take it, Sir, that the people there are quite reasonable and humane and they would not go and collect money from the poor tenants who have lost their all. I am told by my friend that there are people who would not hesitate to demand their pound of flesh even at such times, and he suggests that legislation must be there to prevent these people from sucking the blood of the poor tenants."

SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Sir, under the existing law, it is the landlord who is entiled to get the remission and also other concessions to be given by the Government. Then, how are the Government going to tackle this problem with regard to Harijans?"

*THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The hon. Member is as usual very impatient.

"The Government are in full sympathy with these people. I have got this question examined by the departments. Certain

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legal difficulties have been raised. There is what is called 'contractual obligation' between party and party and it is to be considered how far we can interfere in such a matter. Then, there will be the difficulty of assessing the quantum of loss—as I have already stated—it is a very wide area that has been affected. It is quite probable that in some cases the landlord himself will be a man owning two acres of land and depending for his living upon the rent of his tenant. You should understand that the landlord also should be allowed to live. If the tenant was able to raise some substantial crops, it is really fair that he must share it with the landlord.

"I assure the hon. Members that we are examining all the 5 p.m.
relevant aspects fully and carefully and we have not taken a final decision. A decision will be taken shortly, Sir, but meanwhile I appeal to the landlords of that area to see that they do not harass the poor tenants."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Shall we sit for five more minutes and finish the discussion?"

HON. MEMBERS:—"Yes, Sir."

*THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I also appeal to my hon. friend not to press his amendment. In this connexion, Sir, I must make mention about one point over which certain hon. Members are agitated. Sir, certain remarks were made in this House by several hon. Members that the Hon. the Premier has expressed a view that the reports of the non-officials were exaggerated. They also tried to express a feeling of dismay that the Premier of this Province should have said so. But, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that he did not say that the reports were exaggerated but the estimate of damages contained in the reports seemed to be exaggerated. He had sufficient reasons to express such a feeling, as the information he had upto that time was so meagre. After all, the question of estimate is a difficult thing. Even to-day we are not in a position to get a full picture of the damages wrought by the cyclone. I shall presently read some portions from the statement made by the Premier at his weekly press conference published in the *Indian Express*, dated 5th November 1949:

> 'The Madras Government have not yet received any official report about the extent of the damage caused in the Andhra districts by the recent cyclone said Mr. P. S. Kumaraswami Raja, Premier, at the Weekly Press Conference today.
>
> The Premier said that in view of the dislocation of communications both by rail and road it would not have been possible for the officials to make an intensive survey of the affected areas with a view to assessing the damage.
>
> The Premier, however, felt that non-official estimates of the damage contained in press statements were exaggerated.'

So, Sir, there was no intention on the part of the Premier to minimize the extent of the damage done. I shall now read what was published in *The Hindu* of the same date.

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'The Government are awaiting detailed reports of the extent of the havoc caused by the cyclone in the Northern Circars.

Mr. P. S. Kumaraswami Raja, Premier, stated today that three Ministers Mr. K. Chandramouli, Mr. B. Gopala Reddi and Mr. B. Parameswaran, were touring the affected areas, as also members of the Board of Revenue. The Government expected to receive their reports about the extent of the damage by next week.

'While the havoc seems to have been considerable from all accounts,' the Premier said, "it would, at the same time, be difficult to know the exact extent of the loss or damage or the amount of relief that would be needed. A correct assessment of these would not be possible until communications are restored and access to these places is possible."

The Premier said that if it was found that the amount of money sanctioned for relief, namely, Rs. 245 lakhs, in addition to the unspent balances of the earlier allotments for relief was inadequate, more funds would be provided.

Asked if the damage to the deltaic area would not adversely affect the already bad food situation in the Province, the Premier said that nothing definite could be said until reports of actual conditions of standing crops and stored grain were received.'

It will be seen, Sir, from the above report that the Premier had definitely stated that a correct assessment of the damages would not be possible for some days and that the havoc seemed to have been considerable. He has never attempted to under-estimate the losses. I would like to assure the hon. Members that neither the Government nor the Premier have minimized the enormity of the cyclone havoc. They are fully conscious of it. As I have already stated, the Government feel as much as hon. Members do in the matter and have already acted. They are further willing to help and so I hope, hon. Members who had any misconception or misgivings about the attitude of the Government, would, after listening to my statement, drive them away from their minds.

"Finally, Sir, I am glad to announce to the House that I have got news that Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru today has sent a cheque for Rs. 25,000 to His Excellency the Governor of Madras to be spent on relief to the sufferers of the recent cyclone in Andhra desa. The money has been paid from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund. The Sheriff of Madras has also called for a meeting on the 25th November for organizing relief to the people who are in distress in that area. May I take this opportunity of asking every hon. Member of this House to co-operate fully in raising the funds necessary for relief of the distressed and I am sure, Sir, from the way in which hon. Members have expressed themselves on this matter that they would spare no pains to do their best to help the suffering people in the area."

SRI G. LATCHANNA:—"On a point of information, Sir, will the Government give financial aid wherever necessary to the under-tenants also?"

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Referring to the amendment moved by my hon. Friend, Sri Alluri Satyanarayana Raju, the Hon. the Minister said that there were some legal difficulties to be surmounted. Sir, if he really sympathises with the view

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expressed in the amendment, is it not his duty to see that such difficulties are overcome, if need be, by legislation. After all, legal difficulties are bound to crop up in every case where help is needed. I would, therefore, request the Government to examine this question and bring out legislation . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is making a speech. I cannot allow a speech to be made now."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Sir, is it possible for our Revenue Minister just to give an idea to the House as to how far the recent floods and cyclone will affect the food situation in our Province?"

SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"It is only the landlord, Sir, who is entitled to remission under the existing rules. If Government were to decide upon any remission now, it is the landlord who is going to benefit and the under-tenant has no protection under the existing law. Will Government issue any Press communique to safeguard the interests of the poor under-tenant?"

DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO:—"Sir, it has been suggested that public subscriptions should also come in. Before steps are taken in this regard, will the Hon. the Revenue Minister assure us that there will be a central agency for making collections and that they will ensure that the subscriptions are not redundant. Or, may I know who is going to collect the money? The Minister said that our co-operation is needed. But are individuals going to collect the money . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister said that the Sheriff was going to call for a meeting and hon. Members should help him."

DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO:—"Sir, I want to know whether there is going to be a central body as otherwise it would mean sending away one's resources and you do not know where the money goes."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I did not expect that this would be converted into a question hour. Sir, I am really surprised that a man of the type of Dr. Ramachandra Rao should raise such a question as he has raised. I do not think he means really that way. I am sure he will subscribe liberally (laughter) to the Fund in spite of the efforts of the Government to help the victims. He knows as much as anybody else that Government relief is likely to be limited to certain types of cases. But there is a lot more to be done. As has been said by several hon. Members, there is a limit to Government aid and so I hope that Dr. Rao would do his best and use his good offices to make collections for the Fund. Sir, the hon. Member asked, 'to whom to pay'. If he is very anxious about payment now, he can give his subscription to the Deputy Speaker who is in charge of collections. As regards several other suggestions made by certain hon. Members, I would request them to write to me in detail so that

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I can take up the question individually. Mr. R. V. Swaminathan said that legal difficulties if any should be got over by means of a legislation. Sir, that is what we are trying to do now. We have all sympathies for the victims and we shall do all that is possible. Mr. V. Kurmayya said that the poor sub-tenants are harassed. Sir, it would be certainly inequitous if landlords choose to harass their tenants now. All these things will be considered by Government and in view of what I have said, I would request my hon. Friend, the Mover of the amendment, to withdraw it."

SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am really grateful to the Hon. the Minister for Revenue for the way in which he has replied to the debate. He has agreed with the sentiments expressed in my amendment. After all, it is the tenants, the cultivators, the landless folk who till the soil and feed the world, without even feeding themselves that need the first attention. I am really glad that he has given an assurance to see that the interests of these poor cultivators will be protected by the Government and that they are thinking in terms of helping them also financially in order to save them from the clutches of the merciless landlords. I do not say that all the landlords are merciless but there are those who want to take advantage of the remission contemplated by the Government and at the same time their pound of flesh from the tenants. In view of the declaration made by the Government that they will certainly try to protect the poor landless cultivators' interests, I withdraw my amendment."

The amendment, by leave of the House, was withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

'That the situation caused by the recent cyclone in the Andhra districts be considered'."

The motion was carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—" I adjourn the House to meet again at 11 a.m. on Saturday, the 19th November 1949."

The House then Adjourned.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Saturday, the 19th November 1949.

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.

MADRAS GOVT

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Hon. Ministers' tour in the flood-affected area in the South Visakhapatnam district.

* 135-A *Q.*—SRI B. SATYANARAYANA RAJU (on behalf of Sri G. Sanyasi Rao): Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state whether he or any other Minister intends to tour the flood-affected area in the South Visakhapatnam district to see the affected villages personally?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—" The Hon. Minister for Land Revenue will be touring the affected areas after the Legislature meeting is over. The Hon. Minister for Public Works will also be touring the affected districts."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Hon. the Premier proposes to tour the northern districts?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" He may tour some time later."

Measures for preventing deaths resulting from Boxing matches.

* 135-B *Q.*—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the death caused in the Boxing match held on 6th November 1949 at the S.I.A.A. grounds, Madras;

(*b*) whether the death is due to the appointment of unqualified umpires; and

(*c*) whether the Government have taken any steps to prevent such deaths?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*c*) Yes. It is proposed to impose a condition to the effect that boxers should in future produce a medical certificate regarding their fitness before entering the ring."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" May I ask the Government, Sir, whether they will not put a ban on this kind of game at all, since it is very brutal and barbaric?"

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" No, Sir. The boxers who are concerned and those people who witness also, do not think it barbarous or brutal. On the other hand, it develops their vigour and strength."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—" Sir, since boxing is a popular sport, may I inform the Government that one accidental death should not lead the Government to impose conditions which will lead to many difficulties? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We do not want sick people to get into the ring, and then get knocked out and die on the spot."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" Sir, has the Hon. the Leader of the House had any opportunity of witnessing a boxing match? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Not in recent years, Sir."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" May I know whether the Government will take the responsibility for the death of boxers after they obtain the fitness certificate? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Certainly not. It is all at owner's risk." (Laughter.)

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" Sir, are there any rules of the game of which the Government are aware? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We take it that all decent games have their rules, and boxing also has its own rules. There is also the umpire who is an experienced man."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" Was not the boxer Arunachalam who died in boxing, quite strong and healthy enough, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" He might have been strong; but he might have other ailments like heart disease, etc."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" Sir, may I know what is the qualification of the umpire concerned? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I do not know that, but he is a very experienced man. The Commissioner of Police thinks that he is quite competent to preside over such functions."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that in this game of boxing, one tries to beat the other, and that it is the most uncivilized in these modern days? Even granting they enter into an agreement, is it permissible for the State to allow two people to enter into a combat, in which death is the common result, in view of the fact that there was already a death in Mylapore a month back in this game? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Death is not a necessary concomitant of these boxing matches, and it is very rare. Therefore, we do not think that any restrictions should be placed in this game, and we may continue the sport as it is."

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SRI M. KANNYAPPAN:—" தலைவர், Sir, சென்னையில் நடந்த இரண்டு குத்துச் சண்டைகளில் இரண்டு பேர்கள் இறந்துவிட்டார்கள். அதைக் குறித்து அரசாங்கம் ஏதாவது நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க முடியுமா அல்லது boxing செய்வதில் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கு ஏதாவது experience உண்டா என்று கேட்கிறேன்."

MR. SPEAKER:—" கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் ஆங்கிலத்தில் பதில் சொல்லி இருக்கிறார். அதைவிட வேறு ஒன்றும் சொல்வதற்கு இல்லை."

Certification of M.E.O. forms of the Ceylon Government by the Revenue Divisional Officers of this Province.

* 135-C *Q.*—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Ceylon Government requested our Provincial Government to authorize the Revenue Divisional Officers of our Government to certify M.E.O. forms of the Ceylon Government?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The Government are not aware of the M.E.O. form referred to by the hon. Member. Indians in Ceylon who make regular remittances to their dependants in India are required to apply for permits from the Controller of Exchange for making such remittances in the prescribed form which provides for a certificate of proof of dependants from the concerned District Magistrate or Revenue Divisional Officer."

MR. SPEAKER:—" This is a Central subject. I will allow supplementaries only so far as the responsibility of this Government is concerned."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" Are the Government aware, Sir, that thousands of applications are pending before the Revenue Divisional Officers in the districts particularly in Tuticorin, for want of adequate staff? If so, will the Government provide sufficient staff? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The Government have issued orders sanctioning certain additional staff to deal with the applications expeditiously."

SRI V. S. SANKARASUBRAHMANYA MUDALIYAR:—" May I know, Sir, what is meant by M.E.O. forms? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" It relates to emigration, Sir."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" Since the unfortunate Ceylon Indians are harassed by the Ceylon Government and by our own officials, will the Government instruct at least our officials to be sympathetic to these helpless people, Sir? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Who are the officials? "

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" Our Revenue Divisional Officers and Collectors, Sir."

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Instructions have already been issued to District Magistrates to expedite the disposal of these applications."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Are the Government aware, Sir, of the inordinate delay caused in these poor people getting their small dues from Ceylon, and also the great trouble they are put to by being asked to go from one office to another to get their certificates, and, if so, will the Government try and simplify this matter, and even authorize the village officers to issue the certificates?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—'The Government have received complaints about the delay. The village magistrates have already been authorized to certify. The District Magistrates and the Revenue Divisional Officers are depending on the certificates of these village magistrates. The hon. Member Sri Kosalram has pointed out to the Government that this does not conduce to expeditious disposal. He has made certain valuable suggestions that the Presidents of the District Boards and certain other non-officials might be authorized to issue certificates to the District Magistrates. This is being considered by the Government."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Sir, the procedure now adopted to get certificates is this. The Revenue Divisional Officer insists on the Tahsildar's certificate, and the Tahsildar insists on the certificate of the village magistrate. People are finding this procedure very difficult. May I ask the Government to expedite the issue of certificates by even the local officers and M.L.As.?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I have just answered this question, Sir. We have taken up the suggestions of the hon. Member Sri Kosalram, and we are looking into them."

Working days and holidays prescribed for Executive and Judicial Officers.

*136 *Q.*—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state the number of working days and the number of holidays in the year prescribed for—

(i) Executive Officers, (ii) Judicial Officers of the Government in this Province?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—"The answer* is laid on the table of the House."

JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY:—"Are the Government aware, Sir, that a lot of inconvenience and hardship is caused to the officers in Malabar on account of the failure of the Government to notify the local Malabar holidays in time?"

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The Government are not aware of any such inconvenience."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—"May I know, Sir, the total number of holidays in a year that the High Court is having at present, and whether there is any proposal to reduce the number of holidays, and if so, in what manner?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The total number of holidays the High Court is having could be calculated from the answer that I have given. It comes to between 190 and 200 days in the year."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask, Sir, by whom the holidays for the City Civil Court and the Court of Small Causes in Madras are fixed, and, are the Government aware that the holidays in the High Court and the holidays in the City Civil Court and the Court of Small Causes do not coincide thereby causing lot of practical inconvenience to the practitioners?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Vacation holidays are fixed by the High Court."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know, Sir, why Michaelmas holidays are being continued now? Who is Michaels and what is the earthly use of having these holidays?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The word 'Michaelmas' may be there. But the High Court is working in three terms. The total number of days covered by the vacation is 90 days. The total number of 90 days for vacation are divided by the High Court into three periods, one for the Michaelmas, one for the mid-summer and the third for the Christmas. They work in three terms."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that these holidays which are given to the High Court are not holidays in the real sense of the term, and that the Hon. Judges are obliged to work very strenuously during these holidays at their homes, and without such work, their work during the working days cannot go on?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"It is quite possible what the hon. Gentleman says is correct with regard to ordinary holidays, but I do not think so with regard to the vacation of 90 days. In any case, I feel that if the holidays are cut short they will take more time for dictating judgments. So they require more time to dictate judgments at their homes."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"May I know Sir, whether the Hon. Minister is aware of the remarks of Justice A. S. P. Ayyar in regard to the working of Courts on holidays?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Yes, Sir. I have read the report of the remarks of the learned Judge regarding Magistrates working on Sundays. The question before him related to Sundays and not to other vacation holidays."

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SRI V. M. RAMASWAMY MUDALIAR:—" Sir, may I ask whether the Government will so arrange or take the necessary steps to see that the holidays and vacation for the City Civil Court, the Court of Small Causes and the High Court for the various terms coincide so that the practitioners may also enjoy a real holiday instead of attending the City Civil Court when the High Court is not working, and the Court of Small Causes when the City Civil Court is not working? "

11-15 a.m.

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" This is entirely a matter within the province of the High Court and my hon. Friend may seek remedy in the High Court."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" May I know who is the authority to choose and decide local holidays? "

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

SRI K. LINGA RAJU:—" Do the Government propose to continue ' King's Birthday ' as a holiday? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I have seen this morning that the Government of India are discontinuing ' King's Birthday ' as a holiday."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—" Since the District Courts and Munsifs' Courts work on Saturdays, is there any proposal before the Government to give those Courts the benefit of a holiday on Saturday? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I doubt very much whether we can give any such direction. Ordinarily the District Judges are not sitting for half a day on Saturday. However, it is a matter for the High Court to give the direction."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" Since Friday is a holiday for the Hindus and Muslims, has the Government any proposal of preferring Fridays to Sundays as weekly holidays? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" There is no such proposal before the Government now, Sir."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Is it not a fact that the remarks of Justice A. S. P. Ayyar relate to a Court working on a Mahalaya Amavasai and not on a Sunday? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" It is quite possible, Sir, that the Judge made the remarks with reference to a Court working on a declared public holiday."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" Is it the intention of this Government to continue Sunday as a weekly holiday in future? "

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

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" With reference to the answer given by the Hon. Minister that the High Court enjoys about 200 holidays, may I ask him whether that statement is not misleading

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and that the actual number of days amount only to about 31, the Minister having taken into consideration Sundays, Saturdays and vacation days which are really not holidays as such holidays cover only those declared to be public holidays other than Sundays, Saturdays and summer vacation? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" In the list that is placed on the table of the House, the number of holidays for Executive Officers is put as 91, including Sundays and penultimate Saturdays. So, when I was asked the total number of holidays for the High Court, I said it was between 190 and 200. It is only a difference in the method of calculation, Sir. The hon. Member is at liberty to put any construction he likes."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" May I know if any local holidays that are granted will be in addition to the maximum of 91 days? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" No, Sir, they will be asked to compensate by working on a penultimate Saturday."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" Are they entitled to casual leave and privilege leave in addition to the maximum of 91 days? If so, how many days? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I think they are also entitled to casual leave; I am not sure of it. I have found that in the case of Subordinate Judges, they say that they are indisposed and do not attend Courts and such days are treated as casual leave."

Enforcing of the Public Libraries Act.

* 137—*Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government have taken any, and, if so, what action to enforce the Public Libraries Act, and with what result?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Draft rules under the Madras Public Libraries Act, 1948, have been framed by the Special Officer for Libraries. They are under scrutiny. As soon as the rules are issued, the various sections of the Act will be brought into force."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—' May I know how long it will take to enforce the Libraries Act throughout the Province and what sort of co-operation the Government expect from the villagers so that the Act may be useful to the village public? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I cannot definitely say how long it will take. Now that the rules are almost ready, I do not think it will take very long. What exactly is the nature of co-operation required from the villagers, I cannot say. But every co-operation from them is required to make the Act a success."

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SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" Are not the Government now granting any subsidy to some of these libraries in the mufussal? If so, which authority is responsible for seeing that the moneys granted are utilized properly? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Yes, Sir. The Government are granting subsidies to a number of libraries in the Province. The subsidy is granted by the Director of Public Instruction, after seeing the accounts and the expenditure that each library has already made. When the inspecting officers tour the districts, they inspect whether the grants are utilized properly."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" May I ask the Government to be liberal in the meanwhile in granting the subsidies to the existing libraries? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I deny the suggestion, Sir, that they are not liberal now."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—" May I know whether steps have been taken to constitute Advisory Boards to start the libraries in the rural areas of our Province? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" If they are Advisory Boards under the Act, the rules under the Act have not yet been published. They will be constituted as soon as the rules are published."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" To which department have the Government entrusted or propose to entrust the working of this Act? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The working of the Act is by the Education Department and there is no proposal to change it to any other department."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" As libraries are an essential factor in the spreading of adult education, may I know whether the Government will consider the necessity of giving more grants and giving more encouragement for all these libraries? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" This was a question previously put in a different way."

Effect of devaluation on post-war re-construction schemes.

* 138 *Q.*—SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether, as a result of devaluation, this Government are going to revise or curtail their post-war reconstruction and other developmental schemes;

(*b*) if so, to what extent and how;

(*c*) whether the schemes referred to in clause (*a*) as revised, if any, will be laid on the table of the House;

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(*d*) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have sent certain instructions in respect of devaluation to the Madras Government for information and guidance; and

(*e*) if so, what these instructions are?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The question is under consideration.

" (*c*) The question will be considered after a decision is taken regarding the development schemes that may be affected by the devaluation.

" (*d*) Yes.

" (*e*) The Government of India have indicated the following economy measures undertaken by them in respect of Central expenditure and have suggested that this Government may consider economy in Provincial expenditure on somewhat similar lines:—

Revenue budget.

(1) The provision for each Ministry for 1940–50 has been reduced by a sum equal to—

Ten per cent of half the provision for travelling allowance and contingencies;

Five per cent of half the provision for pay and other allowances;

Twenty per cent of any development expenditure.

(2) The provision for 1950-51 is proposed to be limited to 90 per cent of the provision made in the *original* budget for 1949–50.

(3) There is an embargo on the filling up of vacant posts or the creation of new posts till the budget estimates for 1950–51 are compiled and passed to be lifted only in very exceptional cases.

Capital budget.

(1) The provision for 1949–50 has been reduced from Rs. 210 crores to Rs. 172 crores;

(2) The provision for 1950–51 will be limited to Rs. 130 crores against the provision of Rs. 210 crores in the *Budget for* 1949–50;

(3) No new schemes are to be undertaken for the present."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—" In view of the large Revenue Reserve Fund which we have, does the Finance Minister really consider that such drastic cut in the developmental schemes is necessary? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I did not indicate any of our proposals. I have read out only the proposals of the Government of India and they have asked us to consider whether we can also cut down our expenditure, both revenue and capital expenditure."

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SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—" When the Government reduce or curtail the post-war reconstruction and development schemes, will they give an opportunity to this House to discuss the matter? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" All that can be discussed in the general budget discussion, Sir."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" The Hon. Minister was pleased to say that he had read out only the proposals of the Government of India. May I know what the views of this Government are upon those proposals? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I have already stated the matter is under the consideration of this Government."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" Is it a fact that the Hon. the Finance Minister, in replying to a Press Conference, has said that our post-war reconstruction development schemes are not going to be affected by the devaluation? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Ordinarily they need not be affected except when we try to import machinery from dollar countries."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" Sir, to the extent to which we are affected by this action of the Central Government, is not our Province at a loss? If so, may I ask the Hon. Minister whether our Government and other sister Governments had been consulted when Central Government decided on the economic question? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" What transpired between this Government and the Central Government is entirely a confidential matter. Whatever it is, in view of the financial difficulty, the Government of India were forced to cut down their additional expenditure in certain respects."

SRI L. C. PAIS:—" As a result of devaluation, are the Government likely to modify any of their socio-economic measures? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We have already asked the Agriculture, Public Works and other Departments to see whether they cannot import their machinery from sterling areas instead of from the dollar countries."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether as a result of the suggestions forwarded by the Central Government for the guidance of this Government, any steps have already been taken by the Madras Government, and if so, what those steps are or what steps are proposed to be taken by them in order to fall in line with their suggestions? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We have circularised to all the departments and in the Secretariat to see that they cut their expenditure according to the funds available and not incur any additional expenditure on these schemes."

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SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" Apart from the suggestions of the Government of India, may I know whether the Government will be pleased to put into force some of the suggestions made to the Government by the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee, which will certainly give us some economy? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" That is an independent question. We have carefully considered the proposals of the Retrenchment and Reorganisation Committee and we have come to independent conclusions about the various suggestions made by them. In some cases we have accepted them and in some others we could not accept them."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Before effecting any economy in the nation-building departments, will the Government realize that by effecting such economy, they will be reducing the economic conditions of the people for a long time to come? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We are quite alive to the necessity of proceeding with some of the irrigation and electricity works and we do not want to retard their progress merely because there is some difficulty somewhere. If possible, we want to proceed with those schemes."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Is it not a fact that in spite of the assurances of the Government of India and the consequent responsibility of the Provincial Government, the prices of articles and commodities imported from dollar areas are going up and if immediate action is not taken, it will vitally affect all our developmental schemes? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I think everybody is helpless in this matter. You can be assured that the Government of India are taking strong steps to see that prices come down. I think those price levels do not obey the Government orders."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" To meet the economic crisis, will the Government go into the question of prohibition *de novo*? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" No, Sir, the question of prohibition does not arise."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" May I ask this simple question whether this Government will receive their usual contribution from the Central Government for Grow More Food Campaign and post-war developmental schemes? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Sir, this year the Central Government have reduced their contributions from 5 crores to 4 crores. What will happen next year is rather difficult to predict now."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" I am sure the Hon. Finance Minister is aware that the purpose of devaluation by the Government of India was to stimulate exports from this

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country to other countries. May I know what special steps have been taken by the Government of Madras to stimulate exports from this Province to the dollar areas?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We are giving all reasonable facilities for the exporters to export their goods to dollar areas."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"Whatever the difficulties created by devaluation might be, with regard to other matters, is it not the determination of this Government to push through the schemes that are already under execution and complete them?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, as far as practicable, we want to push through those schemes."

11-30 a.m. SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Sir, now that the Madras Province is able to earn more dollars and pounds in the sterling area as well as the hard currency area through export of hides and skin, tobacco, etc., may I know whether this Government will bring this matter to the notice of the Government of India and see that all schemes of the Madras Government will be allowed to continue by importing the necessary machinery?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Our capacity to earn dollars through the export of hides and skin, and tobacco is well-known to the Government of India because they have several departments dealing with those statistics—the customs duty, imports, etc. Therefore, there is no need for this Government to bring this matter to the notice of the Central Government."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In spite of the good intentions of the Government of Madras and the Government of India to keep to their programme of Post-war Reconstruction, will not the Hon. Minister take the House into confidence and say that for a long time, it will not be possible for us to have even 50 per cent of the Reconstruction programmes carried through?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"No, Sir. I do not accept the statement that for a long time, even 50 per cent of the programme cannot be fulfilled. As far as Electricity is concerned, we are pushing through the development schemes very rapidly. We have already spent Rs. 9 crores out of the Rs. 20 crores. With regard to irrigation, we have sanctioned special schemes costing very nearly about 30 crores of rupees, in all. We are trying to push through these irrigation schemes. Also, with regard to Public Health and Education schemes, we are taking all possible steps to see that these programmes are implemented."

SRI L. C. PAIS:—"May I know whether there is any reference to bring socio-economic measures, in the instructions given by the Central Government to this Government?"

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not think there was any reference in the communication received from the Finance Ministry about Prohibition or about Horse Racing."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"In view of the opinion expressed by the Finance Minister that the stringency in the market is only temporary, may I ask whether the Government consider it desirable to curtail these post-war reconstruction schemes, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, we are trying to implement the post-war schemes as far as practicable. If money conditions ease, we will give greater fillip to these schemes."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"Sir, the Hon. Finance Minister has just now said that important post-war schemes will be kept up. Where is the guarantee that the Government would keep up these schemes, when they could not keep up the Well Subsidy scheme which is an important one and which relates to the Grow More Food Campaign?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is not true to say that we are not able to keep up the Well Subsidy scheme. After the visit of Mr. Patil to the City, we have discussed this matter with him and in view of his elucidation on certain points contained in the Government of India's circular, we are now trying to keep up this scheme."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"The Hon. Finance Minister just now said that there was no reference in the communication received from the Finance Ministry with regard to Prohibition and Betting. May I know whether there is any reference to these in any of the communications received by him from the Deputy Prime Minister or the Prime Minister of India?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"There was some little reference with regard to Horse Racing in the Premiers and Finance Ministers Conference held at Delhi. But I do not think anything emanated from the Finance Department."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Is it not most unfortunate, Sir, that a responsible Minister of this Government should come forward and say that he is helpless in the matter of price control? Under the circumstances, may I know, to whom the people should go for relief, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It may be very unfortunate that a responsible Minister should come forward and say that 'we are helpless in the matter'. But, things being what they are to-day, we are to be helpless for some more time to come."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"To earn the foreign exchange and help the import of food-stuffs, will this Government exempt skins and hides from sales-tax and develop their export?"

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" If it is found imperative that skins and hides should be exempted from sales-tax, we will consider the proposition in due course."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know specifically what are the projects that are going to be scrapped consequent on devaluation?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" There is no project or scheme which has to be scrapped mainly on account of the reduction in the post-war reconstruction grant."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Is it not a fact that the Ramapadasagar Project is not to go forward and that the Government have given up that Project?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Giving up or continuing that Project has nothing to do with devaluation."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" May I know what steps the Government are taking to keep up the price structure in this Province consequent on devaluation?"

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

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that the Government are helpless in controlling the prices, may I take it that the Government do not like to take steps or that they are not capable of meeting this situation?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Sir, even with regard to food-stuffs, we have reduced the prices to a limited extent. With regard to the price of textiles, I am not quite sure what was done. We are trying to do whatever is possible. But there are other factors which have to be considered."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I know whether the Machkund Project will go through in spite of the reduction in the grant of post-war reconstruction schemes?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We do not expect that the Machkund Project would be hampered by this."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Government of India will distribute the dollar wealth available to all the Provinces and if we are not able to press upon the Government of India, we will go by default? Will the Government see that to that extent we are able to obtain our dollar balances and our post-war schemes are not hampered because we are not able to import any machinery from abroad?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I do not think that the Government of India are allotting dollars according to the earning capacity of each Province. They go by priority and essentiality of the matter concerned. I think it is given from the central pool and not from any provincial pool."

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Issue of licences in Tamil districts under the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949.

* 139 *Q.*—JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that so far no licence (either for a producer or for a dealer) has been issued in Tamil districts and in the City of Madras under the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949; and

" (*b*) It is a well-known fact that the All-India Spinner's Asso- are that prompted the Government in not issuing licences under the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" (*a*) It is a fact that so far no licence (either for a producer or a dealer) has been issued in the Tamil districts. In Madras City, one producer's licence and one dealer's licence have been granted to the Madras City Khadi Development Co-operative Society, Ltd., Broadway.

" (*b*) It is a well-known fact that the All-India Spinners' Association have done pioneering work for the development of khadi. They are having production centres and sales depots in all parts of the Tamil districts. Other private institutions engaged in the production and distribution of khadi are also ' certified ' by the All-India Spinners' Association under their own rules, which may be taken advantage of by all genuine producers and dealers of khadi. The All-India Spinners' Association have therefore suggested that no licences to private producers or dealers in the Tamil districts be issued by the Government under the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949. In view of the fact that the All-India Spinners' Association have the necessary experience, resources and organization to attend satisfactorily to the production and distribution of khadi in the Tamil districts, the Government have decided to accept their suggestion."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I know whether the Government maintain statistics as to the capital involved in the production of khadi, recurring expenditure and profit or loss every year?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" Yes, Sir."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I request the Hon. Minister to place it on the table of the House?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" A separate question may be put, Sir."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" Arising out of the answer given to clause (*a*), may I ask how many individual persons or organisations have applied for the licence and did not get it?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" Notice."

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Forfeiture of security deposits of some newspapers.

* 140 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the security deposit of some newspapers was forfeited by the Government this year and if so, which newspapers and on what grounds and the amount forfeited?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—"Yes, in respect of only one paper, viz., 'Viduthalai'. As regards the grounds for forfeiting the security deposited by its publisher, the attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given in the Assembly on 29th June 1949 to clause (*c*) of starred question No. 235 by Janab Muhammad Raza Khan, M.L.A. The amount forfeited was Rs. 2,000."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"May I know whether it is a fact that newspapers from which the deposits were forfeited are allowed in the public libraries to be purchased out of the Government contribution? If so, will the Government consider the inconsistency of the action and prevent it in future?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Security is forfeited for the publication of certain articles in a paper. But, when once fresh security is deposited by the paper and it continues to work, there is no particular reason to stop this paper being subscribed for in public libraries. If the paper is really bad otherwise, we shall certainly consider the question of advising the Libraries maintained out of the grants given by the Government, to see that such papers are not encouraged."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"When this question was discussed in this House some time before, several supplementary questions were put to the effect that the further security demanded from this paper was too high and the Government were requested to reduce this amount. May I know what happened to this request?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The Presidency Magistrate demanded a further security of Rs. 10,000 which has been paid by the paper. I do not understand the anxiety of the Members here, when the party has paid the money without any difficulty."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know whether the Newspapers Editors' Conference have made a representation regarding the forfeiture of the deposit amount and the demanding of a fresh security from this paper Viduthalai, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I would like to have notice with regard to this. I do not know what the recommendations of that Conference are. But generally, as a rule, such objectionable passages in any newspaper are

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placed before a Newspapers Advisory Committee nominated practically by the Newspapers Editors' Conference and their approval is taken."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that he was not proposing to stop subscribing to these papers in public libraries, may I ask whether the general policy of the paper is so heinous as to demand a security of Rs. 10,000?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The heinousness of a paper is for other people to read and decide. The Chief Presidency Magistrate who has considered the case of this paper has ordered the forfeiture of the deposit and demanded a fresh security. In such cases, it is for the Presidency Magistrate to demand such security as he deems fit."

Standing Advisory Committee regarding the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949.

* 141 *Q.*—JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government have decided to constitute a Standing Advisory Committee to advise the Government regarding the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949? 11.15 a.m.

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"No. The Provincial Firka Development Board is now competent to advise Government on matters relating to the development of khadi. It is open to that Board to consider the advisability of constituting a Standing Advisory Sub-Committee to deal with the subject."

Promotion of certain inspectors of motor vehicles.

* 142 *Q.*—JANAB MAHIN SCHAMNAD: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that two inspectors of motor vehicles were promoted as Regional Transport Officers in 1947, one at Vellore and another at Rajahmundry;

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, whether it is a fact that they were subsequently reverted and replaced by officers of some other departments; and

(*c*) if the answer to (*b*) is in the affirmative, why these inspectors were reverted after being promoted?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"(*a*) *to* (*c*) It is a fact that two Motor Vehicles Inspectors were promoted as Regional Transport Officers in 1947; but their promotions were only temporary. They were reverted in August 1947 when regular appointments to these posts were made by transfer of two Area Rationing Officers."

JANAB MAHIN SCHAMNAD:—"May I know, Sir, whether there was any charge against them for this punishment?"

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The appointments were made only on a temporary basis and there was nothing like any charges against them."

Epidemics among cattle and elephants in Nilambur.

* 143 *Q.*—JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR (on behalf of Janab Hajee Koyappathody M. Ahamed Kutty): Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the epidemic among the cattle and elephants that was prevalent in Nilambur during the period April to July 1949;

(*b*) if so, what was the number of casualties among (i) the Government-owned elephants, and (ii) private-owned elephants;

(*c*) whether any preventive vaccination was undertaken by the Inspector of Livestock in charge, on the Government-owned as well as private-owned elephants at Nilambur;

(*d*) if so, whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government, that the Inspector of Livestock received remuneration for vaccinating private-owned elephants; and

(*e*) if the answer to (*d*) is in the affirmative, whether the Government contemplate taking any action against the Inspector of Livestock who, being a Gazetted Officer, was carrying on private practice?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" (*a*) There has been an outbreak of Anthrax among cattle and elephants in Nilambur during the period April to July 1949.

" (*b*) (i) Nil.

(ii) Two private owned elephants died suspected of Anthrax.

" (*c*) Yes. As a routine measure, the Government elephants were protected by the Spore Vaccine method against Anthrax by the Inspector of Livestock. At the request of the owners of private elephants, the Inspector of Livestock vaccinated 67 private elephants against Anthrax.

" (*d*) No. The Inspector of Livestock obtained the vaccine from the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Mukteswar by paying the cost of the vaccine and other incidental charges which come to Rs. 83–14–0. The amount was collected from the owners of the elephants at Re. 1–4–0 per animal.

" (*e*) The question does not arise, in view of the answer to clause (*d*)."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that there is a Tamil proverb 'யானை இருந்தாலும் ஆயிரம் பொன், இறந்தாலும் ஆயிரம் பொன்' which in English means for the Hon. Minister's information, that an elephant is worth £1,000 whether dead or alive and is it not a drain on the Government resources that they should have spent some money on vaccinating the Government as well as private-owned elephants, notwithstanding that the elephants are worth £1,000 even while dead?" (Laughter.)

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" I am not able to understand the significance of the question."

Abolition of the post of District Superintendent of Police, Mathurai South.

* 144 *Q.*—SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state whether there is any proposal before the Government to abolish the post of District Superintendent of Police, Mathurai South, and amalgamate the same with Mathurai North and have only one District Superintendent of Police for the whole district?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—" Yes. The proposal is still under consideration."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" In view of the recent subversive activities in Mathurai and other parts of the Province, may I know, Sir, whether the Government will consider the advisability of retaining the posts for maintenance of peace and tranquillity?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We are retaining the posts of District Superintendent of Police for one year from 1st October 1949. We shall, at the expiry of this period, examine the question with reference to the Inspector-General of Police's report in the matter."

MR. SPEAKER:—[" The hon. Member, Sri V. Raghavayya not being in his place, answers to questions 145, 146 and 147 will be printed in the proceedings."]

Cultivation of Glyricidia plants.

* 145 *Q.*—SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state what efforts have been made by the Government to raise Glyricidia plants on private or Government lands in the past one year ending with April 1949?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" A statement[a] is placed on the table of the House."

Statement regarding efficiency of Government Transport.

* 146 *Q.*—SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has stated anywhere in the month of October 1949 that the Government Transport was not as efficient as those run by private operators;

(*b*) if so, in what respects the disparity exists; and

(*c*) how many diesel buses were out of order in October 1949?

[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 747 infra.

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (*a*) & (*b*) In the course of an appeal to the workers of the Government Transport Department on the night of 19th October 1949 I stated that 'with regard to maintenance of buses or punctuality of timings, as yet the Government Transport could not compare themselves perhaps with some of the private operators'.

" (*c*) Nine diesel buses were off the road in October, 1949."

Payment of wages in kind.

* 147 *Q.*—SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government propose to apply the provisions of the Weights and Measures Act to transactions relating to the payment of wages in kind; and

(*b*) if so, when and how?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The provisions of section 20 of the Madras Weights and Measures Act, 1948 apply to payment of wages in kind. The question of framing a specific rule under the Act to prohibit the use of any but the recognized weight or measure in respect of all transactions covered by section 20 is under consideration of the Government."

Complete separation of the judicial functions from the executive functions.

* 148 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have any proposal for effecting complete separation of all judicial functions from the categories of functions enjoined on the executive officers and for entrusting the same with the judicial officers under the control of the High Court; and

(*b*) if so, what steps the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—" (*a*) Yes, to the extent possible.

" (*b*) The Scheme of Separation of Judiciary from the Executive has been put into operation in the districts of North Arcot and Chingleput with effect from 2nd October 1949. It is likely to be extended to some more districts shortly."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" May I know, Sir, whether under the present system of separation, the executive Magistrates still function judicially and if so, when such judicial functions will be taken away from the executive officers?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The judicial functions have been separated under the scheme, Sir."

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JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that under Security Chapters, the proceedings are conducted by the executive officers?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Sir, all proceedings under the Security Chapters, are not conducted by the executive Magistrates. Only under section 107, in cases of breach of the peace and tranquillity preliminary orders can be passed by the executive Magistrates."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. the Minister, is it not a fact, Sir, that separation of judiciary from the executive has not therefore been complete?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I do not understand the force of the hon. Gentleman's 'therefore'. The functions are completely separated."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I ask, Sir, whether Vishakapatnam does not deserve to be given a little priority in the matter of introduction of this reform, since it is a very big district?"

MR. SPEAKER:—" The same question was put a number of times in this House."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Visakhapatnam deserves many things and will get them when its turn comes."

Cow slaughter in Madras by butchers from Bangalore.

* 149 *Q.*—SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that, consequent on the stoppage of cow slaughter in Mysore State, butchers from Bangalore are engaged in cow slaughter at Madras and exporting beef from Madras to Bangalore by train; and

(*b*) at what stage the proposal by the Government to ban cow slaughter by legislation in this Province is?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" (*a*) Two contractors of Bangalore seem to have obtained permission from the Corporation of Madras for slaughtering cattle including cows, bullocks and buffaloes and for exporting the beef from Madras to Bangalore. Of the two contractors only one was able to obtain railway facility for carrying beef to Bangalore.

" (*b*) There is no proposal under the consideration of the Government to ban cow slaughter completely in this Province. The question of introducing legislation to prohibit the slaughter of useful cattle including cows is under consideration."

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SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have received any memorandum asking them to intervene in the matter and see that nobody should slaughter cows for exporting beef to other provinces? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The Government have directed the District Boards to see that no cow slaughter takes place except in certain public or licensed slaughter houses. This will prevent slaughter of useful cattle as laid down in Government Order issued in 1946."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" While I congratulate the Government on having revised their policy very wisely, will they now take into consideration, Sir the fact, that in the event of a wholesale ban on the slaughter of cattle, our Government will have to lose Rs. 6½ crores worth of foreign exchange, which they will otherwise command by way of export of hides and skins? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The Government have not put a stop to the slaughter of all sorts of cattle. Only slaughter of useful cattle has been banned."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Will the Government please stop this cow slaughter in our Province, Sir, especially when the beef is meant to be exported outside? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" A legislation for this purpose is under consideration."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" Sir, it is one thing to allow cow slaughter to meet local demand. But it is entirely another if cows are slaughtered here for purposes of export of the beef outside this Province. Will the Government please, therefore, go into this question and prevent cow slaughter for meeting the demands of other areas? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The Government of India have been addressed in the matter and it has been suggested that the Mysore Government may prohibit the sale of beef also in the Mysore State."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—" Many thousands of cows of Ongole breed are brought every year to this place for milk. May I know, Sir, what percentage of dry cows from them is salvaged: and is it not a fact that most of the cows, some hundreds of them, which were formerly salvaged are being slaughtered now in Madras? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The Government have no reason to think that really useful cattle are slaughtered because it is prohibited under the Government Order issued on the subject."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" Sir, will the Government encourage the starting of *pinjrapoles* with some subsidies for them, with a view to preventing cow slaughter? "

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" That is a very big proposition which will cost several crores of rupees."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" Will the Government please expedite the legislation the Hon. the Minister has just referred to, so that we may not lose all our animals in catering to the needs of the people not only of our area but also of the Mysore State? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The Government of India have sent us a draft legislation on this subject and that is under the consideration of this Government."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" While thanking the Hon. the Minister for the information, may I know, Sir, whether the Bill will be moved in the next session of the Assembly in December? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The draft Bill has been referred to the Director of Animal Husbandry and as soon as his remarks are received, the question will be taken up."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know, Sir, the number of cattle slaughtered daily for exporting beef to Bangalore? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" About 15 per day, Sir."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that those cows which are slaughtered for purposes of beef or hides are generally those which have ceased to give milk for a considerable time? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" I presume so."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" May I know, Sir, whether lambs and goats, which are as innocent as cows, will also be covered by the proposed legislation? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The proposed legislation will cover only cows, bulls and buffaloes including calves."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—" Will the Government prohibit the use as food of vegetables like brinjals, etc., by the people as the vegetable kingdom also is said to have life? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Even metals are said to have life."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—" In reply to previous questions the Hon. the Minister has said that prohibition of slaughter of cattle is being considered. May I know, Sir, how the Government propose to distinguish between the useful and useless cattle? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The cattle which are old, disabled and which suffer from any incurable disease will be considered unserviceable and unproductive."

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SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware that a large number of young calves die owing to the cruelty of the milkmen in the Madras City and if so, what steps the Government propose to take in the matter? "

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

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" When all is said and done, Sir, is not ' slaughter ' a matter between the cow and the butcher and how is this House interested in the problem? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The Government are interested in the preservation and development of livestock."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—" In view of the Government Order which has been issued on the subject, may I know, Sir, if any dry cows have been salvaged this year in Madras and saved from the butcher? Usually every year . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is too long . . ."

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" There are some arrangements made for salvaging dry cows in the Salvage Depot opened at Kambakkam near Madras."

Constitution of a Sales Tax Tribunal.

* 150 *Q.*—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government intend to constitute a Sales Tax Tribunal; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Tribunal will come into existence during the current year?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The Government have under consideration a proposal for the constitution of an Appellate Tribunal for Sales-tax. It is not possible to say how soon it will come into existence."

12 noon. JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" May I know, Sir, when there are thousands of persons affected by this and who are dissatisfied, is it not desirable that the Tribunal is set up immediately? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" As I have said the question is under consideration. In the absence of the Tribunal, the law courts are there which can take care of these cases."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Sir, is it not a fact that the Finance Minister while introducing the Sales-tax amending Bill in 1947 gave a definite assurance that the Tribunal will be formed very soon? When is it going to be done, Sir? The Hon. the Minister said that the matter is under consideration. May I take it, Sir, that this consideration will go on for two to three years? "

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I do not deny about the assurance that was given in 1947, nor do I say that the matter is not under consideration of the Government. It is still under the consideration of the Government. In view of the constitutional changes that are to come, it may take some time to set up the Tribunal."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" How does the Hon. Minister reconcile his answer that the courts of law are there in the absence of the Tribunal and his desire to bring into existence the Tribunal."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Ordinarily the courts of law will take care of the cases. There is a large amount of demand, a considerable pressure put by the mercnants thinking that if the Tribunal was constituted they would get off free, without paying sales-tax. The Tribunal will see that they pay the dues to the Government. So, Sir, there is nothing irreconcilable with these two statements."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" May, I know, Sir, when the Government agreed to the constitution of such a Tribunal as is under discussion, did not the Government, think that it served a specific and definite purpose, Sir, and if so, whether the Government do not think that the same purpose still exists? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We accepted the principle that there should be a Tribunal. But there are other things also to be considered because of the constitutional changes, etc., that are coming. Even in regard to income-tax it took about forty to fifty years before one was set up."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" The Sales-tax gives so much income to the Government not only in this Province, but in other provinces also. As such is it not desirable to expedite the constitution of the Sales Tax Tribunal? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" While we are very anxious to expedite the constitution of the Tribunal, there are other matters to be considered. The manual has to be drafted by the department. Then there are the constitutional difficulties also and we do not know how the new constitution would finally emerge. I think all these matters have to be considered."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" May I know, Sir, whether the constitution of the Income-tax Tribunal took 30 to 40 years after the Government made a promise that such a tribunal will come into being." (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I suppose a promise was also made first when income-tax was introduced."

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—" Will the Government constitute the Tribunal immediately, so that the indiscrete assessment by the Sales Tax Officers in several cases might be revised?

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Is it the purpose of the Government in delaying to constitute the Tribunal to get ill-wealth from merchants, based on the assessment of the officers?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The merchant can appeal to the District Officer. He can appeal to the Board of Revenue. Even then if he is aggrieved, he can go to a Court of Law. All these are available to the aggrieved about the Sales Tax assessment."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"Is it not a fact that the minimum limit of turn-over to which the tax is leviable was fixed before the war and that the prices were only 30 per cent of what it is now, and so is it not necessary on the part of the Government to raise the limit to nearly thrice . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is about the Tribunal."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"Because if the Tribunal comes . . ."

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

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—"Why are the Government fighting shy to constitute the Tribunal when the constitution of the Tribunal is provided for under the Sales Tax Rules?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"There is nothing we are fighting shy at. There is nothing to prevent us from setting up the Tribunal. But as I have said there are other considerations which have to be taken into account."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Why should the Hon. the Minister think that the merchants will bring pressure upon the Tribunal and try to get out? It was only to get justice that we want the Tribunal to be constituted. Is it not a fact that in several of the appeals sent to the highest authorities, to the commercial department and even to the Board of Revenue they have not got justice."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I never said that the merchants put pressure on the Tribunal. I never meant that. I find, Sir, it will be a great convenience to the merchants instead of going to the High Court. The Tribunal will exclusively deal with these things."

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

II.—MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have to announce to the House the following messages received from the Hon. the President of the Madras Legislative Council:—

(1) *Message, dated 17th November* 1949.

'In accordance with rule 108 of the Madras Council Rules I transmit a copy of the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Bill, 1949 (L.A. Bill No. 24 of 1949), as agreed to by the Council without any amendment and signed by me.'

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(2) *Message, dated 18th November* 1949.

'In accordance with rule 108 of the Madras Council Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning (Temporary Powers) bill, 1949 (L.A. Bill No. 25 of 1949), as agreed to by the Council without any amendment and signed by me.'"

III.—DISCUSSION ON THE SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1949-50.

MR. SPEAKER:—"In regard to general discussion, I should like the hon. Members to confine their remarks to the items concerned are in the Demand. Let us not discuss this as a general budget. This is only a supplementary budget. I hope the hon. Members will confine their remarks to the notes given. As a number of Members want to take part in the discussion, I fix 10 minutes for each Member. Discussion will be continued to-day and voting will take place on Tuesday."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—"I rise to make certain observations generally with regard to the supplementary estimates placed before this House. Sir, when one goes through the various items of expenditure mentioned in the Supplementary Estimates, one is actually struck whether the Government do not have any idea of economy or retrenchment in these proposals.

"Sir, when we go through the proposals in respect of audit for electric licences and audit for co-operative societies, one is naturally struck whether there is no way to re-organize the whole audit system into a single unit. Thereby everything will be done efficiently and thoroughly. What I point out is, Sir, there are at present various kinds of audit, Government audit, co-operative society audit, audit for licences in the Electricity department and audit for quasi-Government, trade and commercial activities. What I want to urge is, is it possible for the Government to reorganize the whole audit system into one single unit and run it as a separate department. (The Deputy Speaker took the Chair at this stage.) If the audit is reorganized in this way, it would result in economy and efficiency. If this is done the co-operative department need not come with a request for the sanction of hundreds of junior inspectors and senior inspectors and there won't be a case for the creation of these new posts for auditing the licensed societies, etc.

"Another point I want to say, Madam, is this. There is scope for economy with regard to the administration of controls and civil supplies. We find the administrative unit is still the district. I do realize that it will be very difficult to create regional units so for as the revenue and other departments are concerned. But with regard to the Civil Supplies and administration of controls, where is the necessity to have the district as a unit? Why not have them on regional basis? If the regional basis is adopted even for the appointment of special officers under the rent reduction, survey and settlement, etc., in connexion with the abolition of zamindaris then you may have economy. I, therefore, want to suggest to Government that in respect of Civil

Supplies and other allied departments, except Revenue, the administrative unit should be on a regional basis and not the district.

" For the last three or four years no provision was made for *kudimaramath* work. I find in this Supplementary grant, provision is made for that. I want to congratulate the Government of this. *Kudimaramath* is to be done at Government cost for channels irrigating thousand acres and above. In congratulating the Government for making a provision for this, I would still want an explanation from the Government why they had imposed a limitation. I can understand priority being given on account of necessity. But I cannot understand this sort of limitation. Wherever a channel is in bad repair, it should be repaired. Under the *kudimaramath* system now provided for, the Government have come forward to bear the cost themselves. It is a matter for congratulation, but I would appeal to Government to do *kudimaramath* in a rather contiguous whole and give priority according to necessity and not according to the slab system as they have now adopted, that is, limiting the work only to channels, irrigating thousand and more acres.

" Madam, with regard to the framing of the budget, I want to make one or two general observations. When original budgets are framed, it should be done after thorough scrutiny and with care. All the relevant considerations should be placed by the officer concerned and there should not be any ground for frequent supplementary grants. When the budget proposals are adumbrated and the policy pronounced, naturally not only is the scheme sanctioned and provided for and block grants are also made for such schemes. That is why the Harijan uplift is provided for, by block grant. If that is so, where is the necessity for all these things, when the policy as enunciated could have already been implemented. For instance, in his Budget speech, the Hon. Finance Minister referred to rent reduction and also abolition of zamindari. But he has not made sufficient provision in that Budget. Now he comes forward with supplementary budget and wants grants for the same. Could this not be foreseen and provided for in the general Budget itself.

12-15 p.m. " If there is any vital reason why this was not thought of even in connexion with the original budget and why this has been included only in the supplementary budget, the Hon. the Finance Minister should have indicated it in his statement. But the memorandum does not say a word about it.

" Madam, even in certain other matters I find a curious and anomalous position. Schemes which were sanctioned in 1946, 1947 and 1948 were not provided for in the original budget but have been provided for only in the supplementary budget. It is a curious anomaly. When a scheme has already been sanctioned, it ought to be provided for in the original budget which comes

immediately after and it should not be postponed to the next supplementary budget. If there is any vital reason for the postponement, it should be indicated in the memorandum submitted by the Government."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, I want to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Finance Minister a few matters. I am not going into the details of the various demands. When the voting on these demands is taken up, we shall have a more detailed discussion on them.

" With regard to the finances of municipal councils, the Hon. the Finance Minister was good enough to have an informal conversation with me and he told me that in case municipalities required funds for development schemes, he would consider the question of allowing them to raise loans locally. Just as the Madras Government are in great difficulty, the municipalities also are in great difficulties in the matter of finances. We require money for public works, public health, sanitation and town-planning schemes. The size of our towns is increasing out of proportion to the income derived from them. If possible, the Hon. the Finance Minister may give an assurance on the floor of the House that the Government would be willing to do so.

" Madam, I have to address the Hon. Minister for Public Works on another point. The Visakhapatnam thermal station is permitting a use of 750 kilowatts to the town of Visakhapatnam. But actually the people are using about 850 kilowatts. There is a demand for another 700 kilowatts. This demand, the thermal station has not been able to meet for the last two years. We have been requesting the Government and hoping for the last two years that the Government would improve our thermal station. As it is, I find in the supplementary estimates a provision for two diesel engines, for providing another 600 kilowatts. But it is not enough. Our supply goes from Visakhapatnam right up to Bobbili on one side and to the end of the district on another side to the north. The same supply is going to Anakapalle and other areas in the south. Unless our thermal station is improved, we will have great difficulties. The present provision for diesel engines will not meet our demands. Anyway I should thank the Government even for small mercies. I have been hearing of these two diesel engines for the last 7, 8 or 9 months and I hope their installation will be an accomplished fact very soon."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" When the new Andhra Province comes . . . "

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" When the new Andhra Province comes, we will have not 600 kilowatts but 6,000 kilowatts. Our engineers would not rest till they produce the maximum possible electricity. There will not then be inter-provincial debates and discussions, and difficulties of dollar exchange and sterling exchange will not come in the way. We will have a will and a desire to do things more quickly and we will do it. That is

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one of the reasons why you and I have been anxious to part and part as good friends, so that we may work better and achieve more.

"Anyhow, Madam, I have to thank the Government also for the speedy way in which they are constructing the additions and extensions to the King George Hospital, Visakhapatnam. With the coming formation of the Andhra Province, it is necessary to have a better equipped hospital there than what the Government are proposing. The King George Hospital has 750 beds, but 350 to 400 patients are accommodated in the verandas and the balconies."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"It is all due to prohibition."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"To the hon. Member Mr. Natesan, it is all due to prohibition. Criticism of prohibition seems to be his God, his Sri Rama Raksha. When we separate, probably fanatics of prohibition will be on this side. Mr. Natesan may be able to influence the Government. I wish him God-speed.

"So far as the hospital is concerned, I wish the Government take up seriously the making of further extensions to it, so that very soon we may have a better hospital than this, for we have no other good hospital between Madras and Calcutta, a hospital of the size of the King George Hospital, small it is. Therefore any amount of expenditure incurred on the Vizagapatnam hospital is well worth incurring.

"Madam, I now come to one other point with regard to Highways. I ask the Hon. Minister for Public Works to issue instructions to the Divisional Engineers and the Superintending Engineers that they should be in touch with the local authorities—the municipal councils and the local boards—in the execution of their work on roads which run within their areas. These officers are never in contact with us and it is very difficult to contact them. Of course when Hon. Ministers visit our places and when we move with them in terms of intimacy and we stand near them, these people salam us all like anything. But when the Ministers go away, these officers also go away and it is very difficult to get at them. Particularly I have got a specific complaint against the Highways Department in regard to Visakhapatnam. It is an important town as everyone knows and it is growing in importance. Its need have to be met. The engineers must function properly and they must be in contact with the chairmen of the municipal councils. They do not tell me what works they want to carry out within our municipal areas and what estimates have been sanctioned by the Government. I request the Hon. Minister for Public Works to issue instructions to these Engineers to be in contact with the chairmen of municipal councils whenever they carry out any works on roads which pass through their municipalities. This is due to non-co-ordination between them. The neglect is of a high magnitude. I wish the Hon. Minister for Public Works pays attention to this."

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* SRI P. NATESAN:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I am not going to take any serious part in the discussion of the supplementary budget, for the simple reason that the statement does not contain much information. For instance we recently saw in the papers that as many as 400 prohibition officers were going to be appointed. I do not see any particular item here regarding that. I should like to know from the Hon. Minister whether that expenditure will come in here or whether it is merely camouflaged by showing only one lakh of rupees or Rs. 99,226 for preventing smuggling from Pondicherry.

"Madam, I am referring to the prohibition question often and often and especially now, because Mr. T. Viswanatham has just said that in the Visakhapatnam hospital there are not sufficient number of beds and for want of beds, patients are scattered in the verandahs and on the floor. May I ask, Sir, whether there is any Government anywhere which will allow their patients to lie on the floor of their hospitals? Why do these people go to the hospitals? They go there for relief and when they go there for relief, you do not give them even accommodation, leave alone giving medicines. All this is due to the fact that the Government have thrown away lots of money on account of prohibition. May I say that the Congress Party here always takes a delight when somebody talks against prohibition. They are riding rough-shod. Often and often they say that they have introduced prohibition and that it is intended for the benefit of the masses. The Finance Minister sends for the merchants and says that the Government want money and asks them to lend money. He says that the Government launched the prohibition programme because the masses wanted it. But still day after day we find a number of cases of illicit manufacture and illicit drinking. I do not know for how many deaths my hon. Friend the Minister for Prohibition has been responsible. (Laughter) Yes, people have been drinking tincture zingeberies and I know three people have died in Binny's on this account. It is a harmful form of drink. Simply because you have got an ideology, you are doing something which is very questionable from all points of view. Ask any man who is employing a large labour force and he will tell you. The hon. Gentleman Sri Viswanatham also must know that the labour employed in the Visakhapatnam docks is not half as efficient as it used to be. They want something to drink. The Congress Government have come and there is no food in the country. When there is no food, they want at least toddy (Laughter). Yes, it has been medically proved that toddy has food value. I do not want to oppose prohibition altogether. It has got to come, but I say we should go slowly. Poor Sardar Patel has been criticising the policies of the Provincial Governments and he is simply pitying them for not falling in line with the Central Government. Hereafter we will have to see how the Andhra Province and Tamil Nad compare not only in efficiency but also in actual work.

"I now come to forests. Three or four years ago, when Mr. Karanth was Minister, he said that he would make an attempt to

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see that our forests produced as many poles as possible for use in distribution and transmission lines. I want to know what has been done since then. He gave a definite undertaking that next year he would see that a number of poles were made available not only to the licensees but also to the Government departments. Madam, in Mysore and Trivandrum the Government have issued orders that no poles should be exported from those two places. These poles are felled by the Forest Department and treated and used. We could save a lot of money if we use these treated poles.

12-30 p.m. To-day there is so much scarcity of poles. Rails have to come from America and it is not possible to get them from America on account of the dollar trouble. So, we have to depend on wooden poles. There is no use saying that there is going to be a very large number of electric schemes coming up; because, I know we have not got the material to proceed with them. I want to know why the Forest department has not made any attempt so far to give poles not only to the licensees but also to the Government department itself.

" There is again a small demand for what is called audit in the Electricity department. Until recently, the audit of the electric supply companies was done by the companies' auditors. The companies' auditors are most of them chartered accountants who command a large amount of integrity and honesty and who know all about the business of the licensing companies. Now, this system has been replaced by the appointment of an audit officer on behalf of the Chief Electrical Inspector; the audit officer is to get Rs. 300-500. I would like to know how this officer can replace the Chartered Accountants who were paid by the licensees. And one individual cannot do all the work. I do not know, Madam, how the proposal emanated and whether it is going to continue. I suggest that the Government go back to the old system of asking the licensees to make up accounts as required by the Government under the Indian Electricity Act.

" Then there are many schemes produced by the Chief Engineer for Electricity so far as I can see. Before I talk further on electric supply, let me take this opportunity of asking the Hon. Minister for Public Works whether he is going to give all the energy required by the licensees not only in South Arcot, but also in South Madras and other places. My own impression is that the Government will not be able to give any electric supply in any place in the province for three, four five or even six years to come, for the reason that on account of devaluation we cannot import materials from America, and if you want to get them from sterling areas, deliveries are uncertain; and therefore there is no use promising supply to the rural areas. It is impossible to go forward with rural electrification because materials are not available, money is not available and power is not available. That is why I say there is no use making promises. To-day conditions are not good and any promise made to the public of the province is likely to be futile."

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* SRI K. R. KARANTH:—" Madam, before I go on to discuss the demands for a short while, let me congratulate my Andhra friends on the achievement of their province; because I am afraid this may be the last general budget and very soon they may have their own budget. I wish them all progress; I only hope that there will be enough opportunities for all of them to pull together and not pull in opposite directions as unfortunately they have all been for sometime past in this House.

" Coming now to the business before the House, let me say these are not supplementary demands at all. I have spent very nearly eight to ten hours to read this big book and to total up the figures, and I may fairly say I have not been able to do it. This is nearly half a budget as far as I can see. My strong protest against this form of presenting demands is that it takes away all the power of this House to scrutinise any expenditure. The object of a budget—hon. Members must know that. I shall not take up much of the time of the House as I have got very little time for it—those who are interested in knowing it may kindly go through a book written by Mr. Wattal, a previous Accountant-General, who gives in detail what the principles of a budget are and how it should be framed. They will find it at page 26 of the book. In a democratic Government as in Britain and elsewhere—and we are trying to follow Britain—the object of a budget and the goodness of it are that several demands are brought up before the Finance department and then the several schemes are balanced and for the next year the whole budget is presented to the House. In March last, we spent nearly a month in discussing the budget, but now what do we find? There are no proposals made for extra taxation. Even at that time, certain proposals for taxation were made, many of which I suppose have been given up—the tax on Advertisements for instance. If we take page 45 of this note, we find a lot of schemes under 'Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes'. I do not say that any one of these schemes is not necessary or anything of that sort; but the total sum comes to Rs. 13·49 lakhs—more than Rs. 13 crores. For the current year it may not be much, but if you take the figures as a whole, they are not small things, as one may suppose. It is very nearly half a year's expenditure. And at the end of each one of these items it is stated that ' the actual expenditure during the current year will be met from savings within the grant, if any, or by obtaining a supplementary grant, from the Legislature in March 1950'. This is the burden of the song and it is found under every one of the items. Where are the proposals for taxation in order to meet the expenditure on these items in the current year? In the first instance, it is very wrong for Government to go on sanctioning new items of expenditure, when they cannot be included in the grants already sanctioned by the House. If for instance Electricity has been granted Rs. 100 lakhs, Government may say ' we shall not spend the amount for the purpose for which the House has allotted the amount, therefore we shall reappropriate.' Even that I say would be wrong,

because an assurance is given generally at the time of the budget that every one of the items would be carried out; but since they have got the power to reappropriate, it may be technically right for them to say so; but now especially when you have no proposal for fresh taxation, it is clear that many of the items for which Government have given an assurance in the House that they would be carried through, are not to be carried out. Otherwise, wherefrom would they get the money? I find there are also some items like cyclone relief, which are very urgent, and no Government can forestall such expenditure; but at the same time there are others like the appointment of 200 co-operative inspectors, police reorganization, etc., which are items which ought to come up before the Government along with all other items, so that the Government may see which are all the urgent items of the different departments which have got to be immediately attended to. Most of these schemes were not found in the last year's budget, and I do not know with what authority these schemes have been sanctioned. Thus, it is clear that many of the items that were presented to us last year will not be carried through this year and that is why the Government have now come forward with so many new schemes. In the last year's budget, we allotted as much as Rs. 50 crores for hundreds of items but we were also told what the receipts were; now because so many of those items have been given the go-bye, we find new items being brought forward. That shows that the House has lost all control or authority over the budget. If in respect of large amounts the Government say ' we will launch into these schemes, because we have already incurred expenditure on these items since March last ' and also add that ' the expenditure will be met by reappropriation or by obtaining a supplementary grant in 1950, ' my submission is that this is a very wrong procedure which takes away the valuable rights of this House and the people outside, and one cannot really understand what the utility of a budget is. I know in the old Legislative Council the practice was, if Government wanted to launch on any new expenditure, they would come up before the House and ask for a token demand in cases where they did not know what the ultimate expenditure would be. Supposing they knew that the total expenditure on any scheme was Rs. 340 lakhs, then that figure must come in; but where it was not possible to assess the total amount, a token demand would be made and it used to be granted. In this case, we find almost all of them are in the form of token demands. The previous Government never used to spend a pie unless they obtained the consent of the House. I ask now, with what authority the Government have already launched upon hundreds of these schemes without bringing them forward for the assent of the House. We are practically faced with a *fait accompli*; the Government are saying: ' we have already launched upon this expenditure on certain schemes and so you must find the money; but if you do not want to give us the money, the only alternative for you is to turn us out '. I submit, Madam, this is not the way in which a democratic Government should work. I

emphatically protest against the bringing in of these demands in the middle of the year, thus revising the budget and giving the go-bye to many of the items already approved by the House and putting in new ones in their place without bringing them up before the House. Facing us with this accomplished fact and saying: ' All these schemes have been started without your consent; either give us money or face the consequences ' is hardly fair either to the Government or to this House."

JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:— 12-45 p.m. " Madam, the Hon. The Finance Minister has placed before us a formidable, fantastic and a funny budget, by way of terming it as a supplementary budget and I do not know whether this is a supplementary budget or whether it is the original budget No. II as it involves an amount of about 20 crores of rupees when the original one was for only 52 crores. It was pointed out by our Hon Friend Mr. Karanth that the Hon. The Finance Minister wants to spend about 15 to 20 crores of rupees. Can this be treated as a supplementary budget, Madam? Madam, instructions have been received, from the Central Government, by all the Provincial Governments that they should prepare balanced budgets and also follow their advice and instructions. The Central Government wanted you to postpone prohibition and wanted you to postpone the abolition of zamindaris and they wanted you to effect retrenchment in your departments and also to cut expenditure on capital works and defer unnecessary and unimportant works. You have not done any one of these things but are now coming forward to the House with a supplementary budget demanding about 15 to 20 crores of rupees. When you come to us with this demand, may I ask of the Hon. the Finance Minister whether he has got the capacity to spend the amount. Has he done so on former occasions? No. It is a pathetic thing to say that you have no spending capacity. It is not my mere opinion and I shall presently prove it with facts and figures. For building constructions for the year 1946–47, Rs. 112 lakhs were sanctioned but later on in the revised estimate, it came down to Rs. 43 lakhs; for 1947–48 we sanctioned Rs. 153 lakhs but finally in the revised estimate it came down to Rs. 63 lakhs; in 1948–49, we sanctioned Rs. 164 lakhs and in the Revised Estimate it came down to Rs. 89 lakhs and even that sum of Rs. 89 lakhs was not spent and subsequently, it was found that they had spent only Rs. 61 lakhs. I cannot be going on enumerating all these items and I shall close with reference to another item—that is the Highways Department. In 1945–46, we sanctioned Rs. 226 lakhs but in the Revised Estimate it came to Rs. 135 lakhs; in 1948–49 against a sanction of Rs. 410 lakhs, the revised estimate was for Rs. 260 lakhs. When I am speaking on the demands of the Hon. Finance Minister, that he is not able to spend the amount he has asked for, I am reminded of a popular Urdu proverb: حسرے کے حرس بڑي - نامرد کے کو بات بڈي the meaning of which is that

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an in man wants to marry many wives and an incapable man usually talks much. Similarly also the Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi, though he is capable of spending much, always comes forward with extraordinary demands for money, which I submit, is not at all in keeping with the principles underlying the preparation of supplementary Estimates. I ask him, Madam, what would be our position even if the Estimates are passed. I tell you, madam, that the management of the Province by our Finance Minister is like the management of an old senile and absent-minded widow, who manages her domestic affairs and kitchen budget without knowing her assets and liabilities. He should know our assets and also our liabilities."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"May I know, Madam, what is the significance of this disparaging reference to the old widow?"

JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"That means that the old widow cannot think well, being senile, she will be slow and she is absent-minded, doing one thing now, and thinking of some other thing later. That is only a comparison between you and her and nothing else. This is the significance, Madam, and I do not intend to say anything bad about the Hon. the Finance Minister who happens to be my personal friend. If you do not know your position and begin spending you will have to subsist on loans. Already your faltering financial position is seriously threatened and if you take further loans I am sure, Madam, the Government will be running a risk and destroying the financial stability of the province. You must cut your coat according to your cloth. If the income is Rs. 50 crores, at the most you may spend Rs. 49 crores; after all who is going to reward you with medals for borrowing money and spending it? None. There is another Urdu proverb: قاضي صاحب دبلے ہے سمتي کے فکر سے The meaning is: It worries the Khazi while it does not in the least disturb the composure of the people for whom he is a Khazi. In a certain village, there were some Muslim families. They were a cantankerous and quarrelsome lot always fighting with each other but were going about their business and carrying on alright without worrying themselves. But the Khazi was much perturbed about them. The people who must be much concerned about the fight, namely the parties, were not at all worried about it but it was left to the poor Khazi to be bothered about it and he became lean everyday. When everything is going on well, why should our Finance Minister like the Khazi be the only worried man in the province to borrow money and spend more on the so-called capital works. I think it is all an unwise and destructive policy. Let us see what is the position of the Finance Minister. Can he get any money from outside? He tried to borrow from the Central Government and he was not successful. There is a press

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note in a Bombay English Paper and I shall just read four lines. This is what the paper says of the Hon. the Finance Minister Mr. Gopala Reddi:

'Slackpolished, Gopala Reddi, ex-product of Santiniketan' and the present Finance Minister of Madras is the most worried man in the City.

All right, why should he be like that: why should he be the 'most worried' man in the province. The people are paying whatever taxes you have levied; be contented with what you have and do not worry yourself: this may be the advice I can give him. The paper goes on—

'He has several skeletons in the financial cupboard and his main concern, is how to balance the Budget.'

How can he balance the budget; he cannot go and rob other people and balance the budget (Laughter.) By tact and political experience, you know what the sources are, you can tap them and you can balance the budget in such a way that not only this House but the people outside will appreciate you. Certainly he cannot plunder or borrow for the sake of balancing the Budget. (Laughter.) The paper further says: 'The Centre has said 'no' to his request for a loan of six crores of rupees for his capital expenditure.' If they say so are we to go and fight with them? Or can you do so? No. It would at least be something if we are able to get some amount. When they say 'no' please keep quiet."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Madam, on a point of order. Is it in order for an hon. Member to be quoting from a paper instead of making a speech and further, Madam, I would like to know whether the hon. Member is entitled to pass personal reflections on the Hon. the Finance Minister comparing him to an old widow and things like that?"

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"There was no personal comment and there was nothing out of order in the observations of the hon. Member."

JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"The Kazi proverb I was quoting is applicable in a large measure to my friend who has raised the point of order also. The time at my disposal has been cut short to the extent taken by him and I request you, Madam, to allow me some more time to make up for it. Why should the hon. Member worry himself like the village Kazi when it has not worried others? (Laughter.)

"I was speaking of loans. The present financial position of the province is such that you cannot get any outside loans; nobody is prepared to give you. Even he offered to pay an interest of 4½ per cent, though he would not admit it, and yet none is prepared to lend, whereas an alien Government during the last war raised a loan of Rs. 66 crores with 3 per cent interest and a donation of 3-7 crores from this province alone. Even if we sanctioned the demand, I am sure, as sure as we are all sitting

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here, that in the month of February 1950, the Hon. the Finance Minister will come before us with a long catalogue of new taxes and plead as an excuse that we must approve as he must balance the budget. You must, as I said before, cut your coat according to the cloth. I will not go into details but I will take only one item.

"That is the Grow More Food Scheme. For the last five or six years you have spent something like 25 crores on Grow More Food Scheme. In our province, we have got an area of one lakh and five thousand square miles, out of which 19 thousand square miles are forest and the rest, namely 86,000 square miles comprise cultivated lands and lands fit for cultivation. Even if you take the whole extent for your purpose on the basis of the expenditure incurred, namely Rs. 25 crores we must have five wells for every square mile of land. Unfortunately, we do not have statistics to show this. We do not know how many wells were sunk: who got the money and who gave the money to whom and whether the wells contain water or not. There is no record to show this. What is the extra tonnage of the foodgrain got is not also known."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"Mr. Subbaraman."

* SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"கனம் தலைவி அவர்களே, நான் இந்தச்சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் சில வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். போலீஸ் இலாக்காவில் போலீஸ் பலத்தை அதிகரிப்பதற்கு சர்க்கார் சில யோசனைகள் அளித்திருக்கிறார்கள். முக்கியமாக வட ஜில்லாவில், சர்க்கார் ஜில்லாக்களில் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளின் தொல்லைகளை நீடிக்க விடாமலிருப்பதற்காக போலீஸ் பலத்தை அதிகரித்திருப்பதாகச் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள். இது மிகவும் அவசியமான ஒரு வேலையாகும். இதை யாரும் ஒத்துக் கொள்ளத்தான் வேண்டும். கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளுடைய கொல்லைகள் சர்க்கார் ஜில்லாக்களில் மட்டுமல்ல, மாகாணம் பூராவும் இருக்கிறது. அதற்கு சர்க்கார் வேண்டிய பந்தோபஸ்து காரியங்களைச் செய்ய வேண்டியது மிக மிக அவசியம். வருஷா வருஷம் போலீஸ் பலம் அதிகரிக்கப்பட்டு வருகிறது. போலீஸ் செலவும் அதிகரித்து வருகிறது. ஆனால் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளுடைய அட்டூழியங்களை நாம் தடுத்திருக்கின்றோமா என்று பார்த்தால் அது மிகவும் குறைவாய் இருக்கின்றது.

"மதுரையை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு பார்த்தால் அங்கு நடக்கும் காரியங்கள் எல்லோருக்கும் ஆச்சரியத்தையும், கவலையையும் உண்டாக்குகிறது. கடந்த ஆறு மாதங்களாக மாதத்திற்கு ஒரு சம்பவம் நடந்து கொண்டே யிருக்கிறது. எனினும் சம்பவங்கள் எவ்வாறு நடக்கின்றன, யார் அவைகளைச் செய்கிறார்கள் எப்படிச் செய்கிறார்கள் என்று இதுவரைக்கும் தெரியவில்லை. போலீஸ் பலமும் அதிகரித்துக் கொண்டே வருகிறது. செலவும் அதிகரித்துக்கொண்டே வருகிறது. எனினும் அதை யார் செய்கின்றார்கள், எப்படிச் செய்கின்றார்கள் என்று யாராலும் கண்டு பிடிக்க முடியவில்லை. சமீபத்தில் இரண்டு வாரங்கள் முன்பு ஒரு நாள் பட்டப் பகலில் கடை வீதியில் ஒரு நகைக் கடையில் வந்து கொள்ளையடித்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதற்கு இரண்டு மூன்று மாதங்களுக்கு முன்னால் ஒரு வியாபாரியைக் கொலை செய்து விட்டு ஓடிவிட்டார்கள். அதற்குச் சில வாரங்கள் முன்பு தான் ஒருவரைக் கத்தியால் குத்திவிட்டுச் சென்றிருக்கிறார்கள். இவ்வளவு நடந்திருந்தும், இன்று வரை அவைகளை யார் செய்தார்கள், எப்படிச் செய்தார்கள் என்று யாராலும் கண்டு பிடிக்க முடியவில்லை. கனம் மந்திரி மாதவ மேனன் அவர்கள் மதுரை சம்பவத்தைப் பற்றி விரிவாக ஒரு அறிக்கை கொடுப்பதாகச் சொன்னார். எனினும் இன்றுவரை

ஒன்றும் கொடுக்கவில்லை. மேலும் ஒரு சம்பவம் மதுரையை அடுத்த ஒரு கிராமப் புறம்பில் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்று அவர்களைப் பிடிக்க போலீசார் போனார்கள். போயிருக்கின்ற இடத்தில் யார் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளைப் பிடிக்கப் போனார்களோ அவர்களில் ஒரு சப்-இன்ஸ்பெக்டரையும், இன்னும் மற்றவர்களையும் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் வந்து தாக்கினார்கள். கான்ஸ்டபிள் முதல் சப்-இன்ஸ்பெக்டர் வரை எல்லோரையும் தாக்கி விட்டுச் சென்று விட்டார்கள். அவர்களை போலீசார் பிடிக்க முடியவில்லை. இவ்வாறு நிலைமையிருக்கிறது. இவைகளைப் பார்த்தால் யாருக்கும் மிகுந்த கவலையும் அதைரியமும் உண்டாகுகிறது. சர்க்காரிடம் வேண்டிய போலீஸ் பந்தோபஸ்தும், ஏராள வசதிகளும், இருக்கிறது. போலீஸ் பலத்தை நாளுக்கு நாள் அதிகரித்து வருகிறார்கள். இருந்தாலும் கூட கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளைக் கண்டு பிடிக்க முடியவில்லை. கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் சர்க்கார் மாதிரி பலம், படை வசதியில்லாதவர்கள்; மற்ற வேண்டிய வசதிகளும் இல்லாதவர்கள்; அவர்கள் ஒரு கட்சி. அந்தக் கட்சிக்கும் இப்போது மக்களிடத்தில் செல்வாக்கும் இல்லை. எனினும் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளைக் கண்டு பிடிக்க முடியவில்லை. அடக்க முடியவில்லை. இந்த மாதிரி நிலை நீடிக்குமானால் ஜனங்கள் மனதில் அதைர்யம் வளர்ந்துவிடும். அப்போது அரசாங்கம் நிம்மதியாக ஆட்சி செய்யமுடியாது என்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆகவே சர்க்கார் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளை அடக்க தக்க நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்று வற்புறுத்திக் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"மேலும் சிறையில் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் வைக்கப்படுகிறார்கள். காவல் கைதிகளாக அவர்கள் வைக்கப்படுகிறார்கள். காவல் கைதிகளாக யிருப்பவர்களுக்கு, மற்ற தண்டனை அடைந்து வருகிறவர்களுக்குள்ள கஷ்டங்கள் எதுவும் கிடையாது. காவல் கைதிகளாக இருப்பவர்களுக்கு சிறையில் எல்லாவிதமான சௌகரியங்களும் செய்து கொடுக்கப் படுகிறது. அதைப்பற்றி நான் குறை கூறவில்லை. ஆனால் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் செய்திருக்கின்ற ஒவ்வொரு காரியங்களையும் வைத்துக் கொண்டும், அவர்கள் பேசுகின்ற பேச்சுக்களை வைத்துக் கொண்டும் நாம் அவர்கள் மீது பொது ஜன நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக் கொள்ளலாம். ஆனால் இப்போது கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளை சட்ட விரோதமானதாக்கி விட்டதால் அதைப்பற்றி நான் பேசவில்லை. ஆனால் சிறையில் இருக்கும் வரையில் அவர்கள் அட்டூழியம் எதுவும் செய்யாமல் பார்த்துக் கொள்ளவேண்டும். அவர்களுக்கு அலவன்சு 2½, 3 ரூபாய்கள் கொடுக்கப்பட்டு வருகிறது. அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய துணிமணி வாங்கிக் கொள்ளவும், டூத் பேஸ்டு, ப்ரஷ் போன்றவைகள் வாங்கிக்கொள்ளவும் கொடுக்கப்பட்டு வருகிறது. ஆனால் அவர்கள் அந்தப் பணத்திற்கு சோப்பு, துணிமணி, முதலியவைகள் வாங்கிக் கொள்ளுகிறார்களா என்றால் இல்லை. ஆனால் வாங்காவிட்டாலும் வாங்கியதாகச் சொல்லி அந்தப் பணத்தைச் சேர்த்து மொத்தமாக வெளியேற்றி கட்சிக்கு அனுப்பி விடுகிறார்கள். அதை அவர்கள் தாங்களாகச் செய்ய முடியாது. அவர்கள் சிறையதிகாரிகளின் மூலம்தான் அவைகளைச் செய்கிறார்கள். இதை நான் சொல்வது தவறுக இருக்குமென்று எண்ண வேண்டாம். இதை யாராவது ரகசியமாக விசாரித்துப் பார்த்தால் உண்மை நன்றாகத் தெரியும். 2½, 3 ரூபாயாகச் சேர்த்து வைத்துக்கொண்டு அவைகளையெல்லாம் வெளியேற்றி கட்சிக்குச் செலவிட்டு கட்சியைப் பலப்படுத்திக் கொள்ளுகிறார்கள். அது மாதிரியான காரியங்களை நாம் நடக்கும் படியாக விட்டுக் கொண்டிருந்தால் நாம் அவர்களை அடக்க முயற்சிக்கும் காரியங்கள் ஒவ்வொன்றும் வீண்தான். சர்க்கார் இவைகளை நன்றாகக் கவனிக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன.

"பொது சுகாதாரத்திற்கு நாம் செய்ய வேண்டிய காரியங்கள் நிறைய இருக்கின்றன. சுகாதார வேலைகளில் மிகவும் முக்கியமானது குடி தண்ணீர், சாக்கடை வசதிகளைச் செய்து கொடுப்பதாகும். இவைகளைச் செய்து கொடுப்பதற்கு வேண்டிய பிளான்கள் எஸ்டிமேட்டுகள் போட இதுவரைக்கும் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் இல்லையென்று சொல்லிக் கொண்டு வந்தார்கள். அப்படியே இதுவரைக்கும் காலம் கழித்துக் கொண்டு வந்தாய் விட்டது. ஆனால் இனி அப்படியிருக்கக் கூடாது. விரைவில் அந்தக் காரியத்தைச்

செய்ய வேண்டும். அப்போது தான் இந்த நாட்டில், நம் தேசத்தில் சுகாதாரம் அபிவிருத்தியாகும். குடி தண்ணீர் வசதி சாக்கடை வசதி இல்லாத எந்த நாட்டிலும் சுகாதாரம் நன்முக இருக்க முடியாது. ஆகையால் நம் நாட்டை சுகாதாரம் மிக்க நாடாகச் செய்ய தண்ணீர் வசதி சாக்கடை வசதி இவைகளை செய்து கொடுக்க வேண்டும். அதற்கு இப்போதுள்ள திட்டங்களை மட்டும் வைத்துக் கொண்டால் போதாது. புதிய புதிய திட்டங்களைப் போடவேண்டும். பல இடங்களுக்கு உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களை அனுப்பி பல திட்டங்களை ஆராய்ந்து அம்மாதிரி புதுப்புது திட்டங்களை நம் நாட்டிலும் போட வேண்டும்.

" தண்ணீர் சப்ளைக்காகவும், சாக்கடை வசதிக்காகவும் குழாய்கள் வாங்கியிருப்பதாக நான் இதில் பார்த்தேன். அதைப் பற்றி மிகவும் சந்தோஷம் அடைகிறேன். ஆனால் அதற்காக 10 லக்ஷம் ரூபாய் தான் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. நமக்கு தற்போது அம்மாதிரியான வசதிகள் எல்லாம் செய்ய வருடத்திற்கு குறைந்தது 50 லக்ஷம் ரூபாய் குழாய்களாவது வேண்டியிருக்கும், ஆகவே 10 லக்ஷம் ரூபாய் குழாய்களோடு மட்டும் நில்லாமல் மேலும் அதிகமாக குழாய்கள் வாங்கினால் தான் நம் காரியங்களையெல்லாம் நாம் நன்முகச் செய்ய முடியும். தவிர இந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் ஒன்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். தொழில் விஞ்ஞானிகள் (Technical people) அதிகம் இல்லை என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. அதற்காக அநேகம் பிள்ளைகள் இப்போது இன்ஜினீரிங் காலேஜில் படிக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் படித்து முன்னேறுவதற்கு இன்னும் 10 வருஷங்களாவது ஆகும். அது வரைக்கும் நம் காரியங்களை நாம் ஒத்திப்போட முடியாது. மேலும் தற்போதுள்ள இன்ஜினியர்களை 55 வயதில் ரிடயர் செய்கிறார்கள். அப்படிச் செய்யாமல் அவர்களுடைய சேவையை இன்னும் பல வருஷங்கள் உபயோகப்படுத்திக் கொள்ளலாம். 55 வருஷத்திற்குப் பிறகு அவர்கள் வேலை செய்யும் சக்தி இழந்தவர்களாக இருப்பதில்லை. எவ்வளவோ இன்ஜினியர்கள் ஆரோக்கியமும் பலமும் உள்ளவர்களாக இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களை ஒரு மெடிகல் சர்டிபிகட் கொடுத்து விட்டு வேலை செய்ய அனுமதித்தால் தொழில் நிபுணர்கள் கிடைக்கவில்லை என்ற குறை நீங்கும். இன்னும் இரண்டு மூன்று வருடங்களாவது அப்படிப்பட்டவர்களுடையே சேவையை நாம் ஏடுத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" தொழில் இலாகாவில் நல்ல ஒரு யோசனை செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. சர்க்காருடைய நேரிடை கவனத்தில் பல தொழிற்சாலைகள் ஏற்படுத்தப் பட்டிருக்கின்றன. கள்ளிக்கோட்டை, கொள்ளேகாலம், கூடூர் முதலிய இடங்களில் சர்க்காரின் தொழிற்சாலைகள் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிருப்பது மிகவும் சந்தோஷமானது. ஆனால் நம்முடைய தொழிற்சாலைகள், தனி நபர்கள் வைத்து நடத்துகின்ற தொழிற்சாலைகளைப் போல் அவ்வளவு திறம்பட சிறப்பாக நடக்கவில்லை என்பதை நாம் எல்லோரும் ஒத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டும். நம்முடைய தொழிற்சாலைகள் என் சிறப்பாக நடக்கவில்லை, நமக்கு ஏன் லாபம் வரவில்லை, நஷ்டம் வருகிறது எனத் தெரியவில்லை. அதற்கு வருஷா வருஷம் லாப நஷ்ட கணக்கை கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இந்தத் தொழிற்சாலைகள் சிறப்பாக நடக்க சிப்பந்திகளில் யாராவது யோசனை கூறினால் அதற்குத் தக்க பரிசு கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லியிருக்கிறது. இது மிகவும் போற்றத்தக்கதாகும். இந்த யோசனையின் காரணமாக நமமுடைய சர்க்கார் தொழிற் ஸ்தாபனங்கள் சிறப்பாக நடக்குமென்று நம்புகிறேன். எனினும் மற்ற தனி நபர் நடத்துகின்ற தொழிற்சாலைகளில் எவ்வாறு அதிகப் பணம் மிஞ்சுகிறது, நமக்கு ஏன் அவ்வளவு மிச்சம் ஏற்படவில்லையென்று கலந்து யோசித்து தெரிந்து கொள்ள வேண்டும். அவ்வாறு செய்யவில்லையென்றால் தொழில் நடத்துவதில் நமக்கு லாபம் இல்லை. நஷ்டம் வந்துகொண்டேயிருக்கும். அதைத் தடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" நீர் பாசனத்திற்கு பெரிய பெரிய திட்டங்கள் போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அது மிகவும் அவசியம். ஆனால் இந்த திட்டங்களையெல்லாம் நடை முறையில் நடத்த முயல வேண்டும். அம்மாதிரியான திட்டங்களையெல்லாம்

நிறைவேற்ற குறைந்த பக்ஷம் 5 அல்லது 10 வருஷங்கள் ஆகும். அதற்கும் 5 கோடி, 15 கோடி பணம் வேண்டியிருக்கும். சாதாரணமாக ஒரு திட்டத்தை பூர்த்தி செய்யவேண்டுமென்றாலும் குறைந்த பக்ஷம் 1 கோடி, 2 கோடி பணம் வேண்டியிருக்கும். பணம் இல்லையென்று சொல்லாமல் ஒவ்வொரு திட்டமாக எடுத்துக் கொண்டாவது சிறுகச் சிறுக எல்லா திட்டங்களையும் பூர்த்தி செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" ஆழமான ஒரு ஊத்துக் கிணறு வெட்டக் கூடிய யோசனையைப் பற்றி நமது சர்க்கார் யோசித்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவில் T.V.S. கம்பெனியார் ஒரு விவசாயப் பண்ணையை ஆரம்பித்திருக்கிறார்கள். அங்கு அவர்கள் ஆழமான ஊத்துக் கிணறு தோண்டியிருக்கிறார்கள். நூற்றுக்கணக்கான நிலங்கள் அதனால் விவசாயம் செய்யப்பட்டு நல்ல சௌகர்யங்கள் ஏற்பட்டு இருக்கிறது. அம்மாதிரி நாமும் செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். அம்மாதிரி செய்தால் நமக்கு செலவும் குறைவாயிருக்கும். நாமும் இந்த உணவு கிடைக்காத காரணத்திற்காக Grow More Food Campaign பிரசாரம் செய்து வரும்போது அம்மாதிரி செய்தால் ஏராளமான நிலங்கள் சாகுபடி செய்யலாம். அவ்விதமாகச் செய்ய சர்க்கார் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களை அங்கு அனுப்பி அந்த திட்டங்களை நாம் நன்முக ஆராய்ந்து வரவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஏற்கெனவே நம்மிடம் டிரில் இருக்கிறது. இன்னும் இம்மாதிரிக் கிணறுகளும் தோண்ட வேண்டும். இம்மாதிரியான ஆழமான ஊத்துக் கிணறுகள் தோண்டினால் அடிக்கடி ரிபேர்கள் வரும் என்று சொல்லலாம். ரிபேர் போன்ற தொந்தரவுகள் இருந்தாலும் கூட அதனால் நன்மை அதிகம் இருக்கிறதென்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அதனால் நமக்கு அதிகச் செலவும் ஏற்படாது. ஏற்பட்டாலும் கூட அதனால் விவசாய அபிவிருத்திக்கு ஏராள நன்மையிருக்கிறது. மேலும், விவசாயத்திற்கு கர்ல் நடை அபிவிருத்திக்காக பல காரியங்களை செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். பொது ஜனங்களுக்கு அவைகளை தெரியப்படுத்தவேண்டும். கோழிப் பண்ணை நடத்தலாம் என்றும் கோழிக்கு இவ்வளவு என்றும், முட்டைக்கு இவ்வளவு என்றும் சர்க்கார் உதவி செய்வதாகத் தெரிவித்திருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த யோசனையெல்லாம் பொது மக்களுக்குத் தெரியவேண்டும். அவைகளை பொதுமக்கள் எல்லோருக்கும் தெரியப்படுத்தி, அதனால் அவர்கள் பயன் பெறும்படிச் செய்யவேண்டியது நம் கடமையென்று தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" இன்னொரு விஷயம்; மதுரையில் ஒரு தொத்து நோய் வியாதி ஆஸ்பத்திரியை ஆரம்பிக்க வேண்டுமென்று மதுரையிலிருந்து நாங்கள் அடிக்கடி தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டு வருகிறோம். சர்க்கார் அந்த தொத்து நோய் வியாதி ஆஸ்பத்திரியைக் கட்ட சம்மதித்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் இதுவரைக்கும் கட்டம் கட்டாமல் பணமில்லையென்று சொல்லிகொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். கட்டடம் கட்ட காலதாமதமானாலும் பரவாயில்லை. உடனே ஆஸ்பத்திரியை ஆரம்பிக்க உத்திரவு கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொண்டு தீர்மானம் செய்தோம். முனிசிபாலிட்டியும் அந்த வேண்டுகோளை அடிக்கடி சர்க்காருக்கு அனுப்பி வருகிறார்கள். ஆனால் சர்க்காரும் அதை வாங்கி வைத்துக்கொண்டு பேசாமல இருந்து வருகிறார்கள். முனிசிபாலிட்டியும், உங்களிடம் பணமில்லையெனறால் எங்களுக்கு அனுமதி கொடுங்கள். நாங்கள் நிலத்தை வாங்கிகொள்ளுகிறோம். பின்னால் நீங்கள் பணத்தை லோனுகவோ, கிராண்டாகவோ கொடுக்கலாமென்று சொல்லுகிறது. இருந்தாலும் சர்க்கார் பேசாமல் இருக்கிறது. மதுரை நாளுக்கு நாள் ஜனத்தொகையில் பெருகிக் கொண்டிருக்கிறது. பிற்பட்டு ஆஸ்பத்திரி கட்ட நல்ல இடம் கிடைக்காது. எல்லோரும் வீடுகள் கட்டிக் கொண்டு விடுவார்கள். மேலும் வரவர நில விலையும் அதிகரித்துக் கொண்டேயிருக்கிறது. இந்தச் சமயத்தில் நிலம் வாங்கிப் போட்டால் தான் நல்லது. ஆஸ்பத்திரியை பிறகு வேண்டுமென்றாலும் கட்டிக் கொள்ளலாம் என்று யோசனை கூறுகிறேன். அதையெல்லாம் யோ

சித்து சர்க்கார் உடனடியாக தொத்து நோய் வியாதி ஆஸ்பத்திரிகட்டத் திற்காக நிலம் உடனே வாங்கி கொடுத்து ஆஸ்பத்திரியை ஆரம்பிக்கவேண்டு மென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இல்லாவிட்டால் முனிசிபாலிட்டிக்காவது உடனே ஆஸ்பத்திரிக்கு இடம்வாங்க அனுமதி கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். பணம் கிராண்டாகவோ, லோனுகவோ கொடுக் கலாமென்றும் சொல்லிக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். மதுரையின் ஜனத்தொகை நாளுக்கு நாள் எவ்வளவோ மடங்கு பெருகிக் கொண்டே வருகிறது. அப்படி இருக்க அந்த இடத்தில் தொத்து நோய் ஏற்பட்டால் உடனே வெகுவாகப் பரவி வராள ஜனங்களைப் பாதிக்குமென்று தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆகவே இவைகளையெல்லாம் வைத்துக்கொண்டு தொத்து நோய் வியாதி ஆஸ்பத்திரி கட்ட உடனே நிலம் வாங்கி ஆஸ்பத்திரி கட்ட வேண்டுமென்று சர்க்காரை நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

* JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, we are in a serious situation, and this is not a time for sentiments for politicians. This is a time for realities and for businessmen."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"What business?" (Laughter.)

1.15 p.m. JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"Business, Madam, pure business. (Laughter.) Businessmen alone can understand the economy of expenditure. (Laughter.) Our country is faced with a very serious economic crisis, and the Government of India are rightly thinking on lines of retrenchment. But our Provincial Government and the Central Government are pulling in different directions, and it looks as though from the supplementary estimates, our Provincial Government have got schemes which do not fit in with the overall picture of the economy, the Government of India have outlined. We find here certain new posts being suggested, when actually the need of the hour is to cut down the number of posts, and, if necessary, the number of Ministers. (Laughter.) Particularly when we are on the eve of the division of this Province, I do not see any reason why we must have such a large number of Ministers with all their Secretaries and their paraphernalia, when we can rightly say, on the analogy of that most efficient administration we had during the time of the four Advisers, that we can as well have four Ministers and no more to look after the affairs of our Province."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"They had no Legislature also."

JANAB N MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"True, and that is why we want now to relieve you of your responsibility of having to take over the worries of the people of the Province; and you must cut down your number still further. Now, Madam, you have behind your benches so many to support you and carry the day with you."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Has the Deputy Speaker anybody behind her!"

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"It is surprising that Mr. Hameed Khan does not seem to think that you too, Madam,

have men behind you. (Laughter.) Then, Madam, we have a suggestion that there must be a Fourth Member of the Board of Revenue with many officers attached to him, a Secretary, an Additional Secretary and an Assistant Secretary and so forth. All that is going to cost Government one lakh eight thousand and nine hundred rupees per annum. I ask seriously, Madam, is this the time when we can indulge in this extravagance? Particularly I would ask this Government, how is it they think right that they must now have this expenditure, while they have made no provision for zamindari compensation, of which only this morning we had some announcement in the press, but for which, we see no provision in the supplementary estimates, though we see an elaborate machinery set up to implement zamindari abolition. Madam, I would very much request that even the implementation of zamindari legislation can be suspended for some time; for this is not the time and place to dabble wasteful expenditure.

"Again, with regard to Prohibition, I know, as a community and as a party we are wedded to Prohibition as one of our fundamentals. But what is the sort of Prohibition we see in this Province. It looks as though it is more honoured in its breach than in its observance. The Government have lost nearly eighteen crores of rupees of revenue due to Prohibition and to add to that they are incurring a wasteful expenditure of so many lakhs in order to have vigilance. So, not only have they lost a large revenue, but they have added to their expenditure also. I want you to set your mind seriously; do not be afraid; do not be merely politicians; do not be worried about applause and praises of your pronouncements; all that you can have even when you are buried; all that applause and praise you can have along with the prayers over your burial honours. Let us have very good Government; let us have efficient Government. Only an efficient Government can speak in terms of equality with other Governments, will be trusted abroad and can ask for loans on credit. When you are incurring wasteful expenditure, how can you do that?

"Madam, Deputy Speaker, you are having Grow More Food Scheme. Welcome. But what exactly are you doing when you are speaking of assignment of lands for political sufferers? Believe me, Madam, for all that I know, most of our political sufferers do not know the art of cultivation. If you really want to have sentiments satisfied, give them *ex-gratia* pension, or you can have them satisfied with certain absolute grant and be done with them and be done with the problem. But why do you assign to them lands already assigned to proper quarters and then make a mess of the whole thing, and thus retard your efforts for Grow More Food. Believe me, Madam, this move and the efforts of the revenue officers thereon, have all over the Province retarded the Grow More Food Scheme considerably. People who have been allotted leases years ago are in a position of helplessness. They know not what fate is awaiting them because they feel and they

fear that to-morrow this Government would transfer their land to political sufferers. Madam, I cannot understand this Government's viewpoint in encouraging political sufferers by giving them five acres of wet land or ten acres of dry land, who do not know the art of cultivation. If you are really serious that you must help political sufferers, because you have given them an assurance and you want to be good at your word and so redeem the assurance you have given, by all means purchase the lands you want to assign at the current market price and reconvey them. That will at least not impede Grow More Food Scheme. Do not assign lands that are already held by others. Why should this Government make this waste of money in the name of 'political sufferers?' We have had enough of political suffering. Let us not have a morass of suffering!

"Now, Madam, Deputy Speaker, I would like to say one or two words more. There are certain redeeming features in the supplementary estimates—a silver lining in dark clouds! I am very glad that the Hon. Education Minister has thought fit to go back on the policy of refusing grant—building grant and equipment grant—for non-Government colleges for men. I am very happy that Government have now come forward to subsidise private managements in building up their colleges, and in providing equipment for their institutions. Believe me, I know the difficulties of the situation, and I welcome the gesture even to the limited extent it goes. Yet Government themselves will agree with me that the sums earmarked cannot be the maximum limit, but probably the least they can do with a view to encourage private institutions, particularly at a time when private institutions have odds to contend with.

"Then, Madam, there is one more thing which deserves consideration, and that is with regard to increasing the salary of peons. I do think that peons, when they are now upset by the present cost of living, do deserve an increase of salary to the extent Government have allowed them. I am certain that Government will stick to their policy because I know it will set in motion many spirals and many others will demand for an increase of salary, if this is conceded. Still, at a time of national urgency we expect our servants from top to bottom to co-operate with Government and not put in demands for an increase of salary but come forward with voluntary sacrifice and as a matter of fact with contributions towards national saving.

"Now, Madam, one more word and that is about electricity. I am very happy that my hon. Friend, Mr. P. Natesan, has spoken for more electrification in the City. It is the hon. Member, Mr. Natesan who has created much trouble for Government. If only he had opportunity to know about rural areas, which feed this Government and which feed this City, to which he belongs, he would not have spoken in the way he has done about rural electrification scheme. I tell you, we know the difficulty of Government. Their assurances are too generous. But I want you

to fit in this rural electrification scheme with your central Grow More Food Scheme. There are many areas where people are volunteering to take up electricity schemes very kindly. Government have not done even an iota of service in trying to reclaim their lands and help the cause of Grow More Food. I know in my own district there are large areas to be reclaimed, but Government do not seem to take stock of the situation because of the difficulties caused by private electric concerns to extend electrification scheme under the auspices of the Government. I wish now betimes Government take it up and even though it may add to their cost, nevertheless it deserves topmost priority.

"With regard to destitute homes, I am very happy that Government have made ample provision for a destitute home in one district. I wish every district is allowed to run a destitute home. There are several destitute people in the Province roaming about with no ostensible means of livelihood. It is a pathetic sight to see them in that pitiable condition. Probably that is a visible index of our horrible economic condition in which we are living to-day. This is not the time to take this Government to task for not doing things. This is really a time to help them. We know Hon. Ministers are quite alive to the gravity of the situation. Even this morning during question-hour it was very good of this Government to announce a revision of policy with regard to slaughter of cattle. There are many matters which Government can do, but sentiments come in their way. If only they cast off their sentiments, there are many matters which will have to be discussed *de novo* before a clear-cut policy is formed. I appeal to all people in the Province to understand their difficulties and help them get out of the morass in which they are now.

"One word more, Madam. Now that our Andhra friends are going to have a province of their own, we wish good luck to the Andhra Province; and we wish of course good luck to the Tamil Nad also."

JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY:—"What about Kerala?"

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"I do not know when they want to part from us. But whatever time they choose, they cannot get out without our good-bye. One thing is the Andhras have with good grace abandoned their claim to Madras City. (Sri T. Viswanatham: 'No.') I do not think there is much grace if you adopt that attitude.

"Now, Madam, it is high time, let us cut down our expenditure. We cannot run this Province as if it were the Government of India. We do not require more than four Ministers; we do not require many of those wonderful paraphernalia that our friends have. I wish that long before the Finance Minister comes forward with his next Budget, he would have given the best of his time to husband the resources of the Province before he gets out as the Finance Minister or Prime Minister of the New Province."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

(With Mr. Speaker in the Chair.)

* DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the first thing that struck me when I looked at the budget was that it had all the appearance of a main budget rather than that of a budget which was prepared and brought forward to meet an emergency. No doubt, many a time unexpected things do happen. But here the unexpected things are so many that one is inclined to ask whether these have been neglected in the past or have been discovered only the other day. One would like to know how the ultimate means of providing for these would be realized. There are only two possible ways. One is to meet the expenditure by reappropriation from savings within the grants already sanctioned and the other is to ask for new grants. The Government have not made up their mind as to whether they are going to ask for new grants or are going to meet the expenditure by adjustments from the grants already sanctioned. I should like to hear now how the expenditure is going to be met. If grants were got sanctioned for works which were considered very urgent at the time of budget, how can the Government change their angle of vision and say that those works seem to be unimportant now and that works which were neglected then loom more largely upon their vision? Though exceptions may be made in either case, the procedure of asking the Legislature to support item after item seems to be, on the face of it, against the canons of preparation of a budget, particularly at a time when we are faced with great many difficulties, both administrative and economic, in the Province. I dare say the Government will let this House know how the items coming up for supplementary grants have become so very important now that expenditure on them have to be met from savings due to the neglect or overlooking of important works which were placed before the Assembly during last March.

"Two or three other things occurred to me as I read the budget. I know that every attempt has been made to meet the clamour for making education more universal and less monopolistic. I believe the Government have erred, if at all they have erred, on the right side by giving building grants to colleges. If the funds collected by private enterprise are absorbed in building habitations for schools and colleges, such enterprise will be considerably discouraged unless the Government also help by giving building grants. I am glad that the Government have made up their mind to encourage the building of educational institutions by giving handsome donations. Though they may not meet all the expenses necessary, yet they go a long way in helping people.

"Regarding public health and medical treatment, I have one or two doubts which, I trust, the Government will clarify. Regarding public health, three sanatoria are being financed to the extent of Rs. 75,000, 40,000 and 20,000 during the current year. A layman

does not comprehend the enormity of the evil and the ravages committed by tuberculosis, particularly of the lung. Many a time I myself have recommended very suitable cases for institutional treatment. Over and over again I have been asked to keep the patient waiting for every three months and sometimes six months, in succession. By the time the patient got the chance of admission in a hospital, the chance of the treatment doing him any good had practically vanished. While hospital or institutional treatment of the highest quality is very necessary, some method should be devised to afford more facilities for treatment in the initial stages than has been the case hitherto. I think that provision should be made in every district headquarters hospital for treating tuberculosis of the lung in the early stages. New methods of treatment have come into vogue. Physicians who have been trained for three to six months will be able to deal with cases in the primary stage. It may be that even after this treatment, operation may have to be performed and the patient may have to wait for three months, six months or even a year to get admission in a sanatorium. If the evil is checked in the early stage, subsequent treatment will yield much better results. Unfortunately this idea does not seem to strike those who are in power. As much time is lost and the disease neglected in the early stages for want of opportunities for treatment, a great many patients die whose lives could otherwise have been saved. If there is provision for treating early cases in every district headquarters hospital, we shall be able to check the disease and mitigate its ravage to a great extent. It must be known that tuberculosis is often a poor man's disease. But its ravages are so great and insidious that it really becomes a rich man's disease. In fact, only a rich man can cope with it. A man affected by tuberculosis cannot work and an average man cannot afford to pay for the food that he needs without work. Therefore, the treatment should be such that it tackles the disease at a very, very early stage, as then only the subsequent treatment will be effective.

"I congratulate the Government on separating the Sanitary Engineering Department from the Public Works Department and entrusting the Sanitary Engineering Department with the water works in municipal areas. It is only in that way we can realize a rapid solution of the water-supply problem. We hope that the execution of water-supply schemes which are badly needed in many municipal areas of this Province will be dealt with by a body specially appointed for the purpose. I hope that this attempt of the Government to meet the needs of the people will fully succeed. The water-supply and drainage scheme of a big city like Vijayavada, which was contemplated 20 or 25 years ago when I was the Chairman of the Vijayavada Municipality, is still in the offing."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, speaking on the Supplementary Demands, one is tempted to repeat what he has said in the previous years, and that is that the

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Government should budget in such a manner as to avoid Supplementary Demands. It is true that most of the items coming up for Supplementary Demands are what are known as ' new services '. After a glance at the various items in the budget, one can say that these new services could have been very easily anticipated and provision made for them in the general annual budget. I made this remark last year and I am sorry I have to repeat it this year. We should not make it a usual practice to come forward with Supplementary Demands some months after the annual general budget is passed. Possibly, the reply of the Government will be that they could not anticipate most of the items and that, therefore, they had to come forward with Supplementary Demands.

" I should like to make a few observations with regard to various items in the Supplementary Demands. Prohibition has come to stay and it is in force in our Province. While Prohibition as a policy is good, we should introduce it in proper time. Rightly or wrongly, in my opinion, we have precipitated the advent of Prohibition, with the result that we have not got adequate finance for useful purposes. The Congress Party and every other party that contests the elections make pledges to the people that they would effect this reform or that reform if they were elected to the legislature. But no party says that it will carry out all its promises immediately after it enters the Legislature or forms the Government. The Government should have considered this point and first stabilized themselves financially before undertaking measures which are, no doubt, intended for ameliorating the condition of the people but result in losing the existing sources of revenue.

2-45 p.m. " Now, Sir, we see that the Demand under Excise is for the employment of some extra Prohibition staff of sub-inspectors and guards to be stationed at the borders to keep off wines and other liquors coming to this Province through Pondicherry and for this we have to incur a very large expenditure. Sir, in this connexion, although I would not like to repeat my arguments against this hasty introduction of Prohibition, yet I cannot help pointing out that if only the people living in the borders of Pondicherry are really prohibition-minded, there would be no need for keeping up this large establishment of sub-inspectors and guards with rifles, arms and the like to prevent wines and things of that sort coming into this Province. But human nature being what it is, we cannot expect such an attitude on the part of the people and that is why we see that these are smuggled into this Province in an illicit manner. Apart from this, Sir, there is also illicit distillation and illicit manufacture of arrack and other things going on in this Province and it is indeed very unfortunate that it has not been possible for the Government to prevent it completely or keep it under check, although they have been incurring a very large expenditure on establishment for the enforcement of Prohibition.

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" Now, Sir, coming to the Demand under Education, I find some amount has been allotted for enabling local bodies to develop elementary education. Sir, elementary education is still in a nubulous state in this Province; I would even say that it is in a primitive stage. It has not taken a definite shape yet and my own opinion has always been that no part of education, even though it may be the elementary stage, should be entrusted into the hands of local bodies. The whole subject of education should be administered entirely from the centre by the Provincial Government and should not be entrusted to the local bodies at any stage, either elementary or secondary or collegiate. There must be a uniform policy with regard to the progress and development of education in the Province as a whole, and if these educational institutions are placed in charge of these local bodies, the administration as well as the educational policy will vary from municipality to municipality and from district board to district board and there will be no uniform policy in education and no orderly progress can be maintained throughout the Province. Therefore, Sir, I am always of the opinion that any part of education, at any stage, whether elementary or secondary or collegiate, should be managed and controlled only from the centre and I do not know why we should give grants to local bodies for running these educational institutions.

" I am glad, Sir, that in this Supplementary Demand there is a feature which one would applaud and that is the increase in the salary of peons and the grant of dearness allowance to certain Government servants and the like. Whenever we plead for an increase in the salaries and emoluments of peons, clerks and other low-paid subordinate employees of the Government in this House, we are always mistaken and construed as trying to encourage indiscipline in their ranks and create discontent among them. Sir, that is not the spirit in which we offer our remarks on this subject. It is only in order to help the Government and to enable them to realize the true plight of their low-paid servants that we are here and we want to tell them that under present conditions, these Government servants will not be able to make both ends meet and, therefore, they must be adequately paid. The minimum salary that even a peon should, according to my estimate, be paid, should not be less than Rs. 75, because in these days of high prices all round, it is impossible for even the poorest man to live on less than Rs. 75 a month in the City. I submit, Sir, that Rs. 75 is the barest minimum that is required for the subsistence of even the poorest family now-a-days."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" There are about 75,000 peons under the Government employ."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Yes, Sir, that may be, but that is not the way to look at this question. Whether the Government are in a position to pay or not is a different question, but they must find the necessary money somehow, because that is the minimum living wage for a family under present conditions.

Otherwise living is impossible and they cannot make both ends meet. Anyway, Sir, I am glad that something is being done and that is better than nothing.

" Then, Sir, let me come to the demand relating to the abolition of the zamindaris. Here, the Government want the necessary staff to implement the scheme expeditiously and effectively and also to speed up the rent-reduction work. I do not know, Sir, whether these words speedily and effectively used in this connexion are going to be merely words on paper or whether they are really going to materialize. If the scheme is really speeded up and effectively implemented, then perhaps normal conditions will be restored. At present, in these zamindari areas, the conditions are very abnormal. Repairs to irrigation works, cultivation of land, the collection of taxes—all these have come to a standstill, and unless and until the Zamindari Abolition Act is effectively put into force, normal conditions cannot be restored and the food situation in this Province will not improve. Therefore, Sir, we shall have no hesitation to grant the necessary money which is required by the Government for employing the extra staff. But considering the immense volume of work involved in the implementation I am afraid, Sir, that the meagre staff now asked for by the Government will certainly not be sufficient. They will, therefore, have to come forward again with proposals for a larger staff in the near future, in order to cope with the vast amount of work to be done and to deal with the vast problems demanding solution in these zamindari areas in giving effect to the Act in the future.

" Now, Sir, coming to the Supplementary Demand under Police, I may say, that I do realize the necessity for more Police force with arms and rifles to deal with the present Communist menace in the Province. I do not want to detain the House longer by dealing with this matter at any great length, because we have only recently had an opportunity to discuss this subject in connexion with the passing of the Public Order Bill. In any case, Sir, I think it is very necessary that we should do everything to help the Government in putting down this Communist menace and to maintain peace and order in the country and at the same time bring contentment and happiness to the people. If the elementary needs of the people are satisfied, to that extent it will remove the cause of discontent and arrest the spread of Communism among the poorer classes of the people, who at present in their desperation flock to the Communist fold in large numbers without themselves knowing what they are actually doing. Any action taken to remove this cause of discontent among the masses is a better remedy than increasing the strength of the Police force to put down the Communist activities.

" Then, Sir, I am glad that so far as University education is concerned, the present policy of the Government is to encourage private enterprise rather than starting and maintaining colleges of their own. This has been the policy of the Government in the

former days, but unfortunately during a small interregnum, a different policy was pursued by the then Minister in charge of Education, who thought that it was not the duty of the Government to encourage private organizations to run colleges, although the Government themselves have not been able to establish colleges and maintain them throughout the Province. I think, Sir, it is much better and much more economical if the Government encourage the establishment of more and more colleges by private enterprise, by giving them some subsidies, if necessary.

" Now, Sir, coming to the demand under Medical, I submit that the General Hospital in the City of Madras should not be regarded as a hospital for the citizens of the Madras City alone. It is certainly not intended for the people of Madras alone, but for the whole province, because people from all over the province and even from outside the province get admission and treatment there. Therefore the Government should not stint spending any amount of money towards the improvement of the General Hospital.

" Sir, the conditions obtaining in the General Hospital are very deplorable. In the first place, there is not enough accommodation for all the patients admitted there, and several patients who are in need of admission and treatment have to be sent away for want of beds. If you go into the General Hospital and see the wards, you will find not only patients lying in the verandahs but many of them are made to sit on the floor or to lie on mats spread between cots. Some of them have no mats even.

" So far as treatment of cancer in the General Hospital is concerned, I am glad the Government are going to give Rs. 50,000 out of the Welfare Fund for the construction of a separate ward for the treatment of cancer. But my own opinion is that a mere separate ward with some accommodation is not enough for the treatment of this fell-disease. We must construct a separate hospital either within the compound of the General Hospital or somewhere else, with full modern equipments so that people suffering from this fell-disease all over the province may come and get themselves treated. The sooner the Government take up this matter, the better.

" The next and the last thing that I should like to mention is with regard to the treatment of tuberculosis. I am afraid, Sir, that while this disease is spreading rapidly and widely among the people, the treatment that is provided for it in our hospitals is most inadequate. The Government ought to open more tuberculosis clinics and hospitals in this province. There are very few hospitals for treatment of tuberculosis in the province as well as in the City and the arrangements there are also inadequate and unsatisfactory. There are a number of patients suffering from this disease who could not obtain satisfactory treatment anywhere and therefore go without treatment. I hope, Sir, that the Government will see that they open more clinics and centres for the unfortunate patients suffering from this fell-disease also.

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" Sir, with regard to the tuberculosis hospital that is run by the Madras Corporation, certain proposals for its improvement and for its equipment were sent to the Government for approval. But the Government have adopted the policy of a miser and turned them down. I submit, Sir, that the Government ought to come forward to give necessary financial assistance so as to make this hospital fully equipped with up-to-date facilities for the treatment of tuberculosis, so that the unfortunate people in the City and in the neighbourhood who are suffering from this disease may go there for treatment.

" I have nothing more to say and I am sure that the Hon. Minister will have his demands granted without any cut."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to take part in this discussion because I am glad to find that the Government have adopted the correct procedure in regard to the presentation of supplementary demands. I congratulate the Government, Sir, on accepting this procedural advice. It is wrong for any Government to take Members by surprise by presenting a supplementary estimate in the Legislature almost at the close of the year after having got not only plans and estimates approved, but also after spending some amount on the execution of those plans, and coming before the House for mere ratification. But in this case, Sir, we have some time to discuss not only the individual demands, but also to assess the general situation, if such an assessment were found necessary.

" There is no doubt, Sir, that many of these items arise out of the old demands presented in the original budget. What I mean is this. Supposing there is a scheme for which sanction has already been obtained and there are further unanticipated developments which may occur during the course of the year. Then it is only proper that they should be met by placing supplementary demands before this House early enough in the form of token grants so that the whole case may be discussed in full. I recognise the difference made by the Secretary in the preliminary note between new services not forming part of the new schemes and new services which form part of a new scheme. It is a very good distinction. This distinction should be carefully borne in mind because even if it were permissible to spend money in a limited measure before the Legislature has actually given sanction to such new schemes, which are part of new services, still sanction is sought beforehand. But if it is a new service which means a new scheme absolutely unconnected with the old demands presented in the budget session, then, Sir, certainly the sanction of the Legislature must be taken beforehand in order to put these schemes into effect. I am glad that all this procedural correctness is being observed. I do not propose to go into details of the various demands that have been presented. I would only ask hon. Members to consider this. In most of these cases, the cost is worked out as for a year. But actually a very little portion of the year would be left before the schemes are given effect to, and

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the expenditure will probably be less than one-third of what is actually put before this House in the form of a demand. Further, this is not the occasion or the time to go into each individual item and attempt a criticism of it. In general, I would say that Government should not come forward with new schemes or new services arising even out of old schemes except when it would directly or indirectly aid production in the country. It should be a principle with the Government that expenditure on new schemes or on new services, whatever the distinction be between the two, should be encouraged only when these schemes are productive in their character. For instance, there would be nothing wrong and it would be positively right to spend money on the grow more food campaign. There might have been several developments occurring between the passing of the budget and the close of the year, and these would have to be met. But the one principle I suggest in putting forward supplementary demands for expenditure should be that only those items which are of a productive character should have priority. Otherwise, there should not be a demand put up at all during the year. This means that the demands would be less concentrated on items relating to production and which would help production in the Province. For instance, you have a new scheme as suggested by the Forest Department for growing wattle bark. This is not a new scheme. This is not a thing which the Chief Conservator has discovered for the first time. It is a scheme ten years old, and it has been repeatedly brought before this House by me and others. Yet nothing was done to put the scheme into effect. We are in a muddle to-day, and South Africa is at loggerheads with us. If this scheme had only been put into operation long before, perhaps this Province would now be self-sufficient in the matter of wattle bark. You can refer to the proceedings of the year 1936 for a detailed survey of this question by this House. Now, it is such schemes that should have priority and we shall be glad to encourage Government to put up as many such schemes as possible and ensure as speedy an execution as possible of such schemes. But if they are going to take everything which is not of this character, but which would be of a general character relating to which there may be no urgency whatsoever, then I say such procedure should not be encouraged. When Government come before this House for supplementary demands either to be met by appropriation from savings under several heads of expenditure or by a token grant providing for new expenditure, I say the test should be that every one of these schemes should have this essential characteristic that it should help or aid production. It is only in that way you can make the administration run on quite proper and efficient lines. What is needed is concentration. What is needed is not the satisfaction of this or that request by whichever body it is put forward. It would be wrong also to say for instance 'I want such and such a thing, because that is the general need in the country and we can find funds for it'. This should not be encouraged. Even if it were to lead to suffering for some time by

a few people, I would still not give it priority. What about the sufferings of millions who are in good health, who are strong both in body and in mind, and yet spend their days in utter poverty and misery? Failure to meet situation like that would certainly make us think twice and thrice before we revise the order of priority in the matter of financial obligations. Financial obligations of a sort which will aid production in this country or which will add to the revenues of the Province, I certainly would recommend to be included in the list of supplementary demands. But I am totally opposed to the inclusion of all and sundry, whatever their character may be, whether they aid production or not, in the list of supplementary demands. This is my test. This is my measuring rod not only for the procedural correctness of the thing but for the efficient running of the administration. If this is true, I think a general discussion would have been profitable. That is why I also urge the formation of what I call Standing Finance Committee of this House. The Public Accounts Committee examines only the old accounts, and occasionally has the chance to make recommendations about procedure. It does not have any chance whatsoever to assign priority. But a committee of the kind I suggest would have the chance of looking into every scheme and assign the priority. Naturally, the initiative for making the schemes will entirely be in the hands of the Government and the Cabinet. It is time the Government took my suggestion into consideration, and made up their minds on this matter. It does not take away a bit of their authority. Perhaps the Hon. Minister thinks that it is derogatory on the part of the Cabinet to be asked to submit its schemes to a Standing Finance Committee. It is nothing of the kind. The initiative will always be theirs. But in assigning the order of priority, Members of the Legislature would have been taken into confidence even before the Legislative Assembly would meet to discuss the supplementary demands. What is the kind of discussion that we can have in a day over all the items? Can we discuss and can we conscientiously vote on all the demands in one day? I say it is not possible. That is why it is preferable that a Committee discusses the whole thing, and then put up only such demands as they would consider to be given priority. I hope the Hon. Minister will meet this point and will endeavour to state the position of the Government in regard to this matter. This point was raised in the general budget discussion. I had no desire to raise it a second time now, but, I say deliberately here and now that such a procedure will not only secure great advantages in outlining new schemes and new services but will also consolidate the position of the administration, and will ensure not mere continuity as such but efficient and continuous concentration on schemes which are considered most essential for the prosperity of the country.

* JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with the remarks of hon. Members that the supplementary demands presented by the Hon. Minister for Finance bear the

features of a general budget. If only one goes through the supplementary demands presented by the Minister for Finance he will find that heavy expenditure has already been incurred under several departments. While going through these demands, I find that nothing has been done with regard to the implementation of several capital undertakings. I tell you, Sir, and I would also tell hon. Members of this House, that as long as we are postponing capital undertakings, we are going to postpone all chances of liquidating poverty and ignorance in this country. The people in the Province expected that as soon as a popular Government took up the reins of the Government, all the poverty and ignorance that have been grinding down the teeming masses would come to an end, and that they would be happy and contented. But, unfortunately, we seem to be going from bad to worse. There is discontent. There is dissatisfaction and disaffection among the people. As long as this discontent remains there, I am afraid this Government have to reinforce their police and the army and to bring in several ordinances and Public Safety Acts. We find under the Police demand several new stations are being opened only with a view to suppress the Communist activities. I ask the Hon. Minister for Finance what are the elements that go to make up this Communistic activities in this Province. Do the Government mean to say that there are people who really believe in the philosophy of Communism? Or, are those people discontented because they are not getting all that they want in the matter of food, clothing and housing? If the Government want to solve the problems that are facing them, they must be solved in a different manner: and not by creating or increasing or reinforcing the Police force. I would impress upon the Government that they should at once implement the capital undertakings. The Hon. Minister for Finance may say ' my coffer is almost empty: how am I to implement those schemes '. Sir, the Deputy Prime Minister of India, has recently convened a conference of the industrialists and capitalists of this country just to know their opinion in the matter. I would appeal to the Hon. Minister for Finance to call a conference of the industrialists and capitalists in this Province and let him put up all the schemes before them so that they may come forward to assist him and help him to implement all those schemes. So far as hydro-electric energy is concerned, the Province of Madras occupies a proud place in the whole country. But unfortunately though there are several demands in the supplementary budget for storing electrical goods, there is no scheme to organize a factory to manufacture electrical goods. I ask the Hon. Minister for Public Works to say whether he has done anything in the matter. We are simply depleting our dollar resources by importing even small electrical goods like switches and small motors from dollar areas. Why should we do it when we have energy flowing at our very door? Why should we not organize a factory to manufacture these electrical goods in this Province? Nothing has been done though we are spending lakhs and lakhs of rupees to implement the manufacture of electrical goods which

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are essentially needed for improving our Province in several directions. Therefore, I urge upon the Hon. Minister for Finance and also the Hon. Minister for Public Works (who is fortunately present in the House) that they should look into this matter and see that something is done immediately.

3-15 p.m. "Sir, with regard to rising prices, this morning I put a question to the Hon. Minister when he replied that 'this Government are helpless in the matter of bringing down the price of commodities.' It is most unfortunate. They have got the power and authority and when they say that they are helpless to bring down the level of prices and the cost of living index, I really do not know to where we are heading, Sir. The Government must at once take steps to see that they somehow or other bring down the prices. Regarding procurement, it is also going down. This morning, papers have reported that the procurement figure is very unsatisfactory. I say that procurement is becoming a failure because there is a monopolistic procurement and it is being administered by the co-operative societies. Recently in the Food Committee of the Chingleput district, we have passed a resolution that procurement agency must be given to normal trade so that people could get whatever they want. Unfortunately because there are monopolistic tendencies, people do not go to the centres where there is ready stock, and there is also corruption. Therefore, I would wish that this Government take away this monopolistic method of procurement and hand over that work to private agencies, as they used to do.

"With regard to firka development also, much money is being unnecessarily wasted. Though the President of the Tamil Nad Congress Committee, Mr. Kamaraj Nadar, has expressed definitely that this firka development is a useless scheme, the Government are wasting unnecessarily money when that money is vitally required for many other important works. Why should we unnecessarily waste it? You are wasting it just for implementation of your own ideologies. I only plead with the Government that they can postpone the implementation of these ideologies to some other time. To-day we are faced with a grave situation and the people are actually starving and suffering. It is for the Government to go to the rescue of the people, and not to say 'We are creating a machinery which will bring after 100 years the Heaven on Earth.' Here and now the Government have got to do something. Therefore, take up schemes which will give food and cloth to the people in a short time. Unfortunately, the failure of the monsoons in several parts of this Province and the cyclone and flood in the Andhra Desa are going to affect our food procurement. Therefore, all our resources are required to import more foodgrains in order that the people in this Province may not starve. We have got to keep back all these ideological schemes and come to grapple with the hard realities.

"When talking about firka development, I am asking the Government what they have done with regard to the handloom

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industry. Several schemes are there in the supplementary budget, but nothing has been done to improve the handloom industry, which is one of the foremost cottage industries of this Province. Lakhs and lakhs of families depend upon this industry and, if to-day due to several causes it goes down, millions will starve and suffer and the Government to-morrow will become responsible for the suffering and distress of those people. Therefore, the Government can develop this industry and formulate schemes for it instead of indulging in ideological schemes.

"Sir, there is a very important item about which I have always been referring in my budget speeches year after year, namely, the exploitation of lignite in the district of South Arcot. A lakh of rupees is granted in the supplementary budget for its development. I do not know who is that wonderful officer who is looking after this lignite exploitation. We are only seeing his report and that is going on year after year. The lignite in South Arcot alone, if brought to the ground, will give this Government crores and crores of rupees. Overnight, the economic condition of the people will change. Unfortunately, our Government do not take much interest in these things. They only want to develop charka and khadi. Sir, I am not against all those things. I say 'these have been your instruments or slogans at a time when you were fighting for the freedom of the country; to-day you are freemen, you have got the Government in your own hands; keep away from those schemes and take up the schemes which can immediately give relief to the people'. Seams and seams of lignite lie buried in the district of South Arcot. If only that is brought out, the Government will have enough energy to run several hundreds of factories in this Province which can give everything we want."

* SRI K. VARADACHARI:—"Sir, perhaps, I am contributing to the waste of time that the House is called upon to make on a demand or motion of this sort."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is not wasting his time."

* SRI K. VARADACHARI:—"Let me explain myself, Sir."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"There is a way of saying 'You are usefully spending time'."

* SRI K. VARADACHARI:—"What I was driving at was that the supplementary demands covered items for which provision was not made adequately previously though the policies were already decided upon during the last budget, or new things which have come up inevitably for expenditure during the course of the year with no great change in the major policies of the Government. Such things alone come before the House by way of supplementary estimates and demands."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Even then, it is not a waste of time."

* SRI K. VARADACHARI:—" Hence, it is appropriate that criticism should be sharp and sweeping on a demand like that. Perhaps, Members on this side of the House have not much justification to take up the time of the House by discussing these demands (Mr. Anwar Sahib: ' Hear, hear ') or the policies underlying the same. That is what I meant, Sir. It should be left to the Opposition alone to say what they like."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Then, why are you speaking? "

* SRI K. VARADACHARI:—" But when I hear some of the Members in the Opposition referring to firka development schemes and charka, prohibition and all those things, *ad nauseam* is created in this House, I am tempted to rise up. They should be more chairtable even to the party in power. The firka development scheme has been condemned by the previous speaker just now. He quotes a scripture; he quotes Mr. Kamaraj Nadar's statement."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" On a point of order, Sir. The hon. Member referring to a Member of our Party says, ' He quotes a scripture; he quotes Kamaraj Nadar's statement '. What is the inference? Who is the devil? " (Laughter.)

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—" Mr. Kamaraj Nadar might have made a statement unaware of the possibilities of the scheme or the actual working of the scheme in the several districts. That statement should not be quoted after the subsequent investigations and reports made by experts who have gone to every firka and inspected the working. They have not only eulogised the good work done in the firkas but have recommended an extension of the scheme. Even at this stage that the scheme should be condemned by Members of the Opposition, even though they are Members of the Opposition, strikes me as more or less irresponsible.

" I pass on to another point, Sir. There is an aspect of administration on which a supplementary demand has been made, namely, the increase in the pay of peons to which the hon. Gentleman Mr. Hameed Khan, referred. I must agree with him that the slight increase of Rs. 2 in the pay or the scale is not going to help them much. This, they can make easily by way of *bakshies* anywhere. But I would indicate to the Government that there should be a reorientation of the very system of salaries which is illogical and inhuman in a country like ours—a system of salaries without regard to the needs of your servant and without regard to the size of his dependants, a bachelor getting the same amount as the man who has got a mother, father, wife and some children. (An hon. Member: ' The bachelor has also got somebody else as his dependant.') But, we need not recognize them. Therefore, these form a basic unit for each family. On that the calculations should be made for each family and the needs and wants of those members. An investigation should be made on this basis as to what it would cost the Goverument to adopt this system rather

than the salary system. First of all, it might create a lot of discontent and hardship from the middle classes in the services of the Government. Ultimately you will find that the expenditure will not be much. You can, even at less cost than what you are now incurring, perhaps, maintain your services in a state of contentment and great comfort also. Determine the size of the basic family and then adjust the payment to the needs of the members who actually are there in each family and you will find it ultimately profitable. (Interruption.) Adopt the system. You start this system at least in the case of your menial establishment, and investigate the possibilities. At any rate, try in one district and find out what it makes in your cost. You can provide within that arrangement for the education of the children, free medical aid, and so on. Then you will find a most contented service without coming in every year with a demand for an increase of salaries, dearness, house rent or other allowances.

" Sir, I shall refer to the question of tubercular treatment which my hon. Friend, Dr. Ramachandra Rao, touched upon. There is a great need for increasing the number of sanatoria in the Province. Three years ago, I suggested the taking over of the military hospital at Madanapalle which contained an area of 500 acres upon which they had put up several buildings and dispensaries, surgical wards, drainage and all those things. Now the only other sanatorium is the mission union hospital. We are paying Rs. 75,000 every year and there is also a supplementary demand here. The Government may acquire those lands and run a hospital or sanatorium there, or make it obligatory on the union mission hospital to run a hospital or extend services by calling it a tubercular sanatorium. The buildings in those 500 acres have again been dismantled. Madanapalle is the best place in the whole country for running a sanatorium of that kind and that opportunity has been lost by our Provincial Government in spite of its having been brought to the notice of the Government long long ago at the proper time when the military were about to give up the building."

* JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Sir, it was somewhere in the month of March 1947, if I remember right, the Hon. B. Gopala Reddi, a young, energetic man as he is (hear, hear), took charge of the Finance Department of the Madras Government. He took charge with firmness, determination and confidence in his own self that he will be able to do something for this unfortunate Province. We felt one with him and we had high hopes and high expectations about him. To-day, it is over three years and if one would recall, even if the Finance Minister just recalls, what are his achievements, certainly one would feel that not much has been done in this Province in this period. I think, it will be only a few more months that he will be the Finance Minister for the whole Province. Because very soon there is going to come the Andhra Province, and it might be he may become the Finance Minister there, or the Premier, or he may be nobody or at least he may sit in the opposition. (Laughter.) I only want to take

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stock as to what are his real achievements in this Province, particularly as the Finance Minister, because it is a very important portfolio. Sir it is a great tragedy that when we come in contact with the industrialists and businessmen and ask them, ' Well, why don't you start new industries? It is going to be paying. You will be having much prospects ' and all that, they turn round and ask, ' Why do you want us to spend money? Is it simply to be brought under the clutches of your officials who are going to harass us right from the morning to night? Or, is it to take away all our money as income-tax to the Centre? '. Unfortunately, that seems to be the tendency at present. Whose fault is it, Sir? Is this the fault of the Opposition? Or, is it the fault of the Communists? What is it, I want to know. I may openly tell that all these are due to the policies of the Government, be it Provincial or Central. Sir, much publicity and advertisement are given to some of the activities of this Government. Recently, we read in papers, that the Finance Minister convened a conference of industrialists and businessmen. What was the response? Can is so much of confidence in us and the response is so much '. the Finance Minister in his reply to this House say, ' Well, there I know how disappointed the Finance Minister was in this conference. Of course, he can take shelter and protection under the plea that it is confidential. All those excuses cannot stand. The very confidence of industrialists and businessmen has been shaken very badly.

" With regard to these supplementary demands, as Mr. N. S. Varadachari said, it will not be possible to say all that one would like to say within the ten minutes allowed. To take one item, take the Industries department. What are your achievements? You will have to develop various industries on which depends the prosperity of this Province. I say that even the existing industries sponsored by the Government are not properly working. Certain schemes have been put through even during the Advisers' Regime. Take the case of the Kerala Soap Factory. They used to get a good margin of profit previously. But I now heard, of course subject to correction, that there is not much profit. What is it due to? I openly say that it is due to some bungling either at the Ministerial level or official level. I leave it at that.

" Sir, it was because Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi, Finance Minister, was so much anxious that there should be an industry in the Andhra also, that the Andhra Paper Mill was purchased for Rs. 20 lakhs. How is this Paper Mill working? What is its production? What are its income and profit? I really cannot understand as to how the Government thought it fit to invest so much money in capital expenditure and in replacing certain machinery. What is the production? Are you able to push your goods in the open market? I feel sure that unless you force your departments to purchase its product at a very high level, there will not be a good market outside. When questions are asked about this, you simply say, ' Oh, there is a ready demand from the Government for the

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products of this mill ' and all that. I say there is demand only from the Government for these products the prcies of which are very exorbitant. I say the Government can purchase paper outside at a cheaper rate.

" I do not propose to deal with other matters which have been dealt with by the other members. I only want to say that the difficulties of the public are increased. It is no use saying that it is due to this and due to that. How long will it take to bring conditions to normal? It is not good to take shelter under some excuse or other. Can the Hon. Ministers, when they go outside, tell the Public what their achievements are? Can they stand up with courage and say, ' This Government have done such and such a thing in the course of three years. These are our achievements.'? They cannot say anything like this. They have got merely a set of slogans like, ' We have abolished zamindari ' and such other things. I may tell that this zamindari abolition has created a good deal of trouble for this Government. Again, take the case of prohibition. Wherever prohibition has been in force, the violation has been too much. Now, it has been converted into a village or cottage industry. Even the officials have been telling that it is not possible to control illicit distillation.

" The only two or three things about which this Government can feel themselves happy is about the firka development scheme, khadi, distribution of lands to political sufferers and things of that sort. These are very small things and cannot be called achievements. Do you think that the prosperity and well-being of the masses are going to improve in this Province by your opening a few firka centres? My friend, Mr. K. Varadachari, has been waxing eloquent about the firka development scheme. Recently, one Mr. G. Ramachandran was appointed by the Government in connexion with some of their schemes. He is a Congressman. Why don't you appoint some members of the Opposition to such places? You need not appoint members of my party. But you can appoint persons like Mr. Natesan. Then the Opposition will also have opportunities to examine your work and give you a certificate. Certainly, a certificate issued by a Congressman cannot be good.

" Take the case of khadi. So many questions and interpellations have been raised on the floor of this House about this. As far as I am concerned, I say that it is not economically feasible and I maintain it and I therefore do not take to it. But let me tell you that it will be worse in the future. The Government have spent a good sum of money on this khadi. There are large stocks available with the Government. How are they going to utilise all these stocks? You cannot easily find a market for this. You can only force your peons to wear this. Even peons seem to be in trouble. Therefore, let me tell my friends opposite that these cannot be taken as achievements at all. I am sorry I have to speak in this way; surely it is no pleasure. However, we are anxious that the Ministers should do something concrete in this Province so that the conditions of people may be improved to a satisfactory level."

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SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am really glad to agree with my hon. Friend Mr. N. S. Varadachari when he paid compliments to the Hon. Finance Minister, for his ability, straightforwardness, courage and for the way and procedure which he has adopted in bringing this demand before this House. (Interruption.) Mr. Swaminathan wants to know what the Finance Minister has done. If Mr. Swaminathan has a mind to understand, he can understand it. But if he does not want, like the Opposition members, to understand, certainly he cannot understand it. (' Hear, hear.') Sir, the Opposition that we have here, is there only for the sake of opposition. It never offers any constructive suggestions on the floor of the House ever since this House was constituted. (Laughter.) They are only offering destructive criticisms. They want to throw mud upon the Government every minute. They want to find fault with the Government for every action. That is my opinion, Sir.

" Coming to the point, though this is not a general discussion about the supplementary grants on every item, I wish to offer a few suggestions on one or two points which I think important. I want to bring these to the notice of the Government with a view to introduce these suggestions in future. Regarding the lands that the Government are allotting to the political sufferers, the Government have increased the staff—Deputy Tahsildars, clerks, Revenue Inspectors and tens of thousands of rupees have been spent, even more than the budget estimate. I think this will not satisfy the political sufferers, because the political sufferers are not finding fault with the Government for want of staff or want of administrative ability on the part of the Collector or other officials. The difficulty is, when the political sufferers find a land which is available and which they want to cultivate, the official concerned of that locality says that for some reason or other that land cannot be assigned to the political sufferers. My Friend Mr. Kala Venkata Rao introduced this scheme with very good intentions, of course. There is nothing wanting on him. However, there are certain practical difficulties. There is no useful land which can be cultivated by the political sufferers. Agriculturists are not the only people who came into the political field. All kinds of people, all people in idustry and in business are political sufferers. Therefore, they are not satified with the treatment that they receive from the hands of the Government. The Government must make some new arrangements to get over these difficulties. Whenever you find that a particular land cannot be assigned to a political sufferer, for reasons that it belongs to the P.W.D. or something like that, you can give the land on a long lease. You need not give the land on a permanent patta. First, it can be given on a long lease. Later on, you can adjust it, change it or take it back if you like.

" Further, there is the Forest Department, which is creating another difficulty. Whenever you want to give some portion of the forest, the Chief Conservator of Forests comes and says at once that the forests should not be destroyed. The Government are at

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once satisfied. That will not do. If we really want to help these poor sufferers, we have to destroy certain portions of the forests. If you want, you can create forests elsewhere wherever there is necessity. The Government must expedite the work, without increasing the clerks and Collectors. What can they do? They are there simply to carry out the instructions of the Government. The Government must therefore wake up and expedite the work by providing the land wherever the political sufferers find a land. Otherwise, you can call for the village accounts throughout the Presidency and wherever you find good land, you must allot it to the sufferers.

" Now, Sir, I wish to say a word regarding the administration of justice in our Province. It has been the practice from ancient days to recruit I.C.S. men for appointment to the Bench and such a system was adopted during the British regime to protect the interests of the Europeans. When an I.C.S. man was promoted as a High Court Judge his services in the Revenue Department used to be taken into consideration for purposes of such a promotion. Again when it was a question of tie between a civilian District Judge and a non-civilian, the former used to stand first, irrespective of service. For instance, a man from the Revenue Department having only six months' service in the Judicial Department would have seniority over one who had put in 15 years' service in the Judicial Department itself for the simple reason that the former had put in more years of service in the Revenue Department. All these inequities could be understood if a foreign Government were still there. But we are free now and we are not here to protect the interests of Europeans at the expense of those of our own people. We must, therefore, look to the interests of our own men and the Government are bound to change this policy. I suggest there must be a separate cadre for the District Judges and when the question of promotion comes (interruption). . . Sir, the District Judges recruited from the Bar should be treated as a separate cadre and when the question of promotion to the High Court comes, the Government must call for the confidential sheets of these officers, peruse them and recommend names for appointment. Appointments should be made according to merit only and on no other consideration. This is my humble submission, Sir, to the House. This kind of system obtains everywhere else. A man who spends all his service in different departments of the Government other than the Judicial suddenly becomes senior to all those who are in the Judicial service and occupies the Bench one fine morning. Sir, this kind of thing is very bad. There are many in the Judicial service who have got grievances in this regard. (The Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi: ' Give names of those who have grievances.') No, Sir, I always avoid discussing personalities. I am always particular about the principle. Personalities come today and go tomorrow. Therefore, I do not have anybody in my view to mention. I would request the Government, while making appointments to the Bench, to select men from the cadre of District Judges who were recruited from the Bar.

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" Now I shall turn to procurement of grains. Procurement is a very important matter, about which I shall say a word and finish. The officials in charge of procurement work possess only an official mind and they simply go to a village and take the grains from whomsoever it is available without using their discretion. What I suggest to you now is that the officials must be instructed not to procure grains from those who possess less than a particular number of acres, say one or two acres. (A voice: ' The orders are there.') Otherwise, you fix a minimum for each landholder and say to him that he must give that quantity. This is what is known as 'Levy system' and I have emphasised this point even before, when I spoke on food. If you introduce this levy system, the discontent or bad feeling against the Government which the present indiscriminate procurement system breeds, will go. After all 85 per cent of our people are agriculturists. They are not educated people and are guided by what the officials do in their village. So, naturally, if any Government official enters their home and does something against their interests, they feel that the Government are responsible for it. They say, ' We are supporting the Government and why should Government do anything which is against our interests.' The recent District Board elections provide an ocular proof. I would, therefore, request the Government to change the present method of procurement by adopting the levy system and issue instructions to their subordinate officials accordingly."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, எனக்கு முன்னால் பேசிய பல நண்பர்கள் அரசாங்கம் செய்யவேண்டிய விஷயங்கள் என்னவென்றும் **supplementary budget** என்பதைப் பற்றியும் எல்லாம் சொல்லி விட்டார்கள். எனது நண்பர் கனம் பி. கந்தசாமி அவர்கள் **political sufferers** விஷயமாகவும் எடுத்துச் சொன்னார். நான் அரசாங்கத்திற்குச் சொல்ல வேண்டிய விஷயம் ஒன்றே ஒன்றுதான். தியாகிகளுக்கு நிலம் கொடுக்கும் விஷயமாக **staff**-களைப் போடுவது மட்டும் பிரயோசனமில்லை. அவர்களுக்குக் கொடுப்பதற்கு நிலம் அரசாங்கத்தில் இல்லை என்பதை அவர்கள் முதல் முதலில் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். ரிவினியூ இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்களையும், டிபுடி தாசில்தார்களையும் போட்டுவிட்டால் உடனே நிலம் கிடைத்துவிடாது. நாம் ஏதோ சொல்லிவிட்டோம் என்பதாக இருக்கக்கூடாது. இப்பொழுது நிலம் இல்லாமலிருப்பதை அவர்கள் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். நிலம் கொடுக்கப் படும் என்று போட்ட **Government Order**ஐ உடனே வாபஸ் வாங்க வேண்டும். அனுவசியமாக பல்லாண்டுகளாக தியாகம் செய்த காங்கிரஸ் காரர்களுக்கு நிலம் கொடுக்கிறோம் என்று சொல்லி விட்டு அவ்விதம் கொடுக்காமலிருப்பதால் அதை எதிர் கட்சி அங்கத்தினர்கள் நக்கலாகவும் கேலி செய்யக்கூடியவிதமாகவும் பேசி வருகிறார்கள். இவ்விதம் நிலம் கொடுக்காமலிருப்பதால் காங்கிரஸ்காரர்களுக்கு அனுவசியமான கெட்ட பெயரும் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்பதை அரசாங்கம் அறியவேண்டும்."

JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJE MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM :—" On a point of order 'நக்கலாக' என்று சொல்வது சரியா ? தேச தியாகிகளுக்குக் கொடுப்பது என்று சொன்னால் ஒரு காலத்தில எங்களுக்கும்தான் கிடைக்கும்."

MR. SPEAKER :—"கேலியாக சொல்லுகிறார்கள் என்று அர்த்தம் வரும்படியாகத்தான் சொன்னார்."

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SRI K. T. KOSALRAM :—" இந்த நிலைமையில் இந்த அரசியல் தியாகிகளுக்கு நிலம் கொடுக்கிறோம் எனறு சொல்லிவிட்டு அப்படி கொடுக்காமலிருந்து அவர்களைக் கேவலப்படுத்தாமலிருந்தால் போதும் என்பது என்னுடைய சொந்த அபிப்பிராயம். எனென்றால் தினம் தினம் ஒரு ஒரு **Government Order** போடுகிறார்கள். அதிகாரிகளைப் போட்டுவிட்டு அதிகம் **staff**களையும் நியமித்து விட்டால் நிலம் கொடுப்பதாய் விடாது என்பது என்னுடைய சொந்த அபிப்பிராயம். ஆகையால் நமது சபை **Leader**, கனம் கோபால் ரெட்டி அவர்கள் இதை நன்றாக யோசிப்பார்கள் என்று நினைக்கிறேன். தமிழ் நாடு காங்கிரஸ் கமிட்டியும் மீண்டும் மீண்டும் கூட்டம் போட்டு இதை வற்புறுத்தி வருகிறார்கள். ஆகவே அரசியல் தியாகிகளைக் கேவலப்படுத்தவேண்டாமென்று நினைக்கிறேன்.

" இரண்டாவதாக **Prohibition department** ஐப்பற்றி சொல்லும்பொழுது இந்த டிபார்ட்மெண்டிற்கு அதிகம் **staff** போடவேண்டுமென்று கேட்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் சென்னை நகரத்தில் மதுவிலக்கு எவ்விதம் நடத்தப்படுகிறது என்பதை இப்பொழுது பார்த்தால் மிகவும் வருந்தக்கூடிய நிலைமையிலிருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது இங்கு அரசாங்கம் நடந்துவரும்பொழுது பார்த்தால் வேலையே பயிரை அழிப்பது மாதிரியாக போலீஸ்காரர்களே, சாதாரணமாக இந்த போலீஸ் கான்ஸ்டபிள்களும், ஹெட் கான்ஸ்டபிள்களும்தான் இந்தக் குற்றங்களைச் அதிகமாகச் செய்து வருகிறார்கள் என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. இந்த சட்ட சபை அங்கத்தினர் ஒருவர்கூட தான் நேராகவே பார்த்ததாகவும், அவரே கமிஷனருக்கு **phone** பண்ணி தகவல் கொடுத்ததாகவும் சொன்னார். அரசாங்கத்தின் தலை நகரமாகிய இந்த சென்னையிலேயே இவ்விதம் நடைபெறுகிறது என்றால் வேறு என்ன வேண்டும். இந்த மதுவிலக்கை நடத்துவதற்காக நாம் 17½ கோடி ரூபாயை சிலவு செய்திருக்கிறோம். அரசாங்கம் நடத்தும் இந்த தலை நகரிலேயே இவ்விதம் நடைபெறுகிறது என்றால் இந்த திட்டம் கெட்டுவிடுவதற்கு வேறு ஒன்றும் வேண்டியதில்லை. இதை நிவர்த்திசெய்ய நான் இந்த அரசாங்கத்திற்கு ஒரு யோசனை சொல்லுகிறேன். சென்னை நகரில் வேலை பார்க்கும் போலீஸ் கான்ஸ்டபிள்களில் ஒரு வருஷத்திற்கு மேல் **service** ஆனவர்களையெல்லாம் எடுத்துவிட்டு அவர்களை அப்படியே வேறு அடுத்த **moffussal**-க்கு அனுப்பி வைத்தால் ஓரளவு அனுகூலம் கிடைக்கும் என்று நினைக்கிறேன். **(some interruptions)**.

" இப்பொழுது சென்னை நகரத்தில்தான் மதுவிலக்கு குற்றங்கள் அதிகமாக நடைபெறுகின்றன. இன்னும் **Pondicherry** யிலிருந்து மதுவைக் கொண்டு வருவதைத் தடுப்பதற்கும் அவை இனிமேல் நடக்காமலிருப்பதற்காகவும் **staff**-களை நியமித்திருப்பதாகவும் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள். அதைச் செய்வதற்கு இனனும் ஒரு யோசனையை நான் சொல்லப் பிரியப்படுகிறேன். இப்பொழுது மதுவிலக்கு குற்றம் செய்பவர்களை ஜாமீனில் விட்டு விடலாம் என்றிருக்கிறது. அதைப்போல் ஒரு போலீஸ் கான்ஸ்டபிள் ஒரு குற்றம் செய்ததற்காக அவனை ஜாமீனில் விட்டால் அவன் அந்தக் குற்றத்திற்காக தண்டனை அடைவதற்குள் மூன்று, நான்கு தடவைகள் குற்றம் செய்து விடுகிறான். இவ்வித நிலைமையாயிருக்கும்பொழுது யாராகிலும் குடித்துவிட்டிருந்தாலும் சரி, கள்ளிரக்கினாலும் சரி, சாராயம் காய்ச்சினாலும் சரி அவன் மது விலக்கு சட்டத்தின் கீழ் குற்றம் செய்தால் அவனை ஜாமீனில் விடக்கூடாது என்று உடனடியாகச் செய்து தீரவேண்டும். இனனும் **collective fine** அதாவது கூட்டு அபராதம் போடவேண்டுமென்ற சட்டத்தையும் உடனடியாக செய்யவேண்டும். வெறும் **staff** களை மட்டும் கேட்டு போட்டுவிட்டால் போதாது. சட்ட சபை அங்கத்தினர்கள் சொல்லிவிட்டால் மட்டும் போதாது. என்பது என்னுடைய சொந்த அபிப்பிராயம். ஆகையால் அரசாங்கத்தார் இதை உடனடியாகச் செய்வார்கள் என்று நம்புகிறேன்.

" இதைத்தவிர இன்னொன்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இன்னும் நமது **Labour department**-ஐப்பற்றி ஒன்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இந்த டிபார்ட்மெண்டில் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு அதிகமாக சௌகர்யம் செய்வதாகவேஇல்லை. சாதாரணமாக ஒரு தகராரைக் கமிஷனருக்குக் கொண்டு

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போனால் தொழிலாளர்களின் மீது ஏதாவது நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கவேண்டு மென்றிருந்தால் இந்த டிபார்ட்மென்டில் அவர்கள் மேல் நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க துரிதமாக வேலை செய்து வருகிறார்கள். அந்த டிபார்ட்மெண்டு அதிகாரிகளும் வெகு வேகமாக வேலை செய்கிறார்கள். அதைப்போலவே இந்த அரசாங்கம் வேலை செய்து வரும் **secretariat**-ல் கூட அவ்வித மாகவே வேகமாக ஓடி நடவடிக்கை எடுத்து வருகிறார்கள். ஆனால் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு விரோதமாக முதலாளிகள் நடந்து வருகிறார்கள் என்று முதலாளிகளின் மீது நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டு மென்று அரசாங்கத்தின் கவனத்திற்கு கொண்டு போனாலும் அல்லது கமிஷனருக்கோ அல்லது **secretariat**-ல் உள்ள உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களுடைய கவனத்திற்கோ கொண்டு போனால் அவர்கள் அவ்வளவு வேகமாக வேலை செய்து நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுப்பதில்லை. எனக்குக் குறிப்பாகத் தெரியும், இரண்டொரு விஷயங்களில் அவர்கள் முதலாளிகளின் மீது நடவடிக்கை கள் எடுத்துக்கொள்வதற்கு 6 மாதம், 8 மாதம் தாமதமாகி இருக்கின்றன. இந்நிலைமையில் அரசாங்கத்தின் அதிகாரிகள் இருந்தால் என்ன செய்வது என்று கேட்கிறேன். இதை மந்திரிகள் தங்களுடைய கவனத்தில் வைத் துக்கொள்வார்கள் என்று நினைக்கிறேன். இப்படியெல்லாம் 6 மாதம், 8 மாதம் என்று தாமதம் செய்வதால் முதலாளிகளுக்கு சாதகமாக அரசாங்கத்தில் அதிகாரிகள் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்று உண்மையாகவே ஒரு சிலர் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். இன்னும் முதலாளிகளைத் தாங்கிக்கொண்டி ருக்கும் அரசாங்கம் என்று கூட சொல்லுகிறார்கள். இவ்விதமில்லாமல் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு உதவி செய்யும் அரசாங்கம் தான் என்று மந்திரி களும் அரசாங்கமும் நிரூபித்துக்காட்டவேண்டும்.

" **Kadhi scheme**-ஐப்பற்றி ஒன்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இப் பொழுது கதர் வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டால் நூல் கொடுத்தால்தான் கதர் கொடுக்கப்படும் என்று ஒரு சட்டம் இருக்கிறது. இதனால் எல்லோரும் கதர் வாங்க முடியாமல் சர்க்கார் டிப்போக்களில் கதர் அவ்வளவும் ஆயிரக் கணக்கான, லட்சக்கணக்கான மதிப்புள்ள சரக்குகள் தேங்கிக் கிடக்கின்றன. அவ்வளவும் இவ்விதமாக நூல் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்ற சட்டமிருப்பதால் விற்பனையாகாமல் இருக்கிறது. நாம் கதர் துணியை விருத்தி செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று பிரசாரம் செய்து வரும்போழுது இவ்விதமான சட்ட திட்டங்களை வைத்திருந்தால் கதர் விற்பனைக்கு பாதகம் ஏற்படுகிறது. **(some interruptions)** சென்னை நகரில் எப்படி இருக்கிறதோ தெரிய வில்லை. ஆனால் வெளியூர்களில் நூல் கொடுத்தால்தான் கதர் கொடுக் கப்படும் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள் என்பதை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களுடைய கவனத்திற்கு கொண்டுவர விரும்புகிறேன். உடனே இந்த விதியை மாற்றியமைக்கவேண்டும். ஜனங்கள் கதர் துணியை தாராளமாக வாங்கு வதற்கு வேண்டிய சலுகைகள் காட்டவேண்டும்.

" இதைத்தவிர நமது மராமத்து இலாகா மந்திரியவர்களுக்கு ஒன்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். அவர் புதிய திட்டங்களுக்கு **grant** வேண்டு மென்று கேட்கிறார். ஏற்கெனவே சொல்லப்பட்ட மணிமுத்தாநதி திட்டம் **Tank Restoration Scheme** போன்ற பல திட்டங்கள் அமைத்து அவைகள் இன்னும் செய்யப்படவில்லை. அவைகளெல்லாம் பெயரளவில் இருக்கிறதோயொழிய செயல்ளவில் இல்லை. ஏற்கெனவே **sanction** ஆன வேலைகளுக்கு இன்னும் **staff**-கள் வேலைகளை ஒப்புக்கொண்டதாக தெரியவில்லை. ஏற்கெனவே **sanction** ஆன வேலைகளை இன்னும் ஆரம் பிக்காமல் இருக்கும்பொழுது புது புது வேலைகளுக்கு **staff** வேண்டுமென்று கேட்கப்படுவதில் அர்த்தமில்லை. இன்னும் அநேகம் **backward area**-க்க ளிருக்கின்றன. இராமனாதபுரம் ஜில்லாவில் **backward area** இருக்கிறது. என்று கனம் ஆர். வி. சுவாமிநாதன் சொன்னவுடன் அந்த ஜில்லாவிற்கு அவரை **development** கமிட்டியில் போட்டிருப்பதைப்போல் எல்லா ஜில்லாக் களிலும் அதைப்போல் போடவேண்டும். அவ்விதம் போட்டு வேலைகளை பரிசீலனை செய்து உணவு பொருளை அபிவிருத்தி செய்வதற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" மைனர் இரிகேஷன் சம்பந்தமாக . . . "

19th November 1949]

* Sri N. VENKATASUBBIAH:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am 4 p.m sorry I have to characterize this supplementary budget as a record of disappointments and omissions. I am not concerned with the technical point regarding what should be included in this supplementary budget or what should not be included but I am very much concerned with what the Government propose to do for the people. The supplementary budget is an index of the realization of the Government as to how far they have been influenced by the criticisms levelled against them in the main budget session at the end of the financial year, February-March. Judged from that standpoint and remembering what we said for or against the last budget that was presented to this House in March, I must say that this budget is a complement of omissions and disappointments. Perhaps this is the last supplementary budget that we may have in this composite House before we separate into Andhra and Tamil Nad. Though, perhaps, it is too much to expect any attention to be paid to the separating districts, nevertheless I must, as a Member of this House demand a fair and equitable treatment in the allotment of grants to those districts. I am sorry to have to say that I do not find any fairness in the budget that is under discussion.

" I claim, Mr. Speaker, Sir, that I am not parochial, in my out-look that my outlook is nationalistic, I feel that all provinces are one and that I belong to India. Nevertheless coming as I do from a famine-stricken area, from people who toil hard but get very little in return, from a people who are subject to frequent vicissitudes of the season, who have been neglected in the past, when I say I speak against this background, you will agree that I have a right to expect greater attention to neglected areas than has been shown in this supplementary budget.

" Take for instance irrigation. What is it that has been done to these districts? Mr. Linga Raju may be feeling irritated I do not know if he is trying to criticize what I may be speaking. Let me point out a few instances under irrigation grant. What is it that has been allotted to those districts? Looking throughout the items, mentioned under the supplementary grants. I find that there is only one item for the restoration of a tank in Cuddapah district. Whereas Nellore has got lakhs and lakhs. Kurnool and Cuddapah have been neglected. Anantapur has not found any mention in the supplementary budget. So I have got a right to complain that these backward and neglected districts continue to be neglected. You know, Sir, that irrigation is of paramount importance to us. In fact it is the very life breath for the famine-stricken people. Such being the case I ask, what has become of the numerous projects, numerous tanks, that have been investigated, whose records are complete and why should they be kept sleeping in the archives of the Government record room. Dust these records and find out why these tanks and works should not be taken up.

" Then, Sir, I come to the other important item, namely, medical aid. There are very few hospitals in these districts. There was a proposal to have a Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Pyapelly. You know, Sir, that tuberculosis has become a scourge

of modern claiming a heavy toll of human life year after year. Especially people in backward districts who are undernourished and underfed, who have little stamina to resist disease, fall an easy prey to this feel desease. The place Pyapelly is nearly 2,000 feet above the sea level with a solubrious climate probably a climate, as good as that of Madanapalle. An expert committee on tuberculosis was appointed and they visited the place. They said that it will be an ideal place for the location of the sanatorium. There was much correspondence and finally Government said if the people did not come forward with a contribution of two lakhs of rupees, the work will be dropped. It is a poor district you know and the proposal could not respond because of their poverty. The proposal was dropped. That is how our Government has been dealing with such useful proposals.

"Then we wanted to have at least a tuberculosis clinic in the Headquarters Hospital at Kurnool. Again it was a question of finance and contribution. The Government said, 'Give us 20 thousand to raise the building. Then we will do the rest'. Then we said "Rs. 8 thousand will be given from the Provincial Welfare Fund, Kurnool District Branch, another Rs. 12 thousand from other organizations. We will give 20 thousand rupees in all. You please give us at least a clinic in the Headquarters hospital". Correspondence is going on for the last two years. We have not been able to get the clinic so for. I just mentioned these two matters to show how this Government is disposed towards the needs of certain districts and how in the allocation of grants or taking up of proposals or works, there has not been a sufficient or fair attention paid to these backward districts.

"Then regarding public health, for the last three years we have been agitating that a comprehensive anti-malarial scheme is necessary to ward off malaria from Kurnool district. There are many villages where the scheme is necessary. I am glad and express my gratitude that the Government have at last come out with a comprehensive scheme sanctioning Rs. 54 thousand towards recurring and Rs. 16 thousand towards non-recurring charges. There is, however, a snag. It is stated that the district board must contribute two-thirds of the expenditure. Again it is a question of finance. Again it is a question of poverty. But the Government have held out some hope that two-thirds grant will be given in the first instance but later it will have to be recovered from the district board. But if the district board is not in a position to meet the demand then the scheme will be dropped. That is also very disappointing and I would request the Government, having regard to the poor finances of the district board not to drop a very useful and necessary scheme. Similar grounds apply to the cases of the municipalities in the district. They are also equally poor and they cannot contribute this two-thirds contribution towards the expenditure of the scheme. In their case also I must appeal to the Government not to drop this useful scheme because municipalities cannot pay the contribution.

"I am glad that the Rayalaseema Development Board has been constituted superseding the Ceded Districts Economic Development Board. But I do not find any grants mentioned under that head. That again is a case of disappointment. Mere sanction of staff won't do, because they serve more as a white elephant than do any good work. They must be given sufficient grants and made to work. The Development Board must be made a Statutory body, so that they may not be wiped out the moment another Government or another ministry comes in."

SRI M. A. EASWARAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the supplementary demand, I wish to draw the attention of the Government to a few things about the destitute homes. The destitutes are many in the city of Madras and their number is increasing. When we go out in the morning or evening we meet with more than half-a-dozen of these. I happened to go to the Mount Road Post office this morning. I met a boy about eleven years old without any dress or food, lying on the pavement just like a dead body. A taxi-driver gave him some food and a cup of coffee. Then he was able to speak. What about his next food? That is the case with all the beggars in the City of Madras. You must do something to solve the problem. We must open work houses wherein all the able bodied beggars, except disabled men, must be housed and made to do some work just like in foreign countries. The disabled should be granted some pensions.

"The City of Madras is a statutory rationed area wherein ration is given to each individual but the beggars are not given any ration or ration cards. When these go to beg, there is nothing to give them. There are about 15 thousand beggars in the City of Madras without food and are loitering through the streets of Madras. They are suffering very much. Something must be done for them. The popular Government which is in power for the last three years should do something to solve this problem. Every citizen who is born in this Province has a right to live and have his food. If anybody keeps with him more food than what is allowed under the ration rules, he is punished. Therefore at the same time, men should not be allowed to roam about for want of food. There should be no hunger. The Government are responsible to provide food for these orphans in the City of Madras and in the whole Province. Therefore the Government should open a work-house to serve as a model for the other Provinces to follow. There are many women among these unfortunates with children one month old, two months old and so on. They don't have milk and other things needed for the children. There must be a home for these helpless mothers with children. Then only this can be a civilized Government.

"In the Government House Estate there are many boys who live on the remnants thrown out. Hunger is such. That is the condition of the orphans in the City of Madras. The Government should do something for this.

"Again, Sir, Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman spoke about the communistic activities in Mathurai. Recently there were two incidents 4-15 p.m.

in one of which the Sub-Inspector and the constables were assaulted and in the other there was a daylight robbery in a jeweller's shop and when the culprits were being chased by the constables a bomb was thrown at them. Sir, the constables posted for traffic duty should be provided with revolvers, so that they may be able to catch the culprits boldly. With these suggestions, I support the demands."

SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM :—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, அரசியல் காரணமாக தியாகம் செய்தவர்களுக்கு ஒரு முடிவு செய்வதாக சர்க்கார் முன் நிற்பதைப்பற்றி பாராட்டுகிறேன். ஆனால் அப்படிச் செய்வதில் கனம் கோசல்ராம்சொன்னமாதிரி நிலங்களைக் கொடுப்பது என்பதாகச் சொல்லிக்கொண்டு பழி வாங்கிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அதற்காக வருந்தவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. ஆனால் சில இடங்களில் நிலம் கொடுக்கும் விஷயத்தில் சில தவறான முறைகள் எற்பட்டுள்ளன. நிலம் கொடுக்கும் விஷயத்தில் ஒரு கொள்கை இருக்கவேண்டும். அரசியல் விஷயங்களில் கஷ்டங்கள் அடைந்தவர்களுக்கு உதவுவதற்கு ஒரு திட்டம் முதலில் வைத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். எவ்வளவோ எழைகள் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் ஜீவிக்கும் முறையில் ஒரு வழி செய்வதற்கு நிலம் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்ற ஒரு கொள்கை இருக்கவேண்டும். அவ்விதம் இல்லாவிட்டால் நிலம் கொடுப்பது என்பதில் பிரயோசனமில்லை. எல்லோருக்கும் ஒரே தரமாக இருக்கும்படி நிலங்கள் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். அவர் சொன்னதுபோல் சிலருக்குக் கிடைத்தும் சிலருக்குக் கிடைக்காமலும் இருக்கக்கூடாது. ஒருவனுக்கு ஐந்து எக்கர் நிலம் இருக்கும் வரைக்கும் நிலம் கொடுத்து உதவலாம். ஒரு ஆளுக்கு 5 எக்கர், 10 எக்கர், 15 எக்கர் நிலம் இருந்தால் கொடுக்கலாம். 200 எக்கர், 250 எக்கர், 300 எக்கர் நிலங்களை வைத்துக்கொண்டிருப்பவர்களுக்கு இன்னும் நிலம் கொடுப்பது என்பது சரியல்ல. இப்பொழுது இன்னும் பார்த்தால் எழைகள் பயிரிட்டு வைத்திருக்கும் நிலங்களைப் பிடுங்கிக் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். இதைப்பார்த்தால் சாதாரணமாக கொள்ளையடிக்கும் முறையிலிருக்கிறது. எழைகளுக்கு உதவுவதாக இல்லை. அரசியல் காரணமாக ஜெயிலுக்குப் போயிருக்கிறான் என்பதற்காக அவர்களுக்கு நிலம் கொடுக்கவேண்டியதில்லை. 10 லட்சம், 20 லட்சம் என்று பணம் வைத்திருக்கிறவர்களுக்கு எழைகள் வைத்திருக்கும் நிலங்களைப் பிடுங்கிக் கொடுக்க வேண்டியதவசியமில்லை. இன்னும் எவ்வளவோ காரியங்கள் நடக்கின்றன. அவைகளையெல்லாம் இந்த சபையில் சொல்வது நன்றாக இல்லை. ரொம்ப பெரிய மனிதர்களுக்கு நிலம் கொடுப்பதற்காக எழைகளிடத்திலிருகும் நிலங்களைப் பிடுங்கிக் கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால் சர்க்கார் ஒரு திட்டம் அமைத்து ஒரு கமிட்டி ஏற்படுத்தி எந்தெந்த ஏழைக்கு நிலம் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்பதை திட்டம் செய்யவேண்டும். ஒருவர் அரசியல் தியாகியாக இருந்து அவரும் ஒரு பெரிய நில சுவாந்தாராக இருந்தால் அவருக்கு ஒரு title-ஐ வேண்டுமென்றாலும் கொடுக்கலாம். நிலம் வைத்திருக்கிறவருக்கு மறுபடியும் நிலம் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்வது முறையல்ல. இதைப் பற்றி இந்த சட்ட சபையில் பல முறை சொல்லியிருக்கிறேன். எவ்வளவோ இடங்களில் ஏழைகள் கண்ணீர் விட்டு அழ அழ அவர்கள் செப்பனிட்டு பயிரிட்ட நிலங்களைப் பிடுங்கிக் கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். இதைப் பற்றி எவ்வளவோ மனுக்கள் சர்க்காருக்கு வந்திருக்கின்றன. நானும் கொடுத்திருக்கிறேன். சில இடங்களில போலீஸ் பந்தோபஸ்து வைத்துக் கூட நிலங்களை ஏழைகளிடத்திலிருந்து பிடுங்கிக் கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். உதாரணமாக ஸ்ரீமுஷ்ணம் நாராயணனிடத்திலிருந்த நிலங்களையும் ஹமங்கலம் கோவிந்தனிடத்திலிருந்த நிலங்களையும்பிடுங்கிக் கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். அரசியல் தியாகிகளை எவ்விதம் சர்க்காருடைய மனிதர்கள் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்களோ அதைப்போலவே ஏழைகளும் சர்க்காருடைய மனிதர்கள்தான். ஆகவே ஐந்து எக்கருக்கு மேல் நிலம் வைத்திருக்கிறவர்களுக்கு நிலம் கொடுக்கக்கூடாது இதைவிட அநியாயம் வேறு ஒன்றும் இல்லை. இவ்விதம் செய்து வந்தால் பின்னால் சர்க்கார் பதில் சொல்ல வேண்டியதாக இருக்கும். பின்னால் கமிஷன் அல்லது கமிட்டி ஏற்படுத்தி

பரிசீலனை பண்ணும் காலத்தில் சர்க்கார் பதில் சொல்லவேண்டியதாக இருக்கும். உண்மை எழைகளுக்குதான் நிலம் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். எழைகளிடத்திலுள்ள நிலங்களை பிடுங்கிக் கொடுக்கக் கூடாது."

MR. SPEAKER :—" As three more hon. Members want to speak, I allot five minutes for each."

JANAB ABDUL KADHAR JAMALI :—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, நமது நிதி மந்திரி அவர்கள் இந்த சபைக்கு முன் கொண்டுவந்திருக்கும் உப மான்யத்தைப்பற்றி சில வார்த்தைகள் கூற விரும்புகிறேன். எனக்கு முன்பு பேசிய நண்பர்கள் கனம் கந்தசாமி பிள்ளை அவர்களும், கனம் வரதாச்சாரி அவர்களும் எதிர்கட்சியிலிருந்து நாங்கள் இங்கே வீணாக கூச்சலைக் கிளப்பிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறோம் என்று சொன்னார்கள். ஆனால் constructive ஆக அதாவது ஒரு நல்ல திட்டமும் அமைத்து அதன்படி ஒன்றும் சொல்லவில்லை என்றும் சொன்னார்கள். தலைவர் அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது நான் அவர்களுக்கு ஒன்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். அவர்கள் சற்று தங்களுடைய நேரத்தை கொஞ்சம் ஒதுக்கி லைப்ரரியில் போய் அங்கிருக்கும் அச்சிட்டு வைத்திருக்கும் அபிஷியல் ரிபோர்டுகளை பார்வையிடட்டும். இந்த மூன்று வருஷ காலமாக எதிர் கட்சியினர் எவ்வளவோ அமைப்பான் திட்டங்களை எடுத்துச் சொல்லி இருக்கிறார்கள் என்பது நன்கு விளங்கும். சென்ற மூன்று வருஷங்களாக எதிர் கட்சி அங்கத்தினர்கள் ஆயிரக்கணக்கான யோசனைகளையும் திட்டங்களையும் எடுத்துச் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதைத் தெரிந்துகொள்ளலாம். அவ்விதம் எதிர்கட்சி அங்கத்தினர்கள் தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டும், திட்டங்களை வகுத்துக்கொடுத்துமிருந்தும் சர்க்கார் கண்மூடித்தனமாகவே இருந்துகொண்டிருந்தார்கள். சர்க்கார் அவர்கள் தங்களால் தான் எல்லா காரியங்களும் நடந்து வருகின்றன என்றும் எண்ணிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள்."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, கனம் மெம்பர் பல திட்டங்களை சொல்லியிருப்பதாக சொல்லுகிறார். அவைகளில் தயவு செய்து இப்பொழுது ஒன்றைத் தெரிவிக்கும்படியாகக் கேட்கிறேன்."

JANAB ABDUL KADHAR JAMALI :—" இப்பொழுது சில நண்பர்கள் ஒரு திட்டத்தைப்பற்றியாவது தெரிவிக்கும்படி கேட்கிறார்கள். பல யோசனைகள் சொல்லியிருப்பதில் ஒன்றை மட்டும் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இந்த சபையில் நாடு சுதந்தரமடைவதற்காக நடத்திய விடுதலை போராட்டத்தில் கஷ்டப்பட்ட எல்லோருக்கும் நிலங்கள் வழங்க வேண்டுமென்று கவர்ன்மெண்டார் சொன்னார்கள். அப்பொழுது அதை எதிர் கட்சியிலிருக்கும் நாங்கள் வரவேற்றோம். கஷ்டப்பட்டவர்கள் எல்லோரும் லாபம் அடையவேண்டும் என்று அப்பொழுதே நாங்கள் தெரிவித்தோம். இப்பொழுது இருக்கும் இதே சர்க்கார்தான், இதே அங்கத்தினர்கள்தான் இதே காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள்தான் அப்பொழுதுமிருந்தார்கள். ஆனால் இப்பொழுது காங்கிரஸ்காரர்களுக்கு மாத்திரம் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்ற முடிவுக்கு வந்துவிட்டார்கள். அப்படி ஒவ்வொரு சமயங்களிலும் சொல்லுவதில் நாங்கள் தவறியது இல்லை. நாங்கள் அப்பொழுது முதற் கொண்டு சொல்லி வந்த திட்டங்களில் பத்தில் ஒரு பங்கையாவது அரசாங்கம் செய்து நிறைவேற்றியிருந்தால் நிச்சயமாக இன்று இந்த மாகாணம் இவ்வளவு கேவலமான நிலைமைக்கு வந்திருக்காது எனபதைச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன்.

" தலைவர் அவர்களே, முக்யமாக இப்பொழுது நாம் மதுவிலக்கின் காரணமாக 17 கோடி ரூபாயை இழந்திருக்கிறோம். இந்த 17 கோடி ரூபாயை சரிக்கட்டுவதற்காக நாம் விற்பனை வரியை எதிர்ப்பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறோம். சமீபத்தில்கூட ஆந்திர சேம்பர் ஆப் காமர்ஸ் கூட்டத்தில் நமது நிதி மந்திரி கோபால் ரெட்டி அவர்கள் கூட ஒன்று தெரிவித்தார். இராஜாஜி அவர்கள் தனக்கு கடிதம் அடிக்கடி எழுதுவதாகவும் நமது காமதேனுவாகிய விற்பனை வரி எப்படி நடக்கிறது என்று கேட்டு கடிதம் எழுதியிருப்பதாகவும் தெரிவித்தார். அவர் சொல்லுவது வாஸ்தவம்தான்.

[Janab Abdul Kadhar Jamali] [19th November 1949

நாம் இழந்த 17 கோடி ரூபாயை சரிக்கட்டுவதற்கு ஏற்பட்டுள்ள காமதேனு என்று சொல்லக்கூடிய விற்பனை வரியை வசூல் செய்வதில் சர்க்காருடைய உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் சரியாக நடந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறார்களா என்பதை நிதி மந்திரி அவர்களைக் கேட்கிறேன். அது இப்பொழுது எப்படி நடக்கிறது என்றால் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் வியாபாரிகளை காலை 11-மணிக்கு வரச் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அப்படி 11 மணிக்கு வரச் சொல்லி வியாபாரிகள் 11 மணிக்கு வந்தாலும் அவர்களைக் கூப்பிட்டு அவர்களுடைய கணக்குகளைப் பார்ப்பது இல்லை. திரும்பிப் போகச் சொல்லிவிடுகிறார்கள். பிறகு மற்றொரு நாள் 10 மணிக்கு வரச்சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அப்படி வரச் சொல்லும் தகவல் 10 மணிக்கு மேல் தான் வியாபாரிகளுக்குக் கிடைக்கின்றன. அப்படித் தகவல் சரியாகக் கிடைக்காமல் வியாபாரிகள் வராமலிருந்தாலும் அல்லது வரத் தவறினாலும் அதற்காக மாஜிஸ்திரேட் அவர்களுக்கு ரூ. 100, ரூ. 200 என்று அபராதம் போடுகிறார்கள். அதனால் வியாபாரிகள் எவ்வளவோ கஷ்டமடைகிறார்கள். இந்த விஷயத்தை நாங்கள் எங்கள் கட்சியிலிருந்து பல தடவை சொல்லியிருக்கிறோம். இவ்விஷயங்களுக்கு நீங்கள் இன்னும் கவனம் செலுத்தவில்லை. இன்னும் **constructive** ஆக எவ்வளவோ **programme** சொல்லி இருக்கிறோம். அவைகளையெல்லாம் இன்னும் கவனிக்கவே இல்லை. இந்த விற்பனை வரியை வசூல் செய்வதில் எவ்வளவோ கஷ்டங்களும் தொந்தரவுகளும் இருக்கின்றன. அவைகளையெல்லாம் கவனிக்கவேண்டும். வியாபாரிகளின் நன்மையை முன்னிட்டு **Sales Tax Tribunal** ஏற்படுத்தவேண்டுமென்றும் சொன்னோம். சர்க்கார் கவனிக்கவில்லை. இந்த வரியை வசூல் செய்வதில் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் கவனம் செலுத்தி நல்ல விதமாக நடந்துகொள்ள வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"அது மாத்திரமல்ல இன்னும் இந்த **Prohibition** அதாவது மது விலக்கை அமுல் நடத்துவதில்கூட சரியாக இல்லை. இதைப்பற்றி சமீபத்தில் கூட அஸெம்பிளியில் ஒரு கேள்வியை எழுப்பப்பட்டது. இந்த மது விலக்கை அமுல் நடத்துவதற்கு போலீஸ்காரர்களுக்கு உதவியாக 400 பிரசாரகர்களை நியமிக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லப்பட்டது. இப்பொழுது போலீஸ்காரர்களுக்கு எவ்வளவோ அதிகாரம் கொடுத்தும் குற்றங்கள் நடந்துகொண்டுதானிருக்கின்றன. தனியாக ஒரு டிபார்ட்மெண்டை ஏற்படுத்தியும், போலீஸ்காரர்களுக்கு எவ்வளவோ அதிகாரங்களைக் கொடுத்தும் நடக்கும் குற்றங்களை அவர்களால் கண்டுபிடிக்க முடியாமலிருக்கும்பொழுது 400 பிரசாரகர்களை நியமிப்பதால் என்ன நல்ல பலனைக்காணப்போகிறார்கள் என்பதை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கவனிக்கவேண்டும்."

4-25 p.m.

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM :—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இந்த சப்ளிமெண்டரி பட்ஜெட்டை ஆதரித்து நான் சில வார்த்தைகள் பேச விரும்புகிறேன். இப்போது நம்முடைய மாகாணத்தில், மதுவிலக்கு அமுல் நடத்தப்பட்டு. அது செவ்வனே நடைபெற்று வருகிறதென்பது வாஸ்தவம் தான். இருந்தாலும்கூட அதை நாம் இன்னும் வெற்றிகரமான முறையில் நடத்துவதற்கு பல சட்டதிட்டங்களை போடவேண்டியவர்களாக இருக்கிறோம். மதுவிலக்குச் சட்டத்தை மீறுபவர்களுக்கு கடுமையான தண்டனையை நாம் ஏற்படுத்தவேண்டும். அப்படிச் செய்யாமற் போனால் நாம் செய்கின்ற காரியங்கள் பலன் அற்றுப் போய்விடும். போலீசாருக்கு நாம் அதிகமான அதிகாரங்களைக் கொடுத்தால் மட்டும் பிரயோசனம் இல்லை. தண்டனையை அதிகரிக்க வேண்டும். தவிரவும் கூட்டு அபராதத்தை ஏற்படுத்தவேண்டும். இன்னும் தண்டனையை அதிகமாக ஏற்படுத்தவேண்டும். இன்னும் யாராவது ஒருவர் மீது சந்தேகம் ஏற்பட்டால் உடனேயே பாதுகாப்புக் கைதியாக பத்து வருடம் அல்லது இருபது வருடம் அவர்களை சிறையில் அனுப்பி வைப்பதற்கு நாம் சட்டம் இயற்ற வேண்டும். இந்த மாதிரி சட்டங்கள் கொண்டு வந்தாலன்றி மதுவிலக்குச் சட்டம் நிச்சயமாகத் தோல்வியடையும் என்பதை நான் கனம் மதுவிலக்கு மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கு எடுத்துக்காட்ட விரும்புகிறேன். எனெனில் சென்ற இருபது வருஷ காலமாக இந்த மதுவிலக்குப் பிரசாரத்தில் ஏற்பட்ட அனுபவத்தைக்கொண்டு இந்த விஷயங்களை நான் வற்புறுத்த விரும்புகிறேன்.

19th November 1949] [Sri A. Subrahmanyam]

"மற்றொரு விஷயத்தைக் குறிப்பிட விரும்புகிறேன். அதாவது இந்த மாகாணத்தில் பிற்போக்கானவர்களுக்கு சலுகைக் காட்டப்படுவதாகச் சில சட்ட திட்டங்கள் வகுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதாவது நூற்றுக்கு 3 சத விகிதம் உள்ள பிராமணர்களுக்கும், 4 சத விகிதம் உள்ள கிருஸ்துவர்களுக்கும்."

MR. SPEAKER :—" நீங்கள் சப்ளிமெண்டரி பட்ஜெட் விஷயமாக பேச வேண்டும்."

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM :—" தலைவர் அவர்களே, ஹரிஜனங்களின் க்ஷேமாபிவிருத்தி முன்னேற்றத்திற்கும் மானியம் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருப்பதாக இந்த பட்ஜெட் குழிப்பில் காணப்பட்டிருப்பதனாலேயேயும், இந்த முன்னேற்றத்தில் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்கள் நல்மையும் சேர்க்கப்பட்டிருப்பதனாலும் இந்த இடத்தில் பேச வேண்டிய சந்தர்ப்பம் ஏற்பட்டது என எடுத்துச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன்.

" 3 சத விகிதம் பிராமணர்களுக்கும், 4 சத விகிதம் கிருஸ்துவர்களுக்கும், 8 சத விகிதம் முஸ்லீம்களும், 14 சத விகிதம் ஹரிஜனங்களும், 24 சத விகிதம் செட்டியார், முதலியார், மேனன், நாயர்கள் முதலியவர்களுக்கும், 47 சத விகிதம் உள்ள பிற்போக்கு இனத்தவர்களுக்கும், அதாவது 150 பிரிவினை கொண்டவர்களுக்கு அதாவது சற்றேறக்குறைய இந்த மாகாணத்தின் ஜனத்தொகை ஐந்து கோடியில் 2½ கோடி ஜனத்தொகையுள்ள 150 வகுப்புகள் கொண்ட பிற்போக்கு வகுப்பினரின் முன்னேற்றத்திற்கும் க்ஷேமாபிவிருத்திற்கும் உடனடியாக இந்த அரசாங்கம் என்ன காரியம் செய்திருக்கிறது என்பதை நான் கேட்க விரும்புகிறேன்.

" காங்கிரஸ் ஆட்சி எல்லா ஜனங்களாலும் வரவேற்கப்படுகிறது. சமூக சேவையே சிறந்த சேவையென்று காங்கிரஸ் திட்டம் வகுத்திருக்கிறது. அதை நிறைவேற்றி வைப்பதில் காலதாமதம் ஏன் என்பது தான் எனக்குப் புரியவில்லை. இவ்விஷயத்தை வருத்தத்துடன் தலைவர் அவர்கள் சார்பில் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" இப்போது மேலும் அரசாங்க உத்தியோகங்களுக்குக்கூட 14 வேகன்சி ஏற்பட்டால் இந்த அரசாங்கத்தில் அதாவது 3 சத விகிதம் உள்ள பிராமணர்களுக்கு 2 ஸ்தானங்களும், 4 சத விகிதம் உள்ள கிருஸ்துவர்களுக்கு 2 ஸ்தானங்களும், 8 சத விகிதம் உள்ள முஸ்லிம்களுக்கு 1 ஸ்தானமும், 14 சத விகிதம் உள்ள ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு 2 ஸ்தானமும், 24 சத விகிதம் உள்ள பிராமணர்களல்லாதார்களுக்கு 6 ஸ்தானங்களும், 50 சத விகிதம் உள்ள பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களுக்கு 2 ஸ்தானங்களும் . . . . "

MR. SPEAKER :—" இந்த விவாதாசாரத்திற்கும் சப்ளிமெண்டரி பட்ஜெட்டிற்கும் என்ன சம்பந்தம்!"

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM :—" சப்ளிமெண்டரி பட்ஜெட்டைப் பற்றி தான் நான் பேசுகிறேன். பேசுவதில்கூட பிற்போக்கு இனத்தவர்களுக்கு சலுகை கிடையாதா ? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" இவ்விடத்தில் எந்த விதமான பேதமும் கிடையாது. அனைத்தையெல்லாம் இங்கு சொல்வது தவறு. மேலும் கனம் அங்கத்தினர்கள் சொல்வது தவறு என்று நான் கண்டிக்கிறேன்."

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM :—" தலைவர் அவர்களே, நான் சொன்னதை வாபஸ் பெற்றுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆனாலும் கூட பிற்போக்கு ஜனங்களுடைய கதி இக்கதியாக இருக்கிறது என்று அவர்களின் வாழ்வை நிர்ணயிக்கும் இந்த இடத்தில் சொல்லாது வேறு எந்த இடத்தில் போய் சொல்ல உரிமையுண்டு என்றுதான் நான் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன்."

4.30 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member Mr. Kurmayya will speak for five minutes and then the Hon. Minister will reply to the debate."

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* SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the supplementary estimates which have already been accepted by the Ministry, I want to bring some facts to the notice of the Government. I find, Sir, that no proposal has been made here for improving the lot of the poor people living in the forests and the hills. The Hon. the Finance Minister who is in charge of the Agency Tracts should have thought of this problem and made some proposals under the new service schemes for improving the irrigation facilities available to them and also for improving the economic conditions of these people who are living far away from the so-called civilised people. If we read the administration report of the agency tracts we will find that these people are exploited by traders from the plains who take their fruits and forest produce for very low prices."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member should confine his remark to the items in the Demand presented."

SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" My point is that there is nothing provided here for the improvement of the lot of these unfortunate people."

MR. SPEAKER:—" This is only a supplementary budget. If the hon. Member wants to speak on anything of a general nature, let him speak at the time of the general budget debate."

SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" There is only one good thing here and that is the increase in the salaries of the peons. It has been appreciated by other members also. The Government also are spending some money on the construction of quarters for nurses. They are also spending some money on the improvement of the hospitals. But I must say that the hospital authorities are not helping the poor people. The hospitals are not places where the real victims of diseases, the really poor people get treatment. I and several Members of the House know that the doctors in charge of the hospitals are admitting people who contact them at their homes earlier. They provide beds for them in the hospitals at the cost of the Government. This should be considered and very serious view of it taken by the Government in future. These hospitals are intended for the poor people, whereas admissions into the hospitals are not given for the poor people.

" As regards police administration, the Government have provided nearly Rs. 9 lakhs for the police in Krishna, West Godavari and East Godavari. Seven circles and 36 police stations have been created. I have already stated in my presidential speech at the Provincial Agricultural Labour Union Conference held in July at Eluru that the police people are not helpful in getting the people near to the Government but drive them away from the Government. There is no use of wasting public funds in creating additional police stations. It is better to appoint some people to do propaganda and see that the people are not controlled or guided by the Communists but come under the influence of the Congress.

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" As regards co-operation, the Government have asked the Legislature to sanction one agricultural co-operative society for landlords and labourers. It is really a strange thing. There may be a co-operative society either for landlords or for labourers. But land has been brought under an agricultural colonisation scheme for 20 years under scheme with Government-aid and the benefits are going to the landlords. Really the Government are drifting towards the capitalists forgetting the Gandhian principles of economics. The Government should see that the real agriculturists and the tenants are benefited. I do not know why this new scheme has been brought forward.

" I have no time to express my views on other things. I thank the Hon. the Speaker for having given me some time, though it is only five minutes."

* THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Mr. Speaker, we had a very wide range of debate on the supplementary estimates that were presented the other day. It looked as if it was an abridged general budget discussion. Sir, it is usual to discuss only the points mentioned in the notes given in the memorandum. But hon. Members seemed to feel that they could talk about any omissions or commissions of the Government, so much so, Mr. N. Venkatasubbayya described the budget as one of appointments to many and disappointments to many others. But it cannot be avoided, Sir. When we look at what has happened during all these 150 years of British administration, when we consider at what point of time we have taken over charge of the administration, certainly it cannot be said that the Provincial Government or the Central Government have not done anything to the people. But our problem is so immense and intense that whatever is done by the Government looks very insignificant. That only shows the enormity of the problem.

" Sir, Mr. Raza Khan wants me to ruminate over my achievements. He says, " After having been Finance Minister for 32 or 33 months, let him sit back and enumerate his own achievements, and it will be a good day when he could give a good account of his achievements ". Sir, if we have not done much, at least we have maintained law and order in this Province. The Muslims are quite safe in this Province, likewise the Hindus. We did not witness any great rupture between these two communities here as we witnessed in other parts of the country. That much must be said to the credit of the police department and the large amount of expenditure that we incurred in strenthening them. It is no mean achievement for any Government in these troublous times to say boldly that we have maintained law and order, and that the minorities and the majority have not suffered on account of their religion, language, the locality in which they live and so on. We are painfully aware of the Communists menace and how it has threatened the orderly progress of the country. But here also we can say that we have taken prompt steps to arrest this trouble. To-day, even in Krishna and Malabar, it is quite under control.

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Mr. Raza Khan could not see whether education has made any progress during the last three years. If he only takes the trouble of finding out the number of high schools and colleges and the number of students studying in them in 1945 and the number now, he will see what progress has been made—the tremendous strides we have made in the field of education during the last two or three years.

" With regard to irrigation also, though we have mighty rivers like Krishna and Godavari, our Province is a deficit Province in foodstuffs. It could have been avoided if the previous administration had taken trouble about giving more irrigation facilities to the agriculturists. But things were neglected for decades and centuries and all of a sudden we are asked to provide more food to-day and make the Province self-sufficient. In spite of the vigorous drive we are making in the Grow More Food campaign, the schemes cannot come to fruition almost overnight. They take some time. Schemes which have been neglected all these years have been investigated and to-day the cost of the schemes already sanctioned runs to Rs. 30 crores. There are other schemes under investigation but which have not been sanctioned.

" With regard to electricity, we have spent Rs. 9 crores during the last three years. The programme is for Rs. 20 crores. We are not much behind the schedule and we hope to complete our programme in the next three or four years.

" Therefore, Sir, it cannot be said that nothing has been done. We have also saved our province from famine and scarcity of foodstuffs. We impressed upon the Government of India, we procured from the villagers and we have somehow saved the people from starvation and hunger in spite of our deficit in foodgrains. These are all not small matters. When we have to feed five crores of people day in and day out and all the months of the year, the enormity of the problem can be imagined. What anxious times the Food Minister and his colleagues have spent can only be realized by those who have got an inner knowledge of the working of the Government.

" Sir, Mr. Raza Khan can easily say that this is nothing. May I ask him also a question, Sir? What is his achievement as a Muslim Leaguer in this House for the last three years? What has he done by way of good to the people or to his own Muslims? Has he created cordial feelings between Hindus and Muslims? What is his achievement for the Muslim masses? Let him answer these questions in a separate debate and I shall be very glad to know."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" We are not in power."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The hon. Member is a political leader, representing a big party. Whether he is in power or in Opposition, he has to do something for the masses. I do not know whether his achievement is nil or zero.

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" With regard to education, as Mr. Anwar has rightly pointed out, we have reversed the policy of the Government with regard to aid for building grants for private schools and private managements. There was a Government Order definitely saying that private schools and hostels for boys should not ask for grants from Government. That Government Order was passed in 1940 or so, and all these years the private schools could not get any grants. After considerable consideration, we have reversed the policy and we have made a beginning and we hope to give greater amounts for this purpose when finances improve. We have therefore given a fillip to education, and it cannot be gainsaid by my friend Mr. Raza Khan. 4-45 p.m.

" Mr. Majid referred to capital expenditure and pleaded that capital expenditure should be incurred, so that our province might be prosperous—whether it be with regard to industry or education or electricity,—so that we might create revenue-producing assets and we could also give livelihood to our people in some of these business concerns. We are anxious, in spite of the difficulties of the money market, in spite of the inability of the Government of India to give us the promised loans, to get on with our programme. We have been contacting all the bankers here and some of the industrialists and my recent talks with the Governor of the Reserve Bank have all been to see that we maintain our expenditure in the capital account, that we go on with our programme under irrigation and electricity and industries—we have a programme in all these branches—and we are anxious to maintain our capital expenditure of the past few years. Our requirements, even according to the Public Works Department Secretary are about Rs. 10 crores under Electricity, Irrigation, etc. And the wherewithal, the money required to push through these programmes is certainly the concern of this Government, and we are trying to get the necessary finance for this capital expenditure. Just to run the day to day administration perhaps we are balancing our budget somehow with great difficulty and sometimes we have also to defer or drop out some of the desirable schemes. Having lost Rs. 17 crores under Prohibition—which has come under much criticism to-day—we have still been able to balance the budget, but our utmost concern is about the capital expenditure, because certain big schemes have to be sanctioned in the near future. And if the Andhra province is to come, then their buildings, have to be constructed, their projects have to be pushed through ultimately—whether by this Government or that Government it does not matter—but ultimately we are all well-wishers and are interested in the welfare of the people in the whole province—and we are anxious to see that we take up Ramapadasagar, and the Krishna-Pennar Project and complete the Tungabhadra and other sanctioned schemes. So, our capital expenditure programme has been maintained. Otherwise, as Mr. Majid says, our province will be in the mire of penury and we will not be out of our difficulties. We will have to create more wealth, put more money into the hands of the people, raise their standard of living and then only we may

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say that we have done something ultimately. It is true when we look at the immensity of the problem, what has been done so far may look just a drop in the ocean—I do not deny that. But Mr. Raza Khan must view with sympathy, whether some attempt is not being made in the right direction and whether the money in the capital expenditure account or other account is being frittered away or thrown down into the gutter. Therefore, Sir, we hope to maintain our capital expenditure. In spite of so many difficulties, in spite of the advice that comes from the Government of India with regard to the deferring of this capital expenditure, with regard to retrenchment of some of the essential services, etc., we are trying to maintain the capital expenditure account, so that we may give a fillip to our programme as planned previously, and we want to maintain it.

" With regard to zamindaris also, some suggestions were made. These notes indicate the expenditure only up to 15th October or so, and what has been done thereafter up to now and what is to be done hereafter do not find a place therein. When we do incur expenditure, it comes in the supplementary budget or in the budget proper; so far we have not incurred expenditure on anything except under ' Rent control officers ' and we have created a fourth Member of the Board of Revenue for that very purpose. Some members took objection to the creation of that fourth membership; but out of these four members, one is entirely devoting himself to the Grow More Food Schemes, a second member, Mr. Vijayaraghavan, is entirely devoting himself to rent reduction work, the survey and settlement parties and that huge work that has to be done before we can settle the zamindari question altogether; and there are thus only two members available for general work; one of them is in charge of commercial taxes and prohibition work and the other in charge of land revenue and irrigation works. I can well imagine to myself how these four members are finding it difficult to manage with the increased work in our province. As I said, only two members are attending to the normal work and two are on special duty just now; and so, it cannot be said that we have in a reckless manner sanctioned the fourth member with all his Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries, etc. We do hope to give the zamindars perhaps some quantum of compensation, it may be 50 per cent or whatever it is, and we will have to get the money to pay them. Perhaps it may not be in the current year, it may be in 1950–51; but even then it cannot be done from the revenue account, and we will have to get the necessary money for paying them. I do not know whether it can be done by selling our Government of India paper or whether we can get it by way of loans from the Reserve Bank or by going into the open market—these will have to be considered very carefully before we can say anything definitely and we have also had full consultation with regard to all these matters with the Governor of the Reserve Bank and I hope something useful will come out of the conferences that we have had. Of course, anything that we do, must be done in full consultation with the Government of India.

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" Mr. Majid was also referring to the lignite deposit and said that if only they could be exploited, our province will go up in the scale of prosperity. The full Cabinet had a full discussion with Mr. Ghosh who is the officer in charge of lignite deposits. He came and explained to us the various difficulties he has to go through hereafter before he can say if the scheme is going to be a successful scheme. He does not know even to-day after two or three years of investigation, whether the water-table is above or below the deposits, and if by any chance the water-table is somewhere near the lignite deposits, then the entire scheme will be a waste and nothing more can be done because we cannot bale out the water. Sometimes the deposits are found below the sea-water level and in such a case the whole scheme will have to be abandoned. There is of course the Cannore site and we will have to investigate that site. After spending some lakhs of rupees and some time, he will be in a position to say whether the deposits there are below or above the sea-water level. That will naturally take some time; the whole work is a subterranean work; as it is below the surface, elaborate investigations have to be made before it can be said that the scheme can be explored or abandoned.

" Again, repeated reference was made to the incidence of tuberculosis in our province and member after member was pleading that more attention must be paid to creating more tubercular sanatoria in our province. Sir, we are certainly anxious to do that; we are also trying to encourage private bodies who are willing to come forward with their schemes; we have also requested the Provincial Welfare Fund to take up this matter and attend to it in a very serious manner. I know from my own district and from the Telugu districts, there are many many people who are coming for admission to city hospitals; and when they want to get admission, they are put to abominable difficulties. I think the time is come when almost every district in our province should begin to think in terms of having its own sanatoria instead of depending only upon Madanapalle or Perundurai or some other sanatorium in the south. We have given some help to the Coimbatore sanatorium and to the Trichinopoly sanatorium, and I am glad that Tanjore also, with the help of the Chatram Funds, is thinking of having a sanatorium there. In Visakhapatnam also, there is a scheme which for a long time has been under discussion by the officers. I do not know what has happened to it: and in the other districts also, a number of Provincial Welfare District Committees have collected large sums of money and I am sure they will spend them on useful schemes like tuberculosis sanatoria in the districts. Government also will certainly see that ample help is given to these institutions either by way of building grants or maintenance grants. We have also recently increased our grants to Perundurai and other sanatoria; and we will see that hereafter also we give more maintenance and building grants to some of these institutions.

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" Mr. Kurmayya has pointed out that he has failed to see anything done in the cause of the tribal or agency people. It is true there is nothing in this supplementary demand about them; but it does not mean we have not done anything for them all these two years. If only my friend cared to look into last year's budget, he would have found that we have started some dispensaries, hospitals and schools in those areas and that a beginning has been made, in the direction of the amelioration of the tribal people. I may assure Mr. Kurmayya that a conference is being called in the Secretariat on the 7th of December of officers from the three districts of Visakhapatnam, East and West Godavaris with the Secretaries to Government and the Ministers who may be present, when we want to chalk out a full progamme for the welfare and development of these agency people. If necessary, a special officer will be appointed to go into the many problems affecting their welfare—their indebtedness, their tenure, some of their customs, etc. Malaria also is there, eternally opening its mouth to take its toll of death—all these will have to be talked out and we want to lay out a five-year programme of developing the agency areas. We want to appoint, as I said, a special officer if necessary with some funds allotted for developmental work. The conference will come off on the 7th December in the Secretariat and some non-officials who are interested in this work will also be invited to the conference. I am sure that will be the beginning of a big programme for the development of the agency.

" There are also some other questions, Sir, such as the question of the backward people, but I do not know whether we can relevantly discuss them here, as there is nothing to warrant a discussion of those subjects just now; but I may assure the House we are trying to do what we can for the amelioration of the backward communities also. We have recently appointed an advisory committee; last year we provided a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs for their education and more will be given in the future. We are awaiting the full and considered opinion of the advisory committee of which Mr. Swaminathan and Mr. Subrahmaniam are also members. Certainly we are interested in the welfare of all backward areas and backward people; if only the forward areas and forward people come into the limelight of prosperity and education, it is not enough for our province. We are anxious that the agency people and the backward communities should also take their due share in the prosperity of our province and everybody's contribution is welcome in the great march we are making towards that goal.

" I think, Sir, I have covered most of the points raised. Mr. Venkatasubbiah pointed out that nothing tangible had been done for the Ceded districts. First and foremost, let me tell him that unless a scheme is ready to be sanctioned, it cannot be included in the supplementary budget. He can well reserve his remarks for the General Budget when he can have a full picture of what is being done or what is not being done for the Ceded districts, and

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then he can certainly raise his voice of protest against any uneven expenditure adumbrated in the Budget, i.e., if Rayalaseema does not get its due share in the provisions made in the General Budget.

" In a way, Sir, we have had an abridged edition of our Budget discussion, and I am glad many members have spoken with feeling on what is happening or what is not happening, and I am grateful to the criticisms made by hon. Members."

SRI M. KUMARAN:—" The Hon. Finance Minister covered nearly thirty minutes, Sir, and he has not found time to refer to the beggar problem affecting the Madras City and the other towns."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" It is essentially a municipal matter, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I now adjourn the House to Tuesday, the 22nd November, till 11 o'clock."

The House then adjourned.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 136 asked by Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 19th November 1949, page 668 supra.]

The number of holidays allowed for the Executive Officers of this Government is generally 91 for a year and they are given for the occasions specified in the list below. All other days in the year are working days for them.

2. As regards Judicial officers, the position is as follows :—

(1) *The High Court.*—The High Court has Christmas, Summer and Michaelmas vacations. The Hon'ble the Chief Justice has the power to fix the actual dates of each vacations provided that the total number of days covered by the vacations in any one year does not exceed 90. In addition to these vacations, all the public and Government holidays are holidays for the Hon'ble the Judges also and they do not work on Saturdays. All other days are working days for them.

(2) *The City Civil Court and the Court of Small Causes, Madras.*—Both these Courts have two months' vacations commencing with that of the High Court less the number of days reduced to provide for Michaelmas holidays for a week including the holidays sanctioned for Ayudha Puja. In addition, all the public and Government holidays are also holidays for them. All the other days are working days for these Courts.

(3) *Mufassal Courts.*—Under the rules framed by the High Court, District and Sub-Courts generally have vacation for two months and District Munsifs' Courts for six weeks in each year. This includes the Michaelmas vacation for a period of one week including the holidays sanctioned for Ayudha Puja. In addition, they have all the public and Government holidays. All the other days are working days for these Courts.

List of holidays in a year.

All Sundays	52
All penultimate Saturdays except the penultimate Saturday of the month in which Deepavali falls	11
New Year's Day	1
Vaikunta Ekadasi	1
Meeladi Nabi	1
Boghi	1
Pongal	1
Mattupongal	1
Mahasivarathri	1
Telugu New Year's Day	1
Tamil New Year's Day	1
Good Friday	1
King's Birth Day	1
Half-yearly Closing of Bank Accounts (1st July)	1
Ramzan	1
Avani Avittam	1

Independence Day (15th August)	1
Sri Jayanti	1
Vinayakachathurthi	1
Mahalya Amavasai	1
Ayudha Puja	3
Birth day of Mahatma Gandhi (2nd October)	1
Bakrid	1
Deepavali	2
Muharram	1
Christmas	1
Annual Closing of Bank Accounts (31st December)	1
Total	91

Besides these holidays, there are certain local holidays granted in certain places (e.g., Onam for Malabar). Holidays are granted on days on which solar and lunar eclipses fall.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 145 asked by Sri V. Raghavayya at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 19th November 1949, page 683 supra.]

Glyricidia is one of the many species of trees and plants the Agricultural department is recommending to the farmers for planting on high field channel bunds, porambokes and private waste lands for providing themselves with green leaf for manuring and fodder, and for fuel. Incessant propaganda is being carried on this important item of work. The importance of taking care of this plant against cattle grazing is also being stressed. A large number of seedlings of this plant were supplied to ryots during the Tree Planting Week held in August last year. A districtwar statement showing the number of Glyricidia seedlings and stumps and the quantity of seeds supplied during 1948-49 is given below :—

Statement showing the number of Glyricidia seedlings and stumps and quantity of seeds supplied during 1948-49.

District.	Seedlings.	Seeds.		Cuttings and stumps.
	NOS.	LB.	NOS.	NOS.
Chittoor	5,873	..	..	..
Anakapalle	4,136	..	..	..
Kakinada	2,946	..	..	..
Eluru	18,300	..	..	5,226
Vijayavada	6,410	8	..	2,955
Kurnool	1,881	..	..	..
Bellary	30,213	20	..	..
Anantapur	12,270	..	4,540	1,880
Nellore	8,740	..	..	..
Chingleput	13,127	..	..	..
Coimbatore	..	..	15,715	3,500
Pattukkottai	12,352	..	..	..
Tanjore	6,508	..	..	..
Ramnad	19,914	..	..	403
Tirunelveli	31,074	..	..	..
Kozhikode	11,510	..	..	..
Mangalore	12,655	..	..	..
Total	197,909	28	20,255	13,964

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday, the 22nd November 1949.

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.

High prices of cane jaggery in Tirunelveli district.

* 150-A *Q.*—SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that cane jaggery is now selling at Rs. 15 a tulam (6 visses) in the Tirunelveli district; and

(*b*) what steps the Government propose to take to bring down the prices to normal?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"(*a*) The Government have no ready information regarding the price of jaggery in Tirunelveli district. However, it is likely that the price of cane jaggery has increased in the Tirunelveli district, as it has in all other districts of the Province.

"(*b*) The increase is partly to be attributed to the scarcity of sugar and partly to a rise in prices of other commodities. The Government consider that this temporary seasonal rise will come down as soon as the new season's produce comes to the market by about the end of December next. The Government are, however, watching the situation and will take such action as might be found necessary in case the price does not decline by about January next."

SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL:—"Sir, may I know what action has been taken by the Government to bring down the price of cane jaggery since I gave notice of the question?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"The Government are only watching the situation, because we have no powers to take any action as there is no control over jaggery at present."

DR. U. PADMANABHA MALLAYYA:—"May I know whether it is not a fact at any rate in South Kanara that one of the reasons for such rise in the price of jaggery is the illicit distillation that is rampant there?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may put a separate question; this is about the Tirunelveli district."

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SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—" Is it not a fact that abnormal rise of prices is the common order of the day and any attempt by the Government to reduce prices will be an abnormality? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—I do not understand the question."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—" May I ask whether the Government will appeal to the people of the Tirunelveli district not to take jaggery till the end of December? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" As I have said, it is only by the end of December that the new seasonal produce will come into the market."

SRI P. KANDASWAMY PILLAI:—" Is it not a fact that the price of jaggery went up just after introducing sugar control? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Yes, Sir; that is one of the reasons."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I know if the Government are aware that the price of jaggery has shot up in all the districts, not only in Tirunelveli? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Yes, it may be possible."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" Sir, I am unable to understand when the Hon. Minister says that he is powerless as there is no control. Is it not a fact that the Government are all-powerful and they can check the price either by rule or by bringing controls, especially when the prices of all foodstuffs of the ordinary people, viz., jaggery, tamarind, pepper, etc., have all gone up thrice or four times? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Yes, Sir; There are two ways of controlling the jaggery price; one is to control the actual price, another is to prohibit its export from the Province. Both were tried during the last control period and they were removed in December 1947. Ever since, we are not exercising any control over jaggery; if a new control is required, it will be introduced if the situation warrants it."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" Do the Government know that jaggery-making is an important industry carried on by a large number of poor people in the district and also, do they know that if the manufacturers of this jaggery had been given facilities to carry on their industry, the quantity available would have increased and the price would not have gone so high as it has done to-day? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Yes, Sir; we know that it is a cottage industry; wherever possible, we have been trying to encourage co-operative societies, and in Tirunelveli they have formed several co-operative societies recently."

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SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" May I know whether there is anything fundamentally wrong in the jaggery producer getting a decent price in these days of high cost of living? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" I do not think so, Sir."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" If the stocks of jaggery are being controlled by co-operative societies, will the Government tell us how these prices have gone up? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" They have not been controlled by the co-operative societies; there are still so many private people doing the business in their private capacity; it is only wherever possible, they are trying to form these co-operative societies."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" Are the co-operative societies also selling jaggery at the same high price as is being sold by the private parties? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" I have no information."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I know whether the shortage in Tirunelveli district is due to hoarding of jaggery or the actual shortage of jaggery in that area, and whether the Government have investigated into the matter and satisfied themselves that it is due to shortage? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Yes, we are calling for a report."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" If sugar is not available and jaggery is abnormally costly, may I know what the Government expect the poor people to do? Are they to go without jaggery and sugar? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" We have now control only over sugar, as I have already said. There is no need at present to control jaggery; but if, as the situation develops, we find there is real necessity to control it, the Government will consider the question of controlling jaggery also."

JANAB M. S. ATAULLAH:—" The Hon. Minister has said that jaggery has not yet come into the market; will the Hon. Minister take information from me that it has already come into the market? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" I did not say that it had not come into the market; I said the season generally ends by the end of November and the new supplies would come into the market by the end of December or January—that is what I said."

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Kist collections in estates notified under the Rent Reduction Act.

* 150-B *Q.*—SRI RAJA GURUNATHA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that orders have been issued that in all the estates where rent reduction has been notified, the estate-holders should not make the kist collections and that the Government themselves would undertake to do it;

(*b*) if so, whether a copy of the order or instructions will be placed on the table of the House; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that in Salem district, the Revenue authorities send demand notices to the estate-holders to pay peshkash, etc., in such estates and if so, what the justification therefor is?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to section 3 (4) of the Madras Estates Land (Reduction of Rent) Act, 1947, under which, after revised rates of rent are fixed under section 3 (2) of that Act, the Government are bound to collect the rents or arrears of rent due with effect from the commencement of fasli 1357.

" (*c*) The Government have no information."

Enquiries conducted by the Special Officer for Rent Reduction.

* 150-C *Q.*—SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN (on behalf of Sri G. Latchanna): Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Special Officer for Rent Reduction was authorized to conduct enquiries whether a village is an estate or not;

(*b*) whether the inamdars of North Visakhapatnam district have filed petitions to hold an enquiry as to whether a village is an estate or not and whether the Special Officer has posted the matters at Madras with a threat in the notice that a default of non-appearance would involve a decision against them; and

(*c*) (i) whether the ryots have taken objection questioning his jurisdiction to hold an enquiry under the Act and the rules framed thereunder and whether the Government were approached to stay proceedings on the ground that his enquiry is without jurisdiction and prejudicial to their case under the Zamindari Abolition Act;

(ii) whether it is a fact that the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee and the North Visakhapatnam District Congress Committee brought this matter to the notice of the Government; and

(iii) what was the action of the Government on those representations?

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (*a*) Under the rules issued under the Rent Reduction Act, the Special Officer has to enquire into the objections, if any, received by him from landholders or ryots in connexion with the rent reduction proceedings in respect of any estate village. If, in the objection petitions or in the course of the enquiry, it is contended that a village is not an ' estate ' governed by the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908, the Special Officer has necessarily to examine the question to see if the Rent Reduction Act applies to the village or not though he cannot give a *decision* on the question. The question of authorizing the Special Officer in this behalf does not arise.

" (*b*) Yes; but the Government are not aware of the threat referred to by the hon. Member.

" (*c*) (i) & (ii) Yes.

" (*c*) (iii) The Government have sent replies to the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee and also to the ryots through the hon. Member in his capacity as the President, North Visakhapatnam District Congress Committee, explaining the position."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" May I know whether these enquiries by special officers are of a quasi-judicial nature? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" This is an enquiry as provided for in the Act and the hon. Member can interpret it as he likes."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" The Hon. Minister said that he received letters from the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee and the Visakhapatnam District Congress Committee; may I know what action has been taken on them? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I have already said that replies have been sent to those two organizations."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I know so far how many enquiries have been conducted by these officers and how many objections were received by them? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I should like to have notice."

SRI A. SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—" Is it not an inconvenience and waste of money to the ryots to come to Madras from North Visakhapatnam? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Representations were made that it would be very difficult for the poor people to come all the way to Madras; so I have instructed the officer concerned to hold the enquiry in that district itself."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I ask whether the enquiry is limited in application only to such inams as are ' estates ' or does it apply to all the inams? "

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I can only refer the hon. Member to the Act itself; he is a lawyer himself."

SRI B. VENKATANARAYANA REDDI:—" ఎస్టేటు అవునా కాదా అనే విషయము విచారిస్తున్నట్లు గౌ॥ మంత్రిగారు వారి సమాధానములో చెప్పినారు. రైత్వారీ గ్రామములను మినహాయించిన లెక్కన గ్రామము "ఎస్టేటు" అను నిర్వచనమునకిందికి రాని గ్రామములున్నవా?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" It is a hypothetical question, and if the hon. Member specifically cites any particular case, I should be able to answer it."

11-15 a.m. JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" Arising out of the answer that the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee has written to the Government, do the Government feel that it is proper for the Congress body to interfere in a quasi-judicial enquiry?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" It is not a question of interference, Sir. If a responsible body feels that there is a matter that ought to be represented to the Government in the interests of the people affected. They are at liberty to do so and the Government communicated their views in reply."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—" Do the Government undertake a regular enquiry or investigation of the question whether there are any inams in the Province which will not come within the definition of the Estates Land Act?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I believe the enquiry under section 9 must clarify that position."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have come to any decision on the enquiry made by the Special Officer?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" It is not the Government; I believe it is the Special Officer himself who takes a decision on this particular aspect of the matter."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" May I have a definite answer from the Government whether the Rent Reduction Act applies to all the inams in the Province or only to such inams which are taken as estates under the Act?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" As I have said, it does apply to all the zamindaris and inams."

SRI B. VENKATANARAYANA REDDI:—" ఎస్టేటు లాండ్ ఆక్టు ప్రకారం అన్ని ఇనాం గ్రామాలు ఎస్టేట్లు అని నిర్వచింపబడినవి గనుక మరల ఆ విషయాన్ని విచారించుచూ కాలహరణముచేయక శిస్తు తగ్గింపు ఆఫీసర్లు సరాసరి శిస్తు తగ్గింపు చేయవలెనని ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఉత్తరువును జారీచేస్తారా?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" It is a matter about which I cannot give an assurance; if it is about a place where the Act itself does not apply, there cannot be an order under that Act, because it would be illegal."

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Amount spent for Governmental functions and parties.

* 151 *Q.*—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total amount spent by the Government on Governmental functions and parties from 15th August 1947 to 15th August 1949;

(*b*) by which department of the Government these functions are arranged; and

(*c*) the amount actually spent by the Government in connexion with the function held on 14th August 1949 for offering presentations to the Poets Laureate?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—" (*a*) An expenditure of Rs. 45,144-9-8 was incurred in connexion with Governmental functions and parties from 15th August 1947 to 15th August 1949. This amount does not include the expenditure incurred towards boarding, lodging, conveyance, transport, etc., in connexion with the visit of High Personages. A list[a] of State functions and parties is placed on the table of the House. The expenditure incurred in connexion with the Independence Day Celebrations of 1949 has not been included as the total has not been finalised yet.

" (*b*) The Public Department is responsible for arranging State functions and parties to His Excellency the Governor-General, Honourable the Prime Minister of India, Deputy Prime Minister of India and certain other very High Personages who are of importance from the point of view of the entire Government. As regards other distinguished visitors the concerned Departments are responsible for such arrangements.

" (*c*) An expenditure of Rs. 2,002-3-0 was incurred in connexion with the Durbar held on 14th August 1949 for the award of the Insignia of Poets Laureateship as detailed below:

	RS.	A.	P.
Cost of 5 medals	591	2	0
Cost of 5 shawls	459	1	0
Travelling allowance for Poets Laureate for attending the Durbar	496	0	0
Expenses towards Guard of Honour by the National Cadet Corps	328	0	0
Expenses towards hire charges for chairs provided at Rajaji Hall	128	0	0
Total ...	2,002	3	0"

[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 839-840 infra.

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JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Is the Hon. Leader of the House aware that when residential M.L.As. and M.L.Cs. were invited to some of these functions, particularly the one in connexion with honouring the Poets Laureate, they were treated very badly and they were not even offered seats and the Public Department or the officials who were in charge of the function, asked them to shift for themselves although hundreds of vacant seats were there? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The hundreds of vacant chairs could have been occupied by the M.L.As. concerned."

JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI:—" May I know, Sir, why, when Rs. 4,000 had been spent on a tea party for the Prime Minister of India, only a sum of Rs. 1,700 was spent for a party to His Excellency the Governor-General? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" A separate question may be put."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" In the Government State function Mrs. Madhava Menon was taking a very active and leading part. May we know whether she is appointed by the Government as a State Hostess or it is the duty of the Deputy Speaker in all such functions? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The Deputy Speaker as such has no connexion with Governmental functions. I do not know whether Mrs. Madhava Menon is taking such a leading role as the hon. Member wants to put it; if she has been taking an active interest, the Government are certainly thankful for the services she is rendering."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" May I know under what head of the Budget this is met? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I think under the ' Miscellaneous Head ', Sir, if I am not mistaken."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I know, Sir, why, when we spent Rs. 15,000 for the Independence Day Celebrations in August 1947, we spent only Rs. 6,500 in 1948; is it because we have got tired of independence? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" If we spend less, it does not show that we are tired of our own independence and we could never be tired of independence even if we do not have Independence Day Celebrations. On the first occasion, we supplied a number of flags to offices and that must have cost quite a bit and perhaps the celebrations were also on a grander scale and style because it was the first occasion."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" The Hon. the Leader of the House suggested that the M.L.As. should go and occupy some of the vacant seats; may I ask whether it is not wrong on

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the part of the Government to have invited the M.L.As. and M.L.Cs. and treated them in such a way? Will it not have been advisable much rather not to invite them to such functions? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I do not know the treatment that was given to them and I do not think any insulting treatment was accorded to them; it could not be the intention of the Chief Secretary or the Government to do anything which gives a feeling of discourtesy to the M.L.As. concerned. But we shall see that M.L.As. when invited are given due treatment."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Will the Hon. the Leader of the House refer to the Chief Whip of the Government and ask him how he himself was treated when he was entering the hall during the Poet Laureate function at the Rajaji Hall? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I do not know what treatment was accorded to Sri Bapineedu, the present Government Whip and it will be very interesting to know from him directly the treatment he was accorded."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Is the Hon. the Leader of the House aware whether the Mayor of Madras who was also invited to the said function was not given his proper place and whether the Corporation passed a very strong resolution condemning the action of the Government? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Whatever it is, I assure the hon. Member that no discourtesy was meant either to the Worshipful Mayor of the City or to any of the Legislators; if that is the feeling of hon. Members, we shall take due steps to see that they are given due treatment."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Sir, since there has been several complaints that discourtesy was shown to the M.L.As. at the function, will the Government go into the matter, enquire into it to see if such discourtesy was given to the Members? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" At this distance of time, there is no point in holding an official or a non-official enquiry in the matter; we shall see that proper treatment is given to all concerned."

JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI:—" Do the Government see the importance of entertaining guests from foreign countries and spend more lavishly upon entertaining them? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" There is no need for the hon. Member to suggest it to the Government; whenever we feel that a particular person deserves a very high-class treatment, certainly it will be given to him."

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Closure of the Engineering College in the Annamalai University.

* 152 *Q.*—JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have been informed about the closure of the Engineering College in the Annamalai University; and

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, the reasons given by the Vice-Chancellor for the closure and the action the Government have taken in this matter?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) It is understood that the behaviour of the students of the Engineering and Technology section of the Annamalai University on the Founder's Day necessitated the closure. The Government are examining the situation created by the incidents and their sequel. It has to be realized that Annamalai University is an autonomous body."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" The Hon. Minister began the answer with the words ' it is said ', may I know whether he went into the matter personally and also into the merits of the case? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I did not say: ' It is said ' but ' It is understood '; the question of going into the merits does not arise since the Syndicate is an autonomous body and they can deal with it."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" How is it, Sir, that the Hon. the Law Minister without knowing the full facts of the case gave his verdict that the responsibility is entirely with the students and not with the authorities? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I do not know what the hon. Member means by saying that I gave the verdict; the students gave me a memorandum which itself showed that they were wrong and I told them so."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—" When a few students are responsible, how is it, Sir, that the whole section has been closed? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Sometimes, it happens like that; a grain of salt spoils the whole milk."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—" Are the Government aware that the University authorities have increased boarding charges and the room rent abnormally without proportionately increasing the teaching staff and other amenities and these were the main causes for the trouble in the University? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I do not know how far the Government are responsible for the University administration."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The matter did not reach the Government at all, Sir."

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SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" If the matter is so important as to warrant the closure of the institution, may I ask the Hon. Minister to furnish to the House detailed information with reference to the incident and the consequences? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I would refer the hon. Member to the Vice-Chancellor of the Annamalai University and also to the Press Note issued by him."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" The Hon. Minister confessed that he gave the opinion on the memorandum; may I know what is mentioned in it as grievances of the students in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" There is no question of my confession of anything; the students gave me a memorandum, in which they said that one of the reasons was the segregation of boys and girls by the construction of a wall separating the girls hostel; that complaint was outrageous and it was wrong on their part to have made that sort of complaint."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—" Is it a fact, Sir, that, as reported in the newspapers, the students wanted that the wall separating the boys and girls hostel should be removed; if so, may I know what the idea is? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" It is true that they wanted the wall to be removed, but as regards what their idea is the hon. Member has to ask the boys themselves." (Laughter.)

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Is it true that what the Hon. Law Minister used to do, namely, of detaining persons without provocation has been done by the students of the University in detaining their Vice-Chancellor for 12 hours? "

THE HON. K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I do not accept the compliment of the hon. Gentleman that I am detaining persons without trial and for no reason. I am sure they would not have detained the Vice-Chancellor, if they had followed my example."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" Having regard to the fact that the Government are paying substantial grants to the University, is it not proper that they should see that proper work is done there? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" We have not at all forgotten that grants are being paid to Universities and we feel that they ought to be paid. We are examining the situation and, if any interference on the part of the Government is warranted and if it is permissible under the Act, we may do so."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—" Have the Government scrutinized whether the grants paid to the University are being spent for the purposes for which the grants are made? "

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" There are officers of the Government who look into the matter."

11-30 a.m.

Toll compensation payable to local bodies.

[* 153 *Q.*—

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

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have recently received any representations from local bodies or from the public for an increase in the amount of toll compensation payable to them; and

(*b*) if so, what steps the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (*a*) & (*b*) It is a fact that representations were received from certain local bodies requesting increase of toll compensation payable to them under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931. The Government have after careful consideration informed the local bodies that their request cannot be accepted at present."

Expenditure on the working of the Shop Assistants Act.

[* 154 *Q.*—

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

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the total amount spent by the Government on the working of the Shop Assistants Act in 1948–49 is; and

(*b*) what the estimated expenditure in 1949–50 for the working of the said Act is?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (*a*) Rs. 2,39,953.

" (*b*) Rs. 8,73,378."

Hon. Ministers' tours.

* 155 *Q.*—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to place on the table of the House a statement showing as to how many days the Hon. Ministers were in Madras and for how many days they were on tour outside Madras in the months of May, June, July, August and the end of September 1949?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—" A statement * is laid on the table of the House."

* Printed as Appendix II on page 841 infra.

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JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" May I ask, Sir, whether these tours are undertaken by Ministers, because they feel they have to go and study things on the spot there, or merely to keep up local engagements? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" These visits are multi-purpose visits." (Laughter.)

JANAB MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM:—" May I know whether Ministers, while on tour, are addressing public meetings or only attending dinner parties and tea parties? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" As I said they serve a multi-purpose. Wherever the local Congress Committee or somebody else arrange a public meeting the Ministers address the gathering."

JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI:—" May I know whether Ministers go on tours so that they may get into contact with officers only? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" No, Sir, they go on tour to get into contact with officials and non-officials, and it is open to the latter to approach them and make representations."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Is it not necessary that when Ministers go on tour they should accept such engagements which would be in keeping with their dignity and prestige, instead of merely opening cinema houses and attending to trivial matters? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The hon. Member may leave it entirely to the Ministers who are competent to judge whether an engagement is trivial or important."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I know, Sir, why the Hon. Sri H. Sitarama Reddi was in Madras in September 1949 for 28 days and went on tour only for two days (laughter), while the other Ministers were on tour ? Is it because he was lazy while others were busy? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" It is entirely a matter of discretion of the Hon. Minister for Land Revenue; perhaps he was otherwise busy in Madras."

Assignment of cultivable poramboke lands at Mosaveli for paddy cultivation.

* 156 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representations from the villagers of Jambuvanodai, Tiruthuraipundi taluk, Tanjore district, for assigning cultivable poramboke lands at Mosaveli on lease for paddy cultivation; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken in this matter?

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (*a*) & (*b*) An extent of 493 acres in the unsurveyed block of land lying to the south of Jambuvanodai village in Tirutturaippundi taluk, Tanjore district, had been leased to 229 persons for a period of five faslis from 1944. The ryots requested that the land might be permanently assigned to them. Under the instructions recently issued by the Government regarding land assignment landless poor persons in occupation of land leased to them under Grow More-Food Campaign are eligible for its assignment up to 5 acres of wet or 10 acres of dry land including their private lands, if any. The lessees of these lands were reported to be landless poor persons. The Collector of Tanjore has therefore been asked to dispose of these lands in accordance with the above instructions."

Items of expenditure incurred by the Government before obtaining sanction of the Legislature.

[*157 *Q.*—

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

SRI K. R. KARANTH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to place on the table of the House a statement of all new or additional items of expenditure sanctioned by the Government during the current year which have not been passed by this House and the district or districts to which they relate and to state the authority under which the Government are incurring such expenditure, and the reasons why such expenditure is being incurred before obtaining the sanction of the Legislature ?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the Supplementary Statement of expenditure for the current year (with Explanatory Notes) presented to the Legislature on 15th November 1949. This covers schemes involving ' New Services ' sanctioned by the Government from April 1949 to about the middle of October 1949.

" As a general rule, no sanction is accorded in the course of a year to a scheme treated as a ' New Service ' without obtaining the previous sanction of the Legislature by presenting a supplementary estimate, unless the scheme is extremely urgent, or involves only a small expenditure not exceeding Rs. 10,000 per annum recurring or Rs. 20,000 non-recurring, or for other special reasons. In a case where sanction is accorded to a ' New Service ' scheme before obtaining the prior approval of the Legislature, the Legislature is given the earliest possible opportunity to express its views on the scheme by presenting a supplementary estimate for the amount required for expenditure in the year or for a token sum.

" In respect of other schemes, i.e., schemes which are not treated as ' New Services,' the sanction of the Legislature is not ordinarily required, and sanction is accorded by the Government as and when necessary. The additional expenditure involved is met from savings within the grants already voted by the Legislature. A supplementary estimate for additional funds will be necessary, only if sufficient savings are not available.

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" Prior to 1937, it was the practice for supplementary estimates to be presented to the Legislature as soon as possible after the necessity for them first became apparent. The result of this procedure was frequently found to be that supplementary grants obtained early in the year, later proved to be unnecessary. The Auditor-General of India suggested that in such cases not involving ' new services,' the expenditure might be sanctioned by the Government and that a supplementary grant should be obtained in due course only for the anticipated net expenditure which could not be met by reappropriation from savings within the grant already voted by the Legislature. The Madras Public Accounts Committee recommended that this procedure might be followed and that supplementary demands on grounds of insufficiency of original grants should be presented to the Legislature as late in the year as possible. The Government have accepted these recommendations and supplementary demands in respect of schemes not involving ' New Services ' are therefore presented only towards the end of the year. This procedure will be followed this year also."

Quantity of khaddar remaining unsold with the Government.

*158 *Q.*—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total quantity of khaddar (in yards) which remains unsold with the Government of Madras in the various depots up to the end of September 1949, and its value; and

(*b*) what steps the Government propose to take to dispose of the accumulated stock of khaddar which remains unsold with the Government?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" (*a*) The total quantity of khadi which remained unsold at the Government intensive khadi centres on 30th September 1949 was 568,181 linear yards and its value was Rs. 7,98,118.

" (*b*) The accumulation is mainly due to the restriction that the khadi should be distributed only in the centre where it is produced, this restriction having been imposed to further the main object of the Intensive Khadi Scheme, which is, to make the centres where it is in force self-sufficient in regard to requirements of cloth in terms of khadi. The steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to dispose of the stocks are:

(i) to persuade by propaganda, the spinners and residents of the centres to consume larger quantities of khadi;

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(ii) to make it difficult for the residents of the centres to purchase mill cloth or handloom cloth by preventing the sales of such cloth within the centres;

(iii) to insist on the use of the khadi by all Government departments;

(iv) to offer to sell a fairly large quantity of the khadi to the All-India Spinners' Association; and

(v) to open sales depots in important places in the neighbourhood of the centres and also in Madras."

MR. SPEAKER:—" A similar question has come up before the House a number of times before."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Arising out of the reply of the Hon. Minister that khadi worth seven lakhs and odd is being accumulated and left unsold, does it not confirm the oft-repeated remarks of Members of this House that the Government are wasting public money by investing in khadi instead of investing in productive schemes ?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" No, Sir, it is a productive scheme, and I do not accept the remark of the hon. Gentleman that khadi scheme is not a productive scheme."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" Sir, recently the Government have issued a circular to all municipalities and local bodies that they should buy khadder for their employees. May I know whether that order also is in consonance with the drive to sell khaddar and is it the intention of the Government that even the poor servants in municipalities and local boards should buy khaddar ?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" The Government have asked local bodies and other Government departments to buy khaddar, because it is really necessary that they in order to encourage khaddar production, should go in for khadi."

SRI K. LINGA RAJU:—" Sir, in view of the large accumulation of khadi cloth will the Government consider the desirability of opening a shop in Madras? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" There is already a shop. Anyhow the Government will consider the desirability of opening another shop."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" Sir, if it is the intention of the Government that khadi produced in a centre must be consumed in the same centre itself, and if a large stock has accumulated in a particular centre, may I ask whether the Government have taken steps to see that no other cloth is allowed to be sold in that centre, so that khadi may be easily consumed by the people."

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" Sir, the accumulation is only a temporary phase, and it is due to self-imposed conditions. The restriction is imposed to further the main

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object of the Intensive Khadi Scheme, which is, to make the centres where it is in force self-sufficient in regard to requirements of cloth in terms of khadi. If this restriction is relaxed, it would be possible to dispose of the stock within a short time without any difficulty."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" Is it not a fact that there is a great demand for coloured and dyed khadi and so may I know whether Government will see their way to see that more dyed and coloured khadi is made available in all districts? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" The hon. Member's suggestion will be considered."

SRI L. C. PAIS:—" Having regard to the prevailing opinion that khadi is not as durable as mill cloth, will the Government consider the desirability of bringing down the price of khadi? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" It is only a matter of opinion."

SRIMATHI R LAKSHMIPATHI:—" May I know whether it is obligatory on the part of consumers to give yarn if they purchase khadi in the Government depots? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" It is not obligatory at khadi centres."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" Sir, in view of the large accumulation of khadi in such centres, will the Government see that necessary steps are taken to consume khadi in the centre itself; for the reply of the Hon. Minister shows that they are going to open khadi shops in urban areas . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member is making a speech; he should put a supplementary question."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" Sir, I have to make a little speech to explain matters."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I wish to know what the question of the hon. Member is."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" May I repeat my question? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Yes, please do so."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" In view of the large accumulation of khadi in certain areas, will the Government see that the accumulation is disposed of in the area itself instead of opening shops in urban areas? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" The Government are trying to follow the suggestion that was made by the hon. Member just now; and if Government did not see any way of disposing of the stock that is lying there, the Government will, as suggested just now, take certain measures and they will see that the stocks are disposed of as early as possible.

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The hon. Member need not be agitated over the stock accumulation, because the Government are sure that by March 1950 the accumulated stock would be disposed of."

SRI M. KUMARAN:—" Will the Government consider the practicability of having khadi sales centres at each of the district headquarters? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" The Government will consider the suggestion."

SRI P. KANDASWAMY PILLAI:—" Is it a fact that the All-India Spinners' Association is standing in the way of opening a shop in Madras City? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" They are not standing in the way, they are likely to help us."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—" Will the Hon. Minister consider the desirability of restricting the sale of mill cloth in the firkas they have selected for development so that the khadi produced in the firka may be consumed in the firka itself? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" The suggestion is being considered actively by the Government."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" Sir, I cannot understand the policy of the Government. When there is no demand for khadi, why do they want to lock up seven lakhs and odd of rupees on khaddar and waste public fund and the tax-payers' money? I cannot understand the policy of the Government."

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" The hon. Gentleman did not understand my answer. I said the accumulation is due to the restriction that khadi should be distributed only in the centre where it is produced. This restriction is imposed to further the main object of the Intensive Khadi Scheme. If only we relax the rules, all the stocks available would be disposed of."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Do I understand, Sir, the Hon. Minister to say, that in these firkas where development of that industry is being carried on, persons living there are compelled to buy only khadi and nothing else? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" They are not compelled; but they are persuaded."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Does the Hon. Minister feel happy in forcing all the Government servants practically to purchase khadi at such an exhorbitant price, when, obviously a better variety of cloth can be purchased at 30 per cent less of khadi price? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" The policy of the Government is to encourage khadi in as many ways as possible; in so doing they are insisting on the Government departments to purchase khadi."

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JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Sir, really I do not understand the policy of the Government. Why should they dump a cloth which is very costly on people, whose purchasing power is going down day by day ? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" I have sufficiently explained the policy of the Government with regard to khaddar. I do not want to go into any further details."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister, do I understand him to say that the Government do not allow any merchant to sell mill cloth in that area ? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" I have said that the Government are actively considering the proposal of banning mill cloth in intensive khadi areas, but they have not come to any decision."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" May I know what steps the Government are going to take to improve the quality of khadi produced in those centres ? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" Every possible step is being taken. The hon. Members' suggestions, if any, will be considered."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—" Is it not a fact that khadi is relatively cheaper than mill cloth in point of durability? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" It is durable and also cheap to a certain extent."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister, may I ask, is it going to be the policy of the Government to prevent mill cloth being sold in firkas where khadi is supposed to be developed ? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" I have already stated that the matter is under the active consideration of the Government."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" Sir, if khadi is more durable and also cheaper as is affirmed by the Hon. Minister, then how is it that the Government and their agencies concerned, find it difficult to persuade people to consume khadi ? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" I said, the Government have been persuading the people in the intensive khadi centres."

Action taken by the Government to abolish the caste systems among the Hindus.

* 159 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state what action the Government have taken to abolish the numerous caste systems among Hindus in this Province?

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—"None. Caste systems cannot disappear by Governmental action. The existing distinctions are bound to disappear if there is sufficient public opinion against them."

11-45 a.m. JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Apart from taking steps, are not the Government encouraging caste system by selecting Ministers on the basis of communities and castes ?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"No, Sir. I repudiate the suggestion. The Hon. Premier has not taken caste into consideration in forming the Ministry."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—"The answer of the Hon. Minister referred to systems of caste. May I know how many systems of caste there are and what they are ?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I did not say anything like that. My answer is: Caste systems cannot disappear by Governmental action. The existing distinctions are bound to disappear if there is sufficient public opinion against them."

SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN:—"Will the Government grant State aid to inter-marriages so that the caste system may be discouraged ?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not know whether inter-caste marriage is an industry which should be encouraged by the Government." (Laughter.)

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"Are not caste systems springing up newly on the basis of language and that the Governments, Central as well as Provincial, are encouraging them in a way ?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I cannot accept the suggestion that the Government are encouraging any distinction between man and man. I do not think such action can be attributed to the Government."

SRI M. S. PATTABIRAMIAH:—"May I know whether there are systems of caste existing in our country or whether there is only a system of caste ?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I am prepared to withdraw the letter 's' in the word 'systems' occurring in my answer."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I know whether the Government are really interested in abolishing the caste system ? If so, will the Government take steps to create public opinion against the caste system?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Certainly, we are earnestly interested in the removal of caste system. If the hon. Member prepares a programme in which he wants me to participate, I will certainly participate."

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SRI V. S. SANKARASUBRAHMANYA MUDALIYAR:—"Will the Government consider the desirability of giving preference in Government service to youths who marry in castes other than their own with a view to discourage caste system ?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"That is certainly a very useful suggestion which can be considered."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Leader of the House that caste system is not the criterion in selecting Ministers, how is it that we find only one Brahman in the Ministry as against the usual quota of four or five ?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"That itself shows that we have not taken caste into consideration."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Is it not a fact that the age-long caste system in this country is based on the laws of Manu and may I know whether it is the intention of the Government to go against the very laws of Manu ?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"What is desirable for a community must be decided by the community itself. As I said, Government action is not called for in this matter. People are not anxious to follow Manu. They are certainly at liberty to abolish caste system and we will also encourage them."

JANAB MAHIN SCHAMNAD:—"Are the Government aware that there is no Harijan employed in Hindu or Brahman hotels in the kitchen and serving departments ?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"These hotels are private institutions and it is open to the management to employ whomsoever they like."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"In view of the happy announcement this morning by the Commandar-in-Chief that there will be no more caste distinctions and class distinctions in the Army evidently in pursuance of the policy of the Government of India, will this Government, being subordinate to the Government of India, adumbrate that policy in matters of service as well?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I have not seen the statement of the Commander-in-Chief."

State aid to industries.

*160 *Q.*—SRI T. VISWANATHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the total amount of State aid to industries granted under the State Aid to Industries Act in 1947–48, 1948–49, 1949–50 up to date is;

(*b*) what the names of the persons or companies that received the aid and what the respective amounts received by them, are; and

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(*c*) who the partners or managing agents or directors of the companies that received the aid as above are?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. Minister for Industries):—"(*a*) 1947-48—Rs. 98,000; 1948-49—Rs. 45,94,000 and 1949-50 (up to 2—9—1949)—Rs. 3,63,000.

"(*b*) & (*c*) A statement [a] containing the information is placed on the table of the House."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know the difference between a loan, overdraft and subsidy?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Loan is repayable, subsidy is not repayable, and overdraft is a facility granted to enable a company to carry on its work."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know whether the Government are in a position to give overdraft or do they affix signature jointly to allow overdraft on one of the banks?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"In the case of overdraft, the Government stand security to the bank so as to enable the company to transact its business."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Is it not a fact that subsidy is repayable when the company makes a profit and not repayable when it does not make a profit?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"That is quite right, Sir."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"In view of the fact that there are a number of applications from all sorts of industries, may I know whether it will not be better for the Government to announce the kind of industries to which they will give subsidies and grants?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I quite appreciate the valuable suggestion. It will be considered."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"How is it that the Industries Department of the Madras Government entertained an application from the Press and advertised in the papers inviting objections, if any, from the people, for the grant of State aid to the Press?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The advertisement is intended to call public attention so that the people, who have any objections, may file those objections."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Is it right on the part of the Government to undertake responsibility for somebody taking an overdraft from a bank?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"That is provided for in the Act."

[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 842-847 infra.

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JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"Does the Hon. Minister know that a responsible Government should never purchase public opinion by subsidising a newspaper?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The object is not to purchase anybody's help or views, but to help an industry if it comes under the heading of industry."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to give a definite opinion whether the Madras Government think it right to render aid to the Press under the State Aid to Industries Act?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"May I submit that the question is intended to elicit information and not opinions of Ministers."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I know whether a newspaper concern comes within the meaning of industry? We are not asking for opinion but information in view of the action taken by the Government."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIAR OF CHETTINAD:—"In view of the establishment of an Industrial Finance Corporation in this Province, is it not advisable that applications for more than Rs. 50,000 are received and considered by that Corporation since it is authorized to consider such applications and that applications for sums below Rs. 50,000 alone are considered and aid granted directly by the Government under the State Aid to Industries Act?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I will first take this opportunity to correct a misconception which the hon. Gentleman has. The Government are not considering any application. It is the Board of Industries that considers the applications. I do not want that wrong impression to be created in the minds of hon. Members. The Government only approves. The suggestion is very valuable and I can only say that it will be considered."

Portfolio relating to 'Engineering Colleges'.

[*161 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER:—"The —hon. Member Sri R. S. Murthi is not in his place. The answer will be printed in the proceedings."]

SRI B. S. MURTHY: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state whether the subject 'Engineering Colleges' in the Province has been transferred from the Education Minister to the Public Works Minister and, if so, the reason for such a change?

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASAMI RAJA:—"Yes. The Government do not consider it necessary to furnish any reasons for the transfer."

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Importers of cart-tyres in Singarayakonda.

* 162 *Q.*—SRI B. PERUMAL NAYUDU (on behalf of Sri V. Raghavayya): Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state with reference to Question No. 692 answered on 8th February 1949—

(*a*) who the importers of cart-tyres in Singarayakonda are; and

(*b*) what action has been taken against them?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"(*a*) & (*b*) The importers of cart-tyres are reported to be Sri Chekka Seshiah and Sri Cattipalli Venkatasubbiah of Ongole. The former was charged before the Additional District Magistrate, Bapatla, who convicted and sentenced him to pay a fine of Rs. 500 in default to undergo rigorous imprisonment for three months. Action against Sri Venkata Subbiah is reported to have been dropped as there was no evidence forthcoming against him to show that he transported any iron materials beyond Nellore district in contravention of the ban."

Police firing at Rajapalayam and Peddapasupula villages.

* 163 *Q.*—SRI N. VENKATASUBBIAH: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state— 12 noon.

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there was Police firing in Rajapalayam and Peddapasupula villages in Jammalamadugu taluk recently;

(*b*) if so, why and under what circumstances the Police resorted to firing;

(*c*) whether it was wholly due to Communist menace; and

(*d*) if so, whether any steps had been taken earlier to put down the Communist activities?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—"(*a*) Yes, Sir.

"(*b*) *Peddapasupula.*—Soon after the ban on the Communist party on the morning of 28th September 1949, the Circle Inspector of Police raided the Communist office at the village. He seized some Communist literature and also arrested one Yeddula Eswara Reddy, a Communist, who was evading arrest in a case of extortion for over a year. When the Police party was about to return in a lorry, a mob of about 200 persons rushed from a bye-lane and forcibly rescued Eswara Reddi and at the same time snatched the seized literature and a musket from one of the constables. They tried to snatch the revolver of the Circle Inspector. The mob became more defiant and indulged in stone-throwing as a result of which the Circle Inspector, two head constables and four constables sustained injuries. As the situation had become uncontrollable, the Circle Inspector warned the mob to disperse and in reply a shot was fired at the Police and also

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some stones were hurled at them. The mob was again warned to disperse but as they were in no mood to listen, two rounds were fired which also had no effect on the mob. The mob was growing more defiant and two more rounds were fired, when Venkata Konda Reddi, a top ranking Communist received gunshot injuries, and fell down. After this, the mob dispersed carrying away the injured man. As will be seen kring had to be ordered in sheer self-defence when the Police party was in danger of being annihilated.

"*Ulavapalli Rajapalayam.*—On 1st October 1949, the Circle Inspector of Police, Pulivendla, with two sections of Armed Reserves raided Ulavapalli, Rajapalayam village and arrested nine wanted Communists. As he went further into the village he was confronted with a mob of about 100 Communists on the house-tops along the street. He withdrew and tried to arrest the Communists by advancing through the fields from the southern extremity of the village. The mob had by then swelled to about 200, taking up different positions and with one hundred of them being on the ground armed with sticks and spears. The mob on the ground rushed towards the police to rescue the prisoners but was dispersed by a lathi charge. The Circle Inspector, the Sub-Inspector, the Village Munsif and some village elders repeatedly advised the mob to desist from the attitude taken by them and to allow the police to enter the village. But in reply the Communists on the house-tops showered a volley of stones both with slings and hands. A gunshot report was also heard from a house-top. The mob became more defiant and the Circle Inspector warned the mob to disperse again, but again without effect, and so he ordered fire. Three rounds were fired first but this proved ineffective and resulted in more stone throwing. Another gunshot emanated from the house-tops and so eight more rounds were fired. One of the persons on the house-tops fell, and the mob dispersed.

"(*c*) Yes. The mob at both the places appeared to have been well-tutored to resist police attacks and to attack them in turn.

"(*d*) All necessary steps have been taken from time to time to put down the subversive activities of Communists."

Supply of oil-cakes to Tanjore district.

* 164 Q.—JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL (on behalf of Janab M. A. Muhammad Ibrahim): Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representations from the public or otherwise that the supply of oil-cakes to Tanjore district is very inadequate this year; and

(*b*) if so, what steps the Government propose to take to supply enough oil-cakes to the district during the present cultivation season?

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"(*a*) Yes, Sir. The only representation received was a resolution passed by the District Food Committee, Tanjore, on 2nd August 1949.

" (*b*) As the control over price and procurement of groundnut oil-cake was removed with effect from 15th January 1949, it is open to the ryots to obtain their requirements in the open market. The movement of the cake alone is now controlled. The Tanjore Central Co-operative Store was entrusted with the supply of groundnut cake in the district. It took delivery of about 120 tons of cake from the Mills in the district and imported about 1,435 tons during January-August 1949. Permits for the export to Tanjore of about 3,326 tons of cake from other districts were issued by the Joint Director of Agriculture during the period March to August 1949."

Supply of ammonium sulphate by the Travancore Fertilizers, Limited.

* 165 *Q.*—SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Travancore Fertilizers, Limited, Alwaye, have refused to supply ammonium sulphate (manure) to this Government; and

(*b*) If so, what action this Government have taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Madras Government, while taking up shares in this Travancore Fertilizers, laid down any condition that the company should supply the Madras Government so much quantity of fertilizer and if so, may I know the quantity to be supplied by them? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The Company has to give about 40 per cent of their total output, and that is about 20,000 tons, Sir."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Company was supplying any fertilizer before the Madras Government had taken up shares in it, and if so, what was the quantity supplied before and whether they have supplied this 40 per cent of their output this year? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" We are receiving them in instalments, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Questions are over."

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

II.—DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR FURTHER EXPENDITURE IN THE YEAR 1949-50.

MR. SPEAKER:—" Regarding the Supplementary Demands for Grants, we have got 30 Demands before the House. It is better that the whips of all parties meet together and arrive at some arrangement, as to the important Demands on which they should speak, so that I can guillotine at the end the rest of the Demands which are not discussed. It is also, I think, better that we fix the time-limit for each Demand and also the number of speakers on both sides, so that we can discuss as many Demands as possible."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" May I suggest, Sir, that about five or six Demands be taken up first for disoussion and if there is time, a few more could be taken up afterwards, so that we may give a chance to members who have given cut motions in respect of the rest? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Let the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, the hon. Mr. Hameed Khan and the Hon. Leader of the House have a talk over this matter and come to some arrangement and intimate to me."

DEMAND I—LAND REVENUE.

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

' *that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 200, *under Demand I—Land Revenue* '."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved—

' that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 200 under Demand I—Land Revenue '."

* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

' *that the amount of Rs.* 200 *under the Demand—Land Revenue be reduced by Re.* 1 '.

" Sir, before I take up the subject, I should like to submit that there are only five hon. Members who have given notice of cut motions under all these Demands and I am the only member present in the House now. May I know, Sir, whether I will be given the chance to speak on every cut motion? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Simply because other hon. Members have not given notice of cut motions, they are not prevented from speaking."

* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, now regarding this Demand, I should like

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to point out that generally our Hon. Ministers are very evasive and circumlocutory and use their statements and expressions as they like, in order to achieve their object. I shall give only one instance to illustrate this. During the budget speech on 23rd February 1949, on this subject, the Hon. Finance Minister said, *'The work is in progress very rapidly'*. Now the reason adduced by him for coming forward with this supplementary demand before the House, is that the progress of rent reduction work was very slow. After all, we expect that there should be some consistency in what they say. When they want to appoint more staff for the work, they must at least give some details to the House about the progress of work and of the need for the staff and the scales of pay and other things, so that hon. Members may have some idea about the progress made and the amount involved. But what the Hon. Minister now wants is a blank cheque from the House.

"Then, Sir, there is another item under this Demand, which simply states, 'The amount involved is about Rs. 72,700 per annum.' Does this mean, that this staff will be there for only one year or for six months or what? We are not in the know of these things.

"Next, Sir, coming to item (ii), it seems that the Government want Rs. 1,62,000 per annum. Here again, I should like to ask, for how many years they want the staff. Here again we do not have any details regarding the personnel whom they want to appoint. Perhaps it may be necessary to appoint this staff to expedite the work. I ask, Sir, who stands to benefit by carrying out this work? It is only a few future owners of the land in question. Why not the Government say that this amount which is incurred for carrying out this work should be collected from the future owners of the land? That is what I want to suggest, Sir, on this demand.

"With these few words, Sir, I move my cut motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Amendment moved—

'That the amount of Rs. 200 under Demand I—Land Revenue be reduced by Re. 1'."

*JANAB HAJI ABDUL KADHAR JAMALI:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே! ஜனப் சின்ன காஜியார் அவர்களது வெட்டுப் பிரேரணையை ஆதரித்துச் சில வார்த்தைகள் பேச விரும்புகிறேன்.

"இப்போது ரெவினியூவில் பல புதிய செலவுகளை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் பிரேரேபித்துருக்கிறார். முக்கியமாக இப்போது இந்த செலவுகளில், சில புதிய **department**களை ஏற்படுத்தி செலவுகளை அதிகப்படுத்தியிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் இப்போது நாம் சர்க்காருடைய செலவுகளில் சிக்கனம் செய்து நம்முடைய முக்கியமான செலவுகளை மாத்திரம் ஏற்றுக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்று திட்டம் வகுக்கும் சமயத்தில் **rent reduction**-ஐ நாம் சற்று துரிதப்படுத்தக்கூடாதா என்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன்.

"அதுமாத்திரம் அல்ல: இன்னும் செவின்யூ போர்டை எடுத்து விடுவதாக சர்க்காரில் சொன்னார்கள். ஆனால் இப்பொழுது செவின்யூ போர்டை விஸ்தரித்துக் கொண்டே போகிறார்கள். முன்பு மூன்று மெம்பர்கள் இருந்தார்கள். இப்போது நான்கு பேர்களை ஏற்படுத்தி இருக்கிறார்கள். ' அதுகூட போதாது; அவர்களுக்கு அதிக வேலையிருக்கிறது. எனினும் அவர்கள் எப்படித்தான் சமாளித்து வருகிறார்களோ,' என்று கனம் நிதி மந்திரி ஆச்சர்யப்படும்படி சொல்லுகிறார்.

"முதலில் சர்க்காருடைய கவனத்தில் செவின்யூ போர்டை எடுத்துவிட வேண்டுமென்றிருந்தது. ஆனால் இப்பொழுது அதை அதிகமாக விஸ்தரித்துக்கொண்டே போகவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. ஆகவே இந்த விஷயத்தை முக்கியமாக கவனிக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு இந்த வெட்டுப் பிரேரணையை ஆதரிக்கிறேன்."

*SRI PYDAH VENKATANARAYANA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the rent reduction operations have been going on in these estates for the last two years, but most of the village in which this work has been going on have not been notified at all. Only a few of them have been notified, and the operations are not done on a scientific basis. They are not also properly supervised. The survey and settlement operations have been going on very slowly, because there is no enough trained staff. The Government ought to have given training to these settlement officers long ago, even before the estates had been taken possession of. I am also told that the Government have taken over only a few estates so far. If they had taken over all the estates earlier, they would have by now solved the problem of assigning lands to the political sufferers. There are thousands of applications from political sufferers still pending and many of them do not know what had happened to their applications. Some of them have been intimated that particular lands that were assigned to them, but even those applications have not been finally disposed of. Only very few of them got possession of some poramboke lands, which are not fit for cultivation and it would cost them a lot, before such lands could be made fit for cultivation. I really wonder how these political sufferers would be able to find the necessary money to cultivate these lands.

"Mr. Speaker, there are so many other complications in respect of the assignment of lands to these people, because most of these lands have to be subdivided and these people are asked to pay the subdivision charges. It is also amusing that the Government are demanding the value for the palmyra and other trees standing on those lands. This scheme was sanctioned by the Government in 1947, and even up to the present day, not much relief has been given to these political sufferers. Now I request the Government to issue special orders to expedite the matter and see that these applicants get some land or other in the immediate future, so that it may be helpful to them besides growing more food and thus easing the problem of food. These political sufferers had to hang on from a karnam and a clerk to a Collector spending hundreds of rupees, in their present state of poverty. It is high time, Sir, that the Government should see that before the 31st of December of this year, these applications are speedily disposed of and some relief given to these political sufferers."

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* SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, in this Demand, item (i) relates to rent reduction. Sir, the rent reduction system which is now being adopted in some of the zamin areas has been explained at length by several hon. Members in this House before and also the difficulties that the ryots have to face thereby. As pointed out by the previous speaker a number of villages have not been notified. Again the notices issued by some of these officers who are in charge of the rent reduction work, do not show on what basis they are going to reduce the rent, what the rate of *varam* that the tenants should pay and what is the rent fixed for the land. None of these details find a place in the notices issued, because I have seen the notices issued in most of the villages, particularly in the Mathurai, Ramnad and the Tirunelveli districts. Some of the villages in those districts have not been notified at all. The authorities who are now in charge of collecting rents go from village to village and insist on the payment of the rent at the old rate, although these villages have to be notified under the Rent Reduction Act.

12-15 p.m. " They thought that as per the Abolition of the Zamindari Act they would get good relief, and that they would be benefited in many ways. They also thought that when the notice was issued, the rates would be reduced to one-seventh and that it would be a great boon given to them by the Congress Government. Even in the notices issued to the villages, it has been stated that the rents will be reduced to one-sixth or one-seventh of the existing rates. It has not yet been notified in certain areas. It seems that before the zamindaris were abolished, the zamindars approached the then Premier and then Revenue Minister and an agreement was reached between the Government and the zamindars that the latter should collect 75 per cent of the total at the old rates. In the villages, notices have been issued by the concerned authorities who fix the rate of rent according to the Rent Reduction Act. For certain villages it is one-fifth of *varam*, in certain villages it is one-sixth of *varam*, and in some others it is one-fourth. These are the rates which the authorities specify in their notices. According to the agreement reached between the zamindars and the Government, 75 per cent at the old rates will be collected by the zamindars. Of course it will be adjusted in due course. In zamindari areas generally the reduction will be 30, or 40, or even 50 per cent every year on account of the failure of monsoon or other causes. Every year, the ryots in zamin areas used to get 35 or 40 per cent reduction in *varam*. They were having this reduction every year for a very long time. But now according to the agreement reached by the Government and the zamindars, the zamindars have to collect 75 per cent. I do not know how and wherefrom the Government got this wonderful idea of 75 per cent collection from the ryots. People ask 'What is this: we thought that by the abolition of the zamindari, we would have Heaven on earth; but we have now to pay more'. After the taking over of the zamindari areas by the Government,

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and when these Government officers go and ask the ryots to pay 75 per cent of the amount, the ryots say 'we are simply wrong in expediting the Government to abolish the zamindari system: the zamindar has been giving us 30, 40 or 50 per cent remission every year; but the Government give only 25 per cent'. This system of 75 per cent is adopted because of the agreement reached between the Ministers and the zamindars. I do not say, Sir, that the abolition of zamindaris is wrong. Ever since I joined the Congress (some 20 years before), I am for the abolition of the zamindaris. I know that it is bound to benefit the ryots, and I have been insisting on the abolition of zamindaris. I know that the 75 per cent collection is going to be adjusted in due course. By abolishing the zamindaris, the Government have revolutionized the whole system, which no other Government of India have done. It is a great achievement for this Government. But this achievement is not properly utilized on account of the small mistakes committed by the Government in entering into an agreement with the zamindars. Therefore, I request the Hon. Minister to give up this 75 per cent collection, because it is not reasonable. In the very notice issued by the authorities, it has been reduced to one-fourth, or one-fifth, or even one-seventh. Where is the necessity to collect 75 per cent from the ryots even though the amount will be adjusted after two or three years? Where is the money to come from for the ryot to pay at the old rates? They are already agitating that they are not able to pay the zamindars.

" Now, I come to item (ii). The Government have appointed Settlement Officers to survey these lands. In certain zamins in the south, the settlement officers have begun their work. The survey work is going on. While I was a boy, I have heard that whenever the settlement officers surveyed fields, and when greedy ryots wanted some lands at the expense of other ryots, they would pay something to the settlement officers, and those officers would put others' lands in the patta of the greedy ryots. Even now that system continues! When the villagers go to these officers and say 'this piece of land is mine, and it has been put in the other man's patta; this should be transferred to me' and even when they represent their case with proper documents, the officers say 'you come to my office'. The villagers go to the office. There the officer says 'it is all right that you have got the right; but the patta is in the other man's name; if you want the land to be transferred to your patta, you must see to my convenience'. Sir, the officers demand openly. It is a shame on the part of the officers. I am ashamed to hear all these things. Therefore, I request the Hon. Minister to see that this kind of malpractice does not prevail in that area, and that a strict warning against this malpractice is administered to all those officers. When cases like this are brought to the notice of the Government, they should be dealt with severely by the Government. With these words, I request the Hon. Minister to speed up the work in the matter."

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* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish only to point out a few things in connexion with this debate. First, I am glad that the Government are speeding up the work of reduction of rents. I knew that the staff was absolutely insufficient to cope with the work, enormous as it was in both extent and area. Now that it is proposed to enlarge the staff, may I suggest to the Minister for consideration the following points? Where cash rents are concerned, the progress has been fairly fast, but where rents are paid in kind, the progress has been absolutely slow, dead slow, if I may use that expression. In such cases there is no definite indication as to the policy of Government. I know it is a very hard thing to make a policy for such a reduction, but the sooner it is made the better. For, I know even though cash rents have been collected by proprietors in some cases, specially in what are called 'inams', in cases where the rent is paid in kind they have been absolutely starved for the last three years. The very moment this legislation was started, starvation for them began to become a daily affair. During the last two years, nobody has paid any rent, in spite of repeated notifications by Government that even the reduction of rents in respect of estates where the rents are collected in kind, may be made on a particular basis. Neither the landlord nor the ryot has been helped by this arrangement. The sooner a positive policy is declared and Government give positive instructions to officers working on rent reduction in estates, the better will it be for the Province.

" There is another point which I wish to make. I see in some estates reduced rents have been collected. But the zamindar or the estate-holder, to whom cesses and other rentals were payable, have been demanding cesses on the basis of the old rates, that is, rates which existed prior to fasli 1357. I can give a number of cases in the matter. For instance, the Tirumalai-Tirupathi Devasthanam has issued notices to several people saying that not only in respect of *jodi* but in respect of cesses also the reduced rent should not be taken into consideration, but the total rent that is payable prior to fasli 1357 should be taken into consideration. Even for fasli 1357 this is the procedure that has been adopted. This is grossly improper. (Interruption.) I have a copy of the notice with me. I am bringing this to the notice of the Government because it is not possible for the Minister to know each and every individual case. If I make an allegation, I do so only after definite knowledge of the matter. I speak with a certain amount of responsibility. I wish a direction were given to zamindars and also to Government officers, in cases where the estates are directly owned by the Government, and where the cesses are payable to Government themselves, that these cesses should be calculated only on the basis of the reduced rentals after they have been arrived at. This is the second point I wish to make.

" The third point is this. The Government have appointed a Director of Settlements and they have also appointed settlement officers in some places. Now, petitions have been filed before

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some of these settlement officers in respect of inams which do not come under the purview of the Zamindari Abolition Act. The rent reduction may apply to all inams, though my contention has been that after the Zamindari Abolition Act is passed, to apply it to those inams which do not come under the purview of the Act, is totally wrong in equity, if not in terms of the statute. But that is a point which the Government stated at that time they would examine. Sir, Government have short memories. They forget these things. The moment when something is mentioned, they give some kind of answer on the floor of the House, and then it is never taken up for consideration. Even if they take it up for consideration, they do it so slowly that time passes along before any definite conclusion is reached. Now, Sir, in respect of such estates some objections have been filed before the settlement officers. One case from Nellore came to my notice. I examined this case most carefully with the aid of my lawyer friends. It was an inam which did not come under the purview of the Zamindari Abolition Act. Still the settlement officer insisted that he should first agree that it was an under-tenure estate and then only he would entertain his application under section 8 of the Zamindari Abolition Act. This procedure is grossly unfair. Every man should not be forced to go to court. I also doubt whether the persons could go to a court of law in respect of these estates. We have banned the jurisdiction of courts in some matters. You yourself will not behave like a court. I mean not the Government or the particular Minister behaving like that. But if the officers of the Government are instructed to deal with the cases as though they were courts of law, absolutely without any bias, and to look into cases with a judicial mind, I am sure much of the hardship caused to several people in Nellore and Chittoor districts, especially where title deeds are difficult to trace, and where Government themselves have no record showing the inams of various classes, will be removed. The Government should take particular care to see and instruct these settlement officers not to refuse applications under section 8 of the Zamindari Abolition Act. At the time section 9 was passed, I protested to the Hon. Speaker that the Hon. Minister was taking us by surprise. It was not even put up before the Select Committee. Suddenly a new clause was sprung upon the House. It may have been an after-thought. It may have been, in the wisdom of the Hon. Minister, considered necessary for the scheme of the Act. But no Government have the right to take the House of Legislature by surprise by introducing clauses, specially in an important Bill like that, after the whole Bill had been debated in the Select Committee in detail and the Government had pronounced their policy. But, Sir, my objection to section 9 was then overruled. The section then stated 'It shall be presumed'. But it was substituted, on the advice of my hon. Friend Sri Bhashyam who unfortunately is a good lawyer but does not know when the law will help him, by the words 'It may be presumed'."

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12-30 p.m. THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, I do not know what the hon. Member means by saying 'Sri Bhashyam unfortunately is a good lawyer'."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Sir, the misfortune is that his sound knowledge of law failed at that very moment. He could not see the difference between 'may presume' and 'shall presume' or perhaps saw a difference which was actually non-existent. That is my answer to the Hon. Minister. I do not see why Ministers jump to the defence of other Members whose names are mentioned in this House."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"When other Members are slandered, it is the duty of anybody to protect."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"There was no slander, and if there is slander, I want Sri Bhashyam to say that this is slander."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"It is only libel, not slander."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Sir, without imputing any kind of libel and without meaning any disrespect to Sri Bhashyam, I say a mistake was committed on that day. But Government can correct that mistake by observing the law in the spirit in which it was meant to be enacted, for otherwise it would deprive all the people of their right to compensation and ruin hundreds of families in the districts simply because the Government cannot prove the existence of their title deeds or have no record of inams of that character. The law should be reviewed carefully and officers should be instructed in their executive capacity to look into matters with the closest attention possible, attach their importance to such evidence as may reasonably be brought to bear on these matters and then direct settlements to be made accordingly. This is all that I wish to say. I am glad the Hon. Minister has made a note of these points and he will surely in his reply deal with them and satisfy the House that the administration is being carried on not merely quickly but with sound canons of justice and equity."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Revenue Minister to two things which are happening with regard to Rent Reduction. It was true that we complained that the Rent Reduction proceedings were going somewhat slow. Therefore, the Government were pleased in the month of March to sanction a good number of officers. But instead of taking advantage of the extra staff, the rent reduction officers took a very peculiar course of action. They would not follow any of the instructions issued, under the Rent Reduction Act, by the Government. They would not visit villages; they would not give proper notices; they would not give notice even to the principal estate-holder or inamdar. What they would do is they would simply give a general notification and somewhere they would go, and by the time we expect to go and make some

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representation, already the papers would have been sent up to the Board of Revenue; and before we approach the Board of Revenue, the notification would have already appeared in the *Fort St. George Gazette*. When once the notification appears in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, under the provisions of the Act, it becomes so final that nobody can interfere, neither man nor God. Therefore, it has resulted in some monstrosities. There are reductions made in a very atrocious way in Visakapatnam district. Not that I am against reductions altogether, but I know there are cases where the rent reduction officers have reduced the rent to 1/10th and 1/12th. They have fixed a wet rate at Re. 1, Rs. 1½, Rs. 2 and Rs. 2½ per acre. Nowhere in Visakapatnam district, either Nagavali, Vamsadara or Palkonda, where beautiful paddy grows, is the rate of Rs. 2–8–0 per acre of wet land fixed in Government areas. Yet, the rent reduction officers have reduced these rates to that extent. There are estates where they have reduced the rent to such a low figure that I understood certain oral instructions were given to the officers concerned not to reduce the rent below the *peshkash* level. I only draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to these things, not that he would interfere or could interfere in the cases which have already been over, for under the provisions of the Act, as I submitted earlier, he has no power, but that he might give proper instructions. I am not worried about the procedure of the Rent Reduction Act, but I am anxious that the procedure laid down under the Act and indicated in the various provisions of the Act should be strictly adhered to. This is a great responsibility of the Government because they have ousted the jurisdiction of civil courts and there is no possibility of a man going to a court of law or even to the Government, when once the notification appears in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, for redress of grievances. Some rent reduction officers are not giving any respect even to the decisions of courts. If a man goes to a rent reduction officer and says that a certain land is not covered by the provisions of the Act and shows a judgment of the court in support in respect of the land the officer says, 'I am not bound by the decisions of the court; whatever the courts may have decided, I shall have my own way.' The argument that, if the circumstances warrant that the Government should go behind these judgments, is another matter. But ordinarily and under the provisions of the Rent Reduction Act, judgments of courts which have settled matters between private parties already cannot be set aside, or neglected and the Rent Reduction Officer cannot presume himself to be a court sitting in judgment over a matter which has already been decided by the court and a decree passed. Therefore, I submit in the light of the remarks which I have passed, the Hon. the Revenue Minister may be pleased to issue suitable instructions to the officers. I do not say the previous instructions are wrong. The previous instructions contain things which, if observed, will do substantial justice to all the parties. I have no doubt about it. But my complaint is that those officers are not following the instructions for the very simple

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reason that they have been getting reminders from Madras that the work is not progressing as rapidly as the Government would wish it to do. It is true that the Government wish and we also wish that the work should go on with great speed but it does not mean that we should give a go-by to all principles of justice and judicial appreciation of all questions that arise before those officers.

"On the question of settlement work, it is a question for the future; it has not yet begun so far as our district is concerned and so far as most parts of the Presidency are concerned. Therefore, there is not much to be said over that. But with regard to future rent reduction in the case of estates and inams where the work is still going on, the Revenue Minister may be pleased to issue suitable instructions."

* SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise only to point out that the Act as was passed was beneficial to the ryots concerned. We had many provisions for safeguarding the interests of the persons affected by the Act and we gave powers under the Act to the Government to appoint various officers to go into this matter. The Act itself contains beneficial provisions for doing justice between the parties. Of course, we cannot quarrel with the provisions of the Act. But we complain only if the provisions are not properly administered by the officers concerned. I do not recollect exactly what I did with regard to the provisions of section 9, but Mr. Varadachari tells me that I have really committed a folly in agreeing with something. Even taking it to be so, it is not such a folly as to cause any injustice as my friend went to point out to-day. What I want to say is this. It was intended to be a sort of *via media* between the interests of the ryots and those of the landlord. Therefore, the position of the officer to decide the matter between the two was one of great delicacy and also a matter of judicial temperament. Generally the appointment of mere executive officers to decide civil disputes always leads to the danger which has already been pointed out. They cannot do so properly; they have only an idea of disposing of files; they do not like people to go before them and make representations orally because it means time and they have not the necessary patience. The Government have, of course, been issuing instructions and made it compulsory on the officers to hear the persons affected by the notification issued in respect of this matter. But I know one case at least where the rent was reduced to so low a level that it was below the *peshkash* rate fixed by the Government. After that, the Government have issued an order that the reduced rent should not be lower than what the *peshkash* payable on the estate may be. Therefore, the action of the Government officers dealing with this matter is wholly not right or is not in accordance with what is considered to be justice between the parties themselves. In such cases, only senior officers, i.e., persons who had had occasion to deal with civil matters, must have been appointed. But what has happened in the present case is this. On the one side, there is the Government pressing the officers for quick work, on the other

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side, the people concerned. Hasty work means no justice to parties. Therefore, while we welcome the measure for abolishing the zamindaris and the reduction of rents, we do not want that the thing should be done in such a slipshod way that the people have to complain. The Government must look, even though they may really do justice, as if they are doing justice in respect of this matter. They must do it in such a way that the affected person is given an opportunity to explain his position before the authority concerned. A number of difficulties and cases of injustice done to the parties have already been pointed out. The Government should take care that a general dissatisfaction is not generated by such a procedure. The wholesale reduction of rents, however good it may be, will surely affect also the Government revenue. After all, the rent fixed is the rent the ryot is going to pay to the Government after the rent reduction takes place. Therefore, the fixation of the rate at 1/10th or 1/12th will merely take away from the Government must take care to see that all the officers who to see that persons are properly and equitably taxed. Therefore, the Government must take care to see that all the officers who deal with this matter fix such rent as may be just and may compare with the rents in the adjoining ryotwari lands. The work that is being done by the various Rent Reduction Officers is the work not for to-day but for all time. In other words, we fix permanently the rent payable in respect of the various lands. When once it is fixed, that is the only rent which the ryot would pay to the Government and if it is fixed low, the Government would certainly lose a lot of revenue by way of rent from the land. Therefore, in considering these things, the Revenue Minister must take a very serious view of the matter, and issue necessary instructions to the officers. He must also hear the complaints of persons who are affected by these proceedings and do whatever is just and reasonable in the circumstances."

*SRI B. VENKATANARAYANA REDDI:—"ఆధ్యక్షా, రిన్యూ మంత్రి గారు ప్రతిపాదించిన ఈ డిమాండును నేను హృదయపూర్వకముగా బలపరుచుచున్నాను. ప్రభుత్వమువారు కాపించిన జమీందారీ రద్దు శాసనమును అమలు జరిపెవారా జరుపరా అని రాష్ట్రీములో వి మూలచూచినా చాల సందేహములు అనుమానములు ప్రజలలో కలిగియుండెడివి కాని ఈ చట్టమును ధైర్య స్థయిర్యములతో అమలుజరిపి ప్రథమముగ ముఖ్యమైన పెద్ద ఎస్టేట్లను స్వాధీనము చేసికొనిన ప్రభుత్వమువారిని ముఖ్యంగా రిన్యూ మంత్రిగారిని హృదయపూర్వకముగా అభినందించుచున్నాను. ఈ రాష్ట్రీములో ఇంతవరకు స్వాధీనముచేసుకొన్న పెద్ద జమీందారీలేకాకుండ అనేక చిన్న చిన్న ఎస్టేట్లుకూడ ఉన్నవి. వీటిన్నింటినికూడ వీలైనంత త్వరగా స్వాధీనముచేసుకొని ఆ ప్రాంతములలో జమీందారీ రైతుల కోర్కెలను నెరవేర్చవలసినదని ప్రభుత్వంవారిని ప్రార్థించుచున్నాను. 12-45 p. m.

"ప్రభుత్వంవారు స్వాధీనముచేసుకొన్న ఎస్టేట్లలో మా నెల్లూరు జిల్లాలో ఉన్న వెంకటగిరి ఎస్టేటు ఒకటి. ఈ ఎస్టేటులో రైతులు శిస్తు చెల్లించువిషయములో చాలా అన్యాయము జరిగినది. అనేక గ్రామములలో ఇదివరలో రైతులు జమీందారునకు ధాన్యపు శిస్తు ఇచ్చే విధానము వున్నది. మిగత గ్రామములలో శిస్తు రొక్కరూపమునసే ఇస్తున్నారు. ధాన్యపు రూపములో శిస్తు చెల్లించే రైతులకు శిస్తు

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తగ్గింపు విషయంలో అన్యాయము జరిగింది. మొట్టమొదట కొన్ని గ్రామములలో శిస్తు ధాన్య రూపములోనే చెల్లించవలెనే నిర్ణయము ఫుండినను దరిమిలాను కొన్ని గ్రామములోని రైతులు ధాన్యపు శిస్తును రొక్కపు శిస్తుగా మార్చుటకు **Commutation suits** వేయడం వలన వారు శిస్తు రొక్క రూపములోనే ఇచ్చేటట్లు కోర్టులు నిర్ణయించి యున్నవి. అవిధంగా ఆ రైతులు రొక్కముసే శిస్తుగా చెల్లించు చున్నారు. అటువంటి రైతులకు ఈ శిస్తు తగ్గింపు చట్టము అనుకూలముగనే యున్నది. కాని ధాన్యరూపమున శిస్తు చెల్లించేవారికి శిస్తు తగ్గింపువలన అన్యాయము జరిగినది. దీనికి ఉదాహరణంగా కొన్ని విషయములను మనవిచేస్తాను. **Commutation suits** వేసిన రైతులకు రొక్క రూపములో శిస్తు కొన్నిచోట్ల ఇరువైయెదు రూపాయలుగా నిర్ణయింపబడినది. ఈ శిస్తు తగ్గింపు చట్టమువలన ఈ ఇరువైయెదు రూపాయలు శిస్తు అయిదు రూపాయలకు అనగా గ్రక్కన ఉన్న రైత్వారీ రేటుకు తగ్గింప బడినది. కాని ధాన్యరూపములో శిస్తు ఇచ్చుకునేవారికి ఎకరానికి నలభై రూపాయల వరకుకూడ శిస్తు నిర్ణయింప బడుతూంది. దీనికి కారణమేమో మనవి చేస్తాను. ఎకరానికి ధాన్యపు శిస్తు ఇదివరలో ఎనిమిది తూములు ఉండేది. ఆ శిస్తును ఇప్పుడు శిస్తుతగ్గింపు ఆఫీసర్లు ఆయిదు తూములకు తగ్గించినను ఖరీదు రూ 40 ఉ అగుచున్నది. దీనివలన ఈ రైతుబు ఎక్కో రేట్లు ఎక్కువ శిస్తు చెల్లింపవలసి వస్తుంది. గ్రక్కనవున్న రైత్వారీ గ్రామములలో ఉన్న రైతులు, జమీందారీ గ్రామాలలో ఉన్న రైతులు ఎకరానికి రూ 5 ఉ, రూ 5-8-0 ఉ, చెల్లిస్తూయుండగా ఈ ధాన్య రూపములో శిస్తు చెల్లించే రైతు అయిదు తూముల ధాన్యంయొక్క ధరను అనగా ఎకరానికి రూ 40 ఉ, చెల్లింపవలసి యున్నది. ఇపుడు ఒక తూము ధాన్యము రూ 8 ఉ, ఉన్నది. అనగా అయిదు తూములకు $5 \times 8 =$ అనగా 40 రూపాయలు శిస్తు చెల్లింపవలసియున్నది. ఇటువంటి నిర్ణయములవల్ల ఒకే తరహా గ్రామములలో యుండే ఒకరైతు ఇవ్వవలసిన శిస్తుకు, ఇంకొకరైతు ఇవ్వవలసిన శిస్తుకు ఎంత తారతమ్య మున్నదో ప్రభుత్వమువారు గుర్తించ గోరుతాను. శిస్తు తగ్గింపు చట్టములోని నియమముల ప్రకారము Cmmutation suits వేసియుండిన రైతులకు మాత్రమే న్యాయము కలిగినది. ఆ విధంగా **Commutation suits** వేయకుండా చాలకాలము నుంచి ధాన్యమునే చెల్లించే రైతుకు ఏ విధంగాను న్యాయము జరిగియుండలేదు. చాల కాలమునుంచి ధాన్య రూపంగా శిస్తును చెల్లించి రైతులు చాలా పేదవారయిరి. కాబట్టి వారు **Commutation suits** వేయుటకుకూడ డబ్బులేని కారణంచేతనే ఇంత ఎక్కువ శిస్తు ఇవ్వవలసి వచ్చింది. ఆ బీద రైతులు ఇకముందుకూడ ఎక్కో రేట్లు ఎక్కువ శిస్తు ఈ ప్రజా ప్రభుత్వానికికూడ చెల్లించాలంటే చాల అన్యాయము. గ్రక్కన ఉండే రైతు ఎకరానికి ఆయిదు రూపాయలు చెల్లిస్తూయుంటే ఈ రైతు ఎకరానికి నలభై రూపాయల శిస్తు చెల్లింపవలసియున్నదంటే ఆ రైతు ఎంత బాధ పడుతాడో ఈ విధానము ఎంత అక్రమమైనదో ప్రభుత్వమువారు గమనించవలసినదని కోరుతున్నాను. అంతే కాకుండ శిస్తు తగ్గింపు చట్టములో ధాన్యము శిస్తు ఇచ్చే రైతులు ఇకముందు ఇతర రైతులువలెనే రొక్క రూపములో శిస్తు ఇచ్చే విధాను చేయించవలసిందని ప్రభుత్వంవారిని కోరుతున్నాను. ఒక రైతు ఇచ్చే శిస్తుకు మరొక రైతు ఇచ్చే శిస్తుకు తేడాలేకుండా చూడవలసిందని ప్రభుత్వంవారికి మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. స్వాధీనముచేసుకొన్న యస్టేట్లలోనైనా వెంటనే యీ తారతమ్యను తొలగించాము.

"అంతేకాకుండా మా జల్లాలో కంచెలకుకూడ శిస్తు విధించే పద్ధతి ఉన్నది. ఇది చాలా అన్యాయము. ఈ కంచెలు రెండు రకాలు. ఒకటి ఆడవులు ఉన్నటువంటి కంచెలు. రెండు, ఆడవులు లేకుండా ఉన్న కంచెలు. ఆడవులు లేకుండా ఉండే కంచె

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లకు గవర్నమెంటు గ్రామములలో ఫుల్లని వసూలుచేసే నియమంలేదు. ఇటువంటి సదుపాయములను గవర్నమెంటు గ్రామములలోని రైతులకు ప్రభుత్వంవారు చేసి యున్నారు. ఈ విషయం రెవిన్యూ మంత్రిగారి దృష్టికికూడ తేబడినది. వారు దీనిని ఆలోచించి గవర్నమెంటు గ్రామంలో ఉన్న పద్ధతిని, జమీందారీ గ్రామంలోకూడ ప్రవేశపెట్టి అచ్చటి రైతులకూడ ఫుల్లని ఇచ్చుకొనకుండా చూడవలసిందని నేను ప్రభుత్వంవారికి మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

"అంకాకుండ ఎస్టేట్లను స్వాధీనం చేసుకొని అచ్చటి రెవిన్యూ పరిపాలనను సక్రమంగా నడిపే ఏర్పాట్లుచేయు సందర్భములో ప్రభుత్వం వారు కొన్ని విషయాలలో ముఖ్యంగా జమీందారీ ఉద్యోగస్తులను నియమించేటప్పుడు చాలా శ్రద్ధవహించ వలసినదని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. ఎస్టేట్లను స్వాధీనము చేసుకొనక పూర్వము జమీందారీలలో ఉన్న ఉద్యోగస్తులే ఇప్పుడు కూడ ఆ జమీందారీ ఉద్యోగాలలోనే ఉంటున్నారు. జమీందారు ఉన్నప్పుడు రైతుల మధ్య జమీందారు మధ్య ఆనేక విధములైన తగాదాలు వచ్చుటకు ఆనేక సందర్భములలో ఈ ఉద్యోగస్తులే హేతువు. అటువంటి ఉద్యోగస్తులు ఇంకను ఆయా జమీందారీ ప్రాంతాలలోనే ఉన్నట్లయితే ఆనేక విధములైన తగాదాలు వచ్చుటకు రైతులకు అన్యాయము జరుగుటకు అవకాశము ఉన్నది. జమీందారీ ప్రాంతములలో ఆనేక వేలమంది ఉద్యోగస్తులు ఉన్నారు. వారుదరికిని కూడ ప్రభుత్వంవారు జీవితమునకు తగు సదుపాయము యేర్పరచవలసిన జవాబుదారి ప్రభుత్వంవారిపై ఉన్నది. అది నేను కాదనను. కాని ఈ ఉద్యోగస్తులు ఇదివరలో వారు అనుసరించుచున్న ఆక్రమ పరిపాలనా విధానాన్ని వారు సులభంగా మరచిపోలేరు. మార్చుకొనలేరు. ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఇంతవరకు స్వాధీనం చేసుకొన్న ఎస్టేట్లలో ఉన్న ఉద్యోగస్తుల మనస్తత్వాలలోకూడ ఇంతవరకు ఎటువంటి మార్పుకలిగినట్లు కనిపించుటలేదు. కాబట్టి రైతుల మధ్య, ఉద్యోగస్తుల మధ్య ఎటువంటి తగాదాలు రాకుండా చూచుటకుగాను ప్రభుత్వం వారు ఒక ఎస్టేటులో ఉన్న ఉద్యోగస్తులను మరొక ఎస్టేటుకయినా బదిలీచేయించే విషయాన్ని పరిశీలించవలసినదిగా కోరుచున్నాను. అప్పుడే రైతులలో ఉన్న ఆసంతృప్తి తొలగి ఎటువంటి కలహములు లేకుండుటకు అవకాశము కలుగుతుంది. ఈవిధంగా ఉద్యోగస్తులను transfer చేసేటప్పుడు చిన్న ఉద్యోగస్తులైన జవానులు, గుమాస్తాలు మొదలైనవారిని ఎస్టేట్లలోనే ఉంచుటకు మాకు ఎటువంటి ఆభ్యంతరకము లేదుగాని రెవిన్యూ ఇన్స్పెక్టర్లు, తాశీల్దార్లు మొదలైన వారిని మాత్రము బదిలీ చేయడము అత్యవసరము. ఈవిధంగా చేసినట్లైతే రైతుల మధ్య, ఉద్యోగస్తులు మధ్య తగాదాలకు అవకాశం లేకుండా చేయగలరని ప్రభుత్వంవారికి మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

"విశాఖపట్నం జిల్లాలో శిస్తు తగ్గింపు విషయములో ఒక గ్రామం ఎస్టేటు గ్రామం అవునో కాదో అనే నిర్ణయం చేసే సందర్భాలలో కొన్ని ఇబ్బందులు కలుగుతున్నట్లు ఈ ఉదయం ఒక short notice question కు సమాధానం చెప్పుతూ చెప్పినారు. శిస్తు తగ్గింపు ప్రకారము శిస్తు తగ్గింపుకుగాను నియమింపబడిన ఆఫీసర్లు కొన్ని గ్రామాలు ఎస్టేటు గ్రామాలు అవునా కాదా అనే విషయాన్ని గురించి ఆలోచిస్తున్నట్లు తెలుస్తున్నది. ఎస్టేటు లాండు చట్టప్రకారము రైత్వారీ గ్రామములు తప్ప తక్కిన ఆన్ని గ్రామాలు ఎస్టేటు గ్రామాలక్రిందనే నిర్ణయింపబడి ఉన్నవి. కాబట్టి తిరిగి ఎటువంటి పునర్విచారణ లేకుండా సరాసరిగా ఆన్ని గ్రామాలను ఎస్టేటు గ్రామములుగనే తీసుకొని శిస్తు తగ్గింపు చేయించినట్లైతే రైతులకు ఆవసరమైన శ్రమ తప్పుతుంది. ఈ విషయాన్ని పరిశీలించి రైతులకు తగిన సౌకర్యములు కలుగజేయవలసినదని రెవిన్యూ మంత్రిగారిని కోరుతూ ఈ డిమాండును బలపరచుచున్నాను."

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* THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Sir, I should first refer to the various suggestions and criticisms made in respect of Rent Reduction. The first hon. Member who moved the cut motion asked, for how long and for how many years this expenditure will be incurred. Sir, so far as Rent Reduction is concerned, it is expected that the work of Rent Reduction will be over by the 31st March 1950 and we hope, that there will be no need for this large establishment after that date. It is quite probable that a skeleton establishment may be kept up to dispose of whatever might remain. So, as far as this establishment under Rent Reduction is concerned, it is expected that after 31st March 1950, there will be practically a very large reduction and only a skeleton staff may be retained.

" Regarding the provision of Rs. 1,62,000 per annum for Settlement, this is a matter in which I could not possibly say the exact number of years. It all depends upon the speed with which we are able to accomplish this work of Survey and Settlement. I could not give the hon. Member the exact number of years this is likely to last. But it is likely to be not less than five or six years. That is what I could say at present.

" Then Sri Swaminathan referred to the 75 per cent agreement arrived at between the Government and the landholders and how it was working as a hardship to the ryots. It was not exactly an order, but it was only an advice given to the tenants in those areas where Rent Reduction had not been notified, to enable the landholder and the tenants to speedily settle the dues *inter se* between them. It was suggested that they may pay 75 per cent of their normal dues and if there was an excess payment, over and above what would be due, under Rent Reduction Act, the tenant has got a right of having that excess amount adjusted towards dues that may become due from him in future. It was also clearly specified in Press Communiques that the landlord cannot apply any of these amounts for the arrears due for the previous years. This part of the notification was only intended to resolve the difficulties that had arisen at that time. I believe, the agreement was arrived at after due discussion by the then Revenue Minister, the Premier, the landholders and representatives of the tenants also."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" There were no representatives of ryots. There were only representatives of zamindars."

* THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I am answering only from recollection. I referred to this matter even in the other House. Subsequently, a notification was issued in 1949 also, calling the attention of the tenants to the notification issued in March 1948 and suggesting that they may continue to pay according to the agreement and that they would not be losers. I do not see where the hardship comes in. The hon. Member stated that in places where there is no Rent Reduction as yet, the agents of the zamindars insisted upon collecting 75 per cent. As long as an estate has not been notified under the Rent Reduction, the landlord has got the right to demand what is due to him and if he

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takes 75 per cent, it is only as per the agreement or understanding arrived at. I have already explained that there will be no hardship caused to the tenant by such payment."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Sir, on a point of information, when the rent is reduced to one-fourth or one-fifth or one-sixth of the existing rent in the notified estates according to the notification, what is the basis for asking the ryot to pay 75 per cent? Why not it be 50 per cent or below 50 per cent?"

* THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" If an estate has been notified in the gazette under the Rent Reduction Act, there is absolutely no need for anybody to pay more than what are the reduced rates. There is no question of any such cases having occurred either in the hon. Member's district or anywhere else. Certainly, the ryots would exercise their rights under the Rent Reduction Act and would not pay more. I believe that the hon. Member has in mind a case like this, where with the knowledge that a particular estate is going to have such notification and before the actual publication in the Gazette, during this interim period, the agent of a zamindar goes and demands the dues. He has a right to demand the dues. As I have already stated, even if the tenant pays 75 per cent of the amount before the actual Gazette notification, still he is not in any way the loser. Because the agreement or understanding arrived at says that if there is excess over what is due under the rent reduction and if it is paid by the tenant, the tenant has got a right to have the excess adjusted towards payment that may become due from him in the future years. So, there is no hardship at all. I should like to assure the hon. Member that we are expediting the work of rent reduction and we expect that by March 1950, all these difficulties would have been resolved.

" I am really pained to learn from Mr. Swaminathan 1 p.m. about the complaints that he has made that certain officers are demanding money. I believe he was referring to the Survey and Settlement officers. Sir, this is the first time that I hear of such a complaint. I wish the hon. Member had written to me as soon as he came to know about this because it would have given me an early opportunity to call the attention of the supervising authorities to make note of this state of things and take necessary steps against the recurrence of such malpractices. But any way, he has brought it to the notice of the Government now and I can only assure him that I shall make enquiries into the affair. In this work I would seek the co-operation of not only the hon. Member himself but every other Member of this House and the public at large. I agree it is an intolerable practice which should not be allowed to continue. But one Government officer or a Minister or an order of the Government cannot put it down. I would, therefore, take this opportunity of seeking the co-operation of the Members of this House to help the Government to eradicate this evil. At the same time, I may state that the Government will not hesitate to take most drastic action in matters like this.

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"Now, Sir, the hon. Sri N. S. Varadachari made certain observations. He said that so far as grain rents were concerned, Government had been slow in the matter of rent reduction. I am, however, glad that he appreciated the reason for the delay in government action. Several difficult questions have been raised in the matter of rent reduction in such areas where there are Varam rents as well as grain rents. Government have examined all these matters and issued some instructions to their officials. We hope to issue final instructions very soon and there will be no more delay. If I remember aright, I think most of the matters that were referred to Government concerning the grain rent villages have been answered and replies sent to the Board of Revenue. If, however, there are still certain matters pending with the Board which relate to policy, I shall see that they also are attended to expeditiously.

"Sir, my hon. Friend made a reference to cess being demanded at old rates in places where rent has been reduced. I admit that the cess should be equivalent to that due under the reduced rent. This matter has been taken up with the Local Administration Department because the cesses are dealt within that Department. There is proposal pending before the Government in this regard and I think very soon action will be taken. There is need to amend the Act and we are contemplating to do that. But the Government have meanwhile decided that the cess payable must be in relation to the amount of reduced rent and the necessary formalities to bring down the cess to that level are being taken by the Government. The hon. Member pointed out certain specific cases from Nellore. I shall have them examined. He also mentioned certain difficulties felt under section 9 of the Act and referred to certain discussions that took place during the first reading of the Zamindari Abolition Bill. Reference was also made to the hon. Mr. Bhashyam's suggestions. Sir, I do not claim to have studied that aspect of it nor do I know what had transpired between the hon. Mr. Varadachariar and the hon. Mr. Bhashyam. If there is any way suggested to solve the difficulties pointed out by the hon. Member, the Government will only be too glad to follow it. The hon. Member wanted me to give a very detailed reply to all the points raised by him. But I may tell him that the time at my disposal to examine all the points is short and that he must be satisfied with my assurance for the present.

"The hon. Sri Viswanatham criticized the work of rent reduction officers. He said that although Government's instructions were clear the officers were not following the orders of the Government and their instructions. In some cases, he said that as a result of their action, the rent was reduced to such a low level that it had no relation to the existing level of rents anywhere in his district. He pointed out how it would affect the Government revenues also. I really do not know anything about this matter because it must have been looked into by the Board of Revenue. Sir, the Board of Revenue must have gone into this matter very carefully as they do in every other thing. I

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may now bring to the notice of the House that usually such proposals from the officers in the districts come up to the Board of Revenue, where after a thorough check by the Special Officer, they are examined by the Board to see whether the work has been properly done. So, Sir, the work of the district officials has a chance of being scrutinized twice and I think that is sufficient. If, however, in spite of the thorough check by the Special Officer and the Board of Revenue, there had been any 'bad' cases, as my hon. Friend put it, I may assure him, they have already been disposed and the parties concerned have been informed that nothing could be done. It was suggested that such cases were brought to the notice of the House to avoid delays in future. Yes, Sir, we shall have these cases for our future guidance. The hon. Member, Mr. K. Bhashyam made certain observations and there is not much to reply. The hon. Member from Nellore represented certain difficulties experienced by the Venkatagiri zamin tenants and specially referred to the grain rents. That is a defect that is inherent in the very Act itself. The Rent Reduction Act did not contemplate a different mode of reduction for grain rents and cash rents. It is all uniform. I know that in some cases, the tenants, that were previously paying grain rents are paying now more than those who pay cash rents as rents have been calculated in terms of money. That is a thing that could not be helped and I believe, when the Bill was passed here, hon. Members must have had a full picture of what was going to happen when the Bill became law. Nevertheless, this is an anomaly and will be removed as soon as the Estate Survey and Settlement is made. Then all the rents would have to be paid in cash and not in grain. I hope that the difficulties experienced in this regard by the tenants will be shortlived and that they will be able to get over them soon. I believe I have been able to meet all the points raised by hon. Members."

* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have to say one word. This piece of legislation has produced a very bad effect . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Those who have moved a cut motion have no right to a second speech."

JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"The position is this. After this Act was passed, whether the Government have taken over the zamindari or the village, the ryots have not paid the kist. I myself own a small estate. In my own case, they have not paid the kist for the last four years but I have paid the quit-rent for all these years with the exception of the current one. My request is that Government may issue instructions to their officers to see that wherever quit-rent has not been paid, the same is collected from the ryots who are in arrears and adjusted towards the quit-rent. If the Hon. the Minister gives an assurance to this effect I shall withdraw my cut motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Minister says that he has nothing by way of reply. Will the hon. the Mover of the cut motion withdraw it?"

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JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"This is most uncharitable, Sir. But still, I will be charitable. I withdraw my cut motion."

The cut motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

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

III.—MOTION UNDER RULE 15 (3) OF THE ASSEMBLY RULES.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

'that the Demands II to XVIII of the Demands for Grants for further Expenditure in the year 1949-50 in the notice, dated 15th November 1949, be, under rule 15 (3) of the Madras Assembly Rules, re-arranged in the order as set out below:—

XI. District Administration and Miscellaneous.
IX. Heads of Provinces, Ministers and Headquarters Staff.
XIV. Police.
XVIII. Agriculture.
II. Provincial Excise.
IV. Forest.
VII. Other taxes and duties.
VIII. Irrigation.
XII. Administration of Justice.
XIII. Jails.
XV. Education.
XVI. Medical.
XVII. Public Health.'"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Demands II to XVIII of the Demands for Grants for further expenditure in the year 1949-50 in the notice, dated 15th November 1949, be, under rule 15 (3) of the Madras Assembly Rules, re-arranged in the order as set out below:—

XI. District Administration and Miscellaneous.
IX. Heads of Provinces, Ministers and Headquarters Staff.
XIV. Police.
XVIII. Agriculture.
II. Provincial Excise.
IV. Forest.
VII. Other taxes and duties.
VIII. Irrigation.

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XII. Administration of Justice.
XIII. Jails.
XV. Education.
XVI. Medical.
XVII. Public Health.'"

The motion was carried.

DEMANDS OF GRANTS FOR FURTHER EXPENDITURE IN THE YEAR 1949-50—*cont.*

DEMAND XI—DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND MISCELLANEOUS.

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 400 under Demand XI—District Administration and Miscellaneous'."

* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:— 1-15 p.m.
"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 400 for District Administration and Miscellaneous be reduced by Re. 1.'

'So far as this Demand is concerned, I should like to deal with item (1) first, that is, the grant of lands to political sufferers. Sir, I should like to say that this is a very troublesome subject. Before I proceed, I should like to refer to a Tamil proverb 'கொழுக்கட்டை தின்ற பூனைக்கு குருணி மோர் தகஷணையாம்' meaning that a cat which had eaten '*kolukattai*' demands a measure of buttermilk to swallow the '*kolukattai*'. That is how you have to view this. After giving lands free to 'thiagis' you want to spend this money of the tax payer. Let thiagis pay.

"These 'thiagis' think that they have got some land for cultivation. But do you know how the public view it. They have got a grave to bury their past glory and also to bury their past reputed sacrifices. That is how the public view it. Do you find them, these 'thiagis', only in this Province? Do you not find them in other provinces also? Have they or others given lands to their 'thiagis'? There was the American War of Independence, the French Revolution and revolution in Turkey. There were 'thiagis' everywhere. Did they get lands? Above all, what about the revolution in Russia? There must have been 'thiagis' there also. They have treated all as 'thiagis' and introduced land reforms. In this Province alone why should this special concession to these 'thiagis'? I request the hon. Members of this House to see that they give back the land. Sri Kamaraja Nadar in an address at Vellore made a similar request. If they do so they will be adding to their glory.

"The only thing is this. These lands should not be earmarked for 'thiagis'. Sir, one thing you should think over. These lands belong to the state and these '*thiagis*' may be wanting or rich. Many 'thiagis' like my hon. Friends, Mr. N. M. R. Subbaraman, Mr. Vythianatha Iyer and Mr. Kamaraja Nadar, have not got the land and should not our other thiagis also follow them? They may be really poor 'thiagis' but no body

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can say that this ' thiagis ' is poorer than all others. There are widows and orphans and poor creatures who are starving even for a morsel of food every day. There should be some moral justification also in your actions. Today, because you have got a majority, because the government is in your hands, you can go on assigning these lands. Beware there may come a day when somebody would be in power; when they come to power they will have the list of these ' thiagis '. That register would be taken by the new Government and they would know you as ' thiagis ' who got lands out of the way. So, Sir, I request you to obey the instruction given by the Congress leader, Mr. Kamaraja Nadar in his speech at Vellore recently. Thus save yourselves from the present awkward position, and before the next Government snatch them from you.

" The next item about which I want to speak is item 4, that is Khadi and Firka development. Sir, this Khadar, when we hear the name of khaddar, the head aches."

(A voice: ' Natural.')

JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:— " We do not know what to do. In these days of refinement and in this atomic age when man is able to travel ten thousand miles an hour by jet-plane, when finest clothes are made out of glass, and when finest silk and other things are manufactured from timber, if you go on winding your charka and spinning your khaddar, Sir, will not the world laugh at you? It is awkward. Can you take a bale of khaddar to America or to England and sell at the rate of 3 pies a yard. I say, you cannot. I do not want to speak much about it. I will give you only the press opinion regarding this and close my speech. It will be interesting and it is of course short. I can go on explaining this but I do not want to take the time of the House. This is what the *Mail* editorial says:

" It is a wasteful, unwanted scheme, which imposes a needless burden on the taxpayer. The Ministry's attempts to popularise khadi have utterly failed and to-day as many as 5 lakhs yards, valued at Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 7 lakhs remain unsold at the centres where khadi is being produced as the main part of a scheme for the reconstruction of firka.

" Every body hitherto appointed by the Ministers to enquire into the working of the Firka Development Scheme has found that khadi is unpopular. In Avanashi, in Coimbatore district where the intensive Khadi Scheme was being carried out not more than 10 to 15 per cent of the people wear khadi despite the persuasion of Congress Leaders and workers and of the officials of the Firka Development Department.

" The people do not wear khadi which is expensive, non-durable, and ugly. They would rather buy 2 pieces of finer, durable, mill made cloth or hand-loom textile for the price of one piece of khadi and they want to save money to buy rice and not

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to waste it on political fad like the promotion of khadi. The Khadi Scheme has proved a hindrance to rural uplift and should be abolished.'

" My only point is the expenditure of Government is unnecessarily going on increasing everyday. The instructions of the Central Government are that even capital expenditure should be cut short. Now your forest scheme is costing you 11½ lakhs, irrigation 2 crores and all schemes put together, it comes to about 22 crores to 25 crores even from this supplementary budget. In the face of these facts why should you go on permitting this 'unwanted scheme'? That is my only submission and I move the amendment standing in my name."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Amendment moved—

' that the amount of Rs. 400 under Demand XI—District Administration and Micellaneous be reduced by Re. 1'."

* SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, இந்த டிமாண்டைப்பற்றி எனது நண்பர் கனம் சின்னகாஜியார்பேசியபொழுது political sufferers அதாவது தேச விடுதலைக்காக தியாகம் செய்தவர்களுக்கு நிலம் கொடுப்பது விஷயமாகவும் அதற்காக சில staff களோ ஒதுக்கி இருப்பதைப்பற்றி பேசிய பொழுதும் அவர் என்னென்னவோ பேசினார். ஆனால் கனம் நண்பர் அந்தக் காலத்தில் தேசத்திற்காக தியாகம் செய்வதில் அவரும் இருந்திருந்தால் அவர் உண்மையில் தேச பக்தர்களுக்கு நிலம் வேண்டாமென்று சொல்லி இருக்கமாட்டார். ஆனால் தேசாபிமானமற்று 1914-ம் வருஷத்தில் பிரிட்டிஷ் ஏகாதிபத்தியத்தை பாதுகாப்பதற்காகவும், அன்று யுத்தத்தில் ஈடுபட்டவர்களுக்காகவும், அவர்களுடைய குழந்தைகளுக்கு இலவச படிப்பு சொல்லிகொடுப்பதாக எவ்வளவோ ஆங்கிலேயர்கள் செய்திருந்ததை அறிவோம். அப்பொழுது அவர்களை ஒருவரும் தைரியமாகக் கேட்கவில்லை. இப்பொழுது தேசாபிமானம் உள்ளவர்கள் தேச விடுதலைக்காக போராடி, ரத்தம் சிந்தி, தூக்கு மேடைக்குச் சென்று விடுதலை பெற்ற தேசபக்தர்களுக்கு ஓய்ந்து எக்கர் நிலத்தை வீரமான்யமாக சர்க்கார் கொடுத்து வருகிறார்களேயொழிய அரசாங்கத்தினிடம் தேச பக்தர்கள் வெறும் நிலம் கொடு என்று கேட்கவில்லை. இன்று தேச விடுதலைக்காக போராடிய இந்த தேச பக்தர்களுக்கு தாங்கள் நிலம் கொடுக்கிறோம் என்று அரசாங்கம்தான் முன் வந்தது. ஆனால் தேச தியாகிகள் அரசாங்கத்தினிடம் வந்து நிலம் கொடுங்கள் என்று பிச்சைகேட்க வரவில்லை. அரசாங்கமே தான் கொடுக்க வந்தது. இந்த சட்ட சபையில் மற்றொரு சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் இதைப் பற்றி பேசிய பொழுது அரசாங்கம் நிலம் கொடுக்கிறோம் என்று சொல்லி இந்த தியாகிகளை கேவலப்படுத்துகிறார்கள் என்றும் அந்த விதம் நிலம் கொடுக்கிறோம் என்று போட்ட G.O. வை வாப்ப ஸ்வாங்க வேண்டுமென்றும் சொல்லியிருக்கிறேன். தமிழ் நாட்டு காங்கிரஸ் கமிட்டி தலைவர் அவர்களும் அரசாங்கம் நிலம் கொடுக்கிறேன் என்று எழுதிக் கொண்டு வருகிறது என்றும் நிலம் இல்லை என்றால் அரசாங்கம் உண்மையா அந்த G.O. வை வாப்பஸ் வாங்க வேண்டும் என்றும் சொன்னார். தேச விடுதலைக்காக தியாகம்செய்த தேசபக்தர்களை honour பண்ண வேண்டும் என்பதற்காகவே அரசாங்கம் முன் வந்தது. நாட்டை அந்நிய ஆட்சியிலிருந்து விடுவிக்கவே தான் இந்த தேசபக்தர்கள் முன் வந்தார்கள் ஆனால் அன்று அந்நிய ஆட்சியில் அடிமைப் பட்டுக்கொண்டிருந்த தேசபக்தியற்றவர்களும், அவர்களைச் சேர்ந்தவர்களும் இவ்விதம் சொல்வதையும் நாட்டிலுள்ள மக்கள் நன்கு ஆராயும் சக்தி கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இதை மக்கள் ஒரு நாளும் சகித்துக்கொண்டுமிருக்க மாட்டார்கள். அதற்கு அவர்களே பதில் சொல்வார்கள் என்பதைச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன்.

[Sri K. T. Kosalram] [22nd November 1949

"இன்னொன்று அரசாங்கத்திற்கு சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். ஏழை ஹரி ஜனங்களிடத்திலிருக்கும் நிலங்களை அரசியல் தியாகிகளுக்கு ஒதுக்குவதாக சொல்லுகிறார்கள். உண்மையில் அவ்விதம் இருக்கக்கூடாது. அவர்களிடம் உள்ள நிலங்களை எடுத்து ஏழைகளுக்குக் கொடுக்கவே கூடாது. சர்க்கார் தாராளமாக எவ்வளவோ உத்திரவு போடுகிறார்கள். ஆனால் இம்மாதிரி நடக்கிறது என்று சட்டசபை அங்கத்தினர்கள் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஒன்றிரண்டு அதிகாரிகள் இம்மாதிரியான தவறுதல்களைச் செய்திருக்கலாம். அவைகளை அரசாங்கத்தின் கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டுவந்தால் அதை கவனிப்பார்கள். ஆனால் அரசாங்கம் அரசியல் தியாகிகளுக்கு செய்வதைப் பார்த்தால் எனது நண்பரைப்போலவும், இன்னும் தேசபக்தியற்றவர்கள் சொல்லுவதுபோலும் அரசாங்கம் ஒன்று செய்து வருகிறது. அரசாங்கம் ஒரு நாளைக்கு ஒரு G.O. போடுகிறது. மற்றொரு நாளைக்கு அதற்கு விரோதமாக மற்றொரு G.O. வைப் போடுகிறார்கள். இது எப்படி இருக்கிறது என்றால் குட்டையைக் குழப்பி பருந்துக்கு இடுவது போலிருக்கிறது. ஒரு லட்சம் ரூபாய் வைத்து **business** பண்ணுகிறவனும் 5 லட்சம் ரூபாய் வைத்திருக்கிறவன்கூட அரசாங்கத்தின் G.O. படி ஏழையாகி விடுகிறான். ஏழைகள் யார் என்று அரசாங்கம் நிர்ணயம் செய்ய வேண்டும். இப்படிப்பட்ட G.O. போடுவதால் தேசபக்தர்களை கேவலப்படுத்துவது போலிருக்கிறது. இந்நிலைமை இனிமேல் ஏற்படாமலிருக்கவேண்டும். எனது நண்பரைப்போலுள்ளவர்கள் இனிமேல் இந்த மாதிரி பேசமாட்டார்கள் என்று நினைக்கின்றேன். தேசபக்தர்களைப் பற்றி இனி மேல் பேசினால் அவர் மரியாதையான நிலைமையில் பேசுவார் என்று நினைக்கிறேன். தேசபக்தர்கள் அரசாங்கத்தை பிச்சை கேட்க ஒரு நாளும் வரவில்லை என்பதை மறுபடியும் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன்.

"இன்னும் காதியைப்பற்றி பேசினார். காதி என்பது **separate demand**-ல் வருகிறது. **Rural development** என்ற கட்டத்தில் அவர் பேசினார் என்று நினைக்கிறேன். அவர் காதியின் அருமை தெரியாதவர். காதியைப்பற்றி வீணாக பழிக்கிறார்கள். ஒரு நாள் இந்த காதி லாங்காஷியர் ஆலைத்துணியை ஆட்டி வைக்கும்படி மகாத்மா காந்தி செய்திருக்கிறார் என்பதை நண்பர் மறுக்கமுடியாது. லண்டனிலுள்ள பிரிட்டிஷ் எகாதிபத்தியத்தையே ஒரு நாள் இந்த காதி ஆட்டி வைத்திருக்கிறது என்பதை அவருக்குச் சொல்ல பிரியப்படுகிறேன்."

*** Janab Sinna Kaziar Haji Moulvi S. A. F. IBRAHIM :— "I must clear my position. The hon. Member was saying something irrelevant. I must clear the position by offering a personal explanation."**

Mr. SPEAKER :—"The hon. Member may give his personal explanation."

Janab Sinna Kaziar Haji Moulvi S. A. F. IBRAHIM :—**"Mr. Speaker, Sir,** கனம் நண்பர் அவர்கள் தமிழில் பேசியதால் நானும் தமிழில் பதில் சொல்ல அக்கிராசனாதிபதி அவர்களை நான் அனுமதி கேட்கிறேன்.

"On a point of information நான் ஒன்றும் சொல்லவில்லை. கனம் காமராஜ் நாடார் அவர்கள் வேலூரில் என்ன சொன்னார்! அதைத்தான் நான் சொன்னேன். 'எனக்கு இஷ்டமில்லை. நிர்பந்தம் செய்ய வேண்டாம். நிலம் சரியாக கொடுக்கப்படாததால் அந்த G.O. வை வாப்பஸ் பெற்றுக்கொள்ளலாம் என்று யோசனை கூறுகிறேன்' என்று சொல்லியதைத்தான் நான் சொன்னேன். வேறு ஒன்றும் சொல்லவில்லை."

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

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(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

* Sri R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, while moving this cut motion on this Demand the hon. Member Mr. Sinna Kaziar Sahib of Mathurai referred to certain things which were unpleasant and used very unpalatable language. He said that the people outside were talking that the political sufferers, the thyagis who were getting 5 acres of land were not getting lands for cultivation but getting graveyards to bury their past glory. Sir, it may be his own view, but it is certainly not the people's view as he wanted to make out in this House. He is at perfect liberty to hold any nonsensical view about this . . ."

Janab Sinna Kaziar Haji Moulvi S. A. F. IBRAHIM :—"On a point of order, Sir . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER :—"Let not the hon. Member use those words."

* Sri R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—"Sir, here in this House where we are under your protection as Speaker, you should protect all hon. Members from any slanderous language used against them."

Mr. SPEAKER :—"That is true, but the hon. Member has not used any unparliamentary language."

* Sri R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—"Of course, Sir, it is the hon. Member's own view. He can have it for himself, but I want to make it clear that it is not the people's view.

"Sir, the hon. Member spoke about the Russian revolution and the French revolution and said that there also the people sacrificed, but the people who joined the movement alone were not treated as thyagis, but all the people were treated as thyagis. He asked, 'why not here also all people be treated as thyagis?' The hon. Member has forgotten that in the French revolution and the Russian revolution they got their freedom by killing each other, but here in this country, under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, we achieved our freedom by self-sacrifice, by allowing ourselves to be killed instead of killing our enemies. We respected our enemies. The hon. Member wanted that all should be treated as thyagis. Sir, in this connexion I want to remind the House about Kumaran, one of our thyagis. He was beaten by the police. His head was broken and he died on the spot. There were some people like our Mr. Sinna Kaziar, who refused to give him water while he was dying on the spot."

Janab Sinna Kaziar Haji Moulvi S. A. F. IBRAHIM :—"On a point of order, Sir. . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER :—"I want the hon. Member not to make personal remarks."

Sri R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—"I am not accusing Mr. Sinna Kaziar, Sir."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" I want the hon. Member to leave this point about thyagis which has been repeated a number of times. Let him deal with some other point."

* SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" I only wanted to say, Sir, that some people even refused to give water to people who were dying but were prepared to give water to the policemen who were tired on account of the beating they had to give these thyagis. Sir, are we to treat such people who gave water to the police and refused water to the dying man as thyagis? I ask Sinna Kaziar Sahib who wants all people to be treated as thyagis."

JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—" On a point of personal explanation, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" But the hon. Member is not yielding."

* SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" My time is being taken up by interruptions like this. We, Congressmen, whether thyagis or not, never wanted the Government to give us lands. But only the Government, as a token of the sacrifice which these thyagis have made, in the fight for the country's freedom, when the country has attained independence, wanted to give some *veera manyam* to some people. It is the Government who came forward to give lands. There was also the need for growing more food. Thousands and thousands of acres were lying uncultivated. There was a demand for giving lands to the landless people. In this connexion, it was proposed to give some lands to people who lost everything by joining the freedom movement. When Mahatma Gandhi started the movement, many people left their schools and colleges, stopped their education and ruined themselves. Many lost their property. Many left their business as it was and joined the movement when there was a call from the country. In so many ways, these people lost everything and they are now without anything. The Government seeing this thought: 'Now that we have to grow more food why not we give lands to the landless poor; why not we give some lands to people who have lost everything in the freedom fight?'. That was also one of the motives at the back of the mind of the Government. But people here talk lightly about it. Mr. Sinna Kaziar quoted what Mr. Kamaraj Nadar has said in this connexion. It seems to me, Sir, to be a case of the devil quoting scripture. Mr. Kamaraj Nadar only said that if the Government were not able to give lands to political sufferers, they might say so. He also advised his fellow Congressmen not to worry if lands were not given. What is wrong with that advice, Sir? Where is the point in mentioning Mr. Kamaraj Nadar's advice in support of Mr. Sinna Kaziar?

"I shall now leave Mr. Sinna Kaziar and address myself to the Government. I want to know from the Government whether they are really interested in giving lands to these people. On the one hand, we are faced with this kind of opposition, and on the other hand, the Government are not providing us with the necessary lands. If the Government are really not able to fulfil their promises, let them say so. As Mr. Kamaraj Nadar said,

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if the Government are not able to provide the lands, let them give it in some other way, let them provide relief in some other way for people who have sacrificed in the cause of the country. Otherwise let them withdraw this proposal.

"Then Sir, Mr. Sinna Kaziar mentioned another thing. I am very sorry to refer to him again. He said that Khadi was one of the things which gave him a headache.' (Interruption.)

MR. SPEAKER:—" It has already been replied to."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" My time is taken away by interruptions from other members. I am quite prepared to obey your ruling, but other members are not following your instructions strictly."

MR. SPEAKER:—" No, everybody is following them."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" I thank you, Sir, for having allowed me to have my say on this demand."

MR. SPEAKER:—" In the course of the discussion, a number of Members have referred to the question of thyagis a number of times. It is repeated again and again. I hope hon. Members will not continue to repeat the same thing."

*JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Sir, at the every outset, let me make it quite clear that it is never the intention or desire of the Members of my party, much less of my colleague Mr. Sinna Kaziar Sahib to say anything disparagingly against Congressmen or political sufferers or political prisoners. If my friend Mr. R. V. Swaminathan has misunderstood him the fault does not lie with Mr. Sinna Kaziar but with himself in that he was not able to understand the real point of Mr. Sinna Kaziar. If really the Congress Party which is in power wants to give lands to those people, whether it is five acres or 100 acres, we have no quarrel with it. But some Members have raised a point on certain principles. They only wanted to know on what principle the Government were giving lands to political sufferers. We all admired, the sufferings and sacrifices of the Congressmen for the cause of the country. We really had admiration and regard for them and that same feeling continues now. On this point, I do not like to enter into a debate, much less with an hon. Member like Mr. Swaminathan whom it is very difficult to convince.

"Sir, I ask the Hon. the Revenue Minister whether in this very House, in reply to a question put to him, he did not say that lands would be given to all political sufferers irrespective of their party affiliation. It was said that if the people had suffered in the cause of the country, in the fight for freedom, no matter whether they were Leaguers or ex-Leaguers, Socialists or Congressmen, or Dravida Kazhagam people, lands would be given to them. Why was it then that very soon this principle was changed and orders were issued to District Collectors, as the Hon. Minister said on the floor of the House, that lands should be given only to such persons who continued to be in the Congress Party? On principle we object to that. After all we do not feel sorry if

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lands are given only to these people, because we are not aspirants or applicants for these. If at all we have spoken about this or if my Friend Mr. Sinna Kaziar has spoken about this, it is merely on principle. I appeal to the Hon. the Revenue Minister to have a finality about this and settle this question once for all. If you have got lands, give them to political sufferers. But we have heard some Congressmen here say that orders are issued day in and day out from Secretariat and people do not know what they are up to.

"I shall give only one instance, because you have ruled Sir, that we should avoid personalities. Mr. Farookhi Sahib an hon. Member of the Upper House was allotted ten acres of land. But after one month, he came to the Secretariat and learnt that orders had been issued that Farookhi Sahib would not be given those lands. But we want that the Government should have some finality about it and not leave all questions unsettled. I am sure the Hon. the Revenue Minister will take note of what I have said. At the same time, I may again assure the hon. Members of the Congress Party that it is never our intention to wound their feelings or susceptibilities. We really admire what they have done in the past and we hope that they will do it in the future also in the interests of the country.

"Then Sir, with regard to the taking over of zamindaris, I think, Sir, that the Hon. the Revenue Minister would be doing a great service if he would take over all the zamindaris at one stretch, because the conditions in certain zamindaris have become hopeless. In the case of the zamindaris near Madras, it looks as if they have become no-man's land. When the Government come to take over these zamindaris, it will be a very difficult problem for them to ask these people to vacate these lands.

"Again Sir, I do not like to reply to my hon. Friends Mr. Kosalram and Mr. Swaminathan. We also know that khaddar had a very important political significance in the past. If we say anything it should not be misunderstood. In the past, khaddar played a very important part in the freedom movement. Any one who put on khaddar was looked upon as a hero and people respected him and looked upon him as a man who stood for his country and never cared for the consequences. But to-day, when you launch this khaddar movement . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The demand is about Firka development."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Khadi is included in Firka development, Sir. If the Government really think that khaddar is a good business proposition, it is a good economic proportion, why should the Government do it? So long as you are not going to ask us to spin daily or wear khaddar, we have no valid objection to it. Nor are we going to say as one Minister said: 'I spin so many hours daily and I wear khaddar.' Our point is that a large amount of money is spent on a scheme which is economically not sound. From the information given

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by the Hon. Minister for Rural Development, it was proved positive that in spite of the efforts of the Government, with all the Governmental backing and the Governmental machinery, khaddar worth lakhs and lakhs of rupees was remaining unsold. Of course the Government have issued orders that this khaddar should be used for the peons. They will not of course compel the clerks and the officers to take it, but only the peons. They have also asked the local bodies to buy it, with the result that instead of a local body spending Rs. 1,000 for cloth, it would be forced to spend Rs. 3,000. It is in no way a gain. Therefore, our appeal to you is: when you feel it is a good thing, leave it to the proper institution, political organization; let these institutions popularize khadder; we have no objection to that. Our objection is: why should Government come in at this time? Government have to face various important problems to-day; let them not waste time and money on such trivil things. That is all. 2-45 p.m.

"With regard to Firka development, much has been said about it, both for and against. I know some hon. Members sitting opposite, including some Members of Government, are very anxious about the scheme. I wish them God-speed; I wish every success for the scheme; but let me ask, what is your success so far? As far as this House is concerned, nothing has been placed before us to show that the scheme has been working well. Day in and day out it is said that so much money has been spent and so much will be spent and in every supplemental budget we find some item of expenditure regarding this is there. We therefore want an assurance from the Government that the money spent by the Madras Government on this Firka Development Scheme—which incidentally may be a good scheme if it is not worked in a half-hearted manner—should be spent to the satisfaction of the public and not to the satisfaction of the Government Members and that every pie of that money will not go to waste. That is my appeal; and if we voice forth this suggestion, we have done it in a good spirit and I hope that the Ministers will take it in that light and Mr. Swaminathan also will take it in that light and not get excited on these simple matters."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. M. S. Pattabhiramiah. I hope the hon. Member will not take more than five minutes."

SRI M. S. PATTABIRAMIAH:—"Sir, while I support the motion brought forward by the Hon. Minister in charge of Land Revenue for Rs. 400, I wish to make a few observations on the points raised by the hon. Mr. Sinna Kaziar the gentleman sitting opposite, when he moved a cut motion. The explanation given by the hon. Gentleman Mr. Raza Khan and his interpretation are interesting and pleasing to hear; but I am afraid the words and ideas expressed by Mr. Sinna Kaziar do not lend themselves to that interpretation. He raised the question of the grant of lands to political sufferers in our Province. Before I reply to some of his points, let me say there are genuine grievances in the administration of this subject by the Government department. We have heard of instances, and there are instances where lands

previously cultivated by Harijans during the days of the Grow More Food campaign have been taken away from them and given to very rich millionaires, ex-Congressmen in some of the districts. This is very unfortunate. Another genuine grievance is that really poor helpless sufferers who are not able to make their voice felt anywhere have not yet been given even a cent of land, while men who have somehow become associated with some of the Congressmen and who had never gone to jail, have got lands as if they were political sufferers. There are such instances; I know representations have been made to proper quarters; Government should take action on those representations and cancel the allotments so made.

"Hon. Gentleman Sinna Kaziar said that many revolutions had happened in different countries and those who brought about the revolutions, the heroes and patriots of those countries, were not remunerated in this way. But he has forgotten the great revolutions known to history, the French Revolution and the Russion Revolution; as an aftermath of the revolution, the revolutionaries were supreme; they came to power, they had plenty of everything and none of them needed anything. All the reactionary parties, or the opposing parties and the neutrals were weeded out both in France and in Russia. But here the picture is entirely different; those who worked for the country's independence, hundreds and thousands of them, still suffer; some of them have lost their all; they are not in power nor are they in plenty; they are suffering even to-day. Is not this Government bound to help such people? Is not any civilized Government bound to do something for them when it is prepared to relieve the distress of even released prisoners convicted of felony after their imprisonment? Has the gentleman forgotten that fundamental aspect underlying this grant of land to political sufferers? Patriots who suffered, who lost everything, who are not in power and who are unable to make both ends meet, if they are left stranded and if the Government come forward to help them with the grant of land, can any one question the bona fides of the Government or the intention of the party in power? In the Russian revolution, the Bolshevists won. And what became of the other parties, the other sections of the population? They all fled from the country, or they were imprisoned if they were there or came subservient to the party in power. But what is the situation here? There are a few political sufferers who are in power, but 90 per cent of the sufferers who took part in the struggle for independence have been left alone. Their glory lies in their silence and in their continued suffering. And if those who are now in power failed to do their duty towards them, will they be human, I ask? Any Government, to be human, should take care of all people, particularly the people who now suffer but who were responsible for bringing independence and freedom to our country, so that we could do as we liked. Therefore, Sir, I submit the Government were right in making this allotment of lands to deserving political sufferers; only the Government should see that the scheme is administered properly. All this jeer and jargon—which has unfortunately been

evident in this House—should be avoided. Although we are used to hear his comicalities, I think what he said as a joke was really a jeer. I submit, Sir, the hon. Gentleman Mr. Sinna Kaziar has been irresponsible, and I hope he will correct himself."

* SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN :—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, பிர்கா அபிவிருத்திக்கும், குறிப்பாக அரசியல் தியாகிகளுக்கும் நிலம் வழங்கக் கூடிய முறையில் பல ஆபீசர்களை நியமிக்கக்கூடிய ஒரு பட்ஜெட்டை ஆதரித்துப் பேசுவதற்காக நான் நிற்கின்றேன். அப்படி எண்ணுகின்ற போது நம்முடைய அரசாங்கத்தின் எதிர் கக்ஷியிலிருக்கக் கூடிய நம் முடைய தோழர்கள் பேசியபடி யாராவது அரசியல் தியாகிகள் ஏதோ நிலம் வருமென்ற காரணத்தால் அவர்களது சொத்துக்களை இழந்து, அல்லது தூக்கு மேடை ஏறி அல்லது பல கஷ்டங்களுக்கு ஆளாகவேண்டிய நிலைமை ஏற்படுத்திக் கொண்டார்களா, என்று கேட்கிறேன் ஒன்றுமில்லை. சும்மாய் இருந்தவர்களை வேண்டுமென்று பல மாகாணங்களில் அரசியல் தியாகிகளுக்கு ஏதோ நிலம் வழங்கவேண்டுமென்பதாக செய்த ஏற்பாட்டை பத்திரிகையில் பார்த்தவுடன் நம்முடைய மாகாணத்தில் அந்தவித நன் மையை தியாகிகளுக்குச் செய்யலாமென்ற கருத்தில் தான் நம்முடைய அர சாங்கம் தங்கள் கருத்தை வெளியிட்டார்கள். அந்த நிலை ஏற்பட்ட பிறகு ஜனப் சின்ன காஜியார் அவர்கள் அரசியல் தியாகிகளை அணுகி கேட்டால் உண்மை நன்றாகத் தெரியும். எவ்வளவோ தங்கள் காசுகளை செலவழித்தும், தங்கள் பணங்களை அதற்காகச் செலவிட்டபிறகும் அந்த நிலம் வருகிறதாயென்றால் இல்லை. சொன்னபடி நிலம் அர சியல் தியாகிகளுக்குக் கிடைக்கவில்லை என்ற காரணத்தினால்தான், சிங்க ளுடைய தலைவர் காமராஜ் நாடார் அவர்கள், 'நிலம் உடனடியாகக் கொடுங்கள்; இல்லாவிட்டால் இல்லையென்று சொல்லுங்கள்,' என்கிற மனப்பான்மையில் வற்புறுத்தியிருக்கிறாரே தவிர நிலம் கொடுக்க வேண் டாமென்று சொல்லவில்லையென்பதை ஜனப் சின்ன காஜியார் அவர்கள் உணரவேண்டும்.

"இன்றையதினம் அவர்களைக் கேட்கிறேன். இன்றுஅவர் முஸ்லிம் லீகின் சார்பாக இங்கிருக்கிறார். இந்த நாட்டுக்கு சுதந்திரம் வேண்டுமென்று அறுபது ஆண்டுகளாக பாடு பட்டுச் சுதந்திரத்தை கடைசியில் வாங்கி கொடுத்த தேசத்தியாகிகளை தலைவணங்காது அவர்களுக்கு எதிர்ப்பு அளவில் இருப்பது இத் தேசத்திற்கு துரோகம் செய்வதாகும். சுதந்திரத்திற்கு எதிராக நின்று முட்டுக்கட்டை போட்டவர்கள் தேசத் தியாகிகளா? ஜனப் சின்ன காஜியார் அவர்கள் தேசத்திற்காக எவ்வளவு தியாகம் செய்திருக்கிறார்களென்று கேட்கிறேன். அவர்கள் இங்கு பேசு வதைப் போல் நான் கேட்கிறேன். காலஞ்சென்ற ஜனப் ஜின்னா அவர்கள் தனி அரசாங்கத்தை ஏற்படுத்தியிருக்கிறார்களே, அங்கு ஏதாவது பேச முடியுமாவென்று கேட்கிறேன். முடியவே முடியாது.

"இந்த நிலைமையில் வீணாக தேசபக்தர்களுடைய மனம் புண்படும்படி, ஒருவிதமான எண்ணங்களைக் கொடுக்கக் கூடிய நிலையில் எதுவும் பேசவே கூடாது என்பது தான் என்னுடைய தெளிவான எண்ணம்.

"அது மாத்திரமில்லை. ஹரிஜன சகோதரர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். ஹரி ஜனங்களுடைய நிலங்களை எல்லாம் அரசியல் தியாகிகளுக்கு பிடுங்கிக் கொடுத்து விடுகிறார்கள் என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. ஹரிஜனங்களின்மேல் பட்டா செய்யப்பட்ட நிலங்களையெல்லாம் அப்படிச் செய்கிறார்கள் என்று சொல்லப்பட்டது. அந்த மாதிரி எங்கும் நடையாது. அப்படி யாராவது தவறுதலாக அரசியல் தியாகிகளுக்கு வாங்கி அளித்திருந்தாலும் அது தெரியுமானால் எந்த அரசியல் தியாகியும்அந்த நிலத்தை திருப்பி அவர்களிடமே கொடுக்க தயங்க மாட்டான் என்பதை நாம் தெரிந்து கொள்ளவேண்டும்.

"இன்றையதினம் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களைக் கேட்கிறேன். இந்த திட்டங்களுக்காக ரூ. 2,000த்திற்குமேல் செலவழிக்கப்படுவதாக இந்தப் பட் ஜெட்டில் குறிப்பிடப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன இந்தப் பணம் வீணாகாமல் உடனடி

[Sri M. Kanniappan] [22nd November 1949

யாக காரியத்தைச் செய்கின்ற முறையில் செலவழிக்கப்படவேண்டும். அப்படியின்றி அவர்களை அங்குமிங்கும் அனுப்பி, நிலம் இங்கில்லை அங்கு போங்கள் என்று சொல்லுகிற அளவில் இருக்கக் கூடாது. அது மாத்திர மில்லை நல்ல நிலத்தின் பட்டாவை உடனடியாக மாற்றி அவர்கள் பேரில் கணக்குப்பிள்ளை உள்பட எல்லா அதிகாரிகளும் ஒப்புக் கொள்ளு கின்ற வழியில் இந்த நிலத்தை அவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். அம்மாதிரி இல்லாமல் அரசியல் தியாகிகளின் மனம் நோகும்படி காரியங்கள் நடக்கின்றது என்று எனக்குத் தெரியும். நிலங்களும் சரியாக இல்லை. கிராம கணக்குப் பிள்ளையும் அதுயில்லை இதுயில்லை என்று அலக்கழிக்கிறார்கள் என்பதனால் தான் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களிடம் அவ்வாறு சொன்னேன். நேற்றைய தினம் அரசியல் தியா கிகளுக்கு நிலம் அளிப்பது சம்பந்தமாக செங்கற்பட்டு ஜில்லா கலெக்டர் ஆபீசில் ஒரு கூட்டம். நடந்தது. அங்கு முப்பது நாற்பது அரசியல் தியாகிகள் இருந்தார்கள். அவர்கள், 'நிலம் இல்லையென்று சொல்லி விட்டால் நாங்கள் சம்பாதித்து வைத்துக் கொண்டிருக்கும் பணத்தையாவது வீணுகச் செலவழிக்காமல் வைத்துக்கொள்ளலாம். அது இல்லாமல் இப் போது எங்கள் கைப் பணம் வீணுக செலவழிக்கப்பட்டு வருகிறதே தவிற நிலங்கள் எங்களுக்கு இன்னும் கொடுக்கப்படவில்லை. சட்ட சபையிலே வேறு வேண்டுமென்றே எங்கள் மீது பழியை சொல்லக் கூடிய நிலைமையில் பேசுகிறார்கள். நாங்கள் மிகவும் வருந்துகிறோம். இந்த நிலைமை யில்லாமல் செய்ய வேண்டும். அல்லது உடனடியாக நிலம் கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று,' அந்த அரசியல் தியாகிகள் தங்கள் அபிப்பிராயத்தை சொன்னார்கள். அதையெல்லாம் ஒட்டிபபார்த்து உடனடியாக அதற்கு வேண்டிய காரியங்களைச் செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

3 p.m. * Sri T. VISWANATHAM:—" Mr. Speaker, I would draw the attention of the Hon. Minister for Land Revenue and the Hon. Minister for Finance to item 1 (*b*), where it is stated that the annual expenditure which the Government have to incur as a result of taking over 33 estates is Rs. 21·26 lakhs on account of staff, namely, four managers in the grade of District Collectors, three managers in the grade of Deputy Collectors, additional staff in the Collectorate and Taluk offices in the districts in which the notified estates lie, Special Revenue Inspectors and one lower division clerk in each of the Taluk and Deputy Tahsildar's offices in which the process registers have to be maintained. I believe the rent roll of these 33 estates prior to the reduction of rents would have been somewhere near a crore of rupees. If, for these 33 estates, it is found necessary to incur Rs. 21·26 lakhs of annual expenditure, we can imagine what would be the cost if the Government take over all the estates. Would it come nearly to Rs. 80 lakhs or a crore of rupees? All these estates, after rent reduction operations, namely, survey and settlement, would not, in my estimate, yield more than a crore of rupees and for collection expenses, we have to incur an expenditure of Rs. 80 lakhs, or nearly a crore and in addition lose a considerable portion of the land cesses which we have been getting on higher rents. It would not be quite an economical proposition and that is the reason why I have begun by saying that I wish to draw the attention of both the Ministers for Land Revenue and Finance and request them to keep a watch over this item of expenditure to see that this does not bulge up to any undue proportion.

" Let me say a few words on item (iv), Firka Development. This scheme was started with one of the best ideals and, if only

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the officers of Government have got the will to work up this scheme, it would not be a loss at all but on the other hand, we will be producing a condition of things which would be the envy of every other country. I submit that the local officers who belong to the Revenue Department, Highways, Electricity and other departments of Government are not giving their whole-hearted co-operation to the Firka Development Officers. It will not be possible for the Hon. Revenue Minister himself to hear the views of the Firka Development Officers in this behalf. Being Government servants, they will be obliged to keep themselves away. I know from my own personal knowledge that there is not enough co-ordination between them but on the other hand, there is sufficient damnation, if I may say so. These permanent officers have got a sort of natural antipathy to the new schemes because the Firka Development is based on an ideology which is totally different from their ideology. Government are incurring heavy expenditure and have now asked for the approval of the House for an annual recurring expenditure of Rs. 148 thousand upon this particular item and my submission is that the Hon. the Revenue Minister should pay special attention to this matter and give instructions to the various officers of the other departments to give better co-operation and co-ordination so that the scheme might prove a success.

" Just a few words on the question of assignment of lands to political sufferers, not on what friends have talked upon but from another aspect. There is a growing feeling in our part of the Province that the distribution of lands is marred by a spirit of partisanship. That is a thing which the Government must very carefully look into. I am not going into details but I will give one example in the East Godavari district. There a particular person was given land but for partisan reasons, on the intervention of a ministerialist, the land has been taken away from him. These things are happening throughout the Province. I am not going to say this by way of criticism of the Government, but I want them to direct their attention to what is happening to see that room is not given for such criticisms in future."

* Sri K. RAJARAM NAIDU :—" கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, பிர்க்கா அபிவிருத்தி திட்டத்தை ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாவிலும் பெறும் இரண்டு பிர்க்காகளுக்கு விஸ்தரிக்க வேண்டுமென்று சர்க்கார் முடிவு செய்து உப மானிய கோரிக்கையை கொண்டு வந்திருப்பதைப் பற்றி நான் பெருமைப் படாமலிருக்க முடியாது. எதிர்கக்ஷி மெம்பர்கள் சிலர் பிர்க்கா அபிவிருத்தி திட்டத்தைப்பற்றி பல தினங்களாக குறை கூறி பேசி வருவதைக் கண்டு நான் மனம் வருந்துகிறேன். மற்றவர்களைப்பற்றி நான் அதிகம் கூற தேவையில்லை. ஆனால் எங்கள் ஜில்லாவைச் சேர்ந்த மதுரை ஜில்லா முஸ்லிம் லீக் பிரதிநிதியாக இங்கே விற்றிருக்கும் ஜனாப் சினன காதியார் அவர்களே இவ்விதம் பேசுவதைக் கண்டு நான் மிகவும் வருந்துகிறேன். சென்ன ராகாணத்தில் 34 பிர்க்காக்களில் அமுலிலிருந்தாலும் கூட கேள்வி நேரத்தில் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் பதில் சொல்லும்போ தெல்லாம், பிர்க்கா அபிவிருத்தி திட்டம் எப்படி நடக்கிறது என்பதற்கு மதுரைக்கு அடுத்துள்ள திருமங்கலம் பிர்க்காவிலுள்ள கிராமங்களை போய் பார்த்தால் தெரியும் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அவ்வளவு பெருமையுடன் பிர்க்கா திட்டம் நடைபெறும் திருமங்கலத்தை பார்த்து அந்த ஜில்லாவாசி யான அவர்கள் பெருமைப்பட வேண்டியதிருக்க ஜனாப் சினனகாஜியார் அவர்

[Sri K. Rajaram Naidu] [22nd November 1949

கள் பிர்க்கா அபிவிருத்தி திட்டத்தைப் பற்றி கேவலப்படுத்தி பேசுவது என் றுல் அது சகிக்க முடியாத விஷயம். அந்த மாதிரி எண்ணம் அவர்களுக்கு உண்மையில் இருக்குமானுல், பிர்க்கா அபிவிருத்தி திட்டம் எப்படி நடக் கிறது என்பதற்கு மதுரையிலிருந்து 11 மைல் தூரத்தில் (ரயில் சார்ஜ் 4 அணுவே) உள்ள திருமங்கலம் கிராமத்திற்குப் போய் பார்க்கட்டும். நான் வேண்டுமானுலும் கூட அவர்களோடு கூட போய் காண்பிக்கிறேன். திருமங்கலம் பிர்க்காவை நேரில் பார்த்த பிறகு அவர்கள் சர்க்கார் ஏதோ பொதுஜன பணத்தை விரயம் செய்கிறார்களா, அல்லது மிக உபயோகமான வழியில் செலவிடுகிறார்களா என்று முடிவுக்கு வரட் டும். சர்க்காருடைய பணத்தில் எவ்வளவு செலவழிக்கிறது. பொது ஜனங் களுடைய பணம் எவ்வளவு செலவாகிறது என்று எதிர்கக்ஷி அங்கத் தினர்கள் நன்றுகத் தெரிந்துகொள்ளவேண்டும்.

" தவிர எதிர் கக்ஷி அங்கத்தினர், அதன் நோக்கம், அடிப்படைத் தத்துவம் இன்னதென்று அறியாமலேயே அதைப்பற்றி பேசுவது கண்டிக் கத் தக்க விஷயம். பிர்க்கா அபிவிருத்தி திட்டத்தினுலும் கிராமாந் திரங்களுக்கு ஏதோ அள்ளிக் கட்டி விட்டதாக நினைத்துக் கொள்ளவேண் டாம். சர்க்கார் கிராம அபிவிருத்தி உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களுக்குச் சம்பளம் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். இந்த இரண்டு வருஷம் அமுல் நடந்ததில் 4 கோடி ரூபாய் ஒதுக்க வைக்கப்பட்டதில் ஹரிஜன முன்னேற்றத்திற்கும், பிர்க்கா அபிவிருத்திச் செலவிற்கும் சேர்ந்து 35 லக்ஷம் ரூபாய் தான் செலவழிந்திருக்கறது என்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ள விரும்புகிறேன். இந்த பிர்க்கா உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களுக்குச் சம்பளம் கொடுத்து வைத்திருப் பதனுல் அவர்கள் கிராமாந்திரங்களில் கிராம ஜனங்கள் காந்திய முறைப் படி, அவர்கள் காந்திய தத்துவ அடிப்படையில் சகோதரத்துவத்துடன் நடந்து கொள்ள சரியான பிரசாரம் செய்கிறார்கள். எல்லா ஜனங்களும் ஒற்றுமையாக இருந்தால் எவ்விதம் பிர்க்கா அபிவிருத்தி திட்டத்தை வெற்றிகரமாக நடத்தலாம் என சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அங்கே ஜனங்கள் தாங்களே தங்களுக்கு வேண்டிய உணவை உற்பத்தி செய்து கொள்ளுகி றார்கள். தங்களுக்கு வேண்டிய துணிக்கு நூல் நூற்று துணி நெய்து கொள்ளுகிறார்கள். தன் கையே தனக்கு உதவி யென்று, தங்களுக்கு வேண்டியதை, அதாவது சுய தேவையை அவர்களே பூர்த்தி செய்து கொள்ளுகிறார்கள். பிர்க்கா அபிவிருத்தி திட்டத்தின் முக்கியத்துவமும் இதுவே.

" இன்னென்று கதர் தேங்கியிருக்கிறது என்று குற்றம் சொல்லுகிறார் கள். கதர் தேங்கியிருக்கிறது யென்றுல் என்ன அர்த்தம் ? தேவைக்குமேல் அதிகமாக உற்பத்தி செய்கிறார்கள் என்று தான் அர்த்தம். இதற்கு மேலும் ஏழு லக்ஷம் ரூபாய் சரக்கு தேங்கிக் கிடக்கிறதென்றுல் அவர்கள் எவ் வளவு உண்மையாக இந்த கதர் உற்பத்தி திட்டத்திலே ஈடுபட்டு கதர் உற்பத்தி செய்து குவிக்கிறார்கள் என்று நாம் தெரிந்துகொள்ளாது, ' கதர் உற்பத்தி திட்டத்திற்கு என் உதவி செய்கிறார்கள் ? கதரை யார் வாங்குகிறார்கள்,' என்று சொல்வது, அறியாமையாகும். இதைத் தவிற வேறு ஒன்றும் சொல்ல தேவை இல்லை. இந்த பிர்க்கா அபிவிருத்தித் திட்டம் எவ்வளவு வெற்றிகரமாக நடந்து வருவது என்பதை தெரிந்து கொள்வதற்கு இதைத தவிற வேறு என்ன சான்று வேண்டும்.

" முக்கியமாக இம்மாதிரி விஷயங்களில் சரியாக தெரிந்து கொள்ளா மல் இனி ஒன்றும் பேசமாட்டார்கள் என்று எண்ணுகிறேன். ஆகவே இந்த திட்டத்தை மனப்பூர்வமாக ஆதரித்து உபமானிய கோரிக்கையையும் நான் ஆதரிக்கிறேன்."

* Sri G. KUMARASWAMI:—" Mr. Speaker, while I heartily support the demand made by the Hon. Minister for Land Revenue, I would like to make a few observations on three important points. One is Firka Development; the second is the abolition of estates and the third, last but not least, is the question of assignment of lands to political sufferers. Regarding the assignment of lands to political sufferers, I would suggest that until and unless the

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Government are in a position to know how much land is available and what lands can be assigned to the sufferers, assignment of lands, is not at all possible. In my district of Visakhapatnam, there are about 20 taluks, of which fourteen are entirely zamindari and the remaining six are ryotwari. There is this further restriction, namely, that porambokes, banjar, grazing grounds, burial grounds and tank-beds cannot be assigned. The Tahsildars give us a list of survey numbers of lands, but they themselves do not know whether those can be assigned. His signature is there beneath, and if in the particular list we see a number consisting of about 800 or 900 acres, we think that that plot could be conveniently distributed to 100 or 120 political sufferers and we approach the Tahsildar, but curiously enough, Sir, he says that it is either marshy or a river-bed or a hill or some such thing. Such are the conditions prevailing there. Let us now consider, Sir, the lands taken up for Grow More Food Campaign. Automatically on the 30th June every year the lease expires. But the lessee without getting out of the land keeps on occupying it and it is a very difficult thing for the Government to turn him out of it, and much more difficult it is for the political sufferer to take possession of it. If the land is given to a political sufferer, it ends in conflict with the other man. It is also to be noted that it is not possible for the political sufferers to enter and get the lands that these people had been enjoying. Even if they had been handed over to them it is impossible to occupy them. So the net result is that they are not able to raise the crop at all. I would like to suggest to the Government that there is a lot of unauthorized cultivation, namely, *sivaijama* and all such land must be taken over by the Government and handed over to political sufferers. Whether political sufferers are to be given lands or not, is not the point at all. In every war everywhere in the world, political sufferers and patriots are respected and regarded and given some title, some honour, some lands, some money and some position, etc., and in this country where we have won the freedom fight by non-violent means inflicting suffering on ourselves, certainly we must be given the due reward. There are in our country, some patriots, very educated men, very eminent men occupying big positions, who are chairmen of municipal councils, etc., who did not apply at all. I think, it is but reasonable that the Government should approach them and see that land is given to them. I know several such instances. There are people who have staked their all for the sake of the country and have gone to jail six or seven times, but still never applied for lands. It is not a question whether the political sufferer is rich or poor, whether he belongs to this community or that community; whatever he may be, he must be given the land because it is a recognition on the part of the Government for his patriotism and service to the country."

Sri P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very glad to support the supplementary demand placed before the House by the Hon. Revenue Minister. When I do so I wish to point out the utility of khaddar. Khaddar is a commodity which

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[Sri P. Kandaswami Pillai] [22nd November 1949

gives life to every Indian. Apart from its utility, it is khaddar which brought freedom to our country. My friends in the Opposition, and more especially Mr. Sinna Kaziar, said, that you cannot sell it even for three pies. Sir, I do not wish to take any notice of him; because his remarks does not deserve much attention. We, people, have got experience of khaddar. From 1923 onwards khaddar was adopted by us at the suggestion of Mahatma Gandhi. We are all wearing khaddar ever since that time, and so we are the people who are competent to speak about its value and utility. The people who have all along been opposing it, the people who have all along been opposing all other ideals of this country, even the basic principles of freedom of this country, are not the people who are competent to speak about khaddar.

" Sir, I do not want to say much about firka development for, previous speakers have dealt with it. They have spoken how it is useful to villagers and how it has elevated the people in the village. Sir, unless it is useful why should we extend it to other villages? If any man tours in the firka centres and with patience tries to assess the value of the firka development work done there, he will be convinced of its usefulness. People who belong to the 'Karachi nation', people who do not see eye to eye with the aims of the Congress, cannot appreciate the good work done under the firka development scheme. Therefore, there is no meaning in their finding fault with us.

" Regarding political sufferers, I spoke at the time of budget discussion. The Hon. Finance Minister said in his reply that it was for the Hon. Minister for Land Revenue to reply. The assignment of land to political sufferers is left to be dealt with by clerks, Deputy Tahsildars and Tahsildars. The whole trouble lies with the head of the Government. I shall give one instance. In Salem there is a small forest area. It is called forest; but in reality there are no trees there; there are only bushes. In that area, four hundred acres of land were recommended to be given by Government. The Collector of the district sent the order to the Chief Conservator of Forests; and he said that this forest should not be assigned. And that paper is lying there in the Secretariat from April 1948. Even to-day, it is there. (Laughter.) And it is receiving attention, says the Deputy Secretary. (Laughter.) Sir, is this the way of dealing with political sufferers? Some people find fault with Ministers also, because they do not pass final orders on the matter. Their orders are all fluctuating; one day they say all political sufferers will be given lands; on the second day they say only landless people among political sufferers will be given lands. Political sufferers say, 'We are the people who served the country and brought freedom to the country, and so it is we who should be given land'. But the Indian soldiers say, 'We served under the British army, fought for the country and brought freedom for the land, and so it is we who should be given land'. The Ministers are unable to decide either way. That is the trouble. I request the Hon. Minister to take courage in his hands and decide either way, and let the matter be brought to a final conclusion.

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" Sir, I wish to point out that there are mistakes in the conduct of officials in respect of assignment of land. A certain Harijan was cultivating a land for some years. Unfortunately that was taken and given to another well-to-do man. What I say is, it is all the mistake of the subordinate officials, the deputy tahsildars, tahsildars and Collectors. I want a categorical reply from the Hon. Ministers whether they are going to deal with this question earnestly and not leave the responsibility of assignment to the Collectors. They must look into the papers themselves, devote personal attention to it, even though it may take a week or ten days to finish it and get a good name from those who have suffered for freedom."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to intervene in this debate only to say a few words in respect of two matters. The question of assignment of land to political sufferers is one which is only part of a wider policy of land assignment in general. I think in the new policy which has been outlined, priority has been given for political sufferers; then it goes on to lay down the names of eligible persons, who can be given new lands in the form of a list. Of course there is very little of new land which is immediately available in the Province. It is a fact which has to be faced. I think the test of a good assignment would be if it is linked with food production. For political sufferers, who have been assigned lands—on whatever basis the assignment may have proceeded up to now—a condition should be set that if within a particular number of years the land is not brought under cultivation or does not produce food that Government think it ought to produce as a minimum, then, that land may even be resumed. It is only then that we can show people who have been rewarded for sacrifices in the past, and for which they have no right to claim to be rewarded and we do not expect a reward of this sort, I think in fairness to the country at large. Such people must make it clear that they are all determined to apply to themselves the same standard, the same set of rules, which would apply to others who take land assignment. The question is not what should be the maximum holding, or what should be the minimum holding. I think future Governments will take care to note that the size of all holdings, or for that matter, the right to hold land as such will have to be linked with the problem of food production. This may seem an extraordinary view. But I think all matters arising out of absentee ownership of land would be avoided, only if food production is made the real test for all land assignment.

" Sir, one curious case came to my notice, and I have pressed it to the notice of the Hon. Minister but without effect. A particular piece of land was taken on lease under Grow More Food scheme in the Mettur-canal area; it was only a limited extent of 25 acres; it was leased out to a particular person who did not own any other land. Because of the persuasion by the Collector and the officials he invested large sums of money in clearing the land and growing the first crop. There was a dispute as to the amount of

crop he could recoupe to cover the initial expenditure; and so at the end of five or six years the land was taken away; and all he had invested was lost to him. I think, Sir, this is not fair way of dealing with the matter. If the real test had been food production, that gentleman would not be dispossessed. In the last year that the land was cultivated it yielded six hundred bags of Kuruvai; and to-day that land remains uncultivated, because political sufferers who have been assigned that land are unable to put any capital in it and raise necessary crop. I think this is not the best way of dealing with the problem.

" One word more, Sir, and that with regard to Firka Development Scheme. Firka Development Scheme is really a scheme intended to rouse the spirit of self-sufficiency in the villagers. If we do not have that test, the firka development scheme will not survive. To-day it is worked, I suppose, on the same old principle of contributory help. Government contribute only to such schemes to which people have already volunteered to lend their support by way of contribution. This is a very good scheme. This is the time when the effort towards self-sufficiency should be introduced in all rural area schemes. It is up to the Collectors of districts to impress on the people this voluntary contributory aspect of the scheme."

* THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, several hon. Members have particularly laid stress upon two items, the assignment of land to political sufferers and firka development. So far as firka development is concerned the hon. Member who spoke last correctly laid stress on the contributory aspect of the matter. Sir, it encourages people to come forward with their own contribution, and then Government also contribute their money, and there is as a result improvement of the rural area. It all depends upon what outlook one has. It is quite probable that people who have not much sympathy with the people living in the rural areas may not be able to fully appreciate the soundness or the usefulness of the scheme. Sir, we have been spending a lot of money on the development of urban areas for several years past. After all the men in the village should get some help. I do not see why this scheme should be looked upon with such doubtful value by some hon. Members. It is quite probable that it has not been successful in some areas. But that is no reason to condemn the entire scheme. The scheme as such is good, and the policy is good; perhaps the human element is defective. So, it is up to the Government and the people to see that we harness it and bring out useful work and make the scheme a success. There are officers in charge of this scheme, who are imbued with sympathy for villagers; and if they had not been able to succeed to the extent they expected, it might be that they had not adequate time to enthuse the local people in the matter. I had occasion to see the work done under the scheme. I had seen a village with an ugly approach road. But under the scheme with the help of the people a good approach road has been put.

The local people had contributed the entire money for the scheme. One landholder contributed Rs. 1,200 of his own money to improve the approach road to the village. Then, there was a drinking water well, which was more of a ditch or gap than a well. With the co-operation of the people they were able to fill that gap and put a good drinking water well in that place. Only those who have seen in person all this can appreciate the real good work done there. It is all done from their own contribution. I can go on telling this House about the good and useful work done under the scheme. All the same, Government are aware of some defects in the working of this scheme. They are anxious to remove these defects and make the scheme as successful as possible. After satisfying themselves with the progress so far made, the Government thought of extending the scheme. I seek the co-operation of this House to make the scheme a success. This is not a party matter and let us not look at it from that point of view. This is intended to help the poor villagers whose uplift has been neglected for a long time. Let us look at it from the utilitarian point of view. I should like every hon. Member to look at it without bias and free from party or political affiliations.

" Coming to the question of political sufferers, I do not like to mention names. We could not expect from the mover of the cut motion anything other than the attitude that he has adopted. I am not surprised at his attitude. I know there is no need to answer him because he has been more than answered. Some Members asked whether the Government were really serious in assigning lands to political sufferers. Certain difficulties were pointed out. The hon. Mr. Salam said that the whole trouble was with the Ministers and that the Deputy Secretary was causing trouble. Let me assure every hon. member of this House that neither the Ministers nor the Deputy Secretary nor anybody else want to put obstacles in the way. They are anxious that the work should be expedited as much as possible. If certain papers are pending for sometime, as was said to be the case in a particular district, it must be due to some difficulties that have cropped up. When such cases have been brought to my notice, I have tried to speed up the disposal wherever possible. It is a matter which has to be dealt with by several departments. If the land belongs to the Public Works Department, that department has to examine whether the assignment of the land would in any way affect the irrigation source for the people of the locality. If it is forest land, the Forest Officer has to say whether its continuance as a forest land is necessary. We have been saying that we must preserve our forests as they are absolutely necessary for our economy. All those aspects have to be examined. One hon. Member said that if one fine morning the Minister sits, he can do the work in a jiffy. I am prepared to sit not only one morning, but several mornings, afternoons and evenings. The matter is not so easy as that. I can only express my anxiety to see that the matter is expedited. We have instructed the District Collectors to speed up the work. 3-30 p.m

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"The hon. Mr. Varadachari correctly put it when he said that the assignment of land to political sufferers is only a part of the land assignment policy. The order relating to land assignment policy refers to political sufferers, landless poor, Harijans, ex-servicemen and several other classes in the order of priority.

"Mr. Varadachari said that land assignment should help the Grow More Food Campaign and suggested that a condition must be prescribed at the time of assignment that the land must be brought under cultivation within a specified time. There is already a condition to that effect and failure to do so will lead to resumption of the land. This question of assignment helping the food production campaign has been fully borne in mind."

SRI M. S. PATTABIRAMIAH:—"When the land assigned to a political sufferer is uncultivable as it is, will it be resumed? I know a piece of land assigned to political sufferers and they have not been able to cultivate it because it is waterlogged."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"If a land cannot be permanently assigned owing to any difficulty suggested by the Public Works Department or any other cause, the Government can give the land on long lease, reserving to themselves the right of resumption if necessary."

* THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"As regards the question raised by Mr. Pattabiramiah, if the land is unfit for cultivation the assignee can surrender it and ask for a more suitable land.

"The question raised by Mr. P. Kandaswami Pillai relates to lease of land. That is a different aspect altogether. We are dealing with the question of assignment of land. To raise the question of the lease of land, I think he should take a different occasion. I do not want lease and assignment to be mixed up.

"There is one other thing on which I would like to say a few words. Several members complained that the Government were changing their orders frequently. If I remember rightly, one or two amending orders have been issued. They became necessary to clarify policy. If certain difficulties are found in the course of implementing an order, there is nothing wrong in clarifying or enlarging that order. It is done in the interests of the people to whom the assignment is made. Some member asked whether there will be finality at all. Yes, we have issued orders finally. So, hon. Members need not make much of the point and criticize the Government as though they are anxious to pass orders every day. The Government are very reluctant to amend orders once passed unless such amendment becomes necessary in the interests of implementing the policy."

* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I should like to give a brief personal explanation, because I have become the target of attack by so many Congress members. I am really sorry if I have wounded the

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feelings of any one. It was never my object or intention to wound the feeling or sentiment of even a single member. I only wanted to express my views which may be right or wrong from their point of view. When many things were said by so many hon. Members, I was wondering what I had done. There are people with good tongues and bad hearts and also people with bad tongues and good hearts. The House may take me as one with a bad tongue and good heart. (Laughter.) Though my speech might have been right legally and constitutionally, still I owe a moral obligation. If any hon. Member feels that I have offended him by my speech, I am sorry for it."

SRI M. S. PATTABIRAMIAH:—"Is the hon. Member right in characterizing that there are members here with good tongues and bad hearts?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"He never said that about the members here."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"He mentioned two categories of people. But there is a third category which he failed to mention and that is people with a bad tongue and a bad heart."

JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"Should I explain the point raised in the interruption?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Not necessary."

JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"After hearing the Hon. Revenue Minister's reply, I gladly withdraw the cut motion."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND IX—HEADS OF PROVINCES, MINISTERS AND HEADQUARTERS STAFF.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move— 3·45 p.m.

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 400 under Demand IX—Heads of Provinces, Ministers and Headquarters Staff.'

"Sir, there are four items covered by this Demand. The first is the increase in emoluments for peons. When the scales of pay of Government servants were revised in 1947, the scale of pay of peons was fixed at Rs. 16—25 with an annual increment of Re. ½. Prior to that the scale was Rs. 12—16. Of course they also get the usual dearness allowance and house-rent allowance according to the population of the municipality concerned in which they are

employed. If it is the City, they are given a certain amount, if it is a bigger municipality, they are given another amount and if it is a small municipality, they are not given any house-rent allowance at all.

" Sir, on certain representations from peons, the Government sanctioned a general increase of Rs. 2 in the pay of peons, except those on Rs. 25, and fixed their scale of pay at Rs. 18—25. Peons who drew Rs. 25 were to remain at Rs. 25, but those who were drawing a lower pay were given an additional sum of Rs. 2 and the basic pay was also raised from Rs. 16 to 18. The extra cost involved on this account is Rs. 3,79,200 per annum recurring and the expenditure during the current year is Rs. 3,44,700.

" Sir, the second item relates to the grant of dearness allowance to officers drawing Rs. 1,000 and over. Under the Government of India's dearness allowance scheme, officers drawing up to Rs. 2,000 are entitled to dearness allowance. Immediately after the advent of independence, the Government of India decided that we had the right to deviate from the old order of things and that we could bring the ex-Secretary of State officers under our rule-making powers. Under those powers which were given to us temporarily by the Government, we decided that officers drawing above Rs. 1,000 per mensem need not be given any dearness allowance at all. That was in force from January 1948 to January 1949. But to our astonishment, we found that in other Provinces, including certain minor provinces and even in the Government of India, the ex-Secretary of State services were drawing dearness allowance, at 10 per cent of their pay, subject to a maximum of Rs. 150. When the Hon. Deputy Prime Minister of India who is in charge of the Central Services, came to Madras, the I.C.S., the I.P.S. and other Associations of the ex-Secretary of State Services, waited on a deputation to him and represented that what is given to these officers in other Provinces and in the Centre should not be denied to them and that dearness allowance must be restored to them also. They had also made similar representations to the Government of India in the Home Department, and the Government of India wanted that we should also fall in line with their policy in regard to the grant of dearness allowance to these high-paid officers. Therefore, Sir, the Madras Government took their decision to grant dearness allowance to these officers also in June of this year. That expenditure was not contemplated in the budget. Having restored the dearness allowance in respect of the ex-Secretary of State Services, according to the wishes of the Government of India, there was no point in drawing a distinction between the ex-Secretary of State Services and our own Provincial Service Officers. There are some Provincial Service Officers drawing Rs. 1,300 and Rs. 1,400 who are not covered by the rules of the ex-Secretary of State Services, and we had to extend to them also the same concessions and therefore we sanctioned the dearness allowance to them also. And we also decided to give this dearness allowance with retrospective effect. The

extra cost involved on this account was Rs. 2·04 lakhs per annum and, as I said, this was not contemplated in the budget and hence this demand for supplementary grant.

" Sir, the third and the fourth items relate to the extra expenditure because of the abolition of the zamindaris, which necessitated the increase of staff in the Revenue Department of the Secretariat and also in the creation of the post of the Fourth Member of the Board of Revenue with the necessary staff.

" Sir, these are the four items that have been provided for in this demand and I am sure the House will pass it."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved—

' that under Demand IX—Heads of Provinces, Ministers and Headquarters Staff, the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 400 '."

JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

' *that the allotment of Rs.* 400 *under this demand be reduced by Re.* 1 '."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Amendment moved—

' that the allotment of Rs. 400 under Demand IX be reduced by Re. 1 '."

* SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want certain points to be cleared by the Hon. Leader of the House. We are told that the Government have decided to grant dearness allowance to officers drawing between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 2,000 in order to fulfil the wishes of the Government of India. I do not know what are the powers of the Government of Madras in this respect, because they say that they have simply granted this concession at the instance of the Government of India and not of their own initiative. Whatever that may be, Sir, I should like to know why they have given retrospective effect to their orders. According to these orders each such officer would have got about a couple of thousands of rupees in a lump sum as arrears of dearness allowance. While the Government were prepared to pay such lump sum amounts to their high-paid officers, I cannot understand why they have not given retrospective effect to their orders granting an increase of Rs. 2 to the peons who are low-paid and who are our own servants.

" Sir, the next point that I wish to raise is the appointment of the Fourth Member of the Board of Revenue. During all these three years, we have been expressing our view that the Board of Revenue should be abolished completely. But the Government have been saying all along that they are considering the question. They have never said that they are going to expand it still further. Even during the last budget session and also in reply to some supplementary questions on that subject in this House,

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the Government were saying that the matter was under their consideration. Such being the case, I cannot understand the justification for the creation of the post of the Fourth Member of the Board of Revenue at present. If the Government thought that the zamindari abolition work is very important and should be expedited they could have very well appointed a very senior officer of the Government to be in-charge of that work, instead of creating the post of the Fourth Member of the Board, and thus give a new lease of life to the Board. Have they given up the idea of abolishing the Board of Revenue altogether? If they have decided that the Board is to continue, then let them say so plainly and not say that the question of abolition of the Board is under their consideration. I request the Hon. Finance Member to enlighten us on these points and also explain their policy in regard to this matter."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would not have participated in this debate, but for the feeling in my mind that hon. Members run away with the notion that the abolition of a particular thing is necessary, because we have said so several times. The abolition of the Board of Revenue is not like the abolition of zamindaris, which can be done by a stroke of the pen. Nor is it part of our election pledges either. I think, Sir, that we should give serious thought before we come to a decision on this matter. After all what is the Board of Revenue? It is not like a stick or something of that sort, that could be thrown away as we please. It is an effort at decentralization of certain functions and powers of the Secretariat which are entrusted into the hands of certain senior responsible officials, so that to that extent, the strain in the Secretariat may be lessened. If really decentralization has to be worked in the proper spirit, then the Board ought to become a very important limb of the administrative machinery of the Government, wherein most of the items of Government work can be attended to with utmost expedition and speed. But, on the other hand, if there is nominal decentralization and all the powers and functions are to be exercised from the centre, it would become one more chapter in the history of red-tape and the ritual of routine going on from file to file, then I say that there is a case for the abolition of the Board of Revenue. Now Sir, any reform of the administration hangs on this one thread, and unless we aim at decentralizing the powers and functions of our executive machinery and keep decisions up to a particular point and at a particular stage, we cannot run the administration of the Government, properly, efficiently, effectively and with expedition.

" Suppose for instance hon. Members complain on the floor of the House that the Government have not attended to this or that matter in this or that panchayat area, or that a certain forest area has not been disafforested, though years have elapsed; is it possible for the Government at the headquarters to look into these

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matters of detail in the districts? Is it that the Government at the headquarters are responsible for these small lapses in the administration? Complaints like that show a little bit of loose thinking. We should consider a thing on its merits. We have got a number of statutes, which have thrown certain duties, functions and obligations on the Board of Revenue. We cannot simply abolish the Board without detriment to those functions and obligations. Are you going to repeal all those laws at one stroke, simply because you want to abolish the Board of Revenue? Sir, it should not become a mere catchword or a slogan. Suppose we abolish the Board of Revenue; will it help to reflect public opinion? Even the present district administration has not helped to reflect public opinion sometimes. That is the way, Sir, that we have got to examine this question of the abolition of the Board of Revenue.

" Then Sir, about dearness allowance. I am one of those who felt that officers who draw above a particular salary should not be given any dearness allowance. The conditions that are now prevailing are very hard, no doubt. But if in other provinces, similar officers are in enjoyment of these privileges, and if we alone are to remain the sole exception, then perhaps there is a case for reconsideration. But even then, it should not be on all fours. It is for the Government to consider whether they have enough money for the purpose.

" Sir, the hon. Member who preceded me, asked, what is the object of the Government in granting the dearness allowance to these high-paid officers retrospectively? Sir, the very fact that they have granted it retrospectively shows that there was a move like that under the consideration of the Government. Sir, I do not wish to say anything more. In a scheme like this, it is just and proper that the Government should remember the plight of their low-paid Government servants. Certainly the pay of the peons deserve to be increased. Even the pittance that is now given is not enough. We may even reduce the number of peons and give them a larger salary, if it would result in economy and saving. Vacancies may not be filled up. Officers may be asked to carry their own portmanteau as in England. I do not think, Sir, that there they have such a large number of attendants and peons for their officers or office. (An hon. Member: 'No',) Sir, my hon. Friend over there says, 'No'. I ask them, why not we set an example here at least in our province? Let us learn to carry our own things. Let us learn to be self-reliant in certain matters and see that the work does not suffer. Sir, in all these matters, care and caution should be exercised. People should not be thrown out of employment all of a sudden. It should be done very slowly. As I said, vacancies, when they come up, need not be filled and if necessary there should be other avenues for employing these people, which might be more profitable and more productive."

4 p.m. * MR. W. J. FERNANDEZ:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to briefly express my views on one aspect of the question now under consideration, and that is the grant of dearness allowance to officers in receipt of salaries between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 2,000 per mensem. It may seem strange that any one of us should differ from the Government in their views as to the desirability of granting allowances to these officials for the reason that, after all, they are also working for the Government and they are also affected by the increase in the cost of living. But, Sir, does any one seriously suggest that dearness allowance is paid to these officers because they are not able to make both ends meet with the salaries they draw, and so in order to compensate them, to some extent at least, dearness allowance is given to them? Does any one seriously suggest that an official drawing a salary between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 2,000 per mensem is unable to live on that salary? I for one do not think so. The only thing that will happen to such an official is that instead of sending the usual savings to the bank, he will send a smaller amount, as the cost of living is high and his savings are reduced proportionately. So, what happens is that he sends to the bank something less than what he was sending before. I do not believe that such officials are unable to live on the salary they receive in spite of the high rise in the cost of living. The suggestion has been made that because other Provinces give dearness allowance, we also should give. But what is the view expressed in this House on several occasions? Is it not that this Province should give a lead to other Provinces? In regard to prohibition and other measures, we have given the lead to other Provinces. In like manner why should we not give a lead to other Provinces in the matter of paying dearness allowance to officers? If they want to throw away their money, they may do so. But why should we follow them? In our Province there is need to cut down our expenditure in every possible direction, because taxes upon taxes have been loaded upon the people. We want to make conditions easier for the people. We should cut down those expenses, which are, in a word, unnecessary. I do not at all agree that there is a case for the grant of dearness allowance to people drawing salaries of over Rs. 1,000 per mensem. I know that they will swear at me when they read this debate in the papers. But I say they do not need this allowance, and the Government should be bold enough to cut out the allowance. The Government should give the allowance only to those who need it, and who cannot do without it."

* JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I congratulate the Hon. Minister for Finance on his agreeing to give dearness allowance to officers drawing salaries of over Rs. 1,000 per mensem. My friend Mr. Fernandez said that these people did not require this dearness allowance, and that this allowance must be given only to those people who actually asked for it. I really do not understand his argument. He must understand that our high paid officials have got to live a decent life. In order that they may maintain their status and dignity commensurate with the dignity of the office which they hold, they must be given dearness allowance and other allowances which we give to our subordinate officials. In this connexion, I would like to ask the Hon. Minister for Finance one direct question, that is, whether he is going to really solve the problem of these officials or peons or any other subordinates of the Government by merely increasing their allowances. It is unfortunate that the Government have not yet taken up the question of solving this problem in this Province. The Government are not going to the fundamentals of this problem, namely, bringing down the rising prices. This method of giving allowances is only going to ultimately increase the inflationary tendency in the Province, and that inflationary tendency will accelerate the price structure. This is a vicious circle, and I really do not know why our Province should help this inflationary spiral going up and up and the price structure also going up and up. Therefore, I would say that the Government should solve this problem by going to the very root of it. Then there will be no necessity for increasing the allowances of either the higher officials or of the peons. In this manner, the Government can not only bring happiness to a large number of officials but also to the people of the Province. Therefore, Sir, I would urge upon the Hon. Minister that he should tackle this problem at once here and now, and it is no use postponing it and simply giving more dearness allowances to officials.

" Then, Sir, with regard to the Board of Revenue my friend Mr. Swaminathan said that this Government came with a view to abolish the Board of Revenue, and by adding one more Member to the Board, the Government were only perpetuating the Board of Revenue. I put it to my hon. Friend that this organization has been in existence for more than 150 years with a tradition and a method of doing certain things. If, to-day, the Board of Revenue is abolished, I think the Government are only opening the floodgates of confusion, and confusion will reign in this Government. There is already confusion in the Government departments. It will make confusion worse confounded if the Board of Revenue is abolished. Therefore, Sir, I would plead that the Board of Revenue is retained. The only thing I would say with reference to the Board of Revenue is this, namely, the codification of the land laws. With these few words, Sir, I support the motion."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Sir, when I stated that I would revise the scales of peons, I thought hon. Members will congratulate me on the small things that I have done. But they concentrated on the dearness allowance question. Whatever is done by the Government is immediately forgotten, and what is not done is magnified and repeated. With regard to the dearness allowance to officers drawing over Rs. 1,000 per mensem, whether

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we agree with Mr. Fernandez or not, out of sheer incapacity to pay them. I stood firm and stated that we could not give them dearness allowance whether they deserved it or not, or whether it was being given by other Provinces or not. We had then the right of taking away the dearness allowances from the ex-Secretary of State's officers, and we passed an order that out of sheer incapacity we refused to give them dearness allowance. But later on the Government of India Act was amended under the Adaptation Rules, and the power entirely vested in the Government of India. The Provinces had no discretion in the matter. The salary, leave, leave salary and other allowances which were previously borne by the Secretary of State devolved on the Home Department of the Government of India. At the time we passed the Government Order we had the right to take away the dearness allowance. But afterwards that power was taken away from us and the Government of India took the entire responsibility for these ex-Secretary of State's officers. The Government of India were repeatedly pressing upon as saying, 'Now that the power is vested in us, why don't you fall in line with other Provinces and pay dearness allowance to the ex-Secretary of State's officers because we are receiving a number of representations from these people who are serving in Madras.' Still we stood firm for a long time. Ultimately when we could not resist the pressure from the Government of India we had to fall in line with other Provinces, whether the ex-Secretary of State's officers deserved the dearness allowance or not. I am not going into the merits. We said we had undertaken Prohibition and other measures, and that we need not and we could not pay dearness allowance to these officers. But on account of pressure from the Government of India, and specially by D.O. letters from the Deputy Prime Minister of India, we had to fall in line with other Provinces and pay dearness allowance. Mr. Swaminathan asked 'Why give retrospective effect ?' Sir, we were afraid that the Government of India would direct us that the allowance should be paid from the 1st January 1948, because we stopped the allowance from that day. I was afraid that the Government of India in their anxiety to give dearness allowance to these people might say 'As you have withdrawn it from 1st January 1948, pay it from that day'. We put the date as 1st January 1949. This decision was taken in May or June 1949, and we decided to give this allowance from 1st January, 1949, and the Government of India agreed to this. So, whatever it is, we have saved under his head about Rs. 2 lakhs by refusing to pay them dearness allowance from 1st January 1948 to 31st December 1948. As I already stated, the power is now vested in the Government of India, and when they directed that we should pay, we should give the allowance to the ex-Secretary of State's officers. But what we did was while giving it to those people, we stated our officers also drawing over Rs. 1,000 per mensem should receive this allowance. We thought there should be no discrimination between these two classes of officers. We now pay these officers dearness allowance on a par with

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the ex-Secretary of State's officers. We allow dearness allowance at the rate of 10 per cent of their salary subject to a maximum of Rs. 150. Sir, this is the history behind this dearness allowance.

"Now with regard to the Board of Revenue. Sri Swaminathan has again raised the question of the abolition of the Board of Revenue. I think this was discussed right from 1920, and every time, perhaps in the budget session, Members of the Opposition used to table cut motions for discussing the abolition of the Board of Revenue. When the Congress Government was in office in 1937, this question was repeatedly examined, and there was no final decision taken about it, because there were opinions in favour of retaining the Board and also for abolishing the Board. We could not come to any decision. At least I for one feel strongly that the Board of Revenue must be retained as it is. The procedure may be modified a bit, but the experience of senior civilians who had served in the districts and Secretariat for a very long time, must be made available to the Government on matters of importance. Whenever there is a point of delicate nature, and we want the opinion of the Board, the matter is fully considered by the Board, and the considered opinion of the full Board (all the four Members) is given to the Government. This will go a long way in making it easy for Government to pass early orders. (An hon. Member: Are you increasing the number of Members ?). We have increased the number to four. I am just giving reasons why we have increased the number to four. Apart from the fact that all the Members of the Board as a Board decide major issues, there is also the question of some of them functioning as departmental heads. We have a departmental head for agriculture in the Director of Agriculture, for industries in the Director of Industries, for co-operation in the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. But for land revenue, we have no departmental head. There are innumerable cases coming from the village munsifs, karnams and talayaris, and there have been appeals to the Board of Revenue against the orders of the Collectors. The Government cannot deal with all these cases themselves, and, therefore, the decision of the Board is final in the matter. It is the Board alone that is competent to deal with these innumerable revenue matters and irrigation matters. The revenue aspect of irrigation also is considered by the Board. Then there is the question of Prohibition, Excise, and Commercial Taxes. There is also the question of stamps. All these items are attended to by the Board, and they act as the Departmental heads. Therefore, even if we abolish the Board as such, still we will have to appoint Departmental heads, say, a Commissioner for Sales Tax and other Commercial Taxes, a Commissioner for Land Revenue and Settlements, and a third Commissioner for Excise and Prohibition. Like this we will have to appoint senior officers, and I think, ultimately, there will be no saving to the Government. Even if we abolish the Board, these officers will have to be substituted, and thus there will be no saving. We have recently added a fourth Member to the Board. The Fourth Member is entirely in charge of the Zamindari Abolition Act and the Rent Reduction Act and the

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Survey Settlement Operations that have to be made in the taken-over estates. This is such a big work, the enormity of which cannot be easily visualised, because some of these estates have not been surveyed for a very long time. These survey and settlement operations have to be made before we think of paying compensation to the zamindars. Therefore, a full time Commissioner in charge of this Zamindari Abolition and Rent Reduction work was found imperative, and we added a fourth Member to the Board. Apart from this, another Member is devoting his attention entirely to the Grow More Food schemes. He is called the Food Commissioner. Items connected with the Grow More Food schemes, sinking of wells, minor irrigation works, and restoration of tanks, are attended to by this Commissioner. Out of the four Commissioners, two are on special duty, one entirely on food and the other on zamindari work. The work used to be done by three Commissioners previously is now being done by two Commissioners. One Commissioner is entirely in charge of Commercial Taxes and Prohibition. All that work connected with Prohibition enforcement, sales tax, betting tax, etc., is attended to by one Member. The first Member is looking after all the land revenue and irrigation matters and all appeals over whatever is done by the Collectors in the districts. Then I can say on reliable authority the Members have tight work and they have given us the amount of work they are going to do. Though there is no proposal to add a fifth Member to the Board of Revenue, I can certainly say that all the four Members are just now overworked and two Members have undertaken the work of three Members. Sir, I have covered all the points and there is nothing else that I want to touch upon."

JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"Sir, after hearing the reply of the Hon. the Finance Minister, I am glad to withdraw my cut motion, especially when he has come forward with a soft corner in his heart for the poor, ill-paid peons."

The cut motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

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

DEMAND XIV—POLICE

4-15 p.m. THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 500 under Demand XIV—Police'.

"There are two matters in this Demand. One is with regard to the grant of a prize for the best film produced in Tamil or Telugu, and the other with regard to the strengthening of the Police force. (An hon. Member: What about the best film in Malayalam or Kanarese?) There are not many pictures in Malayalam or Kanarese and there is no proposal at present with regard to them. But there is an idea in giving a prize for the best film produced in this year in Tamil or Telugu and we have decided to give a prize the value of which will not exceed Rs. 500, for the best film. But

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an entrance fee of Rs. 50 will be collected in respect of each film entering the competition. The idea in giving this prize is to raise the level of films produced in the Province. Under this, we want to incur an expenditure of Rs. 1,000 during 1949–50.

"With regard to the unfortunate cyclone stricken and also Communist stricken Telugu districts, we want to strengthen the Police force. We have sanctioned a number of officers, created a number of Police stations in those districts and the expenditure is running into some lakhs. The Police Department has been strengthened in order to deal with the Communist menace in those districts. That was again not contemplated in the Budget and we had to bring in this supplementary demand."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Motion moved—

'that the Government be granted a further sum of Rs. 500 under Demand XIV—Police'."

* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"Sir, I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 500 for Police be reduced by Re. 1.'

I am not going to take much time and I am going to speak only on item No. (1). Regarding the other items, I quite agree with the Hon. the Finance Minister that it is necessary to strengthen the Police force because protection for life and property is essential especially in these days and especially in Mathurai. Regarding item No. (1), I should like to say that the object in giving the prize is to produce a good film. In this connexion, I should like to state a Tamil Proverb 'சோறுமணல் சோறுக இருக்கும் போது கல் பொருக்குவது எப்படி?' The meaning of it is, 'you are boiling sand, how can you pick out small particles of sand out of it?' Similarly, when all the pictures are bad, how are you going to select a good among them? That is my only consideration. (Laughter). It is not a joke, I am serious about it. What do you see in these pictures except kissings and claspings."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"To improve the standard of film production, we want to award a prize."

JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"My only contention is that so long as we were under a foreign Government, these pictures were quite all right but now they are so bad that they are ruining, spoiling and degenerating not only our young boys and girls but also our society. Everything must be viewed from Indian standard of morality. From the Western civilization point of view, kissing each other, even males kissing females, is a common thing." (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"There is a Film Censor Board to censor the films produced."

* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"The best film to which you give out the prize should stand the

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test of the best Indian moral standard, not the Western moral standard. That is the basic point of my argument. Even in Arabia, where there are only pure Mussalmans, they express their joys by kissing each other, even males kissing each other. Suppose I start kissing the Members in this House, what will be the position here? (Laughter.) Everyone of you will laugh at me and the whole Province will laugh at us. (Sri B. S. Murthi rose to speak.) I am not yielding, Sir. What would be our position if we even kiss our wives? But such a custom prevails in Western countries. It is a simple thing there; but it is a serious thing here. My only submission is that our standard of morality is quite different from their standard of morality, and the pictures are now produced on the Western lines. My request is even if you want 10 lakhs, you may have it. Please appoint a proper Board to see that the pictures are properly censored and that they teach good morals not only to our children but to our society also."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Amendment moved—

' that the allotment of Rs. 500 under Demand XIV be reduced by Re. 1 '."

* JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Sir, I support the cut motion moved by Mr. Sinna Kaziar, but I am not going to speak about the films for much has been said about them.

" With regard to the proposal of the Government to increase the number of police stations and have additional staff, I think the Hon. Minister for Finance who is our Leader of the House has made out a good case because incidentally I may say that whatever might one feel about this Government, one point definitely must be conceded that it has always been the anxiety of the Government to maintain law and order, and I am happy to say that the Government of Madras have been very very successful in maintaining law and order except for a few lapses here and there. Therefore, when the Government come out with this proposal, I feel that there is a necessity for that although the financial consideration may be the other way. Incidentally I am just seeking an occasion when I could answer the Hon. Leader of the House who the other day threw out a challenge as to what service I and my Party—of course, I am not the Leader of the Party—have rendered to the Muslims in particular and to the Province in general. Let me reserve my remarks for a better occasion because this is not the time for it. On a question like this, in passing, may I say with your permission, Sir, that the Muslims of this Province and of our Party, whatever may be the prejudice of the Government against them, have rendered right from the beginning up to now and will continue to render, all possible assistance in the maintenance of law and order? I cannot do better than quote what the Leader of the House himself said on a previous occasion when he paid a glowing tribute to Mr. Ismail Sahib, our Leader, ' The Muslims right from the beginning have been supporting, helping and co-operating with us in all possible manners '. I am sure the Leader of the House will be very much

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satisfied with that achievement of ours. I am not speaking in a spirit of bravado. I do not feel anything except that I have done my duty. I have always believed, to whatever party or community we may belong whether to the majority or to the minority, it is our sacred task and duty to see that law and order are maintained. We never wanted that this Government which is after all our own Government, although the Congress may be in power, should be faced with innumerable difficulties. We always believed that they should not be faced with this vexed question of law and order. If at all any progress is to be made in any country, firstly law and order should be maintained. Let me be very generous on this point. Although I support the cut motion, I am one with the Leader of the House that the Government should get this money so that they may expend it usefully. I am not going to bother the House with the vexed question of Muslim representation in the services. I leave it to the good sense of the Leader of the House. If he feels that justice would be done by appointing more Muslims, he may do it; otherwise, I do not bother him. It is not a pleasure for us to ask ' Why have you excluded Muslims, this and that '. We also feel, in fact, it is derogatory to our sense of self-respect that we should always be asking Government ' Why have you done this and that '? If the Government feel that we also have a right in this matter, let us have it. I am sure the Hon. the Leader of the House is in possession of the fact and what he feels just he will do, if not more, at some later stage.

" With regard to the recruitment of constables, I should like to give a caution. I hear from a very reliable authority that the standard of efficiency of the police service, particularly in the lower cadre, is not the same as it used to be previously in this Province of Madras. Formerly, the heads of the police who were in charge of selection had been very careful in selecting the right type of personnel. Recruitment of constables is a very peculiar job. It requires a certain amount of intelligence, capacity and education also—education not in the sense of possessing a degree or graduation, but commonsense and more than that, bravery. In recent years on account of the force of circumstances, the Government were very anxious to recruit. Hence they were more concerned with the quantity than with the quality, with the result that there has been a deterioration in the efficiency of the service. It is not that I like to cast any aspersion on the police, because I have also paid my humble compliment and tribute to them. I request that the Government will instruct their officials whenever there is recruitment drive in this matter, to select the best, because maintenance of law and order depends on the efficiency of the Police, particularly the lower cadre. In places like Krishna, if I could use a strong word as far as the Communist Party is concerned, we should have people of the right type who know the job. Even the members of the Congress Party once said, "We have got policemen who are hand in glove with the Communist Party ". I hope the Government will see that they select better type of men in future whenever they recruit."

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* SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I welcome the move of the Government to award prizes to the best film produced in Telugu and Tamil, to improve the standard of films produced in this Province. My Friend, Mr. Sinna Kaziar, doubted whether there is even one good film in this Province and said that all the films are dirty films. It is true and I am inclined to accept his view. When we discussed some time ago the Entertainments Tax Bill, I also expressed the same view that no good film was produced in Tamil, so far as our Province was concerned. Now slightly it has been changing. The standard has a little improved and we see some good films. But no film is being produced which, in my opinion, can be considered to be the best to deserve the prize. Anyhow the Government have said that the scheme is only for one year and they may extend it further if it proved successful. I do not know how far it will work well. Even in this year and the next two years, they may not be able to get a good film. The scheme should be in this way. If the idea of giving prize is to raise the standard of films, then they should not give a prize to the best among the films which are produced and which compete. The prize should be awarded to the best film which satisfies a certain standard of morality. If there are 10 films, simply the best among them should not be given the prize. If there is no film which satisfies the set standard, the prize should not be awarded. This is one of the methods of raising the standard and the producers will be inclined to come forward to produce better sort of films.

" When the hon. Gentleman Mr. Sinna Kaziar asked who was to decide the best film deserving the prize, the Hon. Minister said that there was a Film Censor Board and they would decide. I do not think how it is possible for that Board to do this work."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" He was referring to some obscene things and I pointed out the Film Censor Board with reference to them."

4-30 p.m.

* SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Then the Government have not stated who will sit in judgment over the films and decide which is the best. They will perhaps leave it to the Film Censor Board or they may constitute a separate Board.

" Sir, the Film Censor Board cannot deal with this matter of award of prizes. They cannot deliver the goods. It is a body consisting more than 20 members. I suggest that a smaller body consisting of five members should be constituted as Board to deal with this question. Sir, in this connexion, I would like to say a word about the Film Censor Board. Whenever the Government appoint members to this Board, they appoint only people of the City. It is not as if those people coming from the mofussil cannot be members of this Board and judge the standard of the various films. Even those people coming from the towns and villages can see the films and give opinion. For example, I am coming from a very small village. I can see a film and judge its standard. There are better persons than myself who are coming from the village parts. The Government may say, ' Oh, if we appoint people

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coming from mofussil, they cannot easily attend the Board meetings in the City and there is the question of travelling allowance ' and all that. No question of travelling allowance will arise, Sir. Those persons coming from the mofussil who are interested in the development of the film industry will be prepared even to spend from their own pocket to come to the City to attend the Board meetings and for other purposes. So I appeal to the Government to appoint members from the mofussil also to the Film Censor Board.

" There is another point which I would like to mention, with regard to item ' d ' under Grant XIV—Police. The Government have increased constables, tailor-constables, armed constables, etc., Evidently they want to strengthen the police force on account of the Communist trouble. Sir, I think that there is no point in increasing the constables. The Government should increase the pay of these constables. These constables are really doing good work but they are very meagrely paid. It is very difficult for them to get on with the pay that they are now getting in these hard days. I congratulate the Government on their having increased the salaries of the peons by Rs. 2. Some say it is a pittance. Anyhow, I feel that something is better than nothing. The communists are exploiting the poor salary that these constables are getting. They approach these poor constables and say, ' Look at the poor salaries that you are getting. How difficult it is for you to get on with this! This Government will not pay you more. We are fighting only for poor people like you. If we get power, we will certainly double your salaries. So, please join us and help us '. Thus the Communists are easily captivating the poor police constables. Hence, I request and appeal to the Government that instead of increasing the number of these constables, they must increase the salaries of these poor constables."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Sir, I would draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the position of the Special Armed Police stationed at Vishakapatnam. They are now lodged in some military hutments. They are hutments only in name, and are very leaky. Rain and sun freely pour into the huts and during the last rainy season, the members of the Special Armed Police and the officers stationed in this camp suffered very much. I would suggest to the Government immediately to acquire that portion of the land which is near the present transit camp hutments where they are stationed now. Unless this portion of the land is acquired and the hutments are rebuilt, it may not be possible for these people to continue in that place any longer. These people are stationed there to meet a particular contingency and it is absolutely necessary and imperative that they must have contentment and satisfaction.

" Secondly, these people who number about 100 come from different parts of this Presidency. They are all rice eaters. There are Malayalees, Tamils and Telugus among them and all of them are rice eaters. In the ration they get, only 8 ounces of rice are given to them. I drew the attention of the Hon. Premier to this particular point. I got a reply after three months' delay from some Deputy Secretary that my allegation was wrong. Apparently the

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Deputy Secretary was under the impression that I said they were getting only 8 ounces of rice ration. He suggested that I should be corrected by saying that they were getting extra ounces of this thing making an overall ration of 16 ounces. These people are stationed there for a special purpose and it is essential that they should be contented and they must be given a decent quantity of rice to eat. Compare these Armed Police people to those stationed in Krishna and Godavari districts. There, there is no rationing and they get all the rice they want. It stands to reason that their fellow members stationed by accident in another place should get the same quantity as others get in other districts. With these words, I want the Hon. Minister to pay attention to these aspects. The Government have posted this Special Armed Police Force for a special purpose and therefore they must infuse confidence and satisfaction in these Forces."

* JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I join my hon. Friend Mr. Raza Khan in paying my compliments to the Government for the maintenance of law and order in this Province. While replying to the debate, I mean general debate, the Hon. Leader of the House has said, looking back on nearly three years of work in this Province, if there is anything substantial that has been done in this Province during this period, it is the maintenance of law and order and giving protection, particulary, to the minority communities. I am happy to hear that, Sir. I congratulate the Government particularly for that. In this connection, I would like to ask the Government whether they are doing justice in eliminating the Muslims, particularly from the Police forces. It is really surprising to me, Sir, that when the Government of India have not adopted a policy of eliminating the Muslims, the Government of Madras, which represent South India, a place which has always stood high in the estimation of the people of this country, has adopted this policy which is against the very genius and noble traditions of this Province. Therefore, I would plead with the Hon. Leader of the House that this sort of order is really a blot on the fair name of the Government of Madras and I would wish that they remove it as early as possible. The other day, during question time, I put a question to the Hon. Leader of the House that, 'You have enunciated this policy at a time when conditions were entirely different. Now that the conditions have improved and the people of the various communities in this Province are living happily and in a brotherly manner, why should you not change that policy?' The Hon. Leader of the House gave the assurance that if the conditions changed, he will surely adopt it. I put it to him, Sir—Has not the condition changed now? Will he not take the question once again in the Cabinet and see that justice is done to the people, particularly, to the minority communities in this Province? Sir, this is a national Government. The test of any good Government is how they treat the minorities and I wish, Sir, that they meet out justice to the minorities.

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" Coming to the other question, viz., award of prizes to the best films in Tamil and Telugu, I have got only to say that the film industry has come to stay and must be encouraged so that it may grow from strength to strength. To-day, Sir, the Indian industry is occupying a place of honour in the country and every assistance must be given by the Government to see that the industry grows from success to success. Unfortunately, to-day, due to want of adequate facilities, the industry is undergoing a crisis and if the Government do not come to its rescue immediately, I am afraid that the industry will go down with the result that we will lose economically. Therefore, I wish that the Government should come forward to help the industry. I am also glad to say that they are going to award some prizes to the best films and we hope that this will result in the development of the film industry."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry I have to speak on a motion which couples a very big thing with a small trifle. It is very haphazard that a prize of Rs. 500 should be included in the supplementary demands. If the Government had the courage, they would stop it this year and come next year with a well thought out scheme for encouraging film industry. I can understand a prize of Rs. 50,000 being awarded to the best film on Food Production. I would even urge that as a proper one for a supplementary demand. But to give a prize of Rs. 500 and call an entrance fee of Rs. 50 to recover a part, and then make the whole thing a ridiculous trifle seems to me to be absolutely out of place. I would suggest to the Government not to come out with this haphazard proposal, when they come next year with supplementary demands. Even now, if they have the courage they can drop this out and really not spend this amount for this year because, there is no urgency about it. This is not a new scheme, this is not a well thought out scheme. You must think beforehand calmly and fully about the situation. Mr. Majid was waxing eloquent about the importance of the film industry. Yes, I agree it is important. But in what direction should we give assistance to it? What is its educative value to-day? If really the films are to be strengthened on that footing, then a good enough prize will give encouragement to the film industry. Such films may not be popular, but still they will be important because of their educative value.

" Now coming to the second thing, I wish to say this. While I agree fully that the police force should be strengthened, the Government are averse to the question of reorganization of the police forces. We have Special Armed Police, we have District Armed Reserve, we have Presidency Reserve or the Presidency General Reserve as it is called, and we have many such things. All these Forces have been built in a very thoughtless manner. It is like adding on to an old building, where you have a lumber room and if it is not found good you make something else and if you found something missing you add on another structure.

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This is not the way in which the police force should be built. The police must be a state in itself. It must be a thoroughly constructed and well knit unit and not a disjointed State. It must countenance no distinctions whatsoever, communal or political or whatever it be. Now, it should also be functioning as an efficient educative force in this country. If the police work has not succeeded to the extent that I would desire it to succeed not only in respect of special crimes like Communist activities, etc., but even with regard to the normal ordinary crime and traceable crime in this country, then I say there is room for effective reorganization. There must be more stations, there must be more mobile force, there must be popular help which should be invited and voluntarily rendered to the Police. These ideas must be thought out in full and we must have a good Committee to think about the police reorganization in the Province. Our police force is supposed to be a model force. Now, why should Mr. T. Viswanatham complain that the buildings occupied by the Special Armed Police are not suitable for them? In fact, these should function as an Army and should put up their own repair work. I want to emphasise this point, Sir. Instead of doing piecemeal work here and there making it something like an old cloth which is torn in many places and stitched from time to time, the Government must take up the work of completely reorganizing the entire police force in the country in such a way as to suit the Province and with more police stations than existing and with more mobile police than at present."

4-45 p.m.

* Mr. W. J. FERNANDEZ:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to to support the Demand. It seems to me that much ado about nothing has been made in this prize business. After all the prize proposed to be given for the best film is a very small amount. It is only Rs. 500 but a lot has been said about that. All that we should see is that only the person who is responsible for producing the best film, either in Tamil or in Telugu, gets the prize. If I remember aright, you told us, Sir, at the outset that remarks on this demand should be confined to the explanatory notes attached to each demand. While reading through the note under this demand, it seems to me that there is no scope for any criticism about communal representation or anything else . . ."

Janab M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" On a point of order, Sir, can the hon. Member arrogate to himself the duty of the Speaker? "

Mr. SPEAKER:—" No. The hon. Member is only expressing his opinion."

* Mr. W. J. FERNANDEZ:—" The hon. Member has broken the trend of my thought. The note gives you an idea of the various requirements which the Police department has found necessary in order to carry out its duty efficiently. Now, the only question we have to consider is whether these extra items are necessary or not. The best judge of that question, I submit, is

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the Inspector-General of Police, who is handling the situation, who is responsible for the maintenance of law and order in the Province and who knows what the requirement of a particular place is. He has reported his requirements and unless we personally feel these are unnecessary, I think there should be no cut motion at all but we must merely support the demand. With these words, I support the demand and in doing so, I not only congratulate the Government but also the Police department in having discharged their duties very satisfactorily in very difficult times." (Hear, hear.)

* Sri N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN :—" கனம் அக்கிராசனாதிபதி அவர்களே, இந்த உப மான்யத்தை ஆதரிக்கும் முறையில் சில வார்த்தை களைச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். நெருக்கடியான காலங்கள் ஏற்பட்டபொழுது சர்க்கார் மிகவும் திறமையாக சமாளித்திருக்கிறார்கள். இதுவரை அமைதியை காத்திருப்பதானது சர்க்காருக்கு பெரிய பெருமை யாகும். நம்முடைய மாகாணத்திற்கு இது ஒரு நல்ல கௌரவத்தைக் கொடுக்கக்கூடிய விஷயமுமாகும் என்று நினைக்கிறேன். போலீஸ் பலத்தை அதிகரிக்கவும் பல இடங்களில் போலீஸ் ஸ்டேஷன்களை வைத்து போலீஸ் காரர்களை நியமிப்பதாகவும் யோசனைகள் கொண்டுவரப்படுகிறது. இவை மிக வும் அவசியம் தான். ஆனால் வெறும் போலீஸ்காரர்களை மட்டும் அதி கரித்துக்கொண்டு போனால் நம்முடைய காரியங்கள் சரியாக நடக்கும் என்று நினைக்க முடியாது. நம்முடைய வேலைகள் சரியாக நடக்க வேண்டு மென்றால் போலீஸ்காரர்கள் மிகவும் திறமையாக வேலை செய்ய வேண்டும். அதற்கு அவர்களுக்கு நல்ல முறையில் பயிற்சி அளிக்க வேண்டும். இப்பொழுது நடந்து வரும் போலீஸ்காரர்களுடைய வேலைகளைப் பார்த்தால் பல வருஷங்களுக்கு முன் அதாவது சுதந்திரம் அடைவதற்கு முன் னிருந்து வந்ததைப் போலிருக்கிறது. ஆனால் இன்றுள்ள நிலைமை சமாளிப்பதற்கு நம்முடைய போலீஸ்காரர்களுக்கு திறமை மிக மிக அவசி யம் வேண்டும். முக்யமாக அரசியல் அதிகாரத்தைப் பிடுங்கிக் கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்று சூழ்ச்சி செய்துகொண்டும் பலாத்கார முறைகளில் காரி யங்களைச் செய்து கொண்டுமிருக்கும் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளை அடக்குவதற்கும் அவர்களுடைய ரகசியங்களைக் கண்டு பிடிப்பதற்கும் இப்பொழுது நம்மிட மிருக்கும் போலீஸ்காரர்களை வைத்துக் கொண்டிருப்பது முடியாது. சர்க் காரின் ரகசியமான எவ்வளவோ காரியங்களும் அவர்களுக்கு (கம்யூ னிஸ்டுகளுக்கு) தெரிந்து விடுகிறது. ஆனால் சர்க்காருக்கு கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் செய்யும் ரகசியமான காரியங்கள் தெரிவதில்லை. கடந்த சில மாதங் களில் மதுரையில் பல சம்பவங்கள் நடந்திருக்கின்றன. அவைகளில் ஒன்றுமே கண்டு பிடித்து அடக்க முடியவில்லை. ஆனால் மதுரை ஜனங்களுக்கு பெரும் பீதியும் கவலையும் ஏற்பட்டிருந்தது ஆனால் இரண்டு மூன்று நாட்களுக்கு முன்னால் போலீஸ்காரர்கள் சாதுர்யமாகவும் தைர்ய மாகவும் காரியம் செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். மக்களுக்கு அது திருப்தியைக் கொடுக் கிறது, ஆகவே பலாத்கார ரகசிய நடவடிக்கைக்காரர்கள் விஷயத்தில் சர்க் காரும் ரகசியமாக காரியங்களைக் கண்டு பிடிக்க போலீஸ்காரர்கள் வேலை செய்யவேண்டுமென்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். ரஷ்யா தான் ஒற்றர் வேலையில் முதன்மையானது என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அவ்விஷயம் நம் போலீசாருக்கும் ஒற்றர் வேலையில் திறமையானதும் சற்காலத்திற்குவேண் டியதாகவுமுள்ள முறையில் பயிற்சி அளிக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

The Hon. Sri B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, with regard to the award of prizes for films, I see that though some Members have asked us to drop it from the Supplementary Demand, they have no objection to the move in principle. They may feel that Rs. 500

is too low a sum to be awarded as a prize. In fact, I also feel that the sum is too low. If the general opinion of the House is also likewise, we can certainly raise it to a decent level in order to attract producers. As it is, I feel that it may not be a good incentive for people to compete for this prize since it is out of all proportion to the production cost of a film which at present runs to several lakhs of rupees. Again, Sir, whether this provision should be made in the Supplementary Demand is another point. Perhaps a small sum like this need not come into the picture. But, since there is a principle involved in this matter, we wanted to know the reactions of the House to this proposal. We wanted to know whether hon. Members would approve of the principle or not. This we could certainly have decided to bring before the House when the Annual Budget is presented and voted upon. But our opinion was that the prize-winners should not be made to wait unnecessarily for ten or eleven months and therefore we took a decision some time in April or May this year that we could go ahead with this scheme. So, let not any hon. Member think that we wanted to hurry matters with regard to awarding prizes.

" Sir, regarding the police, my hon. Friend, Sri N. S. Varadachari touched upon the various aspects of the police administration. He wanted a thorough reorganization of the entire police force in the presidency. Sir, I think about two or three years ago a Special Officer appointed for the purpose went into the question of reorganization of the police force. In this connection, I may state, Sir, that whenever there is a move for reorganization, it only means extra cost to Government, and never it is a case of reduction by way of staff. The Special Officer always wants greater thoroughness, better equipment, more facilities regarding food and housing, etc., I know some of the police lines are pitiably-looking tenements. But all the same, we are afraid to think of a reorganization because whenever we take up this question, the Special Officer or the Committee appointed for the purpose recommends all sorts of things, like increase in strength, etc., which means a tremendously huge extra expenditure for the Government. My hon. Friend, Sri R. V. Swaminathan wanted that the scales of pay of the low-paid constables, etc., should be revised. Sir, repeatedly there have been proposals before the Government in this regard, but within the last two or three years, I may tell hon. Members, we have revised their scales of pay four or five times, and the amount we are now spending on the police administration is enormous. There has been in the last few years a progressive increase in their pay as will be borne out by the following figures. In 1943–44, the amount spent was Rs. 225 lakhs, in 1944–45 Rs. 249 lakhs and in 1945–46 Rs. 298 lakhs. In the year 1946–47, the first year of the present Congress Ministry, it was Rs. 405 lakhs and in the year following, i.e., 1947–48 it was Rs. 464 lakhs. Last year, according to figures available, I think it was something like six and a half crores of rupees. Thus it will be seen that from Rs. 464 lakhs in 1947–48, it has

now risen to the amount I have just mentioned. Our police expenditure is increasing enormously day by day and it will be a surprise for hon. Members to know that in 1937, when the first Congress Ministry took up office, expenditure on police was only a crore and sixty lakhs of rupees. The scales of pay of the constables have often been subject to revision and even now there are some proposals for a further revision. But, however, if we compare our scales of pay with Calcutta or any other place, they are not at all low. Therefore, for the time being, the constables have to rest content with what they get now. There was a time when they were getting only 16 and 17 rupees and now each constable gets a basic minimum pay of Rs. 30 with Dearness and House allowances in addition, all making together about Rs. 56 a month. So there cannot be any charge that we have not done anything by way of revision. Even after we took up office there has been revision. Sir, many District Superintendents of Police have also complained that they are not getting good recruits in the districts. The reason they advance is that the pay is not attractive. Whenever we make a revision somehow or other they feel that it is not a decent pay to attract the right kind of men. Yes, it is also true, and the fact remains that people are not coming forward to get recruited in the police force. Now there are certain proposals before the Government and we are having a meeting with the Inspector-General of Police to consider what is to be done. Of course, the police are doing a very arduous work and must be given all encouragement. But I do not know whether it should necessarily mean enhancement of salary, etc., If hon. Members in this House pay handsome tributes to the good work done by the Police in the districts, that must be a great consolation for them. Sir, they are discharging a very difficult duty, and so whenever they do some lathi-charge or open fire, let not the hon. Members of this House or the public think that the Police are always in the wrong and the people who pelted stones at them are in the right and ask for an enquiry, official or non-official. That will greatly undermine the morale of the Police and you must leave some discretion with the officers on the spot. It does not mean that I want the Police to commit any excess or to use more force than what is needed for the occasion. What I want to impress upon hon. Members is that a certain amount of discretion must vest in the Police officers and whenever they resort to lathi-charge or open fire as a matter of necessity, they should not stand up and cry for an inquisitorial enquiry into what they have done or what they have not done.

" Sir, with regard to the acquisition of lands adjoining the Military camp in Vishakapatnam for constructing Police lines for the Special Armed Police, I would like to assure you that the matter will be looked into and we shall see what can be done. I may, however, point out, Sir, that the acquisition and construction will cost enormously to the Government. The present lines were

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constructed with reference to the strength which we had in 1937 or so and in recent years we have not had any big constructions. But, on the other hand, the strength in the districts has increased and most of them live elsewhere than in the lines where accommodation is limited. Any construction now will mean enormous cost and I do not know whether we can afford this expenditure now in view of the difficulties we face. However, it is a matter which we will have to consider very carefully and very seriously and we are all anxious to see that the morale of the Police is kept up by providing them decent living conditions.

" As regards the quantum of rice, viz., 8 oz. now supplied to the police, I assure you, Sir, that this matter also will be looked into, and we shall see what can be done to raise the ration of rice, cereals, etc. But at the same time, the Police must also be accustomed to go through certain difficulties which they have to face sometimes . . ."

5 p.m. MR. SPEAKER:—" As it is now 5 p.m. I shall put all the remaining Demands to the vote of the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 500 under Demand XIV—Police '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XVIII—AGRICULTURE.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 1,300 under Demand XVIII—Agriculture '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND II—PROVINCIAL EXCISE.

MR SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Demand II—Provincial Excise '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND IV—FORESTS.

MR SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 300 under Demand IV—Forests '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

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DEMAND VII—OTHER TAXES AND DUTIES.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Demand VII—Other taxes and duties '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND VIII—IRRIGATION.

MR SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 2,600 under Demand VIII—Irrigation '."

The Demand was 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. 100 under Demand XII—Administration of Justice''."

The Demand was 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. 200 under Demand XIII—Jails '."

The Demand was 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. 800 under Demand XV—Education '."

The Demand was 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. 500 under Demand XVI—Medical '."

The Demand was 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. 500 under Demand XVII—Public Health '."

The Demand was 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. 700 under Demand XIX—Veterinary '."

The Demand was 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. 200 under Demand XX—Co-operation '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXI—INDUSTRIES.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 1,300 under Demand XXI—Industries '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXII—CINCHONA AND FISHERIES.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 300 under Demand XXII—Cinchona and Fisheries '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXIII—LABOUR INCLUDING FACTORIES AND HARIJAN UPLIFT.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Demand XXIII—Labour including Factories and Harijan Uplift '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXIV—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Demand XXIV—Miscellaneous Departments '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXV—CIVIL WORKS—WORKS.

MR SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 800 under Demand XXV—Civil Works—Works '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXVI—CIVIL WORKS—ESTABLISHMENT AND TOOLS AND PLANT.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 200 under Demand XXVI—Civil Works—Establishment and Tools and Plants '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXVII—CIVIL WORKS—GRANTS-IN-AID.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 400 under Demand XXVII—Civil Works—Grants-in-Aid '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXVIII—ELECTRICITY.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 500 under Demand XXVIII—Electricity '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXII—MISCELLANEOUS.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 400 under Demand XXXII—Miscellaneous '."

The Demand was 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. 700 under Demand XXXIII—Capital Outlay on Irrigation '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXV—CIVIL WORKS OUTSIDE THE REVENUE ACCOUNT.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 400 under Demand XXXV—Civil Works outside the Revenue Account '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXVI—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON ELECTRICITY SCHEMES.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 2,000 under Demand XXXVI—Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXVIII—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON PROVINCIAL SCHEMES OF STATE TRADING.

MR SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Demand XXXVIII—Capital Outlay on Provincial Schemes of State Trading '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XL—LOANS AND ADVANCES BEARING INTEREST.

MR SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Demand XL—Loans and Advances bearing interest '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, the 23rd November 1949.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 151 asked by Janab Muhammad Raza Khan at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 22nd November 1949, page 755 supra.]

Statement of Governmental functions and parties from 15th August 1947 to 15th August 1949.

Department. (1)	Purpose for which arranged. (2)	Amount spent. (3) Rs. A. P.
1 Education and Public Health Department.	Durbar for the award of Insignia of Poets Laureateship on 14th August 1949.	2,002 3 0
2 Development Department.	Party to Honourable Sri Syama Prasad Mukerjee, Minister for Industry and Supply, Government of India on 13th November 1947.	180 0 0
3 Do.	Party to His Excellency Monsieur Ruegger, Minister of Switzerland on 6th January 1948.	201 4 0
4 Do.	Party to Czechoslovakian Technical Mission at Ooty on 7th and 11th June 1948.	351 2 6
5 Do.	Party to Honourable Sri Syama Prasad Mukerjee, Minister for Industry and Supply, Government of India on 29th April 1949.	311 12 0
6 Food and Agriculture Department.	Dinner party to Honourable Minister for Food and Agriculture, Government of India on 17th February 1949.	150 0 0
7 Home Department.	Party to Local College Students who co-operated in transport work by Honourable Minister (Finance) in February 1949.	285 14 0
8 Public Department.	Independence Day Celebrations, August 1947.	15,161 15 8
9 Do.	Dinner party to His Excellency the Governor of West Bengal, October 1947.	135 0 0
10 Do.	Tea party to His Excellency the Governor-General in January 1948.	1,750 0 0
11 Do.	Tea party to the Honourable Prime Minister of India in July 1948.	4,161 8 0
12 Do.	Tea party to Sri J. B. Kripalini on 14th July 1948.	225 0 0
13 Do.	Lunch party to His Excellency the Governor-General in August 1948.	430 0 0
14 Do.	Independence Day Celebrations, August 1948.	6,532 0 3
15 Do	Tea party to Naval Commander-in-Chief, Royal Indian Navy, 6th November 1948.	600 0 0
16 Do.	Tea party to Honourable Rafi Ahmed Kidwai, Minister for Communications, Government of India on 28th January 1949.	220 0 0
17 Do.	Dinner party to Honourable Sri K. Santhanam, Minister for Transport, Government of India, in January 1949.	240 0 0

	Department. (1)	Purpose for which arranged. (2)	Amount spent. (3) Rs.	A.	P.
18	Public Department.	Arrangements for Public Meeting addressed by Honourable Sardar Vallabhai Patel, Deputy Prime Minister of India on 23rd February 1949.	5,543	0	6
19	Do.	Garden party to Honourable Sardar Vallabhai Patel, Deputy Prime Minister of India, February 1949.	4,470	0	0
20	Do.	Lunch party to the Military Governor of Hyderabad in April 1949.	223	1	6
21	Do.	Arrangements at Tiruvannamalai Railway Station in connection with His Excellency the Governor-General's visit in May 1949.	330	0	0
22	Public Works Department.	Dinner in connection with the visit of Honourable Sri K. T. Bashyam, Minister, Mysore Government, on 29th September 1948.	100	0	0
23	Do.	Tea party in connection with the visit of Honourable Sri K. T. Bashyam, Minister, Mysore Government, on 29th September 1948.	55	4	0
24	Do.	Tea party to the Reuters Delegation and Egyptian Journalists Delegation in March 1949.	1,200	0	0
25	Revenue Department.	Dinner on 4th June 1949 to Honourable Sri Jairamdas Doulatram, Food Minister, Government of India.	285	8	3
			45,144	9	8

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APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 155 asked by Janab Muhammad Raza Khan at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 22nd November 1949, page 760 supra.]

	(1)	May. Number of days spent in Madras. (2)	May. Number of days spent on tour outside Madras. (3)	June. Number of days spent in Madras. (4)	June. Number of days spent on tour outside Madras. (5)	July. Number of days spent in Madras. (6)	July. Number of days spent on tour outside Madras. (7)	August. Number of days spent in Madras. (8)	August. Number of days spent on tour outside Madras. (9)	September. Number of days spent in Madras. (10)	September. Number of days spent on tour outside Madras. (11)
1	Hon. Sri P. S. Kumaraswami Raja (Premier).	28½	2½	24	6	18	13	17	23	19	11
2	Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan (Minister for Public Health).	21	10	26	4	16	15	19	12	25	5
3	Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam (Minister for Public Works).	19	12	24	6	15	16	22	9	22	8
4	Sri Hon. B. Gopala Reddi (Minister for Finance).	17	14	28	2	15	16	25	6	23	7
5	Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon (Minister for Education and Law).	15	16	20	10	15	16	19	12	17	13
6	Hon. Sri H. Sitarama Reddi (Minister for Land Revenue).	10	21	20	10	28	3	24	7	28	2
7	Hon. Sri A. B. Shetty (Minister for Agriculture).	23	8	26	4	25	6	25	6	27	3
8	Hon. Sri K. Chandramouli (Minister for Local Administration).	16	15	23	7	17	14	21	10	23	7
9	Hon. Sri B. Parameswaran (Minister for Rural Development).	17	14	25	5	14½	14	23	8	28	No tour undertaken in September.
10	Hon. Sri N. Sanjiva Reddi (Minister for Prohibition).	10	21	21	9	22	9	19	12	28	2
11	Hon. Sri C. Perumalsami Reddi (Minister for Industries).	25	6	28	2	14	17	15	16	17	13
12	Hon. Sri J. L. P. Roche Victoria (Minister for Food and Fisheries assumed charge only on 1st June 1949).	..	..	24	6	..	..	14	17	19	11

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to clauses (*b*) and (*c*) of starred question No. 160 asked by Sri T. Viswanatham at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 22nd November 1949, page 770 supra.]

Names of persons or companies that received State-aid, amounts received and names of the partners or managing agents and Directors of the companies that received State-aid from 1st April 1947 to 2nd September 1949.

Serial number and names of persons or companies granted State-aid	Amount granted.	Names of partners, if any.	Names of managing agents, if any.	Names of Directors.
(1)	(2) Rs.	(3)	(4)	(5)
1947-48—				
1 Messrs. K. V. Brahmam and Sons, Fountainpen Works, Bhimavaram.	3,000 (Loan) .. 3,000 (Subsidy).	Sri Kosuri Veera Brahmam and Sri Kosuri Kannacharuyulu.	....	....
2 Messrs. K. V. Ratnam and Brothers, Fountainpen Works, Rajahmundry.	2,000 (Overdraft).	Sri Kosuri Venkataratnam and Sri Kosuri Satyanarayana.	....	....
3 The Narayana Tile Works, Hosur.	5,000 (Loan) ..	Sri P. Narayanappa, Proprietor.	....	....
4 The Industrial and Commercial Syndicate, Madras.	85,000 (Loan) ..	Sri V. S. Hegde, Proprietor.	....	....
Total ..	98,000			
1948-49—				
5 Sri Kadambi Seshadri, Kuppam (now at Madras).	1,000 (Subsidy).	Sri Kadambi Seshadri, Proprietor.	....	....
6 The Mohan Industries, Limited, Tenali.	1,00,000 (Loan) ..	....	Sri A. Venkataramiah, Managing Director.	Sri Maddi Sudarsanam, Sri D. Sriman Narayana Choudary, Sri P. L. N. Razu, M.L.A., Sri Maddalli Jagannathan, Sri V. Venkatanarayana, Sri A. C. Subba Reddy, Sri P. Ranga Reddy and M. Venkataraju, M.L.A.
7 The Metal Industries, Limited, Shoranur.	1,00,000 (Loan) ..	....	Sri A. N. Poduval, Managing Director.	Sri C. Samuel Aaron, Sri Maneklal Purushotham Sait, Sri Jayanad Nagjee Sait, Dr. A. N. Verghese and Sri C. S. Rangaswamy Aiyangar.
8 The Star Tyre Service Company, Madras.	12,000 (Loan) ..	Sri D. Gopalakrishna Nayudu, Proprietor.	....	....
9 The Venkateswara Paper and Straw Board Mills, Limited, Tirupathi.	2,50,000 (Loan) ..	....	Sri P. V. Subramaniam, Managing Director.	Sri M. Venkataramiah Garu, Sri V. Nagaiah, Sri Nelli Subramanyam Chetti, Sri P. Radhapati, Dr. P. Venkatramiah, Janab T. Khader Sahib, The Collector of Chittoor—Government Director.
10 The Sudarsan Oil Mills, Limited, Katpadi.	10,00,000 (Loan) ..	....	Raghu & Company—Sri T. N. Raghunatha Reddi and Sri T. Pattabhirama Reddi, Partners, Managing Agency.	Sri R. Dasaratharama Reddi, Sri E. V. Narasa Reddi, Sri Venkatarama Reddy, Sri T. N. Venkatasubba Reddi, Sri B. Adinarayana Reddi, Sri M. B. Rangaswamy Reddi, Sri B. Rama Reddi, Sri M. Kothandarama Reddi —Co-opted and V. Dattareyan, B.E., Deputy Director of Industries and Commerce—Government Director.
11 The Andhra Pharmaceuticals, Limited, Vijayavada.	50,000 (Overdraft).	....	Dr. C. Suryanarayana Murthi, Managing Director.	Dr. D. S. Ramachandra Rao, M.A., M.D., Dr. Nori Lakshmikanta Sastry, L.M.P., Dr. Koneru Nagayya, M.B.B.S., Dr. L. S. Vinekar, M.B.B.S., Dr. G. S. Sarma, Sri Vinapamulu Seetharamiah, Sri A. Lakshminarayana Rao, Sri P. Appa Rao and Sri P. Seetharamaswami.
12 The Solar Industries and Trades, Limited, Erode.	1,50,000 (Loan) ..	....	Messrs. M. Chinnappa Mudaliyar & Sons.	Sri N. M. Krishnaswamy Mudaliyar, Sri N. M. Shanmuga Sundara Mudaliyar, Sri S. V. K. Appavoo Mudalyiar, Sri P. C. A. Chidambara Mudaliyar, Sri M. Jagannathan, Sri A. S. Muthuswamy Chettiar, Sri K. N. Arthanari Mudaliyar, Sri V. Chokkalinga Mudaliyar, Sri M. P. Perianna Mudaliyar, Sri V. S. Arunachala Mudaliyar, Sri R. S. Sengoda Mudaliyar, Sri S. V. K. Chinnathambi Mudaliyar, Sri K. C. Arumuga Mudaliyar, Sri Vaiyapuri Mudaliyar, Sri N. T. P. Kandaswamy Mudaliyar and Sri V. Gopal Nayudu.

Serial number and names of persons or companies granted State-aid. (1)	Amount granted. (2)	Names of partners, if any. (3)	Names of managing agents, if any. (4)	Names of Directors. (5)
1948-49—*cont.*				
13 Sri Radhakrishna Vegetable Oil Products Company, Pamidi.	Rs. 1,25,000 (Loan) ..	Sri Aswatha Narayana, Sri Radhakrishnayya and Sri M. N. Krishnamurthy.	....	..
14 The Quilandy Artisans Co-operative Society, Limited, Quilandy.	3,000 (Non-repayable subsidy.)	....	A Co-operative Society.	....
15 Sri Krishna Industrial Works, Ambajipettah, East Godavari district.	5,000 (Loan) .. 3,000 (Subsidy).	Sri Attili Sathiraju, Proprietor.	....	....
16 Messrs. Vegetols, Limited, Chittoor.	5,00,000 (Loan) ..	....	Sri C. P. Sarathy and Janab M. Ameen Khaleeli, Partners, Khalsar and Company, Managing Agents.	Janab M. Kazim Khaleeli, Sri R. Govindarajulu Mudaliyar, Sri S. Duraiswamy Mudaliyar, Sri R. Appadurai Mudaliyar, Sri A. N. Srinivasan and the Collector of Chittoor—Government Director.
17 Messrs. Rayalaseema Mills, Limited, Adoni.	7,50,000 (Loan) ..	....	Sri Halaharvi Narayana Reddi and Sri Nachani Somappa, The Rayalaseema Development Company, Managing Agents.	Sri H. Linga Reddi, Sri Lakshmi Reddi, Sri Gulabchand Inderchand, Sri Midathara Narayanappa, Sri Mublangi Goolappa, Sri Singanamala Rangappa and the Collector of Bellary—Government Director.
18 The Madras Vanaspathi Limited, Madras.	10,00,000 (Loan) ..	....	Sri K. V. Subba Rao ..	Sri C. S. Ratnasabapathi Mudaliyar, Mrs. Radhabai Subbaroyan, Sri B. Ramachandra Reddi, Sri S. V. Jagannadha Rao, Sri A. Lakshminarayana Reddiar, Sri T. D. Muthukumaraswamy Nayudu, Sri V. Muthulinga Padayachi, Sri T. S. Shastry, Sri K. Sitarama Reddi, Sri K. V. Subba Rao —Ex-Officio and the Collector of South Arcot—Government Director.
19 The Ganga Works, Adyar.	85,000 (Loan) ..	Sri A. P. Ramachandra, Proprietor.	....	....
20 Messrs. K. V. Ratnam and Brothers, Rajahmundry.	4,000 (Loan) ..	Sri Kosuri Venkataratnam and Sri Kosuri Satyanarayana.	....	....
21 The Pakanadu Oil Mills, Limited, Nagari.	40,000 (Loan) ..	....	Sri G. Gopalakrishna Reddy, Managing Director.	Sri A. Murugesa Mudaliyar, Sri P. Ramachandra Thimma Reddi, Sri K. Sankaraiah Nayudu, Sri K. Varadarajlu Reddi, Sri C. Munuswamy Chetti and Sri M. H. Annamalai Mudaliar.
22 The Metal Industries, Limited, Shoranur.	75,000 (Loan) ..	....	Sri A. N. Poduval, Managing Director.	Sri C. Samal Aaron, Sri Maneklal Purushotham Sait, Sri Jayanand Nagjee Sait, Dr. A. N. Verghese and Sri C. S. Rangaswamy Ayyangar.
23 The Purnima Straw Board and Paper Mills, Limited, Moodbidri.	80,000 (Loan) ..	....	Sri G. Vasudeva Pai, Sri G. Gopal Pai and Sri G. Shridhar Pai (Pai Brothers, Managing Agents).	Sri K. N. Gaitonde, Sri Madhava Vasudeva Shenoy, Sri Narayana Sheshigiri Bhat, Sri Ananth Vittal Prabhu, Sri Dhamodhar N. Shenoy and Sri N. N. Kamath.
24 The Seranad Industrial Corporation, Limited, Rasipuram.	30,000 (Loan) ..	....	Veerasarathy and Company, partners (1) Sri P. A. Veeri Chettiar and (2) Sri R. V. Parthasarathy.	Sri P. A. Veeri Chettiar, Sri R. V. Parthasarathy, Sri T. K. Arumuga Chettiar, Sri R. Venkatadass, Sri K. A. Chinnappa Chettiar, Sri K. Subramania Chettiar, Sri M. S. P. Sengudi Chettiar and Srimathi C. K. Andalammal.
25 Sri Swarna Industrial Engineering Company, Limited, Vijayavada.	20,000 (Loan) ..	....	Sri T. T. Prakasa Rao and Sri V. D. S. Prakasa Rao, Managing Directors.	Sri Koveru Seetharamaiah, Sri Devinani Suryanarayana, Sri Chalasani Venkateswara Rao, Sri Chalasani Narayana Murthi and Sri Challagula Kondaiah.
26 The National Manure Works, Udamalpet.	25,000 (Loan) ..	Sri V. Srinivasan and Sri V. Raman.	....	....

Serial number and names of persons or companies granted State-aid. (1)	Amount granted. (2) Rs.		Names of partiers, if any. (3)	Names of managing agents, if any. (4)	Names of Directors. (5)
1948-49—*cont.*					
27 The Kanara Ceramics Limited, Kasaragod.	60,000	(Loan) ..	....	Sri D. R. Bagade, Managing Director.	Sri K. Ganesh Rao, Sri T. Tirumaleshwar Bhat, Sri Bagade Bhavani Shanker Rao, Sri Raghurama Gopalakrishna Bhat, Sri B. Vaigunda Baliga, Sri Devdass Rao, Janab Ahmed Ali Sherule and Janab H. H. Schamnad.
28 Sri Lakshmanaswamy, Kodikonda.	2,000	(Subsidy).	Sri P. Lakshmanaswamy, Proprietor.	....	....
29 Sri Vijayalakshmi Textiles, Gudiyattam.	24,000	(Loan) ..	Sri N. Ramanjulu Naidu, Sri A. Muniswamy Mandri, Sri P. M. Ponnuranga Naicker, Sri T. M. Thangavelu Mudaliar and Sri V. Munuswamy.	....	....
30 Messrs. Kumar Industries, Edathara.	1,00,000	(Loan) ..	Sri K. Madhavan Nair, Sri E. M. B. Namboodiripad, Sri P. C. Unni Nair and Sri K. Bhaskaran Nair.	....	....
Total ..	45,94,000				
49-50—					
31 Sri K. S. Anantanarayanan, Madras.	6,000 2,000	(Loan) .. (Subsidy).	Sri K. S. Anantanarayanan, Proprietor.	....	....
32 Messrs. B. F. Aranha and Company, Kankanady.	33,000	(Loan) ..	Sri B. F. Aranka, Proprietor.	....	....
33 Sri M. Ratnam, Ratnam Industrial Works, Madras.	2,000	(Loan) ..	Sri M. Ratnam, Proprietor.	....	....
34 The Hindupur Vegetable Oils and Refineries, Limited, Hindupur.	2,00,000	(Loan) ..	....	Sri Donti Bheemiah Setty.	Sri Guduthur Thimmappa Chetty, Sri Katla Venkata Seshiah Shetty, Sri T. Jayakeerthi, Sri Makam S. Ramiah Shetty, Sri S. C. V. Chetty, Sri K. S. Subba Rao, Sri Yelukur Elliah Chetty and Sri Pola Venkataratnam, Oil Technologist, Department of Industries and Commerce, Government Director.
35 The Techno-Chemical Industries, Limited, Kozhikode.	1,00,000	(Loan) ..	....	Sri P. B. Kurup, Managing Director.	Sri A. V. Govinda Menon, Janab K. M. Ahmed Kutty, Sri C. Samuel Aaron, Sri K. Damodaran, Sri M. P. Krishna Menon and Sri P. Karunakara Menon.
36 The Scientific and Industrial Foundry, Shevapet, Salem.	20,000	(Loan) ..	Sri K. Jayavelu Mudaliar, Proprietor.	....	....
Total ..	3,63,000				

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, the 23rd November 1949.

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.

Appointment of women in the Police Force.

* 166 *Q.*—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have called for the opinions of the heads of the Police Departments of Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Nagpur and Lucknow in regard to their experience of women appointed in the Police Force; and

(*b*) whether these reports will be placed on the table of the House for the information of Members?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of the Hon. the Premier):—"(*a*) The answer is in the negative.

"(*b*) Does not arise."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Does not the Hon. Minister remember that six months ago, when I drew the attention of the Government to the desirability of recruiting women to the Police Force, he replied that the Inspector-General of Police of this Province was sceptical about the utility of women in this force? Why has he not then called for the opinions of the Heads of the Police administration of other Provinces who have had experience of women working in the Police department?"

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

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"I am not delivering a speech. I am reminding the Hon. Minister of what had happened and am asking him as to why he did not take the necessary step?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may put it in the form of a question."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"I want to know why the Government have not called for the opinions of the Heads of the Police departments of other provinces though it is six months now since the Hon. Minister gave his aforesaid reply?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I remember the question but not the answer."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"How is it so?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister says he does not remember the answer."

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"The Hon. Minister replied that the Inspector-General of Police of this Province was against the recruitment of women to the Police force. Should he not then have called for the opinions of other Inspectors-General in order to arrive at a decision on the matter?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not remember whether on the last occasion I gave an assurance that this would be done."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"What is the attitude of the Government in the matter of recruitment of women for security service?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We cannot afford to have this luxury just now."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Is appointment of women in Police force a luxury, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Because it will be an addition to the existing constabulary and to that extent it is a luxury, Sir."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"In view of the increasing recognition of the rights and duties of women, may I ask, Sir, whether the Government do not think it worthwhile to go into the question again and see whether it is absolutely desirable that a woman police force is constituted to safeguard women?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"If it could be done in substitution of the existing personnel then perhaps we could have taken that question but if it is in addition to the existing number of constables and officers we cannot afford it just now, but it is a matter for further consideration."

SRI L. C. PAIS:—"We are told that women are appointed in Bengal and C.P. While all the other Provinces have handsome women in their police force why should we not have some police women standing on the streets of Madras also?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is very doubtful whether we can get handsome women for the salary we give them, Sir. It is a very ticklish question to be considered."

SRI B. ANANTHACHAR:—"Will the Government be pleased to examine whether women with their wand of love and better controlling power will be a good acquisition to the Police force?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Whether their wand of love will be an useful acquisition to the existing Police force is a question which has to be carefully considered."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMY MUDALIAR:—"I find from the supplementary demand that the Police force is to be expanded and may I ask, Sir, whether the Government will consider the claims of women to be enrolled in the Police force when such expansion takes place?"

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The additional staff of constables and sub-inspectors is intended to combat the Communist trouble in the districts. We are highly doubtful whether women can be utilized for that purpose. Other appointments could be given to them, namely, probation officers in vigilance associations, patrolling officers, etc. That is a different question."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Apart from the lighter side of the question, may I know Sir, in view of the increasing house searches involving searching of women in various districts that have been going on for the last five or six months whether it is not desirable, and whether it is not urgent to have also women Police officers?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We do not consider Sir, that it is necessary or imperative to have women officers for this work. That work is carried on by the existing officers."

JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY:—"May I know what the personal attitude of the Hon. the Finance Minister is with regard to recruitment of women to the Police force."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The proposal may wait for some time."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"How is it, Sir, that the Hon. Minister calls the recruitment of women to the Police force to be a luxury when it is a positive necessity? May I know Sir, why other provinces where women have been recruited to the Police force, have not deemed it to be a luxury? Is the Hon. Minister aware that in Travancore, even as early as 1938 women were recruited to the Police force?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"What is not essential and what will entail us additional financial commitment, is a luxury. To that extent it is a luxury."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that in advanced countries women are recruited to the Police force, in view of their utility particularly in certain departments of police investigation?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I am not aware whether those advanced countries have appointed women officers for investigation of crime, etc. But I made certain enquiries when I was at Trivandrum. They told me that they are used only for escorting women prisoners, etc. Nothing very useful is being done by them."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"With reference to the reply given by the Hon. the Finance Minister with regard to the utility of women in the Travancore Police force, may I ask him whether he is aware of the work that is actually being done by them there? With your permission, Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I read two or three lines about work done by women in the Travancore Police force?"

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MR. SPEAKER:—" This is not the time to read extracts, even two or three lines . . ."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" I wish just to enlighten the Hon. Minister on the kind of work that is being done there."

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

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Let me at least pass on a cutting to the Hon. Minister containing the opinion of a former Inspector-General of Police in Travancore who for the first time in the whole of Asia recruited women to the Police force as early as 1938, and who watched the experiment for over 5 years?"

SRI P. NATESAN:—" On a point of order, Sir, I want a ruling whether this sort of communicating a private document can pass on without the knowledge of the other hon. Members and without any record."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Something appeared in the paper. The hon. Member has only passed on the extract."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" On my enquiries on the spot they gave me a different version of the utility of the women Police in Trivandrum."

SRIMATHI R. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that it hurts the susceptibilities of women to treat the question of recruitment of women to the Police in such a light vein by saying it as a matter of luxury."

Fee concessions for women medical students.

* 167 *Q.*—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state— 11-15 a.m.

(*a*) the fee concessions available in 1947 to women students qualifying for the Medical Degree; and

(*b*) the fee concessions available to them now?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (*a*) During 1947—49 women students in the Medical Colleges belonging to the Muslim, Backward and Harijan communities were exempted from payment of entire tuition fees and six free studentships were allowed to deserving poor students not belonging to the above communities.

" (*b*) Now, Harijan women are exempted from payment of entire tuition fees; Muslim women are allowed half-fee concession; and the six free studentships to deserving poor students have been extended to students of all communities except Harijans. These concessions will be in force for a period of two years with effect from 1949–50."

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Is it not a fact that it is desirable to encourage Muslim women to take to the medical profession? Will the Government therefore grant some more free studentships to Muslim women students who are poor if it is not possible for the Government to restore the full fee concessions to all Muslim women undertaking medical studies?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" A good deal of encouragement is being given to Muslim women students."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I know how many Harijan women students there are in the Medical College?"

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

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I want notice, Sir."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" Do the Government realize that there is paucity of women doctors in this province and very recently a Government hospital in the Ceded districts had to be closed for want of doctors? Will the Government therefore give further encouragement to women students to take to medical studies?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" There is not only paucity of women doctors but paucity of men doctors also."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Will the Government instead of granting concessions to women as a whole draw a line between the rich and poor and grant more free studentships to poor students in view of the fact that there is considerable dearth of women doctors and many women are dying for lack of suitable medical attendance?"

MR. SPEAKER:—" It is a request to the Government."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I have already stated in my answer that we are showing these concessions to all women."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" In view of the fact that parda is observed largely among Muslim women, may I ask whether it is not necessary to show greater concessions to Muslim women students who take to medical education?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Women students, particularly Muslim women students are shown as much concession as possible."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" Sir, under the health conditions obtaining at present in the country, is it not a fact that women stand in greater need of medical relief than men comparatively speaking, and if that is so, will the Government take steps to give further aid in producing more women doctors?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I do not know how the conditions in the country have changed with regard to diseases among women."

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JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" May I know what is the criterion or the basis for the grant of fee concessions to women students in the Medical College? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" It is the encouragement of backward people to whichever community they may belong."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" Just now the Hon. Minister said that there was no paucity of women doctors. May I know . . . "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I never said so."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The Hon. Minister denies he said so."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" May I know whether the Government will give special concessions to women students who happen to be widows in order to help them to earn an independent living? "

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" From the replies given by the Hon. Minister may I take it that he is not prepared to extend the concessions any further even to students who belong to poor families? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I have answered the question in great detail. If the hon. Member wants me to read the answer again, I will do so."

Electric supply for new house connexions in rural areas.

* 168 *Q.*—JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY (on behalf of Janab M. A. Muhammad Ibrahim): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government directed some months back that electric supply licensees including the Kumbakonam Electric Supply Corporation not to give new house connexions in rural areas?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" No. The Kumbakonam Electric Supply Corporation could not however connect services during the emergency period of low water level in Mettur reservoir, the licensee having already exceeded the limit of maximum demand fixed by Government Electricity Department. Owing to acute power shortage in Vijayavada area, a circular was also issued in April 1949 to electric licensees taking bulk supply from Government in that area requesting them not to connect up further domestic services."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" May I know whether house connexions have been granted on production of medical certificates before and now the Chief Engineer for Electricity refuses to grant house connexions even on production of medical certificates? "

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" For certain special considerations, for medical and other purposes, house connexions were permitted."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Apart from new connexions is it not a fact that applications made in 1947 are still pending disposal in the Electricity Department? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" That may be so, Sir. That is due to shortage of materials and non-availability of the same."

Licences issued in 1949 for starting electrical undertakings.

* 169 *Q.*—JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI (on behalf of Janab S. Muhammad Ismail): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether any licences to start electric undertakings were issued by the Government in the year 1949?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" No."

Financial effects consequent on the devaluation of the rupee.

* 170 *Q.*—JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY (on behalf of Janab M. A. Muhammad Ibrahim): Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state what the financial effects are in our Province on account of the recent devaluation of the rupee?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Matters relating to currency or exchange are entirely Central subjects. So long as the internal value of the rupee remains unchanged, the Madras Government are of opinion that a rise in the internal price level can be avoided and the Government of India are taking various measures to ensure that there is no increase in the general price level. As a sequel to devaluation, imports from hard currency areas are likely to become more expensive and to the extent that imports from these areas are continued the Government expenditure will increase."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Will the Hon. the Finance Minister be able to give us the approximate amount which we will have to pay to America and other dollar areas for the orders which we have placed for machinery and other things required by the Government? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We have explored the possibility of diverting these orders if possible to sterling areas. I cannot just now say what will be the difference."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" The Hon. the Leader of the House says that the issues raised in the question are entirely in the hands of the Government of India. May I know whether the Provincial Government also should not assist the Government of India in keeping the prices down? "

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We are always assisting the Government of India in bringing down the price levels."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that the prices of many commodities are rising in our province particularly after devaluation? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" It is a temporary phase, Sir. I am sure the prices will come down to the pre-devaluation level."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" Will the Hon. Minister give us an idea of the percentage of rise in the cost due to devaluation? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" For whatever machinery we want to import for our irrigation projects and for agricultural tractors, etc., there will be an increase in cost. But we are now examining whether we cannot get them from the sterling areas. It cannot be definitely stated now what will be the difference in percentage."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask whether the Government have asked their Economic Adviser to keep a watch upon the trend of prices after devaluation, especially on commodity prices which enter into the cost of living? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The Economic Advisor's department is circulating to some of us every week prices of commodities, etc. We are noting the fluctuations in prices."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" May I know whether the Government have ascertained why the prices are tending to rise and whether they have taken any steps to put down the rise in prices? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" It cannot be stated that the upward trend of prices of commodities is due to the same reason. Sometimes prices may go up on account of scarcity as in the case of sugar. Whatever we can do to assist the Government of India in putting down the rise in prices will certainly be done."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I ask the Hon. the Leader of the House how, as long as devalution continues, he can reduce the prices particularly of foreign articles? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The prices of foreign articles coming from hard currency areas will be up, but since the value of the rupee vis-a-vis the sterling remains the same, the prices of articles coming from sterling areas will remain the same. The internal price also will remain the same."

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JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" Sir, before the Government take any steps to control the prices, should they not be in possession of definite information regarding the reasons for the rise of these prices? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Our Food Minister and Industries Minister attend the conferences convened by the Government of India from time to time and they are in full possession of the facts. Our Ministers also assist the Government of India in putting down the rise in prices."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" The Hon. the Finance Minister may remember that a few days ago, he told us that prices were not obeying the Government orders and if so does the position continue to be the same ? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" May be so, Sir, with regard to certain commodities. It is a temporary phase and they are sure to come down."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" My previous question was whether the Government have asked the Economic Adviser for his opinion as to how far devaluation has caused the rise in the prices of commodities. I remember the Chancellor of the Exchequer in England, when he announced the devaluation of the sterling definitely said that prices of some articles of food would rise as a result of devaluation. My question is whether a watch is being kept or whether any study is being made of the question of devaluation in relation to the commodity prices."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Yes, Sir, certain specific commodities have been marked for close scrutiny and week after week we examine the prices in the market. The information is circulated to Hon. Ministers. We keep an eye on the trend of the market."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" May I know whether the subject of devaluation was one of the subjects discussed at the Finance Ministers' Conference held in Delhi on the eve of devaluation, and if so, what was the opinion of this Government? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The Finance Ministers' Conference was not held on the eve of devaluation which took place in September. The Finance Ministers' Conference took place on the 21st July and this subject was not discussed at that conference."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Are the Goverment aware that after devaluation even prices of articles imported from sterling areas have risen? If so, what steps are the Government taking to check this tendency? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The prices of certain commodities coming from the sterling areas also have gone up. If we leave them alone, they will come down."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" Sir, when the Government reduced the prices of paddy and rice, they gave an assurance that they would try to bring an integrated reduction in the prices of essential articles consumed by the agriculturists. May I know what steps the Government have taken in that direction and how far they have been successful ? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The Government of India are constantly keeping an eye over these matters. They are calling a conference of Food Ministers and Industries Ministers and others. They will certainly take decisions with regard to this."

11-30 a.m. JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Is it not a fact that devaluation has a very indirect effect even on prices of commodities, and particularly on imports even from sterling areas? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" There need not be necessarily an intrinsic relationship between these things, but generally it is a sort of contagion—when other things go up, these things also go up; there is no relationship between these two."

Basic education in the Province.

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

(*a*) whether this Government have got any quota from the one crore of rupees allotted by the Central Government for Education for the Provinces, and, if so, how much and for what purpose;

(*b*) whether the Government have any proposal to utilize that amount for furthering basic education, and if so, what they are; and

(*c*) whether this Government have constructed new buildings for basic education, and if so, when and where?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The Government of India have promised a grant of Rs. 1·57 lakhs for adult education. This grant is not available for basic education.

" (*c*) Ten buildings have so far been constructed for Basic Training Schools at the following centres:—

(1) Gopannapalem, West Godavari district.
(2) Mynampadu, Guntur district.
(3) Hindupur, Anantapur district.
(4) Pallepadu, Nellore district.
(5) Tirur, Chingleput district.
(6) Avinashi, Coimbatore district.
(7) Kallupatti, Mathurai district.
(8) Malliputhur, Ramnad district.
(9) Kuruvikulam, Tirunelveli district.
(10) Maipadi, South Kanara district."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" May I know to what purpose the amount will be available? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The amount will be available for adult education."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—" Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister, am I to understand that adult education does not form part of basic education? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" My hon. Friend may understand anything; but this amount is not to be given for basic education, because the Government of India have specifically ear-marked it for adult education."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" While we hear so much about basic education in this House is it a fact that even the Director of Public Instruction does not know what basic education really means? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The hon. Gentleman may put the question to the Director of Public Instruction."

JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY:—" May I know whether the attention of the Hon. Minister has been drawn to an editorial comment in the ' Madras Mail ' that even the Hon. Minister for Education was not quite clear as to what basic education meant? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Sir, I read that comment; it was based on my statement in some place that I did not know much about basic education then."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—" May I know from the Hon. Minister for Education whether basic education is working satisfactorily and successfully and whether the object with which it has been introduced is being fulfilled? "

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

SRI L. C. PAIS.—" May I know whether there are a sufficient number of qualified teachers and proper equipment to give effect to this Basic Education Scheme? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" We are increasing the number of basic schools according to the number of teachers available."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" Is it not a fact that a separate Deputy Director of Public Instruction is in charge of basic education at present? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" There is a separate Basic Education Officer working in the office of the Director of Public Instruction."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" May I know if the Government have before them a scheme of expansion of this basic

education according to which the centres are chosen every time, and if so, will it be made available to the Members of this House? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" A separate question may be put."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—" Have the Government any intention of introducing this basic education in the elementary schools which are existing now? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The policy is to convert our existing elementary schools into basic education schools as soon as a sufficient number of teachers are available."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" In order to put down the constant question as to what basic education exactly means, will the Hon. Minister for Education issue a rather exhaustive statement on the question of basic education saying what exactly it means, to those persons who are not aware of the exact nature of basic education? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I would earnestly advise or suggest that hon. Members may attend a few basic education schools and see for themselves the classes there; the books are available in the market."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" May I know if the Hon. Minister has read the opinion expressed by Dr. C. R. Reddi, an educational authority in this country, with regard to basic education and whether the Hon. Minister intends implementing some of the very valuable suggestions he has given? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" With the greatest respect to the authority of Dr. C. R. Reddi, I may say he is not an authority on basic education for me."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" I just claim protection from the Chair, Sir. When I asked the Hon. Minister for Education whether it was a fact that even the Director of Public Instruction did not know what exactly is meant by basic education to which there was a reference made, I am sure the Hon. Minister was within his rights only to say whether he could reply or could not; but he cannot ask me to go to the Director of Public Instruction and get the reply to my question from him. Again, Sir, another colleague of mine, Mr. Hameed Khan asked whether the Members of this House could get a pamphlet on the subject of basic education: but the Hon. Minister could not certainly ask the Members to go and attend the classes . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member has misunderstood the Hon. Minister for Education: he asked the Member to go to the school so that he could see at first hand what is going on and what is taking place there."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The question of the hon. Gentleman Mr. Raza Khan was whether the Director knew what basic education meant; I think it was a severe insult to the Director to be asked whether he knew what basic education was or not. The hon. Member must thank his stars, Sir, that I did not reply in such a way as I ought to have done."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Then why did he not contradict it, Sir? It was published in the Press; if he wanted to protect the Director of Public Instruction, why did he not contradict it? "

Amendment of the Madras City Police Act.

* 172 *Q.*—JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID (on behalf of Janab S. Muhammad Ismail): Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to amend the Madras City Police Act so as to include a provision to prohibit beggary in the City?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—" Under section 71-A of the Madras City Police Act, begging is already an offence."

JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI:—' Is there any exemption from the operation of this Act in favour of certain classes of beggars like sanyasis and fakirs who have got some religious sentiment behind them? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" I did not find any particular exception in that section. The section says: ' whoever in any public street, road or thoroughfare or any place of public resort, or in any railway carriage or premises of a railway station, begs or applies for alms, or exposes or exhibits any sore, wound, bodily ailment or deformity with the object of exciting charity or of extorting alms, shall be punishable with fine which may extend to fifty rupees or with imprisonment . . . ' I do not think the sanyasis and fakirs are doing so with the ' object of exciting charity or of extorting alms '."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Will the Hon. Minister tell us whether he is going to implement the amendment of the City Municipal Act so as to give relief to the poor beggars in the City of Madras? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" This is not about the City Municipal Act, but about the City Police Act. There is no question of implementing anything; the section is there, and is being worked."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" If begging is considered an offence, may I know why the Government have not got sufficient police to see that the Act is enforced? "

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Begging under the conditions mentioned in the section I have just read is an offence under the Act. The present police are sufficient to deal with it."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether the problem of the prevention of begging in the City is not more fundamental than the mere enforcement of a provision in the Madras City Police Act, and before the section can be enforced and implemented, some alternative provision must be made for such people as are thrown on the street?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Yes, Sir; it is certainly necessary, and even a sort of beggars' home should be provided where these people may be sent if they are not to beg in the streets. There are some poor homes run by the Madras Corporation and wherever it is possible, we will give an incentive to them."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that little or no action is being taken under the provisions of this Act to stop begging and to prevent it from becoming a nuisance in the City?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"To some extent it is true; but there are various circumstances that prevent its being done. A sort of inborn nature to give some alms is one of the many reasons why it has not been possible to prevent it fully."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Are there sufficient number of destitute homes for accommodating these beggars, and if not, will the Government take steps to provide such homes or enable the Corporation of Madras to put up such poor destitute homes?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I cannot now say the number of destitute or poor homes we have in the city or province; but if the local bodies are going to take up the question, it will be sympathetically considered by the Government."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In view of the admission that the Madras City Police Act has not prevented begging, will the Government think it advisable to bring forward a comprehensive legislation to tackle this question?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"No penal law has prevented the offence being committed."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I know, with reference to the sympathy promised by the Hon. Minister, whether the sympathy will be translated and given to the local bodies in terms of money and substantial contribution for construction of these homes in the mufassal areas?"

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The question of translation will come when the original first comes."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"May I know what is the use of constructing these homes when no action is taken to prevent infiltration of beggars from the rural centres into urban areas?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The Act does not give power to prevent people from coming from rural to urban areas; the Act only says that if a man is found begging under certain circumstances, he may be punished."

Construction of a water-supply reservoir for the Kakinada Municipality near Samalkot double locks.

* 173 *Q.*—JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI (on behalf of Janab S. Muhammad Ismail): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that 100 acres of fertile land near Samalkot double locks were acquired by the Government for constructing a reservoir for supply of water to Kakinada Municipality; and

(*b*) whether the Government have received any oral or written representations against this proposal from the residents of Samalkot, and if so, what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"(*a*) It is a fact that there is a proposal to acquire some wet lands near Samalkot double lock for the location of the storage tank for the water-supply scheme of the Kakinada Municipality. It is not known whether the lands have been acquired already.

"(*b*) A representation was received recently from the ryots against the proposal. They proposed certain alternative sites—waste lands and pasture lands—for the location of the storage tank. These sites are found unsuitable and the acquisition of the proposed wet lands is inevitable. This position has been confirmed by a local inspection made recently by the Executive Engineer (Public Health), Northern Circle."

Introduction of Marine Engineering and Naval Architecture courses in the Engineering College at Kakinada.

* 174 *Q.*—JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI (on behalf of Janab S. Muhammad Ismail): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government propose to introduce the courses of Marine Engineering and Naval Architecture in the Engineering College at Kakinada from next year?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given on 11th November 1949 to Legislative Assembly starred question No. 63."

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Rallapadu Project in the Nellore district.

* 175 *Q.*—SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI (on behalf of Sri V. Raghavayya): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Rallapadu Project in the Nellore district is considered unfruitful;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that further work is stopped; and

(*c*) if so, for what reasons?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" (*a*) & (*b*) No.

" (*c*) Does not arise."

Constitution of a Development Board for Rayalaseema.

* 176 *Q.*—SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have constituted a Development Board for Rayalaseema; and

(*b*) if so, what the functions of this Board are?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (*a*) & (*b*) Yes. Copies [a] of G.O. No. 4028, Development, dated 1st August 1949 and G.O. No. 4963, Development, dated 10th October 1949, constituting the Rayalaseema Development Board are placed on the table of the House."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister if it is in the consideration of the Government to form such a development board for the backward areas in the Tamil districts? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" It does not arise out of the question."

SRI L. C. PAIS:—" Have the Government any idea of introducing these boards in other areas? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" This is the same as the other question. Does not arise."

Construction of bridges across the Kodamurutti and Kaveri rivers.

* 177 *Q.*—JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID (on behalf of Janab M. A. Muhammad Ibrahim): Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether the Government have any scheme on hand for the construction of bridges across the Kodamurutti and Kaveri rivers in Papanasam taluk, Tanjore district?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" Provisions have been made in the re-cast Five-year Plan of Post-war Road Development works, which is awaiting approval of Government, for the construction of the following two bridges:—

(1) Construction of a bridge across Kodamurutti river at mile 1/1 of Ullikadai village road.

[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 922—924 infra..

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(2) Construction of a bridge across Kaveri river at mile 2/2 of Ullikadai village road.

" A grant was sanctioned for the construction of the bridge across Kodamurutti river on the Ullikadai village road in 1948–49 and it is proposed to sanction a grant for the work in the current year also.

" The Tanjore District Board has not so far applied for a grant in respect of the work of constructing a bridge across Kaveri river on the Ullikadai village road. "

Backward Community Welfare Board.

* 178 *Q.*—SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state— 11-45 a.m.

(*a*) whether the Government have constituted a Backward Community Welfare Board; and

(*b*) if so, who the members of the Board are?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" (*a*) Yes; the Government have constituted an Advisory Committee.

" (*b*) A list [a] is placed on the table of the House. "

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Board is vested with statutory powers or it is an Advisory Board? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" Its functions are advisory."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" If it is really the idea of the Madras Government that the backward communities should be helped, may I know, Sir, how it is that this help is limited to backward communities of the Hindu community and does not extend to backward communities of Christians, Muslims and others? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" This is only intended for the backward communities of the Hindus and we are just now trying to see whether Christian converts can also be taken under backward communities. Moplahs who are converts from the Hindu community are also classified under backward classes."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" If it is really the idea of the Government that backward classes should be helped, although in a limited manner, apart from the question of converts which does not come in here, may I know why this help should be confined to backward classes of the Hindu community. Are there not backward classes among the Muslims and others? "

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU:—" May I know, Sir, whether there are different communities among the Muslims and Christians? "

[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 925 infra.

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MR. SPEAKER:—" Who should answer it? "

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU:—" The Minister, Sir."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMY GOUNDER:—" May I know, Sir, what is the criterion under which backward communities are classified? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" There are 133 sub-sections among the backward classes. They are backward in several respects, particularly in education and that is why a separate committee has been constituted to help them in the matter of education by the grant of free scholarships, etc."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Is it not right for the secular Government, that we have in our country, to recognize that economically there are backward people among all communities irrespective of the religion to which they belong so that they should help all alike without making any difference on the basis of religion? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" It looks as though the entire nation consists of backward communities except the Brahman community. and some sub-sections of the Mudaliyar community and a few sections of Reddi community."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Moplahs of Malabar and Labbais come under backward communities in the Madras Province? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" Yes, Sir."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that there is a list of backward communities officially maintained by the Madras Government? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" Yes, Sir."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have defined the term ' backward community '? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" I just now said what the basis is and I do not think that there is any necessity for defining it now."

SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware, Sir, that even among the Brahman community, there are backward classes? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" I think so, Sir."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—" May I know from the Hon. Minister for Rural Development what the functions of the Backward Community Welfare Board are ? "

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THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" It is only an advisory body."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" May I request the Government that agricultural classes may be classified as backward communities."

MR. SPEAKER:—" It is a request to the Government."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" May I know, Sir, how the fund set apart for the backward communities is going to be utilized? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" It is not a fund, Sir, it is an allotment; it is not a fund like the One Crore Fund set apart for Harijans uplift."

JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY:—" In view of the fact that Moplahs and Labbais are also classified as backward classes, may I know, Sir, why the Government did not take any member from those communities to this Board? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" The Government have got to give representation to 133 sub-sections."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Does it mean, Sir, that only members of the Congress Party are capable of doing all that is good and possible in this world and others have to be eliminated? On what basis, Sir, has no representatives of the Moplahs and Labbais section of the Muslim community been taken? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" He has already answered that point in reply to the supplementary question put by Mr. Kutty."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Is it a fact, Sir, that the Vanniyakula Kshatriyas of South Arcot who gave a defeat to the Congress in the recent district board elections and who belong to the backward communities, are being removed from the list of backward communities? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" No, Sir; it is a mischievous and malicious suggestion that has been carried on by certain self-seeking and communally-minded sections who are trying to retard the progress and growth of the nation and democracy by fanning the embers of communal feuds."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Might I ask if this Rs. 5 lakhs which has been allotted in the current Budget has been distributed to the students of backward communities . . . "

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

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Enhancement of the profit margin under the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949.

* 179 *Q.*—JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have decided to enhance the profit margin allowed under the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949; and

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the negative, whether it is a fact that "The Andhra Rashtra Khadi Producers' and Dealers' Congress Association" have requested the Government to enhance the profit margin?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"(*a*) No.

"(*b*) Yes. The reasons why the suggestion has not been accepted have been given in the reply to question No. 254."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I know, Sir, why the hon. Member Mr. Salam is more interested in khadi than others as would be seen by the series of questions he has raised?"

Grant of loan to Messrs. Dinasari, Limited, under the Madras State Aid to Industries Act.

* 180 *Q.*—JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government have decided to grant a loan of Rs. 1,75,000 to Messrs. Dinasari, Limited, Poonamallee High Road, Madras, under the Madras State Aid to Industries Act?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. Minister for Industries):—"No, Sir."

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

II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION ON EMPOWERING THE BOARD OF REVENUE WITH FINAL APPELLATE POWERS TO DISPOSE OF CIVIL SUPPLIES MATTERS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member, Mr. Khader Jamali, has given notice for the adjournment of the business of the Assembly for discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance. He says:

'I move that the House do adjourn to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, viz., to discuss the effect of the G.O. Ms. No. 1964, Food and Agriculture, dated the 27th October 1949, which invests the Board of Revenue with final appellate powers regarding the disposal of appeals in respect of civil supplies and other kindred matters.'

I do not know how this is an urgent matter. The hon. Member himself says that the Government Order was passed on the 27th October 1949. The sittings of the Assembly commenced on the

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7th of this month and the hon. Member has waited for such a long time to bring it before the House. Secondly, I wish to know from the hon. Member how it is of public importance."

MR. SPEAKER :—" இந்தத் தீர்மானம் எப்படி **urgent** என்று முதலில் நீங்கள் சொல்லவேண்டும். இந்த உத்திரவை அக்டோபர் மாதம் 27-ம் தேதியிலேயே **publish** பண்ணி இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகவே இது எப்படி ஒரு **urgent matter** என்று சொல்லவேண்டும். இரண்டாவதாக இது எப்படி **urgent public importance** என்றும் சொல்லவேண்டும்."

JANAB HAJI ABDUL KADHAR JAMALI :—" தலைவர் அவர்களே, இந்த **G.O.**-வை முந்தாநாள் தான் பத்திரிகையில் பார்த்தேன். இது கெஜெட்டிலும் பிரசுரிக்கப்படவில்லை. பத்திரிகையை பார்த்தபின் தான் எங்களுக்குத் தெரியவந்தது. அதுவும் இந்த மாதம் 21-ம் தேதி தான் வெளியாகி இருக்கிறது. ஆகவே இதை அசெம்பளிக்கு இதைவிட சீக்கிரமாக கொண்டுவர முடியவில்லை என்பது முதல் காரணம்.

" இரண்டாவதாக இது **public importance** எப்படி என்று சொன்னால், ஏற்கனவே **Civil Supplies**-க்கு இந்த **appellate** அதிகாரம் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதையும் கவர்ன்மெண்டு **notification**-லேயே சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள். '**Delegating larger powers**' என்று சொல்லி இருக்கிறார்கள். ஏற்கனவே **Civil Supplies**-க்கு இருப்பதுதான் புதிதாக கவர்ன்மெண்டு ஒன்றும் கொடுக்கவில்லை. மேலும் அவர்கள் கீழ் அதிகாரிகளிடமிருந்து **files**-ஐ தருவிக்கிறார்கள். வியாபாரிகளிலும், பொது ஜனங்களிலும் யார் **appeal** செய்கிறார்களோ அவர்களைக் கேட்கப்படுவதில்லை. **File**களைப் பார்த்தும் கீழ் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் எப்படி எழுதி இருக்கிறார்களோ அதைப் பார்த்தும்தான் தீர்ப்பு அளிக்கிறார்கள். ஆகவே இதை . . . . . "

MR. SPEAKER :—" அதிலுள்ள ஏ பி நஷ்டத்தைப் பற்றி சொல்லக் கூடாது. ஆனால் இது எப்படி **public importance** என்பதை மட்டிலும் சொல்லவேண்டும். "

JANAB HAJI ABDUL KADHAR JAMALI :—" இதனால் விவசாயிகளுக்கு மனம் உடைந்து விடுமாகையால் இது மிகவும் முக்கியமானது. **Civil Supplies**, அதாவது உணவு இலாகா, உணவு பொருள்களை கொள்முதல் செய்து பொது ஜனங்களுக்கு விநியோகம் செய்கிறது. இந்த மாதிரியான உத்திரவினால் உணவு வாங்குவதில் வியாபாரிகள் ஒத்துழைக்காவிட்டால் கஷ்டமும், தாமதமும் ஏற்படும். ஆகவே இது பொது ஜனங்களை கட்டுப்படுத்துவதாக இருக்கிறது. அதனால்தான் இது ஒரு அவசரத் தீர்மானம் என்று சொல்லுகிறேன்."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I do not consider this is a very urgent matter and on the question how it is a matter of public importance, I do not see eye to eye with the hon. Member. There is also another aspect of the matter, namely, if the orders of Government passed as a matter of administrative routine, are to be the subject-matter of adjournment motions on the floor of the House, I do not think we will be able to carry on any business here. So, I want to rule it out of order."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"It is not with reference to each and every order that is passed by the Government that there can be adjournment motions here."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"The Government Order was passed on the 27th October."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"The mover of the motion has explained by saying that the Government Order was published in the papers only the other day."

MR. SPEAKER:—"He must have taken it up then and there. Simply because the hon. Member was hitherto ignorant of this fact, there is no excuse for him to bring it up now."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Not that he was ignorant of it, Sir. He says that though it was passed on the 27th October, it was published by the Government on the 21st November 1949 and the Government have not contradicted it. Passing the Government Order is one thing and the publication of the Government Order is another thing and it is on this date that members of the public come to know of it. So, Sir, that settles that it is an urgent matter. On the question whether it is a matter of urgent public importance, the mover himself has explained how it will interfere . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"There are other ways by which this can be dealt with."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"But it can be scotched even at the beginning if it is brought to the notice of the Government. His contention is that by means of this motion the trouble which people will be put to as a result of this order will be eliminated."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, I was shocked to hear Mr. Speaker telling us that no Government Order can become the subject-matter of an adjournment motion in the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not like that; there may be exceptions to that."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I hope, Sir, you are not going to make it a rule that no Government Order can become the subject-matter of an adjournment motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"There is no such hard and fast rule and as I told you, there may be exceptions."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"This is only an administrative order. Apart from that it was published on the 27th October . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"And I think the hon. Member would have received a copy of it at that time."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Hon. Members may not have been given a copy."

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is an administrative order . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Have the Government issued a Press Note about it?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not know; this has just now been handed over to me.

"Sir, this is an administrative order and there can be nothing wrong that we have done and there cannot be any censure on the Government for what we have done."

MR. SPEAKER:—"As I have already told the House, the hon. Member's notice itself shows that the Government Order was passed on the 27th October 1949 and secondly it is an order passed in the course of ordinary day-to-day administration and I do not consider that this is a matter of urgent public importance and therefore, I rule it out of order."

III.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(1) THE MADRAS BUILDINGS (LEASE AND RENT CONTROL) BILL, 1949 (L.A. BILL NO. 26 OF 1949). 12 noon.

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to introduce the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Bill[a], 1949 and move—

'*that the Bill be taken into consideration at once.*'

"Now, Sir, the House knows that in order to regulate the letting of residential and non-residential buildings and to control the rents for such buildings and to prevent unreasonable eviction of tenants therefrom in this Province, the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act, 1946, was enacted and it came into force on and from 1st October 1946. The Act provided for its remaining in force for two years, i.e., till 30th September 1948, and for its continuance thereafter by the Provincial Government, if necessary, by a notification in the Gazette for a further period or periods not exceeding in aggregate two years. Under this provision, the Act was extended for a period of one year in the first instance commencing from 1st October 1948. In view of the Federal Court decision in a Bihar case to the effect that the extension of an Act by a notification of the Provincial Government is *not* valid, an Ordinance (Madras Ordinance II of 1949) was promulgated on 16th August 1949 validating the continuance of the Madras Act XV of 1946 from 1st October 1948.

"On the 18th October 1949, the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Ordinance, 1949 (Ordinance V of 1949), was promulgated by His Excellency the Governor, re-enacting *in toto* the provisions of the Madras Buildings (Lease and Control) Act,

[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 30th November 1949.

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1946, in view of a decision of the High Court pronounced on the 10th instant in respect of the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Act, 1947, and the Madras Maintenance of Public Order (Removal of Doubts and Amendment) Ordinance, 1949. By reason of that decision, the extension of the provisions of an Act by a notification is not valid, and Ordinance II of 1949 which was issued by His Excellency the Governor to cure the above defect in respect of the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act, 1946, and certain other Acts are also largely ineffective. So Ordinance V of 1949 has now to be replaced by an Act of the Legislature within six weeks from the date of the meeting of the Legislature which was called to meet on the 7th November 1949. A draft Bill has accordingly been prepared reproducing all the provisions of the Ordinance V of 1949 with a few verbal and consequential changes. So this Bill has to be enacted within six weeks, and so I request this Bill may be taken into consideration at once."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—"Sir, I rise on a point of order. The Hon. Minister said that he would be bringing in a comprehensive Bill, incorporating all the amendments under the Rent Control Act. May I know whether this is the Bill he meant? Sir, the House was made aware that the Government propose to bring in such a comprehensive measure and it is on that assurance that the long list of amendments given notice of by several Members was withdrawn."

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"I only said the several amendments would be considered when the Bill was referred to a select committee at the time a comprehensive Bill is brought. Now the present Bill has to be passed without reference to select committee as there is no extension of time possible for the original Act. So I request the House to take the Bill into consideration at once, and in the next session with all the amendments a Bill may be brought up and referred to a select committee."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—"I only wanted to know whether this is the Bill that the Hon. Minister promised to bring, as there are no amendments given notice of by several Members in it."

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"Now, we will re-enact the original Act, and in the next session the comprehensive Bill may be thought of."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Motion moved—

'that the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration at once.'"

*BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am afraid there is much duplication of work in this Legislature on account of the fact that the Government do not pay heed to the suggestions made by Members on this side of the House. You

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might remember that we impressed on the Government not to extend their Acts by means of notification, but to come before this House and get its sanction to any such proposal. It is indeed a pity that the Government did not pay heed to our suggestion with the result that the High Court has now called into question the validity of the Acts extended by notification. Hence it is that a number of Bills have suddenly cropped up before this House. For the present we are called upon to accord our sanction to the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act of 1946, *in toto* without any modifications. We are told that the Government will introduce an amending Bill to this Act afterwards. Such a procedure involves considerable duplication of the work of this House. You would remember that a Joint Select Committee of the two Houses was appointed to consider the necessary amendments to the aforesaid Act. That Committee sat for several days and suggested suitable amendments. It would have been better to save the time of the House, if the Government had incorporated in the present Bill itself all the amendments suggested by that committee. I regret to find that the Government have not done so but have adopted a procedure involving unnecessary duplication of their work and that of this House, thus leading to much waste of time. The Government had ample time to incorporate the suggested amendments in the present Bill and I fail to see why they did not do so and wherein lay their difficulty in this matter. We are now told that the Government will bring in a comprehensive amending Bill later. I do not know when that is to be. Already people have been waiting for long for the introduction of necessary amendments to the Act and their patience is almost exhausted. They are now asked to wait for some time still further. There is a limit to such dilatoriness. Sir, I am constrained to remark that this is a very unsatisfactory state of affairs. The Government are taking things too easily instead of acting with promptitude in regard to matters affecting the well-being of the people. Both the landlords and the tenants have been suffering for a considerable length of time, because of defects in the existing Act which need rectification. Surely the Government could have to-day itself brought forward a consolidated or comprehensive Bill on the subject. I wish to know definitely from the Hon. Minister as to when he proposes to bring in the amending Bill. I hope he will enlighten me on this point in the course of his reply."

SRI L. C. PAIS:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the Bill as it is a very necessary piece of legislation. In supporting the measure I wish to say a few words by way of submission to Government for their kind consideration. The first point I wish to make is that on account of the enormous delay in the disposal of petitions under the Rent Control Act, the public are not benefited by the Act at all. As the matter stands at present, the Rent Control Act is in the hands of Revenue Divisional Officers. Speaking with special reference to what obtains in South Kanara, I have to submit that these Revenue Divisional Officers have to attend to administrative, criminal and revenue matters, so much

so, they are able to devote only one day in the week for this rent control work. Recently one more officer has been empowered to attend to this work, and he is a Small Cause Court Judge, who is also Official Receiver in South Kanara. Now, he is also able to attend to this rent control petitions only one day in the week. So between these two officers, they are able only to devote two days in a week. On account of this, there is considerable delay and considerable hardship caused to both landlord and tenant. Now, as we all know, petitions are mostly contested and that on flimsy grounds. As these are appealable cases the judge is forced to take down evidence, and that means it takes plenty of time to dispose of the petitions. So in this way the petitions drag on for more than one year.

"Sir, I want the Government to consider the hardship caused in one or two real cases. A person wants to have his house for his own occupation, as he has no other house of his own to live. So he goes to a court of law to oust the tenant. The case drags on for some months, and what is he to do? So I only ask the Government to give speedy relief in such cases.

"Then take the case of a man going to a court of law to oust the tenant on the ground that he is not able to pay rent and he has fallen in arrears of rent for some months. (At this stage the Deputy Speaker occupied the chair.) The tenant puts in some frivolous reason as defence, and so the case drags on for several months and the rent is not paid for months together. In such cases the tenants should be asked to deposit the rent in court as it accrues from month to month. If a provision for that is made in the Bill it will give considerable relief to landlords.

"Then, Madam, there is one important class of tenants who are exempted from the benefits of the Act. They are tenants who are in occupation of vacant sites in municipal and other areas in South Kanara. The tenant there takes up a vacant site and puts up a building or a hut or a house there. The term of the lease is such that on the expiry of the lease period, the tenant should remove the building or structure at his own cost and surrender the site to the landlord. Now on account of high rent prevailing the landlord is anxious to increase his rent. Under the Rent Control Act, as it stands, the landlord can go to a court of law to oust his tenant on the expiry of the lease. So there is no benefit to the tenants under the Act. Now, the object of this measure is to give protection to tenants. So I request the Hon. Minister to make a provision in the measure to give protection to these tenants.

"Lastly, my submission is that thatched houses which are found in municipalities are exempted from the provisions of this measure. This causes great hardship to owners. I shall read one letter from a distressed owner, which will show how these distressed people are in need of relief:

'A thatched house is rented out at Rs. 6 per mensem. For yearly repairs it requires 8,000 sheaves of thatching grass; at Rs. 10 per thousand sheaves the cost comes to Rs. 80. Then there is labour at Rs. 2 per day for ten days. The labour charges amount to Rs. 20, and the municipal fee per year is Rs. 14-0 6. In all it comes to over Rs. 100. The annual income is Rs. 72. There is a net loss of over Rs. 30. How is the loss to be made up ? The Government may be pleased to consider this position and if the grievance is real, it is for the Government to consider the question of excluding these thatched houses from the purview of the Act. The difficulty does not stop there. The owner is willing to convert the house into a tiled house ; but the tenant would not surrender the holding.'

So there is real hardship for the landlord, and it will continue to be there so long as the landlord is prevented from putting a simple structure. My submission is that landlords who are in full possession of thatched houses are not able to increase their rent. Their case also may be examined and some amendments may be brought forward. With these words I support the Bill."

* JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, legislation is quite necessary for controlling the lease of buildings and for preventing the unreasonable eviction of tenants. During the last few years an Act had been in force in this Province and we have observed many defects and irregularities in its working such as those pointed out by the hon. Gentleman, Mr. L. C. Pais. When we want to have a comprehensive legislation with regard to this all-important matter as there is acute shortage of accommodation not only in the City but in the whole Province, we must devote sufficient time and attention for passing a measure like this. But, as the Hon. Minister said, legislation has to be enacted within six weeks for replacing the ordinance that had been promulgated recently. Under such circumstances, legislation has to be rushed through this House so that there might not be a gap between the lapse of the ordinance and the coming into force of the Act resulting from this Bill. The Hon. Minister is in a great hurry to rush through this Bill. After this Bill is rushed through, I strongly urge him and the other Members of the Government to bring forward a comprehensive legislation with regard to this all-important matter either by way of an amending Bill or a new Bill and refer it to a select committee which will go through the provisions carefully and suggest necessary amendments. I hope that the Hon. Minister will bring forward such a comprehensive legislation in the December session of the Assembly, because the matter cannot brook delay. People are put to great hardship. In the City I know many Government servants serving in the Secretariat of this Government who are put to great hardship for want of proper accommodation. They are going about from place to place and are putting up with some friends or relatives. They are finding it very difficult to get on in the City and work in the Government offices here. It would have been better if the Government had not rushed through this Bill with such unseemly haste. I feel sure that in the light of my observations, the Government will bring forward a comprehensive Bill in the December session of this House." 12-15 p.m.

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, the history of this legislation—introduction, reference to select committee, then an ordinance, invalidation of that ordinance, then another ordinance, and now this Bill with a provision that

it will remain in force for one year only, i.e., up to 30th September 1950—is an astounding commentary upon the way in which the Legal Department of the Government is functioning. It is impossible to get on with proposals for legislation of this type. We have been expecting for a very long time, in fact for more than a year, that a comprehensive legislation on the relations between the landlord and tenant in so far as residential and non-residential buildings are concerned would be brought forward. A good number of provisions of this Bill have been the subject-matter of dispute and decision in several courts of law including the highest court, and several defects have been pointed out. Therefore we naturally thought that this new Bill would bear some relation to the decisions given by various courts in the country. But, Madam, that is not to be. The Hon. Minister was pleased to tell us that this Bill, many of whose provisions have been found to be defective, has got to be passed before the expiry of six weeks from the date of the meeting of this House. In view of the urgency of the matter, there is a sense of unreality in this procedure. I submit that this should not be repeated hereafter. As my predecessor rightly pleaded, I hope the Government will introduce a comprehensive piece of legislation, either in the form of an amending Bill or a separate Bill, without a provision similar to the provision in this Bill that it will remain in force only for a year or two. The difficulties arising from shortage of houses in this country will be more or less of a permanent nature. At any rate, they will last for such a sufficiently long time as to necessitate the existence of an Act for considerable time to come. Therefore may I suggest that the coming legislation should be of a permanent nature and not like the present Bill which has life for one year only?

"There are several provisions in this Bill which the Government will have to amend. For example, section 13 of the 1946 Act provided for exemption of buildings. I need not remind the Members of this House how the power conferred by this section had been misused by the Government in the past. In the interests of the prestige of the Government, I submit that clause 13 of this Bill may be deleted altogether and I will be very glad if the Hon. Minister moves an amendment to delete it.

"Several difficulties have been found in the working of the Act. In municipal areas, the Revenue Divisional Officer has been made the Rent Controller. Particularly in places like Visakhapatnam, Revenue Divisional Officers have a variety and multiplicity of work. One important duty of the Revenue Divisional Officer there is to attend the Waltair railway station platform or the civil aerodrome for nearly fifteen days in the month. Some high dignitary, some Minister of this Province, some Minister of another province, some Minister of Burma or Malaya passing over India will be coming and fifteen days' time in a month will be taken away on attending on them. The Revenue Divisional Officer is overworked. Besides, he is a touring officer. On account of delay in disposal, tenants as well as landlords have

been put to great difficulty. I do not blame any particular officer. In places like Visakhapatnam, I submit that the Government can, under the rule-making powers, transfer the work to Official Receivers wherever they exist. The Official Receiver in Visakhapatnam is invested with the power of adjudicating small cause suits up to a particular pecuniary limit. There is not much work for him and he will be glad to take up this work. I do not know about other districts and perhaps there the work may be transferred to the District Munsif. This transfer of work is necessary in the interests of expeditious work.

"There are several other matters. As the Hon. Minister is not going to refer the Bill to a select committee, there is no use of making suggestions, unless he is prepared to accept amendments on the floor of this House. Clause 4 (2) (*a*) says that in fixing the fair rent under this section, the Controller shall have due regard to the prevailing rates of rent in the locality for the same or similar accommodation in similar circumstances during the twelve months prior to 1st April 1940. 1st April 1940 was all right in the Act of 1946. In 1947 and 1948, the cost of labour, repairs and construction have gone up so high that they bear absolutely no relation to 1940 rates. As Mr. L. C. Pais has already mentioned, the cost of labour has risen very high. A mason in Visakhapatnam demands three rupees per day. The masons have got a union and no mason works for less than three rupees. A carpenter also demands three rupees per day. If a landlord has to get the same rent as was prevailing in 1940, one can imagine the great difficulty to which he will be put on account of the increased cost of repairs and maintenance. As a matter of fact, several landlords have not been able to carry out annual repairs to their houses which have been let on account of the high cost of repairs. In fact, more than one year's rent is required to carry out the ordinary annual repair. In this situation, there is no use of going to a court for fixation of a fair rent which will have no relation to the present-day cost of repairs and cost of living. When the landlords are not able to spend on repairs, houses become dilapidated. It is a loss not only to the landholder but a loss to the whole country particularly in these days of acute house shortage. I wonder whether the Hon. Minister will see his way to amend the clause so as to read that the Controller shall take all the surrounding circumstances into consideration and fix a fair rent, without reference to any particular year.

"Madam, I repeat that in 1946 when first this Act was passed, the reference to the date 1st April 1940 in section 4 had some meaning, but it will have no meaning now when the cost of construction and repairs has gone up by three to four times. 12-30 p.m.

"Then Madam, there is one difficulty about vacancies. I hope that the Government will issue proper instructions as to which is to be considered a vacant house. There are some Rent Controllers who have said that immediately a person has built house for him it becomes vacant. Whether the house is ready

for occupation or not, and even before the person who has built it has performed the grahapravesam ceremony, some courts have held that the house has become vacant and that it should be notified to the Rent Controller, who is at liberty to allot it to whomsoever he likes, without the owner having anything to do with it. It was an extraordinary decision, Madam, but that was because the language of the Act has given room for such an interpretation. May I therefore suggest to the Hon. Minister to issue instructions to the Rent Controllers to the effect that newly built houses should not be deemed to have fallen vacant before they are occupied by persons who have constructed them?

" Now, there is another point that I want to mention in this connexion. Considerable delays occur in the disposal of these cases under the Rent Control Act. I should like to ask the Hon. Minister to issue necessary instructions to the Rent Controllers with regard to the speeding up of the disposal of these cases. In most of the offices of the Rent Controllers, thousands of petitions have been pending for a very long time, and it is impossible for these officers to dispose of them, at the same time attending to their work in courts. My suggestion therefore is that a special officer in each district should be appointed to deal with these petitions expeditiously, thus relieving the Rent Controllers to do their regular court work. If this is not done, delays are bound to occur, causing great troubles and difficulties to the parties concerned.

" Then, Madam, there is the question of residential and non-residential buildings. These terms have not been clearly and properly defined in the Bill. There is still some difficulty about them. Now-a-days several people who build new houses have a temptation to convert a portion of their houses for non-residential purposes, in order to get a higher rent. Sometimes they put up a separate room or construct a separate structure in a portion of their house and let it out for shops at a high rent. Then the difficulty arises in regard to the fixation of rent, because there is no clear provision in this legislation to decide whether such a building is a residential or non-residential one. This question actually arose in a case in Visakhapatnam, and there was a great deal of difficulty in coming to a decision. I therefore submit, Madam, that some clear instructions should be issued with regard to the distinction between residential and non-residential buildings. These provisions look very innocuous, but actually when these cases go to a court of law, we have to face very great difficulties in settling the issue.

" There is another matter, which I want to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister. According to the original Act, the Rent Controller had the authority to treat the requirements of the Government and the requirements of municipalities on the same footing. Even then, there was a confidential circular issued to the Rent Controllers by the Government, that they should not allot houses for municipalities. I was wondering how in the face of that Act, the Government thought it right to issue such

circular instructions. But now under the terms of this new Bill, municipalities and local boards have gone out of its purview altogether. What I wish to submit to the Hon. Minister is that the requirements of municipalities are sometimes even greater than the requirements of the Provincial Government officers. If a Subordinate Judge or Deputy Collector or some other official is transferred and comes to a place, he may be able to put up with some friends, in whose house he could stay for some time. But the needs of municipalities are different and cannot be satisfied like that. Suppose a municipality wants a building for its hospital, or for its school, which are very important things, now it is becoming very difficult for the municipalities to find houses and accommodation for such things. I therefore submit to the Hon. Minister to move an amendment here to-day in the appropriate clause, authorizing the Rent Controllers to allot houses also for municipal purposes. Only when the municipality has said that it has no need for a building, which has fallen vacant, should it be allotted to others. Some such provision should be made in this Bill.

" Madam, I hope that the Hon. Minister will himself think of bringing forward some suitable amendments to the Bill; or if he accepts my suggestion, I would even say that we might take this Bill to a select committee to-day itself and sit till tomorrow if necessary, thrash out the provisions of the Bill, and see if we could incorporate some of the suggestions made by Members on the floor of the House, and bring it back before the close of this session and pass it into law. However, Madam, I leave it to the consideration of the Hon. Minister."

* JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, I entirely agree with the hon. Gentleman Mr. T. Viswanatham, when he said that this half-hearted and piecemeal legislation was not going to give relief to a large number of people, who are undergoing considerable sufferings and hardships due to the scarcity of housing accommodation in the Province as a whole. Out of sheer necessity, and in spite of these control measures, our people have become victims of the vicious, unholy and unhealthy practices that prevail now-a-days in the matter of getting housing accommodation.

" Madam, I do not propose to go into the several clauses of the Bill that is now before the House, but I should like to suggest to the Hon. Minister that he should consider the proposition made by my hon. Friend Mr. Viswanatham that this Bill may go into a select committee, where we might try to modify or improve the Bill, so as to prevent several of the prevailing unhealthy practices among the people.

" Madam, let me just mention a few of the unhealthy practices prevailing now. In the first place, the North Indian virtue, namely, the pugree system has come to settle itself in this Province. I should say that this pugree system has assumed the status of a

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racket. Let me not be taken as irreligious, Madam, when I say, that this pugree system has attained godhood, because it is found everywhere and at the same time it is found nowhere.

" Again, Madam, in the matter of advances that are asked for by the owners of houses, I know for certain—and several hon. Members in this House will agree with me—that even for small houses, the landlords are demanding huge amounts as advance. Sometimes the advance amount even goes up to four digits. There is also the question of unseen rent. For instance, a tenant may be paying Rs. 100 for a particular house, but the actual rent receipt from the owner would show not even 25 per cent of the rent actually paid. These are some of the existing evil practices, which the control measure is not in a position to prevent or eliminate. Perhaps the Hon. Minister might say, why not all such cases be brought to the notice of the authorities, so that they could take action immediately to put an end to such practices. If a question like this is put to me, I would say that in the generality of cases, the character of our people has not changed and has not risen to the level of the status our country has attained. It is because of the low character of the generality of the people in this country, that we are in this deplorable state and blackmarketing, corruption and so many other evils are rampant in this country. No doubt, we have introduced these control measures; but I say, Madam, under the very shadow of these control measures, these evil practices flourish with impunity, in spite of the vigilance of the officials who are in charge of these controls. Therefore, the Government must take immediate action to see that they attack the problem in a different manner, and that is by providing more houses. This legislation is not going to give any permanent relief to the tenants, because we know that people are definitely suffering even when this Act is in force. The only solution is, that the Government should build more houses and give facilities to people to build more houses. I ask the Hon. Minister what actually he has done to expedite and to expand the co-operative housing schemes in this Province. Several of the co-operative house-building societies are not able to build houses, because of the want of cement, iron and steel and other building materials. Again, I find that the Government have not taken any action in the matter of helping these co-operative organizations or rich people who come forward to put up houses for the middle class and poor people, by providing them with building materials required for the purpose.

" Madam, in addition to the above, I would also suggest that the Government must see that some of the Government of India offices which are to-day occupying several huge buildings in the City and in the several urban centres, are removed to some other areas where there is no scarcity of buildings. Similarly there are several offices of the Provincial Government like the office of the Inspector-General of Prisons, the Survey department and offices, which are doing simply some research work and which need not be located here, and they can usefully be shifted to some other less

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crowded parts of the Province, where scarcity of accommodation does not exist. In this manner, the position of housing can be eased. Then there is also the question of indiscriminate infiltration of rural population into urban centres. What is the use of putting up more and more houses when people are coming in large numbers, particularly in cities like Madras and other urban districts, from rural parts? The problem of urban housing is already very acute. Therefore I say that the Government must look for some other solution to tackle this problem. So far as I can see, I am of the opinion that the present legislation has not given any relief to the people who were suffering for want of accommodation in the past, nor will it give any relief to them in future. Therefore, I say, that instead of bringing this legislation, which after all is going to be in force for a year or two, the Government should come forward and tackle the problem in a direct manner.

" With these few words, I suggest to the Hon. Minister that the Bill be referred to a select committee for improving it."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, it is not my purpose to oppose this Bill. This Bill must have the support of the whole House. But I want to place certain points for the consideration of the Hon. Minister in charge of this Bill and to the House with regard to a lacuna in this Bill. The Bill, so far as it goes is quite all right, and if the amendments proposed by the select committee appointed previously are incorporated, it will become a still more perfect Bill. But still, there are one or two lacunæ. The Bill is called the 'Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Bill.' We have more of rent control in this Bill than what pertains to lease.

" Fixation of fair rent, eviction, etc., are provided for. But the actual leasing of house property is confined only to Government, and they are to allot particular tenements to public servants, to public institutions or to Government institutions. The Bill stops there. Though the legislation is intended to ameliorate the conditions of tenants in these days of congestion in all urban areas, it does not go further than what I have stated, and it leaves the private tenant alone in the matter of getting leases of houses. Madam, it is well known that the malpractices of house-owners in urban areas are becoming so intolerable that it is high time for the Government, even though they did not consider at the time when this legislation was first sponsored by the popular Government, to see that provision is made at least to some limited extent for empowering the Rent Controller to make allotments for providing private tenants with buildings which are reported to be vacant under clause 3 of the Bill. This step has become absolutely necessary now having regard to the sufferings of the tenants in the urban areas. Clause 3 of the Bill makes it obligatory on the part of house-owners to report the vacancy of any building which carries a rent above a certain value. The Rent Controler has got ten days' time to allot it to a Government

servant or to a public institution. He will allot it if he requires it; otherwise he will not, and the house-owner is free to let it to anybody he likes. It is in that state of affairs that we left that legislation when we first sponsored it. But, circumstances have now changed. There is a clear necessity for making provision for accommodating private people also. If this legislation has to serve any useful public purpose, mere rent control and the negative right of evicting private tenants from buildings alone, provided for in the Bill, will not do. The whole enactment will be illogical of its purpose and absolutely useless for public needs. An enactment of this kind must regulate the leasing of houses not only to Government servants but also to the public. The need of the Government servants is, of course, very great, and must take priority over all others' needs, because public administration should not be brought to a standstill by making it impossible for public servants to get adequate residential accommodation in any area to which they are posted. But the majority of the people in the area who are tenants and who are not house-owners should not be thrown out to the tender mercies of the house-owners. This is a thing which the Government will seriously ponder upon and do the needful to relieve the hardships of the tenants. Madam, it will not be out of place for me to narrate the actual sufferings that tenants are put to in this connexion. House-owners, finding that this Act makes provision for fixing fair rent by the Rent Controller even for private tenants, have taken to the method of leasing houses on fancy rents and collecting rents in advance, say, for one year or two years and thus pocket the money. If there is an agreement in writing, the lower rent alone is stated, and the period of occupation also is fixed in that agreement to adjust it to the needs of the fleecing arrangements that have been made behind the back of the agreement. Can we allow this to go on? Can we throw out the tenant, the poor middle class man, to the tender mercies of these Shylock house-owners, and leave the legislation at the stage where we left in 1946 or 1947? It is high time therefore that we should make some amendments to this legislation providing that the Rent Controller should be authorized, in suitable cases, to allot houses or direct the lease of the houses to private tenants also, after the needs of public servants or public institutions and institutions controlled by the Government are satisfied completely. If, after this, reports of vacancies show that there are still some buildings available for private people, the Rent Controller must have the power, a reserve power, to allot those houses. It is only when the Rent Controller does not make the required intimation to the house-owner, the house-owner can allot his house to somebody he wishes. Therefore, I suggest that this aspect of the question should be kept in view, even though the Government do not choose, for pressure of time, to accept any amendments at this stage. The necessity for making this provision should be fully considered and decided upon when a comprehensive Bill, with the select committee's amendments, is brought forward in the near future. Madam, I have given notice of an

amendment to this effect, and it is in the order paper. I may or I may not move it at the stage when I am called upon to move it, because we have already been reprimanded by the Leader of the House outside this House that Members of the Congress party should not put up an appearance of opposition to Government by moving amendments or making speeches against Government. I do adhere to that. I accept that view. But we are forced under several circumstances to state our views on the floor of the House when occasions demand it. I, therefore, request that the Hon. Minister in charge of this Bill will consider the feasibility of either allowing my amendment at this stage to be passed; or give an assurance to the House that an amendment of this sort will be incorporated in the next bill which he promised to us."

JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI:— "Madam, Deputy Speaker, there are two things which are clear about this Bill. The first is the necessity for a measure of this kind. I do not think there are two opinions on the point that we have not yet reached the stage when we can dispense with the Rent Control Bill. The second thing which is clear is the very unsatisfactory nature of the present Bill. I would have very much liked that the Hon. Minister, instead of bringing forward this Bill, spent some more time over this Bill, took into consideration all the amendments which were suggested to him, and then brought forward a comprehensive Bill. But since he has explained that he had had no time for all this, and since he has also assured us that he would very shortly bring forward a comprehensive Bill incorporating all the necessary amendments therein, I think there can be no room for complaint. I have at this stage only a very few suggestions to make so that they may be of use when the Hon. Minister brings forward the comprehensive Bill. The first point is about the Rent Controller. The present Rent Controller, as has been pointed out by several hon. Members, is the Revenue Divisional Officer. With his multifarious duties, he has very little time to devote his attention to this very urgent and important matter. Again, there are no fixed rules of procedure governing the conduct of these rent control petitions. The rules of procedure vary with the officers. With one officer who is inclined to dispose of these cases very urgently, the rules of procedure are that on the particular date of hearing, both the petitioner and the respondent should be ready with their case, including their witnesses. With another officer, the rules of procedure are entirely different. He wants that only one witness on behalf of the petitioner should be examined on a particular day. Like this it is going on. The parties are not aware of their legal rights and the exact procedure which will be followed in the rent control courts. I would therefore suggest that definite rules of procedure be framed for the guidance of the rent control courts, and wherever there are no rules to govern a particular case, the rules of the Civil Procedure Code should apply. As the parties and their pleaders would at least be aware of the exact position

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and the rules of procedure they would have to follow. I would also suggest that the rent control cases should be taken away from the courts of the Subdivisional Magistrates and transferred to some judicial officer, like the presiding officer of a Small Cause Court or even a District Munsif's Court. At present, as far as my experience goes, the work in the District Munsifs' Courts has come down very much on account of the fact that prices have increased. The monetary jurisdiction limit of District Munsifs' Courts is only Rs. 3,000, and I find that in these days there are a very large number of suits which go beyond that limit, with the result the District Munsif's Courts have very little work. I think it will be a great advantage and of utility if all the rent control cases are transferred to the file of the District Munsifs' Courts.

" Now, Madam, with regard to the rate at which fair rent has to be fixed, much has been said against the landlord. He has been described by hon. Members as a Shylock, and the debate in this House has proceeded on the presumption that all landlords are people of the worst type, and that therefore they should be penalised. I think this is unfair and unjust; it is not even true with reference to the circumstances obtaining in the Province. There may be a few landlords who can be called Shylocks but the majority of the landlords can certainly not be styled as Shylocks. I think this Bill is meant to impose more hardships upon the landlords than upon the tenants. For instance, the fair rent of a building is fixed on the basis of the prices obtaining in the year 1940. It may be quite different in the case of landlords who are very wealthy and who own a large number of houses, and who are not entirely dependent on the income from their houses for their livelihood. But what about the landlords in the mufassal who are entirely dependent on the income of their houses for their sustenance? What about the landlord who owns only a single house? What about the woman who owns only a single house or two houses, and who entirely depends on the income from the house or houses for her sustenance? The cost of living has increased a hundredfold. But the Government have allowed only a 25 per cent increase in the rent. I would suggest that the Hon. Minister should at least double or even treble the increment which is to be taken into account in fixing the fair rent.

" Madam, there is another hardship under which the landlord suffers. Supposing he wants to make improvements to the house, for instance, converting a tiled house into a pucca terraced one or putting up a terraced building upon a one-storeyed building, there is no provision under the present Bill by which he can require the Rent Controller to evict the tenant of the house. I consider that if a person wants to make improvements to his house so that it may fetch more income to him, he should be allowed to do so. It is in the national interests also that improvement

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should be allowed to be made. I, therefore, suggest that sufficient provision should be made in this Bill to enable a landlord to move the Rent Controller to evict a tenant on the ground that he wants to make improvements to the house. Of course, a condition might be attached that the same tenant may be entitled to occupy the same house provided he is willing to pay the enhanced rent which will be the fair rent fixed after such improvement is made. But if he is not prepared to do so, it should be open to the landlord to let it to whomsoever he pleases.

" Madam, there is no provision also for effecting repairs to the houses. Under the present Bill, the tenant can give notice to the landlord asking him to carry out the necessary repairs. If the landlord does not do so, the tenant can file a petition before the Rent Controller to have the necessary repairs effected. But in cases where the landlord wants to effect repairs, there is no provision by which he can ask the tenant to vacate the house. He cannot effect the repairs with the tenant in occupation. At the same time, if the repairs are not carried out, there is the danger of the house collapsing. In such cases there must be provision made by which a landlord can move the Rent Controller to order the tenant to vacate the house in order to enable the landlord to make the necessary repairs.

" Madam, there is a provision by which a tenant can always escape the jurisdiction of the Rent Controller by raising a dispute with regard to the title of the landlord to the house. There are cases in which a tenant merely because he wants to harass the landlord or to coerce him to reduce the rent to which he has already agreed, disputes his title. He may set up a party or a relation of the landlord to issue a notice to him claiming the house for himself or disputing the title of the landlord, even in cases where he has entered into an agreement with the landlord accepting his title to the house. Under the provisions of the Bill, there is scope for him to raise the plea that he does not recognize the title of the landlord to the house; immediately the jurisdiction of the Rent Controller is taken away and then the landlord is directed to go to a Civil Court to establish his own right and it will take one or two years for the case to be disposed of. Therefore, I would suggest that the proviso to clause 7 under which a tenant can raise a dispute with regard to the title of the landlord should be more clearly worded. It is only stated ' whether the denial or claim is *bona fide*.' What is ' *bona fide* ' is not defined. Does it mean that the Rent Controller can come to whatever conclusion he pleases? I suggest that cases in which such disputes can be raised should be restricted and therefore the provision should be clearly defined. For instance, if a tenant has entered into an agreement with a particular person on the basis that the particular person is the landlord, he should be precluded by a provision under this Bill from disputing his title. Some

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such provision should be made so that frivolous cases in which the tenant merely wants to harass the landlord by disputing his title can be avoided.

" Madam, there is then the provision that the landlord should give notice of the vacancy of the house to the Rent Controller. I am afraid that is a rule which is hardly observed. That is a very salutary rule and if it is properly observed, it will remove a great deal of hardship especially of people employed in essential services like the public servants. But there is no provision in the Bill by which the Rent Controller can get information of a particular building falling vacant unless the landlord himself brings it to his notice. There is no staff provided by which cases can be detected in which the landlord has not brought to the notice of the Rent Controller the vacancy of his house. Therefore, I suggest that either a special staff for this purpose should be provided who would from time to time report to the Rent Controller the vacancy of the various houses in the town or in the City or this work should be entrusted to some Revenue, Police or Municipal servant so that he may bring it to the notice of the Controller. In this way, much hardship could be avoided and the difficulty to which various tenants are put to, especially public servants about whom it was stated that they were going about for accommodation, could be avoided to a very large extent. There is no use saying that this Rent Control Bill is not necessary, that this Bill is not going to relieve the hardship to which the public servants are now put and that the Government should come forward with a house building scheme. It is a long range policy and it will take many years to be completed. But before that is done, this provision of the Bill under which a landlord is required to notify the Rent Controller of the vacancy should be really given effect to and the rules should be framed and staff provided for this purpose. With these few words, I support the Bill."

*SRI S. CHIDAMBARA AYYAR:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, the present Bill is very defective in various ways. I am not merely arguing so, but it was found to be so and therefore the Government thought that an amending Bill was necessary. Representations were made by several people and the amending Bill was published as early as the 17th March 1948. Fortunately or unfortunately the Bill has been hanging on. Anyhow, it has passed the stage of the Select Committee. On account of the necessity of amending the Bill, it was promised that an amending Bill in a consolidated form would be brought forward. In these circumstances, I do not think a discussion is necessary on the various clauses mentioned in the Select Committee's Report. No doubt, the Select Committee's Report contains some valuable suggestions and salutary provisions which can be adopted and some improvements on the original Bill itself. In addition to these, I wish to suggest one or two matters which

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are relevant. In the first instance, in cases where fair rent is fixed under the Act, no doubt the tenant is satisfied, but the cases in which the tenants go to the Controller for redress are only 5 per cent. In 95 per cent of the cases they do not go to the Controller. The landlord goes on increasing the rate of rent as and when there is a change in the tenancy. Let us assume there is a tenant paying a rent of Rs. 10; when he vacates it after six months and another tenant occupies the portion, the rent is increased to Rs. 20, and again when he vacates and another person takes possession, it is raised to Rs. 30. Such things should not be made legal under the Bill. Once the fair rent has been determined, no excess rent can be collected from the tenant. But so long as the fair rent has not been determined, any amount of rent is collected. No doubt this point was also considered by the Select Committee. The Select Committee has divided clause 9 into two parts. The former part relates to cases where fair rent has been determined and the latter part to cases where fair rent has not been determined. In the latter case, the landlord will be entitled to receive only the agreed rent. That is the Select Committee's report. Agreed rent means the rent previously agreed to between the landlord and the tenant. But when one tenant vacates and another tenant comes, the landlord increases the rent. Therefore, the agreed rent is not the same as it was originally. Every time, the tenant changes, the rent is increased and a new agreement is entered into with the new tenant, and to that extent, the term is defective. I submit that some provision should be made in the Bill itself by which the tenant will have full redress and the fair rent alone can be collected from him. I have no objection to the raising of the percentage of increase allowed in the Bill. The rates of increase allowed, that is, 8-1/3 per cent, 12½ per cent, etc., may be raised two-fold or three-fold. At the same time, I do not want that the landlord should be at liberty to increase the rent as he likes, because it means rack-renting and the poor succeeding tenants will have to pay increased rent every time their predecessor vacates. I want to submit this point to the Hon. Minister for his consideration.

" Secondly, the definition of ' residential ' and ' non-residential ' houses is not made in the Bill. Suppose a man lets his house for a business, trade, grocery-shop or a godown, is it to be called a ' residential house ' or a ' non-residential house.' The purpose for which the house is used should determine the nature of the building. There is no definition in this Bill for the purpose. There is also no provision in the Bill by which, if a man lets his house for non-residential purposes and afterwards wants it for his own dwelling, he could get it back. I request the Hon. Minister will pay attention to this aspect.

" As mentioned by my hon. Friend Mr. Viswanatham, I submit, Madam, that for the fixation of fair rent, 1st April 1940 should be taken into consideration is out of date, for since then

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rents have increased thrice and four times, even. Therefore, I would like to submit that 1st April 1945 may be fixed as the date and the rental value prevailing on that date should be taken into account for fixing fair rent.

" In addition to the complaints made by several Members, I have to complain about the various delays that occur in the disposal of rent control cases. In fact, Revenue Divisional Officers are not in a position to dispose of cases quickly; they take a long time and adjourn the cases unnecessarily. In certain cases where civil rights are involved, they are not able to find out what exactly the rights are. My submission is they have no inclination to dispose of cases quickly. It is better that the disposal of such cases is transferred to some other tribunal.

" Madam, the punishment imposed by the Bill is severe for the man who does not give notices of vacancy or particulars required by the officer—he is liable to be punished with simple imprisonment and with fine of Rs. 2,000. My submission is that it should not be as rigorous as it is fixed under the Bill and that it should be reduced.

" Regarding the amendments given notice of, I hope the Hon. Minister will accept at least the amendment of Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar. People who take on lease vacant sites, and erect structures upon them may be deprived of living in the site, for under the Transfer of Property Act they can be ousted. My submission is that the definition of ' building ' may be made to include ' any vacant site which is let out to any person so that he may erect structures thereon and occupy the same for residential or non-residential purposes '. As regards other amendments, I hope the Hon. Minister will consider them, put them all in a consolidated Bill and bring it forward as early as possible, perhaps before the next Session, for the consideration of this House. With these few words, I support the Bill."

Sri A. S. SAHAJANANDA :—" கனம் தலைவி அவர்களே, இந்த ' பில் ' சம்பந்தமாக ஒரே ஒரு விஷயம் ரொம்ப முக்கியமானது. அதாவது இந்த ' பில் ' லினால் வீட்டுக்காரரும், வீட்டில் குடியிருப்பவர்களும், கஷ்டப் படுகிறார்கள்.

" சாதாரணமாக வீட்டுக்காரன் சாதுவாயிருந்தால் வீட்டில் குடியிருக் கிறவர்கள் அவனை ஏமாற்றிவிடுகிறார்கள். மேலும் 5, 6 வருஷ வாடகை யும் கொடுக்காது வைத்துவிடுகிறார்கள். தன்னுடைய வாடகைக்காக அவர் ரென்ட் கன்ட்ரோலரிடம் போகவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. அப்படிப் போனாலும் அங்கே ஐந்தாறு மாதங்கள் போய் கஷ்டப்படவேண்டியிருக் கிறது. அப்படி கஷ்டப்பட்டும் வீட்டு வாடகையைப் பெற கோர்ட்டுக்குப் போக வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. அங்கும் 5, 6 மாத தாமதமாகி கஷ்டப்பட்டு வாடகையை வசூலிக்கவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. மேலும் வீட்டில் குடியிருக் கிறவர்கள் வேறில் அதைக் காலி செய்வதில்லை. அவர்கள் வீட்டை விட்டுப் போகும்போதும் கூட வேறு ஒருவரை வீட்டில் குடி வைத்து விட்டுப் போகிறார்கள். குடியிருக்கிறவரை காலிபண்ணச் சொன்னால், நான் காலி பண்ணமாட்டேன். அவனிடம் எழுதி வாங்கிக் கொண்டிருக்கிறேன் என இந்த விதமாகத் தகராறு பண்ணுகிறார்கள்

" ஆகையால் இந்த ' பில் ' வந்ததிலிருந்து வீட்டுக்காரர்களுக்கும், குடி யிருக்கிறவர்களுக்கும் பலவிதமான கஷ்டங்கள் இருக்கின்றன.

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" மேலும் வீட்டுக்காரர்கள் கெட்டிக்காரர்களாக யிருந்தால் குடியிருக்கிற வர்களுக்கு அநியாயம் செய்கிறார்கள். நமது நண்பர் ஜனப் மஜித் அவர்கள் சொன்னபடி 75, 100 ரூபாய் என்று வாடகையை வசூல் செய்து கொண்டு 25 ரூபாய் வாங்கியதாக ரசீது கொடுக்கிறார்கள்.

" ஆகையால் இந்த ' பில் ' இப்போது இருக்கிற நிலையிலே, வீட்டுக்காரர், வீட்டில் குடியிருக்கிறவர்கள், ஆக இருதரப்பாருக்குமே ரொம்ப ஜாக்ரதை யாய் இருக்கிறபடியால வீட்டை காலி பண்ணுவதற்கும், குடியிருப்பதற்கும், வாடகை வசூலிப்பதற்கும் சௌகர்யமாக இந்தச் சட்டத்தை திருத்தி அமைக்கும்படியாகக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

* **Janab MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN**:—" Madam, at the very outset I strongly object to the procedure adopted by the Hon. Minister in charge. There was sufficient time for the Government to have brought this Bill. Even to-day, the Hon. Minister can say that this Bill may be referred to a Select Committee. It is unfortunate that Mr. Hassan Koya who has given notice of a motion that the Bill should be referred to a Select Committee has to rush to Malabar for some personal important work. I feel that it would have been in the fitness of things for the Hon. Minister concerned to refer this Bill to a Select Committee. This Act has been in force since 1946 and during the working of this Act in the past, several lacuna, loopholes and defects have been pointed out and there have been a good deal of discussion about this in the Assembly and elsewhere. Last time when the Bill was referred to a Select Committee, Dr. Gurubatham was the Minister in charge of Housing and he had a good deal to do with this. Now, he has been succeeded by our young Minister Hon. Sri Sanjeeva Reddi. I wish that the Hon. Minister could himself have said, ' Let this Bill be referred to a Select Committee and let us wait for the report of this Committee. We would incorporate the necessary amendments that might be considered desirable by the members of the Select Committee '. If he had done that, the matter would have finished there. (At this stage Mr. Speaker occupied the Chair.) In this connexion, I would like to mention that the Leader of the House has taken away the non-official day as usual. It is very simple for him to do that. He has to simply say, ' I move under rule so and so '. If I remember right, on the last occasion, the Leader of the House gave a definite assurance that in the next week, the non-official day will be allowed for us." 1-15 p.m.

The Hon. Sri B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We are giving 25th November for non-official business."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" Instead of the 24th November, you are having it on the 25th."

* **Janab MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN**:—" The Leader of the House could have announced it earlier. I do not think that any useful purpose will be served by having a discussion on this Bill clause by clause. This was passed in 1946, and we know how it has worked. Many members have spoken on this and have asked the Minister how long the emergency will last. I may tell that this

emergency will last for another decade if not more. Our Government unfortunately have no plan, no scheme to solve this housing problem. They may make big speeches in the Assembly or on the platforms. I may tell that in action, there is not much about which the Government could feel themselves happy or proud. I do not want that the Government should care for the housing of others. I know that they cannot do and they are incapable of doing that. I put to them this question, 'What have you done for the housing of your own employees?' If really this Government had a scheme to provide houses for their own officials, right from the topmost official down to peons, this problem would have been solved long ago. I dare say that this emergency of housing would continue in the City of Madras and in other urban areas for a long time, as long as this Government are not able to tackle this problem effectively. Member after member not only from this side but also from the side of the Government have been stressing on the need for the Government to provide houses for their own officials. The Government do not seem to have considered this problem very seriously. Of course, it may involve some expenditure. But I may tell that it is worth the cost and we will get a good return. At present the Government are paying house-rent allowances, which could be saved if the Government could tackle this problem effectively. It may be mentioned here that the Leader of the House while moving the Police Grant said that he had occasion to see some police constables' quarters and they were in a horrible state to see. Therefore, when such is the case, is it not the duty of the Government to provide houses for their own officials, let alone the public. We know your difficulties and we know that you cannot do much in the matter. I think the Leader of the House and the Hon. Minister in charge of Housing are aware that whenever an officer is transferred from one place to another, for months he cannot get a house to live and he has to live in a club, or in some hotel if accommodation was available there or in some dak bungalows. That is the difficulty. I feel that it is very necessary that the Government must have a definite policy and scheme for providing accommodation for their own officials. Let them have a five-year or ten-year or fifteen-year scheme and have a plan worked out.

"As far as the work done by the Ministry concerned in this matter, I am constrained to say that there is not much that they have done except that the Government were responsible for encouraging certain co-operative societies which have come into the field for putting up buildings for the public. I am sorry I have to say a few facts here. It is not as though I want to talk in disparaging terms about the work of these societies. Except the Gandhinagar colony in the City of Madras, nothing has been done by other societies in the mufassal and in other areas. I may tell that the working of the Gandhinagar colony also is defective. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister in charge of Housing whether the Government have any control over these societies.

The people who had applied for shares in these societies and got them, were in the belief that the Registrar of Co-operative Societies or the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies will have some control over these societies. Might I be permitted to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister what the conditions are with regard to the Gandhinagar Scheme. When applications were called originally for these houses, it was announced that it would cost Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 30,000 for an 'A' class building. Unfortunately, they are now made to pay about 50 per cent more. Imagine the plight of these people, whose financial position is not so bright, when they are called upon to pay 50 per cent more. Even at the beginning they could have definitely announced that 'A' class buildings would cost from such and such rupees to such and such rupees. Nothing of this sort was done.

"The second point is, even though these houses may look nice, being whitewashed and painted in different colours and all that, they are of a defective nature. In certain cases, the materials used are of a very inferior quality. Besides, there was no proper supervision by capable engineers who have got an idea and good and wide experience of house construction. The supervision work was entrusted to petty supervisors and petty people getting Rs. 40 and 50. These people have been appointed by the contractors. When these houses are built under these circumstances, definitely they would be of a defective nature. They may last for a year or two. But in course of time, the people will know that the money which they have spent on these houses was not worth the trouble. I feel that if the Government want to encourage these co-operative societies, they should have some check over these societies.

"There is another matter about which there was some reference also in the papers. That is, in the matter of allotment of these houses, there has been some sort of adjustment. Sir, those people who had houses in the city were also getting houses in the Gandhinagar colony. That happens because they were able to influence this Director and that Director. I am bringing these matters to the notice of the Hon. Minister not that I want to speak in disparaging terms about these societies, but with a view to see that these defects are rectified. You can take a lesson from the working of this society and conduct the work of the other societies in an efficient manner so that the people may get a good return.

"It is really unfortunate that even in the City of Madras which should be a model city, we see the plight of hundreds of slum dwellers. The 'Mail' and other local papers have written editorials on this subject and the 'Mail' has published certain pictures also. It is horrible to see how these people have to live in the City of Madras. If a foreigner comes to Madras and sees these things, what would be the impression that he would carry about our city and our civilization. What is it that this Government, the Corporation have done in this matter? Sir, when we

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go late from home, we find people lying in the streets and on the pavements even without a cloth to cover their body. I would like to know whether this Government have any scheme to provide shelter to these people. I may also say that the Government should also do something to solve this slum problem. I feel that the Hon. Sanjeeva Reddi, who, I understand, has taken up this work with a sort of enthusiasm, should do something which should leave a stamp. I am sure on the day when he lays down his office, he will show us some record of work. Otherwise, we may be passing hundreds and thousands of Bills like this which will not serve any useful purpose. We want that something substantial should be done to solve this problem of housing."

* SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, whatever may be the reason and causes for re-enacting this special Act in the urban areas, there is no reason for applying this Act so far as the rural areas are concerned. This special Act was in force for the last four or five years. It has not achieved the results desired for, or the Government could not solve the problem of accommodation. Acts, rules, and regulations alone cannot achieve the desired results. Private enterprise must be encouraged for removing the shortage. Sir, this Act must be exempted from operation so far as the rural areas are concerned. In the rural areas there is not so much of shortage of houses. The present Act has created a sort of bitterness between the landlord and tenant. No mutual adjustments are allowed to grow between them. Acts alone cannot end the shortage. Private enterprise for ending the shortage of houses and by allowing the owners to give them or rent as they like by relaxing and exempting certain areas at least is worth trying in rural areas at the outset.

" This Bill, Sir, is before us for enactment after an ordinance was issued on which some observations were made by the High Court. Clause 1, sub-clause (2), says that this Act may be extended to 'such other areas as may be notified by the Provincial Government in the *Fort St. George Gazette*'. When the notification of the Act for extending the period has been found to be invalid how can the extension of this Act to areas not mentioned in the Act be validly enforced. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary to confine the operation of this Act only to the City of Madras and all municipalities in the Province and not to extend it further than what is mentioned in the Act."

MR. SPEAKER:—" If the hon. Member can finish his speech if I allow one or two minutes, let him do so. Otherwise, he can continue his speech after lunch."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" I shall continue my speech after lunch, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I now adjourn the House to meet again at 2-30 p.m."

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(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

* SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" If, Sir, the exemption of the operation of the Act in the panchayat areas cannot, for any reason, be done, I submit, at least in respect of buildings which fetch a monthly rental of Rs. 30 the exemption may be granted. I am making this suggestion in order to encourage private people to build houses for the middle classes and also to give occupation to the unemployed in the rural areas, who are of late invading the urban areas for employment. Such an employment of rural people by the private individuals engaged on building construction work will in a way help to check the problem of over-inflex of rural population in urban areas. Sir, the Government have started Co-operative House Building Societies. At the time of starting, this looked like a good augury. But by experience, it has been found that it takes a good lot of time and money to get through the business as it were. Lately, the Government have imposed overhead charges on these societies which they were not to bear as per the original Government Order. Sir, at the time of the inauguration of this scheme, the Government promised by a Government Order that they would give departmental help for construction as well as administrative work. They also promised help in the matter of acquiring necessary building materials. But now those are not forthcoming. Recently, Sir, the Government have stated that they cannot afford to give the departmental staff free of cost and have put down a condition that if departmental people are required by the societies, the services of those people will be charged and the cost will be recovered as per 'foreign service' and all rules governing such deputation will apply to be met by the society. Sir, this has been found to be a very costly affair. At least those societies which were started long before on the basis of the old programme of the Government must be given Senior Co-operative Inspectors free of cost, and the cost must be borne only by the Government. I feel it would not be quite good or fair on the part of the Government to change their policies time after time and impose on the societies liabilities that were not originally proposed and inflict new charges and expenditure on the societies afresh. It would be much better to encourage private individuals to build houses by helping them in the supply of building materials instead of changing the original schemes, if it is found difficult to carry on the schemes of house building. There would be another benefit, if private individuals are encouraged to build houses. The hoarded money would come out and would ease the present financial commitments of the Government. Sir, whatever might be the reasons adduced by hon. Members for the shortage of accommodation in urban areas, I think they are more or less picked for the purpose and could not be charged uniformly. The controls and other rules and regulations of the Government, far from promoting mutual understanding and adjustment between the landlord and the tenant, create estrangement between the two and benefit none. With these words, Sir, I request that the panchayat areas may be exempted from the operation of this Bill."

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* SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not think I will take even the five minutes that has been graciously allotted by you. I have got only one suggestion to make and that is a very simple one. I do not know whether the Government will accept that suggestion. But all the same I shall make it. I would only say ' Off with the controls and everything would be all right '. You will see, Sir, that the control in every direction has been a cause of mischief and a breeding ground for corruption in all walks of life. It is not as though we are short of accommodation. Suddenly in the course of five years we find ourselves lacking in accommodation and this is a problem which is not going to be solved in the course of the next few years either. There will be no solution to this problem unless, as my hon. Friend, Mr. T. Viswanatham, has suggested, you put on the statute book a permanent Act introducing rent control. When that is not possible the result will be what has already been happening consequent on introducing controls. What do we see to-day after these controls have come into force? Litigation, which results in going from one court to another, ordinances after ordinances and amendments after amendments to the existing Acts. What do these produce? The landlord is not pleased, the tenant is not pleased and even the Government servant is not pleased. Everywhere, from one corner to the other, you see corruption and corruption alone. Therefore, what I would like to submit to this House is, ' Why not the Government try the other method? '—namely, cancelling the whole thing and seeing if things do not remedy themselves. The Government must consider the interests of all sections of people in the country. There is no use of simply saying that just as the agriculturist has to suffer for supplying food to the people in Madras and other cities, the man who has built a house in Madras should also suffer for the simple reason that he has, fortunately or unfortunately, invested all his money here. Again, he cannot collect anything more by way of rent than what he was getting in 1940. Sir, when prices are soaring high now, even six to seven times the 1940 rates, it is not fair to ask the poor house-owner to rest content with what he got in 1940. Sir, it is not the big landlords who suffer, but it is the poor house-owner who is put to this hardship and loss for the folly of having chosen a site in Madras. Therefore, Sir, control is fundamentally meant for harassing people on one side and to help those on the other. If you are going to give relief to a certain class of people, it is certainly bound to give harassment to another class of people elsewhere. Gandhiji himself has said ' Off with the controls '. So, if to-morrow you take courage in both your hands and do away with the controls, it will solve all the difficulties that confront us now and save a lot of unnecessary expenditure to the Government and relieve at least 90 per cent of our sufferings."

* SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இப்போது நமக்குப் போதுமான வீடுகள் இல்லாத காணத்தால்தான் இந்த வீட்டு வாடகைக் கட்டுப்பாடு போன்ற சட்டங்களை நாம் கொண்டுவர வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. கட்டுப்பாடு பூராவும் இல்லாவிட்டால் எப்படியும் சமாளித்துக்கொள்ள முடியுமென்று நண்பர் கோபால்சாமி அய்யர் அவர்கள்

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சொன்னார். அது ஒரு நல்ல யோசனை. ஆனால் அந்த யோசனையை இன்று நாம் ஏற்றுக்கொள்ள முடியாமல் இருக்கிறோம். மேலும் கட்டுப்பாடு இருக்கும் வரையில் சர்க்கார் எல்லா கட்சிகளுக்கும் சரியாக நியாயம் வழங்கவேண்டும்.

" குடியிருப்போருக்கு வசதி செய்து கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று இந்தச் சட்டம் கொண்டுவரப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. குடியிருப்பவர் அனைவரும் ஏழைகள் என்று நினைத்து அவர்களுக்கு உதவி செய்யவேண்டுமென்று உத்தேசித்து கொண்டுவரப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆனால் குடியிருப்பவர் அனைவரும் ஏழைகள் அல்ல. அதேபோல் வீட்டை வைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறவர்களெல்லோரும் பணக்காரர்களும் அல்ல. அதிலும் எவ்வளவோ போகள் ஏழைகளாக இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களில் பலர் கடன் பட்டுமிருக்கிறார்கள். கடனைத் தீர்த்துவிடவேண்டுமென்று அவர்கள் முயற்சிக்கிறார்கள். தங்கள் வீட்டை விற்றுத்தான் கடனைத் திருப்பித் தரவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. வீட்டிலுள்ளவர்களை காலி செய்யச் செய்து காலிய ன வீட்டை கட்டினால்தான் வீட்டை வாங்குபவர்கள் அதை வாங்குகிறார்கள். அதற்கு அவர்கள் கன்ட்ரோலரிடம் போய் உதவி கேட்டால், உதவி கிடைப்பதில்லை. அவர்களுக்கு நாம் உதவி செய்யவிட்டால், உண்மையில் அவர்களுக்கு நியாயம் கெடுக்கத் தவறியவர்களாக ஆகிறோம்.

" இதைத் தவிர வீட்டுக்காரரும், வீட்டில் குடியிருப்பவர்களும் அநேக இடங்களில் சௌகரியமான நிலைமையில் இருக்கிறார்கள். இருந்தாலும் குடியிருப்பவர்கள் குடியிருக்கும் வீட்டைத் தவிர சொந்தமாக வீடுகள் வாங்கிய உடனே அவர்கள் அந்த வீட்டுக்குப் போகாமல் அதை அதிக வாடகைக்கு விட்டுவிட்டு, குறைந்த வாடகையுள்ள பழைய இடத்திலேயே அவர்கள் குடியிருக்கிறார்கள். தங்கள் வீட்டை மாதந்தோறும் அதிகமான வாடகைக்கு விடுகிறார்கள். இரண்டு பக்கங்களிலும் அவர்கள் இப்படி அனுகூலம் அடைகிறார்கள். இப்படிப்பட்ட நிலைமையில் இவர்களுக்கு என்ன நியாயம் வழங்கவேண்டும் என்று கேட்கிறேன்.

" அதோடு அநேகர் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களுக்குச் சொந்தமான நிலங்களில் குடியிருக்கிறார்கள். பள்ளிக்கூடத்தை விஸ்தரிக்க வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. அதற்காக அங்கு குடியிருப்பவர்களை அங்கிருந்து வெளியேற்ற முடியவில்லை. குடியிருப்பவரைக் காலிசெய்யச் சொல்லிவிட்டு, வேறு யாரையாவது குடிவைத்தால் குற்றம். ஆனால் பள்ளிக்கூடத்தை விஸ்தரிக்கவேண்டிய நிலை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும்பொழுது, கல்வி ஸ்தாபனத்தையே விஸ்தரிக்க விரும்பினாலும் குடியிருப்பவர்களை அங்கிருந்து வெளியேற்ற முடிகிறதில்லை. இப்படிப்பட்ட சந்தர்ப்பங்களில் சரியான நியாயம் கொடுக்கப்படவில்லை யென்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" இவைகளையெல்லாம் ஆலோசனை செய்து வேண்டிய திருத்தங்களுடன் சரியான சட்டத்தைக் கொண்டுவரவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு இத்துடன் நான் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

* MR. W. J. FERNANDEZ:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion that this Bill be taken into consideration at once. The reasons for the urgency in pushing this measure through have been clearly set out by the Hon. the Minister in moving this Bill for the consideration of the House. In the light of his explanation and of his assurance that he will at no distant date come forward with a comprehensive measure, I personally do not think any useful purpose will be served by referring the Bill to a Select Committee."

MR. SPEAKER:—" That amendment has not been moved at all."

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* MR. W. J. FERNANDEZ:—" I know that that amendment has not been moved, Sir. But certain hon. Members made a suggestion to that effect and I am answering them. Sir, the time within which this Bill must get on the statute book is so short that we would rather have the Bill with all its defects, if any, than no Bill at all which would expose us to the mercy of rapacious people. The Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act of 1946 bristles with difficulties and serious drawbacks. What is now
2-45 p.m. wanted is a very careful consideration of the various provisions of the Act and a comprehensive Bill should be drawn up after due and mature deliberation before it is brought up to this House for its consideration and this House should be given ample opportunity to discuss that Bill threadbare. That this Act bristles with defects, is the result of the haste in passing it through this House. I feel that if members were given more time, especially those who can usefully contribute to the debate by giving this House the benefit of their vast experience, this legislation would not be as defective as it now generally is.

" I hope the Hon. Minister will consider the various amendments proposed by the last Select Committee and also consider the suggestions now made and come up with a comprehensive Bill which would really carry out the intention of the Government, that is, to afford protection to the tenants who are at the mercy of landlords.

" One word more and I shall finish. In this connexion I would appeal to the Government through the Hon. Minister, to seriously take up the question of providing accommodation for people. One can do without one meal a day; one can live with ragged clothes; but one cannot live out in the open with any sense of security to person or property. The question of housing, therefore, seems to be the most important of the three considerations. But it seems to me that it has not received that attention which it ought to have received. The Government ought to see that new buildings are erected for occupation by their own officials, so that these officials can release their accommodation for occupation by private employees and others. Secondly, there are very many good buildings which are taken on rent by the Government for the location of public offices. Why not bring those offices here into this Fort, into these big halls which are lying vacant and going to ruin and house all the departments in this area until you are able to put up new buildings, and in that way release buildings which are now used for offices? I appeal strongly to Government to take this matter into serious consideration and start building houses and provide more accommodation. It is only in that way that the housing accommodation problem will be solved and this question of control will go. Until then there must be this control, be it for five years or ten years."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very glad to support the Bill brought up by the Hon. Minister. When I do so, Sir, I wish to point out that the benefit of this

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Bill should be extended to the general public also along with officials. Now this Bill mainly is helpful to secure buildings at cheaper rent only for officials. Now house-owners demand hundreds of rupees where they are normally entitled to get only Rs. 20 or so at the maximum. Therefore control is very necessary. Some of my hon. Colleagues in this House think that when control is removed everything will be quite all right, and everybody will become a saint like Mahatma Gandhi. It is not so. All of us are human beings. Everyone has got his personal interest to grind. Therefore the Government cannot remove the controls and allow chaos in the country. Therefore, I entirely agree with the provisions of this Bill and control is necessary till our people change their minds, and their national conscience develops.

" The non-officials should also get the benefit of this Bill. When the Rent Controller appointed by the Government finds that any official is not in need of a house, he can allot that house to some of the general public who are in need of residence. I know even some of the hon. Members in the city are in need of accommodation and the house-owners demand hundreds of rupees as rent. The officials in mufassal and municipal areas keep two or three buildings even after they are transferred out from one place to another. They retain the houses in the old station even up to two or three years after their transfer. This is a sad thing. I would request the Hon. Minister in charge to issue necessary instructions to all Collectors of the districts to see that an official whenever he is transferred from one place to another and goes and occupies a house in the new station, vacates the building that he was occupying in the old station. I can quote a number of instances where Tahsildars, Revenue Divisional Officers and others transferred from Salem district have been retaining the houses in that district for more than two years after their transfer on the pretext of their children's education or some such thing. In some cases they sub-let the buildings and get a profit out of that also. It is highly objectionable. In these days of controls, the people are afraid of these officials because any time they may bring them to trouble in other ways. Therefore Government must take steps to see that officials do not misuse the privilege given to them by this Government. With these words, I support the Bill."

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to the Members for the useful suggestions they have made. I never thought there would be so much need for discussion as this was only a Bill validating one which this House passed in 1946. But the suggestions were useful. I assure the House that the suggestions made in the Select Committee Report and other amendments which the hon. Members have been suggesting now, would all be considered and a comprehensive Bill brought forward in the near future. There is one common suggestion which hon. Members of the House who participated in the

debate pointed out, that is, the delay in disposal of the appeals before the Rent Controller. This is because, he is heavily overworked. The Government are aware of the difficulty caused by the delay in the disposal of the appeals. That is the reason why they have decided to remove this work from the Collector in the city and hand over Rent Control work to a Subordinate Judge. I hope the Subordinate Judge will be able to deal with these since he will be exclusively in charge of the cases within the city. To have separate officers in the mufassal areas also will be very costly. Unless it is pointed out to the Government that in a particular place there is much work pending, it is not advisable to separate this work from the Revenue Divisional Officer. But as Sri Viswanatham pointed out, we can consider the desirability of transferring the work from the Revenue Divisional Officer to the Official Receiver wherever it is possible and wherever there is lot of work pending. The Government will certainly consider this suggestion. I have already explained why the Government did not bring out a comprehensive Bill, now itself. The urgency of the matter compelled us to come with this Bill as it is. We will certainly not waste the labour spent upon bringing forward the Select Committee Report though the Act sought to be amended has been invalidated. We will make use of the suggestions and other amendments which Members have made here and we would certainly bring forward a comprehensive Bill at the earliest possible time.

" My hon. Friend Sri Viswanatham also spoke about clause 13 and said that this Bill should be made helpful to the non-officials as well. Mr. Varadachariar also was of the same opinion, namely, to widen the scope of the Bill and make the control work in favour of the non-officials also. This would mean a lot of additional work. Not only will this mean additional work, but curtailment of the liberty of the owners of houses. These non-officials are able to find houses. In one or two cases it was brought to my notice that the rents fixed were very high and that the owners even demanded a pugree. I then enquired into the matter through the C.I.D. Unfortunately neither the house-owner nor the tenant was prepared to come forward and help us. I can understand the house-owner who received the amount being unwilling to help the investigating officer. But even the tenant who paid the money and who was in occupation of the house, was not prepared to give evidence. When people refuse to co-operate in such investigations, the Government are helpless. The hon. Gentleman Mr. R. A. Ansari pointed out a good many things about repairs to houses and improvements to houses and all that. If on that account they were to ask the tenant to quit, I am sorry to say, every house-owner will say that his house needs repairing and then ask the tenant to quit. In such cases where are we to place the tenants immediately they are asked to quit? They are asked to go out on the promise that they will be given the same house, but it may take some months, it may take some years also. We cannot put the tenants to such inconveniences and throw them

out for want of accommodation. If the house is so bad the tenant himself would certainly not risk his life by staying in that house.

" Mr. Raza Khan also gave some good suggestions. He spoke about the slums and said that they needed improvement. I agree that the slums need improvement. This Government, with their financial position which is not unknown to Mr. Raza Khan, are not in a position to do it now. Slums exist in the City of Madras and in other towns. I am afraid, even Western countries have not been able to completely clear the slums in their cities and towns. We will certainly make an effort and see how best we can do it and within how many years we can do it. It will really be the pride of any Government if they can completely clear the city of the slums.

" The hon. Member Mr. Raza Khan also spoke about house- 3 p.m.
building societies. There is a society not only in Adyar but in some other towns also. We have taken up schemes there and in one or two places colonies have been formed. In some places they are half-complete. We are trying to do our best with the limited funds at the disposal of the Government. We want to spend so many crores. The need is so great, but the amount available is so small that we are not in a position to meet the demands of all places where there is need.

" Sir, some hon. Friends suggested that the Act should be extended to panchayat areas also. Mr. Natesa Chettiar said that it should not be extended to panchayat areas. It is neither advisable to include all panchayat areas nor advisable to exclude all panchayat areas. Wherever it is necessary we will include a panchayat area. In some panchayat areas the difficulty is much more acute than in the bigger cities. Therefore instead of making a general rule, the Government will take into consideration the difficulty in each panchayat area and decide whether it is necessary to include that area or exclude it.

" Sir, Sri Gopalaswami said, ' Go off the controls '. Personally I am inclined to agree with him, but how are we to manage accommodation for many of the offices which we have in rented buildings if they have to be shifted immediately? I do not know if we can put our officers and offices in any other place in the city. Many offices are located in rented buildings and we are paying thousands of rupees. Ninety-nine per cent of the officers live in rented buildings. If control is removed immediately, I am sure none of us will be able to secure one house through the goodwill of the people. Because of this difficulty we will have to keep the controls. Nobody is happy that controls are there. As long as controls are there, it is quite possible that corruption also may be there. We will have to tolerate these till we are able to remove the controls. That is the only solution. In course of time, in one or two years, we will be able to go off the controls and come to normal conditions. Even now, I feel there is a little improvement in the city. The housing accommodation is not so bad as

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it used to be two years ago. Even non-official gentlemen are able to secure accommodation by themselves though they have to pay a little exhorbitant rent. In course of time, the situation will improve and we will be able to remove the control.

"The hon. Member Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin spoke about the report of the Select Committee on the amending Bill. I can only assure her that we will not throw it out because that Bill has been withdrawn. Now the original Bill is placed before the House and there is no change in it except that we are extending its application to Pudukkottah and Banganapalle which have been included in this Province. I would therefore ask the House to take the Bill into consideration at once."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Hassan Koya has not moved his amendment. The question is—

'that the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration at once'."

The motion was carried.

Clause 1.

Clause 1 was put and carried.

Clause 2.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Motion is—

'that clause 2 do stand part of the Bill'."

* SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—"Sir, I beg to move—

'that the following be added at the end of clause 2 (1):—

"Explanation.—Any vacant site let out to any person so that he may erect structures thereon and occupy the same for residential or non-residential purposes shall be deemed to be a building for the purposes of this Act."'

This is a simple addition to the Bill. And I am sure the Hon. Minister will agree with me that this will complete the Bill. I know certain instances where tenants who have put up temporary structures like thatched roofs on vacant sites have been evicted most unjustly. There were such cases in Mathurai one or two years back. There was a big pettai where 100 to 200 families of jutkawallahs were living. The property changed hands and all these people were forcibly evicted. The law was not able to protect them. In a village near my residential place I know a case where nearly a hundred or more families were living in an area which was owned by a single pattadar. They were all evicted most unjustly because the owner wanted to recover the piece of land. They had all put up their sheds there and they were tenants, but they were not treated as tenants. This law which gives relief to tenants who live in others' buildings should give relief also to people who build their own houses on vacant sites. It is a very just amendment and I hope the Hon. Minister will accept it. I think no further speeches are necessary for it."

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* SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—"Sir, I second the amendment. It needs no explanation, except that it is intended to correct an interpretation or misinterpretation that is put on the Act by some judges or magistrates. There are vacant sites which have been let out for building purposes and structures have been erected on them. When the owner of the land wanted possession of the lands and wanted to oust the tenants, the courts of law held that the land that was leased to them was a vacant site and as such, the Act would not apply. On that excuse people were driven out of the sites. It is a great hardship. I am sure the Government will be only too glad to accept the amendment and cure the inherent defect in the Act or a wrong interpretation of it. The site has been let out for residential purposes and a building is put on it. It should come under the operation of this Act. I hope the Government will see their way to accept the amendment."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Amendment moved—

'that the following be added at the end of clause 2 (1):—

"Explanation.—Any vacant site let out to any person so that he may erect structures thereon and occupy the same for residential or non-residential purposes shall be deemed to be a building for the purposes of this Act".'"

* SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே! இந்த திருத்தத்தில் சில விஷயங்கள் சேர்க்கவேண்டுமென்று நான் விரும்புகின்றேன். வீட்டு வாடகை கண்ட்ரோலில் காலி இடத்தை சேர்க்கப்படவில்லை. வெறும் வீடுமட்டுந்தான் சேர்க்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது இதில் எனக்கு கஷ்டம் ஏற்படுகிறது என்று எனக்கு விளங்கவில்லை.

"மதுரையிலே ஒரு இடத்தைப்பற்றி நண்பர் முனகலா பட்டாபி சீதையா சொன்னார். அதைவிட இன்னும் கஷ்டமான இடங்கள் எனக்கு நன்றாகத் தெரிந்த இரண்டு மூன்று இடங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. இன்னும் பல இடங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. அவைகள் பல ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன்னால் காலியிடமாக வாடகைக்கு விடப்பட்டன. அவைகளில் கீத்துக் கொட்டகை போட்டுக்கொண்டு சிலர் இருக்கிறார்கள். சிலர் பல ஆயிரக்கணக்கான பணம் போட்டு வீடும் கட்டியிருக்கிறார்கள். முப்பது நாற்பது ஆண்டுகளாக அவர்கள் அங்கு குடியிருந்து வருகிறார்கள். இப்போது கண்ட்ரோலில் காலியிடம் சேர்க்கப்படாதகால், இடத்துக்காரர்கள் குடியிருப்பவர்களை உடனையே காலி செய்யச்சொல்லி கொந்தரவு படுத்துகிறார்கள். காலி இடங்களில் ஆயிரக்கணக்கில் பணத்தைப் போட்டு வீடுகளைக் கட்டியிருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் அந்த இடங்களை வியாபாரத்திற்காக வைத்துக்கொள்ளவில்லை. குடியிருக்கும் பொருட்டுதான் அவைகளை வைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். காலி மனையை இந்தச் சட்டத்தில் சேர்க்கப்படாததால், அவர்களை காலி செய்யச் சொல்வது அநியாயம் அல்லவா?

"ஆகையால் இக்காரணத்தை முன்னிட்டு காலி மனையையும், இந்தச் சட்டத்திற்குள் எடுத்துக்கொண்டால்தான் குடியிருப்பவர்களுக்கு உதவியாயிருக்கும். ஆகையால் அவசியம் காலி இடத்தையும் இந்த சட்டத்திற்குள் கொண்டுவரவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. Speaker, this amendment will cause enormous difficulties for the landless poor people. There are a large number of poor people who approach owners of vacant sites and get permission to put up temporary

structures on condition that they would vacate the site whenever required by the owner. They pay a nominal rent of 4 annas or 8 annas per mensem or per annum. If this amendment is accepted and vacant sites also are included in the Bill, then no man will allow temporary structures to be put up on his vacant sites. Where will these poor people go? Those who have allowed people to put up temporary structures on their sites will evict them overnight fearing danger from the proposed inclusion of vacant sites also in the Bill. By introducing this amendment, I do not think that poor people will be benefited. They will get into difficulties. It will be very difficult for them to secure sites on which to put up small houses. Neither can they purchase sites of their own. I would therefore request my hon. Friend who is introducing this amendment in the interests of the poor people not to press his amendment."

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" Mr. Speaker, it is agreed that controls are there because of unavoidable circumstances and that we should come to normal condition as soon as possible. Therefore it is no use tightening up things or taking more powers. In a few places like Mathurai there are perhaps some sites over which buildings have been erected. I think in these cases there will be periods of contract for 20 or 30 years. Nobody would construct a house without such a long period of lease. There are cases where parties have taken vacant sites on lease and constructed houses and when they constructed houses they definitely knew that the lease was for a particular number of years. It is not necessarily the poor man who takes a site on lease, but there are also some rich people who have taken sites on lease and built costly cinema houses on them. I do not think there is any purpose in trying to control these vacant sites. But if my hon. Friend will give me some instances where there is really some difficulty, I would consider this amendment at a later stage. If it is reasonable we can certainly see that it is included in the coming amending Bill. I am not convinced any way that there is need for controlling even vacant sites. Therefore I request my hon. Friend to withdraw his amendment for the present. We shall consider it along with the other amendments. As Mr. Kandaswami Pillai said, this amendment might even create difficulties for the poor man. Landlords will try to evict everybody who has put up a small hut on a vacant site. Whatever it is, we shall examine the question on its merits later on; for the present, I request my hon. Friend to withdraw the amendment."

* SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—" In view of the assurance given by the Hon. Minister I have very great pleasure in withdrawing the amendment. Before doing so, I want to make a few observations. Sir, I was not surprised at the speech of the hon. Member Mr. Kandaswami Pillai, but I was surprised to find the Hon. Minister saying that he was not convinced of the

necessity for the amendment. My friends have given many instances. Is not Mathurai a part of this Province? Is it not for the benefit of the tenants that we are having this Act? Are not poor tenants living in erected structures on vacant sites? Poor people take the sites on lease and put up their huts thereon, especially in our district. I know in one village one of the biggest pattadars of our parts owns many sites in which poor families, hundreds of them, have been living for fifteen and twenty years, and they have been evicted. Is it not necessary to protect such tenants, I ask? Sir, other instances also have been given by my hon. Friend Mr. Subbaraman which show how cruel the evictions have been. There is also the notorious instance in Mathurai where hundreds of families have been evicted and pushed out of a pettai in which they were living. Besides these specific instances, it is well known that Harijans live in huts put up on others' land. I hope and I believe that the Hon. Minister will fulfil the assurance he has given, and I withdraw my amendment in that full hope." 3-15 p.m.

The amendment was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

Clause 2 was put and carried.

Clause 3.

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion is—

' that clause 3 do stand part of the Bill '."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already addressed some remarks on the subject of this amendment in my original speech on the Bill itself. I move—

> ' *that after sub-clause* (3) *in clause* 3 *and before the proviso, the following be added as sub-clause* (4):—
>
> " (4) *Within seven days from the receipt of the notice under sub-section* (1), *the Rent Controller may intimate the owner that the building shall be let to any person, if the building is not required for any of the purposes mentioned in sub-section* (2) ".'

After exhausting all the needs of the Government, I ask in my amendment that Government should empower the Rent Controller to make allotments of tenements to private persons. In this connexion; I would remind the Hon. Minister that during the Advisers' regime, we had a sort of thing called Accommodation Control which covered the needs of private persons also. Apart from Government officials, private persons also had the amenity of securing allotments from the Controller. That practice was continued even after our Act was passed in 1946 and the Rent Controller at Madras was making regular allotments of houses to private persons. Later it was copied in the mufassal also. In Chittoor the Rent Controller was regularly allotting houses to private persons also; but in a recent case, the Government had to

investigate the question of the legality of the action taken by the Rent Controllers and they came to the conclusion that as the section stood, the Rent Controller had no authority to make allotments to private persons. That perhaps was never intended, or intended but not allowed by the terminology employed in the section;—whatever it is,—we have come now to a stage where Government had to investigate and conclude in a particular case that accommodation to private persons was not authorized under this section. That being so, it is better that provision is made for such cases also. There is one other aspect. You have given power under the Act to evict persons on certain grounds stated in the Act. When a person is evicted, the Rent Controller simply passes the eviction order and the tenant is left to his own resources; and if he is not able to get any accommodation within the time prescribed by the Controller, then he is simply ejected from the house and left in the streets. Is this a phenomenon which the Government can countenance ? When you have given power to the Rent Controller to oust a person from a house under this Act, if you do not make a corresponding provision for enabling the Controller to find accommodation for that man, what is the use of this Act at all, I ask ? The Act must be catering to public needs; and if public needs require the eviction of a particular tenant from a certain tenement, there must be a corresponding provision empowering the same authority to allot accommodation to the person evicted. At least to that extent we have to amend this Act and see that in every case where the Controller ejects a person under this Act, he also exercises the power of allotting a substitute tenement to the evicted tenant. If you do not do that but simply leave the man in the street and give priority to a public servant leaving the private person in the lurch, what justification have we to call ourselves a popular Government in the face of a measure which is intended for public benefit but not utilized for that purpose at all?

" Again, Sir, you call this Bill a Lease and Rent Control Bill. Where is the leasing here ? Leasing is not at all controlled by this Bill. The initial leasing is left to the owner, and the tenant is left to the tender mercies of the owner who is, as I have already stated, trying to collect two years' rent in advance at enhanced rates. There have been cases of tenements which will not fetch even Rs. 15 a month being contracted out for Rs. 50 or Rs. 60 a month and two years' advance is also asked to be paid. Where could these tenants go in such cases? If you do not relieve hardships of this nature, of what use is this Act? I therefore request that what the Advisers were charitable enough to envisage as a need for relief, our popular Government should accept; when they made arrangements for giving accomodation to private persons, we must also be able to do it. Do not call this a Lease Control Bill; it is not lease control at all; it may be called the Comfort Accommodation to Public Servants Bill, that is the meaning of the words here as they stand. Even if ultimately in the reply of the Minister, he is going to say that he cannot accept the amendment at this stage, I would still request him to ponder over this matter deeply

and see that he brings forward this amendment in the comprehensive Bill which he says he will bring later. The only thing he can say against the acceptance of this amendment is that it will increase the work of the Rent Controller. What is he there for, if he is not for the purpose of giving accommodation to the public? If on the mere ground that it will increase the work of the Controller, he is going to reject the amendment, I say it is a very paltry reason. I therefore once again earnestly beseech the Hon. Minister to accept this amendment even at this stage. After all, this is an innocuous amendment."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" If only for the very great earnestness with which the cause has been pleaded by my hon. Friend Sri Varadachari in ringing tones, I have great pleasure in seconding the amendment."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Amendment moved—

' that after sub-clause (3) in clause 3 and before the proviso the following be added as sub-clause (4):—

" (4) Within seven days from the receipt of the notice under sub-section (1) the Rent Controller may intimate the owner that the building shall be let to any person, if the building is not required for any of the purposes mentioned in sub-section (2) ".' "

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—" Sir, I also have great pleasure in supporting this. I wish to point out one thing. This amendment says that if the Rent Controller after allotting houses to the officials of the locality, still finds more buildings are available, he must allot them to non-officials who are in need of them. This can be easily accepted by the Minister. It seeks to provide some comforts and conveniences to the general public which now the officials alone enjoy. I have therefore great pleasure in supporting it."

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, the amendment appears to be so simple; but I am afraid while working it, we will have to face very many difficulties if we thus widen the scope to such an extent. By extending the provisions of the Act even to about ten per cent of Government officials, we are not able to find them proper accommodation now and there are thousands of applications still pending with the Controllers for some months and we have not been able to allot accommodation to them. In such a case, what is the use of saying that ' If the building is not required for any of the purposes mentioned in sub-section (2) ' it may be given to private individuals ? I can assure you that even now in a few cases we are giving the liberty to house-owners to lease out houses to private persons; and that is because we want to show some consideration to the public also. As a matter of fact, we are releasing houses for the use of non-Governmental parties also; and in such cases we leave out the building from the operation of the Rent Control Act and allow non-officials to come into the building. Even now, there are thousands of Government servants waiting for

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accommodation and in such a position, it is useless to say that we will be able to provide accommodation to non-official applicants also. If in spite of these difficulties I have pointed out, Sri K. Varadachari thinks it is possible, we shall discuss this subject at a later stage, and if he can convince me it is possible to do so in some places, I shall certainly accept his suggestion. I can well understand his point of view which he put forthwith with so much vehemence, probably because of the one difficulty at Chittoor which he came to know. But we cannot pass an amendment based on the difficulties that had to be faced in one or two particular cases; we will have to take the generality of cases into consideration and see whether we can meet the demand if we widen the scope of the provision to the extent required by this amendment. Therefore, Sir, there is a lot of difficulty in accepting this amendment just now. Mr. Varadachari can discuss the matter with me and convince me, and then I shall certainly see what can be done. I now request Mr. Varadachari to withdraw his amendment."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—" I withdraw, Sir."

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause 3 was put and carried.

Clauses 4, 5 and 6 were put and carried.

Clause 7.

SRI G. SEETHARAMASWAMI:—" Sir, I am not moving my amendment."

Clause 7 was put and carried.

Clauses 8, 9, 10 *and* 11.

Clauses 8, 9, 10 and 11 were put and carried.

Clause 12.

MR. SPEAKER:—" Mr.V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar is not in his place."

Clause 12 was put and carried.

Clauses 13, 14, 15 and 16 were put and carried.

Clause 17.

MR. SPEAKER:—" Mr. Bhashyam is not in his place."

Clause 17 was put and carried.

Clauses 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 were put and carried.

Preamble.

The Preamble was put and carried.

2-30 p.m. THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

' *that the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Bill, 1949, be passed into law* '."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Bill, 1949, be passed into law '."

The motion was carried, and the Bill was passed into law.

(2) THE MADRAS PROHIBITION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1949 (L.A. BILL NO. 27 OF 1949).

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" Mr. Speaker, I introduce the Madras Prohibition (Amendment) Bill *, 1949, and move—

' *that the Bill be taken into consideration at once* '."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Madras Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration at once '."

The motion was carried.

Clauses 1, 2, 3 and the Preamble were put and carried.

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" Mr. Speaker, I move—

' *that the Madras Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 1949, be passed into law* '."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Mr. Speaker, some of us who have been thinking on the question of enforcement of Prohibition in this Province are wondering what it is that we are coming to. We have lost about Rs. 17 crores of revenue with the fond and sincere hope that we will enforce Prohibition very strictly. Several people are remarking and it is also true that the way in which Prohibition is enforced does not create confidence that the Government are serious in their enforcement of Prohibition. When times change and when circumstances compel, it might be that the Government might also change their views, their opinions and their policies; there is nothing wrong about it but we must be frank about these things. If the Government seriously feel that Prohibition is causing us unnecessary loss, they might reconsider their policy and I have no doubt that the House will consider the question *de novo*. The number of exemptions that have been granted and the number of breaches that are committed with the connivance of Government officers do not inspire us with any sense of confidence in the policy of Government. I particularly refer to the number of permits they are issuing to officers. In my opinion, if the Government believe in Prohibition, they ought not to give a single permit even to a single officer and if there is an officer who has got the venturesomeness to say that unless he is given drink, he cannot work, I would rather say: Let him go out and have his drink but not work as a Government servant. There is the same laxity in every other branch of the administration of this subject and that is the reason why this present amendment Bill has come. The

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armed forces will be moving throughout the Province on the Railways and in the Air and wherever they go, they are exempt from the provisions of the Prohibition Act. But for every Army Officer sitting at the table, there may be three or four civilians and all of them will participate. The Government may ask: Why should they participate ? But, Sir, they are bound to participate and this Prohibition Act will be breached and breached beyond measure. I submit, Sir, we need not lose the revenue and also lose in addition expenditure on the staff that we maintain for enforcing Prohibition. I submit these remarks, Sir, for the consideration of the Hon. Minister so that he may be very strict in the enforcement of the Prohibition Act. If, on the other hand, he wants to relax the provisions of the Act, let him bring forward a measure for the reconsideration of the whole policy so that at least we may retain the revenue."

* SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN :—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே ! கனம் மெம்பர் விஸ்வநாதம் செல்லியவற்றை சர்க்கார் தீர்க்கமாக ஆலோசிக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். கேடிக் கணக்கில் பணம் பேஜூம் பாவ மில்லை என்று செல்லி மதுவிலக்கைக் கொண்டு வந்திருக்கிறோம். ஆனால் மதுவிலக்கு இன்றைதினம் நடந்து வருவதைப் பார்த்தால் அவ்வளவு சந்தோஷம் ஏற்படுவதற்கில்லை. ஆரம்பத்தில் ஒன்றும் புகார் வரவில்லை யெனினும் நாளுக்கு நாள் பல இடங்களில் புகார் அதிகமாக வந்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது."

MR. SPEAKER :—" பெரிய பிரசங்கம் செய்யவேண்டாம். சட்டத்தைப் பொறுத்தமட்டில் சொல்லுங்கள்."

* SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN :—" முடித்துவிடுகிறேன்.

" இதில் போலீஸ் அதிகாரிகள், கலால் அதிகாரிகள்—யார் யார் அமுல் நடத்துகிற வேலையில் ஈடுபட்டிருக்கிறார்களோ அவர்களே இந்த மதுவிலக்குச் சட்டத்தை மீறி நடக்க உதவுகிறார்களென புகார்கள் வருகின்றன. இந்த மாதிரி புகார்களுக்கு இடமில்லாமல் பார்த்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்று சர்க்காரை கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" அதோடு மற்றொன்று ; மருந்துகள் செய்வதற்காக சாராயமும், இதர மதுபானமும் உபயோகப்படுத்தப்படுகிறது. மதுவிலக்குச் சட்டம் கொண்டுவருவதற்கு முன்னால் ஒளவுதான் வங்கப்பட்டது. ஆனால் இப்போது பார்த்தால் முன்னைவிட நூற்றுக் கணக்கிலும், ஆயிரக்கணக்கிலும் வாங்கப்படுகிறது. இம்மாதிரி அவர்கள் வங்கப் படுவதிலிருந்து, நிச்சயமாக துஷ்பிரயோகம் செய்வதாகத் தெரிகிறது. சர்க்கார் இதை நன்றாக கவனித்து அதைத் தடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

* MR. W. J. FERNANDEZ:—" Mr. Speaker, I support the Bill and in doing so, I appeal to the Hon. Minister and the Government for a more liberal policy in the matter of the grant of permits. I will ask the Hon. Minister to remember that there are people who have been drinking all their lives and at this moment to tell them that they must stop, is to do them certain harm. You are not going to defeat from your policy by granting such people permits nor are they going to encourage others to drink. I appeal to the Hon. Minister to consider each case on its merits, to be more liberal and grant such people permits; as they die, their permits will end with them and you will come to a stage when there will be no need for permits."

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* SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" Mr. Speaker, let me congratulate the Hon. Minister on the very liberal policy that he has adopted. At the very outset, I was advocating the issue of permits on a liberal scale for the addicts."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member is going away from the Bill."

* SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" I consider that this is only the first step for further issue of permits to addicts. Just as the Government have seen the justice of exempting army people from the provisions of the Act, so also I hope they will extend the concession to the general public who are addicted to drink, if they are more than fifty-five years of age and had been under the influence of drink for a long number of years. It will also be a sort of check on the younger people and prevent them from getting under the influence of illicit drink. The present procedure has ended in a partial failure of Prohibition, because the Government have not given permits for the people who have been accustomed to drink for the last so many years."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member is referring to the success and failure of the scheme of Prohibition. How does it come into this Bill at this stage? "

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" The failure of Prohibition is due to the fact that they have not adopted measures which would ensure the success of Prohibition."

MR. SPEAKER:—" It might have been allowed at the introduction stage but now the hon. Member can speak only on clauses that are contained in the Bill and he must not go beyond them."

* SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—" Mr. Speaker, I wish at the outset to ask for information from the Hon. Minister whether really there is necessity for such a Bill at present, when the whole of India—all the Provinces in the Indian Union—are wedded to Prohibition and it is the definite policy of the Indian Government to encourage Prohibition and it is one of the directives of the new Constitution that is to come into force on the 26th January 1950. There was a time when it was considered necessary to generally exempt army men. We had a number of European soldiers in this country. But now, times have changed and practically all the European soldiers have left the country and there are only a very few officers left here. So, I do not think that it is necessary to give a general exemption for the armed forces. If under the ordinary rules, there are some persons for whom, it is considered, permits have to be given, it can be done under the ordinary provisions and I do not think it is proper at this stage to give general exemptions even to the armed forces or to any class or community. More than two

years have passed since the time when it was considered desirable to have such a provision. Even in those days, I had some difficulty in coming before the Assembly for exemption for even the armed forces. I feel, Sir, there is absolutely no need for having a general exemption even for the armed forces and I make a request to the Hon. Minister if he cannot see his way to withdraw the Bill."

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—" Mr. Speaker, let me state at the outset that the need for giving these permits for the armed forces is felt and the Government of India are insisting that they should have their drinks. Under those circumstances, I do not know, whether as Sri Koti Reddi suggests, because we are independent now, we can compel any army man to give up his drink all of a sudden. It is perhaps difficult to do that. Let us see if we can succeed by persuading people not to drink or persuade the Government at the Centre to compel their army men to give it up; if that could be done, I will be certainly happy—if not much happier than Sri Koti Reddi—at any rate as happy as he. So, Sir, this Bill cannot be withdrawn now because this is an Ordinance and it will have to be validated and until we get the co-operation of the Central Government, we will have to continue this system and for that reason at least we need this Bill.

" Sri Viswanatham spoke about the grant of exemptions to a number of people. I do not think there are more than half a dozen Government servants and that too we have given on medical grounds where they are really ill. I do not see any reason why they should be put to difficulty especially when on medical grounds they are given permits for a limited period; the number is not a big one and half a dozen people in the whole Province is not a very big number over which the Government need be ashamed of. Even
3-45 p.m. the non-officials, Sir, are not many; they are only a few hundreds in the whole Province; and there are thousands of foreigners in this Province who are getting their permits freely. For, we do not want to force Prohibition on them. That is why we grant permits to foreigners. Honourable Members should remember that it is only a few Indians in the Province who have been given permits, and yet friends accuse me that I am giving permits liberally. I do not think I am liberal at all. If possible I want to get rid of the permit system and think of an alternative system. This is not the time to discuss the general policy of Prohibition—whether it is good or bad. Sir, I have to state this Bill is urgently necessary and I request it may be passed into law, so that there may not be any legal difficulty in its working."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Madras Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 1949, be passed into law '."

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed into law.

(3) THE MADRAS DRUGS (CONTROL) BILL, 1949 (L.A. BILL NO. 28 OF 1949).

*THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to introduce the Madras Drugs (Control) Bill [a], 1949, and move—

' *that the Bill be taken into consideration at once.*'

Sir, in moving this Bill I wish to say a few words. It is urgently necessary that it should be validated. It is a preventive measure against rise in price of drugs. After devaluation it was considered necessary to control the sale, supply and distribution of drugs in the Province. Accordingly, the Madras Drugs (Control) Ordinance, 1949, was promulgated, and this Bill is intended to replace this Ordinance. The Ordinance was passed at a time when as a result of devaluation, it was feared that drugs might go out of the market or either disappear from the market or the prices might be unnecessarily enhanced and it might be difficult for the people to get necessary drugs. That is why the Ordinance was promulgated, as advised, by the Government, and as a result of that promulgation, generally, the situation was brought under control. This Ordinance was of great advantage to the people especially regarding drugs coming from foreign lands. To replace this Ordinance it is necessary that this Bill should be passed by this House as early as possible. So I move that the Bill be taken into consideration at once."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved—

' that the Madras Drugs (Control) Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration at once '."

* MR. D. G. LEONARD:—" There is no doubt, Sir, of the need for such legislation as this and in general the House will be agreed that the provisions of the Bill are satisfactory. Nonetheless it must be remembered that owing to Import Trade Control restrictions there is bound to be a serious shortage of stocks in numerous categories within the next few months, and it is this fact rather than devaluation which is really going to make legislation of this nature necessary. Except in so far as stocks already in the country are concerned, price increases due to devaluation are inevitable where goods or raw materials emanating from dollar sources are required and no legislation in this House can stop them.

" Having made these points I wish to draw the Hon. Minister's attention to one or two further points of detail.

" Clauses 4 and 6 of the Bill are designed to prevent hoarding, but caution is necessary in regard to quantitative restrictions as medicines are not in the same category as general merchandise and it would be very unfortunate if a dealer was unable to supply an essential drug in an emergency because the limited amount he had been authorized to keep of that particular drug had already been exhausted.

[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 1st November 1949.

[Mr. D. G. Leonard] [23rd November 1949

" As regards clause 4, sub-clause (*a*), it seems to me necessary that the Commissioner should obtain the advice of the trade before fixing the minimum quantities to be carried by different categories of retailers and wholesalers.

" As regards clause 4, sub-clause (*b*), it does not seem to me wise to control the maximum quantities which may be possessed at any one time. Importers are also dealers and the quantities they may possess at any one time are invariably restricted by the import licences they are able to obtain.

" Also, it is not clear whether the word ' Producer ' in these clauses includes or excludes manufacturers' representatives. I would suggest that the term should include manufacturers' representatives who have to carry relatively heavy imported stocks, particularly in view of import restrictions which make it impossible to import regularly in small lots.

" As regards clause 8, all manufacturers' representatives have had to restrict quantities to be sold to their customers so as to prevent hoarding and so as to limit the possibilities of black-marketing. If Government insist that manufacturers' representatives or producers should sell to all comers, it must cut across this system of voluntary rationing and control which is a very useful supplement to Governmental control. In my view producers and manufacturers' representatives should be excluded from the operation of this clause and a separate clause should be drafted to ensure that producers and manufacturers' representatives distribute in accordance with such system as may be agreed to by them with the Commissioner.

" Again, clause 8 makes no distinction between wholesalers and retailers. Some wholesalers take no part in the retail trade at all and have no organization therefor, others do and have. It is essential that clause 8 should be so modified as to enable bona fide wholesalers to restrict their transactions to sales in the customary quantities to the trade should they so wish, subject always to the control of the Commissioner.

" I hope, Sir, that the points I have made will be considered by the Hon. Minister as constructive ones for I assure him that they are certainly intended to do so."

* THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Sir, I am much obliged to the hon. Member for drawing the attention of Government to certain clauses in the Bill. They are all, being of course particular points, cannot be mentioned in a specific way in the Bill. But I am sure the Commissioner will take them into consideration when he issues notifications or when he exempts any particular stockists or importers from some of these clauses. I find these changes are not absolutely necessary to be made in the Bill, especially when there is sufficient scope for them while framing the rules under the Bill, where certain points may be

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made clear with a view to give the importers as well as stockists the necessary relief and also to remove doubts they may have on account of the clauses in the Bill. So, Sir, I request that the Bill may be taken into consideration at once."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The motion is—

' that the Madras Drugs (Control) Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration at once '."

The motion was carried.

Clauses 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 were put and carried.

Clause 9.

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion is—

' that clause 9 do stand part of the Bill '."

* SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" இந்த ஒன்பதாவது clause ஐப் பற்றி நான் பேச விரும்புகிறேன். இதில் ஐநூறு ரூபாய்க்கு மேற்பட்ட சரக்குகளுக்கு மட்டும் 'பில்' கொடுக்கலாம். அதற்கு உள்பட்டதற்கு 'பில்' கொடுக்க வேண்டிய அவசியம் இல்லையென்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. அது சரியல்ல. எவ்வளவு சிறிய தொகைக்கு விற்றாலும் அவசியம் 'பில்' கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று இந்த செக்ஷனை மாற்றவேண்டுமாய்க் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களை கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

* THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, regarding the amendment suggested by Mr. Subbaraman, this was exactly the amendment given notice of by Dr. S. Subramania Ayyar, and the hon. Member has suggested the amendment without moving it. With regard to this matter I have to point out that it is not necessary in view of the fact that it is obligatory to grant a receipt in every case if demanded and so it does not seem reasonable to ask for cash memos to be issued in respect of petty and trivial purchases. But there is a general provision by which the dealer or producer has to exhibit the price list of drugs and the price at which the drugs are sold to the public. So, that prevents the customers being cheated or charged higher rates. So, I think it is unnecessary to accept the amendment suggested."

* SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" இந்த மசோதாவில் இரண்டு திருத்தம் செய்வதற்கு சந்தர்ப்பம் கொடுக்காமல் ஏற்கனவே பிரஸ்தாபனை இருக்கிறதென்றால் இந்த செக்ஷனை மாற்றுவதில்லை. எடுத்துவிடலாமென்று சர்க்காரை நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

Clause 9 was put and carried.

Clauses 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20 were put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Sir, I move:

' *that the Bill be passed into law* '."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Madras Drugs (Control) Bill, 1949, be passed into law '."

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed into law.

(4) THE MADRAS TENANTS AND RYOTS PROTECTION BILL, 1949 (L.A. BILL NO. 29 OF 1949).

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Sir, I beg to introduce the Madras Tenants and Ryots Protection Bill[a], 1949, and move:

' *that the Bill be taken into consideration at once* '."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved—

' that the Madras Tenants and Ryots Protection Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration at once '."

The motion was carried.

Clause 1.

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion is—

' that clause 1 do stand part of the Bill '."

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

' *that in clause* 1, *after sub-clause* (3), add *the following sub-clause, namely*:—

" (4) *Upon the expiry of this Act, the provisions of section* 8 *of the Madras General Clauses Act*, 1891, *shall apply as if this Act had then been repealed by a Madras Act*".' "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' In clause 1, after sub-clause (3), *add* the following sub-clause, namely:—

" (4) Upon the expiry of this Act, the provisions of section 8 of the Malras General Clauses Act, 1891, shall apply as if this Act had then been repealed by a Madras Act ". '

The motion was carried.

Clause 1 as amended was put and carried.

Clauses 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 and the preamble were put and carried.

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

' *that the Bill be passed into law* '."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Madras Tenants and Ryots Protection Bill, 1949, be passed into law '."

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed into law.

[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 1st November 1949.

23rd November 1949]

(5) THE MADRAS PRESERVATION OF PRIVATE FORESTS BILL, 1949 (L.A. BILL NO. 30 OF 1949).

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Sir, I beg to introduce the Madras Preservation of Private Forests Bill[a] 1949, and move—

' *that the Bill be taken into consideration at once* '."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved:

' that the Madras Preservation of Private Forests Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration at once '."

* SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Madras Preservation of Private Forests Act was passed in 1946. By that time many private forests had been destroyed to a large extent mainly due to the supply of fuel to towns, particularly Madras. The result now is that the fuel available in private forests for supply to towns has been considerably reduced. Towns to a large extent and villages to a certain extent have to depend for fuel mainly on government forests. If things go on in this way, I do not know whether it will at all be possible to supply fuel to towns in adequate quantities.

" I want to place before this House and the Hon. Minister certain difficulties so that he may issue necessary instructions to the officers concerned. The Government sell coupes in government reserve forests. They mark out certain areas. If a particular area consists of thirty acres, one thirtieth of it is allotted for sale as coupes. The result is that we are not having enough coupes in easily accessible areas for taking fuel. All the low-lying areas where carts can go have been practically exhausted. No doubt any amount of fuel and timber are available in areas which are not easily accessible. I speak from experience of the Cuddapah district. Where it is not possible for the carts to go, bulls are engaged. There are a few villages whose population mostly consists of Muhammadans. Their main occupation is to bring fuel from the upper regions of forests with the help of their bulls. On an average about sixteen bulls can bring about a ton of fuel. The result is that the cost of exploiting the upper reaches of forest areas has gone up considerably. To-day the cost of bringing one ton of fuel from the upper reaches down the hills is between twelve and sixteen rupees. When the other expenses are added to this, the cost of fuel rises up. In Madras fuel is selling at sixty to sixty-five rupees per ton."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" The hon. Member is referring to Government forests. But the Bill under consideration relates to private forests. I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Member to this fact."

* SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—" The rules for exploiting fuel and timber in Government forests apply to private forests also. Under this Bill, Collector's permission is necessary for exploiting

[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 1st November 1949.

private forests. If I have got a forest of one hundred acres for exploitation this year, I apply to the Collector for permission to exploit it. Naturally he refers my application to the Forest Officer. Following the rules which he had been adopting for Government forests, he grants permission to exploit only one-thirtieth of that hundred acres this year. I am not one of those who say that we should destroy our forests. But I would like to make a suggestion to the Government in regard to Government as well as private forests for increasing supply. Instead of dividing the available area into thirty pieces, the Government can divide it into twenty pieces. The adoption of this suggestion will increase the area available for exploitation and consequently there will be an increase in the quantity of fuel available for towns by one-third. As I said, I am speaking from experience in this matter. Twenty years is a sufficiently long period for growing trees. In about fifteen to twenty years from the time of plantation, trees will grow to sufficient height and size so as to become fit for fuel purposes. The Hon. Minister for Revenue can issue instructions in this matter after consulting the Chief Conservator of Forests if necessary.

"With regard to preparation of charcoal, a number of obstacles are placed both in the Government and private forests. When we ask for the release of more petrol, the Hon. Transport Minister pleads inability because he is not getting sufficient quantity from the Government of India. Owners of cars and buses are not given sufficient quantity of petrol. But I see lorries plying in Madras and the mufassal carrying firewood, bricks and a number of other things which could easily be carried by bullock-carts. This is a matter for the Transport Minister to deal with. When we ask him to nationalize transport, he pleads that there is not enough petrol. When we ask why charcoal should not be used for running buses, he says that there is not enough charcoal. There are no charcoal coupes in Kurnool, Cuddapah and some other districts. That is the state of affairs today. Government must take adequate steps to regenerate the forests and produce more fuel and charcoal to meet the great demand from the towns. I think I have drawn sufficient attention to the matter and I hope that the Government will certainly take steps in the direction indicated."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I believe the very valuable suggestions made by the hon. Member refer to both Government and private forests, though the Bill under discussion relates to private forests only. His suggestions for dividing the forests areas into twenty coupes and the other suggestions will be noted by the Government and the officers concerned will be instructed to see that no hardship is caused. I am sure the hon. Member is satisfied with the assurance that I have given."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Madras Preservation of Private Forests Bill, 1949 be taken into consideration at once'."

The motion was carried.

Clause 1.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The motion is—

'that clause 1 do stand part of the Bill'."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

'*that in clause* 1, *after sub-clause* (3), add *the following sub-clause, namely*:—

"(4) *Upon the expiry of this Act, the provisions of section 8 of the Madras General Clauses Act*, 1891, *shall apply as if this Act had then been repealed by a Madras Act*".'"

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 1 as amended was put and carried.

Clauses 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 were put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank the House for helping me in the speedy passage of this Bill. I now move, Sir—

'*that the Bill be passed into law*'."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Motion moved—

'that the Madras Preservation of Private Forests Bill, 1949, be passed into law'."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I request the Hon. Minister to be good enough to make a few remarks on the contents of the Bill at least at this stage, and thus show a little more courtesy to the House."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Sir, the hon. Member is, I am quite sure, thoroughly conversant with every provision of this Bill and by his silence I took it to be that he had had full knowledge of the implications of the Bill. Sir, the Bill has been circulated already and the Statement of Objects and Reasons to the Bill has very clearly explained the reasons and the necessity for this measure."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Madras Preservation of Private Forests Bill, 1949, be passed into law'."

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed into law.

[23rd November 1949

(6) THE MADRAS JUTE GOODS CONTROL BILL, 1949.

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to introduce the Madras Jute Goods Control Bill [a], 1949, and move—

' that the Bill be taken into consideration at once '.

" Sir, this was the last Ordinance that was passed on the 5th November 1949, though the House was to sit on the 7th of November. A question was asked on a former occasion why should the Ordinance be issued in such a haste when the House was to sit two days after the promulgation of the Ordinance, and what harm would there be, if it was brought before the House two days afterwards and passed.

" Sir, the Government of India for certain reasons said that this legislation ought to be passed on a particular date in all the Provinces together in order to enable them to appoint a common Jute Controller for all the Provinces, in view of the emergency created by the shortage in the supply of raw jute and in order to regulate the production, supply and distribution of jute goods in the various Provinces. This was necessitated because of the aftermath of the devaluation and the action taken by the Pakistan Government and also because the Government had entered into certain barter agreement with Argentina for the supply of rice to this country in exchange for Indian jute. Therefore the Government of India wanted to appoint a new Jute Controller for the whole of India. But under the Act, it is a provincial subject and they cannot legislate for the purpose. So they advised us on the 4th November to pass this legislation immediately and on the very same day they wanted to notify the appointment of Mr. Walker as the Jute Controller for the Madras Province also. We had then to take action on the very same day and the only course left open for this Government was to issue an Ordinance in the matter although the Assembly was to sit on the 7th. We immediately sent a telegram to the Government of India and got the Ordinance approved and issued the same on the 5th November, almost immediately.

" As I said just now, Sir, the necessity for this Bill is to maintain the contract which the Government of India have entered into with some foreign Government for the supply of jute. The jute within this Province has also therefore to be controlled and regulated by the Government of India, although there is not much of jute production in this Province. But the little jute that is produced has to be controlled. Hence the necessity for this legislation, Sir, for the time being."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Motion moved—

' that the Madras Jute Goods Control Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration at once '."

[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 17th November 1949.

23rd November 1949]

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, referring to sub-clause (*b*) of clause 4 (1) under which the Jute Controller may require any person engaged in the production of jute goods to comply with such directions as may be specified in the order as to the type, quality or quantity of the jute goods to be produced or delivered by him from time to time, and to the next sub-clause which says that these orders shall be complied with by the jute manufacturer notwithstanding anything inconsistent therewith contained in any contract or other instrument to which he is a party, I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government considered the effect of such a provision. Supposing the jute mills at Chittavalasa had already entered into a contract with Aberdeen to supply a particular kind of gunny bags, and now by the virtue of this Act, the Government of Madras or the Government of India give a direction that he shall not execute that contract, and that he should produce the only type which they demand, then what would happen? The clause says, ' Notwithstanding anything inconsistent therewith contained in any contract or other instrument to which he is a party.' Are the Government going to indemnify these manufacturers for the loss or damage sustained by them on account of the non-fulfilment of previous contracts? I want to know, Sir, whether the Government have considered this aspect of the question or simply because a certain situation has arisen in East Bengal or West Bengal, and the Government of India have suggested that all provinces should fall into line with them in this measure they have coolly accepted this provision."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIAR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, jute is invariably produced in the areas in which rice could be produced. As we are short of rice in this Province, I wish to know what effect this measure will have on the production of rice. If the object of this measure is to encourage the production of jute, may I know whether it will not affect rice production, of which we are already in shortage and I want also to know what steps the Government had taken hitherto or propose to take hereafter to increase the production of jute without detriment to rice production. Of course, Sir, we are anxious to help the Central Government in any measures they take to increase jute production in this Province, but I want to know whether any special concessions will be given or any scheme formulated to encourage the production of jute. I hope, Sir, that the Hon. Minister will enlighten us on these points.'

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Sir, about the question raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Natesa Chettiar, whether increase of jute production will not reduce production of rice and other food-crops, I may say that it is the responsibility of this Government and the Government of India to feed the people and therefore we are not likely to do anything which will have the effect of reducing the acreage under food production, although we want to encourage the production of more jute in this Province.

In fact, as I have said already, the control which the Government want to exercise in respect of jute production and jute manufacture is to enable them to keep up their contracts with Argentina in order to obtain wheat by barter to meet the food deficit in this country. Of course this Government will also be very careful to see that rice production does not suffer by this measure and that rice areas are not replaced by jute cultivation. We will certainly see that areas where rice can be grown more satisfactorily and with more advantage, are not converted into jute areas.

"As for encouraging jute cultivation in this Province, there was recently a survey made by an officer of the Government of India and it seems that he has recommended that only certain areas in this Province are suitable for jute cultivation, and I do not think, Sir, that any very extensive areas will be taken up for that purpose in this Province.

"Regarding the point raised by my hon. Friend, Sri T. Viswanatham, the clause he referred to is self-explanatory. If any particular person or firm has entered into a contract previously with any other particular country or foreign firm, under this measure, the Jute Controller will have the right to ask him to cancel the contract and to supply the jute and jute products to the Government of India. Then Sir, the Provincial Government or the Government of India will have to indemnify the party concerned for any damage or loss sustained by him, if he proves that by reason of this measure, he could not fulfill his contract and that he has incurred so much loss on that account. There is no doubt at all about that point, Sir. In fact, that is the very object of this clause."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Madras Jute Goods Control Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration at once'."

The motion was carried.

Clauses 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and the Preamble were put and carried.

*THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I move, Sir—

'*that the Bill be now passed into law*'."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Madras Jute Goods Control Bill, 1949, be passed into law'."

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed into law.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I should like to inform the House that there is a small change in tomorrow's agenda. After the Hon. Leader of the House has moved his motion under rule 17 of the

Madras Assembly Rules, the Hon. Minister for Public Works Department will introduce the Madras Electricity Supplies Undertakings (Acquisition) Bill, 1949."

*THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, that will take the whole day. There is an immediate necessity to pass the Provincial Small Cause Courts (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1949, which is item (14) in today's agenda."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister may take it up under rule 15 (3) tomorrow immediately after the Electricity Bill is passed."

The House adjourned to meet again at 11 o'clock on the next day.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 176 asked by Sri R. V. Swaminathan at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 23rd November 1949, page 864 supra.]

G. O. Ms. No. 4028, Development, dated 1st August 1949.

[Economic condition—Ceded Districts Economic Development Board—Abolition—Rayalaseema Development Board—Constitution—Orders—Passed.]

READ—the following papers:—

G.O. Ms. No. 641, Development, dated 29th March 1941.

G.O. Ms. No. 5234, Development, dated 12th November 1947.

From the Development Commissioner, dated 19th April 1948, letter No. 54/1948.

Order—No. 4028, *Development, dated 1st August* 1949.

The Development Commissioner appointed in 1947 for formulating a co-ordinated plan for the Economic Development of Rayalaseema, suggested among other things:—

(i) The abolition of the existing Ceded Districts Economic Development Board and the constitution of a new Board to be called the Rayalaseema Development Board, and

(ii) the appointment of a Development Commissioner and necessary staff to examine and co-ordinate the several schemes formulated in his report.

The Government have carefully considered the above proposals and are pleased to direct that the existing Ceded Districts Economic Development Board be abolished and that a Rayalaseema Development Board be constituted with the following as members:—

1. The Hon'ble Minister in charge of Rayalaseema Development as Chairman,

2. Five members of either House of the Legislature—one from each of the five districts,

3. Five members of the public—one from each district,

4. The Superintending Engineer, Anantapur Circle,

5. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Madras,

6. The Director of Agriculture,

7. The Director of Industries and Commerce, and

8. Development Commissioner who will act as its Secretary.

The term of the Board will be two years from the date of its constitution in the first instance.

The Board will consider the proposals initiated by the Development Commissioner or its members or the Heads of Departments concerned and make its recommendations to the Government. The Board will also be at liberty to invite any Honourable Ministers or officers to attend any of its meetings when it feels that their advise may be sought.

2. Sanction is accorded to the creation from the date of appointment till 31st March 1950 in the first instance, of a post of Development Commissioner, in the grade of a District Collector.

The Development Commissioner, will, in the first place, examine the proposals made by Sri P. V. Subba Rao for the Economic Development of the Rayalaseema and submit his recommendations to the Government, after obtaining the views of the Rayalaseema Development Board. He will also initiate plans, co-ordinate the activities of the various departments and supervise the execution of schemes relating to the economic development of the Rayalaseema. In matters relating to development, the District and Regional Officers will be subject to his authority.

3. The Headquarters of the Development Commissioner will, for the present, be at Madras.

4. Sanction is also accorded to the employment till 31st March 1950, in the first instance, of the following staff in the office of the Development Commissioner:—

(i) One Assistant Secretary in the grade of a tahsildar on Rs. 200–10–300 per mensum.

(ii) Two Upper Division Clerks on Rs. 80–25 per mensum each,

(iii) One Lower Division Clerk on Rs. 45–90 per mensum,

(iv) One Stenographer on Rs. 45-90 per mensum,

(v) One Typisit on Rs. 45–90 per mensum,

(vi) Six peons on Rs. 18–25 per mensum.

The staff will be eligible for the usual allowances admissible under the rules. The existing non-gazetted staff in the office of the Ceded Districts Economic Development Board will be merged in the staff of the Rayalaseema Development Board.

5. The official members of the Board and the Development Commisioner will draw travelling and daily allowances admissible to them under the rules. The grant of travelling allowance to non-official members will be governed by the provisions of G. O. No. 520, Finance, dated 10th July 1947, as amended up-to-date The Board will be deemed to be a first-class committee for the purposes of travelling allowance.

6. The expenditure should be debited to a new sub-head of account "Rayalaseema Development Board" to be opened under "47 Miscellaneous Departments—Miscellaneous" instead of the sub-head "Ceded Districts Economic Development Board". The

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Development Commissioner will be the estimating and controlling authority for the new sub-head of account and he should take steps to provide necessary funds required in 1949-50 in due course. Pending provision of funds the Accountant-General is requested to admit the expenditure in audit. The Board of Revenue should surrender the unutilised balance of the appropriation made in the budget under "Ceded Districts Economic Development Board" subordinate to the head "47. Miscellaneous Department—Miscellaneous."

(By order of His Excellency the Governor)

M. T. RAJU,
Secretary to Government.

G.O. Ms. No. 4963, Development, dated 10th October 1949.

[Economic Condition—Rayalaseema Development Board—Constitution.]

READ—the following papers:—

G.O. Ms. No. 641, Development, dated 29th March 1941.

G.O. Ms. No. 5234, Development, dated 12th November 1947.

G.O. Ms. No. 4028, Development, dated 1st August 1949.

Order—No. 4963, *Development, dated* 10*th October* 1949.

In partial modification of paragraph 1 of G.O. No. 4028, Development, dated 1st August 1949, the Government direct that the Rayalaseema Development Board be constituted with the following as members:—

(1) The Honourable Minister in charge of Rayalaseema Development as Chairman,

(2) five members of either House of the Legislature—one from each of the five districts,

(3) five members of the public—one from each district,

(4) not more than five members of the public of the Province from among those who are actively interested in the development of the Rayalaseema districts.

(5) the Superintending Engineer, Anantapur Circle,

(6) the Registrar of Co-operative Societies,

(7) the Director of Agriculture,

(8) the Director of Industries and Commerce and

(9) Development Commissioner who will act as its Secretary.

(By order of His Excellency the Governor)

P. S. VISWANATHA AYYAR,
Secretary to Government.

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APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to clause (*b*) of starred question No. 178 asked by Sri R. V. Swaminathan at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 23rd November 1949, page 865 supra.]

Names of members who constitute the Backward Classes Advisory Committee.

1 The Hon'ble the Minister for Rural Development (Chairman).
2 Sri L. S. Karayalar, M.L.A.
3 ,, R. V. Swaminathan, M.L.A.
4 ,, A. Subramaniam, M.L.A.
5 ,, Gouthu Latchanna, M.L.A.
6 ,, A. Rayyappa, M.L.A.
7 ,, Gona Sitharamaswami, M.L.A.
8 ,, V. M. Gatikachalam, Secretary, Provincial Backward Classes League, Madras.
9 ,, Pagadala Lakshmiah, President, Andhra Rashtra Rajakajana Seva Sangham, Tenali.
10 ,, Sanda Narayanappa, President, Panchayat Board, Uravakonda and Joint Secretary, District Congress Committee, Anantapur.
11 ,, Sriramamurthy, Tanuku, West Godavari district.
12 ,, Bendi Kurmana, Seethapuram, Visakhapatnam district.
13 ,, Ramachander, B.A., B.L., Retired District Judge, Mangalore.
14 ,, L. Laxman Salian, B.A., B.L., Municipal Councillor, Mangalore.
15 ,, N. Radhakrishna Pillai, Ex-Mayor of Madras.
16 ,, R. T. Venugopala Chettiar, Madras.

The Director of Harijan Welfare and the Secretary to Government, Firka Development Department, are ex officio members. The Director of Harijan Welfare is the Secretary to the Committee.

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, the 24th November 1949.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Authority to dispose of appeals in matters relating to Civil Supplies.

* 180-A Q.—JANAB HAJI MOULVI ABDUL KHADER JAMALI:—"Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government have issued a Government Order investing the Board of Revenue with final appellate powers regarding the disposal of appeals in respect of Civil Supplies?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"It is a fact that the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) has recently been made the final appellate authority in respect of certain matters in which the Government were hitherto entertaining appeals against the orders of the Board. This step was taken with a view to reduce the heavy pressure of work in the Food and Agriculture Department by relieving that department of the considerable labour involved in dealing with the innumerable petitions dealing with small matters arising in the day to day administration and to enable the Government to devote more time to the essentials of food administration. The following are the matters in respect of which alone the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) has been made the final appellate authority:—

(1) Appeals relating to appointments and cancellation of ration shop-keepers and establishments.

(2) Ordinary complaints about mal-distribution of foodgrains.

(3) All cases under the Madras Rice Mills Licensing Order, 1947, except in regard to the suspension or cancellation of licenses of rice mills.

(4) All cases of appeals under the Madras Foodgrains Control Order, 1947, subject to the general powers of the Government to call for any records which they wish to peruse and to direct the issue of licenses to particular persons for special reasons.

"In regard to all these matters the initial action has to be taken by the officials in the districts and the Government considered that provision of one appeal to the Board would be enough ordinarily. In special cases it is open to the

Government to call for records and set right any palpable injustice that might have been done. These orders are not statutory but only executive."

JANAB HAJI MOULVI ABDUL KHADER JAMALI:—" Sir, may I ask the Hon. Minister why the Government should invest final appellate powers in the Board of Revenue when they (Government) have got already the appellate powers, and where is the necessity therefor? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Sir, as I have already explained, it is only a matter of convenience, and considering the work involved in these matters, the Government thought that a portion of this work could be transferred to the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies)."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" May I take it, Sir, that this precedent will be followed in other matters so that in order to relieve our Ministers of heavy work, appellate powers will be vested in the higher officials rather than the Ministers? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" I have no idea; I can speak only for this department."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Sir, this procedure may be all right when the bureaucratic Government was in power. But when a popular Government is there, is it not the right and privilege of the people concerned to seek redress from their own Ministers when they are not able to get any justice from the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies)? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I think the Hon. Minister has already stated that in cases where there is palpable injustice, the Ministers will consider."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" Sir, will the Government accept our compliments for having divested themselves of this responsibility and for having delegated the powers to proper quarters which, I believe, in the interests of fair administration, is but necessary? "

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" Sir, if the change had been effected with a view to retrenchment in this department, may I ask what the Government will save by this change-over? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" It is not a question of retrenchment. It is only a saving of time of the Secretaries and the Ministers for more important and essential matters, and to leave all other routine matters to the Board."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—" Sir, what I want to bring to your notice is that the answer given by the Hon. Minister was very long and we were not able to follow the whole answer. I think it would be better to have the whole answer circulated before supplementaries are put."

MR. SPEAKER:—" A number of supplementary questions have already been put. The hon. Member should have asked for circulation of this answer at the very beginning, and not now."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" In view of the immensity of the work in which the Food Minister and the Government are engaged, is it not necessary that some of these routine matters should be delegated to the Board of Revenue at this stage, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" That is why we have done it, Sir."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have issued any rules as to the procedure to be adopted by the Board of Revenue in hearing these appeals—whether they are to be heard as judicial or as mere executive appeal? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" This is not a new work, Sir. This is the ordinary work which has been carried on for so long, and the same procedure will be followed hereafter too."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" May I ask the Hon. the Leader of the House to say on behalf of the Premier when when a good principle is enunciated it should be confined only to one Minister or should it apply to other Ministers also? "

JANAB HAJI MOULVI ABDUL KHADER JAMALI:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister, Sir, whether it is not a fact that the Board of Revenue never hears the parties, and decides appeals without giving an opportunity to the parties to represent their grievances? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" They are receiving all the petitions from the districts. They must necessarily examine all the petitions before they dispose of them. I do not think there are any cases where they have merely disposed them off without a hearing or without going into the matter properly."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" Sir, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to say that this change was not effected for economy and retrenchment? The first sentence of the Government Order (a copy of which I have with me now) reads ' as a measure of effecting economy in expenditure it was suggested that the powers exercised by the Government should be decentralized '. May I ask whether this was done for the convenience of the Hon. Minister or whether, as the Government Order, says, it was done for economy? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Originally the idea started with retrenchment proposals. But afterwards when it was examined, there was not much to be said on that side. But the main reason why it has been done now is, as I have already explained, to save the time and also the work of the Ministers and Secretaries."

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Special facilities given to Police officers lent to Hyderabad.

* 181 *Q.*—SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI (on behalf of Sri V. Raghavayya): Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any special facilities are given to the Police officers lent to the Hyderabad State Service for such service; and

(*b*) whether any representations have been received from any such officers for retransfer to the Provincial service?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—" (*a*) The District Superintendents of Police get a deputation allowance of 25 per cent of pay plus a special allowance of Rs. 100 per mensem. Other gazetted officers get 40 per cent of pay as deputation allowance. All the gazetted officers get dearness allowance at the Hyderabad State rates.

" The non-gazetted police officers draw pay, dearness allowance and house rent allowance at the rates drawn by them in the Madras Police Subordinate Service plus a deputation allowance of 50 per cent of basic pay. Head constables and constables of the Taluk Police and all ranks of the Armed Police get free uniform and uniform allowance at the Madras rates.

" The question of revising the terms of deputation of non-gazetted police officers is under correspondence with the Hyderabad Government.

" (*b*) Yes. The Inspector-General of Police has been advised to consider all such representations on their merits."

JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMED ANSARI:—" May I ask, Sir, whether it is the Government of Madras that pay them salaries and allowances or whether it is the Hyderabad State Government that pay them? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The Hyderabad State Government pay them."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" Sir, arising out of the answer to clause (*b*), may I ask whether these representations have been received by this Government for the simple reason that the same facilities which are extended to superior officers are not extended to the non-gazetted officers also? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I have already stated in answer to clause (*a*) that the question of revising the terms of deputation of non-gazetted police officers is under correspondence with the Hyderabad Government."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" May I ask, Sir, whether the special facilities given to our police officers working in the Hyderabad State will be extended to other people from other departments, say, the Revenue Department, working in the Hyderabad State? "

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" They are also getting some deputation allowance and other allowances from the Hyderabad State. But, if the hon. Gentleman wants any further details, a separate question may be put."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" In view of the fact that the Andhra Province is going to be formed soon, may I ask, Sir, whether the Government of Madras will write to the Hyderabad Government that they should release all the Andhra officials working in the Hyderabad Government? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The question does not arise. We have not received any communication from the Government of India yet."

Village Vaidyas.

* 182 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state what courses of training are being given to the students under the scheme of Village Vaidyas?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The syllabus[a] prescribed for training selected existing practitioners of Indian Medicine under the Village Vaidya Scheme to make them more useful in administering medical relief is placed on the table of the House."

SRI R V. SWAMINATHAN:—" May I know, Sir, whether any educational qualifications are prescribed for the Village Vaidyas, and, if so, what are they? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Sir, there are no qualifications." (Laughter.)

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that a large number of applications for registration of the practitioners of Indian system of medicine, not qualified by the School of Indian Medicine, but otherwise qualified, is pending before the Principal, School of Indian Medicine, and why they are not disposed of? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" A separate question may be put, Sir."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, am I to take it, Sir, that no qualification is necessary for these Village Vaidyas and even illiterate persons who have no education even in Tamil will be given this training? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" As far as the Government are aware, the Vaidyas have no qualification except that of practising medicine. That is all."

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 1017–1019 infra.

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11-15 a.m. JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" May I know how many training centres have been started in this Province, how many are located in each district and whether they have started actual working? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" There are four centres in four different parts of this Province and in each centre about 65 Village Vaidyas are being trained."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Will the Hon. Minister give an assurance to the people at large that it is safe to get treatment from these Village Vaidyas? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The Village Vaidyas are not trained to give treatment to the people."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I know how these Village Vaidyas are selected for training and what the fees collected from them or subsidies given to them are? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I have already answered that question, Sir. As I have said, there are four different centres and in each centre 65 Village Vaidyas are being trained. They are now claiming allowance to be given to them which the Government are considering."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" We have got a good number of native Pandits in our country practising here and there. May I know how those private individuals are being helped by the Government in their scheme of encouraging Indian medicine? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" They can join the Village Vaidya Scheme and get training."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" May I know what the aim and object of this Village Vaidya Scheme are? Are these Vaidyas who are trained intended for giving treatment or not? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I would like to refer the hon. Gentleman to the syllabus that has been placed on the table of the House. That gives full information as to the training that is going to be given to them."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" Will this not encourage quacks being turned into Village Vaidyas overnight? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Quacks are there even without being trained and that in any number."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" Is there any minimum qualification prescribed for the village vaidyas for undergoing this training? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" That question was already put by an hon. Member."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I have already answered that question, Sir."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I know whether any laboratories are attached to these centres and any practical training is given to them? "

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" There is no such thing. No laboratories are attached to these centres. It is only a course consisting of lectures to be given by medical men in four different centres."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" May I know where those four centres are? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The four centres are situated in four different parts of the Province, one in Tanjore, one in Eluru and two others in some other places—I do not exactly remember them at the moment."

SRI M. KUMARAN:—" Are there any recognized text-books followed in giving instructions to these students? If not, will the Hon. Minister take steps to have these lectures compiled into a text-book and have it translated into the regional languages of the Province? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The lectures are given by qualified medical men and the syllabus for the lectures is now in the hands of the hon. Members. If the Government think it necessary and there is a demand for it, the question will be considered whether it is necessary to publish them."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" The Hon. Minister answered that the vaidyas need not have any qualifications. But may I know what the qualifications required of the persons or professors who give the lectures to train these vaidyas are? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" They are all qualified medical men in the Government service of the grade of Assistant Surgeons."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—" One of the answers given by the Hon. Minister was that these vaidyas are not trained for giving treatment in villages. May I know what they are for? Are they going to be advisory persons in each village or anything else? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The syllabus placed in the hands of the hon. Members contains all the information which the hon. Member wants."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" Though these village vaidyas may not have academic qualifications, is it not a fact that they have got sufficient education inasmuch as they are practising medicine over a long period? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" That is exactly what I meant by the term that they are vaidyas."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister knows the Tamil proverb which says 'ஆயிரம்பேரைக் கொன்றவன் அரைவைத்தியன்'? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I do not know anything about the proverb because no certificates are given as to the number of persons killed by a doctor." (Laughter.)

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—" Do the Government seriously think that by this process they can successfully tackle the rural health problem? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" That is exactly what the Government mean by instituting this course of study."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" Is there any room for the trained village vaidyas in the Government or Local Board service? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" No, Sir."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask whether the Government seriously believe that in the course of four or five lectures that are indicated in the scheme for the vaidyas, they can cover important subjects like prevention and cure of malaria, infectious diseases, cholera, plague and the like? I see the big list of syllabus covers about thirteen or fourteen lectures. May I know whether these vaidyas have sufficient general educational qualification to imbibe the benefits of the lectures on these very important subjects on which even a life-time research has not still been able to come to some conclusive results? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The hon. Member seems to labour under a complete misapprehension. The Government's intention is not to make them qualified doctors by fifteen lectures. The idea is to give them some instruction on general principles of sanitation, preventive medicine and such other knowledge which they can usefully receive to serve the society."

Restoration of dismantled railway lines.

* 183 *Q.*—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN (on behalf of Janab M. A. Muhammad Ibrahim): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representations regarding the necessity for restoring dismantled railway lines and the speedy construction of proposed new railway lines in our Province; and

(*b*) if so, what steps the Government have taken to persuade the Government of India to take up these matters at an early date?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" (*a*) & (*b*) Yes. The Government have been receiving from time to time, several representations both from the public and the local bodies concerned, urging either the restoration of dismantled railway lines or the construction of new lines, and have been examining such representations on their merits and recommending to the Government of India most of the restorations and new construction so urged for being taken up at an early date. Those recommendations were considered by the Central Board of Transport at its meeting held in May 1949 and the decisions arrived at by that Board have been communicated to this Government. Necessary action to implement the decisions of the Central Board of Transport has to be taken by the Government of India in the Ministry of Railways and that Government are considering the question in the light of availability of funds. This Government are, however, reminding the Government of India to expedite their further communication in the matter."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Various questions on this matter came before the House several times and on such occasions I allowed a number of supplementary questions also. I hope the hon. Members will bear that in mind."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Out of all the representations made by the Minister for Public Works to the Government of India since he came into office, may I ask whether he could give any instance where he was successful with the Government of India either in getting a new line or restoring a dismantled line so far? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Yes, Sir, I could give that list. But I have already answered and I need not repeat it here."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Is it not a fact that the Central Government are receiving a loan from the World Bank for the purpose of improving the railways in India? May I know what portion of that loan will be utilized in this Province and whether this Government have applied for a portion of the loan for utilization in this Province towards the improvement of the railways and restoration of dismantled lines? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" This Government have no information about that."

JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY:—" May I know whether it is a fact that the Government of India have insisted on certain guarantees being given in the matter of certain railways, and if so, whether the Shoranur-Nilambur line is one of them and whether the Government have taken any decision on that matter? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The Central Board of Transport have finally agreed to accept the original basis regarding the guarantee for the Shoranur-Nilambur line and this Government do expect that the Government of India would take up the restoration of that line before long."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" May I know in the last three years what the new lines that have been constructed in this Province and what the lines restored are after the Hon. Minister took up this portfolio? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" No lines have yet been brought into existence and no lines have yet been restored. But I have already answered what action has been taken on the representations of this Government."

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SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—" Have the Government submitted to the Government of India any representation for the restoration of the Madura-Theni line, and if so, whether there is any likelihood of its being restored? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I am sorry the hon. Member has forgotten my answer last time. I have said that the Government of India have accepted the restoration of the line between Madura and Theni."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I know whether the Government of India asked for a guarantee from the Provincial Government in respect of restoring the line between Morappur and Hosur? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The question of guarantee regarding that line has not arisen so far because the Government of India have not yet agreed to restore that line."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I know whether the Salur-Parvatipur line, Visakhapatnam district, will be restored? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The Government of India have not yet agreed to restore that line."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" Is it not a fact that in the matter of recommending the restoration of these railway lines, the Government took into consideration in priority the most advanced areas rather than the backward areas while the aim of the Government should be to help the backward areas first? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" We took into account all these aspects before we made our recommendations to the Government of India."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" In view of the numerous representations for restoration of dismantled lines and construction of new lines, will the Hon. Minister invite the Railway Minister and arrange for a conference with representatives of this House and see that not only the lines which have already been suggested but even the one which connects my place, Pernambut with Mailpatti are given a high priority? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I shall consider that suggestion when there is an early prospect of the Government of India taking up any new line such as the one suggested by the hon. Member."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I ask the Hon. Speaker whether it is not within his right to disallow similar questions being answered in the same session? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The questions may be similar but the wording will be different. In such cases the hon. Members can put supplementary questions on the different aspects."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware of the impression in this country that

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because the Hon. Minister recommended too many lines, the Government of India are not able to decide which they have to take up first and which afterwards? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The hon. Gentleman is not correct in his presumption, and it is not correct to say either that this Government recommended too many lines. The Government of India have accepted several of our recommendations."

MR. SPEAKER:—" There is some difference between the questions that have been already answered and the present question. If there are similar questions, naturally I ask the Members to withdraw other questions and put supplementary questions when the admitted question comes on. Here in the wording also there is some difference. That is why I allowed this question."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" I raised the point in view of the fact that the Hon. Speaker said that similar questions had been asked recently and that therefore the hon. Members should bear that in mind."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I did not say that this was the same question with the exact wording of the previous questions."

Fragmentation of land.

* 184 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether there is any legislative measure under the consideration of the Government to prohibit or prevent fragmentation of land?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" The question of undertaking legislation in this Province to prevent fragmentation of holdings and for the consolidation of uneconomic holdings is under examination."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" In view of the recommendations of the Agrarian Reforms Committee and in view of the deterioration in the production of food, will the Government consider the necessity of bringing forward immediate legislation on the matter ? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" The report of the Committee referred to by the hon. Gentleman is also under examination."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" When the Government propose to prohibit the fragmentation of land, is it not necessary to see that no man possesses a large area of land like hundreds and thousands of acres ? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I draw the hon. Member's attention to my answer already given."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" May I know 11-3 p.m. whether the attention of the Hon. Minister has been drawn to the recent judgment of Justice Mack in the High Court that this matter should be taken up at once ? "

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I know that the High Court passed several remarks. I do not know to which reference is made."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" In case this measure is put into effect, will it not create more landless people in this Province?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" As I have already stated, the answer says that the question under examination is to prevent fragmentation of holdings and for the consolidation of uneconomic holdings."

Application for posts from Vanniyakula Kshatriyas.

* 185 *Q.*—SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any applications from the backward community of Vanniyakula Kshatriyas for the posts, which have arisen due to the separation of Judiciary from the Executive; and

(*b*) if so, how many were received and how many have been appointed out of them?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—" (*a*) No.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

SRI D. DURAIRAJA PANDIAN:—" May I know how many persons belonging to the backward communities have applied and how many have been appointed ?"

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

Exemption from taxation under section 15-B of the Income-Tax Act.

* 186 *Q.*—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state the names of the institutions, donations to which this Government have recommended to the Central Government for exemption from taxation under section 15-B of the Income-tax Act?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" A list [a] of institutions so far recommended by this Government to the Government of India is placed on the table of the House. The list is not final. A further list will be sent to India on receipt of the replies from the Heads of Departments who have been consulted."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know, Sir, why the Muslim Educational Association of South India is not included in this list ?"

[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 1019-1032 infra.

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The list, as I already said is not final."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know whether the Government will be pleased to recommend the Muslim Educational Association of South India for inclusion in the list if they made such an application to the Government ?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Certainly. I do not think there will be any difficulty about it. It all depends when applications reach us."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" May I know why the Vaniyambadi Muslim Educational Society which has been already recommended, is not included? Will the Hon. Minister ask for an investigation, Sir?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I have already said that the list is not exhaustive and final."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" May I know whether all the institutions recommended by the Government have been included in the list of exemption?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I cannot say anything definitely. The list is there and we may take it for granted that such of them as could be included in the list have been included. The list is not yet final."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" Have not the Government included in the list all the Colleges and institutions affiliated to the Madras and other Universities?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Applications from such public utility concerns as have reached this Government have been recommended."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—" May I know the basis on which these recommendations have been made to the Central Government?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" They must be public utilities of national importance."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" Have the Government called for information with regard to such institutions in this Province and framed the list?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Such information as has been submitted to this Government has been examined and the applications recommended to the Government of India."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" Sir, when useful educational institutions have been subjected to income-tax and we have to ask for exemption, may I ask how it is that the rich landlords getting over Rs. 5,000 have not been subjected to agricultural income-tax?"

MR. SPEAKER:—" That is a different question."

The Tungabhadra Project.

* 187 *Q.*—SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the progress made in the execution of the Tungabhadra Project;

(*b*) whether it is being carried on under a single agency or under two agencies of Madras and Hyderabad Governments;

(*c*) whether the outstanding differences between the two Governments regarding dam construction, etc., have been resolved and any agreement reached;

(*d*) if not, why not; and

(*e*) whether the Central Government have issued any instructions in this respect, and if so, what they are?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"(*a*) The dam excavation has almost been completed to a length of 2,700 feet and about 8·6 million cubic feet have been excavated. Drilling and grouting foundations have been completed in one reach and are in progress in two other reaches. Concreting of foundations has been completed in isolated pockets and a quantity of 18,100 cubic feet of concrete has been laid. The masonry works are also in progress about 200,000 cubic feet of masonry having been put in so far. The camp with all amenities such as lighting, water-supply, road, posts and telegraphs, railway station, hospital, health service, etc., has been formed. The work on the main canal excavation is also progressing and excavation for about 35 miles has been completed. Masonry works on the canals system are also in progress and the work on Hagari aqueduct is in good progress. The localization of ayacut under two distributaries has been completed and are in progress in two others. The works are in good progress and are programmed for completion by end of 1952.

"(*b*) The construction of the dam is being carried on under two agencies, the right half by the Madras Government and the left half by the Government of Hyderabad.

"(*c*) & (*d*) The outstanding differences regarding the dam construction have been settled in conference and correspondence.

"(*e*) The Government of India had occasion to issue instructions only on one of the points of differences, viz., unified control and the instructions were to the effect that with a view to secure proper co-ordination of work, the Chief Engineers on both sides should meet once a fortnight and that monthly progress reports of work done by both sides should be sent to each other and to the Government of India."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"May I know how much money has been spent so far?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I would like to have notice."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"May I know whether investigation of the high level channel has been completed and when its execution is likely to be taken up?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I would like to have notice."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"As the Andhra Province is certain to be established very soon, will the Government consider the postponement of this project and leave the matter to be taken up by the Andhra Province?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I am unable to understand why this should be postponed."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"What is the extent of the area in Hyderabad, Andhra Desa, Tamilnad and Karnataka, respectively, that will be benefited by the completion of this project?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"This project will benefit the Andhra and Karnataka areas and not Tamilnad."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—"May I know what the estimated cost of the whole scheme is?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"It is estimated to cost about Rs. 17 crores."

Introduction of pumping irrigation in the dry areas of Tiruturaipundi.

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

(*a*) as the electrification of work is in progress from Tiruturaipundi to Vedaraniam, whether the Government have taken any steps to introduce pumping irrigation in the dry areas of this taluk as originally proposed, and if so, when;

(*b*) how many acres of land can be irrigated by the new improvements which were made shortly; and

(*c*) whether there is any possibility of increasing the area, and if so, how many acres and when this work can be expected to be completed?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"(*a*) The Government are examining in consultation with the Board of Revenue, the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) and the Chief Engineer (Electricity) a proposal to extend irrigation by pumping to an extent of about 1,420 acres at the tail end of Mulliar. The Board's report is awaited in the matter.

"(*b*) About 1,128 acres can be irrigated by gravitational flow under the scheme sanctioned in December 1948.

"(c) An area of about 1,226 acres can be brought under irrigation by gravitational flow in addition to the area referred to in the answer to clause (b) above by carrying out certain improvements to the Thanikottagam Eri and the detailed proposals in this regard are awaited from the Chief Engineer."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"May I know what is meant by 'gravitation flow'?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Gravitation flow is a flow from a higher level to a lower level automatically."

The Irrigation Act.

* 189 *Q.*—SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI (on behalf of Sri V. Raghavayya): Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have abandoned the idea of passing the Irrigation Act;

(b) if so, for what reasons; and

(c) whether the Government are proposing to meet the food scarcity by compelling the owners of fallow or pasture lands to cultivate them with food crops?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"(a) & (b) No.

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

Taking over of estates like Chemudu.

* 190 *Q.*—SRI B. SATYANARAYANA RAJU (on behalf of Sri G. Sanyasi Rao): Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to take over the estates like Chemudu whose income is more than two lakhs; and

(b) if so, when?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"(a) & (b) Selection of estates for notification under the Madras Estates (Abolition and Conversion into Ryotwari) Act, 1948, is not made solely with reference to their income. The Government have notified one batch of estates and the question of notifying the remaining estates to which the Act applies is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI B. SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—"Is it not advisable for the Government to take small estates first than big estates as the ryots are suffering a lot in small estates?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The idea is to take all the estates as early as possible."

SRI P. VENKATANARAYANA:—"May I know what is the basis for notifying these estates, taking a few first and then deferring a few others to a later date?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"This question has been answered several times on the floor of this House and I have nothing more to add."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"If it is not on the basis of income, what other considerations weighed with the Government in the matter of selecting a few for the first notification?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Nothing else."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I know when the Government propose to take the other estates?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I cannot give any definite date. As I have already stated, we are anxious to complete the taking over as early as possible. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Member to the statement made already by the Government."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Now that the first list is over, may I know whether there will be one more list or many more lists like this?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I do not know to what list the hon. Member is referring?"

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Sir, it was stated that one batch of estates had already been taken over by the Government on the basis of income: may I know whether all the remaining estates will also be taken over on the basis of income or administrative convenience?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I do not think I said they were taken over on the basis of income."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"Arising out of the answer to clause (a), may I ask whether it is not desirable that the Chemudu estate which is contiguous to the Vijayanagaram Estate which has been already taken over, should also be taken over as early as possible to facilitate the position of tenants there?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Representations have been received from the tenants of certain estates that is a particular estate must be taken over early. We have also received representations from several tenants that the taking over must be expedited. That is why we are anxious to complete the taking over as early as possible."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"As there is some uncertainty as to the time when the estates are to be taken over by the Government is it not desirable to give the estate holders some idea as to when their estates would be taken over, in order to enable them to adjust their domestic economy?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The estate-holders will be informed in due time."

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SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister for Land Revenue what other estates will be taken over in the next batch?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I am sorry I have no information with me."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know if there has been any representation from zamindars for taking over their estates by the Government?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Yes, Sir. The hon. Member is one of them."

SRI B. SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—"Are the Government aware that in some places the zamindars are collecting the full amount from the ryots whereas the instruction is to collect only 75 per cent?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"If they are doing so, they are doing a wrong thing."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Are we to take it that the other estates also will be taken over by the Government without paying a single pie as has been done by them previously?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The estates will be taken over according to the terms of the Act passed by the hon. Members of this Legislature."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"In some of the zamindari estates, there are a good deal of unauthorized occupations with the result that the zamindars are not able to evict them. Will the Government look into this matter?"

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

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Applications invited by the Madras Public Service Commission for direct recruitment in 1948–49 *and* 1949–50.

5 *Q.*—SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of cases where applications were called for by the Madras Public Service Commission for competitive examinations for direct recruitment in the year 1948–49 and 1949–50 and what they are;

(*b*) in how many cases the calling of applications was withdrawn or cancelled and what they are; and

(*c*) what the circumstances are under which such withdrawal or cancellation was done?

A.—(*a*) Applications were called for by the Commission for direct recruitment to seventy-six classes of posts in 1948–49 and eighteen classes of posts (up to 24th August 1949) in 1949–50 as detailed in the statement[a] annexed to this answer. This excludes the posts of clerks and typists.

(*b*) The selection was dropped or cancelled in nine cases which are as follows:—

(i) Assistant Agricultural Chemist (Soil Physicist).

(ii) Senior Chemist, Institute of Leather Technology.

(iii) District Educational Officers.

(iv) Professor of Zoology.

(v) Ornithologist, Madras Agricultural Service.

(vi) Assistant Agricultural Chemist (Madras Agricultural Service).

(vii) Works Superintendent, Government Ceramic Factory, Gudur.

(viii) Lecturer in English.

(ix) Assistant Commercial Tax Officer.

(*c*) The circumstances under which selection was withdrawn or cancelled in the cases mentioned in clause (*b*) are briefly stated below:—

(i) *Assistant Agricultural Chemist (Soil Physicist)*, (v) *Ornithologist, Madras Agricultural Service, and* (vi) *Assistant Agricultural Chemist (Madras Agricultural Service)*. The selection was either deferred or dropped as the question of filling up some posts by scholars returned from foreign studies or of retrenching some posts was under consideration.

(ii) *Senior Chemist, Institute of Leather Technology.* The selection was dropped as the Director of Industries and Commerce, subsequently reported that the Junior Chemist of the Institute of Leather Technology, Madras, who was on deputation for higher studies abroad, had a preferential claim and should be appointed to the post.

(iii) *District Educational Officers, and* (iv) *Professor of Zoology.* The question of reorganizing these posts and of changing the methods of recruitment and qualifications for them was under Government's consideration. They considered that recruitment should be made only after these changes were brought into effect. The selections were not therefore proceeded with and were dropped.

(vii) *Works Superintendent, Government Ceramic Factory, Gudur.* The Government appointed an

[a] Printed as Appendix III at pages 1032–1035 infra.

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overseas scholar to the post and the selection of a candidate by the Commission was therefore dropped.

(viii) *Lecturer in English.* Subsequent retrenchment of some English Professors' and Lecturers' posts necessitated the cancellation of the selection made by the Commission.

(ix) *Assistant Commercial Tax Officers.* The Madras Commercial Taxes Subordinate Service Rules came into force on 1st April 1948. The recruitment to the posts of Assistant Commercial Tax Officers came under the purview of the Madras Public Service Commission with effect from that date. The posts of Assistant Commercial Tax Officers were included in Group II Services. The Commission's advertisement inviting applications for admission to the competitive examination to be held in 1949-50 relates to recruitment to all the posts included in Group II Services. In the case of Assistant Commercial Tax Officers, the number of posts was, however, not specified. Subsequently it was found that no direct recruitment to the posts of Assistant Commercial Tax Officers was necessary for this year and the Commission was informed of the position. The Commission published a notification informing the candidates for the posts of Assistant Commercial Tax Officers that if they desired to withdraw from the examination (common examination for other posts also) they would have their application fee refunded to them.

Lands assigned to some members of the Madras Legislature as political sufferers.

6 *Q.*—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state the names of members of the Legislative Assembly and the Council to whom lands have been given as political sufferers and the extent of land which each obtained from the Government under this scheme?

A.—A list[a] of the names of members of the Legislative Assembly and the Council to whom lands have been granted as political sufferers and the extent granted to each up to 15th May 1949 is placed on the table of the House.

The Keeriyar Project.

7 *Q.*—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have carried on any talks with the Government of Travancore regarding the Keeriyar Project;

[a] Printed as Appendix IV at pages 1035-1036 infra.

(*b*) what the result of the talks is; and

(*c*) at what stage the Keeriyar Project stands at present?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The United States of Travancore and Cochin have since consented to the Public Works Department officers of this Government conducting investigation in the State limits.

(*c*) Proposals for sanctioning the investigation of the scheme and necessary staff therefor are under consideration.

Issue of licences to producers and dealers under the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949.

8 *Q.*—JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of applications received for producers' and dealers' licences under the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949, district-war;

(*b*) the number of licences that have been issued to the producers' and dealers' under the Madras Khadi (Development) Order; and

(*c*) what qualifications have been taken into consideration in issuing licences (producers' and dealers') under the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) A statement[a] showing the information asked for is placed on the table.

(*c*) In order to control effectively the activities of producers and dealers of khadi with a view to ensure the genuineness of the material produced and distributed, their number has been limited to the minimum necessary for each area and place, and licences to the extent limited have been issued to such producers and dealers as have been in the khadi field for a fairly long time and are reputed to have at heart service to and faith in khadi.

Revenue and expenditure in the Andhra districts in 1948-49.

9 *Q.*—SRI R. NATHAMUNI REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state what the income and expenditure, district-war, in the Andhradesa in the year 1948-49 were?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the statement placed in the table of the House, with reference to question No. 316, answered on the floor of the Assembly on 10th November 1949.

[a] Printed as Appendix V on page 1037 infra.

Licensees under the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949.

10 *Q.*—JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state the names and addresses of all licensees and the nature (category) of the licence that was issued to each under the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949?

A.—So far, 63 licences for producers and 205 for dealers have been issued. Some applications for licences are still under consideration and some licences in force are reported to be liable to cancellation. The present list of licensees is not therefore final. The Government consider that the labour and cost involved in printing the lists of licensees and their addresses for being placed on the table of the House are not commensurate with their usefulness. A statement showing the number of licences issued in each district of the Province is placed separately on the table of the House in reply to question No. 8 (255) of the hon. Member.

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

II.—GOVERNMENT MOTION.

MOTION UNDER RULE 17 OF THE MADRAS ASSEMBLY RULES.

11-45 a.m

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Sir, I move—

' that Rule 17 of the Madras Assembly Rules be suspended and the House do resolve to transact Government business on Thursday, the 24th November 1949.'

I have duly consulted the Leaders of the Opposition and the United Peoples' Party in the matter and we are going to have the whole of the forenoon to-morrow for non-official business."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that rule 17 of the Madras Aseembly Rules be suspended and the House do resolve to transact Government business on Thursday, the 24th November 1949 '."

The motion was carried.

III.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(1) THE MADRAS ELECTRICITY SUPPLY UNDERTAKINGS (ACQUISITION) BILL, 1949 (L.A. BILL NO. 32 OF 1949).

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to introduce the Madras Electricity Undertakings (Acquisition) Bill[a], 1949, and move—

' that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee.'

[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 1st November 1949.

I shall submit the names of Members later on. In making this motion, Sir, I wish to make a few observations explaining the need for this legislation and the provisions of this Bill.

" The Madras Government constituted their Electricity Department about 20 years ago. The policy then laid down for the Department had been that it should concentrate on the generation and bulk transmission of power. In the matter of retail distribution, it was decided to give a free hand to licensees both private and local authority. It was then hoped that licensees by themselves, would be able to build up an efficient distributary net work all over the country-side. But it was soon realised that this hope would not materialise. Licensees took up urban centres and certain densely populated rural areas like the Cauvery Delta for operation, but they were content to operate with very limited capital. The Municipal licensees could do no more than distribute the energy within their narrowly circumscribed jurisdiction even though the economic area for a distribution unit with its sub-station and staff, far extended the limits of the Municipality. A few enterprising licensees attempted to expand beyond the urban centres from where they operated, with some success, but since their capital resources were slender and since rural distribution cut badly into their profits, the distributary system which developed in the Province far from being a well-integrated whole, was no more than a few isolated pockets dotted on the vast country side. In the meanwhile, the hydro-electric resources developed at considerable expense at Pykara and Mettur were running to waste because the energy generated at the power-houses could not reach the villages. The Government, therefore, decided to enter into the field of distribution themselves, on areas not covered by licensees. Even though the Government had only comparatively poorer areas to operate on, their enterprise made very rapid progress and to-day about 70 per cent of distribution is also owned by Government.

" There are at present about 85 electrical undertakings, 49 owned by private companies including 4 in Pudukottah area and 36 by local authorities. A good many of these undertakings lie outside the Hydro-electric grid of the Government and they generate their power in small thermal stations. In generating power under present day conditions of high fuel and maintenance costs, these small self-generating units can make little profits and consequently most of this class are on the verge of collapse. A minimum capacity of three or four thousand K.Ws. is required to make a unit self-supporting; but the units of our licensees have only about a tenth of that capacity and so they are uneconomic. Services have broken down in a few stations and they have been surrendered by the licensees to the Government, as for example, Kurnool, Cuddapah, Rajahmundry and Ongole. Many others have offered to surrender their concerns such as Udipi, Salur-Parvatipur and Chicacole. The public of these stations are now being threatened with the loss of this vital amenity merely because the licensees are unable to agree with the Government on reasonable purchase prices based on their

profit earning capacities or share capitals. Licensees within the Hydro-electric grid of the Government buy power from the Government and are mere retail distributors. They are much better placed than self-generating licensees and are declaring fair dividends to their share-holders. Most of them are small concerns unable with their limited resources, to plan on a long-range basis. To develop fresh areas within their jurisdictions. they have to incur heavy capital expenditure on transmission lines. The additional capital required by them to meet the public demand, will be several times their existing paid-up capital. The capital invested on a new transmission line will take a few years before it can earn a fair return. The concerns are not big enough to hold out for the period required for this long-term development. For all these reasons they are inclined to remain inactive.

"It was at a time when this Government were reviewing their policy towards licensees in the light of their somewhat disappointing experience, that the Government of India recommended to Provincial Governments the resolutions of their Policy Committee on electrical development. This Government immediately accepted those resolutions, by which they decided to acquire the concerns of licensees as and when the periods of the licences ran out and also not to issue any fresh licences. It was in pursuance of this policy that this Government recently acquired the Madras Electric Supply Corporation. This Government would normally have been content to pursue this policy of gradual absorption of licensees, but for a new factor that has since developed. The post-war period is witnessing a colossal increase in prices of electrical equipment. A licensee has now to invest three or four times the capital which he would have had to invest before, to execute a new extension. We have been effectively controlling the distribution rates to the consumer and so new capital cannot earn the same percentage return as before. Again this Government have been stressing on Agricultural development. In an urban area with a concentration of heavy industrial loads, the cost of transmission per unit is low. But that is not the case in respect of Agricultural loads which lie scattered on the country-side. If energy should reach the rural areas, heavy capital expenditure has to be incurred on transmission lines. Naturally licensees are disinclined to meet agricultural demands, because they can tap more profitable industrial loads in urban areas with less transmission lines. Rural extensions cut into their profits and they rightly demand cheap capital advances from the Government or a subsidy for the purpose. The Government's Electricity Department is able to give agricultural connections when the anticipated annual gross revenue is not less than 10 per cent of the capital invested on the connection; but the average licensee does not touch a load which promises even double that much as gross revenue. The people of this Province have become electricity-minded and are insisting that this vital amenity should not be the privilege of the few. This Government have applied considerable thought over the

matter and have come to the conclusion that electrical development has to be planned on a long range basis and that only the Government or a Public Corporation with adequate reserves and devoid of the profit motive, can do fair justice to the subject. Some of the licensees have no doubt done useful pioneering work in the field; but they have clearly outlived their usefulness and should be eliminated as speedily as possible in public interest.

In arriving at this decision, this Government have carefully taken note of the provisions of the Electricity (Supply) Act recently passed by the Central Legislature. The object of this Act seems to be the rationalization of the generation and bulk transmission of power. We can appreciate the significance of this enactment only if we examine the conditions of this industry in India taken as a whole. In many parts of India, the generation of electricity is still done by a large number of licensees operating small thermal stations. As I pointed out before, the economic unit of generation cannot be less than three or four thousand kilowatts. If we can substitute one generating station of 5,000 K.Ws. in the place of ten generating stations of 500 K.Ws., we can sell the power at about half the price. The Supply Act aims at eliminating uneconomic generating stations and substituting in their place larger and economic units. Licensees whose generating stations are closed down will still continue in the field of distribution with the power supplied to them by the larger units. The existing disjointed transmission systems will be reorganized and integrated to suit this purpose. Some measure of control is also sought to be introduced on the rates which these licensees are charging the consumers. But the objects of this Act have already been achieved to a very considerable measure in this Province. The three hydro-electric systems of Pykara, Mettur and Papanasam and the four major thermal plants of Madras, Visakhapatnam, Kakinada and Vijayavada generate about 99 per cent of the power consumed in this Province. The three hydro-electric systems are inter-linked in one grid and the big Madras thermal plant is now being connected with the hyrdo-electric grid. With the completion of Machkund and Tungabhadra hydro-electric projects by 1952, the entire Province will be linked up in one grid and the power shortages of Visakhapatnam or Tuticorin can be met by economies effected in distant Kozhikode. During the debates in the Central Legislature on the Supply Act, it had been pointed out repeatedly that the goal of the Central Government was the complete nationalization of electrical enterprises and that the Supply Act was intended to be the first stage in that process. This Province has already reached that first stage and is now ready to go forward to the next and final stage. In the matter of electrical development, this Province and Mysore have all along taken the lead. The Supply Act is intended to assist backward Provinces to reach the level of progress we have already attained. That Act was not intended as the final goal in this field, but only as a half-way house. It will be pointless to halt up our progress just to enable others to catch us up.

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India is too big a country for enforcing uniformity of that kind. A province which is ready to go forward must certainly do so and let others gain by that experience.

"The most important provision of this Bill is the basis of valuation of undertakings of private licensees. Under the Indian Electricity Act, 1910, a licensee on the termination of his licence, is entitled to compensation at *fair market value*. The expression '*fair market value*' has no statutory definition. This Government had no occasion to seek a definition of this expression. Licensees naturally interpret this expression in a way which is most favourable to them. The market value of electrical goods is now about three or four times the pre-war level. A transmission post costing Rs. 50 before the war, now costs Rs. 150 and therefore the licensee argues that he should be paid Rs. 150 for the post even though he had paid only Rs. 50 for it. What the licensee does not wish to remember is that he does not have the option of selling that post to anybody who wants a stray post. That post has been fixed to the ground for transmission of power and till the end of time, that post is irremovable. It is not a free and unencumbered article. So, the expression, '*fair market value*' as applied to lands, buildings, works, machinery and plant of a licensee only means the value of the properties which are under encumbrance to the public as transmitter of power. If in spite of the present inflated market conditions, the licensee's concern as a whole is running at a loss, these articles cannot claim the present market value of equivalent articles, for the capital invested on these articles is not earning a return and the articles themselves are not free agents to be used profitably elsewhere. The present inflated market conditions can affect the value of the fixed assets of the licensee only if his profits also are inflated. But the costs of operation have also increased and hence profits have not shown signs of rapid increase. The Government had to assist many licensees with surcharges on consumers to enable them to earn profits. The expression '*fair market value*' cannot be given the meaning which a licensee would like to put to the expression, viz., the sum total of the value which these articles would fetch if they are sold individually in auction plus the cost of erection at the present high rates, but something very much less. The profit-earning capacity of the concern as a whole is an important factor which should decide *fair market value* of fixed assets, because the assets are dedicated to the concern and are irremovable. The framers of the Indian Electricity Act, 1910, under which these licences have been issued, had obviously not visualised the violent fluctuations in prices that would be caused by the two world wars. The *fair market value* basis does give room to extravagant demands which are difficult to assess. When conditions have so changed that the provisions in an existing legislation give room to unreasonable claims, a Government should not be apologetic in seeking to amend that legislation, because the Government have a duty unto the general tax-payer. The most equitable method of valuation of these concerns is to

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fix the value at the sum total of the value of all shares of the concern as quoted in the Stock Exchange. The share value should normally reflect the real worth of the concern, for that is the value which a prudent investor is prepared to pay for the share. In the British Nationalisation Act, that was the method adopted and that is one of the methods which we are adopting in the present Bill too. But in this Province, we do not have a flexible share market and the shares of many of these licensees are seldom quoted in the stock Exchange. Other methods have, therefore, to be devised which would ensure the share-holder fair compensation and at the same time safeguard the interest of the general tax-payer. Taking into account all the relevant factors, provision has been made in the Bill that in the case of licensees other than local authorities, the formula for compensation should be based on the highest of the three considerations below, the licensee having the option to choose any one of them:—

(A) Twenty times of the average profit for the last five years; 12 noon.

(B) Average market value of the shares over the years 1946–47, 1947–48 and 1948–49, where shares are quoted in the market;

(C) Book value of the assets less depreciation plus a solatium as specified in the licence up to 20 per cent. Under Basis 'A', profit will be the amount of income which is in excess of the expenditure as set out in Schedule I to the Bill and the compensation will be calculated at twenty times the average profits for the last five years preceding the date of acquisition of the undertaking. Under Basis 'B', the compensation that is to be payable is the average market value of the shares of the undertaking over a period of three years from 1946–47 to 1948–1949, where shares are quoted in the market. Under Basis 'C', compensation will be calculated on the book-value of the assets of the undertaking less depreciation plus a solatium which will extend up to 20 per cent as specified in the licence. Stores and Works-in-progress will be given a solatium of 5 per cent. Compensation has also been provided for intangible assets and equipment no longer in use to the extent they have not been written off in the books of the licensees.

"The basis of compensation adopted in the Bill in respect of local body licensees is different. Local bodies started their concerns with loans taken from the Provincial Government. They are practically agents of the Provincial Government in this respect. They do not, therefore, have to be treated like private licensees, because it was the Government which risked the capital on their behalf. The loans raised by a local body to meet the capital expenditure and which are still outstanding, will be written off by the Government when the undertaking is taken over. This is in accordance with the principle adopted in the British Nationalisation Act. Local bodies are public bodies whose main concern is a satisfactory service to the public.

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Since the Government undertake the full responsibility for that service, there is no necessity to compensate those bodies further. It so happens that some local bodies have begun to depend on the profit from this business as an additional source of revenue. In order to help them during the transition period, till they could build up a new source of revenue, it is proposed to give them three times the average net income. Within three years they are expected to develop a new revenue. The question may, however, be raised why public bodies should not be allowed to continue their useful work. In distributing electricity, the economic unit of transmission is not the area covered by a municipality. Urban loads are very paying. A balanced unit of transmission must have both urban and rural loads so that the less-paying rural loads are subsidized by the more-paying urban loads. Municipal licensees are now in the happy position of appropriating to themselves only the paying portion of the loads. This is not quite fair to the rural consumer. Besides, there is wastage of effort in keeping alive separate transmission units for municipal service. The Coimbatore Municipal Council maintains a sub-station within its jurisdiction for municipal distribution. The Government Electricity Department also maintains a sub-station in this town for rural distribution in the area surrounding the municipal limits and thus there is wasteful duplication of effort. The two can be integrated into one with considerable economy to the general consumer.

"The Bill as now drafted is an enabling measure. It does not embody a specific provision or date by which all undertakings should be taken over. Under section 3 of the Bill, the notices already issued to certain licensees under the provisions of the Indian Electricity Act of 1910, will lapse and have no effect. Section 4 of the Bill provides for the issue of notice of three months prior to the date of taking over or vesting date. Debenture holders are protected under section 13. Managing Agents have generally agreements with the undertakings for continuous service for the full period of their term of office. They may, therefore, claim compensation from the company for the balance period of their tenure, though there will be no work for them to do. In the interests of the share-holders, we have made provisions under section 15 of the Bill to terminate their contracts compulsorily. Disputes with licensees will be settled by means of arbitration under section 14. It is the intention of the Government to absorb the bulk of the staff now engaged by the licensees into Government service. But we have deliberately omitted to say so in the Bill. If a provision to that effect is made in the Bill, every employee will acquire a right to go to court to ventilate his service grievance, however petty it may be. This is a right which other Government servants do not have and we do not wish to confer a new right on a class of Government servants. The share-holders of private concerns are scattered all over the Province though the headquarters of many of these companies are in Madras. Adequate safeguards should be provided to see

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that the claims of all share-holders, debenture holders, and other creditors are fully met. Provision has, therefore, been made in clause 12 of the Bill that compensation amount shall be deposited in a court which will determine the persons to whom the amount deposited should be paid and the sum which each of them should get. Against the decisions of this Court, there will be an appeal to the High Court.

"We have roughly worked out the total compensation payable to private licensees under the provisions of this Bill at about Rs. 3½ to 4 crores. The paid-up capital of these companies is about 2 crores. This means that the average share-holder will get about Rs. 17 to 20 on each share worth Rs. 10. I leave it to the House to judge whether there can be any legitimate grievance that we are attempting to grab and that our Bill is expropriatory. I know that the House is anxious that we should complete the nationalisation at once. When we took the decision in 1947 to go in for complete nationalisation, the intention of the Government was also the same. But since then, several things have happened and as I see our ways and means position now, it may not be possible for the Government to absorb all these concerns into the Electricity Department at one stroke. Nor is it desirable on purely administrative considerations to do so, because the acquisition should go at a pace at which the Electricity Department can assimilate them without dislocation. The Department is now engaged on a large programme of power development costing about Rs. 25 crores. This work should have a higher priority than the objects of this Bill. A start will be made at once and the process will be continued, but the public will have to bear with us patiently for a few more years before the process of nationalisation is completed. The Government of India have also enjoined severely on us this particular condition, before they gave their concurrence to this Bill. From our Electricity revenues we are setting apart each year about Rs. 50 lakhs towards depreciation of the existing plant. This amount is now being invested in Government Securities. In future we propose to ear-mark this sum towards buying up these concerns so that, even if our ways and means position continues to be difficult for a few more years, the process of nationalisation will not be halted up. But if our resources improve, we can accelerate the process and complete it in about five years. If in the meanwhile the people of any area are anxious that a concern should be taken over by the Government, and for that purpose they could advance to the Government the necessary funds as a loan, the Government will most willingly take over that concern in advance of the programme.

"Once the Bill is passed, the licensees will be placed in a difficult position. Knowing that their concerns are to be wound up, the public may not invest in their concerns any more. Such of them as we do not propose to acquire immediately, will therefore have to be assisted by the Government with cheap loans to enable them to give new extensions. As soon as the Bill is

passed all licensees will be informed of the approximate year in which their concerns will be acquired. Less efficient licensees will be taken over first. Licensees who give fair rural services will be reserved to the last and they will be assisted in the meanwhile, to the maximum extent possible. Every endeavour will be made to relieve them of suspense.

" In framing this Bill, we had to keep in mind the interests of different classes of people. The members of the general public seem to be tired of the licensee system. The share-holders have to be assured of reasonable compensation. The managing Agents have got their contracts with companies and are claiming protection for their vested interests. The Government have the responsibility to see that this vital amenity is not the privilege of the fortunate few. Amidst all these conflicting claims, it is easy to criticise this Bill by viewing it from a particular angle. We do not claim that this Bill is perfect, but we have made a genuine endeavour to balance the diverse considerations with a view to ensure the maximum good. I have consulted various people on the provisions of this Bill and also accepted many valuable suggestions given by them. I am happy to note that the Bill has been received well by the influential organs of the press. I shall be happy to have the benefit of criticisms of the members in this House. But when one criticises a provision of the Bill, let him endeavour to visualise the implications of his criticisms on the other provisions and parties affected by the Bill. It does not help if one criticises after identifying himself with a particular interest as was done by a leading daily of this City."

A HON. MEMBER:—" What paper it is? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I should not say that, Sir."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—" Which is the paper that published that editorial and referring to. . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The Hon. Minister is not yielding."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I expected all hon. Members would be reading all the leading newspapers.

" The very Managing Agents, whose cause had been taken up by that particular newspaper, subsequently agreed in my presence that the basis of compensation adopted in the Bill was on the whole reasonable. Of criticisms of that kind, I can only say that they do not deserve any notice. If the Honourable Members can suggest ways of improving the Bill and at the same time preserving the general balance of the Bill, I shall be only too pleased to accept them in this House or in the Select Committee.

" Our Electricity Department is perhaps one of the best examples in India of a successful State-enterprise. It started from scratch about 20 years ago and to-day our investments in their beneficial use amount to about Rs. 12·7 crores. We are

earning a handsome return of 8 per cent after providing for working expenses and depreciation. The indirect benefits accruing to the people from this enterprise are enormous and can be appreciated if we take note of industrial advancement of Coimbatore district during the past few years. We are already a monopolist in the generation and bulk transmission of electricity. Even in the field of distribution, the licensees hold only 30 per cent of the business. We are not therefore, novices in this business, attempting to tinker with an industry established by others and of which we know little. We have already gone a long way towards nationalisation and the present Bill enables us to complete that process in an orderly manner. I do realise that the Bill does cause some hardship to Managing Agents who have done useful work in the field. But if they think over the issue dispassionately, even they would have to admit that this is a field which they should now willingly quit in favour of the Government in the larger interests of the general public, and seek elsewhere fresh avenues for their enterprise."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved—

' that the Madras Electricity Supply Undertakings (Acuqisition) Bill, 1949, be referred to a Select Committe (names to be given hearafter).'

" As a large number of Members want to take part in the discussion, I fix fifteen minutes for each Member."

* JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Sir, I move the following amendment:—

'That the Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion."

" Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the very outset let me congratulate the Hon. Minister for Public Works for the beautiful exposition which he has given with regard to the work of his department. I am really impressed by the force of arguments and the cogency of his observations and the beautiful review. But it is my considered opinion, Sir, that this Bill is untimely, that we could have this Bill after ten years and we could have postponed the implementation of the Bill for some more time. When I say this I have got several points which I will place before the Hon. Minister for his consideration.

" In the first place, Sir, from the statistics that are available to us, it is seen that the *per capita* consumption of electricity in our country is only about ten units whereas in America it is 1,500 units and in Russia it is about 300 units. In other words, Sir, we are really very backward in the matter of electricity and very poor in the consumption of electrical power and energy. The Hon. Minister is aware that there is grinding poverty in this country. If we want to liquidate that poverty, it is only through creating more energy and power. If you really want to take the people out of the abyss of poverty and illiteracy, it can only be done by expanding the production of electricity and using it for the industrialisation of the country. Therefore it

12-15 p.m.

would be the height of unwisdom on our part to neglect any of the sources, whether it is private or public, which might go to increase the production and consumption of electricity. We need this to make our country more industrialised and more prosperous and to make our people more happy and contented. The Government, therefore, should utilise whatever resources they may have, whatever skill and capital they may have, for the creation of more electrical energy in this Province. Later on when we have more resources, we can think of controlling other electrical concerns operating in our province. This question of taking over of private agencies may be postponed till we have sufficient energy produced in our Province.

" Sir, the Hon. Minister said that there was energy in Pykara which was simply going to waste because the private agencies were not coming forward to utilise it. But have we not a grid system in our province by which the energy produced whether it is in Pykara or Mettur, can be taken to any other part of the province ? If that is the case, I do not see how energy can be wasted in Pykara. Sir, have the Government done everything to see that more energy is created? Have the Government created energy near the Periyar project? I understand there is a fall of 1,000 feet near the Periyar project and this could be utilised for the creation of more energy. Unfortunately we are like dreamers running after huge projects which require large capital which we have not got at present. We are not thinking of schemes which are at our very doors and where energy can be created without much investment of capital. I once again refer to the Periyar project where there is a fall of 1,000 feet. What about several other falls in the districts of Krishna and East Godavari? Can they not put up small installations and create energy there? Why are these neglected? Therefore I say that before we think of taking over private concerns, it must be the primary and essential duty of the Government to see that they create more energy.

" Sir, I wish to refer to the all-India measure by which they have created Central and Provincial Electricity Boards. I feel that if you create provincial electricity boards which have to be depending on the whims and fancies of the central boards, we will not be in a position to put up many schemes of our own. If these provincial boards are to be constituted by the central board, the only result will be that the backward provinces will get all the chances of development, whereas a province like Madras which has perennial rivers and other sources could not use them to develop more energy. Therefore under the Bill before us, an autonomous board should be created for this province for looking after the creation of more electric energy in this province.

" Sir, the principles that govern commercial enterprises are very different from the principles that govern state departments. In the management of a state department there is regimentation and bureaucratisation and there will be no continuity of

policy. As long as the Hon. Minister now in charge of the department continues to be there, I think everything will be all right. If tomorrow there is a change of Government or even a change in the personnel of the Ministers, the policy of the department also will change. Therefore I would urge that the Government should create an independent and autonomous body to look after electricity. It will then have an independent policy and there will be continuity of policy also and we will be in a position to develop more electric energy.

" Sir, the Central Act contains a provision for the constitution of provincial boards which will be subordinate to the Central Board. Under this arrangement we will lose our initiative and we might have to sacrifice our own interests. This Bill does not make any provision for the constitution of a provincial board.

" Then there is the question of compensation. There are other hon. Members who are more competent to speak on this question. This question should be gone into very carefully. There are several concerns where a large amount of capital has been invested. If you are going to take them over under your scheme of compensation, we really do not know the actual effect of the taking over. I, therefore, suggest that it is better that this Bill is circulated for eliciting public opinion. With these words, I move my motion."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir. I wish to second the motion moved by my hon. Friend that this Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion. It is a matter of common knowledge that this Bill is of considerable importance to the people at large and will have far-reaching consequences on this Province; it affects the consumers, the share-holders, the managing agents and a variety of other people who are connected with the various electrical undertakings. As such it would be better for the Government not to rush through this measure, but elicit public opinion before proceeding with it. This after all will not take a very long time. It will mean a delay of but a few months. The measure is not one of such urgency that it cannot brook a little delay.

" I was listening with great interest to the elucidating speech delivered by the Hon. Minister with reference to this measure. So far as the principle of the Bill is concerned, i.e., the nationalization of public utilities, there will be few in this country who will cavil at it. But the point is whether the time is opportune for the implementation of this principle. At the present moment when the finances of the country are in a sorry plight, it would be better to defer the nationalization of such undertakings and wait for a few yars until matters have improved and in the meanwhile increase the production of electrical energy in the Province. That should be the proper procedure. Without producing the necessary energy, it is no use taking over the existing concerns. I quite realize that it is necessary to electrify our villages but a number of electric companies in the districts are not in a position to

undertake this work. Adult education and the electrification of the villages are two essential matters that require attention for the uplift of the rural areas, and their importance cannot be minimized. But having regard to the finances of the Province, I feel that the time is not opportune at present for the Government to incur large scale expenditure in the purchase of electrical undertakings, for which the Government are in honour bound to pay an equitable price. The Hon. Minister informed us that three crores of rupees would be required for nationalization of electricity throughout this Province. Though this sum represents but one-third of the fair market value of the electrical concerns that are intended to be taken over, even this amount, I am afraid, will be difficult for the Government to procure. I do not know how they propose to pay this sum as their existing commitments are already heavy. For the implementation of the Zamindari Abolition Act, the Government have to find Rs. 12½ crores and they cannot afford to come forward with another measure that will involve them in heavy capital expenditure. The primary matter that should be attended to at present is the improvement of the economic situation which is far from happy in this country. At a time such as this when the finances of the Province need careful handling, it is essential that any measure which is likely to create disruption or distrust in financial circles should be avoided. Hence, I feel that the time is not ripe for the nationalization of electrical undertakings in the Province.

"I am sorry to note that the compensation that the Government intend to pay to the electrical undertakings that are to be taken over is not at all fair and adequate. When the Government were liberal enough to offer the market value to the Madras Electric Supply Corporation which was owned by foreigners, though it involved the payment of a collossal amount, I do not see why they should not adopt the same policy with regard to indigenous undertakings even though the amount to be paid to them is much less. Under the Indian Electricity Act, as the Hon. Minister admitted the licensees have a statutory right to demand the market value plus a solatium. If the Government wish to nationalize any undertaking, they are at liberty to do so provided they pay the fair market value for the same. It is true that the market value of everything is inflated to-day to the extent of about three times, but has the rupee now the same purchasing power as before? Do we not have to pay three times the price that we paid formerly for our food, clothing, lodging and everything else? Likewise, if the Government wish to take over any undertaking now, they have to pay an inflated price for it. Had the market value gone down, would the Government have taken their present stand? The confidence of the public has already been undermined in the security of the investment market and measures like the present Bill will shake public confidence still further. Sir, I have just now received a chit from Srimathi Ammanna Raja on the other side of the House. She wants me to ask the Hon. the Finance Minister who said yesterday that the recruitment of women police was a luxury as to whether the Bill that is now before the House is not a luxury."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think the hon. the Lady Member need not have referred to the chit at all."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The chit was meant for her private consumption only."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Reverting to the question of compensation, I wish to emphasize that at the present time when the stock market is in doldrums, the Government should not by their refusal to honour the existing contracts between themselves and the licensees cause further depression in that market and shake further the confidence of the people in the economic stability of the country. If the Government wish to undertake nationalization, by all means they can do so, but let them pay the fair market value for every undertaking they intend to nationalize. That is the fair procedure. Feeling helpless in the matter and despairing of getting the current market value, I understand that the Electric Licensees Association has suggested that as an alternative, the Government should pay the full paid-up share capital and debenture capital plus a solatium at the rate of one per cent of the combined capital for each year of the life of the licence that has expired, or 20 per cent of such combined capital, whichever is lower. This, I think, is a very modest demand. If the Government cannot be urged upon to pay the market value, they should at least accept the above suggestion, which is a very reasonable one and is not an extravagant demand in the least. The Hon. Minister stated that the paid-up capital of the companies came to about Rs. 2 crores; if the debenture capital plus the solatium, that is demanded, is added to this, that will be the amount of compensation that will have to be paid according to the suggestion of the Electric Licensees' Association. Whatever the Government may do, let them not act in such a manner as will shake the confidence of the public in the economic stability of the land still further by making a fetish of nationalization. Let us learn a lesson from the plight of poor Britain who finds herself in straitened circumstances to-day as a result of the reckless policy of nationalization pursued by the Labour Government. The example of other nations should be an eye-opener to us. Nationalization may be good in certain respects, particularly with reference to public utilities, but let us take stock of the present situation and act in such a manner as will be conducive to the economic well-being of the country. Let us not drive away the foreign capital that may be forthcoming which will be scared away if we persist in slogans of nationalization; and let us not further deter our indigenous capital which has already become very shy from playing its part in the industrialization of the country. The leaders of the nation are crying from the house-tops that the crying need of the hour is industrialization so that the standard of living of the masses may be raised. To secure this end it is necessary to encourage private enterprise instead of indulging in slogans of nationalization.

12-30 p.m.

"Another point that I should like to mention is that the managing agents have been dealt with rather harshly in this Bill.

[Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin] [24th November 1949

Under clause 15 of the Bill, they are asked to go away without any compensation whatsoever, regardless of the contract they have had with the company. This is undoubtedly very hard. If the Government wish to nationalize a concern, they should undertake to safeguard the rights of the managing agents as well and to honour the agreements which have been entered into by that company. I trust the Select Committee will bear this point also in mind when the Bill is referred to it."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Amendment moved—

' That the Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion '."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" I am not supporting the amendment of Mr. Majid. On the other hand, I am opposing the Bill. At the same time, I certainly do not oppose the policy of the Government so far as nationalization is concerned.

" In the speech the Hon. Minister made in introducing the Bill, he has patted himself on the back very nicely. He said the Government have started from scratch and have made a tremendous progress; he thinks the licensees have not done much good, that they have not been able to command the necessary capital and they have been unable to meet urban loads. I want to ask what an urban load is and how the licensees have failed in their work. (At this stage the Deputy Speaker occupied the Chair.) Madam, there is absolutely no such thing as urban load in this country. For instance, I have got places like Villupuram, Panruti, Cuddalore, etc. Do you call this urban load? These generating stations which are supposed to have failed are all stations given to licensees in the old days by the Government themselves. At the time they gave, the Government themselves knew that the private licensee was going to put in a 100 or 200 horse-power engine; and the licensee was not told that he must take charge of the rural load and he was not given a licence for such load. I may tell you that in the Andhra districts, in a place like Narasaraopet the licensee has been asking for an extension of his licence, but the Government said there was no need for it. He wanted some assistance for getting the machinery, and the Government were not able to give any assistance. But whatever it is, I do not grumble about the accusations made by the Government; the licensees have done their work very well and they have done it much better than what the Government themselves have been doing. I want to tell the Government that. The Government, with all their financial resources and a big area of supply, have not done in proportion, as much as the licensees have done. Anyhow, I am not going to raise a controversy here on that point because the Government are all-powerful and whatever Government say will alone go down the throats of not only hon. Members of this House but also members of the public. The Hon. Minister was talking about the fair rate; he was talking on the presumption that if the cost incurred in fixing up was Rs. 50 in the old days, they could pay the same old price, without knowing that what was Rs. 50 then now costs Rs. 150. But let him understand there was a contract between the licensee

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and the Government of Madras. The Madras Government gave a licence under the Indian Electricity Act and that Act provides for a fair market value plus solatium. Suppose the fair market value has gone down now, would the Minister repeat these arguments? On account of the abnormal situation after the war, there has been an increase in price; so I submit it is not an argument to say that the old price should be given. If you do not want to give fair market value, all right, do not give; but now you are rushing through this Bill; why? Because on the 26th of January next the new constitution comes into existence and you cannot do better then than now, and so you want to take advantage of the present situation and you want to cheat the share-holders of their proper dues. By all means do it, I say; the share-holders are not bothered; they are the people who first gave money to the licensees. If the licensees had not exploited the areas in the old days, how could the Government give supply to such big areas now? When the Mettur project was under way and supply was being got ready, who is it that in the South Arcot, Chingleput and other districts were trying to induce people to take to electricity, giving the people all facilities to take electricity? All that, the Government have conveniently forgotten now, and yet I do not want to grumble. I would only refer to this argument about fair market value. Let me tell you that this ' reasonable compensation ' has become reasonable simply because the Government of India set their foot on it. Then the Hon. Minister talked about buying up of shares. That is what happened in England; but let me see if he can buy all the shares of any concern here. It is no good referring to the share values in this country.

" The Government of India Supply Act of 1948, aims at the rationalization of electrical development in the country and is a comprehensive measure including in its scope the co-operation of private enterprise through Licensees' Undertakings. Under it, the Government of India wisely enlist the commercial and business talents and the efficiency of private enterprise in a manner which is on the one hand controlling the activities of the licensees rationally and equitably and on the other, providing for the necessary assistance to the licensees, and the creation of conditions for them for functioning efficiently and make progress. While thus the Government of India envisage a new set-up for the electrical development of the country based upon enlightened self-interest and co-operation of private enterprise, the Provincial Government apparently does not subscribe to the Central electrical policy. If the Government of Madras want to nationalise the electrical undertakings in this Province, it is not fair on their part to state that this is necessitated by the bad work of the licensees in the past or the absence of scope for better progress in the future. Nevertheless, if the Government of Madras want to nationalise the licensees' undertakings, the licensees will co-operate with them in handing over the undertakings. As the President of the Licensees' Association myself, I may say that we the Members have already

agreed to hand over all our undertakings; we said that the compensation offered by the Government is not unreasonable. Now, we only want fairness on two main issues: (1) rightful compensation, and (2) effective implementation and not paper legislation.

" I will deal first with rightful compensation. Under the Government of India Indian Electricity Act, the licensees have unequivocal statutory rights for market value plus solatium. The Government of Madras are giving market value in the case of the very large undertaking, the Madras Electric Supply Corporation. When they have conceded this in the case of a foreign firm and where a colossal amount is involved, where is the fairness in denying it to the small Indian undertakings with Indian shareholders who have seen only bad days with only meagre or no dividends in the past years due to causes, some of which are the making of the Government themselves? That the Government of Madras cannot afford to pay such a compensation in their present financial position is no answer to it, because it is no justification for a policy of robbing Peter the shareholder and paying Paul the general tax-payer. I understand that the Government of India consistently rejected the attempts of the Government of Madras to deny fair compensation to the licensees and that even the little reasonableness in the basis of compensation in the Madras Bill is largely due to the Government of India and is substantially less than what the Government of India would have liked. It is patent that this Government want to place this right-denying Act on the Statute Book before the new Constitution of India comes into force, as under the new Constitution Act, the Government of India are going to ensure the rights of compensation on an equitable basis for undertakings to be nationalized. The attempt of the Goevrnment of Madras is therefore to cancel out the existing rights in the existing Indian Electricity Act and the forthcoming rights under the coming Constitution Act. This is an indignified attempt on the part of the Provincial Government to deny the rights of a section of the investing public.

" Coming next to implementation, what is more serious than the question of compensation is the mere paper enactment without ability to implement it. When the Government have no money to take over the undertakings by paying even the small compensation they have decided themselves, why should they place this Act on the Statute Book. Who will be benefited by this unwanted legislation? It will be striking a serious blow to the undertakings for the balance periods before they are actually taken over by undermining the confidence of the investing public. The licensees will not be able to get any more investment from the public for extensions and the Government will not be able to give them loans in their present financial position. This enactment without the ability to take over will be completing the destructive influence of the Goevrnment on the undertakings. Development will be at a standstill in the licensees' area. Rural

development to which Government attach so much importance will become impossible. Therefore, neither the Government nor the managing agents, neither the shareholders nor the prospective consumers, neither the industrial development nor the rural development will have any vestige of benefit from this unwanted legislation. What then motivates the Government of Madras in rushing through this legislation? It is blatantly their intention to deny the compensation under the Indian Electricity Act.

" Further, the bifurcation of the province is now facing us. At a time when the Government are engaged in dividing the province, is it fair to rush this legislation? Could they not wait to enable it to be tackled by each of the bifurcated provinces in its own way to suit its own conditions? The undertakings which are really necessary to be taken over immediately are in the Andhra area and after January 26th 1950, the Andhra Legislature will have power to modify the law if the new Andhra Province is created. The result will be that we shall be left with a Statute for the remaining area of the Madras Province to which it is not intended to be applied immediately.

" To sum up, it looks to me, that it is in the larger interests of the Province or the two provinces into which it is to be bifurcated, to defer this legislation. If the Government still persist in the enactment, it is imperative in the interests of the electrical development in the licensees' areas, to find ways and means of taking over the undertakings straightway after the legislation instead of driving them into a very anamolous and helpless position of stagnation. If the Government cannot find funds to take over the undertakings immediately, this legislation should be shelved and declaration made that the licensees can put forth endeavours to develop their areas under the set up of the Government of India Electricity Supply Act till the end of their licence periods. It would be a most unwise step with the limited objective of denying the rightful compensation to the licensees to embark upon this paper legislation without the ability to immediately take over the undertakings and is fraught with most adverse consequences.

" Madam, there are several clauses in the Bill which seem to be rather controversial. I do hope that in the Select Committee, we may be able to go through these controversial clauses and come to some understanding. Under clause 15 the managing director or the managing agent is dismissed straightaway immediately the undertaking is taken over by the Government. The Hon Minister appealed to the managing agents to go with the times but it is not remembered that these managing agents, when they took over their jobs, entered into some agreements with the companies for a certain definite period for a certain specified work; it need not necessarily be an electrical undertaking and it may be any other undertaking and why should the managing director or the managing agent be dismissed? Why should the Government put their fingers into the Indian Companies Act which provides for these contracts? These are matters that we have to look into. Madam, again I must state that in the Statement of Objects and

12-45 p.m.

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Reasons, misleading statements have been made and I must protest very strongly that every word is misleading there; it is only written just to help the Bill and I should have expected the Government to say. 'Well, the Government gave licences to all these people; now that the time has come for the people to take interest in these electrical undertakings, Government propose to put through their nationalization Bill.' Such a thing would have been very generous to the licensees. Anyhow, I hope that this Bill will undergo a thorough revision at the Select Committee stage and emerge therefrom without the defects that I have pointed out."

* SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—" Madam, I am unable to envisage why the Hon. Minister has been pleased to introduce this Bill—a Bill, of an enabling character without the necessary financial conditions required being carefully watched and without any consideration to the fact that no disruption or distress should be created in the financial market. If this Bill is enacted, it will require Rs. 3 crores or a little more and the Hon. Minister for Finance must be able to tell us whether they will be able to get this amount from the market for such purposes. I would say no. The Ministry is not realistic and it will be an unduly heavy burden upon the country. Madam, investors are compeltely disturbed over such Bills based on doctrinnaire principles which do not say when they will take up the undertakings which are already there and pay for them. Suspense created in the market has been so heavy that a number of shares which were being quoted at a premium have gone down. I will quote a few of them. The Guntur power second preference shares were being quoted at Rs. 120 but now there are no buyers; the Narasapur Electrical Supply preference shares whose face value was Rs. 35 paid up, were quoted a short time ago at Rs. 38-8-0 and there is the same thing there—no buyers for them even at par. The Visakhapatnam Electric Supply Company's preference shares which were quoted at Rs. 120 have now gone down to Rs. 100. Is it the intention of the Government to create suspense in the market and shake whatever confidence there is in the market. We have been crying hoarse here and on various platforms that the investors have gone shy and even the Deputy Prime Minister some time ago said that capital is not forthcoming for the constructive work of the country. For that I feel the blame lies on the Government and they have to answer why capital is not forthcoming. The answer is very clear; it is because doctrinnaire principles have completely absorbed the Treasury Benches and instead of attending to things like food, housing and clothing, higher priority is given to things which they cannot undertake. In the Statement of Objects and reasons, the Hon. the Minister has attributed certain defects to the present companies but he has not taken into account the fact that these companies were promoted during pre-war days and that they had to do uphill work. Is it their fault that they should be told that the undertakings will be taken over and the shareholders will have poor compensation, to which I shall refer later. When these concerns are taken over by the Government I would

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ask, Madam, whether they have got personnel to run the organization which is spread over the different parts of the country. Nationalization of a number of small concerns, let me warn the Hon. Minister, Madam, would mean inefficiency and nepotism. The number of companies is big and many are already catering to urban areas. If they are asking the Government for a loan for the extension of their work, it is because the credit structure has completely been destroyed in the country by such enabling Bills and the loose talks of the Ministers, both Provincial and Central. Madam, the financial position of the companies and the Government would be disturbed by this enabling Bill. Let me draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the fact that the companies have got debentures, preference shares and ordinary shares. As I told you, even preference shares are not selling at par and there are no buyers. These are the people who paid premium for them because they felt that they were safe in investing on these electrical undertakings. Is it right for the Government to disrupt the financial structure of the market? In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, the basis of compensation has been given. The Hon. the Minister for Public Works has been apologetic to say that fair market value has not been defined anywhere which means that by an arbitrary rule he could say what the fair market value would be. It means that the Government are not agreeable to pay the fair market value as may be judged by a Board if the Government so create one or by a court of law. That is why the enabling clauses have given power to the Government to pay the average net annual profit of the undertaking for a period of five accounting years. This, I feel, Sir, is a very hard and harsh method of apportioning the value, because during the war time no extensions were possible and because of that the profits of the companies during the last five years have gone down. The alternative scheme is the aggregate value of the shares of the undertaking, the value of each share being reckoned at its average value over a period of three years commencing on the 1st April 1946. Here again, this is not a correct way of paying as the Hon. Minister must be fully aware that the shares of these companies were in a depressed condition with the result that the share value has gone down. It is not fair that he should try to take advantage of the depressed value of the shares for these three years. The third basis is the book value of the works and other assets of the undertaking actually handed over to Government together with a reasonable solatium. The Hon. Minister has been pleased to tell the House that the maximum will be 20 per cent but I must point out, Madam, that, with the appreciated value of stocks of these undertakings, the average compensation of 20 per cent over book value is very unreasonable and arbitrary. The shareholders feel that when the value of their stocks has increased, it is reasonable that the Government should pay them the book value. In sub-clause (4) of clause 12, it is stated that in the case of any other licensee, the Government shall deposit in court three-fourths of the amount estimated. Might I ask, Sir, why it should

be deposited. The company is in existence and will it not be possible for the Government to pay the amount to the company which is due to it, so that the Board of Directors may distribute the assets among the shareholders. I have only to reiterate in this connection that the wise maxim of Emperor Asoka that no king shall trade or begin industrial undertakings is very necessary to-day. Otherwise, the Government will take up all the different concerns for nationalization. I feel that this Bill amounts to a post-dated cheque in that it is an enabling Bill and there is no necessity for this Bill in the present state of affairs. Therefore, I oppose the Bill."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I am not opposed to the Government taking over public utility concerns but I am certainly opposed to several of the provisions embodied in the Bill."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Then, you will not take advantage of it in your Province nor will you move one like it at Vijayavada."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"If I move a Bill, it will contain provisions which are more equitable and fair to everybody concerned. The Hon. the Minister for Public Works prefaced his Bill with his Statement of Objects and Reasons which contains more slogans rather than statements of fact. All those things were not necessary for the Government to take over these undertakings. While I agree that the Government are at liberty to take those undertakings, it was not necessary for the Hon. Minister to make statements which are absolutely controversial and contrary to the licences given already and to the faith on which the shareholders invested their money and it was not fair for the Hon. Minister to say that the "fair market value" shall not be given. I cannot imagine a more unfair statement from a Government than the one that the Government are not prepared to give the fair market value. If we refer to section 7 of the Indian Electricity Act under which our licences were issued and on the faith of which several people invested their money, it will be seen that everybody who invested and everybody who induced others to invest, were of the opinion that if the undertaking was to be purchased by the Government or a local authority, they would be given a fair market value. Why should that faith be broken by a Government representing, as they say the people of this Province. Madam, we always address appeals on behalf of the people of this Province. So, why should we now do an act which would break the faith the people have in us.

1 p.m.

"Then, Madam, another strange argument has been brought forward, and that is the supposed conflict between the urban and rural population. There is absolutely no conflict between the rural and urban population in this Province. It is only a remarkable excuse for taking over private electrical undertakings of this Province. Now, where was the necessity for the Hon. Minister for

Public Works to bring in the conflict between the rural and urban population, and between the rural needs and the urban needs. I submit it is not a fair method of dealing with the question. It is intended,—deliberately intended—to cloud the real issue the real point that Government want to take over private electricity undertakings without giving a fair market value. The Hon. Minister admits, he avers, and he declares that Government are not prepared to purchase the undertakings at their fair market value; and yet he avers that it is not an expropriatory affair. I submit the case of zamindars stood on a different footing. Zamindars like Ramnad, Sivaganga, Bobbili and Pithapuram had no market value. They are all on a different footing. Here we are concerned with electrical undertakings which have got a definite share value, a definite capital value, which have got audited accounts, which have got year by year profit and loss accounts, and more than all these, there was an undertaking by the Government which has been embodied in the licence conditions. And here I would refer hon. Members to section 7 of the Indian Electricity Act. There are two kinds of licensees contemplated, licensees who are local authorities and others who are private licensees. Now, it is said in that Act it is the local uathority that has got the option to purchase the underaking. For example, in the case of Visakhapatnam, the licence envisages the first option being exercised by the local authority. That is completely ignored by the provisions of this Bill. If only the local authority declines to exercise its option that the Provincial Government can exercise the option of purchasing the undertaking, and that only after the first twenty years. It is clearly written in the licence itself, that the option to purchase given by section 7 (1) shall be exercised only on the expiration of twenty years from the commencement of the licence. Now, this period has not elapsed in any case. Then it is also stated, —it is a statutory provision,—that not less than two years' notice in writing of any election to purchase shall be served on the licensee by the local authority or the Provincial Government as the case may be. Madam, these undertakings are great business concerns and so the framers of the measure thought that one month's or two months' notice or three months' notice was not sufficient and so they fixed two years' notice. They were not unwise in providing for such a long period of notice. The Hon. Minister for Public Works said that Government are not going to give the fair market value for them, because, he said, it would be a high figure and so he is not prepared to give. Now, I ask where is fairness in that. He said that the capital of these private concerns is about two crores, and Government are not prepared to give more than three and a half crores: that is, according to their calculation. That figure is not absolutely correct. The capital invested by the private concerns amounts to two crores and forty lakhs But the Hon. Minister for Public Works says, he is giving three and a half crores, and so, it is not expropriatory. I say, it is expropriatory to the extent it does not come up to a fair

market value. For according to a fair market value it amounts to five crores but the Hon. Minister is willing to give only three and a half crores, and so, I say, it is expropriatory to the extent of one and a half crores. The Hon. Minister definitely declared that he is not prepared to consider a fair market value and a fair method of valuation. Now, Madam, the section says:

'The licensee shall sell the undertaking to the local authority on payment of the value of all lands, buildings, works, materials and plant of the licensee suitable to and used by him for the purpose of the undertaking, etc.'

"Then the Act goes on to state as follows:—

'Provided that the value of such lands, buildings, works, materials and plant shall be deemed to be their fair market value at the time of purchase, due regard being had to the nature and condition for the time being of such lands, buildings, works, materials and plant, and to the state of repair thereof and to the circumstance that they are in such a position as to be ready for immediate working and to the suitability of the same for the purpose of the undertaking.'

So they are not merely fixtures fixed there for utility without life, going on, without energy and they are not mere static things. The Act envisages that in taking over the undertakings, specific regard should be paid to the circumstance that they are in such a position as to be ready for immediate working. In view of all this, how does the Hon. Minister say that none of these considerations can be taken into account and try to pass off that argument as a very plausible argument, that the interests of the public are greater and therefore he is not prepared to give the fair market value. I say, the interests of the public are being sabotaged by the Goverment when he says 'I shall not respect contracts, I shall not respect the conditions of these licences granted by Government themselves.' Every time the Government say, 'We shall take a private enterprise, but we shall not give it a fair market value' the interests of the public are sabotaged. It is not Government alone who have got the interests of the public at heart. I am as much interested in the interests of the public as the Hon. Minister. I want to see a good society established, that a good orderly progressive society is built up and place on a sound footing private right. I say, as a member of the public, as one who can see at least an year ahead what is going to happen as a result of statements made by those who are responsible that a fair market value shall not be given in the interests of the public, such persons are the very persons who are jeopardising the interest of the public. Let every member of the public understand this; let him not be carried away, situated as we are under certain conditions, that fair market value cannot be given in the interest of the public. How paradoxical a statement it is, that by avoiding to give a fair market value promised under the conditions of licence, under terms in which people were encouraged to invest their money, the interest of the public is jeopardised. So let not the Government say so in the interest of the prestige of the Government. I belong to the same party to which the Hon. Minister for Public Works belongs. We all belong to that great and respected organization the Congress, which has never said that when property is taken,

its fair market value shall not be given. Let the Hon. Minister consider the effect of his policy on the society. May I submit to the Hon. Minister that it is not an extraordinary price he is asked to pay now. If I had invested five lakhs in the undertaking even if he gives to-day seven and a half lakhs, it is not a fair market value for the investment because there is no purchasing power party. Let him give the full value of the money he invested. I do not ask for anything more than that; I do not ask for seven lakhs; I do not ask for five lakhs. If a dispute should arise, why not refer the matter to an arbitrator, as was done in the case of the Madras Electric Supply Corporation? What was done two years back may be done now. Why should we give the go-bye to the very good principle embodied in section 7 (1) of the Indian Electricity Act? Nothing has transpired now to give the go-bye to it. It is not for us to lead to conditions of things as in East Asia. We have condemned other ideologies in unmistakable terms. We have condemned persons who have jettisoned our ideologies. Let us be calm and realize that we are followers of the doctrine of Ahimsa. Should we give effect to the ideals of expropriation which we ourselves condemn? I submit, if there is a dispute about the fair market value, let it be referred to an arbitrator. Give me the money which has the purchasing power parity with what I invested. Is that unfair to ask? Let me say the interest of the public should be safeguarded. The public must have a certain amount of confidence in their investment; they must be sure of the return of the labour they put in; they must be sure that their capital is safe. If the Government do not guarantee that, if the Government do not give them that security of their capital, then do not say, Government loans are falling. Those who create conditions like this, when they appeal for capital, cannot say 'our conditions are difficult.' I submit I am not saying that the Hon. Public Works Minister has in mind all these things; but I am only thinking that he has not visualized all these results which are bound to occur and which are not conducive to the orderly and smooth progress of society. Therefore I submit that in the interests of the prestige of this Government, let us not be parties to a legislation which will create conditions of suspense and not conditions of certainty and smooth progress. I would have been glad if the Bill had envisaged some certainty. What has it done? The Hon. Minister for Public Works was good enough to say that it was an enabling measure. He has used a very nice language. He is a very mild gentleman who generally uses non-violent language. Therefore it is that he has said that this is an enabling measure. A measure which keeps the Damocle's Sword always hanging over your heads, a measure which never allows you to live or die, that is an enabling measure! 1-15 p.m.

"There is an Explanation in clause 3 (2): 'There shall be no obligation on the part of the Government to purchase any undertaking in pursuance of any notice given as aforesaid.' If there is no obligation to follow up a notice, then why should we issue the notice at all? Is it simply to make an announcement that the

Government are going to purchase a particular electrical undertaking, lower the market value of its shares and then allow the undertaking and the shareholders to lapse into a state of suspended animation? Then why should we say on the floor of this House that the undertaking has not been able to discharge its functions? Statements already made on the floor of this House a number of times have created conditions in which no decent and good company can produce electricity and discharge its other obligations satisfactorily. Provision is made for the service of notice and immediately follows the explanation that there shall be no obligation to follow up that notice.

" Proviso to clause 4 says ' Provided that the Government may, from time to time, postpone such date . . .' Why specify a date in the order of acquisition and then postpone it for some reason or other? Electrical licensees are not in the same position as the zamindars whose estates the Government have acquired by another Act. They are businessmen. They are more than a government. Businessmen certainly require precision in their business dealings. In the existing condition of stringent finance, what will happen if the Government announce their intention to acquire an undertaking on a particular date and then postpone it? The hon. Mr. Kothari read out certain figures about the market value of shares. After the announcement of the Government to take over electrical undertakings and even before the actual taking over, the share values have fallen. We produce a condition whereby we deliberately depress the market value and then say we shall not give even that value. I submit these are things which the Hon. Minister should seriously consider at least at the Select Committee stage and remove every vestige of uncertainty. This is a business matter, and there must be as much precision as possible in business matters.

" The Hon. Minister referred to the Indian Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 (Central Act LIV of 1948). He said: ' I cannot wait for the co-ordination of the electricity policy of the Government. If some provinces want to go in advance, why should we wait for the Central Government? ' It is a nice way of saying things. Every day we expect several things from the Central Government. Constituted as we are, it is also possible for us to say: ' We shall not wait for the Central Government.' Is the Central Government Act so bad? Has it blocked progress? It says that its object is ' to provide for the rationalization of the production and supply of electricity . . .' Section 3 of that Act provides for the constitution of a Central Electricity Authority generally to exercise such functions and perform such duties under the Act as to develop a sound, adequate and uniform national power policy and particularly to co-ordinate the activities of the planning agencies in relation to the control and utilization of national power resources, and to carry out investigations and to collect and record data concerning the generation, distribution and utilization of power. That Act does not envisage the disappearance of licensees altogether. Section 18,

which deals with the general duties of the Provincial Electricity Boards, makes special mention of licensees. Therefore it envisages that they will form part of the future electrical economy of this country. While it is not obligatory on the part of this Government to wait for the formation of the Provincial Electricity Boards some of whose powers may be in conflict with those which this Government would like to exercise, I submit that the passing of a Bill like this at this stage seems to me to be just a little hasty.

" In this connexion, I should like to refer to clause 23 (1). It says:

> ' No provision of the Electricity Act or of the Electricity Supply Act or of any rule made under either Act or of any instrument having effect by virtue of either Act or any rule made thereunder shall, in so far as it is inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act, have any effect.'

This not only expropriates property but expropriates legislation also. In Section 126 of the Government of India Act, we find that, wherever there is conflict between the provincial and the Central legislation, it is the Central legislation that will prevail. I submit that a general statement like this that in cases of repugnancy it is the provincial legislation that will prevail is somewhat extra-constitutional. The Legal Department may be satisfied that the Act resulting from this Bill will be valid if it is reserved for the assent of the Governor-General. In the face of section 126 of the Government of India Act, I submit that a clause like this should not have been introduced in this Bill.

" I will not go into the other details of the Bill, as I expect that the points which I have suggested not by way of opposition to the Government taking over electrical undertakings but only to modify the manner of taking over will be considered at the Select Committee stage. It is only with reference to the manner of taking over that I have made some criticisms and I hope the Hon. Minister for Public Works will seriously consider them. It is only on the strength of the licences issued to various electrical undertakings under section 3 (1) of the Indian Electricity Act, 1910, that the people have invested their money. Such investments are completed contracts and no government can cancel contracts already entered into. It may be argued that the legislature is supreme so far as legislation is concerned and that we can do anything. But I am only questioning the propriety and wisdom of cancelling our own contracts. It is only between fifteen to twenty years since the Government entered into these contracts. Shall we within three years of our attaining independence say that we are cancelling the contracts under the changed circumstances? Even if the circumstances have changed, there must be a compelling reason. I submit that the changed circumstances do not warrant the Government cancelling their own contracts. Such cancellation will not conduce to the credit of the Government on which depends so much of the future financial structure and economic progress of this Province."

[24th November 1949

* SRI K. LINGA RAJU:—" Madam Deputy Speaker, I congratulate the Hon. Minister on bringing forward this Bill. I can only say that it has not been brought a day sooner than is necessary. Unification of the electricity system under one control and that too government control is absolutely necessary for the development of both agriculture and industry. Several of us who receive our electric supply from private companies know what an inconvenience it is to get supply from such companies. But at this stage it is not fair on our part to pass disparaging remarks about companies that have done really pioneering work at a time when the Government did not think of extending electricity either to rural parts or even to urban parts. On account of import licences and controls, it has become almost impossible for private companies to develop of their own accord. Government alone can develop electricity to the required extent. The hon. Mr. Majid's plea for extension of electricity is only an argument in favour of the Government taking over the whole business.

" It is really gratifying to see that a person like the hon. Mr. Natesan, who has some interests in electrical business, should come forward and say that the Government are not unreasonable in the matter of compensation. The general approval that is given to this Bill by the Press also makes us feel that the compensation provided for is fairly reasonable. If there are any unreasonable factors in the Bill, they can be modified in the Select Committee. This is after all an enabling measure. Messrs. Natesan and Kothari expressed the view that this would only be a paper Bill. I hope it is not the intention of the Government to keep it as a mere paper Bill. Several of the concerns especially in the north where electricity development was neglected in the past are in a very bad state, and we are very anxious that they should be immediately taken over by the Government. As a matter of fact, the management of the Rajahmundry Electric Supply Corporation is prepared to hand over the concern to the Government, but the Government are unable to take it over for want of power. Therefore I generally welcome this measure.

" I would like to answer the argument about the sanctity of contract put forward by the hon. Mr. Viswanatham. It has been argued on the floor of this House that the Government should not interfere with contracts in public interest. I am as keen about public interest as anybody else. In the past we have interfered with contracts. In passing the Madras Agriculturists Debt Relief Act which was hailed as a very great beneficial measure, we have interfered with the contracts entered into by individuals with His Majesty the King as witness, only in the interests of the general public. In the case of the zamindari legislation also, we have acted only in public interest. The Congress is committed to the nationalization of public utility undertakings, and nothing should prevent our acquiring electrical undertakings on payment of a reasonable compensation.

24th November 1949] [Sri K. Linga Raju]

" About the market value, I should like to say a few words. It is not very fair even on the part of the companies to demand the present market value, because that is not the amount which they have actually spent. The various bases of compensation provided for in this Bill give them ample scope to get back their investment. As one who has gauged the feelings of some of the shareholders in my place, I say that they will be very happy if the undertakings are taken over by the Government and not allowed to deteriorate,—thereby lowering the market value of the shares.

" On general principles I wholeheartedly support this Bill. The details can very well be thrashed out in the Select Committee."

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" Mr. Speaker, most of us heard the speech of the Hon. Minister for Public Works this morning with rapt attention. His arguments were naturally in favour of the nationalization of the public utility undertakings. But the question whether nationalization is good or not is beside the point because that is not the immediate issue before us and that is not the way in which we should look at this Bill. If only we see the achievements of the Government in the past in the matter of nationalization of public utility services, we will know what a mess they have made of them. We have before us the glaring instance of the abolition of the zamindaris. Although that Bill has been passed some months ago, and the estates taken over, the Government are still considering where to get the money and how to pay compensation, in what form and when. The Hon. Finance Minister is thinking hard as to how to raise the money required and how to pay the amount that has been ordered to be paid by the High Command at Delhi, to the zamindars by way of compensation. So far as this Bill is concerned, the only clause which gives any indication as to the mode of compensation payable to undertakings taken over by the Government, is clause 12, which says that the Government shall deposit in court three-fourths of the amount of estimated compensation. Sir, as my hon. Friend Mr. Majid put it, there seems to be some craze in the minds of certain Hon. Ministers to associate their names with some important Bills or reforms during their term of office. Sir, there is not even a single sentence in this Bill to indicate when or by what date the Government will be able to take over these undertakings. The Hon. Minister for Public Works, in his speech this morning said that there were several requests from the public from the shareholders and from the companies also to take them over. Sir, this Congress Ministry has been in office during the last three years, and fortunately the Hon. Minister for Public Works has been in charge of this portfolio during all these years and I want to know why he has not been able to take any steps in this direction before. Sir, this is after all an enabling Bill,

and there is no certainty whether it will be given effect to. We have, for instance, passed an Act for the abolition of the race course, but one fine morning the party in power decided not to give effect to it, because if it was given effect to, it would create confusion. Since that Act did not specify any date from which it was to be in force, it was conveniently shelved and it has not seen the light of day afterwards. Similarly this Bill, which does not specify the date from which it would come into force, might share the same fate.

" Sir, the Hon. Minister has confessed that the Central Government have advised the Provincial Government to pay the fair market value for these undertakings when they are taken over. He has expressed without doubt, that their fair price must be given. But he takes shelter in the fact that fair price has not been defined in any of the statutes. He simply says that because it has not been defined anywhere, he would pay whatever he thinks as the fair price with some solatium, if necessary. Sir, I want to put a definite question to him. When this Government nationalised the Madras Electric Supply Corporation and took over all their plants and machinery, they ordered that their full market value should be paid. How is it at that time they never thought of the various alternative methods of arriving at the compensation to be paid for that concern, which they have provided for in this Bill? Is it because that it was a foreign concern? After all, the same Government and the same Minister are here and they are enacting this measure to-day. In taking over these Indian companies, the Hon. Minister has come forward with a different formula, for calculating the compensation. In the case of the Madras Electric Supply Corporation, he paid the market price and in order to arrive at the market price, he actually employed certain foreign experts to come over here and work out the market price after taking into account the assets and liabilities of the company. I do not know why he has shown this discrimination between English and Indian concerns. There must be some method in madness also. After all these companies were registered and were working under the same conditions, some started by certain people in the city and some by certain others in the mufassal, but when you want to take them over, you want to show a different treatment in the matter of paying compensation. As I said, in the case of the taking over of the Madras Electric Supply Corporation, the Government decided to bring down from England a firm of experts to work out its market value and even paid Rs. 3,38,00,000 in advance, before taking possession of that concern. But here, in this Bill, there is some jugglery of words and no opportunity is given to these Indian concerns to have their say in the matter, while the M.E.S.C. which was owned by foreigners were consulted beforehand.

" Sir, one of the reasons given by the Hon. Minister for taking over these public utility undertakings is that they are not paying sufficient attention to the electrification of rural areas.

But, Sir, I have with me concrete facts to show that it is the Government who stand in the way of the extension of service to rural areas. I know, as a matter of fact, Sir, that the Narasaraopet Electric Supply Corporation offered to extend their service connections to Chilakalurpet and other rural areas, but the Government refused to accord the necessary sanction. The Government have been promising to electrify those places for the last three years, but they have neither done so themselves nor allowed the Corporation to do it. Sir, the Government are adopting a dog in the manger policy in this respect. They neither do it themselves nor allow others to do it. In the case I have just cited, the Narasaraopet Electric Supply Corporation which was given permission to extend its service to certain rural areas, when they approached Government for taking power from the Vijayavada thermal station, were actually refused permission to do so. Sir, there seems to be an impression in the minds of some hon. Members of this House as also in the minds of the public at large, that as soon as the Government come forward and take over these private concerns and run them themselves, everything will be all right and that electric supply will become perfect. But, I submit, Sir, it is a very wrong impression, because we have seen that wherever the Government have interfered with private enterprise, they have not been successful. But, however, in this field there is vast scope for both Government and private enterprise. If only the Government have the necessary materials, the necessary finance and the necessary trained technicians, and the willingness to give the necessary facilities and assistance to the private companies, I am sure, Sir, there is vast scope for the extension of service and power could be taken to almost every village in this Province. There can be no clash of interests between the Government and the private concern in this matter, because it is a vast field and there are still vast areas in this Province where electric power has not been taken. As my hon. Friend Mr. Majid said, it would take ten years for the Government to supply electricity throughout the Province.

" Sir, the Government took over the Cuddapah Electric Supply Company some two or three years ago, but till this day, they have not paid any money to them by way of compensation. Perhaps they would have given some special shares to some persons, but actually they have not paid any compensation at all for that company. In this respect, I submit that my hon. Friend Mr. Kala Venkata Rao deserves to be congratulated, because he was able to get his Zamindari Abolition Bill through this House, which enabled him to take possession of the estates without payment of compensation immediately and which contained the provision that Government could pay compensation at whatever time they please. But here in this Bill, they have to some extent at least defined the basis of compensation and have promised to deposit one-third of the amount in a court in advance.

[Janab Mohamed Abdul Salam] [24th November 1949

" Sir, as I said just now, this is only an enabling measure, but my own doubt is that the Government will not be able to take them over for a long time to come, because we see that they are not able to pay compensation even for the zamindaris already taken possession of. Such being the case, I do not know how they will be able to find the necessary money to pay for these electric companies. The Hon. Minister said that he is going to reserve about Rs. 50 lakhs every year in the budget for this purpose. I submit, Sir, that that amount will not be enough. At that rate, it would take a very long time for the Government to take over all the electrical undertakings in this Province. Even in respect of a company like the Cuddapah Electric Supply Company whose assets were taken over some two or three years ago, the Government have not yet paid the money.

" Sir, the Hon. Minister said that the Electric companies in Srikakulam, Ongole and other places have offered themselves to be taken over by the Government. But I ask, even if the Government take them over, have they got any plan to work them out in the right direction and will they be able to ensure proper and satisfactory supply of electricity to the areas concerned? The Hon. Minister claimed that certain private concerns which were nationalised and taken over by the Government, are now better managed and made to give more useful service to the public. Sir, I do not want to say anything about it, but I leave it to the House and the public to judge.

" Sir, long ago, the Government issued a Government Order asking these private companies to apply for loans from Government, if they wanted to expand their activities. A number of applications actually came in from many concerns all over the Province. But the only solitary concern which got the benefit of this offer was a South Indian concern, namely the Seshasayee Brothers. All other applications were not complied with. About Rs. 6 or 7 lakhs were granted as loan to this concern, which is situated in the southernmost corner of this Province, and I do not know why such a preferential treatment has been shown to this company alone and why such a general Government Order has been issued asking all the companies to apply for loans.

" Sir, very rightly this Bill gives some option to these companies to choose one of the three alternatives specified therein, in the matter of calculating the compensation to be paid. I am told, Sir, that some of the directors of these companies met the Hon. Minister for Public Works and suggested to him a fourth alternative, for the consideration of the Government. But I cannot understand why municipalities and other local authorities who have invested large sums in these concerns and who have experience in the field have not been given an opportunity to have their say in the matter. They have no choice in the matter. They must accept three years' profit preceding the vesting date and get out. I do not know why they should be treated like that.

24th November 1949] [Janab Mohamed Abdul Salam]

" Sir, my hon. Friend, Sri T. Viswanatham has explained at length how this Bill comes into clash with the Central Act. Simply because the Governor-General has given his sanction to this measure, this Government have thought that they could proceed with this Bill. Mr. T. Viswanatham gave us instances to show how many of the provisions of this Bill clash with the Central Act. I can give the House another instance how this Bill clashes with a different Central Act. From the date on which the Government take over the assets and liabilities of a certain concern, the post of the managing director of that company goes, and he cannot claim any salary or allowance. Clause 15 of this Bill says that, ' Any agreement between the licensee and his managing agent or managing director shall notwithstanding anything to the contrary in such agreement, be deemed to have been terminated on that date, and the managing agent or managing director shall not be entitled to any remuneration of commission for such period of the agreement as may remain unexpired on the vesting date or to any compensation for the loss of such remuneration or commission.' But that managing director of that company has been elected according to the provisions of the Indian Companies Act, which is a Central Act, by the general body of shareholders. The Government cannot simply come and say, ' Even though you have been duly elected under the Indian Companies Act, we will not pay you anything, because we are going to expropriate the concern '. I think, Sir, that this provision conflicts with the provision in the Indian Companies Act, and therefore it is better that the Government consult their legal advisers in this matter. They cannot simply flout the sanctity of contracts entered into by the company with the managing director, who is elected by the general body, and say that he cannot claim any compensation at all.

" Sir, one of the very pithy remarks made by the Hon. Minister for Public Works was that some of these private companies are on the verge of collapse. No doubt, Sir, it may be true, owing to the want of new plants and machinery and finance. The Narasaraopet Electric Supply Corporation is one example of that. For the last three years this Government have been promising that company to get the necessary new plant and machinery, and I have got letters with me to show that the Government have also assured them that they would give them the necessary financial assistance. But up till now no machinery has been supplied, nor any financial assistance given by the Government. Such being the position, it is not fair for the Hon. Minister to come forward and say that they are on the verge of collapse and so the Government would be helping them by taking them over.

" Sir, the Hon. Minister has no doubt, accepted that these companies have done some pioneer work in the field, but what is their fate under this Bill. The Hon. Minister knows that the rupee value has come down due to devaluation, and my hon. Friend Mr. Kothari who is an expert in share values and share dealings, has clearly shown that these shares are going down; but

to say that because of that you want to take them over by paying less than what has been defined in the Companies Act, is quite unjust.

" With these remarks, Sir, I support the amendment moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Majid that this Bill should be circulated for eliciting public opinion and not referred to a Select Committee. The Government should have enough public support to this Bill and at the same time they should specify the time-limit within which they will be able to take over all these private electricity concerns."

MR. SPEAKER:—" A large number of hon. Members want to take part in the debate and so I am reducing the time-limit of each speaker to 10 minutes."

2-45 p.m.

* SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the amendment for the circulation of this Bill. At the same time, I have got a few suggestions to offer before the Bill goes to the Select Committee and through them to the Government. I am inclined to agree with my hon. Friend Sri T. Viswanatham on the question of compensation. If we are to be fair and equitable we should say that we are prepared to pay the market price for any article that the Government may take possession of. This is quite different from the zamindari legislation. As has been pointed out by my hon. Friends, the amount under that Act cannot be ascertained, but the compensation under this Bill can be fully ascertained. There is another thing. Apart from our giving them a larger amount, we should remove the feeling that we are intending into rights of private property. Further a precedent will be created that the Government can take possession of any private property without making adequate compensation for it. No doubt, it has been stated by the Hon. Minister in his speech while moving this Bill, that they are going to give more to the shareholders than what they have bought for. This may not be true in all cases. It is not as if the people who have contributed for these shares have, ever since the beginning of the Corporation, been there. Hands might have changed. People might have bought shares valued at Rs. 10 at a price ranging between Rs. 20 and Rs. 25, and these people will suffer. It may be that if anybody speaks against this, may be dubbed a capitalist or as an agent of capitalists. But, all the same, if really we want to do justice, we should adopt some equitable means for bringing these electricity concerns under the control of the Government. We can certainly find out, as Mr. Viswanatham said, arbitrators who can really fix the value at the market rate, so that the people who have invested their moneys may not suffer. Why I bring this to the notice of the Government, and why I lay emphasis on this is this. While it is generally presumed that the moneys that have been invested on the shares of these concerns are only by capitalists who have got large reserve at their back, really it is not so. An analysis of the shareholders who have invested moneys in these concerns will go to show that between 90 and 95

per cent of the share capital in these joint stock companies has been subscribed only by middle class people. Therefore, the class of people that is going to suffer by this Bill is only the middle class and not the capitalists who have got lakhs and lakhs of rupees. So, I think, it will be better if the Select Committee bestows attention on this.

" Another point that I want to suggest is that, unless the Government are prepared to take the entire electrical concerns, they should not come forward with this Bill. It is quite true that by nationalization we can do so many things and we can also help the people. By merely saying that we are going to take up a firm, we are only impeding the progress or the growth of electricity. For example, let us take a Corporation which is working very satisfactorily. If to-day the Government pass a Bill saying that they will take over this particular electricity corporation at any time, where will be the incentive for the people to go on pursuing in that field ? It is one thing if they are made to understand that within 5 or 10 or 15 years the Government will take over that concern, and that they should be ready by then. But to keep them under suspense, the Damocle's sword always hanging over their heads, is neither in the interests of the Government nor in the interests of the shareholder, nor in the interest of the managing agents, nor even in the interest of developing electricity. With this Damocle's sword always hanging over their heads, the managing agents will never improve their concern. As a matter of fact, I can point out to the Madras Electric Supply Corporation. The Government have taken over their machinery which is rotten and beyond repair. The Madras tramways have not looked after their trams. They have not been repaired, and the whole thing is left uncared for. That will be the natural tendency of people who are made aware that their concern will not be in their hands for any length of time, and is likely to be taken over by Government at any time.

" The third point I would suggest is that when once the Government decide to take over electricity concerns, they should make adequate provision for their proper management. It may be that Government have technical experts who know electricity. The running of electricity concerns is one thing and the production and distribution is another. In other countries where nationalization has been taken up, they have appointed a Board of Experts. Here, we have taken over the nationalization of road transport. This is managed by an I.C.S. Officer or a Secretary. The Government seem to be under the impression that anything can be managed by the Government staff. It is not so. For example, I may say that the other day I put a question to the Hon. Minister for Transport whether he could compare his transport service with any other service in this Province, and he could only say ' it is only comparative: I have no rod to measure '. I can ask him now whether this transport service is as efficient as that of Messrs. T. V. Sundaram Ayyangar & Sons, whose advice the Government have taken in matters of transport. In this matter also, I would suggest that a

Board consisting of veterans like Mr. Natesan and the South Madras Electric Supply Corporation, who have been the pioneers in the field and who know the working of electricity concerns, be constituted, and their advice be taken by Government in the running of the electricity concerns. This will conduce to their efficiency. This will also in a way compensate those people who have been working in this field and who have the interests of the people at heart. I may point out that the South Madras Electric Supply Corporation has been able to supply electricity at a lesser rate than even the Government rate. In such cases, I do not think that it is fair that such people, who have been the pioneers in the field, should be deprived of their services to the people.

"Then, Sir, I come to one or two provisions in the Bill which are rather likely to be misused. I refer to Clause 4 relating to the three months' notice. If the Government do not propose to take up the electricity concern after three months, it will again be postponed by another three months. This would mean eternal postponement, and no improvement in the concern will be possible.

"Another clause about which I want to speak is the clause relating to managing agents. It is quite true that the managing agents are not only managing the concern, but are also shareholders of the concern. It is a matter between the share holders and the managing agents. I do not want to talk on the legal aspect of it, and I think it is very doubtful if the Government can pass legislation that the managements shall have nothing to do with their managing agents simply because the Government have taken over the management. (At this stage the Deputy Speaker occupied the Chair.) Apart from this, the managing agents deserve some consideration though they are not legally entitled to any return. According to this Bill we should see that these managing agents also are paid some compensation if it lies within the province of legislation.

"Another clause that is likely to be misused is the one relating to the termination of the employees' services on one month's notice. The Hon. Minister has stated that this is only on a par with the rules for Government servants. People who have been working in electricity corporation for 20 years and more can be dispensed with on one month's notice or on paying one month's salary. This is hardly fair. We should see that these people who have been there working all along are amply provided for and their security safeguarded. It may be that they do not suffer under the hands of the present Government. It may be that some other Government takes up a concern, and lays his hands on those people whom they do not like, and dispense with their services. I hope the Hon. Minister will give us an assurance that that will not be the case.

"Another clause that I would refer to is the clause relating to the jurisdiction of civil courts. Clause 21 says—

'No suit, prosecution or other legal proceedings shall lie against any person for anything which is in good faith done or intended to be done in pursuance of this Act or any rule or order made thereunder.'

I hope the Select Committee will consider all the important aspects of this Bill, come to a decision fair and just, and do justice to all."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, it is a very rare occasion that a Minister read 13 pages of typed matter, which was listened to with wide interest and rapt attention. I was listening very carefully to the Minister's statement this morning, and I really admire the way in which he has drafted the whole Bill. That itself shows that he has got a thorough grasp and study of the subject. I feel that the whole House is in entire agreement with the policy of the Government that electricity in our Province should be nationalized. I do not think there are two opinions on this. Most of us agree with the Government on this matter, because we have laid stress on this in many of our speeches. But the question is, how, why and when. Well, the Minister, in his speech, was not at all charitable to the private distributors. It is quite possible and easy for the Minister to stand up and say that these private agents have not done well in extending electricity to rural areas. But, could the Minister imagine for a minute the difficulty and the hardship these private undertakings had to put up with at the time they came out with their ventures? It can be easily stated that they have not fared well. I ask how did these people manage when they started their concerns some thirty years before? This much should be said to their credit. The very fact that the Hon. Minister has admitted that there are 80 electrical undertakings in this Province including a few run by the local bodies shows that they have been doing well. Thirty per cent of the electricity is being distributed by these private agencies. Therefore, the fact remains that these private agencies had a good deal to contribute. We cannot ignore that. It is all right for the Hon. Minister to come forward and say that these undertakings cannot manage under the existing circumstances because they will always see whether they will have a good return or a good margin or profit, and that they are not able to finance the import of electricity machinery, which is really 300 per cent more costly. But the question is when you tell the public that you are going to take over all these concerns, what is your plan and programme? Take it from me that when the Government come forward with a measure for nationalization of electricity, the Government are giving a definite promise to the public, which would mean that there are demands from all parts of the Province for supply of electricity. People will ask 'why do you electrify that area and not this area'. Will the Government give electricity to all the areas? This morning, a number of questions have been put about the restoration of the dismantled railway lines. People feel the need for the restoration of those dismantled lines. There is very dire necessity for restoring them. But still the Government have their own difficulties, financial and otherwise. This is exactly what is going to happen with regard to electricity also. The moment the Government take up the work of electrifying three or four places, hundreds

of questions will be put in this House asking why the Government are not able to extend electricity to this or that area. Therefore, by giving a sort of promise to the people, the Government themselves will not be able to accomplish what they have said. In this connexion, I may state, although it is not relevant to the subject, the position of Chittoor district. In the matter of electricity, this district is very backward. The district has not been properly served with electricity. Members have brought this to the notice of the Hon. Minister for Public Works. In Madanapalle nothing has been done. In places where there was no private agency to come forward, were the Government able to help people with electricity ? There are the financial limitations of the Government. I feel that the Government, by just coming forward with this Bill, are giving a hope to the people that everything will be all right overnight, and that the whole Presidency would be electrified very soon. Mr. Salam and others were stressing the point that this is only an enabling measure. I want that there should be some finality in all these measures. The Hon. Minister could have inserted a clause in the Bill saying that from now and before a certain specified date, all the electricity undertakings will be taken over by the Government, and that compensation will be paid to them. That would have been a straightforward course. The Government cannot simply say that they take the power of assuming charge of the concern at any time, and that the concern should be entirely dependent on the Government. The electricity concerns should not be left to the mercies of the Government. Every day the concerns will be feeling that their turn for being taken over by the Government has come, with the result they may not take up the necessary works of improvement. For example, let us take that a firm has a scheme to extend electricity by about 10 or 15 miles in the next year. As soon as they come to know this Bill, they will say ' Why should we spend our money and undertake this extension work '. I think nothing prevents the Hon. Minister to say definitely when the Government are going to undertake the nationalization of electricity concerns, say, within a year or so. After all, even according to the Minister's calculation the amount may not come to Rs. 3 or Rs. 4 crores, which, I am sure, the Government of Madras can easily afford to pay. They can get it by raising a loan, or they can draw from the Revenue Reserve Fund or they may appeal to the Central Government for a loan. Therefore, I wish that the Hon. Minister for Public Works says definitely that within a specified time he can take charge of the electrical concerns.

3 p.m. " The other matter, Madam, Deputy Speaker, which I would like to bring to your kind notice is with regard to the question of compensation. I know all our speeches here are not going to influence the Hon. the Public Works Minister in the matter of compensation. It is an easy matter to speak something and keep quiet afterwards. If at all there is a place where the Hon. Minister could sit calmly and understand the point of view of others, it is only the Select Committee. I am sure the Members who go there

will be able to influence him either to pay more or even to pay less, as the case may be. It all depends on how they persuade him. But one thing I may say. The principles which are enunciated by the Government or by the Hon. Ministers on different occasions on different heads really create a very bad effect in the country. One day the Revenue Minister will come forward and enunciate a new principle on the question of zamindari abolition. People will think, ' Well, this is the principle '. Another day, as was said just now by Mr. Salam, the Hon. Minister for Public Works had the courage, or I can say, he was so firm and determined when he said, ' In the payment of all the amounts I have paid to the M.E.S.C. formerly I am right; I have not paid a single pie more than what it deserved.' When Members challenge whether it is not more than what it deserves and ask whether it is not a concern whose value is really far less than what is paid to it, he says, ' No, I repudiate your charge; I got that cheaply.' Thus, he has enunciated a new principle."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I have never said so."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" I am sorry I have to refer to the Assembly Proceedings and then I can make out what he has said. But this much I know; he tried to defend the principle on which he had purchased the M.E.S.C. Thus, they bring one principle one day and another day another two or three principles are brought. That shows that the only anxiety of the Government is that they pay as less as possible. I always believe and maintain that in all these matters, the Government should try to be just though not generous. It does not matter if they pay 30 lakhs or 40 lakhs of rupees. But by the Government enunciating a wrong principle, the feeling among the business community towards the Government will be shattered. Surely this is going to have an effect among the business community, particularly at a time when we want that we should have foreign capital invested in this country, and if people were to know that the Madras Government could settle the compensation in their own way, surely it will be a check on them. They will say, if they have done it to their own companies, it is possible they do it to other concerns also. Therefore, some sound principle should be observed in the matter of compensation; otherwise, it will have a very devastating effect on the business community. They will have less confidence in the Government and they will feel when their turn comes, the same thing will happen to them. That should not be the tendency or attitude of the Government.

" In conclusion, I do not like to deal with the clauses, because the Hon. Minister has agreed to refer this Bill to a Select Committee although my Friend Mr. Majid's motion is that it should be circulated for public opinion. It is in the Select Committee that the hon. Members should take up clause by clause. But let the Minister

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be definite or final about the matter and if he really takes over all these electrical concerns and shows some improvement on record, then we shall say that the Hon. the Public Works Minister has really done something good and more areas in our Province are electrified and that this measure is really a good measure."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, I do support the Bill. Any measure of a forward nature by the Government, I am sure, will deserve encouragement from all quarters. As a measure of nationalization indeed I do support it wholeheartedly. But, Madam, what strikes me most is whether in the matter of nationalization, this purchase of the electrical undertakings takes the first chance, whether it is immediately necessary and whether other things do not deserve priority. I still entertain a doubt whether things like the nationalization of motor transport do not deserve the priority. It may be argued that in the achievement of the Grow More Food Campaign, the present Bill is very necessary and also electricity is very important in our nation-building activities, and, therefore, we must first take it up. But I want to know whether we are not merely going to take over the management but, for better management. By better management, I am not certain whether we are going to extend electricity to a considerable degree. We won't be building new thermal stations or any such thing. We have been speaking of financial difficulties, shortage of materials, labour, technicians, etc., whenever we want some expansion. After all, for better management, are we to launch on a scheme like this at this juncture ? That is my point, especially when important things have to be financed like the subsidy to sinking of wells which helps to grow more food. In the extension of electricity for agricultural purposes, we can only say that we can replace the existing method of baling out water by buckets, etc. But I am sure the well subsidy scheme will bring in new ayacuts under wet cultivation and will help us to grow more food, and if we could have continued the subsidy scheme for repairing old wells with proper care, we could have really improved the conditions. But I do not know whether this electricity scheme will fetch much money to the Government or help to grow more food to a considerable extent. If the Government, as a policy of nationalization, had taken over motor transport, etc., really it would not bring much work to the Government and at the same time it would get them more revenue, when they have lost about 17 or 18 crores in Prohibition. The difficulties now being undergone by the travelling public cannot be described. There may be some better accommodation in the Railways, etc., but in the buses it is very difficult to have good accommodation. If it is not a question of giving up the well subsidy scheme, I have no objection to support this measure. If, on the other hand, according to the statement of the Central Government's Food Commissioner, Mr. Patil, the Government are going to discontinue that scheme, I think this Bill does not deserve priority at all.

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" Madam, after all in the matter of expansion of electricity, we are not bad. I can say that any work tending towards the improvement of electricity is being fairly attended to because it is under the charge of our able Minister, Mr. Bhaktavatsalam. There has already been considerable progress. The Government have been bold enough to purchase the Madras Electric Supply Corporation and they have spent about 1½ crores of rupees. So, we are not bad in the matter of electricity. Even granting the existing licensees are not properly doing their business, Mr. Bhaktavatsalam, as an able Minister, can manage to get the maximum out of them and carry on the business well. If at all one or two people have failed in this duty, only such undertakings need be purchased now, leaving aside those who are now carrying on more or less to our satisfaction. I understand that not all of the licensees are willing to sell away their undertakings to the Government. There is some opposition, at any rate. Therefore, granting that we nationalize, the difficulty of material and supply of electricity to the remote areas still exists and whenever we approach the officers, they say, 'We are waiting for material; shipments are yet to come'. Another time they will say that they are short of funds or some such thing. It is in this way that the work of expansion of electricity is going on. This measure will not be a success unless we are able to do the maximum good to the people by extending electricity to the rural areas, in the remote corners of the Province. Distribution should be fair. In the well-subsidy scheme every firka gets some benefit. But in this scheme we will be helping only some areas which are closer to the electric lines. Therefore, Madam, I request when the undertakings are purchased, all the points to which I have drawn the attention of the Hon. Minister may be considered and really some good may be done to the people. I welcome this Bill as a measure of nationalization and I support it."

* JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, superlative encomiums have been showered upon the Hon. Minister for his words of wisdom on electricity. In fairness to myself even as it should be to him, I may say I am not a believer in words. Madam, deeds count and not words. I should really have complimented the Hon. Minister much more than my predecessors have done but for the sorry experience I have gone through these three years, of waiting. I know that most of the assurances that have come forth from the Hon. Ministers have gone in vain. Not that I wish even this assurance of the Hon. Minister, this statement of policy of this Government, should also go in vain; far from it. In fact, my own wish, hope and prayer are that the Government must secure maximum support from all quarters of this House in the pronouncement of their present policy which is most welcome. It is only such hon. Members of this House as come from constituencies which are bereft of electricity and are therefore to be reckoned as rotten boroughs that can understand the urgency and the imperative need for electricity and at the same time appreciate the difficulties from which the private undertakings have been suffering

all these years. Only the wearer knows where the shoe pinches. The sufferers alone know how these private undertakings have given a hopeless record of their service in constituencies where unfortunately for them, they and they alone could undertake the provision of electricity. After all, what is the basic motive which actuates them to extend their electricity scheme? It is profit and nothing but profit. We know, Madam, even as the Hon. Minister has very wisely put it, you cannot expect private enterprise to volunteer service and extend electricity schemes to places where they cannot expect a reward commensurate with their efforts which they may estimate even as high as 10 or 15 per cent of their investments.

3-15 p.m.

" Madam, it is only the Government with widest and plenitude of resources, with vision and outlook and love for service that can come forward, and behind that Government there must be various Members who can use their whip and who can exercise their influence and bring pressure to bear upon the Hon. Ministers to go this way and that way and see that within a measurable distance of time, the entire Province is electrified. If we are going to leave matters to private enterprise, believe me, Madam, we must have to wait till Doomsday for electricity to be extended to the entire Province. Some Members and curiously for me those behind the Minister himself have raised criticisms and have even used expressions such as 'undertakers' and I could not understand what they mean by it. I do not know why in this year of 1949, they should be using such slogans which can only be fittingly considered as outmoded slogans of the 19th century *laissez faire* pattern. In the other countries which I had the honour to visit recently, I understood that they have conceded certain broad fundamentals where private enterprise can flourish and where they cannot. They have acknowledged and accepted the truth and maxim that in the case of any public utility service, State and State alone can undertake them and private enterprises should be warned, 'Hands off the public utility services'. That is the experience which one gets even if one is to turn to England. This used to be the case in other countries, years before we began to think and talk of electricity in this country. They have come to embark upon that course of public enterprise. That alone, I can say, Madam, is a clearest answer to the hon. Members who raise vague doubts against this pronouncement of policy. One or two hon. Members in their legalistic frame of mind even went to the extent of questioning whether the party in power to which they had the honour to belong was right and wise in trying to commit a breach of contract by introducing this Bill. Madam, it looks as though these hon. Members who have raised this issue about contract and all that are still in the early days of 1947 when freedom had not come into our hands. Immediately after freedom had come, much water had flown under the bridge. If we look retrospectively, we can have that insight and understand the problems of revolution. We can see that not even in that long history of 5,000 years, have we witnessed such panoramic changes which have taken a kaleidoscopic turn in our history as

we have witnessed in these two years. In the wake of freedom, many vested interests have been wiped out, states and estates altogether. Now we are talking and thinking of contract and of undertakings and of undertakers. I must say that the Government must step in as undertakers where underwriters have failed to understand our requirements. It is only we who come from backward places who can understand what rotton institutions these limited companies have been. They have got only one motive and that is profit. They have not moved their little finger to promote the Grow More Food Campaign. Have these private limited companies any consideration for the Grow More Food Campaign? I tell you that they have got profits as their motive and they are not going to extend electricity into the rural areas as they will get only a limited remuneration by serving agricultural needs. As against this in cities and in other urban areas, the limited companies will get a fairly substantial remuneration by serving domestic consumption and industrial concerns. Businessmen will naturally be prompted to set aside considerations of the country. I am a believer in private enterprise. But I know that there are certain limits. Madam, there is a big question mark to it. In matters like electricity, I say we want resources, we want imagination, we want vision and service as our only consideration to speed up the reconstruction programmes which this Government are having. Particularly, in this hour of crisis when all our resources must be mobilized to advance the interests of food production, it is only the Government who will have the boldness, even if they are to face serious financial strain, with courage on both hands, to take up this measure and extend electricity into the nooks and corners of this Province whereby agricultural production will get a considerable and deserving fillip.

" Madam, Mr. Kothari was referring to the law of stock exchange underwriters and purchasing power parity of the rupee and all that. I was wondering whether he was living in the world of stockbrokers and stockbrokers only. It is high time that many licences that have grown like mushrooms must be wiped out and liquidated. It is good that one of the three alternatives which the Hon. Minister has very wisely provided for liquidation should be implemented. In that respect, the Government must have such financial resources as may be necessary for these undertakings. This is a very costly experiment. All quarters must go to the support of the Government and they must give every encouragement possible in this nation-building activity. I cannot understand why serious objection should be taken to one of these three alternatives which is provided for as basis (*c*) which says, 'The book value of the works and other assets of the undertaking actually handed over to the Government together with a reasonable solatium'. Madam, many of these mushroom concerns—I am only sorry I should have to use this very strong expression—have not declared their dividends for some years. It is our ill-luck and it is our misfortune and it is the irony of fate that we—coming as I do from a constituency where we are feeling the

pinch of such concerns—believe that with all the effects that we are facing of such limited undertakings, we have naturally to plead with the Government that they must provide a dead line. This is exactly where I agree with one of the hon. Members of this House who spoke and pleaded with the Government for fixing a dead line. Indeed much of these assurances and utterances would be vague if the Government are not committed to a dead line which alone will give a semblance of seriousness on the part of the Government. This will also be an encouragement to the public who will be in the hope that some day—let it not be a distant day—they are bound to have the implementation of this policy. There may be some limited concerns who may be willing to volunteer to liquidate and hand over their assets, but let me tell you that arbitration is the best way. Let food production be uppermost in the minds of the Hon. Ministers and even if it is necessary, let them make some sacrifices. By so doing, the interests of the country will be furthered. I could only say with all the vehemence at my command that there can be only one interest that should be paramount. It is not your interest, it is not my own, it is not the interest of that section and this section, but it is the public interest which should be paramount in everything. Let the private concerns be asked to make way and even help this Government to undertake such of these electric supply schemes which will really help our production."

* SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, the inauguration of nationlization of electrical energy really started when the Hon. Minister handed over a cheque for Rs. 2 crores and odd to the Madras Electric Supply Corporation. From that day the policy of this Government had been settled, and this was settled for the purpose of public benefit. The present Bill also proposes to take up all the private concerns only for the benefit of the people. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister what it has been in this City of Madras. I have heard a small complaint just now that the Madras Electric Supply System is now giving power energy to cinema theatres instead of supplying energy to the small flour mills that are situated in the various parts of the city. I am told that these are given power up to 5 o'clock in the evening. But after 5-30 they take away the connections and the power is not given. That means about 1,500 flour mills are not allowed to work, whereas the cinema companies are given power to run their theatres. Madam, Deputy Speaker, these flour mills are resorted to by the poor coolies who come out of their places of working at 5 o'clock to buy their rations and for milling the rations in these flour mills. The peak hour of work in these flour mills is between 5 and 7 o'clock in the evening. This is the time when electrical energy must be given to these mills which is not done. Again, Madam, I may refer to another matter of electric supply to rural parts. It is with the object of supplying electricity to the rural areas that this Bill has been brought. I applied for supply of electric energy to my fields which are about half a mile from the

Electric Supply Station. I offered even sufficient security to the extent of Rs. 12,000. It is three years now since I had applied for this and it is yet to come.

" Again, Madam, I may refer to another case. In my constituency, electric supply was . . ."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—" I do not think that the hon. Member need quote instances. He can talk about the general policy or need for it."

* SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" Unless specific instances are quoted, the working of general policy will not be clear. But, Madam, in view of your ruling, I stop there. Nationalization has been carried on by our Government without any limitation. I think that this Legislature itself must impose some restriction on nationalization. Even without completing what they have undertaken, the Government propose to undertake fresh things. Take zamindari abolition. An Act has been enacted and the implementation of the Act is to be seen. We do not know where the Government will find the money and how they are going to implement the Act fully and completely.

" Now take the nationalization of transport. It has been introduced in the City of Madras and a number of other routes are yet to be taken over. The scheme has not been completely implemented. I ask, is this Bill which the Hon. the Public Works Minister has piloted, involving three to four crores of rupees, going to be really executed in full or will it remain a paper Bill like the Nationalizing of Transport which has only been partially executed ? Where are we to find the money for this scheme., with all our present commitments like the Grow More Food campaign which has suffered a set-back due to the recent cyclone in Andhra Desa and with the impending separation of the Andhra Province? Are we going to float loans for the purpose, or can we command loans? These things have to be seriously considered and once it is decided to introduce the scheme it must not be piece-meal. These matters of business concerns must never be kept in suspense. As at present the Government are not in a position to nationalize electric energy. 3-30 p.m.

" Madam, I would like to make a suggestion in respect of the execution of the scheme. I believe there is a better case for empowering and entrusting the local bodies with the nationalizing and the working of this scheme. The rural areas will benefit much through this arrangement. There is no use of centralizing all powers in the Provincial Government. For example, if any complaint or any suggestion is to be made with respect to a particular area, it has to reach the Presidency headquarters and it is possible the complaint may not be even filed in the Secretariat and attended to. But, on the other hand, if the work is entrusted to the care of the local bodies, the response will be immediate and relief earlier and quicker. The Hon. the Minister said that many of the private agencies were offering to hand over their undertakings to Government. Sir, in that case I would request

the Government to straightaway transfer them to the local bodies. Again, why do these private agencies offer to give up their business? They do not have sufficient resources to run the show. In that case, would it not be much better for the Government to give them aid than take them over. Sir, it is through private enterprise and private enterprise alone that we can produce more and the profit motive is not bad provided it is properly checked by Government. As a matter of fact, I would like to know whether this Government are not inclined towards profit. They certainly have got the profit motive. They are interested in exploiting the rural areas as much as the private agencies. I know many cases in the rural parts in which connexions have been refused in spite of a 20 per cent return. For what purpose the interlinking is being done? It is alleged to be for providing electric current for the urban population. The Mettur and Papanasam systems are interlinked to the thermal stations in Madras. How many rural connexions for agriculture or industries were given? The Government always ignore the rural areas and whenever a scheme of nationalization is taken on hand, it is invariably designed to help only the urban people and I have my own fears that this measure too may be designed to help only the pepulation of the urban areas. I am making this charge, because the Government have not done anything hitherto to help the village people. For the last four or five years, many applications from my constituency have been pending disposal by Government and nothing has so far been done despite repeated reminders. These delays are caused by the centralization of powers. Even those cases which are recommended by the local authorities are not attended to. I know, in several cases, the materials supplied for work in rural parts have been taken back by the Government for use in urban parts. Imagine the freight it would have involved. It might have been as much as the cost of the materials themselves. I can get every villager to testify to this state of affairs obtaining in the villages. If we had had a private or local agency in Dharmapuri in the Dharmapuri revenue division, we would have got enough electrical energy by now. In these circumstances, Sir, I am afraid that unless the Government implement the scheme adumbrated in this Bill in full, i.e., extending it to all the areas, and unless the local authorities are empowered to look after its execution, I feel there is no use of piloting a measure of this nature."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, I hasten to welcome this Bill. This is one of the measures which take us near the goal of nationalization and that is the reason why I am welcoming it. I believe that this piece of legislation will give greater relief to the people in the rural areas who are facing hardship and undergoing difficulties for want of electricity. Madam, the private companies which are located in the districts are more interested in supplying electrical energy to the urban population than to the rural folk. They always look upon the

towns for their business—at least it should be a major panchayat town—and seldom they think of the villages. Even those villages, where the Grow More Food campaign has been introduced, do not arrest their attention. The Government of course are interested in these areas in regard to growing more food but all the same no help is rendered to them in the matter of supply of electric power. I know the private companies, even while approached, were not helpful. So, I believe, by this measure, when the Government take over all the electrical undertakings, the rural areas will get the first priority in the supply of electrical energy, at least in the interests of the Grow More Food campaign. Madam, many hon. Members, who participated in this debate, have expressed themselves generally in favour of the Bill. Although they have raised certain objections to certain provisions of the Bill, they are not totally against the measure. However, I never expected that the amendment moved by the hon. Gentleman Mr. Majid, would be supported by my hon. Friend Mr. Gopalaswami. I hear a voice saying that Mr. Gopalaswami never supported the amendment. I am glad he never supported it. I vehemently oppose that amendment.

" My main objection is to the clause providing for compensation. During the lunch interval, Madam, a friend of mine asked me whether I was going to speak on this Bill. I said 'yes'. He again asked whether I would oppose the measure or support it. I replied that I would support it. He then asked if I would also speak on the question of compensation and, if so, whether it would be on the same lines on which my hon. Friend Mr. Viswanatham spoke. Madam, I was not present in the House when my hon. Friend Mr. Viswanatham spoke about compensation. I understand that he supported the Bill and that he . . ."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member need not talk about what others have said. It would suffice if he says what he feels about the Bill."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" I am just referring to the fact that he, while supporting the Bill, stated that the compensation the Government propose to pay is not adequate and that it should be on a higher level."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" I did not use the words 'higher level'. I said 'fair market value' which is found in the Bill itself."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Whatever it is, Madam, I am opposed to the principle of compensation itself and the Government are too liberal in giving compensation (hear, hear). They have already fixed three bases in this connexion and I wonder if anyone of these three will be advantageous to the Government. All the three involve huge sums of money and none provides a lesser compensation than the other two. Again, option has been given to the proprietors of the undertakings and does not vest

in the Government. I cannot understand the logic behind all this. When the question of abolition of zamindari was discussed, it was decided that compensation would be finally settled by the Government and that the zamindars would not have any say in it. I do not know the reason for following a different method of compensation in this matter. Why not the Government follow a uniform policy in these cases? Now, Madam, one of the bases fixed by Government is to follow the book value of the shares of each undertaking. If we go into this shares ' business, we will find that the book value has either gone down or risen up. Take for instance, a share whose book value was Rs. 10 at the time of the inception of the undertaking. Now, it has come down to seven rupees or six rupees or even five. There are many cases like this and if Government want any information on these, I can definitely pass it on to them. ' There are also companies the book value of whose shares has risen far above the market value. It has been examined and found that a share whose book value is Rs. 10 will easily fetch about Rs. 17.

3-45 p.m. " I cannot understand why we should give such a higher rate of compensation and also calculate from those days when the companies were started for generating power and supplying electric current to the people. In areas where they were getting Pykara supply, these companies have sold away their generators that were producing electric power. They are now having only a small machine, a transformer. These companies have nothing that is valuable. No Government can pay several lakhs to these companies. Even assuming that fair market value on the assets would be paid, what is there in the company on which fair market value can be paid. I can understand if compensation is to be paid on the actual assets of the company, but it is proposed to be paid on the shares. Madam, some promoters who started the companies used to purchase a machine for one lakh and put the book value as two lakhs, and pocket the one lakh. There are instances like this, but all the same, the book value of the machine would still remain two lakhs. After getting the Pykara current, they would have sold away the generator for Rs. 50 thousand and the remaining book value would be $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. Now they would demand this book value. Therefore, I say that the question of payment of compensation should be carefully considered by the Select Committee and Government should see whether the amount paid as compensation would fetch its worth from the company or not. There is no use valuing posts and wires.

" It is being stated that several companies have voluntarily approached the Government to take over their concerns. Several other members have stated that the companies have made profits and do not want that the Government should take them over. I, therefore, hope the Select Committee will consider all these points. I also appeal to the Hon. Minister for Public Works to look into the question once more and see that option is not given to the companies. I do not say that all these companies

should be deprived of their concerns and nothing to be paid in return. I only say that the actual value alone should be paid as compensation. With these words, I support the Bill and oppose the amendment, and appeal to the Hon. Minister once again to consider these proposals regarding the compensation and reconsider these proposals in the Select Committee."

* SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—" Madam, Deputy Speaker, it is with supreme satisfaction that I welcome this Bill introduced by the Hon. Minister for Public Works. I do not know whether I can adequately congratulate him for bringing in this Bill at this stage because it is a measure which should have been introduced even a couple of years ago. However, it is never too late and matters can be easily mended. The very fact that it has been stated that some generating licensees have been faring very badly and some distributing agencies also have been faring very unsatisfactorily, and that some licensees have approached Government that they should be given financial aids, and that they should be relieved of their undertakings, proves beyond doubt that the time has come when the Government have to acquire the undertakings. (At this stage Mr. Speaker took the Chair.)

" Now, Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are some concerns, some electricity supply undertakings in this Province which have to be immediately taken over. No time should be wasted in acquiring these undertakings. For instance, in Chicacole, the Chicacole Electricity Supply Corporation which was started in 1937 is in a rotten state. Then they had two engines. Now, when the war was going on, from 1939 to 1943, one engine was disposed of by the Corporation and it is now working with only one old engine with no spare engine to help it at all. The whole tragedy is that just when the current is most required, there would be no current at all in the town. More than this, probably nowhere in the Province, the rate per unit of electricity is so high as it is in my place. The rate there is 9 annas per unit. In other places like Madras, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam and Mysore, the rate is very cheap and at any rate not so high. Then, Sir, the company was started in 1937 and no shareholder was given even a single pie in the shape of dividend. The Municipal Council, Chicacole, has addressed several letters to the Government regarding this unsatisfactory state of affairs. I have also made representations to the Hon. Minister. The Electricity Consumers' Association, Chicacole, and the public of Chicacole have sent many representations but no action was taken. In the whole month of April, there was no current at all and again from 12th of June to 12th of July there was no current. Very important announcements and all news of public interest, all are being missed there. Rice mills are not given current in time and so they are not able to work.

" This is not the only company of this type. The Managing Director of this company is also running some other concerns in

[Sri G. Kumaraswami] [24th November 1949

the Province and it is time that such concerns are also immediately acquired by the Government. Much need not be said on this point. Not only the rate per unit is high, not only is the concern not working properly, not only is the management bad, but everything is bad from top to bottom there and the time has come when such concerns should be immediately acquired.

"Then, Sir, coming to the general features of the Bill introduced by the Hon. Minister, I would say in matters of payment of compensation and other things to the private electrical concerns, three alternatives have been suggested. The Managing Director of the company is at liberty to choose any one of the alternatives without incurring loss to the concern and to the Government as well. These details could very conveniently and safely be worked out by the Select Committee to which this Bill is being referred. I once again congratulate the Hon. Minister for bringing this Bill."

* SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN :—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இந்த மசோதா சம்பந்தமாக ஒரே ஒரு விஷயத்தைப்பற்றித்தான் நான் பேச விரும்புகிறேன். **Electricity**-ஐ நடத்துகிற கம்பெனிகளிலிருந்து எந்த விதமான **compensation**-ஐ நாம் கொடுத்து வாங்கப்போகிறோம் என்று இந்த **bill**-ல் சொல்லப்படுகிறது. அதே மாதிரி ஸ்தலஸ்தாபனங்களுக்கு எவ்விதமான **compensation** கொடுப்பதாகவும் சொல்லப்படுகிறது. இரண்டிற்கும் வித்யாசமிருக்கிறது. அவைகளில் ஸ்தலஸ்தாபனங்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கப் போகிற **compensation**-ஐப் பற்றி சில வார்த்தைகளைப் பேச விரும்புகிறேன். ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்களுக்கு கடைசி மூன்று வருஷத்தில் என்ன லாபம் கிடைத்திருக்கிறதோ அதை அவர்களுக்குக் கொடுப்பதாக சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள். மற்ற தனி நபர்களிடத்திலிருந்தோ அல்லது கம்பெனிகளிடத்திலிருந்தோ வாங்குவதாக இருந்தால் இருபது வருஷ லாபத்தையோ அல்லது கடைசி மூன்று வருஷத்திலுள்ள சராசரி பங்கு விலையையோ கொடுத்து வாங்குவது என்று கூறப்படுகிறது. அல்லது ஒரு புத்தக மதிப்புடன் **solatium** கொடுப்பது என்று சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபன லெசென்ஸ்காரர்களுக்கு ஏன் இவ்வாறு குறைவான தொகை கொடுக்கப்படுகிறது என்று கேட்கப்படும் என்று நினைத்து சர்க்கார்தான் அவர்களுக்குக் கடன் கொடுத்து உதவியிருக்கிறார்களே என்ற சமாதானத்தை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கூறுகிறார்கள். ஆகையால் அவர்களுக்கு மூன்று வருஷ லாபத்தைக் கொடுத்தால் போதும் என்றும் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் தெரிவித்தார். ஆனால் நான் ஒன்றை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கு சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். ஆம், அவர்களுக்குக் கடன் கொடுத்தது வாஸ்தவம்தான். ஆனால் கடன் கொடுக்கப்படாத ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்களும் இருக்கின்றன. சொந்தப் பணம் போட்டு **electricity**-ஐ வாங்கி விநியோகம் செய்துகொண்டு சிலர் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு என்ன செய்வது ? தவிர ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்களுக்கு சர்க்கார் கடன் கொடுத்திருந்தாலும் அவர்களிடமிருந்து சர்க்கார் வட்டி வாங்கிக்கொண்டுதானிருக்கிறார்கள். மேலும் ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்களுக்கு மட்டும் அல்ல. எவ்வளவோ **private company** களும் சர்க்காரிடமிருந்து கடன் வாங்கி இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகவே ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்களுக்கு மட்டிலும் கடன் கொடுக்கவில்லை என்பதை சர்க்கார் ஆராய்ந்து பார்க்க வேண்டும். ஆகவே ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்களுக்கு மட்டிலும் குறைந்த அளவில் **compensation** கொடுப்பது என்பது நியாயமே இல்லை.

" அத்துடன் ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனம் தனி கம்பெனி மாதிரி அல்ல, மதுரையை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால், பொதுஜனங்களுக்கு எவ்வளவோ சௌகர்யங்கள் செய்து கொடுத்து வருகிறார்கள். ஆகவே ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனம் சொந்தமாக லாபமடைவதாகக் கருதக்கூடாது.

24th November 1949] [Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman]

" சுமார் 15, 16 வருஷங்களுக்கு முன்னால் மாகாணம் பூராவும் டோல் கேட் இருந்தது. அந்த டோல்கேட்டுகளை எடுத்துவிட்ட பிற்பாடு, எல்லா முனிசிபாலிட்டிகளுக்கும் ஜில்லா போர்டுகளுக்கும் அவரவர்களுக்கு அதனால் கிடைத்துவந்த வருமானத்தின் விகிதப்படி பணம் கொடுத்துவருகிறார்கள். இன்று அதே மாதிரி இந்த **electricity-undertaking** இற்கும் அம்மாதிரியே கொடுக்க வேண்டும். ஆனால் இதில் அம்மாதிரி வருஷா வருஷம் கொடுக்க முடியும் என்று நான் சொல்லவில்லை. அப்படிக் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளவுமில்லை. பத்து வருஷ லாபத்தையாவது கொடுத்தால்தான் நல்லது என்று நான் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" அடுத்தாற்போல் இந்த **undertaking** பூராவையும் எடுத்துக் கொள்வதில் மூன்று கோடி ரூபாய் சிலவாகும் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். இந்த தொகை சர்க்காருக்கு பெரிது அல்ல. இப்பொழுது கொடுக்க வேண்டிய பணத்திற்கு சர்க்கார் எற்பாடு செய்ய முடியாது என்று யாரும் சொல்ல முடியாது. அவசியமிருந்தால் **reserve fund**-லிருந்தும் சர்க்கார் எடுத்துக் கொடுக்கலாம். ஆனால் **reserve fund**-லிருந்து எடுத்துக் கொடுப்பதைவிட வெளியிலிருந்து கடன் எழுப்பி அதிலிருந்து கொடுப்பதுதான் நல்லது என்று நினைக்கிறேன். இப்பொழுதிருக்கும் பணப் பெருக்கத்தை குறைக்கவேண்டுமென்றிருக்கும் பொழுது **reserve fund**-லிருந்து பணத்தை எடுத்துக்கொடுக்காமல் வெளியிலிருந்து கடன் வாங்கி **compensation**-ஐ கொடுப்பது என்பது நன்றாக இருக்கும். ஆகவே வெளியிலிருந்து கடன் எழுப்பி இந்த **compensation**-ஐ கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

* SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL :—" கனம் அக்கிராசனாதிபதி அவர்களே, இப்போது மராமத்து இலாகா மந்திரி கனம் பக்தவத்சலம் அவர்களால் கொண்டுவரப்பட்டிருக்கும் இந்த பில்லை ஆதரித்து நான் இரண்டொரு வார்த்தைகள் பேச விரும்புகிறேன்.

" இப்போது இந்த பில்லில் இந்த மாகாணத்திலுள்ள எலக்ட்டிரிசிடி பூராவையும் கவர்ன்மெண்டே எடுத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்று கண்டிருக்கிறது. இந்த கவர்ன்மெண்டினுடைய கொள்கை இதுதான். அதாவது தனிப்பட்டவர் நடத்தும் எல்லாவற்றையும் கவர்ன்மெண்டே எடுத்து நடத்த வேண்டுமென்ற கொள்கையை நாம் ஆதரிக்கின்றோம். ஆனால் ஒரு வார்த்தை இப்போது நான சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன. இப்பொழுது நாட்டில் இருக்கப்பட்ட பொருளாதார நிலையையும், நம்முடைய மாகாண கவர்ன்மெண்டின் பொருளாதார நிலையையும் பார்த்தால் தனித்தனிப்பட்ட எல்லா எலெக்டிரிசிடி லெசென்ஸ் கம்பெனிகளிடமிருந்து நாமே அதை வாங்கி நடத்துவது இப்போது பொருளாதார நிலைமையில் மிகவும் சிக்கலம் செய்வது கஷ்டமாயிருக்கும் என்பதை தெரியப்படுத்துகிறேன். ஆனால் இப்படிப்பட்ட தனி நபரிடம் இருக்கக்கூடிய கம்பெனிகளை கவர்ன்மெண்டார் வாங்கி நடத்த வேண்டியது அவசியம்தான். இதை வாஸ்தவத்தில் ஒரு புறம் நாம் ஒவ்வொருவரும் வரவேற்க வேண்டியதுதான். ஆனால் காலம், நிலைமை, பொருள் எல்லாவற்றையும் நாம் யோசித்துப் பார்த்து, இப்போது இதை எடுத்துக் கொள்வது அவசியமா என்பதை நாம் தீர்மானிக்க வேண்டும். இருந்தாலும் இப்போது யோசிக்க அவகாசமில்லை. இதை நாம் இப்போது எடுத்துக் கொள்ளத்தான் போகிறோம். ஆகையால் இதில் முக்கியமாக நான் ஒன்று மாத்திரம் சொல்லி முடித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" அதாவது உணவுப் பஞ்சம் இப்போது இருக்கும் நிலைமையை மாற்றி அமைப்பதற்கு, முதல் பிரயாரிடி இந்த எலக்டிரிசிடி விநியோகத்தில் விவசாயிகளுக்குத்தான் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். மற்றவர்களையெல்லாம்விட, வியாபாரத்திற்காகவும், மில்லிற்காகவும் முதலில் எலக்டிரிசிடி சப்ளை செய்வதைக் குறைத்துக்கொண்டு விவசாயத்திற்கு முக்கியமாக இணறுகள் வெட்டுவதற்கும் கிணறுகளில் எலக்டிரிக் மோட்டார்கள் வைத்து விவசாயம் நடத்துவதற்கும் முதலில் இதை உபயோகப்படுத்திக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்று இந்த பில்லில் சேர்த்துவிடலாமென்பது என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயம்.

[Srimathi V. Lakshmi Ammal] [24th November 1949

"திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லா, பாபனாசத்தில் எலக்டிரிசிடி உற்பத்தி கவர்ன்மெண்டினால் செய்யப்படுகிறது. அந்த ஜில்லாவிலேயே அநேகம் பேர்கள் தங்கள் இணறுகளுக்கு எலக்டிரிக் மோட்டார்கள் வைக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்கிறார்கள். எத்தனையோ அப்ளிகேஷன்கள் போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இருந்தாலும் அவைகளைப் போடுவதற்கு தகுந்த சாமான்கள் இல்லையென்று கூறப்படுகிறது. தனித்தனி லைசென்ஸ் பெற்ற கம்பெனிகளே அவைகளை இப்போது இருக்கிற நிலைமையில் செய்து கொடுக்கமுடியாமல் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்பது வாஸ்தவம். கவர்ன்மெண்டு சபளையாக இருப்பினும் மறு சக்திதான் செய்கிறது. இருந்தாலும் நாம் நமக்குத் தேவையான உணவுகளை அடுத்த வருஷத்திற்குள் பிறரை எதிர் பார்க்காமல் உற்பத்தி செய்துகொள்ளவேண்டிய நிலைமையில் இருக்கிறபடியால் இந்த எலக்டிரிசிடியை நாம் மாகாணம் பூராவும் கைக்கொண்டு விவசாயத்திற்கு அதிகமாக உபயோகப்படுத்திக்கொள்ளவேண்டும்.

"நாங்குநேரி தாலூக்காவிற்கு எலக்டிரிசிடி வரவேண்டுமென்று இரண்டு மூன்று வருஷங்களாக கவர்மெண்டிற்கு அப்ளிகேஷனகள் போட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த இடம் டிரை எரியா (Dry area). நிறைய இணறுகள் தோண்டி எலக்டிரிக் மோட்டார்கள் வைத்தால்தான் சாகுபடி செய்ய முடியும். எலக்டிரிசிடி கவர்மெண்டார் கையில் இருந்தும் இந்தப் பாபனாசத்திலிருந்து அங்கு கொண்டுவர முடியவில்லை. எனென்றால் ஒவ்வொரு சாமான்களும் இப்போது கிடைப்பது அரிதாயிருக்கிறது. ஆனால் நான் இப்போது கேட்டுக்கொள்வது என்னவென்றால் ஒவ்வொரு சாமான்களும் எவ்வளவு அரிதாய் இருந்தாலும் விவசாயத்திற்கு உபயோகப்படும்படியாக முதல் சபளையை விவசாயிகளுக்குக் கிடைக்கும்படியான விதியை இந்த பில்லில் சேர்க்கப்படவேண்டுமென்று செலக்ட் கமிட்டியை கேட்டுக் கொண்டு நான் இந்த பில்லை ஆதரிக்கிறேன்."

4 p.m. * THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the main criticism levelled against the Bill by hon. Members of this House relates to the provision about compensation for the licensees. Once again I maintain that the basis of compensation that is proposed in the Bill is quite fair and equitable and more than fair and equitable. In certain cases, according to the alternatives that are proposed to be given to the licensees, they would get more than two or even three times the total share value of the concerns. I have already stated while introducing the Bill that it is not possible to define correctly and assess correctly the term 'fair market value'. The term is there in the 1910 Act but there has been no definition of it. It was under that provision we had to pay compensation to the Madras Electric Supply Corporation when we had to take it over. One hon. Member said that I had amply justified the quantum of compensation that was paid to the Madras Electric Supply Corporation. I did not defend the quantum, Sir. I did not defend the basis. When I had to answer a question in this House, I only pointed out that the Government had no other alternative but to pay under the provisions of the 1910 Electricity Act. Hence the urgency and the need for a legislation of this kind.

"Sir, I can understand eloquent pleading by certain hon. Members on behalf of the licensees, but I am unable to understand why they should get excited and why they should use strong words, words which after all do not have any meaning. I may tell those hon. Members that so far as the licensees are concerned,—the parties directly affected by the Bill,—they do not oppose the

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provisions relating to the payment of compensation as certain hon. Members who have pleaded on their behalf in this House. Sir, a deputation of the Licensees Association of this Province met me some time back. There were representatives of fourteen leading electricity undertakings. They discussed with me certain provisions of the Bill. They gave me also a written memorandum explaining their own reactions to the provisions of the Bill which had been published. They only pleaded for the addition of a fourth basis to the three bases which we have provided for in the Bill. They did not seriously plead that payment should be made only according to the market value. All the fourteen representatives of the fourteen leading undertakings accepted before me the three modes of compensation that were proposed in the Bill and only pleaded for a fourth alternative and I assured them and I assure this House that that could be well considered in the Select Committee.

"Sir, one accredited representative of a very leading electricity undertaking in this Province met me only yesterday morning and he told me that it was not reasonable to insist on payment according to market value. He also told me that they should accept as reasonable and equitable the basis of compensation that is proposed in this Bill. Sir, I submit that the licensees know their interest better than certain hon. Members of this House who purport to plead on their behalf . . ."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister what is the relation between the licensees and the shareholders who have invested their moneys? The licensees are not the persons who are deprived of anything under clause 15."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"So far as the Government are concerned, the licensees are the representatives of the shareholders."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Not at all, Sir."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"We are no doubt anxious to safeguard the interests of the shareholders. Certain provisions in this Bill have been objected to by certain hon. Members on behalf of the managing agents. But by licensees, I mean the licensees, the shareholders and the managing agents—the entire concern. Sir, I am unable to understand whether any hon. Member of this House could safeguard the interests of the shareholders better than the concern which is managing the interests of the shareholders.

"Then it was said that we were ignoring the provisions of the Act and going against contract and all that. Again, I say, Sir, there is no question of going against the terms of any contract. It is only a question of interpretation of certain provisions relating to payment according to market value. We find it difficult to assess it properly under the existing provisions. Therefore we have

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come forward with this legislation which provides for a very equitable and fair basis of compensation. As I have said, in some of the cases, they will get more than three times the total share value. I want this House to judge whether we are unfair even to the shareholders of the undertakings.

" Sir, I am obliged to the hon. Member from North Arcot for answering certain criticisms regarding the charge of inequity levelled against this Government. The hon. Member comes from North Arcot and that is one of the districts which has been worst affected, because it is an area in the hands of the private licensees. I have been receiving innumerable complaints from villages that these private licensees demand and insist on a higher guarantee than what the Government insist for rural connexions. While we insist on a minimum load which could give ten per cent gross revenue, which could mean no additional profit, but only justify the cost incurred for these connexions, the private undertakings including the undertaking which was referred to by the hon. Member from Tiruchirappalli, do insist on a minimum of 20 per cent guarantee. Even when this 20 per cent guarantee is offered, the progress is very slow and the people in the villages have been clamouring every day and seriously complaining, against the concerns particularly in areas where they have to depend on electricity for taking water from the wells for agricultural purposes.

" One hon. Member said that if the Government were not going to continue the subsidy for wells, this Bill need not be taken up. Sir, I am unable to understand the connexion between the two. Even for the wells that are existing already, people want power connexion to take water easily and cheaply for agricultural purposes. If power can be made available for these wells, more acreage could be brought under cultivation and cultivation could be done more economically. That is why there is such a scramble on the part of the villagers for connexions. So far as the Government are concerned, I can assure this House that we are doing our very best, in spite of the shortage of materials and other difficulties, to give connexions for agricultural purposes. I can assure also hon. Members who remarked that this Government were more interested in giving urban connexions than rural connexions that that is far from the truth and that the Government are anxious and have issued orders that priority should be given for agricultural connexions particularly within a distance of three miles from the point where power is available. We have been practically doing our very best to give connexions for agricultural purposes. So, I was amazed when I heard the hon. Member from Visakhapatnam remarking that this distinction sought to be made by the Government between rural connexion and urban connexion was fictitious."

SRI T. VISANATHAM:—" What I said was that in relation to the payment of compensation, it had no meaning."

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Sir, I am unable to understand the connexion between this remark and the provision in the Bill relating to compensation. Compensation is not based on urban and rural connexions. Where the Government do decide to acquire these undertakings in the interests of rapid development of rural connexions, we provide for certain basis of compensation. Therefore there cannot be any connexion between this distinction between rural and urban connexions and the basis of compensation that is proposed to be provided for in this Bill.

" I oppose the motion to circulate this Bill for eliciting public opinion. This Bill has been on the anvil before the public for some time. The provisions were published on the first of this month and I have fully discussed them with the licensees who are primarily interested in the provisions of this Bill. So far as the public are concerned, they are only too eager to have this Bill passed nito law, so that they may have all the benefits they can get from the provisions of this Bill. 4-15 p.m.

" The hon. Member Mr. Majid, who moved this motion made certain remarks which I should think are in defence of the provisions of this Bill. He referred to the want of energy and to the possibility of developing Periyar. We are investigating all those possibilities and even the power available, we are very anxious to extend for agricultural purposes. That is why we have come forward in this House with this Bill, which would enable us to proceed readily with our programme of rural electrification.

" The hon. Member from Visakhapatnam referred to the provisions relating to the notice and the annulment of the notice. I should point out to him that the reference was to the notice which this Government were obliged to give under the provisions of the 1910 Act. Now that we have decided to take over all concerns including those whose licences expire presently, we have to change the whole basis and therefore we have made a provision in the Bill that notices which have already been issued should be deemed to be cancelled, so that we may review afresh the whole position and could decide which concerns we should take over immediately and which concerns we could allow to carry on. Under the provisions of the 1910 Act if notice had not been given or if the notice, after it had been given, could not be cancelled, the licences would be deemed to have been extended for another long period of ten or twenty years, and therefore we are obliged to give notice. Now we have proposed to have a provision to cancel the notice, so that we can review the whole position and decide as to the programme of acquisition.

" A point was made regarding the element of uncertainty in the provisions of this Bill. I have already referred to it while speaking at the time of the introduction of the Bill. I can assure this House that immediately after the passing of the Bill into an Act, the Government would examine the whole position and announce

a programme which should reduce, if not eliminate, the element of uncertainty. We could definitely tell the licensees as to when particular undertakings would be taken over. Hon. Members have suggested that it would be good if we took over all the concerns at one stroke. I have explained already that it would not be possible, but still if we could find sufficient funds, as I mentioned while introducing the Bill, we would take over concerns earlier than could be expected; but Government would definitely tell the various licensees as to when particular undertakings would be taken over.

" Another remark was made that we were rushing through this Bill and that there was no urgency for it. As I have already pointed out, electricity supply in Ongole has failed, there has been no street lighting there for more than a year; in Cuddapah it has failed, in Proddatur it has failed, in Rajahmundry it has failed, and in Narasaraopet also it has failed recently. The hon. Member from Guntur referred to Narasaraopet. I could tell him that about six months ago when I was in the Guntur district, the Managing Director of the Narasaraopet undertaking met me; he did not then complain about any omissions on the part of the Government; he said he was carrying on quite all right; but two months back I heard that the undertaking had failed and street lighting had stopped; and the Managing Director himself came and told me that we should take steps to take over the undertaking.

" Sir, reference was made to the taking over of Cuddapah. The hon. Member from Guntur said that we had taken over the Cuddapah undertaking, but we had not made payment. Cuddapah had failed and there was an agitation on the part of the public that we must take steps to take the concern over without delay. There was the danger of water-supply in Cuddapah town failing on account of the failing of the Cuddapah electric supply. This we had to do after long negotiations with the Cuddapah undertaking, including the shareholders, and finally they were good enough to abide by the terms of this new legislation. We have made an advance payment and unless the terms could be settled according to the provisions of this Bill, which I hope will be passed into an Act, as agreed to payment cannot be made in full satisfaction. There is therefore no question of any discrimination between the Madras Electric Supply Corporation and other Indian concerns; as a matter of fact, there are also European concerns among those which we propose to take over. I have already explained that so far as the Madras Electric Supply Corporation was concerned, we had to take it over under the 1910 Act as there was no other alternative.

" The hon. Mr. Natesa Chettiar, referred to certain complaints of his which, if he could specifically tell me—he has not so far done so—I shall certainly look into and see what relief could be given. He also made a plea on behalf of certain flour mills in the city. Sir, the peak load is reached only in the evening time.

Hon. Members are aware that in the evening, all the streets have to be lit and the houses have to be lit, and we have therefore the peak load only in the evening, particularly between 5-30 and 8-30. Therefore we had to stop certain connexions during those hours. The hon. Member is perhaps very hard on cinemas; but even the very workers on whose behalf he sought to plead referring to the flour mills, do need the cinemas— and I do not think Government will be justified in cutting out electric supply in the evenings after 5-30 p.m. for the theatres.

" One hon. Member suggested we had better wait till the Provincial Electrical Board is constituted and the hon. Mr. Majid said that the Provincial Board should be independent of the Central Board. These are different questions; they do not relate to this Bill which is now under consideration.

" Reference was made to the valuation that was made in regard to the Madras Electric Supply Corporation. I have already stated in this House that regarding valuation, whether it is an European or an Indian, the person chosen was the only values available for valuing this concern and therefore we had to engage him and he has been doing that work.

" There was also a reference relating to the provisions about managing agency, deposit of money and all that, and there was also reference to the compensation proposed to be made to local bodies. I may assure the House all these can be considered in the Select Committee.

" Hon. Member Sri Kothari quoted Asoka—I do not know where the quotation he had from—and he said ' no king shall undertake industrial concerns.' Of course, Mr. Kothari, as a businessman indulged in the usual jibes of businessmen against the nationalization proposal. He quoted Asoka as having said that no king should undertake industrial concerns. I can point out to him and to this House that now all of us are kings and all of us who are kings will not leave certain utility concerns in which all of us are interested, to be in the hands of a few kings.

" Again, it was sought to be made out that there was some conflict between this Government and the Central Government and that this Government proposed certain basis of compensation and the Central Government had liberalized it and so on. There was no such thing; we had prepared a draft Bill and we had to seek the concurrence of the Central Government. We have discussed the provisions of the Bill thoroughly and we have finalized them in consultation with the Government of India and the full concurrence of the Government of India has been obtained for this Bill. Therefore there is no question of any difference of opinion or of flouting the opinion or policy of the Central Government in this matter.

" Then the hon. Gentleman Sri Natesan referred to the prospects of the formation of the Andhra province. I can tell him and this House that the prospects of the formation of the Andhra

province have nothing to do with this Bill. When we pass this Bill and get ready, the Andhra province or the Madras province, or whatever it is, will have the benefit of this Bill. I may also tell him it is not merely the Andhra districts which will be benefited by the provisions of the Bill immediately; there are concerns in other areas, in the Tamil districts and other places, which are to be taken over immediately, and therefore there is no question of benefiting this area or that area in preference to others.

"Sir, there were yet other criticisms also; but I may again tell the House that we can well go through those criticisms at the Select Committe stage and therefore I would oppose the motion for circulation and ask the House to refer this Bill to a Select Committee."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Sir, if it is the intention of the Bill to nationalize immediately here and now, I would not have given an amendment like this. After all, even from the words of the Hon. Minister, it will take years and years before full nationalization is attained in this Province. However, Sir, I do not wish to press my amendment."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Sir, I did not say that we were going to take over all the concerns immediately but I said I would announce our programme as soon as we pass this Bill; but still, I would ask my hon. Friend to withdraw his motion."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Sir, I withdraw."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I hope the House gives permission to Mr. Majid to withdraw his motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Madras Electricity Supply Undertakings (Acquisition) Bill, 1949, A Bill No. 32 of 1949 be referred to a Select Committee consisting of—

Sri K. Subrahmanyam,
Sri D. V. Ramaswami,
Sri W. S. Srinivasa Rao,
Sri K. Linga Raju,
Sri S. C. Balakrishnan,
Sri K. Brahmanandam Reddi,
Sri A. Kameswara Rao,
Sri K. T. Kosalram,
Sri Guntur Narasimha Rao,
Sri P. Kandaswami Pillai,
Janab M. S. Abdul Majid,

Janab Mahin Schamnad,
Sri P. Natesan,
Raja Muthiah Chettiar of Chettinad, and
The Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam'."

The motion was carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Under rule 78 of the Assembly Rules, I appoint the Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam to be the Chairman of the Committee." 4-30 p.m.

(2) THE MADRAS HACKNEY CARRIAGE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1949 (L.A. BILL NO. 33 OF 1949)

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Mr. Speaker, I beg to introduce the Madras Hackney Carriage (Amendment) Bill[a], 1949 and move—

'that the Bill be taken into consideration at once.'

Sir, in the Madras Hackney Carriage Act of 1911, 'Hackney carriage' has been defined as 'any wheeled vehicle drawn or pushed by a man or horse, bullock or other animal and used for the conveyance of any person which stands or plies for hire'.

"The existence of cycle-rickshaws was not anticipated at the time. Now there are 13 cycle-rickshaws which have been registered under the Hackney Carriage Act and an interesting point of interpretation has arisen whether pushing includes pedalling. If pushing will not include pedalling of cycles, then the vehicles will not come within the purview of the Hackney Carriage Act and so we have suggested the amendment to bring such rickshaws under the purview of the Act and have said that propelling includes pedalling."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Motion moved—

'that the Madras Hackney Carriage (Amendment) Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration at once'."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"Mr. Speaker, I support the Bill."

The motion was put and carried.

Clauses 1 and 2 and the Preamble were put and carried.

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

'that the Bill be passed into law.'

It is very refreshing that at least there is one measure which is supported by hon. Gentleman there."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Madras Hackney Carriage (Amendment) Bill, 1949, be passed into law'."

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed into law.

[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 5th July 1949.

(3) THE INDIAN TREASURE TROVE (MADRAS AMENDMENT) BILL, 1949
(L.A. BILL NO. 34 OF 1949)

* THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Mr. Speaker, I introduce the Indian Treasure Trove (Madras Amendment) Bill[a], 1949, and move—

'that the Bill be taken into consideration at once.'

"Sir, in 1947, the Bihar Government amended the Indian Treasure Trove Act applicable to the Province of Bihar and after examining the amendment made in Bihar, it was found that it was good and necessary and so, the Government of Madras took up the question of amending this Act. Under section 4 of the Act of 1878, the duty of giving notice in writing to the Collector of the finding of the treasure is laid on the finder and not on the owner or occupier of the place. It was felt that if the owner of the land had also a knowledge of the matter but did not notify the finding of the treasure, the responsibility must be equally laid on him. It is with that view the amendment has been proposed. It is considered that such a duty should be laid on the owner and occupier also. Under section 5, the Collector is required to make enquiries and take the steps mentioned therein, only when a notice is received by him under Section 4 and not where information is received by him otherwise. It is felt that in such cases also, it should be open to the Collector to make the enquiry and take the steps mentioned in section 5. Clauses 2 and 3 of the Bill give effect to these objects. Clause 4 of the Bill makes the owner or occupier of a place in which a treasure is found, liable to punishment, if he fails to give the requisite notice to the Collector."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Motion moved—

'that the Indian Treasure Trove (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration at once'."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Mr. Speaker, just an information; I want to know whether there are any cases of the discovery of treasure troves where the occupier of the land has misappropriated the treasure without bringing it to the notice of the Government."

* THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Sir, after we came to know the amendment made by the Bihar Government, the matter was referred to the Board of Revenue who in turn consulted the Collectors of districts and on their advice, we have found it necessary to amend the Act and that is why the amendment has been brought forward."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"Mr. Speaker, I accept the necessity for the amendment made by the Bihar Government which is going to be adopted by this Government. I only want to say that the fact that the owner had knowledge but still withheld it, is a very important matter for which the owner

[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 26th July 1949.

should be approached cautiously. Secondly, to involve the owner without really the owner having direct knowledge of the matter may lead to a lot of difficulties and there are penal consequences also, like fine or imprisonment or both which have been provided for. Therefore, I request the Government to make a suitable provision that the *onus prabandi* shall not be on the owner."

* THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Mr. Speaker, I should draw the attention of the Hon. Member to the clause which says:—

'If the owner or occupier . . . being aware of the finding thereof fail to give notice . . .'

If he is aware of it and if he did not notify the constituted authority, he is liable to punishment; otherwise, he is not."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Indian Treasure Trove (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration at once'."

The motion was carried.

Clauses 1, 2, 3, 4 and the Preamble were put and carried.

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

'that the Bill be passed into law'."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Motion moved—

'that the Indian Treasure Trove (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1949, be passed into law'."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"I very much like to have a clarification as to what would be the effect of this amendment on landlords who are of unsound mind and who may be aware of the find of the treasure trove but who may not be able to bring it to the notice of the authorities."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I believe the hon. Member knows that people of unsound mind have certain privileges under law (laughter) and they will continue to enjoy the same privileges even after this amendment."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Indian Treasure Trove (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1949, be passed into law'."

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed into law.

(4) THE MADRAS RIVERS CONSERVANCY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1949.
(L.A. BILL NO. 35 OF 1949)

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Mr. Speaker, I introduce the Madras Rivers Conservancy (Amendment) Bill[a], 1949, and move—

'that the Bill be taken into consideration at once.'

"As stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, under the Madras Rivers Conservancy Act, 1884, the powers of the

[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 26th July 1949.

[Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam] [24th November 1949

Conservator of Forests do not extend to the planting and growing of reeds, grass or shrubs. It has been pointed out by our legal advisers that the Government must have that specific provision so that we may grow reeds, grass, etc., in the interests of the conservancy of the rivers and there is provision to pay compensation to owners of private land whenever the grass grown on these private lands is auctioned and sold."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved—

' that the Madras Rivers Conservancy (Amendment) Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration at once.' "

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, ஒரே ஒரு சந்தேகத்தைமட்டும் தெளிவுபடுத்தும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அதாவது வைகையின் அகலம் வருஷாவருஷம் அதிகமாகிக்கொண்டே வருகிறது. அதனால் இரண்டு பக்கங்களிலும் வீடு கட்டிக்கொண்டிருக்கிற வர்கள் பயப்படுகிறார்கள். அதற்காக படுகைகள் அகலமாகாதபடி நாணல் போட்டு வருகிறார்கள். அவ்விதம் போடுவதை இந்த 'பில்' தடுக்குமா என்று கேட்கிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" இது அதைத் தடுக்காது இன்னும் அதிகமான **Power**-ஐதான் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப் படுகிறது என்று சொல்லுகிறேன்."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" வீட்டுக்காரர்கள் அவர்களாகவே போட்டுக்கொள்ளலாம் அல்லவா ? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I do not think, Sir, that the new Bill will affect the existing practice referred to."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Madras Rivers Conservancy (Amendment) Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration at once '."

The motion was carried.

Clauses 1, 2 and the Preamble were put and carried.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Mr. Speaker, I move—

' that the Bill be passed into law '."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Madras Rivers Conservancy (Amendment) Bill, 1949, be passed into law '."

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed into law.

(5) THE TUTICORIN PORT TRUST (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1949
(L.A. BILL NO. 36 OF 1949)

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Mr. Speaker, I beg to introduce the Tuticorin Port Trust (Amendment) Bill [a], 1949, and move—

' that the Bill be taken into consideration at once '

[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 16th August 1949.

24th November 1949] [Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam]

" As hon. Members can observe, the proposed amendment seeks to increase the strength of the Port Trust from 13 to 16 so as to provide representation to certain interests including labour."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Tuticorin Port Trust (Amendment) Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration at once '."

The motion was carried.

Clause 1 was put and carried.

Clause 2.

MR. SPEAKER:—" The motion is—

' that clause 2 do stand part of the Bill '."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" Mr. Speaker, I move, Sir—

' *that for the word* ' *sixteen* ' substitute *the word* ' *seventeen* '."

" Sir, இந்த தூத்துக்குடி போர்ட் டிரஸ்டு 'பில்'லில் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொன்னமாதிரி பல தொழிலாளர்களும், முதலாளிகளும் இன்னும் **interested** இருப்பு வியாபாரிகளுக்கும் மற்றவர்களுக்கும் ஸ்தானம் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆனால் அதேமாதிரி **Indian Chamber of Commerce**-ல் எல்லா வியாபாரிகளையும் கொண்ட . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I wish to make a suggestion to the hon. Member. Details are given in clause 3 of the Bill. The hon. Member has also an amendment with respect to that clause. If that is carried, this will be merely consequential. Therefore, let us take that clause first and then we will come back to clause 2. I do not know the mind of the Government."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I am going to accept the amendment."

MR. SPEAKER:—" This depends upon how the other amendment to clause 3 is disposed of."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I will accept that amendment also."

MR. SPEAKER:—" What I wish to suggest is that we will take up clause 3 first and then we shall come to clause 2."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" After all there is no difficulty. It is a question of substituting 17 for 16 and the Government are agreeable."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" Sir, அதாவது **Indian Chamber of Commerce**-க்கு ஒரு **seat** அதிகமாக கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்றும் அதாவது 16 டிரஸ்டிகள் கொண்ட **Port Trust**-ல் உள்ளவர்களை 17 ஆக்கவேண்டு மென்று ஒரு **amendment** கொடுத்திருக்கிறேன். அதாவது இரும்பு வியாபாரிகளுக்கு ஒரு ஸ்தானமும் மற்ற வியாபாரிகளுக்கு ஒரு ஸ்தானமும், இந்தியா தூத்துக்குடி இறக்குமதி ஏற்றுமதி வர்த்தகர் களுக்கு ஒரு ஸ்தானமும் கொடுக்கப்பட்டு எல்லா வியாபாரிகளும் **Indian**

[Sri K. T. Kosalram] [24th November 1949

Chamber of Commerce-ல் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்பது தெரிந்த விஷயம். இனனும் வியாபாரிகளே அதிகம் recognize பண்ணவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. ஆகவே அவர்களுடைய தொழில் பாதிக்காமலிருப்பதற்கு அதிக ஸ்தானம் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்பதை ஒருவரும் மறுக்க முடியாது. ஆகவே Indian Chamber of Commerce-க்கு ஒரு ஸ்தானம் அதிகமாகக் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அதையும் அவர் ஒப்புக்கொள்வார் என்றே நம்புகிறேன்."

The amendment was duly seconded.

MR. SPEAKER:—" Amendment moved—

' that *for* the word " sixteen ", *substitute* the word " seventeen '."

4-45 p.m. SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Sir, I am unable to understand the amendment of my hon. Friend, Mr. Kosalram, as to why he wants to increase the number of seats by one only. If he wants to increase the number by three or four I can understand him. But he wants to increase the number by one seat only. I cannot understand his reason for so doing. He said the Indian Chamber of Commerce is a body representing all merchant class. That body is already represented on the board. I can understand him if he recommends a seat to a body not represented in the Port Trust Board. But it is not so. He wants to increase the number of seats to the Indian Chamber of Commerce by one."

6-30 p.m. JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not know why the Government are increasing the strength of the Trust from 13 to 16, and from 16 to 17, by an amendment of Mr. Kosalram which the Hon. Minister seems to have accepted. (Interruption by the Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon.) Can it be because—as the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon says (now the cat is stand the amendment of my hon. Friend, Mr. Kosalram as to why out of the bag) (Laughter) that the number ' 13 ' is an unlucky number? (Laughter.) Is that so? If so, we would like this House to be taken into confidence before Government commit themselves to any statement of policy. As regards the increase of the strength of the Board from 16 to 17, may I ask for a clarification from the Hon. Minister for Public Works whether there is a provision for representation of this House on the Trust? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Sir, I accept the amendment of Sri Kosalram. In this Bill there is a provision made to increase the strength of the Trust from 13 to 16, but not because ' 13 ' is a bad number. (Laughter.) In fact, I was not aware of it till it was pointed out by the hon. Member. Government received a number of representations to give representation to certain interests in the Trust. They considered them and decided that three new representatives should be added on to the Trust representing certain interests, and so they originally proposed to increase the maximum strength from 13 to 16. Mr. Kosalram had given notice of a number of alternative amendments. He consulted me even before he moved his amendment in the Assembly, and I told him that I could not accept his amendment

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to clause 3, notice of which he had already given, and which will be found in the printed agenda. Then he moved his proposal to give increased representation to the Indian Chamber of Commerce from three to four, which I have accepted.

" I may inform Mr. Anwar that there is no representation of this Legislature as such in the Tuticorin Port Trust."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that in clause 2 *for* the word ' sixteen ' *substitute* the word ' seventeen '."

The amendment was carried.

Clause 2 as amended was put and carried.

Clause **3.**

MR. SPEAKER:—" The motion is—

' that clause 3 do stand part of the Bill '."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Sir, I beg to move—

' *that in clause* 3 (*i*), for *items* (*ii*), (*iii*) *and* (*v*) *of clause* (*a*) *of new sub-section* (2) *of section* 6, substitute *the following items, namely*:—

" (*ii*) *The Tuticorin Chamber of Commerce—2 Trustees.*

(*iii*) *The Indian Chamber of Commerce, Tuticorin—4 Trustees.*

(*v*) *The Tuticorin-Ceylon Current Exporters' and Importers' Chamber—1 Trustee.*" ' "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that in clause 3 (i), *for* items (ii), (iii) and (v) of clause (*a*) of new sub-section (2) of section 6, *substitute* the following items namely:—

" (ii) The Tuticorin Chamber of Commerce—2 Trustees.

(iii) The Indian Chamber of Commerce, Tuticorin—4 Trustees.

(v) The Tuticorin-Ceylon Current Exporters' and Importers' Chamber—1 Trustee." ' "

The amendment was carried.

Clause 3 as amended was put and carried.

Clauses 4, 5 and 6 and the Preamble were put and carried.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Sir, I beg to move—

' *that the Bill to further amend the Tuticorin Port Trust (Amendment) Bill*, 1949 *be passed into law* '."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved—

' that the Tuticorin Port Trust (Amendment) Bill, 1949, be passed into law '."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, while I am glad that the number of representatives on the Port Trust has been increased to 17, I would very much wish to stress upon the Hon. Minister for Public Works the necessity for having representatives of this House on every port trust, not only on the Tuticorin Port Trust but on every port trust we have in this Province. It is only to emphasise that point of view that I say that this Government should come forward with an amending Bill very soon."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Sir, we have only two port trusts in this Province. One is the Madras Port Trust, which is under the control of the Government of India. The other is the Tuticorin Port Trust, which is under the control of the Provincial Government. On the Madras Port Trust even this Government are not represented. If the Government of India agree to that, then this Government would consider to give representation to this legislature on the Tuticorin Port Trust."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Tuticorin Port Trust (Amendment) Bill, 1949 be passed into law '."

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed into law.

(6) THE MADRAS REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1949 (L.A. BILL No. 37 OF 1949).

* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to introduce the Madras Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill[a], 1949 and move—

' *that the Bill be taken into consideration at once* '."

This is a small Bill giving the right to search the register of births and deaths to any person on payment of a fee of four annas and getting a certificate of an extract from the register duly attested by an officer empowered therefor. That is all that the Bill proposes to do."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved—

' That the Madras Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration at once '."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" Sir, இப்பொழுது இருக்கும் முறையானது பலவிதமான கஷ்டத்தை உண்டாக்குகிறது. அதை எவ்வாறு மாற்றியமைக்க வேண்டுமென்பதற்கு யோசனைகள் இருந்தால் அதை கனம் மந்திரியவர்களைச் சொல்லும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 16th August 1949.

24th November 1949] [Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman]

" இப்பொழுதுள்ளது எப்படி இருக்கிறதென்றால் நாலு அணு கொடுத்தால் ரிஜிஸ்டரைப் பார்த்துத் தெரிந்துகொள்ளலாம் என்று இருக்கிறது. அது பலவிதமான கஷ்டங்களை அளிக்கக்கூடியதாக இருக்கிறது என்பதை ஒப்புக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அதை எவ்வாறு மாற்றி அமைக்கப் போகிறார்கள் என்பதை தெளிவுபடுத்தும்படி கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" நாலு அணு கொடுத்துவிட்டால் அவர்களே ரிஜிஸ்தர்களைத் தேடிப்பார்க்கலாம் என்று இருக்கிறது. அவர்களே, ரிஜிஸ்தர்களை தேடக்கூடாது. ஆபீசர்கள்தான் தேடவேண்டுமென்பதுதான் இதனுடைய அபிப்பிராயம்."

" The fact is till now everybody is allowed to handle the register of births and deaths. That cannot be done hereafter. To make a search in the register a fee of four annas must be paid. Then an extract from the register to any birth or death registered therein will be given duly attested by the Registrar."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Sir, the provision made in the Bill is to ' cause a search to be made by the Registrar '. It so happens that all the documents kept by the municipality are governed by such a rule. Now, Sir, the practice has been till now, that every citizen has got a right to go and search the register under the supervision of the Commissioner. I have no objection to have that right curtailed on some valid ground. We have not been told whether there have been some malpractices under that right. Now, Sir, what is sought to be done under the Bill is to curtail the right of every citizen—which is an important right—to go and search the register of births and deaths. On the other hand, if rules provide for a more careful perusal of the register and under stricter supervision, I can understand, but not this taking away of the entire right."

* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Sir, the register of births and deaths is a document concerning a large section of people. It has got a legal value apart from anything it may contain, and so all and sundry cannot be allowed to handle it as they please. After all only a small fee of four annas is levied. It is not much. It does not cause any inconvenience to anybody."

* SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" On a point of information, Sir. I should like to know, if a citizen in a village is not entitled to see the register of births and deaths. Till now he has been allowed to see it. Now this amendment seeks to take away that right. For it says on payment of a fee of four annas any person may cause a search to be made. That means he cannot see it himself. If the fee is only in respect of taking an extract from the register I appreciate it. But if I cannot go to the municipal office and see my son's date of birth, it is taking away the right of a citizen which he has been enjoying all along. I request the Hon. Minister to clarify the position at least in the rules."

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* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Sir, the register of birhs and deaths is a State document, and so it is not open to anybody to go and handle it. Extracts from it have got a legal validity, as courts recognize it. So, if anybody wants to scrutinize it he can do so under certain rules. It is not a wastepaper basket into which you can put your hand and take anything you like."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

'that the Madras Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration at once'."

The motion was carried.

Clauses 1, 2 and the Preamble were put and carried.

* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Sir, I beg to move—

'*that the Madras Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill*, 1949, *be passed into law*'."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved—

'that the Madras Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 1949, be passed into law'."

* SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" Sir, this Bill really takes away the right of every citizen to go and look into the register. Hitherto there was no such restriction, and what has happened now to take away that right? Every citizen was entitled to go to the municipal or panchayat office and peruse the register of births and deaths to verify the age. If the amendment is only for the purpose of taking an extract from the register and not for the purpose of merely perusing it I agree. It is not as if the person handles the register as he likes. There is a clerk who shows the register and from it the information is gathered. I request that in the rules exemption from the fee of four annas may be made for merely perusing the register, and the fee may be levied only for taking an extract from the register."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—" Sir, I agree with my hon. Friend, Mr. Natesa Chettiyar. This is a right which has been enjoyed by citizens for a long time. Poor people should not be asked to pay this fee. This is a right enjoyed even under the British rule; and it should not be taken away in a democratic Government. I protest against such levy."

* JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, the House must really be thankful to Mr. Natesa Chettiyar for bringing this matter to the notice of the House. I am glad at least in the third reading stage wisdom has dawned. We now actually see what the Government propose to do; by this subtle move they are going to curtail the right of every citizen hitherto enjoyed by him. (Interruption by the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi.) Probably the Hon. Leader of the House may not be able to understand the difficulty of Harijans. (Cries of hear, hear.) They generally dare not approach officers and so they should not

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be handicapped. I do not know how this Government which claim so much to mind the needs of the poor come forward with this proposal. Even now—better late than never—there is an opportunity for Government to withdraw the Bill." (Laughter.)

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Sir, I think there is some variation between the language used in the Act and the explanation given by the Hon. Minister. The Hon. Minister thinks that on payment of four annas any person can look into the register. The language of the Act does not warrant that opinion. The Act says that the public have no access to the registers at all. These are all documents to which the public have got access only during the prescribed hours in the office of the Commissioner or whoever is in charge of them. It is not as if anybody and everybody can go and handle the State papers and that is the reason why they are kept in the custody of officers. This amendment is coming after fifty years, and have any cases of malpractice come to the notice of the Government during these fifty years? Instead of stopping malpractices, this Bill will give scope for malpractices. Date of birth is a very important factor, while the date of death may be important only sometimes. Now that we are in the third reading stage of the Bill and an important right of the citizen is being taken away—and this is in line with what we have been doing on the floor of this House for a long time—I request the Hon. Minister to see whether he cannot, under the rule-making powers, continue the present practice of access to the registers on payment of four annas which is his real intention. He could even liberalize the rules by reducing the fee to two annas or even allow free access to poor persons if the officer is satisfied that they are so poor that they cannot afford to pay any fee." 5 p.m.

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" Sir, some of our friends referred to a right in this connexion. I really do not understand their contention. If it is a question of right, any right must have a value. Suppose everybody is allowed to look into the register and then go and say that he verified from the register and that such and such is the date of birth, will anybody attach any value to such a statement? On the other hand, the Bill provides for the issue of an authoritative extract on payment of a small fee. That will pass muster with anybody and that will be really valuable to people. Even supposing that a person has got a right to see the register, will it be of any use at all without an authoritative extract? Therefore I do not think any right is involved here at all. The Bill is really an improvement. Previously one had simply to see the register and make use of that information for what it was worth. But the people are given a valuable right under this amending Bill."

* SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" Sir, I also hold the view that a facility which was available to the people hitherto is being taken away by this measure. Further, this Bill imposes a tax on

the people. Especially in these days when we have attained freedom, if we cut short the facilities which the people have been enjoying hitherto, it does not mean that we are going in the right manner. Any such restriction does not seem to be good. Therefore I support the view expressed by the hon. Mr. M. G. Natesa Chettiyar."

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Sir, the practice that is followed for searching registers in the registration offices is sought to be followed in this case also. If a party wants a search to be made of a document, he pays a search fee and applies to the Registrar. The Registrar makes the search and intimates to the party the number of the document and the pages of the register in which it is found. The party then pays a fee and gets a certified copy of the document. The same practice is sought to be followed here also.

" Two additional advantage are conferred by this Bill. A person who does not finish his search in one day will have to pay another four annas for search on the next day under the Act. But under the present Bill, he will have to pay the fee only once. Secondly, hitherto a person had to come and make the search personally. Hereafter he need not come personally but can send the fee by postal order and the search will be made by an officer of the Government.

" It is not desirable to permit private parties to handle such a valuable register as the register of births and deaths. Therefore the Bill proposes to stop that practice.

" As I pointed out above, two additional advantages are conferred by this Bill. When that is the case, an unnecessary ghost is being kicked up that the rights of people are being taken away and everybody repeats it without understanding the exact implications."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Has the Hon. Minister in charge of the Bill anything to say by way of reply? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I have nothing to add. The matter has been clearly explained by my Hon. Colleague."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

' that the Madras Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 1949, be passed into law. '."

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed into law.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 182 asked by Janab S. Muhammad Ismail at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 24th November 1949, page 931 supra.]

Syllabus for the training course under the Village Vaidya Scheme.
(4 or 5 lectures.)

A. PART I.

(1) Introductory—

Health in general and the role of village vaidyas in village sanitation.

(2) Personal hygiene—

Habits, exercise, cleanliness, attention to skin and bowels, clothing materials, hygiene parade in schools, etc.

(3) Nutrition—

General principles and requirements of diet, wholesomeness of diet, adulteration of milk and its products. Diseases connected with food. Protection of food from infection.

(4) General talk about Bacteria and their role in diseases—

If possible, demonstration of slide of disease producing organisms, e.g., plague, cholera, typhoid, tuberculosis, leprosy, staphylococci, streptococci, gonococci, malaria parasites, L.D. bodies, hook-worm acarus scabies.

B. PART II.

(5) Communicable diseases—

(i) Infection, modes of transmission, channels of infection, incubation period, quarantine, contacts, carriers, preventive measures.

(ii) Epidemic and endemic diseases.

(*a*) Those that are spread mainly through bowel discharges, e.g., enteric fever, cholera, dysentery, hook-worm and cestodes and nemotodes—their prevention and treatment.

(*b*) Diseases spread by discharges through mouth and nose, e.g., tuberculosis, diphtheria, measles, whooping coughs, mumps, influenza, cerebro-spinal fever—their prevention and treatment.

(*c*) Diseases for which special preventive measures have been discovered, e.g., smallpox, rabies, tetanus, venereal diseases—their prevention and treatment.

(*d*) Insect-borne diseases, e.g., malaria, dengue, filariasis, yellow fever, plague, relapsing fever, typhoid, kala-azar, scabies—their prevention and treatment.

(*e*) Other diseases—chicken-pox, leprosy, ringworm—their prevention and treatment.

(*f*) Management of an outbreak of infectious diseases.

(6) Animals and insects, etc., spreading diseases, e.g.,—

(i) Mosquitoes, anopheles, culex, stegomyia—their life history and preventive measures, e.g., D.D.T. spraying, oiling, larvæ eating fish.

(ii) Flies—life history, preventive methods.

(iii) Rats and flees—life history and preventive methods.

(iv) Bed bugs, lice—life history and preventive measures.

(7) Disinfection and disinfestation—

(i) Concurrent and terminal disinfection and disinfestation of persons, clothes, burrows, shops, godowns and discharges.

(ii) Fumigation and D.D.T. spraying.

(8) Environmental Hygiene—

(i) Buildings and building materials.

(ii) Principles and methods of ventilation applicable to Indian conditions.

(iii) Area and cubic space required in dwellings.

(iv) Privies (sanitary).

(v) Collection and disposal of refuse and nightsoil.

(vi) Sanitary administration of fairs.

(vii) Water-supply sources: Wells, rivers, tube wells—purification of water.

(viii) Drainage—house, streets.

(ix) Rat-proofing and damp-proofing of houses.

(9) Protective vaccination and inoculation—

Cholera, plague, smallpox, typhoid—technique dangers—contra indication—extent and duration of immunity.

(10) Maternity and Infant and Child Welfare—

Pre-natal infant and pre-school hygiene.

Pre-natal care—objects, aims and plan of work.

Natal care.

Post-natal care and infant and child welfare.

Nutrition as it applies to infants and growing children.

Mother—diet during pregnancy and lactation.

Breast feeding—feeding of normal infants.

Common errors on infant feeding.

Hygiene and care of premature and immature infants.

GENERAL.

(6 lectures.)

First Aid—

(i) Treatment of shock, faint, collapse.

(ii) Treatment of hæmorrhage.

(iii) Treatment of burns and scalds.

(iv) Treating of drowning, suffocation, asphyxia (different methods of artificial respiration).

(v) Treatment of poisoning and the use of stomach tube.

(vi) Treatment of minor injuries, fractures, dislocation and the use of splints.

(3 lectures.)

Minor Surgery—

(i) Incision and treatment of infected wounds (Sepsis, asepsis, local anesthesia).

(ii) Removal of foreign bodies from ear and nose.

(iii) Injections—sub-cutaneous and intra-muscular.

(iv) Use of soft Cathetor.

(v) Use of enema and flatus tube.

(vi) Snake bite torniquet.

Cases of stricture urethra and cases requiring aspiration, paracentisis, saline injections, and cases of uterine hæmorrhage to be referred to better equipped dispensary or hospital.

Common instruments and their uses—

Thermometer, stethoscope, trocar and gannula, scalpel, scissors, artery forceps, dissecting forceps, needles, directors, probe, sphygmomanometer.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 186 asked by Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 24th November 1949, page 938 supra.]

Names of the institutions recommended to Government of India for purposes of exemption from income-tax.

UNIVERSITIES.

1 The Madras University.

2 The Andhra University.

3 The Annamalai University.

MADRAS COLLEGES.

1 The Presidency College, Madras.

2 Loyola College, Madras.

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MADRAS COLLEGES—*cont.*

3 Christian College, Madras (Tambaram).
4 Vivekananda College, Madras.
5 Queen Mary's College, Madras.
6 Lady Willingdon Training College, Madras.
7 Women's Christian College, Madras.
8 St. Christopher's Training College, Madras.
9 Teachers' College, Saidapet, Madras.
10 Meston Training College, Madras.
11 Y.M.C.A. College of Physical Education, Saidapet.
12 The College of Engineering, Guindy.
13 The Madras Medical College, Madras.
14 The Stanley Medical College, Madras.
15 The Veterinary College, Madras.
16 Government College for Muslims, Madras.
17 Ethiraj College for Women, Madras.
18 The College of Indian Medicine, Madras.

MUFASSAL COLLEGES.

1 The Engineering Colleges at Kakinada, Coimbatore and Anantapur.
2 The Women's Medical College, Vellore.
3 The Andhra Medical College, Visakhapatnam.
4 The Agricultural Colleges at Coimbatore and Bapatla.

OTHER INSTITUTIONS.

1 The Sri Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya, Coimbatore.
2 The Gandhi Basic Training School and College for Graduates, Perianaikanpalayam.
3 The Electro Chemical Research Institute, Karaikudi.
4 The Leather Research Institute, Madras.
5 The Textile Research Institute, Coimbatore.
6 The School of Indian Medicine, Madras.
7 The Andhra Historical Research Society, Rajahmundry.
8 The Institute of Technological Studies, Madras.
9 The Indian Red Cross Fund, Madras.
10 The Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Visranthipuram, East Godavari district.
11 The Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Perundurai.
12 The Gandhi Gram, Chinnalapatti.
13 The Mathurai District Constructive Workers' Sangham, Chinnalapatti.
14 The Gandhi Niketan, T. Kallupatti.

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OTHER INSTITUTIONS—*cont.*

15 The Madras Provincial Welfare Fund, Madras.
16 The Tamil Nad Basic Education Society, Chidambaram.
17 The Ramakrishna Tapovanam, Tiruppullathurai, Tiruchirappalli.
18 The Agricultural School, Orathanad, Tanjore district.
19 The Madras Tuberculosis Association, Madras.
20 The Missionary Medical College Hospital, Vellore.
21 Bala Mandir, Madras.
22 The Lady Ampthill Nurses Institute and South Indian Nursing Association, Madras.
23 The Pasteur Institute, Coonoor.

DEFECTIVE SCHOOLS.

1 U.L.C.M. School for the Blind, Rentichintala.
2 Leper Day School, Bapatla.
3 Bethseda Leper Hospital School, Narsapur.
4 Deaf and Dumb School, Mylapore.
5 Blind, Deaf and Dumb School, Teynampet.
6 Blind School (Girls), Palamcottah.
7 Blind School (Boys), Palamcottah.
8 Deaf and Dumb School, Palamcottah.
9 Leper School, Dayapuram.
10. Victory Memorial Blind School, Poonamallee.
11 St. Stanislaus School for Leper, Kumbakonam.
12 Leper School, Ramachandrapuram.

BOARDING HOMES AND ORPHANAGES.

Visakhapatnam North.

1 R.C.M. Orphanage, Parvathipur.

Visakhapatnam South.

2 R.C.M. Orphanage, Kondadaba.
3 St. Antony's R.C.M. Boarding Home, Cantonment, Vizianagram.
4 C.B.M Boarding Home, Bimilipatnam.
5 R.C.M. St. Antony's Cathedral Boarding Home, Visakhapatnam.

East Godavari.

6 U.L.C.M. Orphanage, Yelleswaram.
7 Adi-Andhra Orphanage, Ramachandrapuram.
8 McLaurin High School, Orphanage, Kakinada.
9 Shorn Hostel, Rajahmundry.
10 C.B.M. Boarding Home, Samakota.

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BOARDING HOMES AND ORPHANAGES—*cont.*

West Godavari.

11 C.B.M. Boarding Home, Akividu.
12 I.C.M. Boarding Home, Bhogole.

Krishna.

13 St. Joseph's R.C.M. Orphanage, Gunadala.
14 C.M.S. Higher Elementary School Orphanage, Vidyanagar.
15 R.C.M. Boarding Home, Nandigama.
16 C.B.M. Boarding Home, Avanigadda.
17 E.F.G.M. Boarding Home, Gudivada.
18 C.B.M. Hostel, Kaikalur.

Guntur North.

19 U.L.C.M. Orphanage, Rentachintala (including the Blind section).
20 St. Theresa's R.C.M. Orphanage, Rentachintala.
21 Sri Edara Venkatraya Depressed Class Pupils' Home, Bodapadu.

Guntur South.

22 U.L.C.M. Orphanage, Narasaraopet.
23 A.B.M. Boarding Home, Ongole.
24 A.B.M. Boarding Home, Vinukonda.

Kurnool.

25 A.B.M. Higher Elementary School, Orphanage, Markapur.
26 Poor Boys' Hostel, Pattikonda.
27 Sri Prahalada Poor Boys' Home, Alagadda.
28 A.B.M. Boarding Home, Bestwarpeta, Cumbum.
29 Coles Boarding Home, Kurnool.
30 Poor Boys' Home, Koilkunta.
31 Poor Students' Educational Association, Peapally.
32 Poor Boys' Home, Nandikotkur.
33 Christ Church Vocational Boarding Home, Giddalore.
34 S.P.G. Boarding Home, Nandikotkur.
35 S.P.G. Bording Home, Mutyalapad.
36 S.P.G. School Model Section Boarding Home, Nandyal.
37 Lakshmi Chennakesava Poor Boys' Home, Vemulakota.
38 Sri Sarada Prasanna Poor Boys' Home, Chengalamarri.
39 S.P.G. Boarding Home, Govindapalle.

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BOARDING HOMES AND ORPHANAGES—*cont.*

Bellary.

40 Arya Ediga Gowra Hostel, Brucepeta, Bellary.
41 St. Antony's Orphanage, Adoni.
42 Students' Home, Radagalli.
43 District Hindu Students' Home, Bellary.
44 Mohammadia Orphanage, Rayadrug.

Anantapur.

45 L.M. Cambell Boarding Home, Gooty.
46 L.M. Model Rowels Boarding Home, Vajrakarur.
47 L.M. Orphanage, Dharmapuri.

Cuddapah.

48 L.M. Community Orphanage, Cuddapah.
49 L.M Orphanage, Appayapalli, Kamalapuram.
50 Silas Orphanage, Jammalamadugu.
51 S.P.G. Dearnery Boarding Home, Muddanur.
52 L.M. Destitute Home for Boys, Mutchumari.
53 St. Joseph's Boys' Orphanage, Mariapuram.
54 Muslim Orphanage, Cuddapah.
59 S.P.G. Dearnery Boarding Home, Kalasapad.

Nellore.

56 Swadeshi Boarding Home, Podili.
57 Luthern Boarding Home, Tarlapadu.
58 The Christian Council Boarding Home, Kanigiri.
59 O.E.L.M. Boarding Home, Nayudupeta.
60 A.B.M. Higher Elementary School, Orphanage, Udayagiri.
61 A.B.M. Boarding Home, Kavali.
62 McKean Higher Elementary School, Orphanage, Indukurpeta.
63 St. Peter's Boarding Home, Nayudupeta, now at Nellore.
64 Cyclone Orphanage, Nellore.
65 Swadeshi Hostel, Donakonda.
66 Indian Boarding Home, Ramagovindapuram.
67 Public Welfare Boarding Home, Tarlapadu.
68 Boarding Home, Chinnacherukur.

Madras.

69 St. Francis Xavier's Boarding Home, Alwarpet.
70 P.T. Lee Chengalvaraya Nayakar's Orphanage, Vepery.
71 Muslim Orphanage, Madras.

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BOARDING HOMES AND ORPHANAGES—*cont.*

Madras—cont.

72 The Ramakrishna Mission Students' Home, Mylapore, now at Utramerur.

73 Madras-I-Hussainy and Yattamkhana, Thousand Lights, Madras.

Chingleput.

74 Hindu Sevak Sangh Orphanage, Meerambedu, Villivakkam P. O.

75 C.S.M. Boys' Boarding Home, Malrosapuram.

76 Hindu Religious Orphanage, Walajabad.

77 M.M. Orphanage, Madurantakam.

78 St. Joseph's Boys' Orphanage, Chingleput.

79 Little Flower Orphanage, Teresapuram.

80 T.E.L.C. Orphanage, Pandur.

81 M.M. Boys' Orphanage, Ikkadu.

82 Robinson Orphanage, Pallavaram.

83 Valluvar Gurukulam Orphanage, Tambaram.

North Arcot.

84 Danish Mission Orphanage, Tiruvannamalai.

85 Muslim Orphanage, Melvisharam.

86 A.A.M. Boarding Home, Arni.

87 A.A.M. Boarding School, Katpadi.

88 Little Flower Orphanage, Pallikonda.

89 Don Bosco Orphanage, Vellore.

90 St. Andrews' Orphanage, Arkonam.

91 Vivekananda Orphanage, Vellore.

92 U.M.A.L. Orphanage, Tiruppattur.

93 Sacred Heart Orphanage, Tiruppattur.

Chittoor.

94 A.A.M. Boarding Home, Kothapalli.

95 M.M. Boarding Home, Nagari.

96 A.P.M. Boarding Home, Palliput.

97 P.M. Boarding Home, Renigunta.

98 Aided Higher Elementary School, Orphanage, Kattakindapalli.

South Arcot.

99 T.E.L.C. Orphanage, Chidambaram.

100 St. Anne's Boarding Home, Tindivanam.

101 A.A.M. Boarding Home, Tindivanam.

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BOARDING HOMES AND ORPHANAGES—*cont.*

Tanjore.

102 St. Francis Xavier's Orphanage, Tanjore.

103 Little Flower Orphanage, Kumbakonam.

104 Karanthai Tamil Sangam Orphanage, Tanjore.

105 C.S.M. Orphanage, Tranquebar.

106 Mai Porul Kalvikazagam Orphanage, Tiruvarur.

Tiruchirappalli.

107 T.E.L.C. Orphanage, Clock Tower, Tiruchirappalli.

108 St. Joseph's Industrial School Orphanage, Tiruchirappalli.

109 The Muslim Orphanage, Tiruchirappalli.

110 M.M. Circuit Boarding Home, Karur.

111 Luthern Mission Orphanage, Perambalur.

112 S.P.G. Adi-Dravida Orphanage, Pugalur.

113 Madras-Sirathul Mustakkem Orphanage, Perambalur.

114 M.D.M. Orphanage, Manapparai.

Mathurai.

115 St. Mary's School Orphanage, Mathurai.

116 T.E.L.C. Boarding Home, Dindigul.

117 Washburn Orphanage, Kalkondampatti.

118 A.M.C.C. Boarding Home, Batlagundu.

119 A.M.C.C. Boarding Home, Dindigul.

Ramnad.

120 A.M.C.C. Boarding Home, Manamadura.

121 All Saints' Boarding Home, Pettalapatti.

122 A.M.C.C. Boarding School, Aruppukkottai.

123 Victoria Orphanage, Sivakasi.

124 St. Joseph's Orphanage, Ramagar, Devakottai.

Tirunelveli East.

125 St. Ignatius Orphanage, Tuticorin.

126 St. Joseph's Boys' Orphanage, Adaikalapuram.

127 St. Joseph's Orphanage, Nazareth.

128 St. Mark's Orphanage, Christianagaram.

Tirunelveli West

129 Sacred Heart Orphanage, Irudayakulam.

130 St. Xavier's Orphanage, Palamcottah.

131 Tiruvallur Mission Orphanage, Viravannallur.

BOARDING HOMES AND ORPHANAGES—*cont.*

Coimbatore district.

132 St. Michael's Indian Orphanage, Coimbatore.
133 L.M. Orphanage, Coimbatore.
134 C.S.M. Orphanage, Palladam.
135 M.M. Orphanage, Dharapuram.
136 R.C.M. Sanyasi Mutt, Kollegal.
137 Ramakrishna Vidyasala, Periyanaickanpalayam.
138 L.M. Community Orphanage, Erode.
139 St. Mary's Indian Orphanage, Karumuthampatti.
140 Immaculate Orphanage, Doddagazanur.
141 Sevashram Orphanage, Coimbatore.

The Nilgiris.

142 M.M. Orphanage, Ketti.
143 St. Theresa's Indian Orphanage, Ootacamund.

Salem.

144 S.B.M. Orphanage, Namakkal.
145 Little Flower Orphanage, Salem.
146 S.B.M. Boarding Home, Vashavanthi, Kolli Hills.

Malabar, North.

147 J.D.T. Islam Orphanage, Chevayur, Marikunni P.O.
148 Poor Home Society Orphanage, Kozhikode.
149 Pallikara Adi-Dravida Orphanage, Chrukunni.
150 J.D.T. Islam Orphanage, Puthiyangadi.
151 Nayanar's Boys' Home, Mattamalaparamba.
152 Nayanar's Children's Home, Palayangudi.

Malabar, South.

153 B.E.M. Orphanage, Paraperi.
154 The Muslim Dharma Paripalana Sangham Orphanage, Tirur.
155 Nayanar's Children's Boarding Home, Chelode.
156 Nayanar's Children's Boarding Home, Morayur.

South Kanara.

157 B.E.M. Orphanage, Udipi.
158 St. Vincents' Orphanage, Kadapa.
159 St. Philomena's Orphanage, Uppinangadi.
160 Mai-De-Deus Orphanage, Puthur.
161 St. Rita's Orphanage, Kankrady, Koddade P.O.

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BOARDING HOMES AND ORPHANAGES—*cont.*

South Kanara—cont.

162 Sri Swami Sradhananda Orphanage, Mangalore.
163 Balakashram Orphanage, Mangalore.

ORPHANAGE AND BOARDING HOMES—GIRLS.

First Circle.

Visakhapatnam.

1 H.A.A. Orphanage, Vizianagaram.
2 St. Joseph's Orphanage, Palakonda.
3 St. Theresa's Orphanage, Salur.
4 St. Mary's Boarding Home, Parvatipur.
5 St. Joseph's Orphanage, Waltair, now at Vizianagaram.
6 St. Ann's Girls' Orphanage, Bheemunipatnam.
7 St. Joseph's Boarding Home, Jagannaickpur, Kakinada.

Second Circle.

Krishna.

8 St. Antony's R.C.M. Boarding School, Vijayavada.
9 C.B.M. Orphanage, Vuyyur.
10 C.E.Z.M. Orphanage, Masulipatnam.

Guntur.

11 St. Joseph's Girls' Orphanage, Guntur.
12 U.L.C.M. Orphanage, Rentachintala.
13 St. Anne's Orphanage, Phirangipuram.
14 Karuna Nilayam Hostel, Konetipuram.

Nellore.

15 The Christian Council Boarding Home, Kanigiri.
16 St. Joseph's Girls Orphanage, Nellore.
17 Sheatsley Memorial Girls' Boarding Home, Gudur.

Chittoor.

18 A.A.M. Girls' Boarding Home, Chittoor.
19 Women's Industrial School Orphanage, Palmaner.

Third Circle.

Bellary.

20 St. Joseph's Orphanage, Bellary.
21 St. Mary's Girls' Orphanage, Bellary.
22 L.M. Girls' Boarding Home, Bellary.

ORPHANAGE AND BOARDING HOMES—GIRLS—*cont.*

Third Circle—cont.

Kurnool.

23 St. Joseph's Orphanage, Kurnool.
24 Holy Cross Girls' Boarding Home, Nandyal.

Anantapur.

25 L.M. Destitute Home for Girls, Yellanur.

Fourth Circle.

Madras.

26 St. Antony's Girls' Orphanage, Vepery.
27 Holy Family Orphanage, San Thome.
28 St. Lazarus Boarding Home, Mylapore.
29 St. Ann's Orphanage, Rayapuram.
30 Anjuman Himayath, Islam Orphanage, Madras.
31 Seva Sadan, Chetput.
32 Hindu Sevak Sangh Orphanage for girls, Mint Street, Georgetown.

Chingleput.

33 Avvai Boarding Home, Adyar.
34 C.S.M. Orphanage, Sholinghur.
35 Little Flower Orphanage, Roshanagaram.
36 St. Anne's Orphanage, Kilacheri.
37 St. Elizabeth's Orphanage, Madavaram.
38 A.A.M. Girls' Orphanage, Guindy.
39 M.M. Boarding School, Ikkadu.
40 St. Eugene's Orphanage, Arambakkam.
41 Christ King Orphanage, Tambaram.

North Arcot.

42 St. Mary's Orphanage, Vellore.
43 A.P.M. Orphanage, Sholinghur.
44 Little Flower Orphanage, Ranipet.
45 St. Aloysius Orphanage, Vettapalam.
46 St. Joseph's Orphanage, Arni.
47 C.A.M. Orphanage, Arkonam.
48 The Hindu Girls' Orphanage, Vellore.
49 St. Antony's Girls' Orphanage, Chetput.
50 A.A.M. Girls' Boarding School, Ranipet.
51 Sacred Heart R.C.M. Orphanage, Wandiwash.

Fifth Circle.

Coimbatore.

52 Immaculate Conception Orphanage, Coimbatore.
53 Presentation Convent Orphanage, Coimbatore.

ORPHANAGE AND BOARDING HOMES—GIRLS—*cont.*

Fifth Circle—cont.

Coimbatore—*cont.*

54 L.M. Boarding Home, Erode.
55 M.M. Orphanage, Dharapuram.
56 L.M. Boarding Home, Coimbatore.

Salem.

57 L.M. Orphanage, Hastampatti.
58 St. Patrick's Orphanage, Shevapet.
59 St. Cabrels' Boarding Home, Meenampalli Agraharam.
60 St. Thomas Boarding School, Kovilur.
61 St. Nicholas Orphanage, Settipatti.
62 St. Mary's Orphanage, Arisipalayam, Salem.
63 S.B.M. Boarding Home, Sendamangalam.

The Nilgiris.

64 Nazareth Convent Orphanage, Ootacamund.
65 M.M. Girls' Orphanage, Ketti.
66 St. Michael's Orphanage, Ketti.
67 St. Mary's Orphanage, Kotagiri.
68 Karinagiri Wessex Orphanage, Kotagiri.

South Malabar.

69 St. Mary's Convent Orphanage, British Cochin.
70 Little Flower Orphanage, Palliport.
71 Christ King Convent Orphanage, Pavaratty.
72 St. Joseph's Girls' Orphanage, Brahmavakulam.
73 St. Rita's Orphanage, Palghat.

Sixth Circle.

North Malabar.

74 St. Joseph's Convent Orphanage, Kozhikode.
75 St. Vincent's Orphanage, Kozhikode.
76 B.E.M. Girls' Orphanage, Chombala.
77 Little Flower Orphanage, Manantoddy.
78 Holy Infant Mary's Orphanage, Vayittiri.
79 Ursuline Convent of Mary Immaculate Orphanage, Payyanur, Cannanore.
80 St. Xavier's Orphanage, Kolayad.
81 Little Flower Orphanage, Cheruvannur.
82 St. Philomena's Orphanage, Marikunnu.
83 Sacred Heart Orphanage for Girls, West Hill.
84 Nayanar Girls' Home, Erankipalem.
85 St. Joseph's Orphanage, Meppadi.

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ORPHANAGE AND BOARDING HOMES—GIRLS—*cont.*

Sixth Circle—cont.

South Kanara.

86 Mary Vale Orphanage, Kinnigely.
87 St. Joseph's Male and Female Orphanage, Jeppoo.
88 B.E.M. Orphanage, Moolky.
89 Ishwarananda Mahila Sevashram Orphanage, Mangalore.
90 St. Joseph's Girls' Orphanage, Coondapoor.
91 Stella Mary's Orphanage, Ullal.
92 St. Joseph's Girls' Orphanage, Kaliyur, Vorkady.
93 St. Philomena's Orphanage, Kommappu.
94 Female Orphanage, Mulloor.
95 St. Mary's Female Orphanage, Karinjee.
96 St. Paul's Orphanage, Trikarpur.
97 Sacred Heart Orphanage, Brahmawar.
98 Infant Jesus Orphanage for Girls, Kavoor, Bondel.
99 St. Joseph's Girls' Orphanage, Kulasekhar.
100 St. Joseph's Girls' Orphanage, Berimar.
101 De'Mercede Girls' Orphanage, Panir.

Seventh Circle.

Mathurai.

102 Little Flower Orphanage, Palni.
103 Bird's Nest Orphanage, Mathurai.
104 L.P.M. Orphanage, Rachanyapuram.
105 St. Joseph's Industrial Girls' Orphanage, Mathurai.
106 Don Bosco Orphanage, Dindigul.
107 St. Agnes' Orphanage, Rayappanpatti.
108 St. Theresa's Orphanage, Pambarpuram.

Ramnad.

109 St. Andrew's Boys' School, Ramnad.
110 C.M.S. Orphanage, Sachiapuram.
111 St. Francis Xavier's Orphanage, Srivilliputtur.
112 R.C.M. Orphanage, Andavoorani.
113 S.H.N. Mary's Girls' Orphanage, Sattur.
114 St. Theresa's Orphanage, Sattur.
115 C.S.M. Orphanage, Kamuthi.

Tirunelveli.

116 Holy Cross Indian Girls' Orphanage, Tuticorin.
117 St. Joseph's Girls' Orphanage, Adikalapuram.
118 Ooliyasthanam Orphanage, Palayapatti.

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ORPHANAGE AND BOARDING HOMES—GIRLS—*cont.*

Seventh Circle—cont.

Tirunelveli—*cont.*

119 C.M.S. Orphanage, Nallur.
120 St. Joseph's Orphanage, Tuticorin.
121 Elliot Tuxford Orphanage, Megnanapuram.
122 Valliammal Boarding Home, attached to Thayammal Orphanage, Kulasekharapatnam.
123 Thayammal Dawson Orphanage, Ittamoly.

Eighth Circle.

South Arcot.

124 St. Joseph's Orphanage, Tindivanam.
125 D.M. Girls' Boarding School, Tirukkoyilur.
126 D.M. Girls' Boarding School, Melpattambakkam.
127 St. Antony's Orphanage, Pudupalaiyam.
128 St. Joseph's Girls' Orphanage, Olagankathan.

Tanjore.

129 C.S.M. Orphanage, Mayuram.
130 St. Michael's Orphanage, Michaelpatti.
131 Sacred Heart Orphanage, Tanjore.
132 St. Paul's Orphanage, Mayuram.
133 C.S.M. Orphanage, Porayar.
134 St. Theresa's Orphanage, Tranquebar.
135 St. Joseph's Orphanage, Kumbakonam.
136 St. Antony's Girls' Orphanage, Nagapattinam.
137 St. Antony's Orphanage, Manambuchavadi.
138 S.P.G. Girls' Orphanage, Nangur.
139 St. Gabriels' Orphanage, Pasupathikoil.

Tiruchirappalli.

140 Holy Cross Orphanage, Teppakulam, Tiruchirappalli.
141 Holy Cross Orphanage, Cantonment, Tiruchirappalli.
142 C.S.M. Orphanage, Kempstown, Tiruchirappalli.
143 St. Anne's Orphanage, Cantonment, Tiruchirappalli.
144 M.M. Boarding School, Karur.

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1 Dheena Bandhu Boarding Home, Mahadevipuram, Chittoor district.
2 R.C. Little Flower Girls' Orphanage, Chinnaselam, South Arcot.

3 St. Vincent Paul's Orphanage, Mannargudi, Tanjore district.
4 Reddipalli Adigalar Manava Viduthi, Kancheepuram, Chingleput.
5 T.E.L.C. Girls' Orphanage, Tengenaiyar, Tiruchirappalli.
6 St. Christopher's Home, Muddanur, Cuddapah.
7 C.S.M. Orphanage, Karunagarapuri, Coimbatore and Nilgiris.
8 St. Vincent De-Paul Orphanage, Edathiruthi.
9 Seven Dolours Orphanage for Girls, Palamcottah, Tirunelveli.
10 C.S.M. Orphanage for Boys, Paramakudi, Tiruchirappalli.
11 Kanya Gurukulam Home, Kaikalur, Krishna district.
12 Sri Sradhananda Orphanage, Tenali.
13 Sri Ramakrishna Mission Students Home, Kalli, North Malabar.
14 St. Michael's Orphanage Home, Guntur.
15 St. John's Orphanage, Velipalayam, Tanjore.
16 A.A. Girls' Hostel, Gaurisankarapuram, Krishna.
17 St. Mary's Immaculate Orphanage, Tirupathi, North Arcot.

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 5 asked by Sri M. G. Natesa Chettiyar, at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 24th November 1949, page 944 supra.]

Statement showing the number of cases where applications were called for by the Madras Public Services Commission for competitive examinations for direct recruitment in the years 1948–49 *and* 1949.50.

PROVINCIAL SERVICES.

1948–49.

1 Part-time Lecturer, Law College, Madras.
2 Deputy Collector.
3 Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies.
4 District Registrar.
5 Deputy Superintendent of Police.
6 Assistant Industrial Engineer.
7 Gazetted Superintendent, Agricultural Research Stations.
8 Civil Assistant Surgeons, Class I (Men and Women).
9 Research Officer, Indian Medicine.
10 Professor, College of Indian Medicine.
11 Works Superintendent, Government Ceramic Factory.
12 Ceramist, Ceramic Laboratory.
13 Principal, Arthur Hope Polytechnic.
14 Assistant Entomologist.

PROVINCIAL SERVICES—*cont.*

1948–49—*cont.*

15 Assistant Agricultural Chemist (Soil Physicist).
16 Civil Assistant Surgeon, Class II (Men).
17 Professor, Law College, Madras (two advertisements).
18 Professor of Electrical Communications, Engineering.
19 Principal, Government Textile Institute.
20 Workshop Engineer, Arthur Hope Polytechnic.
21 Superintendent, Automobile Section, Arthur Hope Polytechnic.
22 Senior Chemist, Institute of Leather Technology.
23 Labour Officers (reserved and non-reserved vacancies).
24 Inspector of Factories, II Grade.
25 Civil Assistant Surgeon, Class II (Women).
26 Superintendent, Fruit Research Station, Kodur.
27 Superintendent, Wynaad Agricultural Farm.
28 Assistant Agricultural Chemist, Malt Factory, Coimbatore.
29 District Educational Officers.
30 Headmaster, Government Madrasa-I-Azam.
31 Professor and Lecturer, Madras Educational Service.
32 Lecturer in Agricultural Economics, Madras Agricultural Service.
33 Assistant Engineer (Mechanical), Madras Electrical Service.
34 Chief Accountant of the System Offices in the Electricity Department.
35 Second Physicist, Barnard Institute of Radiology.
36 Ornithologist, Madras Agricultural Service.
37 Deputy Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
38 Lecturer in Chemistry, Madras Veterinary College.
39 District Agricultural Officer.
40 District Munsif.
41 Examiner of Questioned Documents.
42 Assistant Engineer, Madras Engineering Service.
43 Assistant Agricultural Chemist.
44 Chemist, Madras Agricultural Service.
45 Inspector of Boilers.
46 Assistant Conservator of Forests (two advertisements).
47 First-class Health Officers.
48 Superintendent, Radio Section, Arthur Hope Polytechnic.
49 District Veterinary Officer.

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PROVINCIAL SERVICES—*cont.*

1949–50.

1 General Superintendent, Industrial Engineering Workshops.

2 Medical Biologist, King Institute, Guindy.

3 Puisne Judge, Court of Small Causes, Madras.

4 Chief Accountant of the System Offices in the Electricity Department.

5 Professor of Bio-Chemistry, Madras Medical Service.

6 Deputy Collector.

7 Deputy Superintendent of Police.

8 Superintendent of Jails.

9 Manager (Technical), Government Silk Filatures, Kollegal.

SUBORDINATE SERVICES.

1948–49.

1 Junior Inspector of Co-operative Societies.

2 Apprentices, Local Fund Audit Department.

3 Reserve Sub-Registrar.

4 Probationary Revenue Inspector.

5 Sub-Inspectors, Madras Fisheries Subordinate Service.

6 Veterinary Assistant Surgeon.

7 Demonstrators, Madras Veterinary College.

8 Second-class Health Officers.

9 Assistant Professor, College and School of Indian Medicine.

10 Tutor.

11 Reader.

12 Supervisor of Industries.

13 School Assistants, II Grade (two advertisements).

14 Senior Inspector of Co-operative Societies.

15 Upper Subordinates, Madras Agricultural Subordinate Service.

16 Supervisors, Madras Engineering Subordinate Service.

17 Forest Apprentice.

18 Health Inspector.

19 Official Receiver.

20 Research Assistant, Madras Fisheries Subordinate Service.

21 Inspector of Fisheries, Madras Fisiheries Subordinate Service.

22 Fishery Demonstrator, Madras Fisheries Subordinate Service.

23 Librarian, Madras Fisheries Subordinate Service.

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SUBORDINATE SERVICES—*cont.*

1948–49—*cont.*

24 Curator, Madras Fisheries Subordinate Service.

25 Taxidermist, Madras Fisheries Subordinate Service.

26 Assistant Inspector of Labour.

27 Assistant Professor and Assistant Lecturer, Madras Educational Subordinate Service.

1949–50.

1 Veterinary Assistant Surgeon.

2 Demonstrator, Madras Veterinary College.

3 Assistant Commercial Tax Officer.

4 Co-operative Sub-Registrar.

5 Junior Inspector of Co-operative Societies.

6 Probationary Revenue Inspector.

7 Assistant Fishery Demonstrator.

8 Laboratory Assistant, Cinchona Department.

9 Radio Supervisors, Provincial Broadcasting Department.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 6 asked by Janab Muhammad Raza Khan at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 24th November 1949, page 946 supra.]

List of the names of the Members of the Legislative Assembly and the Council to whom lands have been granted as political sufferers and the extent granted to each up to 15th May 1949.

Name of district.	Name of the applicant who applied for land.	Whether M.L.A. or M.L.C.	Extent granted. On permanent basis.	Extent granted. Provisionally.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
			ACS.	ACS.
West Godavari.	1 Sri A. Govindacharyulu ..	M.L.C. ..	5·03	..
Krishna ..	1 Sri V. Kurmayya	M.L.A. ..	..	2·21
	2 Srimathi V. Seethamahalakshmamma.	M.L.A. ..	..	*16·00
Guntur ..	1 Sri A. Aaron Rao	M.L.A. ..	..	4·72
	2 Sri Putta Subbiah	M.L.A. ..	..	4·72
Nellore ..	1 Sri L. Subbaramareddi ..	M.L.C. ..	3·54	..
Anantapur ..	1 Hon'ble Sri N. Sanjeeva Reddi.	Minister and M.L.A. ..	..	15·00
	2 Sri K. Subbarao ..	M.L.C. .	..	15·23
	3 Sri G. Venkata Reddi, B.A., B.L.	M.L.C. ..	..	15·00
	4 Sri D. Kadirappa	M.L.A. ..	..	15·00

*** Granted jointly with two other political sufferers pending permanent assignment. (Since cancelled in Memorandum No. 1216-F/49-7, Revenue, dated 20th September 1949.)**

Name of district.	Name of the applicant who applied for land.	Whether M.L.A. or M.L.C.	Extent granted. On permanent basis.	Extent granted. Provisionally.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
			ACS.	ACS.
Kurnool ..	1 Sri N. Venkatasubbiah ..	M.L.A. ..	..	10·06
Chittoor ..	1 Sri T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi.	(Deceased M.L.A.).	2·00 *	..
North Arcot ..	1 Sri N. Annamalai Pillai ..	M.L.A. ..	..	8·21
Salem ..	1 Sri P. Kandaswami Pillai ..	M.L.A. ..	..	2·61
Coimbatore ..	1 Sri P. R. Kandaswami Goundar.	M.L.A. ..	..	9·72
Nilgiris ..	1 Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillay ..	M.L.A. ..	10·00	..
South Arcot ..	1 Sri Kulasekara Doss ..	M.L.A. ..	..	10·77
	2 Simathi Matti Anjalai Ammal.	M.L.A. ..	..	9·94
	3 Sri S. Paramananda Rayar..	M.L.A. ..	..	6·13
Tanjore ..	1 Sri A. Vedaratnam Pillai ..	M.L.A. ..	..	10·00
	2 Sri M. D. Thyagaraja Pillai.	M.L.A. ..	..	1·16
	3 Sri P. Venkatarama Ayyar..	M.L.A. ..	..	5·00
Tiruchirappalli.	1 Sri Ponnambala Goundar ..	M.L.A. ..	5·00	..
Mathurai ..	1 Sri P. S. Veluswami Goundar.	M.L.A. ..	..	4·95
	2 Sri K. Rajaram Nayudu ..	M.L.A. ..	..	4·98
	3 Sri M. S. Pattabhiramiah ..	M.L.A. ..	..	5·00
Tirunelveli ..	1 Srimathi V. Lakshmi Ammal.	M.L.A. ..	3·77 †	..
	2 Sri V. S. Sankarasubrahmanya Mudaliyar.	M.L.A. ..	6·75	..
Chingleput ..	1 Sri M. Kanniappan	M.L.A. ..	10·00	..
	2 Sri P. S. Srinivasan ..	M.L.C. ..	3·29	..
	3 Sri R. Subbier	M.L.A. ..	..	10·05
	4 Sri S. K. Govindarajulu Naicker.	M.L.A. ..	..	9·70

* Assigned in favour of Sri T. N. Nagi Reddi.

† Dry land. Wet land.

ACS.	ACRE.
3·01	0·76

3·77

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 8 asked by Janab Mohamed Abdul Salam, at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 24th November 1949, page 947 supra.]

Statement showing the number of applications received for producer's and dealer's licences, and licences issued under the Madras Khadi (Development) Order, 1949.

Districts.	Producers. Number of applications received.	Producers. Number of licences issued.	Dealers. Number of applications received.	Dealers. Number of licences issued.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1 Anantapur	13	10	20	10
2 Bellary	..	..	1	..
3 Chittoor	1	1	6	4
4 Cuddapah	3	..	12	2
5 East Godavari	47	3	85	24
6 West Godavari	3	..	71	28
7 Guntur	117	17	174	47
8 Krishna	17	2	139	36
9 Kurnool	9	4	10	6
10 Nellore	150	18	64	17
11 Visakhapatnam	46	7	85	30
12 North Arcot	..	..	3	..
13 South Arcot	..	..	..	..
14 Chingleput	..	..	1	..
15 Coimbatore	24	..	10	..
16 South Kanara	1	..	2	..
17 Mathurai	22	..	20	..
18 Madras	1	1	11	1
19 The Nilgiris	1	..	..	..
20 Ramnad	21	..	21	..
21 Salem	2	..	2	..
22 Tanjore	..	..	4	..
23 Tirunelveli	..	..	2	..
24 Tiruchirappalli	..	..	9	..
Total ..	478	63	752	205

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, the 25th November 1949.

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.

MR. SPEAKER:—" I have put down 23 questions for answers to-day and I want to finish all the questions as soon as possible."

Collection of rent by the Estate-holder.

* 190-A *Q.*—SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR (on behalf of Sri T. Viswanatham): Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a circular or instruction was sent to the effect that arrears which accrued due prior to 1357 fasli, should be collected by the Estate-holder himself, in the case of estates taken over by the Government under the Estates Abolition Act; and

(*b*) what is the provision under which the ex-Estate-holders can make such collection and which is the forum for their suits for collection?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (*a*) No such circular or instruction was sent by the Government. Under section 55 (1) of the Abolition Act, after the notified date, the landholder *shall not be entitled* to collect any rent which accrued due to him from any ryot before, and is outstanding on, that date. The manager appointed to an estate is alone empowered to collect rents to whatever fasli they may relate.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

Control of the prices of the substitutes for sugar.

[* 190-B *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member who put the question is not in his place. The answer will be printed in the proceedings."]

DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has received a copy of the resolution recently passed by the Madras Food Rationing Advisory Committee requesting the Government of Madras to control the prices of the substitutes for sugar that obtain in the market; and

(*b*) if so, what the Government intend doing in the matter?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" (*a*) No.

" (*b*) Does not arise. However, if the hon. Member refers to control over jaggery, the Government do not consider it

necessary to control the commodity at present as the increase in the price of jaggery is only temporary due mostly to sugar scarcity and as the price is likely to come down about the end of December when the new season's product will be coming on to the market. This has already been explained fully by me in the answer to the starred question No. 150-A of Srimathi V. Lakshmi Ammal on 22nd November 1949. As it is not proposed to control the price of jaggery itself, the question of controlling the prices of other substitutes for sugar like brown sugar, palmyra jaggery, etc., does not arise."

Reservation of some seats in the Engineering College of the Annamalai University for the Andhras.

* 190-C *Q.*—JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government have instructed the Annamalai University to reserve 30 per cent of seats in the Engineering College for the Andhras?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The general principles applicable to the admission of candidates from linguistic areas in the Government Engineering Colleges will apply in the case of the Engineering College maintained by the Annamalai University. Accordingly 38·1 per cent of the seats should be allotted for candidates from the group of districts which is predominantly Telugu."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"May I know, Sir, whether that convention has been followed in the Annamalai University?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"That is my information, Sir."

Provincialization of all medical institutions.

* 191 *Q.*— JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN (on behalf of Janab S. Muhammad Ismail): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration to provincialize all medical institutions and services in the Province?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The answer is in the negative."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, when all public utility services yielding revenue are provincialized, why not institutions providing beneficial amenities be also provincialized?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"They are being provincialized according to a plan, Sir."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"Is it not the policy of the Government to provincialize at least all the taluk headquarters hospitals in the districts, Sir?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"They cannot all be simultaneously provincialized on the same day, Sir. We are going according to a plan in this matter, taking five headquarters hospitals every year, two in the Andhra, two in the Tamilnad and one in the Kerala. We have already prepared a scheme and we are proceeding in an order."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"Will the Government agree to provincialize, if an offer for a donation of one lakh of rupees for a hospital for women were made?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The whole thing is a hypothetical question, Sir. If a concrete offer is made, then the Government will consider."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"Sir, the offer is before the Government for the last three years. It is not hypothetical, Sir, but simply sympathetical." (Laughter.)

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Certainly, Sir, all sympathetic offers coming from sympathetic sources will be very sympathetically considered." (Laughter.)

Working of Cement Control in the Province.

* 192 *Q.*—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN (on behalf of Janab M. A. Muhammad Ibrahim): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any report regarding the working of the 'control' in our Presidency in recent months on cement; and

(*b*) if so, what action has been taken on such report?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"(*a*) & (*b*) Recently the Government of India convened a conference to review the working of the existing system of cement control. The conference made certain recommendations in regard to review of orders, quota system, basis of allotment, functions of Regional Honorary Cement Advisers, despatches, free sale and imported cement and these recommendations were examined and accepted by the Government of India. They have requested this Government to take immediate steps to implement these recommendations. Specific reports were called for in regard to the recommendations on despatches, free sale and imported cements. The reports of the Director of Controlled Commodities in the matter are awaited."

Five-year plan for irrigational improvement.

* 193 *Q.*—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN (on behalf of Janab S. Muhammad Ismail): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the five-year plan for irrigational improvement has to be given up and a new plan is being drawn up?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"No, Sir."

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Effect on the finance by allowing the maximum in the I.C.S. scale to certain Collectors.

* 194 *Q.*—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN (on behalf of Janab M. A. Muhammad Ibrahim): Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the effects on the finance of the Province for 1949–50

(*a*) because of the new rules in operation which allow District Collectors in our Province to draw their salaries according to the old scale of pay for I.C.S. officers; and

(*b*) by the working of the recent Government Order consolidating all the previous orders relating to dearness allowance admissible to Government servants?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (1) It is presumed that the hon. Member wants information regarding the effect on the Budget of 1949–50 of the decision to allow the maximum in the I.C.S. scale, viz., Rs. 2,500 to the Collectors who were confirmed prior to 15th August 1947. The Government of India decided that permanent listed post-holders in the I.C.S. should be allowed to draw pay in the I.C.S. time-scale, the maximum of which is Rs. 2,500. This decision will not however, alter the present pay drawn by the officers and it will not therefore affect the budget in any manner.

" (2) The additional cost to the Government as a result of the issue of the Government Order is about Rs. 2·04 lakhs."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" May I know from the Hon. Minister for Finance whether there are Collectors of districts drawing below Rs. 1,000 at the moment, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Sir, we are issuing orders now that some of those officers who are acting in listed posts from 6th March 1948 will be given their time-scale of pay but adjusted to the new senior I.A.S. scale and that arrears of payments will also be made to them. In certain cases, it will be about Rs. 800 to 1,800. But officers in most of the listed posts subsequent to 6th March 1948 will be paid the senior I.A.S. scale."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Does the Hon. Finance Minister consider that the salary given to the head of a district administration, no matter whether he became District Collector since the date mentioned by the Hon. Minister or before, is adequate for the status he has to maintain and for the normal items of expenditure which a person of his status will have to incur by way of house rent, motor car expenses and also his own family expenditure? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We are quite alive to the difficulties of district heads drawing less salaries, but in this matter we are guided by the instructions of the Home

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Department of the Government of India and we are in correspondence with them about the salaries of District Collectors, Sir."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Have the Government of India so far prevented the Madras Government from giving the salary, given to those who were made Collectors since 6th March 1948? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Yes, Sir, they gave us a directive that the officers promoted to listed posts subsequent to 6th March 1948 must be given senior I.A.S. scale, but I may inform the hon. Member that this Government are doing their best to raise it to Rs. 1,000, and we are in correspondence with the Government of India."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know, Sir, whether officers drawing over Rs. 1,000 are in receipt of dearness allowance? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Yes, Sir, officers between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 2,000 are receiving dearness allowance from 1st January 1949."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Will the Government consider the question of giving them at least Rs. 2,000 in view of the fact that they are heads of the whole district? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" But it must also be remembered, Sir, that some of these Deputy Collectors who were drawing about Rs. 450 and Rs. 500 are promoted to these listed posts and it is not desirable to increase their pay suddenly to Rs. 2,000."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" Whatever may be the figure arrived at by the Government, will they at least see that the district head gets a four-digit figure as his salary? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" We are as I said, in correspondence with the Government of India on that matter, Sir."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" May I know, Sir, whether the cuts recently imposed by the Provincial Government or Central Government, will not affect High Court Judges who are I.C.S. Officers? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" High Court Judges are governed by different rules. But this cut over Rs. 2,750 does not affect I.C.S. High Court Judges, Sir."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know, Sir, whether the cut that is proposed in the salaries of officials will not affect any of the Collectors under the Madras Government? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" No Collector is just now drawing over Rs. 2,500 and this cut will affect only officers who are drawing over Rs. 2,750. There are only about four or five officers over Rs. 2,750, who are affected by this cut in this Province, Sir."

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Handing over of primary and elementary educational institutions to local bodies.

* 195 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government have got any plan to hand over the primary and elementary educational institutions in the Province to local bodies in the course of a few years?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The reply is in the negative."

Revenue realized by licence fees granted to factories.

* 196 *Q.*—MR. H. I. CORMACK: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total revenue realized annually by the Government from the several factories in the Province, by way of licence fees collected from them; and

(*b*) the total amount spent by the Government on the staff employed for inspecting the factories?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"(*a*) The Government have not yet collected licence fees from factories. The draft rules for the purpose are under consideration.

"(*b*) The amount spent in 1948–49 is Rs. 3,05,858."

MR. H. I. CORMACK:—"Is it the intention of the Government, Sir, to have additional revenue accruing from the licence fees over and above what is required to cover the bare administrative costs; or, in other words, do the Government want to make a profit out of the licence fees?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The Government have absolutely no idea of making a profit, Sir."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"In view of the fact that of late, factory inspectors have become more or less a nuisance, and are impeding the progress of nationalisation, will the Government issue directions to these inspectors to see that they do not cause unnecessary harassments?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"This question does not relate to factory inspectors at all."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware of a judicial decision that licence fees are only intended to cover the cost of the staff employed for the purpose and not to form a source of revenue, and whether that decision is kept in mind in fixing the schedule of rates of licence fee in this Province?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I have already said, Sir, that irrespective of the decision, the policy of the Government is not to make a profit out of these things."

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Assignment of poramboke lands.

* 197 *Q.*—SRI D. DORAIRAJA PANDIYAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact that there is an order of the Board of Revenue No. 4709, dated 25th August 1949, which prevents the assignment of any poramboke lands, even when not required for communal purpose, if there are non-poramboke lands (assessed and unassessed) available in the taluk?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"According to the Government's recent order on land assignment, poramboke lands even when not required for communal purposes may be considered for assignment only when there are no other lands available in the taluk. The Board's instructions, if it has issued any, are therefore in consonance with the Government's policy in the matter."

Amount collected by way of compounding offences under the Madras General Sales Tax Act.

* 198 *Q.*—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN (on behalf of Janab M. A. Muhammad Ibrahim): Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total amount collected during 1948–49 by way of compounding offences under section 16 of the Madras General Sales Tax Act; and

(*b*) what percentage it works out to the whole collections under the Act?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"(a) Rs. 6,94,283.

"(*b*) 0·53 per cent."

Exemption of tanneries from the provisions of the Factories Act.

* 199 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representations from tanners to the effect that tanneries be exempted from the provisions of the Factories Act; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government propose to take regarding this matter?

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

"(*b*) Does not arise."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"Sir, will the Government take note of the view that these factory inspectors have become more a nuisance in tanneries, and will the Government see, in the interest of expanding the tanning industry which earns dollars and sterling, that they exempt this tanning industry from the factory legislation?" 11-45 a.m.

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I am really surprised at this question, Sir. The factory inspectors are

intended to see that certain regulations in the interests of the industry and labour are observed. It is for the good of the industry and in the interests of labour that factory inspectors are working. I do not know how they are a nuisance as the hon. Gentleman calls them. He does not really mean that, I hope."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—" Sir, in view of the peculiar nature of this industry, will the Government consider the advisability of exempting tanneries from the provisions of the Factories Act? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" No, Sir. The peculiarities, if any, are taken note of by the factory inspectors."

Crisis in handloom industry.

* 200 *Q.*—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM (on behalf of Sri T. S. Pattabiraman):—" Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there has been a great crisis in the handloom industry in the past few months;

(*b*) whether, as a result of this, thousands of handloom weavers are without employment; and

(*c*) if so, what steps have been taken by the Government to alleviate the distress of the handloom weavers?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. Minister for Industries):—" (*a*) *to* (*c*) There is at present a crisis in the handloom industry in this Province on account of the slump in the handloom cloth trade and several handloom weavers have consequently suspended work. To give relief to the weavers who are hard hit by the situation, the Government propose to undertake a relief scheme the outlines of which were announced in a press note, dated 26th October 1949. The scheme is proposed to be started first in Salem district and then extended to other districts as soon as possible.

" I may add that a scheme has since been sanctioned in G.O. No. 5533, Development, dated 18th November 1949."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" May I request the Hon. Minister to tell us the causes for the slump? The Hon. Minister has mentioned that there is slump in the handloom industry."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Most probably one of the causes is that we have not been able to export as much as possible to Pakistan and the Far-east."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—" May I know, Sir, what the scheme is by which relief will be given to the handloom industry? Is it a fact that a number of handloom weavers in Salem and Coimbatore were given a very poor pittance and they are on the verge of begging? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I have just mentioned that orders have been passed on 18th November 1949 sanctioning a scheme. The salient features of the scheme are that measures are to be taken to see that the production of handloom cloth is done on a planned basis with due appreciation of the requirements of the consumers and that guarantees of quality and size are furnished so that handloom goods might command the confidence of the public. The Central Government have also agreed to take one-third of their cloth requirements, i.e., to the extent of Rs. 1 crore worth of goods in the shape of handloom products. I see from the G.O. that the Registrar of Co-operative Societies has submitted a scheme with his letter for affording immediate relief to weavers through the agency of co-operative societies which will assure the weavers of a minimum wage and continuous employment and also relieve them from the burden of marketing cloth as far as possible. The scheme will be restricted to weavers employed in the production of goods in counts 40 and below. The Government will however guarantee to make good the ultimate business losses to these societies arising out of marketing difficulties fluctuations in prices, etc., during the pendency of the scheme, provided they are satisfied that the societies have been run on a sound and efficient basis.

" It is proposed to constitute a Committee for each district, with the Collector of the district as its head, and with the the local Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies and one or more representatives of the primary weavers' co-operative societies, to revise, if necessary, the prices of handloom cloth produced under the scheme, from time to time, in accordance with the prevailing market conditions. This scheme, as has been emphasised by the Government, is only a temporary measure to relieve the distress of the handloom weavers."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Is it a fact that the scheme will help production and not give relief to the handloom weavers in finding a market for the goods that they produce? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Sir, I was just reading the relevant portions in the G.O. The scheme not only contemplates helping production but also marketing of the products."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Sir, with a view to increase the sale of handloom cloth in this Presidency, will the Government take steps to reduce the quantity of mill made cloth that is being imported from outside this Province? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I believe, Sir, there is already a decrease in the off-take of mill cloth in the various places due to economic reasons."

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SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—" Sir, may I know why the scheme is not extended to counts of 60 and above and why it should be restricted to counts of 40 and below, and may I also know why standardization is made when the Government do not promise that the cloth manufactured by the handloom weavers will be taken by this Government and distributed through co-operative societies? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Sir, so far as the question of count limitation is concerned, I take it that the scheme was thoroughly examined by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, and I believe the interests of handloom weavers must have been taken into consideration when they arrived at the count limitation. I could not say why other counts were not taken into consideration. Perhaps the entire matter was reviewed, and it was felt that this particular class of people deserved immediate help. As regards the question of the Government undertaking to sell the cloth, I should like to draw the hon. Gentleman's attention to the G.O. wherein the Government have undertaken to guarantee the losses."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask, Sir, in view of the importance of the handloom industry—which is next only to the agricultural industry in this Province, and 7 lakhs of families being dependent on it—whether, apart from the short term plan which was referred to they have any plan of a long term nature to integrate this industry on a permanent basis along with mill production of cloth in this Province? "

THE HON SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" The Government of India have constituted an all India Handloom Board, and I believe it is one of the functions of the Board to see that the industry is stabilized on a long term basis. We would very much appreciate if the hon. Member would give us some tips in the matter."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Sir, the scheme announced by the Government covers future production. I want to know what action the Government have taken to liquidate the huge stocks of handloom cloth in this Province which amounts to Rs. 12 crores? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Sir, the Government of India have agreed to take handloom goods worth one crore of rupees for their Defence Department. If the hon. Gentleman puts a separate question, I would be able to answer about the action taken to liquidate the huge stocks of handloom cloth."

JANAB ABDUL RAHIMAN :—" Sir இப்பொழுது கைத்தறி துணி விஷயமாக சேலம் ஜில்லாவில் ஒரு திட்டம் கொண்டுவரப்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்று சொன்னீர்கள். என்னுடைய ஜில்லாவில் லட்சக்கணக்கான மக்கள் சொம்பவும் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றார்கள். கவர்ன்மெண்டில் இந்த மாதிரியான பிரேரேபணைகளைச் செய்துகொண்டிருக்கிறார்களே தவிர ஒரு

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வருஷத்திலாவது கஷ்டம் நிவர்த்தியாகவில்லை. ஆகையால் சீக்கிரமாக அதற்கு ஒரு வழி ஏற்பாடு செய்வார்களா என்றும் எப்பொழுது செய்யப் போகிறார்கள் என்றும் கேட்கிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—"இந்த ஸ்கீமை வேறு ஜில்லாக்களுக்குக்கூட சீக்கிரமாக செய்யப்போகிறோம். " Sir, as I have already stated the question of extending the benefits of the scheme to other districts is under the consideration of Government."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—" May I know, Sir, what are the recommendations of the Textile Commissioner who visited the different centres in South India to improve the condition of handloom weavers? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" His recommendations form part of the Government Order that has already been issued."

Effect of the recent cut in petrol ration, on motor traffic, etc.

* 201 *Q.*—JANAB HAJI MOULVI ABDUL KHADHAR JAMALI (on behalf of Janab M. A. Muhammad Ibrahim): Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state what the effect of the recent cut in petrol ration on the motor traffic and on Provincial Finance is?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Neither Provincial Finance nor motor traffic has suffered in the result."

Recent Premiers' Conference at Delhi.

* 202 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Prime Minister of India, the Hon. Mr. Pandit Nehru, has advised the Madras Government to go slow with their policies of Prohibition and Horse-racing at the Premiers' Conference recently held at Delhi?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" The Government do not consider it desirable in public interest to answer the question."

Grants for adult education.

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

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the declaration made by the Hon. Minister for Education to the Government of India at New Delhi in the month of October 1949 that no cut would be made in Central grants for adult education;

(*b*) what the contribution from this Government is; and

(*c*) the extent of the preparatory field work made in the Province?

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" (*a*) No.

(*b*) Rs. 1·57 lakhs is the current budget provision for Adult schools.

" (*c*) The contribution from the Government of India will be utilized to expand the schemes of the Provincial Government introduced in the previous year."

Shop Assistants Act and Non-Power Factories Act.

* 204 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact that instructions have been issued to the recently appointed Assisant Inspectors of Factories not to strictly enforce the provisions of the Shop Assistants Act and the Non-Power Factories Act?

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

Abolition of certain higher posts in all departments.

* 205 *Q.*—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government have disapproved the recommendations of the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee concerning the abolition of higher posts in all departments?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" It is not correct to say that the recommendations of the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee concerning the abolition of higher posts in all departments have been disapproved by the Government. Only some of the recommendations have not been accepted by the Government. Other recommendations have either been approved or are still under consideration."

Assignment of some land for building houses by Harijans.

* 206 *Q.*—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state whether the Government have received any petition from the Harijans of Puthukulam village, Tiruchendur taluk, regarding the assignment of 45 acres of land to build houses to 63 houseless Harijan families?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" No, Sir."

Alleged failure to submit certain returns under the State Aid to Industries Act.

* 207 *Q.*—SRI T. VISWANATHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any company receiving State aid has failed to furnish the annual return prescribed under rule 17 of the rules made under the Madras State Aid to Industries Act;

(*b*) if so, what their names are; and

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(*c*) whether the Government will lay on the table of the House copies of the returns furnished by—

(1) Mohan Tile Works, Tenali;

(2) The Sudarsan Oil Mills, Katpadi;

(3) Sri Radhakrishna Vegetable Oil Products, Limited, Pamidi; and

(4) The Rayalaseema Mills, Limited, Adoni?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. Minister for Industries):—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) Does not arise.

" (*c*) The loan sanctioned to Messrs. Rayalaseema Mills, Limited, Adoni, was fully disbursed only on 21st September 1949 and the loan sanctioned to Sri Radhakrishna Vegetable Oil Products, Limited, Pamidi, has not yet been disbursed. The question of submitting the return by these two concerns during the current year does not, therefore, arise.

" Copies of the returns[a] furnished by Messrs. Mohan Industries, Limited, Tenali, and Messrs. Sudarsan Oil Mills, Limited, Katpadi, are placed on the table of the House."

JANAB MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM:—" Sir, are the Government aware that the balance sheets of Mohan Industries, Limited, Tenali, and the Sudarsan Oil Mills, Limited, Katpadi, show a net loss?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Yes, Sir. From the balance sheet it is seen that there is a net loss."

Car permits given to M.L.As. and M.L.Cs.

* 208 *Q.*—SRI R. KUPPUSWAMI (on behalf of Sri M. Kanniappan): Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that 114 car permits were given to M.L.As. and M.L.Cs. as noted in Sri Shankar Rao Deo's statements to the Press; and

(*b*) if so, whether the names of those M.L.As. and M.L.Cs. will be given?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) A statement[b] is placed on the table of the House."

Levy system of procurement.

* 209 *Q.*—JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state whether the Government have asked for the opinion of all the District Collectors regarding the introduction of the " Levy System " of procurement?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Yes, Sir."

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 1095-1101 infra.

[b] Printed as Appendix II on pages 1102-1103 infra.

SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that there are excesses and frequent deviations by the procurement officials from the procurement order tending to unpopularity of the procurement system of the Government? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Occasionally complaints come in; but they are dealt with then and there."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" May I know what the opinion of some of the Collectors is in this matter? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" As the whole question of the levy system is under consideration, I do not think it is advisable to divulge any of those opinions."

Rationing of sugar.

* 210 *Q.*—JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government have finally decided not to introduce rationing of sugar in this Province?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" It is not clear whether the hon. Member is referring to statutory rationing or informal rationing. If he is referring to satutory rationing, it will be remembered that even during the last control period, there was statutory rationing of sugar only in Madras City and nowhere else in the Province. However, the Government have introduced a scheme of informal rationing of sugar in Madras City with effect from 13th November 1949 details regarding which have already been made public in the Press Note No. 200, dated 3rd November 1949, and copies[a] of which have been placed in the Library of the Legislature. As regards the other districts, the Government have arranged for the distribution of sugar through licensed wholesalers and selected retail dealers in any equitable manner, special preference being given to householders. The future policy of the Government in this matter will depend on the continuance of the present control over distribution of sugar by the Government of India and also on the quantity of sugar made available by the Central Government for distribution in this Province after the new season's sugar becomes available."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—" Am I to understand that every rice ration cardholder will get sugar? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" As I said, it is only informal rationing that has been introduced in Madras City for the convenience of the citizens of Madras. That system does not apply to the districts."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" May I know if there is any instance in the City of Madras of a merchant having misbehaved and action having been taken against him, and if so, whether the number of such persons is considerable or small? "

[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 1104–1105 infra.

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" I should like to have a separate question put on this matter."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May we have an idea as to when the sugar scarcity is going to disappear from this Province? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" As I have announced during the previous question-time, the arrival of the new crop will be some time in December and when that comes in, we hope the situation will improve."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" May I know in view of the scarcity of sugar whether the Government will be pleased to direct that in coffee hotels and restaurants the sweet preparations should be reduced or altogether stopped until the scarcity is relieved? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" By the very fact that the quantity of sugar is reduced everywhere even to the hotels, they are very careful not to prepare too many sugar items now."

JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI:—" Regarding the distribution of sugar in the mufassal, may I know whether it is the policy of the Government to select wholesale and retail distributors from out of persons already in the trade or whether this work is entrusted to co-operative societies? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" General preference is given to those who have already been in the trade and only when such people are not available, co-operative societies are entrusted with this work."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—" Is it not a fact that many of the Collectors have reported to the Government that they have no stocks of sugar? If so, what arrangement have the Government made to supply sugar to the rural areas? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Whatever was available and given to us has been distributed to the districts according to their requirements. They are not getting the full supply; they have to manage with the quantity allotted to them as best as they could."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister agrees with his Food Secretary who yesterday in a broadcast speech expounded a theory that ' South Indians in general are taking too much sugar and due to Prohibition, sugar is rather more consumed in South India? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" Yes, Sir. Since the last lifting of the controls, we find that our people are really consuming more sugar now."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" Does the Hon. Minister know that the black-market price for sugar in the mufassal ranges between Rs. 4-12-0 and Rs. 5-2-0 per viss? "

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THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" I have no information, Sir."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" Does not the very fact that jaggery is selling at very high rates much more than the control rates of sugar prove that the rate of sugar in the black-market is much higher than the control rate? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" The price of jaggery has risen because there is a shortage of sugar and also the supply is going down. But I do not understand why we should draw any conclusions out of this difference in price."

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

GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION.

II.—POSITION OF INDIANS IN CEYLON.

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

' that this Assembly recommends to the Government to convey its request to the Government of India that in view of the rapidly deteriorating position of Indians in Ceylon in various spheres, including economic, political, emigration, citizenship rights, etc., the Hon. the Prime Minister of India be pleased to arrange to discuss with the Ceylon Government the outstanding Indo-Ceylon issues during his forthcoming visit to Ceylon, and if possible, to arrange for a deputation of the representatives of Madras Government to be present at the discussions to assist the Hon. the Prime Minister.'

" Sir, I do not propose to take the time of this House and encroach on the hour available for non-official business. But, a resolution on these lines was sought to be moved during the non-official hour by the hon. Member, Mr. Kosalram, and it has been suggested to the Government that it would be better if a Government motion is made on this subject and therefore, I have made this motion.

" This resolution has been the subject of discussion during question-hour last week. A resolution was moved some time last year on this subject and that resolution was communicated to the Government of India and they did take action on that. But still the difficulties have not been solved; rather the position of Indians in Ceylon has considerably deteriorated. Although the Government of India have moved in the matter, we should realize the delicacy of the question and, therefore, it has not been possible for the Government of India to take effective action which could give necessary relief to Indians. But persistent representations have reached this Government also and, the position deteriorating day-by-day, Indians in Ceylon do look to this Province and this Government, and the Province is vitally interested in the conditions of Indians in Ceylon, most of whom belong to this Province. Indian

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Labour in Ceylon has made no small contribution to the economic development of Ceylon. But still their difficulties are not appreciated by the Government of Ceylon and, therefore, the Indians in Ceylon do look to this Government and to the Government of India primarily for intervention. It is really happy to note that our Prime Minister is visiting Ceylon shortly and, therefore, we do hope that his good offices will be used for a permanent solution of the difficulties of Indians in Ceylon. But, this Province is vitally interested in their conditions in Ceylon and we do feel that we should represent to the Prime Minister the real conditions there so that he might be enabled to intervene effectively and find a solution. Therefore, I commend this resolution for the unanimous acceptance of this House."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved—

' that this Assembly recommends to the Government to convey its request to the Government of India that in view of the rapidly deteriorating position of Indians in Ceylon in various spheres, including economic, political, emigration, citizenship rights, etc., the Hon. the Prime Minister of India be pleased to arrange to discuss with the Ceylon Government the outstanding Indo-Ceylon issues during his forthcoming visit to Ceylon, and if possible, to arrange for a deputation of the representatives of Madras Government to be present at the discussions to assist the Hon. the Prime Minister.'

" There are two amendments. The Movers can formally move their amendments. Then the motion as well as the amendments will be before the House for discussion."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" Sir, I move—

' that the following be added at the end:—

" and that the Government may be pleased to arrange a deputation to wait on the Hon. the Prime Minister of India to place before him the hardships of Indians in Ceylon before he proceeds to Ceylon ".' "

SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI.—" Sir, I second the amendment."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Amendment moved—

' that the following be added at the end:—

" and that the Government may be pleased to arrange a deputation to wait on the Hon. the Prime Minister of India to place before him the hardships of Indians in Ceylon before he proceeds to Ceylon ".' "

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Sir, I move—

' that the following be added at the end:—

" and that the Government may be pleased to request the Hon. the Prime Minister of India to receive a deputation before he proceeds to Ceylon for placing before him the hardships of Indians in Ceylon ".' "

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SRI V. SHANMUGASUNDARAM:—"Sir, I second the amendment."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Amendment moved—

'that the following be added at the end:—

"and that the Government may be pleased to request the Hon. the Prime Minister of India to receive a deputation before he proceeds to Ceylon for placing before him the hardships of Indians in Ceylon."'

"Now the original motion as well as the amendments are before the House for discussion."

* SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—Mr. Speaker, Sir, இப்பொழுது இலங்கைவாழ் இந்தியர்களின நிலைமை நமது Mr. Speaker அவர்களுக்கும் நன்கு தெரியும். சரித்திரகால ஆரம்பத்திலிருந்தே இலங்கை வாழ்க்கை இந்தியாவுடன் ஒட்டி ஒழுகுதல் மூலமே இயங்கியுளளது என்பதற்கு சரித்திரத்தில் பல்லாயிரக்கணக்கான சான்றுகளிருக்கின்றன. மலைகளையும் காடுகளையும் அழித்து சீர்திருத்தம் செய்து வந்திருக்கின்றார்கள் என்பது சரித்திர பூர்வமாகத் தெரியும்."

MR. SPEAKER:—"நாம் இன்று கூட்டத்தை ஒரு மணிக்குள் முடிக்க வேண்டும். ஆகையால் எல்லோரும் பல்வத்து நிமிஷங்களில் பேசி முடித்து விடவேண்டும்."

* SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"Sir, சரித்திர காலமாக இது இருந்துவருகிறது. அன்று இராவணன் இலங்கையை விட்ட பிறகு அசோகன் இலங்கையை சீர்திருத்தம் செய்து செல்வம் கொழிக்கச் செய்தான். அதற்கு பிறகு சேர, சோழ, பாண்டிய மன்னர்கள் இலங்கையை ஆட்சியிலிருந்து சீர்திருத்தம் செய்து வந்திருக்கின்றார்கள். அதற்கு பின்னும் பதினேழாம் நூற்றாண்டில் போர்ச்சுகீஸ் அரசாங்கம் இந்நாட்டிலிருந்தபொழுது சென்னை மாகாணத்தின் கவர்னர் தலைமையின் கீழ் இலங்கையும் இருந்தது. அதிலிருந்து இலங்கை சென்னை மாகாணத்தின் ஒரு பகுதியாக இருந்து வந்தது என்பது புலனாகிறது. இலங்கை சென்னைமாகாணத்தின் ஒரு பகுதியாக இருந்த காலத்தில் அங்கே காடுகளாகவும் மலைப்பிரதேசமாகவும் இருந்தது. பிறகு டச்சு ஏகாதிபத்திய வெள்ளை முதலாளிகள் அந்த நாட்டை சுரண்டிக்கொண்டிருந்த காலத்தில் அங்குள்ள காடுகளையும் மலைகளையும் அழித்து சிறப்பும் செழிப்பும் அடையும்படி செய்வதற்கு இந்திய மூலதனமும், இந்திய தொழிலாளர்களும் இலங்கைக்குக் கொண்டுபோகப்பட்டார்கள். அப்பொழுதுள்ள கவர்னர் அவ்விதம் அனுப்பப்பட்ட இந்தியர்களுக்கு எல்லாவித மான உரிமைகளும் வழங்கப்படும் என்று சொல்லி அனுப்பினார். எனென்றால் அது அப்பொழுது சென்னையின் ஒரு பகுதியாக இருந்ததினால் அவ்விதம் அனுப்பிவைத்தார். அவ்விதம் 7 லட்சம் தொழிலாளர்களை, அதிலும் குறிப்பாக 10 லட்சம் தமிழர்களை இங்கிருந்து அனுப்பினார்கள். காடுகளையும் மலைகளையும் அழித்து நிலங்களை சீர் செய்வதற்கும் அனுப்பினார்கள். அவ்விதம் சீர்படுத்தி தேயிலைத் தோட்டங்களையும் காப்பித் தோட்டங்களையும் உண்டாக்கிய பெருமை இந்த இந்தியர்களுக்குத் தான் சேர்ந்தது. சுமார் 90 கோடி ரூபாய் வருமானம் வரக்கூடிய நிலைமையில் இந்த இந்தியர்கள் இலங்கையை வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதை நாம் அறிவோம். அவ்விதம் செழிப்புறச் செய்த இந்த இந்திய தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு வோட்டுரிமை மறுக்கப்படுகிறது என்பதை நாம் எவ்வளவு நன்றிகெட்டதனம் என்று சொல்வது. அதைப் பற்றி நான் அதிகமாகச் சொல்ல பிரியப்படவில்லை.

"சமீபத்தில் நவம்பர் மாதம் 16-ம் தேதி அங்குள்ள பார்லிமெண்டில் நடந்திருக்கும் ஒரு விஷயத்தைப் பற்றி சொல்லிவிரும்புகிறேன். அப்

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பொழுது அந்த பார்லிமெண்டில் ஒரு மெம்பர் என்ன சொல்லியிருக்கிறார் என்பதைத் தெரிவிக்க விரும்புகிறேன். அவர் ஒரு இந்தியர் அல்ல. அவர் ஒரு ஆங்கிலேயர் என்றே நினைக்கிறேன்.

'Colonel T. Y. Wright, opposing the Bill, said it was "somewhat racial" in character. When the citizenship Bills were being passed Ministers had assured the franchise would not be affected by those Bills.

"Manhood" franchise had now replaced Universal franchise. Nationalism had gone mad. He pleaded for a little more internationalism.'"

MR. SPEAKER:—"அவைகளெல்லாம் எல்லோருக்கும் தெரியும். படிக்க வேண்டாம்."

* SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"இது நமது சென்னை மாகாண பத்திரிகை அல்ல. இது ஒரு Ceylon paper. இலங்கை மெம்பர் என்ன சொல்லியிருக்கிறார் என்பதையும் பார்க்க வேண்டும். இலங்கை Home மந்திரி எவ்விதம் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதையும் தெரிவிக்கப்படுகிறேன். இலங்கை Home Minister ஸ்ரீ விஜய தஹனு என்ன சொல்லுகிறார் என்றால்:

'The Government do not want to grant the franchise to those who are not citizens of Ceylon so that such persons may not determine who should enjoy citizenship rights.'

என்று சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்.

"இந்த நிலைமையில் இலங்கை வாழ் இந்தியர்களுடைய நிலைமையைப் பற்றி இந்த சபைக்கும் உங்களுடைய கவனத்திற்கும் கொண்டுவர வேண்டிய அவசியமாக இருக்கிறது. இன்று இலங்கை வாழ் இந்தியர்களை நான்கு பிரிவாக பிரித்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஒன்று இலங்கைக்கு முற்றிலும் புதிதாக வந்தவர்கள் என்றும், இரண்டாவது இலங்கையில் தற்காலிக மாக வசிப்பதாய் சொல்லிக்கொள்ளும் இலங்கையரல்லாதார் என்றும், இலங்கையின் நிரந்தர வாசிகள் எனறு சொல்லிக் கொள்ளும் இலங்கை யரல்லாதார் மூன்றாவது என்றும், இலங்கையர் நான்காவது என்றும் ஆக நான்கு பிரிவுகளாக பிரித்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதில் ஐந்து வருஷமாக ஒரு மனிதன் இலங்கையிலிருந்திருந்தால் அவன இந்த நவம்பர் மாதம் 1-ம் தேதி முதற கொண்டு மூன்று வருஷங்கள் இலங்கையில் இருக்க முடியும். அவ்விதம் மூன்று வருஷம் இலங்கையில் இருக்க முடியுமென்று சொல்லும்பொழுது இலங்கையை விட்டு இந்தியாவிற்கு வரவேண்டியதற்காக இரண்டு மாதங்களுக்கு அனுமதியளிக்கப்படுகிறது. இந்த மூன்று வருஷங்களில் இரண்டு மாதங்களுக்கு மேல் ஒரு நாளு இந்தியாவிலிருந்து விட்டால் அவனை இந்தியாவை விட்டு இலங்கைக்குவர அனுமதிக்கமாட்டார்கள். பல லட்ச ரூபாய் முதல் போட்டிருந்தாலும், குழந்தைகள், மனைவி, உற்றார் உறவினர்களை இலங்கையில் விட்டு விட்டு வந்திருந்தாலும் இலங்கை போக அனுமதிக்க மாட்டார்கள். நிரந்தர வாசியாக இருப்பவனை நேரத்தை விட்டு அனுப்பினிடு வதற்கும் யாரையும் இலங்கையில் அனுமதிப்பதற்கும் அங்கே இருக்கும் **Emigration Officer**-க்கு சர்வ அதிகாரமும் கொடுத்திருக்கிறது.' அவனு தனக்குக் கொடுத்திருக்கும் அதிகாரத்தினால் எந்த மனிதனையும் இலங்கைக்கு அனுமதிக்கமாட்டான். இன்னும் நிரந்தரமாக இலங்கை வாசி என்று சொல்லிக்கொள்ளுபவர்களுக்கு நாட்டிலுள்ள எல்லா சலுகைகளும் கொடுக்கப்படும் என்பதாகச் சொல்லப்படுகிறது. யாருக்காவது கொடுக்கப்படுகிறதா எனறு பார்த்தால் நூற்றிற்கு 20 சத விகிதம் கூட கொடுக்கப்படவில்லை. நேற்று கூட 'ஹிந்து' பத்திரிகையில் ஒரு கட்டுரை எழுதி இருக்கிறார்கள். நிரந்தரமாக இருக்கும் எல்லோரும் வெளியேற்றப் படுகிறார்கள் என்றும் லட்சக் கணக்கானவர்கள் வந்திருக்கின்றனர் வென்றும் '**Hindu**' **Correspondent** எழுதியிருக்கிறார். இந்த நிலைமையில் பிரஜா உரிமை வழங்குவதில் இலங்கை அரசாங்கம் எவ்வளவு மோசமான நிலைமையில் போய்க்கொண்டிருக்கிறது என்பதை நாம் பார்க்கிறோம். இவ்வளவும் இலங்கை அரசாங்க மந்திரி பண்டார நாயக்கா **(Leader of the House)** பேசியிருக்கிறார் என்றால், அன்று ஹைதராபாத் ரஸ்வி எந்த அளவில் இந்திய சர்க்காரை நினைத்திருந்தாரோ

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அந்த அளவில் இன்று பண்டார நாயகா நினைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார். ரஸ்வியின் கதி என்ன ஆயிற்று. சென்னை மாகாணத்தைச் சேர்ந்த 10 லட்சம் இந்தியர்கள் அங்கே இருக்கிறார்கள். இன்று இங்கு சென்னை மாகாணத்தில் ஐந்து கோடி மக்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். இலவும் 36 கோடி மக்கள் இந்தியாவிலிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் இலங்கை பூராவிலும் பார்க்கிற பொழுது 60 லட்சம் ஜனங்கள்தான இருக்கிறார்கள். அதிலும் 10 லட்சம் பேர்கள் இந்தியர்கள். அதாவது அந்த தேசத்தில் ஆறில் ஒரு பங்கு. இந்த தேசத்தில் பத்தில் ஒரு பங்கு உள்ள முஸ்லீம்கள் தங்களுக்கு ஒரு தனி இராஜ்யம் வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டு வாங்கிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அதற்காக அவர்களில் எவ்வளவோ கூக்குரல் இருந்தன. நாட்டின் பத்தில் ஒரு பங்கு உள்ளவர்களுக்கு கனியாக ஒரு பாக்கிஸ் தான் ராஜ்யம் வழங்கி இருக்கும் பொழுது இலங்கையிலுள்ள மக்களில் ஆறில் ஒரு பங்கு உள்ள இந்தியர்களுக்கு இலங்கையில் ஒரு தனி இராஜ்யம் ஸ்தாபிக்க உரிமை உண்டு.

"இந்த நிலைமையில் இன்னும் அங்குள்ள வியாபாரிகளுடைய நிலை மையை சற்று சிந்திக்கவேண்டும். அங்கிருக்கும் இந்திய வியாபாரிகளுக்கும், இலங்கையில் நிரந்தர வாசியாக இருக்கிற்வர்களுக்கும் **permit** வாங்கவேண்டுமென்றால் இலங்கையில் வோட்டர்களாக இருக்க வேண்டும். அவ்விதம் இருந்தால்தான் அவர்களுக்கு பர்மிட்டுகள் வழங்கப்படும், உரிமைகள் வழங்கப்படும் என்றிருக்கிறது. இலங்கையில் ஒருவன் பிறந்திருந்தால் மட்டும் போதாது. அவனுடைய தகப்பனரும் இலங்கையில் பிறந்திருக்கவேண்டும். அவனுக்குத்தான் ஒட்டுரிமை இதை எப்படி நிரூபிப்பது. வியாபாரிகளுக்கு எந்த விதமான சலுகைகளும் காட்டப்படுவதில்லை. வியாபாரிகள் தங்களுடைய வியாபாரத்தை ஐந்து வருஷம் வைத்து நடத்தி வந்தாலும் இரண்டு வருஷம்தான் மீண்டும் இருக்கலாம். ஆனால் அவர்களுடைய கடைகளில் வேலை பார்க்கும் சிப்பந்திகளின் நிலை என்னவாகும் என்பதைப்பார்க்கவேண்டும். அதன் பிறகு சிப்பந்திகளும் அங்கே இருக்க முடியாது. இப்பொழுது நவம்பர் மாதம் முதல் தேதி முதற்கொண்டு வெளியேற்றும் சட்டத்தை அமுல் நடத்திவருகிறார்கள். இது ஒரு கடுமையான சட்டம்தான். இந்த மாதிரி கடுமையான சட்டம் தென் ஆப்பிரிக்காவில் நிறைவேற்றப்படவில்லை. தென் ஆப்பிரிக்காவில் நிர வெறியால் ஆடுகிறார்கள். இலங்கையில் என்ன செய்கிறார்கள்? அரசியல் சூதாட்டம் ஆடுகிறார்கள். கடைசி ஒரு இந்தியனை வெளியேற்றும் வரையில் நான் தூங்கமாட்டேன் என்று ஸ்ரீ பண்டார நாயகா பறை சாற்றுகிறார். இது ஒரு பொறுப்புள்ள **(Leader of the House)** மந்திரி சொல்லக்கூடியதா என்பதைப் பார்க்கவேண்டும். கடைசி இந்தியனை அனுப்பிவிட்டுதான் சுகமாக உறங்குவேன் என்று சொல்லுகிறார். பொறுப்பற்ற முறையில் அவர் பேசுகிறார். ஹைதராபாத ரஸ்வி போனதற்குமேல் ஒரு பங்கு அதிகமாகவே போய்விட்டார் பண்டார நாயகா. இந்த நிலைமையில் மூன்று வருஷமாக அங்கே நமது ஹை கமிஷனர் இருந்து கொண்டிருக்கிறார்."

Mr. SPEAKER :—"நீங்கள் ஹை கமிஷனரைப் பற்றி ஒன்றும் பேசக்கூடாது."

* **Sri K. T. KOSALRAM** :—"அங்குள்ள இந்தியர்கள் எந்நிலைமையில கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். அவர்களுடைய வசதிகளை அவர் சரிவர கவனித்து வருகிறார்களா? அங்கு நடக்கும் நடவடிக்கைகளை நமது சர்க்காரிடத்தில் சொல்லுவதற்காக இந்தியப் பிரதிநிதியாகிய **Mr.** வி. வி. கிரி அவர்கள் அங்கு ஹை கமிஷனராக இருக்கிறாரே அவர் தனதுடைய வேலையை சரிவர செய்து வருகிறாரா என்பதைச் சொல்லுகிறேன். அங்கு நடக்கும் நடவடிக்கைகளை நமது அரசாங்கத்திற்கு தெரியப்படுத்திவருகிறாரா என்பதாகத்தான் சொல்லுகிறேன். அவர் இலங்கை நிலைமையைப் பற்றி கவனித்து நம் சர்க்காரிடம் தெரிவிக்க வேண்டும். இந்திய சர்க்கார் சொல்வதை இலங்கை சர்க்காருக்கு தெரிவிக்க வேண்டும். அப்படி இலங்கை சர்க்கார் கேட்காவிட்டால் இப்பொழுது **deputation** ஆகப் போகப் போகிற கனம் மந்திரி பகதவச்சலத்திற்கு ஒன்று சொல்லுகிறேன். தென்

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ஆப்பிரிக்காவிலிருந்த ஹை கமிஷனர் ஆபீசை எடுத்துவிட்டதுபோல் இலங்கையில் இருக்கும் அதே போன்ற ஆபீசை எடுத்துவிடலாம் என்று சொல்லும் படியாக அவருக்கு நான் யோசனை சொல்லுகிறேன். எனென்றால் கேலிக் கூத்தாக வேடிக்கை விளையாட்டுகள் செய்துகொண்டிருப்பதற்கு அங்கே ஆபீஸ் வேண்டாம் என்பதுதான். பத்து லட்சம் மக்கள் பரிதவித்து கொண்டிருக்கின்றார்கள். **High Commissioner Office** உல்லாசமாக இருக்கிறது. அவர்கள் அவ்விடம் மிடுக்குகொண்டிருக்கும் பொழுது உல்லாசமாக இருப்பதைவிட வேடிக்கை வேறு ஒன்றுமில்லை. இந்த நிலைமையில் நல்ல காலமாக நமது பிரதம மந்திரி பண்டித நேரு அவர்களும் இலங்கைக்கு அடுத்த மாதம் போகப் போகிறார்கள். நமது பண்டித நேரு அவர்கள் 1941-ம் வருஷத்தில் இலங்கைக்குச் சென்றிருந்தார். அப்பொழுது அவர் பெரிய பேச்சுகள் பத்திரிகைகளில் வந்தன. இலங்கையிலிருக்கும் இந்திய மக்களில் ஒருவருக்கு ஒரு ரோமம் போனாலும் அதை சகித்துக்கொண்டிருக்கமாட்டோம் என்று சொல்லி இருக்கிறார். அந்த பத்திரிகைகளை இன்னும் வைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறேன். தலைவர்கள் இந்த போராட்டத்தை நடத்தி காத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். நாம் ரத்தம் சிந்தாமல் தேச சுதந்திரத்தை வாங்கிவிட்டோம். நமது தலைவர் காந்திஜி நமக்கு பாடம் படித்துக் கொடுத்திருக்கிறார். இலங்கையிலிருக்கும் 10 லட்சம் மக்களை வாடவிட்டுக் கொண்டிருக்கமாட்டோம். அதற்கு என்ன செய்யவேண்டுமோ அதைச் செய்வதற்கு சர்க்காருக்கு அதிகாரம் இருக்கிறது. இந்திய சர்க்கார் பலஹீன மடைந்திருக்கிறது, அதை நாம் பயன்படுத்திக்கொள்ளலாம் என்று ஸ்ரீ பண்டார நாயகா நினைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார். இலங்கை சர்க்கார் மந்திரி அப்படி நினைக்கவேண்டாம். இந்திய சர்க்காருக்கு சில பலமையும் இருக்கிறது. இந்நிலைமையில் அவர்கள் வார்த்தைகளை பெருக்காமலிருக்கலாம்.

"நமது பிரதம மந்திரி பண்டித நேரு அவர்கள் இலங்கை போக வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளும் இந்நேரத்தில் நம் இந்திய சர்க்கார் கனம் மந்திரி நியோகி அவர்கள் இந்திய-சிலோன் வியாபார ஒப்பந்தம் ஒன்று செய்திருக்கிறார். அந்த அக்கிரமத்தைப் பார்க்கும் பொழுது நம்மை நாம் இழிவுபடுத்திக்கொள்ளும் தன்மை போல தோன்றுகிறது. நாம் எவ்வளவோ விட்டுக்கொடுக்க வேண்டும். அங்கிருந்து **copra** தேங்காய், தேயிலை, ரப்பர் முதலியவைகளை இறக்குமதி செய்வதற்காக ஒரு ஒப்பந்தம் செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். அந்த ஒப்பந்தத்தை உடனடியாக சர்க்கார் அமுல் நடத்தாமல் நேரூஜி சிலோன் போய்வந்த பிறகுதான் அமுல் நடத்தப்பட வேண்டுமென்பதை இன்று உடனே சென்னை அரசாங்கம் அவர்களுக்குத் தெரிவிக்கவேண்டும். இந்த ஒப்பந்தம் மிகவும் மோசமான ஒப்பந்தம்.

"இந்த தீர்மானத்தில் இன்னொரு முக்கியமான விஷயத்தைச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இலங்கையில் வியாபாரம் செய்வதற்கு சரக்குகளை அங்கே கொண்டுபோனால் அவைகளை அரசாங்கத்தால் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிருக்கும் கூட்டுறவு சொசைடியில்தான் கொடுக்கவேண்டும் என்றும், அவ்விதம் தாங்கள் கொண்டுபோன சரக்குகளில் 50 **per cent** அவர்களிடம் கொடுத்து விட வேண்டுமென்றும், இலங்கை சர்க்கார் போட்ட விலைக்குதான் அந்த கடைக்காரர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்றும் உத்திரவு போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். கூட்டுறவு சொசைடியில் கொடுத்து விடவேண்டியது நன்மையாக இருந்தாலும்கூட அவர்கள் கட்டாயம் செய்யும் விலைக்குதான் கொடுக்கவேண்டும் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். மீதமிருக்கும் 50 **per cent** சரக்கை வியாபாரிகள் வைத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டும். இவைகளில் கூட அங்கிருக்கும் இந்தியர்களுக்கு உரிமை இல்லையாகிறது. தாராளமாக அதைப்போலவே திருப்பிச் செய்யலாம். அங்கிருந்து இங்கு இறக்குமதியாகும் சரக்குகளை நாம் ஏற்றுக்கொள்ள மாட்டோம் என்று சொல்லலாம். இந்தியன் ஒருவனுக்குதான் இறக்குமதி பர்மிட் கொடுப்போம் என்றும் சொல்லலாம்.

"இந்திய சர்க்கார் இன்னும் இந்திய மக்களுக்கு ஒரு தப்பிதம் செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். இலங்கையில் ஒருவன் வியாபாரம் செய்தால் அவன்

[Sri K. T. Kosalram] [25th November 1949

இந்தியாவினும் இலங்கையிலும் சம்பாதிக்கும் ரூபாய்க்கு **income-tax** போடுகிறார்கள். அதனால் பாதகமில்லை. ஆனால் அங்கிருக்கும் பணத்தை இங்கு கொண்டுவருவதற்குதான் வழி சொல்லுங்கள் என்று கேட்கிறேன். ஆனால் பணத்தை அனுப்பவேண்டுமென்றால் இலங்கை பாங்கு 'செக்'கை இந்திய சர்க்கார் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளமாட்டோம் என்கிறார்கள். அப்படியிருக்கும் அந்த வியாபாரி எவ்விதம் **income-tax** கட்டுவது என்பதை யோசிக்கவேண்டும். லட்ச ரூபாய் **income-tax** கட்ட வேண்டுமென்றால் அவனால் லட்சம் தம்படிகூட கட்ட முடியவில்லை. இப்படி இருக்கும்பொழுது இந்திய சர்க்கார் அவனுடைய சொத்துக்களையெல்லாம் ஜப்தி செய்து விடுகிறார்கள். அதனால் பல பேர்கள் கஷ்டமடைந்திருக்கிறார்கள். சமீபத்தில் கனம் மந்திரி ஜான் மத்தாய் சில வாக்குறுதி கொடுத்திருக்கிறார் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அது மட்டும் போதாது சௌகர்யமாக பணத்தை இங்கு கொண்டு வருவதற்கு வசதி செய்து கொடுக்கவேண்டும். அத்துடன் **income-tax** போடுவதையும் நிறுத்த வேண்டும். இதை முக்யமாக சென்னை மாகாண சர்க்கார் மத்ய அரசாங்கத்தினிடம் சொல்லவேண்டும். எவ்வளவோ வியாபாரிகளில் பலர் சென்னை மாகாண வாசிகள்.

"இன்னொன்றை அரசாங்கம் செய்யவேண்டும். இப்பொழுது இலங்கை வாழ் இந்தியர்கள் தங்களுடைய குடும்பங்களுக்கு பணம் அனுப்புவதாக இருந்தால் ரூ. 25-க்கு மேல் கண்ட்ரோல் அனுமதிக்கும் ரூபாய் அனுப்பலாம். அவ்விதம் அனுமதிபெற இந்தியாவிலிருந்து ஒரு குடும்ப சர்டிபிகேட் வாங்கவேண்டுமென்ற ஒரு விதி இருந்துவருகிறது. இவ்விதம் சர்டிபிகேட் வாங்குவதற்கு உதாரணமாக தூத்துக்குடி ரீஜினல் ஆபீசரிடம் சுமார் 18,000 **applications** பாக்கி இருக்கிறது. ஆகவே இங்கிருக்கும் 18,000 குடும்பங்களுக்கும் அங்கிருந்து பணம் வந்துதான் சாப்பிட வேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. இந்த **application** போட்டவர்கள் திருநெல்வேலியில் மட்டுமல்ல இராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லா, மலபார், மதுரை முதலிய இடங்களிலிருக்கின்றவர்கள் தான். இதற்கு அரசாங்கம் என்ன செய்திருக்கிறது? அதற்காக நியமிக்கப் பட்டிருக்கும் **staff** ஆனது மிக மிகக் குறைவாக இருக்கிறது. இதைப்பற்றி 4, 5 நாட்களுக்கு முன் **Secretary to the High Commissioner** Mr. N E. S. இராகவாச்சாரியார் கலெக்டரிடம் பேசி இருக்கிறார். நம்மிடம் வேண்டிய **staffs** இல்லை. இலங்கை அரசாங்கம் எவ்வளவோ கேவலமாக நடத்துகிறது. நமது அதிகாரிகளோ சரியாக வேலை செய்யவில்லை. இந்த 18,000 மனுக்களை **dispose of** பண்ணுவதற்கு **Special Tahsildar**களைப் போட வேண்டும். கூட 10 **Clerk**களைப் போட்டால் தான் என்ன. நமது மக்கள் நமது நிர்வாக திறமையின்மை காரணமாக பட்டினியாக இருக்கும் நிலைமையில் விடக்கூடாது. அவர்களுக்கு அங்கிருந்து பணத்தை அனுப்பித்தால் தான் சாப்பிடமுடியும். அதற்கு வேண்டிய **staff**களை அரசாங்கம் உடனடியாக **sanction** செய்யவேண்டும். அரசாங்கம் இலங்கை வாழ் இந்தியர்களுக்கு சௌகர்யங்கள் செய்வதற்கு தாராளமாக நடந்து கொள்ளவேண்டும். இது சம்பந்தமாய் நான் பிரதமரிடம் பல வேண்டுகோள் கொடுத்துள்ளேன். ஒவ்வொரு கலெக்டருக்கும் உடனடியாக சர்க்கார் தாக்கீது அனுப்பவேண்டும். இலங்கையில் பிரஜைகளிருக்கின்றார்கள், இங்கு பல்லாயிரம் குழந்தைகளும் இருக்கின்றனர். எந்த அதிகாரிகளும் இலங்கை வாழ் இந்தியர்கள் மீது அனுதாபமாக நடந்துகொள்ளவேண்டும்."

12 noon. * SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, while congratulating the Hon. Minister for Public Works on bringing this resolution, I have to say a few words about my amendment also I am sorry I could not voice my feelings fully on the condition of Indians in Ceylon and the treatment given to the Indians by the Ceylon Government. Because I have to be very cautious as it may affect international relationship between India and Ceylon. If I am free to express my feelings, they will be expressed in a different way and my speech would also be entirely different from what I am going to make here.

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" Mr. Speaker, Sir, some hon. Members even in this House and other people outside, may ask, ' What is this? A few months ago the same Minister for Public Works, who is in charge of foreign affairs in this Province moved a similar resolution and requested the Government to look into the matter and again after a few months, the same resolution, if not the same at least in different language, has been moved. Where is the necessity for this? ' I know some hon. Members will feel like that. That resolution mainly related to citizenship right of Indians which was denied by the Ceylon Government. At that time, the Ceylon Government was contemplating in their Legislature the Ceylon Emigration and Immigration Bill which has now been passed. Then the Ceylon Indians represented to this Government to take this matter up and help them. That is why our Minister moved that resolution and also requested the Government of India to interfere in the matter. But in spite of our resolution and in spite of the steps taken by the Government, the Ceylon Government were adamant and they passed the legislation and put it into force. After the passing of that Act, the Ceylon Indian Congress held their session in April. For this session our Acharya Kripalani, ex-President of the Indian National Congress, was invited. Mr. Kamaraja Nadar, President of the Tamilnad Congress Committee, was also invited to attend this session. I had also the honour of accompanying them and visiting Ceylon and studying the conditions of Indians there. The Ceylon Indian Congress passed a resolution to boycott the registration provided for in the Citizenship Act. They boycotted the registration because the conditions which have been laid down in the Act were not practicable and no Indian can prove those conditions which had been laid in the Act. Those conditions were most humiliating. That was why they decided to boycott the registration. This resolution passed by the Ceylon Indian Congress is now being carried out. I understand that out of nearly one million or ten lakhs of people there, hardly 300 or 400 had gone to register their names. No Indians have registered their names more than that number. I understand that the Ceylon Government have given a time-limit and if no Indian comes forward to register his name before that date, his name will not be registered. Sir, it is a grave situation which has arisen after the passing of this Act. The citizenship right of one million Indians in Ceylon has been threatened. Out of these one million of Indians, about 8 lakhs are labourers and 2 lakhs are people who are engaged in business and other employment. My hon. Friend Mr. Kosalram mentioned that these labourers were taken to Ceylon in the 17th century. But I may tell that they were taken even in the 14th century during the rule of the Dutch Government. After that the British Government encouraged the taking of more labourers to the island. Thus, eight lakhs of labourers are there now. Mr. Speaker, I know that you have visited the island and have seen for yourself the conditions of these labourers and how they are being affected there. Therefore I need not go into great detail about this matter.

" As you are aware and also as some of the hon. Members of this House are aware, there are other people in Ceylon who are

employed and who are also having business there. These people are worried not only about citizenship rights, but they want residentship rights also. It has been provided in the Act that all facilities should be afforded to give residentship right. But in practice, when these people approach the Government to get the permits or passes that is being denied. When people approach the authorities even for temporary permits they are not given. They are not able to even approach the Immigration Officers who are not easily accessible. If in a day 100 people applied to see the officers for these permits, hardly 4 or 5 of them are able to see the Officers. The Officers say, 'We are short of hands, we do not have sufficient staff. Therefore we are not able to look into these matters.' In the Immigration and Emigration Act, it is stated that an Indian who resides in Ceylon for 5 years prior to the Act's coming into force, will be given citizenship right. But they must give some certificate to prove that they have resided in that country for 5 years completely. They insist that this certificate must be obtained from a superior Government Officer, not even petty officials. A certificate obtained from a non-official who is placed in a high position is not accepted. How is it possible for an ordinary labourer and an ordinary employee to get a certificate from a superior Government Officer?

"On account of the stringent conditions that have been laid down by the Ceylon Government, traffic between Ceylon and India has been considerably reduced. Previously, about 400 to 500 people used to go to Ceylon daily. Now if you go to Danushkodi to-day, you will find that only 15 to 20 people are leaving daily for Ceylon. This shows that on account of the difficult conditions laid down by the Ceylon Government, people are not able to get even temporary permits to go there. Recently, some Indians have come down to India before the Act was enforced. These people were employed in some business concerns. I am told that these people are not able to return to Ceylon.

"Sir, the Government of India have considered these hardships to Indians and have laid down certain conditions and they have said that they were going to formulate a new idea and they were going to issue cheap passes to all Indians who wanted to go to other countries. They say in their communication that the passes will be issued by the District Magistrates of the various Indian Districts. When these Indian District Magistrates are approached for these passes, they say, 'We have got only general instructions. We have not got the booklets and we have not got the necessary passes and other instructions. So, how are we to issue the passes?

"So, these are conditions laid down by the Ceylon Government. These difficulties have been represented to the High Commissioner in Ceylon. I know, Sir, that I should not talk anything about the High Commissioner and I must be very cautious and careful when mentioning his name. But I want to suggest that the present High Commissioner who is to look after the interests of our Indians in Ceylon, it seems, is not able to cope up with the work and is not able to deliver the goods fully. (Mr. Speaker: "Order, Order.") Hence I would suggest to the Government of India, that

if they are satisfied that the present High Commissioner is not able to do any useful work there, it is better to withdraw him."

MR. SPEAKER:—"This resolution is supported by all hon. Members of this House. My suggestion is that as the Leader of the Opposition and the Leaders of other groups want to speak on this resolution, other hon. Members need not take much of the time of the House."

* SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Sir, I am aware that this House is very much interested in Ceylon Indians, because of the one million men, most of them are Madrasis. But, I may tell you that I am more interested—and my friend Mr. Kosalram is more interested in this matter—because of this one million Madrasis, the majority of them come from South India, viz., Ramnad, Tirunelveli and Mathurai districts. That is why I take more interest. Otherwise, I too would have the same interest as any other hon. Member of this House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I don't think hon. Members are speaking on this resolution merely because they belong to your district."

* SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Sir, We want to place our feelings about the treatment of Indians in Ceylon before the Government of India. We do not accuse the Government of India that they are not taking interest in this matter. We know they have multifarious work and multifarious activities and they have no time to look after this small country.

"My other suggestion is that in case the Government of India are not able to get round the Ceylon Government, it is better to withdraw the 8 lakhs of labourers. A question will be raised, 'Where are we to find accommodation for these people?' Now, Sir, the Government of India were able to provide for a crore of refugees from Pakistan and if necessary we can provide for these 8 lakhs of people from Ceylon also. I am sure if the Government of India tell the Ceylon Government that if they do not treat the Indians there properly, we will withdraw all the Indian labourers, then the Ceylon Government will come round. I have no doubt that without these labourers, nothing can be done in the Tea Estates and Rubber Estates in Ceylon.

"I would like to suggest another thing. If the Ceylon Government are not willing to treat our Indian brothers there properly, we can take up this matter to the United Nations Organization. Ceylon is also a member of the U.N.O. In fact, India proposed Ceylon to be a member of the U.N.O. We have got a right to take this matter to the U.N.O. just as the Government of India took up the matter of Kashmir. We have also taken up the matter of treatment of Indians in South Africa, to the U.N.O. Similarly we can take up this matter also to the U.N.O.

"Then about my amendment, I may say, Sir, that my amendment and that of Sri Kosalram are in effect same. They may be different in wording. But so far as the spirit is concerned, both

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are the same. I do not know which amendment the Hon. Minister is going to accept. If he thinks that Mr. Kosalram's amendment is suitable, let him accept it. If he thinks that my amendment is suitable, let him accept mine. Both the amendments are the same in spirit, although they may be different in wording.

"About my amendment I want to say one more point. On a previous occasion we passed a similar resolution. It has been communicated to the Government of India. They have received it and nothing has been done till now to our satisfaction. The Hon. Minister and some other members whom the Hon. Ministers may choose should wait in deputation on the Prime Minister of India before he leaves for Ceylon. We understand that he is going to Ceylon shortly to attend some Commonwealth Relations Conference. If some of us along with the Hon. Minister can go to Delhi, we can impress upon the Prime Minister of India the urgency of the matter and urge upon him to take this matter up with the Ceylon Government along with the other subjects that he expects to undertake while in Ceylon. There is no use of merely passing resolutions and sending them with a covering letter to the Government of India. Therefore I am of the view that we must wait in deputation on the Prime Minister of India and impress upon him the necessity for his taking up the matter with the Ceylon Government. With these words, I move my amendment."

12-15 p.m. JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the motion that is before the House, I am sorry to observe that the world has now developed a tendency to divide itself on very artificial lines and as a result, countries, both large and small, are framing laws of citizenship rights based on very rigid and narrow principles. Sir, Ceylon does not seem to be an exception. I am afraid, Ceylon is attempting to copy what South Africa is doing. This policy of exclusiveness in a world which belongs to God and of keeping and creating barriers and walls—of course, I can understand divine walls—against His subjects certainly seems to be unnatural. In any case, when we are now dealing with our nationals in Ceylon, it must be remembered that till the other day, Ceylon formed part of this country, and even now, when Ceylon has become separate and independent, it does not necessarily follow that both India and Ceylon should recognize themselves as two separate entities. Again, Sir, to try to restrict the entry of the people of this country into Ceylon and to ask the Indian nationals already stationed there, who have made that country what it is to-day, to cut away immediately and for all time from their relations and connexions with India is most unimaginable. I am sure that Ceylon which wants to be free to exercise its rights as an independent country on economic, political and cultural grounds, cannot exist for a day without the help of those of our nationals, merchants and labourers, who have migrated into the island. The moment Indian labour which has been stationed in Ceylon for a long time, is withdrawn and the Indian merchants come back to India, the economic condition of Ceylon will become miserable. It will lose all the wealth that if has

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to-day and the possibilities of developing its present wealth will become almost nil. I cannot understand how Ceylon will prosper—leave alone the question whether it will exist as an independent country—if it removes those people who possess that inherent capacity for trade and merchandize and who have been responsible for developing that country economically. Therefore, it seems to me that Ceylon should be very cautious and careful in making laws affecting the interests of our nationals there who have made Ceylon their home. Sir, the citizenship laws have of late become very rigid and the entry and re-entry of people from this country into Ceylon have become an irksome affair. People who have recently come from Ceylon have their tales of woe to narrate. They know the difficulties experienced by the Indians in Ceylon so far as their residence there and their connexions with India are concerned. Therefore, it is time, I think, Sir, we bring home to the Ceylon people that if they should really exist and prosper, they cannot cut away from us.

"The next thing I would like to mention in this connexion is our relationship as between two members of the Commonwealth. This is rather an important matter. We are supposed to belong to one Commonwealth of which besides ourselves, Ceylon, Pakistan, Australia and South Africa are members. It is possible for those who are at the helm of affairs of the member-countries of the Commonwealth to bring about an understanding and good relations between one member and another. In these circumstances, I think, that Ceylon will be ill-advised to create hardship for our nationals in matters relating to residence and exercise of citizenship rights. Sir, this question must be taken up by the Commonwealth itself for we cannot escape from the fact that we belong to the same Commonwealth. We must recognize this fact and then only we can go to the aid of the members in times of their need and they will come to our help when we need theirs. I wish that not only the United Kingdom realizes this fact, but others also including Ceylon. Then only we will be able to establish harmonious relationship between member-nations and can be helpful to one another. And then only will the Commonwealth attain that status which would befit such a body.

"Sir, I hope the deputation that is going to meet the Hon. Prime Minister at New Delhi will post him with all the facts concerning the sufferings of our nationals in Ceylon so that he, when he visits Ceylon for the Commonwealth Ministers' Conference, will be in a better position to discuss this problem with the authorities in Ceylon and help to remove the present estrangement of feelings between the two countries and bring about better relationship."

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU:—"கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே! இப்போது விவாதிக்கப்பட்டு வரும் சர்க்காரின் இந்த தீர்மானத்தை நான் ஆதரிக்கிறேன். இதற்கு எந்தவிதமான எதிர்ப்பு இல்லை என்று நினைக்கிறது. அதனால் கனத்த சபாநாயகர் அவர்கள் மட்டும் பேசினால் போதுமென்று விட்டால் நல்லது. மற்ற உத்தியோகப்பற்றற்ற விஷயமாக சொல்ல வேண்டுமானால், 1947-ம் வருஷத்திலிருந்து காத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிற பிள்ளைகள் இருக்கின்றனர். அதனால் இந்த விஷயத்தை சீக்கிரமே முடித்துக்

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கொள்ள கஷ்டித் தலைவர்கள்மட்டும் பேசினால் நன்றாயிருக்குமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

MR. SPEAKER :—" நல்லது நல்லது ; அநேக நண்பர்கள் பேசியிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் பேசியபிறகு நீங்கள் பேசவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI :—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இலங்கை சர்க்காரின் போக்கைக் கண்டு இந்தியாவிலுள்ள இந்த சபையின் உணர்ச்சி எப்படியிருக்கிறது என்பதை இலங்கையில் இருப்பவர்கள், சேநாநாயகர் போன்றவர்களுக்கு நன்றாகத் தெரியவேண்டும். வெறும் சம்பிரதாயத்திற்காக இதை எதிர்ப்பு இன்றி நிறைவேற்றிவிடுவது என்பதல்ல. காரியத்தில் காட்டப்போகிறோம் என்பதைக் காட்ட பலரை கண்டிப்பாக பேச அனுமதிக்கவேண்டும்."

MR. SPEAKER :—" அது வாஸ்தவம். அதேமாதிரி ஒவ்வொருவரும் பேச்வேண்டுமென்று கேட்கிறார்கள். ஸ்ரீ விஸ்வநாதம் பேசவேண்டுமென்று கேட்கிறார். ஸ்ரீ கன்னியப்பன் பேசவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லியிருக்கிறார். கனம் மந்திரி வேறு பேசவேண்டும்.

"There is a suggestion from hon. Members that we can continue the discussion. I have no objection to this suggestion. We can have another day fixed for transacting non-official business."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, I have got a Bill, The Provincial Small Cause Courts (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1949, which is an urgent one."

MR. SPEAKER :—" It is a small Bill and the discussions may not last for more than fifteen minutes. We shall have it at the end."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" There is also the Sheriff's meeting in the evening which we have to attend."

MR. SPEAKER :—" We shall have this discussion till 4-15 p.m. then take up the Bill the Hon. the Minister has referred to, and finish it by 4-30 p.m."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL :—" May I know, Sir, whether you will adjourn the House then? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" I have no objection, if that is the wish of the Leader of the Opposition."

* JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have great pleasure in supporting this resolution moved by the Hon. the Minister for Public Works. But while doing so, I am not prepared to support the amendments moved by the hon. Gentleman, Mr. K. T. Kosalram and Mr. R. V. Swaminathan. Sir, I would like to refer you to a very important matter. We are to-day discussing a very delicate issue, an issue of diplomatic import, pregnant with international possibilities. Therefore, Sir, I would wish that hon. Members who participate in this discussion will speak with restraint. No doubt, the issues raised in the resolution are of a nature which offends our finer sentiments, our feelings, our dignity and also our emotion. It is therefore possible that hon. Members may run away with their emotions. But,

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Sir, if we do so, we will only be embarrassing the Prime Minister of India who is to visit Ceylon very soon and who would be having talks with the Prime Minister of Ceylon on matters concerning our interests. We should not run away with our emotions but only place our case before this House so that the Government may take our representation to the knowledge of the Government of India. Sir, Ceylon to-day is an independent and a sovereign country. It can do anything. It can make or mar anything. But at the same time, it should understand that in the present world set-up, no Government can act independently without taking into consideration their relationship with the other nations of the world, particularly with neighbours. Our relationship with Ceylon is as old as India itself. Culturally, socially and economically, that relationship is abiding and lasting. No doubt the present actions of the politicians of Ceylon are designed to break that relationship. I hope they will get wise at least now and our relations will grow from strength to strength and these two countries will live as two friends in that great Commonwealth or in the comity of nations.

" Therefore, Sir, I would plead that the Government of Ceylon should take into consideration the several aspects of the question, particularly the great contributions and sacrifices and services rendered by the people of this country and especially by the people belonging to South India, towards the economic development of that beautiful island. 12-30 p.m.

" Therefore, Sir, I say that the Prime Minister of India must immediately take up this problem and deal with it and see that redress is found to several of our own hardships. I need not here elaborate in detail the several hardships we are undergoing as a result of the barriers which the Ceylon Government have imposed in recent times and particularly with regard to remittances. Sir, you are aware that large numbers of our people are there in Ceylon working as labourers in the plantations, working as shop assistants in several of the shops and depots, run by our own Indian nationals in that country. You know, Sir, these people go there leaving their family, the wives and children in India, and therefore as the month comes to an end they have got to send remittances to their families in India. Unfortunately, Sir, to-day there are several hardships and difficulties in making the remittances.

" Secondly, Sir, visitors to Ceylon are put to considerable humiliation particularly at the Mandapam camp. If only the Hon. Ministers of the Government realise, and I am sure the Hon. the Premier who belongs to that district would have seen what is happening within the camps at Mandapam, how Indians are subjected to humiliation, they will be surprised to see, Sir, that our people are humiliated in their own soil. We should see, Sir, that this colony which is a black spot in the country and which is an indignity to this country is shifted to some other place, and should not be in the sacred soil of India.

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"Again, when I go to Colombo, at the place where I am getting down, they ask me whether I have got Rs. 150 in my hand. I may be carrying cheques, drafts, worth about thousands but the officials sitting there say 'I want Rs. 150 in rupees, annas and pies.' Even if the amount is short by one rupee, I am held up there till I get the money from my own country. Sir, these are not very great matters. I do not understand the wisdom of the politicians and statesmen of Ceylon, particularly the Hon. Prime Minister of that country in insisting on these small and petty things. They can eliminate these pin pricks by a Government Order.

"Sir, there are several other matters also and particularly with regard to the import into that country of cloth. The other day they have passed an ordinance which says that unless an Indian National who is importing textiles from India buys cloth of indigenous manufacture nearly to the extent of 25 per cent of the quantity imported, he cannot be given an import licence. It is almost putting a break on the very import, export trade and thereby seeing that the Indian trade is strangulated in that way.

"Sir, these are some of the points and there are several others. I am confident, Sir, that our Prime Minister who went to America and in the words of Caeser, '*Veni, Vidi, Vici*', '*he came, saw and conquered*', conquered the Americans, and the great President of that great nation, will also conquer the hearts and imagination of the people of Ceylon and establish a lasting and friendly relationship between these two countries who have been friendly for the last several centuries." (Hear, hear.)

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I heartily associate myself with the resolution. Though this question is viewed as one between India and Ceylon, in these days when nations which are separated by thousands of miles are coming closer together there is no reason why Ceylon which is within a stone's throw from India should try to separate itself from this country. The sooner Ceylon realized that it is in the interests of her own comfort that she must have the goodwill of India, the better it is for Ceylon as well as for India. I heartily support this resolution."

SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDHA:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, சிலோன் சில காலத்திற்குமுன்னால் நம் மதராஸ் கவர்ன்மெண்டோடு தொடர்பற்று இருந்தது. மதராஸ் கவர்ன்மெண்டு ஆகியின் கீழ் இருந்தது. அப்படி இருந்த காலத்தில் இங்கிருந்து முதலாளிகளும், தொழிலாளிகளும் அங்கு சென்று காடாயும், மேடாயும் இருந்த அந்த நாட்டை பண்படுத்தினார்கள். காட்டையெல்லாம் அழித்து நிலங்களாக்கினார்கள். மேட்டையெல்லாம் அழித்து நகரமாக்கினார்கள். தேயிலை, காப்பி போன்ற வைகளைப் பயிராக்கினார்கள். தென்னந் தோட்டங்கள் போட்டார்கள். இன்னும் பல விதமான காரியங்களை இந்தியத் தொழிலாளிகளே செய்தார்கள். முதலாளிகள் ஊர் ஊராய் லேவாதேவிக் கடைகள் வைத்து நிறைய பணம் கொடுத்து அந்த இடத்தைச் செப்பனிட்டார்கள். அதோடு கூட வட இந்தியாவில் சேட்டுகளும் கூட ஏராள பணம் கடன் கொடுத்து அவைகளைச் செப்பனிட்டார்கள். இவர்கள் பணத்தைப் போட்டார்களே தவிர, உழைத்து அந்த நாட்டை வளப்படுத்தியது ஹரிஜனத் தொழிலாளிகள்தான். ஹரிஜனங்களும், இதர வகுப்பினர்களும் தோட்டங்களில்

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கஷ்டமான வேலைகளைச் செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகவே கஷ்டப்பட்டு வேலை செய்யும் தொழிலாளர்கள் யாவரும் தாழ்ந்தவர்களாயிருக்கிறார்கள். பிழைப்பதற்கு வழியில்லாமல் அங்கு குடியேறி பிழைப்பதற்காக கஷ்டப்பட்டுக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். சிலோன் சுதந்திரம் அடைவதற்கு முன்னும் அங்கே குடியேறி உழைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். சிலோன் சுதந்திரம் அடைந்த பிறகு அங்குள்ள அரசாங்கம் இந்த வழி தொழிலாளிகளை வெளியே போ என்று அனுப்பி வைப்பதால், அந்த வழி ஹரிஜனங்கள் இப்போது தவிக்கிறார்கள்.

"மனிதர்களையெல்லாம் இந்த நாட்டில் விட்டுவிட்டு தொழிலாளர்கள் அப்படி கஷ்டப்பட்டுக் கொண்டும் கூட அங்கிருந்து வெளியே வராமல் இருக்கிறார்கள். கொடுக்கலாகில் பணம் பெற்ற முதலாளிகளும் கூட அந்த தோட்டம் வீட்டையெல்லாம் விட்டு வராமல் தவிக்கிறார்கள்.

"ஆகவே எங்கு தொழிலாளர்கள் தங்கள் மனைவி, மக்களையெல்லாம் விட்டுவிட்டு, சம்பாதிப்பதற்கும் வசதியில்லாமல் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்களோ அங்கிருந்து அவர்களைக் காப்பாற்றுவதற்கும், அவர்களுடைய குறைகளையெல்லாம் நிவர்த்தி செய்வதற்கும், அங்கிருந்து பணம் அனுப்பி எந்தவிதமான சீர்கேடான நிலைமையும் ஏற்படாமல் பொருட்டாக வசதிகள் வழங்கத்தவறாதும், அந்த நாட்டிற்குப் போகின்ற தூதுவர்களுக்கு அவர்கள் அங்குள்ள பிரதிநிதிகளைக் கண்டு இதற்கு வேண்டிய பரிகாரம் தேடுவார்களென்று நினைக்கின்றேன். குறிப்பாக அங்குள்ளவர்களெல்லோரும் தமிழர்கள் தான். தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட ஹரிஜனங்கள் தான். ஆகவே பெரும்பாலும் அங்குள்ள தாழ்ந்த தொழிலாளிகளுடைய குறைகளை நிவர்த்தி செய்வதற்கு மாபெரும் தலைவர் பண்டித ஜவஹர்லால் நேரு அவர்கள் கொண்டுவந்திருக்கும் இந்த தீர்மானத்தை நான் முழுமனதுடன் ஆதரிக்கிறேன்."

* SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the resolution, I wholeheartedly endorse the sentiments expressed by the hon. Gentleman Mr. Majid. Sir, Ceylon is a free country. That country knows its own rights and duties and the Ceylonese people can shape their own country as they like. They may be friendly with some nation or they may not be friendly. But I am not of the opinion, Sir, that such a resolution as this should come before this House in this form and I feel this to be a very delicate matter. Moreover, Sir, this is a matter between the Union Government (Central Government of India) and the Ceylon Government and there are diplomatic relations between these two countries. If we have anything to represent, on behalf of the Government a private communication might be sent to the Hon. Minister for Foreign Affairs, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. We should not arrogate to ourselves that we are the only men who could look into the interests of Indians. There is our Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru ably assisted by his Deputy Minister, Sri Keskar, a widely travelled man who knows the difficulties of Indians outside our country.

"I do not like the comparison of Ceylon Ministers to Hitler and attribute to them all sorts of things. We, as practical people, should try to solve the problems more by friendly relations and in a diplomatic way. To compare Ceylon to South Africa is another wrong thing. In South Africa the Europeans who settled there even before and after the Indians settled there, are the people who are trying to control the affairs of that country. Even there the natives have no rights. The natives are suffering the same difficulties,

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if not more, as the Indian settlers there. So, Sir, do not compare Ceylon to South Africa. Do not try to misunderstand an independent country and its Ministers. Of course when the resolution on Burma came up bfeore this House, I was opposed to it. There in Burma the question was about the loss suffered by the Indians due to the passing of certain laws. Such losses affected only a particular section of Indians, that is, usurers, landlords and other money-lenders."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" On a point of order, Sir. Is the hon. Member in order to say that Indians that have been in Burma and developed the country economically, are mere usurers? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" It is the opinion of the hon. Member. That is not a point of order."

* SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—" Sir, people who have gone to Ceylon are mostly labourers. Their rights have been affected. They are the people who contributed to the economic, political and industrial development of the country. We are very hasty in bringing up the resolution before this House. We could have sent a letter to the Prime Minister of India who knows more. There is a High Commissioner for India in Ceylon. The Prime Minister of India is capable of dealing with this problem. He knows the difficulties and the hardships of the Indians there. I, therefore, do not want that more time should be spent on this resolution. However, it may be passed as a formal resolution.

" I would warn my friends once again not to arrogate themselves the right to criticise a free country and its laws. Not only will this embarrass Indians in Ceylon itself, but will also embarrass our Central Government more. If you provoke them, they might resolve to stick to their own resolution and their laws. So it is our duty to see that we do not unnecessarily try to embarrass the Ceylon Government also. Not only that, Sir, we should not use such words as would affect the prestige of the Ceylon Ministers and their Government."

SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI:—" கனம் நீலவர் அவர்களே, இந்த தீர்மானத்திற்கு எந்த விதமான எதிர்ப்பும் இல்லாததால் இதை ஆதரித்துப் பேசவேண்டிய அவசியம் இல்லையென்று சில பேர்கள் கருதுகிறார்கள். இதற்கு எதிர்ப்பேயில்லாமல் நிறைவேற்றினாலும் இதைப் பற்றி பேசவேண்டிய அவசியம் இருக்கிறது. அந்த விஷயத்தைப்பற்றி இந்தச் சபையின் உணர்ச்சி என்ன என்பதை சிலோன் அரசாங்கம் அறிய வேண்டும். அதுதான் முக்கியமானது. இன்று இலங்கையிலுள்ள இந்தியர்களை அவர்கள் அங்கிருந்து வெளியேறவேண்டுமென்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுடைய வாழ்விற்காக இந்தச் சபை இந்த தீர்மானத்தைக் கொண்டுவந்திருக்கிறது. அவர்களை அப்படி வெளியேற்றினால் நாளை இந்த அரசாங்கம் சிலோன் விஷயத்தில் என்ன விதமாக நடந்து கொள்ளுமென்று தெரியாது என்பதை சிலோன் சர்க்கார் அறியவேண்டும்.

12-45 p.m. " இதற்கு முன்பு இலங்கை சர்க்கார் சுதந்திரமடையாமல் இருந்தது. இலங்கைக்கு சுதந்திரம் வந்தபிறகு அது பக்கத்திலுள்ள அரசாங்கங்களோடு தாழ்வாக, சௌஜன்யமாக நடந்து கொள்ளாவிட்டால்,

' நாடொறு நாடி முறை செய்யா மன்னவன்
நாடொறும் நாடு கெடும் '

25th November 1949] [Sri N. Annamalai Pillai]

என்று தெய்வப் பாவலர் நாயனர் கூறியிருக்கிறார். நிச்சயமாக அது நாசமாய் போய்விடும்.

" ஜனநாயக இலங்கை சர்க்கார் இவ்வளவு முரட்டுத்தனமாக அங்கிருந்து இந்தியர்களை வெளியேற்றி இந்தியாவுக்கு ஏற்றுமதி செய்யாவிட்டால் எனக்கு உறக்கம் வராது என்று பண்டார நாயகா சொல்லுகிறார். என்றால் அது அவருக்கு விபரீதமான நோயென்றுதான் நாம் நினைக்கவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. பண்டாரம் என்றால் சன்யாசி என்பது ; சன்யாசிகளில் மாயாவிச் சன்யாசிகளும் உண்டு. இலங்கையில் முன்னாலிருந்த ராவணா மாயாவிச் சன்யாசியின் கதியை நினைக்கும்பொழுது பண்டார நாயக சன்யாசியின் கதியும் அதே வழியில்தான் போய் சேருமென்று தோன்றுகிறது. எனென்றால் அவர்கள் இந்த எண்ணத்தைக் கொண்டிருப்பது அவர்களுக்கே ரொம்பவும் கஷ்டமாகும் என்பதை அவர்கள் உணரவேண்டும். இந்தச் சபையும், இலங்கை சர்க்கார் செய்கின்ற காரியங்களில் தனதுடைய பூர்ணமான வெறுப்பைக் காட்டிக்கொள்வதுடன் இந்த தீர்மானத்தை நிறைவேற்றவேண்டும். இதற்கு மேலே நான் ஒன்றும் பேச விரும்பவில்லை.

" ஆனால் இந்த தேசத்திலிருந்து அங்கு போய் இருக்கிற 10 லக்ஷம் தொழிலாளர்களில் 6½ லக்ஷம் தொழிலாளர்கள் இந்தியத் தொழிலாளர்களாகயிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த 6½ லக்ஷம் பேர்களும் தேயிலை தோட்ட வேலையில் ஈடுபட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த தேயிலை தோட்டங்களிலிருந்து மாதந்தோறும் அந்த சர்க்காருக்கு 90 சதவிதம் வருமானமும் வருகிறது. பெருந் தொகையான இதைக் கொண்டுதான் இலங்கை சர்க்கார் அந்த இந்தியர்களுக்கு விரோதமாக நடவடிக்கைகளை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு ராஜ்ஜியம் நடத்துகிறார்கள். இந்த 6½ லக்ஷம் தொழிலாளிகளும் வேலைசெய்யாமல் இருப்பார்களேயானால் இலங்கை சர்க்கார் பாடு திண்டாட்டமாய்விடும். அங்கே அவர்கள் வேலை செய்யாமல் இருந்துவிடுவார்களேயானால் அவர்களுடைய நிலைமை சீர்கெட்டுப்போய்விடும். அவர்கள் எல்லோரையும் இந்தியாவுக்கு அனுப்பிவிட்டால் நாம் ஒன்றும் நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொள்ள மாட்டோம் என்பது அவர்களுடைய எண்ணம்.

" இதற்கு முன்னே நாம் வெள்ளையர்கள்தான் ஆகி செய்கிறார்களே யென்று பயமில்லாமல் ஒருவாறு அசட்டையாக இருந்தோம். இப்பொழுது சுதந்திர சர்க்காராக ஆகிவிட்டோம். ஆகையால் நாம் இப்போது அவர்கள் செய்யும் அக்கிரமங்களைப் பார்த்துக்கொண்டு சும்மாய் வாளாயிருக்க முடியாது. இந்திய சர்க்காரை எதிர்த்த நைஜாமுக்கு ஏற்பட்ட கதியேதான் இலங்கை சர்க்காருக்கு ஏற்படும் என்பதில் சந்தேகமில்லை. அந்த நிலைமைக்கு நாம் இப்பொழுது தயாராக இருக்கிறோம் என்பதை இந்த சமயத்தில் நான் இலங்கை சர்க்காருக்கு எச்சரிக்கை செய்கின்றேன். எனென்றால் அங்குள்ள நமது இந்தியத் தொழிலாளர்களால்தான் அந்த தேசம் இன்று உன்னத நிலையை அடைந்திருக்கிறது. இதை இலங்கை மந்திரிகள் உணர்ந்து நடந்திருப்பார்களேயானால் இன்றைக்கு இந்த நிலைமை அங்குள்ள இந்தியர்களுக்கு ஏற்பட்டிருக்காது.

" ஆகையால் இந்திய சர்க்கார் இந்த விஷயத்தில் அதிக அக்கறை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு இப்போது இலங்கையிலுள்ள இந்தியர்களது கஷ்டங்களையெல்லாம் எடுத்து கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள், சம்பாதித்தில் இலங்கை போகப் போகின்ற இந்தியப் பிரதமர் நேருஜி அவர்களிடம் ஸவிஸ்தாரமாகச் சொல்லி இதில் அந்த இந்தியர்களுக்கு எந்த பாதகமும் ஏற்படாமல், இரு தேசங்களிடையேயும் அன்பும், சௌஜன்யமும் வளருகின்ற முறையில் காரியங்களை நடத்தும்படி கேட்டுக்கொண்டு கனம் மந்திரி பக்தவத்சலம் அவர்களால் கொண்டுவரப்பட்டிருக்கும் இந்த தீர்மானத்தை ஆதரித்து முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

* JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—" Mr. Speaker, this is a resolution that calls for no fireworks. It is a very delicate matter and we have, as it were, to walk on a razor's edge. I was wondering all the time what hon. Members were doing here when they let off their steam in a matter which is so explosive. Believe

[Janab N. Muhammad Anwar] [25th November 1949

me, Mr. Speaker, the naked eye cannot see the unseen hand that is behind the scene moulding the destinies of Ceylon to-day. She is not that little dominion, that soverign State, that member of the Commonwealth which hon. Members seem to have understood her to be. Behind her is the British navy and she is the bastion of British defence in the Indian Ocean. There is much mischief afoot and we in this House should not rush into action in these delicate matters in haste and then repent at leisure. The leaders of Ceylon would not have spoken in the way they have done and given our people the treatment they have given unless it be that they are fortified by the belief that they have behind them the support of the British Navy. That is exactly the reason why I want that we must betimes take caution about the secret hand of the British power. If our nationals overseas have got their sufferings, let us try and address ourselves and to the Government of India. Let us not air our views on the floor of the House and let the world take stock of our feelings and sentiments. Our feelings and sentiments are there, but they are not going to cut much ice. We are not going to deliver the goods merely by playing into the hands of our enemies. Sentiments do not count. It is cold-blooded logic that counts. The international situation in which our country is placed to-day can be understood only by him who has gone round the world, our Prime Minister of India. He alone knows the delicacies of the problem, the thin filaments of the silken cord of love which he has got to create for our country the world over. We know the difficulties and hardships and the problems of our people not only in Ceylon, Burma, Pakistan and South Africa but practically in every part of the world where they have gone in search of livelihood, where they have gone as bread-winners. Let us not, even in trying to defend them, defeat our very purpose and create even more hardships for their very existence. That is one reason, Mr. Speaker, why I want to be doubly cautious on this issue. It is good that the Government, in order to focus public opinion and invite the attention of the Government of India and the powers that be, have come forward with this resolution. I should have very much liked that this resolution had been passed unanimously without any debate. On the contrary what is it that we have heard here ? Very many things have been said. Indeed it was amazing to hear one hon. Member who, with his accumulated treasures of mature experience, went to the length of saying that until the other day Ceylon was part of India. Even if one could turn over the thousands of pages of history found in our library, I do not know if we can find when it was that Ceylon was part of India unless it be in ancient history."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member only said that at one time the Governor of Madras was the Governor of Ceylon and it is a fact."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR :—" I do not know whether we can say that India and Ceylon were one in the sense that the Governor of Madras was the Governor of Ceylon. But knowing as we do, that Ceylon was a Crown Colony until the other day, that

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she has now become as much a dominion as we have become, we have got to be very careful in our relations. The matter has gone to the international plane and only the Prime Minister of India can deal with the issues. We should have ventilated our grievances preferably *in camera* in the interests of international etiquette and acquainted our Prime Minister with our difficulties. Luckily for us, he is shortly going to Ceylon. We have also got a High Commissioner in Ceylon. I hope that our Prime Minister will take up the matter with the authorities in Ceylon and some good will come out of his visit. Meanwhile all that we can do is to support this Government with all the authority that this House can give in their representations to the Hon. the Prime Minister of India about the urgency and imperative necessity of rendering relief to our nationals overseas in Ceylon."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI :—" Mr. Speaker, I feel I would be failing in my duty if I do not wholeheartedly support this resolution, coming as I do from the district of Tiruchirappalli which has fortunately or unfortunately contributed to an appreciable extent in flooding Ceylon with the Indian population and has also been the headquarters of the Ceylon Labour Commission which has drawn labourers from all parts of the Province and sent them bag and baggage to Ceylon. To-day we find a horrible picture of the sufferings of the poor people there who are not allowed to become natives of Ceylon or allowed to come back to this country with all their earnings. I am certain that our Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru is fully apprised of these facts and he will succeed in his efforts to make Ceylon come to her senses. It is not done by mere speeches here. It is necessary that we should pass this resolution soon and send it to the Central Government. I am sorry I cannot be a party to the amendment which wants that a deputation should wait on the Prime Minister of India. He is not going to learn anything more from us. He is already apprised of the facts and if he wants to know more, he can certainly know them from the High Commissioner who happens to be one from our Province. I am quite sure that justice will be done to the case by passing this resolution. If the Government want to give any more information, certainly they can do it in writing. No deputation is necessary from this Province. With these words, I strongly support the resolution."

* SRI M. KANNIAPPAN :—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இன்றைய தினம் முக்கியமாக இலங்கையிலுள்ள நமது மக்களின் கஷ்டங்களைக் குறித்து அவர்களுக்கு நிவாரணம் அளிக்கக்கூடிய முறையைப் பற்றி நாம் ஒரு தீர்மானத்திற்கு வரவேண்டும். அந்த இலங்கை ஒரு காலத்தில் பாழாக இருந்தது. நம்முடைய தமிழ் நாட்டிலிருந்து பொதுவாரியான மக்கள் அங்கு குடியேறி, அதாவது 6½ லக்ஷம் தொழிலாளர்கள் சென்று தேயிலை தோட்டங்களிலும், காப்பித் தோட்டங்களிலும், இன்னும் மிகவும் கடுமையான வேலைகளிலெல்லாம் ஈடுபட்டு அதை செழிப்புள்ள நாடாக மாற்றியிருக்கிறார்கள். அப்படி அந்த இலங்கையை செழிப்பாக்கிய அந்த மக்களுக்கு இன்றைய தினம் இந்த நிலைமை, அதாவது இந்தியர்கள் எல்லோரும் அந்த நாட்டைவிட்டு வெளியேறிவிடவேண்டுமென்ற நிலைமை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறதைப் பார்க்கும் போது இந்த நாட்டிலே பிறந்த ஒவ்வொரு தமிழனுடைய உள்ளமும் புரக்ஷிகரமாக மாறி கொதிப்படைகிறது. எந்தந்த பாகங்களெல்லாம் பாழாக

[Sri M. Kanniappan] [25th November 1949

இருந்ததோ அந்தந்த பாகங்களில் தமிழ் மக்கள் குடியேறி அதை செழிப் புள்ளதாக்கியிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் இன்று அந்த நாட்டில் இருக்கிற அரசாங்கத்தார் உடனடியாக அந்த இந்தியர்களை வெளியேறவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னால் அதைப் பார்த்துக்கொண்டு நாம் சும்மாய் இருப்பதா என்று கேட்கிறேன்."

MR. SPEAKER :—" இன்னும் இரண்டு நிமிஷத்தில் பேசி முடித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறீர்களா, அல்லது 3 மணிக்குப் பேசுகிறீர்களா ? "

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN :—" மூன்று மணிக்கே பேசுகிறேன்."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The House is adjourned to meet again at 3 o'clock."

(After lunch—3 p.m.)

Mr. SPEAKER :—" As there are a number of speakers, I fix five minutes for every speaker. Mr. M. Kanniappan will now continue his speech "

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, சிலோனின் முன்னேற்றத்திற்கும், சிலோன் மக்களை சுதந்திர உணர்ச்சி உடையவர்களாக்கியதும் நமது தமிழ் மக்கள்தான், இந்திய மக்கள்தான் என்பதை ஞாபகப்படுத்த விரும்புகிறேன். தேயிலை தோட்டத்தில் வேலை செய்கின்ற நமது தொழிலாளிகள் இன்று ஒற்றுமைக்காது இருந்திருந்தால் பொருளாதார நிலைமையில் சிலோன் இன்று செழித் திருக்க முடியுமாவென்று நான் சேனநாயகரைக் கேட்சின்றேன். சிந்தித் துப் பார்க்கட்டும். பின்னைவது அங்கே குடியேறியிருக்கிற மக்களை தங்கள் ஒன்றுவிட்ட சகோதரர்களைப் போல நடத்துங்கள் என்று அவர்களைப் பணி வாகக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" சுதந்திர இந்தியாவின் பிரஜா உரிமையென்று சொல்லக்கூடிய, 125 நாள் இருந்தால் ஓட்டுரிமை எல்லோருக்கும் இருக்கிறது. சிலோன் அரசாங்கத்துக்கு நான்கு வருடங்கள் இருந்தால்கூட ஓட்டுரிமை கிடையாது. இதுதான் ஜனநாயகமா என்பதை சிலோன் அரசாங்கத்தில் இருக்கிறவர் களை நான் கேட்கிறேன். எனவே நம்முடைய மக்கள் அங்கே கஷ்டப்படுகிற நிலைமையை நம்முடைய இந்தியப் பிரதம மந்திரி ஜவஹர்லால் நேருவுக்கு எடுத்துச் சொல்லி இந்தக் கஷ்டத்தை நிவர்த்திக்கின்ற வழிகளில் வேண் டிய நடவடிக்கையை எடுத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்பதே இன்றையை நமது பிரசினை.

" அங்கே இன்று தேயிலை தோட்டங்களிலும், கரும்புத் தோட்டங்களி லும் இன்னும் காப்பித் தோட்டங்களிலும் வேலை செய்கின்ற நமது தமிழர் களை அந்த அரசாங்கம் அந்த நாட்டிலிருந்து விரட்டியபோதிலும், நம் முடைய அரசாங்கத்தைக் கேட்கிறேன்: ' அவர்களுக்கு பாதுகாப்பு அளிக்கின்ற முறையிலே ஏதாவது செய்யவேண்டுமென்று, இந்தியாவிலே அவர்களுக்கு ஆதரவு கொடுத்து அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய வசதிகளைச் செய்யவேண்டு மென்று. '

" நமது காங்கிரஸ் தலைவர் பட்டாபி சீதாராமய்யா அவர்கள் சொல்லி ருக்கிறார்கள் : ' சிலோன் நம்முடைய இந்தியாவுடனேயே சேர்ந்திருந்தது,' என்று ராஷ்டிரபதி அவர்கள் தெரிவித்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் அந்த அரசாங்கத்தை ஏற்று நடத்துகிற சேனநாயகரைப் போன்றவர்களுக்கு, ' ஒரு இந்தியன் சிலோனில் இருக்குமட்டும் நான் உறங்கமாட்டேன் ' என்று சொல்லும் மந்திரிகளுக்கு இது எறுமா என்று கேட்கிறேன், அவர்களை உங்கள் நாட்டின் சுபீக்ஷத்திற்கு உழைத்த எங்கள் நாட்டு தொழிலாளிகளை நியாயமான முறையிலே நடத்துங்கள் என்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். நம்முடைய அரசாங்கத்தையும், மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தை யும் இதற்கு வேண்டிய நடவடிக்கைகளை உடனடியாக எடுத்துக்கொள்ளுங் கள் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

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* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I begin to speak I should like to say that we have to be very careful and cautious in dealing with this subject. As we all know, though the discussion of this subject is beyond our Province, still we have taken up . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" It is not beyond our Province. As far as it affects our Province, we can discuss it; the resolution is only a recommendation to the Central Government."

* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM :—" Sir, I come from Mathurai. Most of the labourers who are now in Ceylon and in whose interests we have taken up this subject now are from Tirunelveli and Ramnad. (An hon. Member: 'And from Mathurai too.') I have got as much interest in the people of Tirunelveli and Ramnad as I have in the people of Mathurai, if not more. Some of the members were saying that once Ceylon and India were one and others said it was not so. Anyway, I am not now going into those details; but one thing I will say: from time immemorial, there has been social, cultural and economic unity between India and Ceylon. Further, if you look at the map, you will find a peculiar relationship between India and Ceylon; it is just like a cow and a calf or a mother and her daughter, just one behind the other. The calf will not go away leaving the cow and the cow will always drag the calf with her. Such has been the relationship between these two countries from time immemorial. I am now on my legs to speak not only with a view to safeguard the interests of the Indian labourers in Ceylon, but also to safeguard the interests of these two dominions and to see that their time-honoured friendly relationship continues in future also. As I have already told you, we are discussing this subject with two objects, viz., that this should be a recommendation to the Indian Government and an information to the Ceylon Government—whatever may be the worth of these deliberations. Another thing I would like to say is: strong expressions of feeling and emotional speeches may spoil our object. By creating an international crisis we will be harassing the India Government and at the same time provoking the Ceylon Government, and thereby we shall be doing more harm to the Indian labourers there than doing good. So, what we do now should be a recommendation to the India Government and an information to the Ceylon Government.

" Again, I should like to submit that vehemence in words and thundering speeches are not going to have any effect; if there is going to be any effect at all, that effect may come about on the representation and on the recommendation of our Panditji. I am sure Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru will successfully accomplish this mission when he goes to Ceylon very soon. Further, it is difficult to achieve one's object by threats and strong speeches; they can be achieved not by force but by kindness. There is a popular Tamil proverb: 'தீமையை தீமையால் போக்குவது, தியைத் தீயால் அணைத்ததுபோல் ஆகுமே.' We have to achieve our objects by mild words and languages. Whatever might have been the status of Ceylon and India some years back, now Ceylon is an independent country and India also is an independent country. Our main

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object should be to achieve our object without creating bad blood between these two dominions. Otherwise, we will be creating an international crises. One of the members suggested that if it is not possible to solve this problem here, we should go to the United Nations' Organization. Going to the United Nations' Organization is a very bad thing and it is not likely to solve our problem. We do not know what sort of gentleman Mr. Senanayake is. But I was told that he is a reasonable man. We are now having here our accredited leader Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru of international reputation; and these two people when they meet, if they are not going to solve this issue, no man in the world, not even angels, can solve it. So, Sir, I support the proposition and we may request Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to do the needful and to see that the poor Indian labourers who are settled in Ceylon are saved from their present difficulties."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I heartily support this resolution and in doing so, I wish to draw the attention of the House to the full day's debate we had some months back and the effect of that debate on the position of Indians in Ceylon. I am sure you will agree that from the reply of the Hon. the Minister to an interpellation on the same subject a few days back, that much could not be achieved in spite of the fact that we have a High Commissioner there and proper representation has been made through the proper channels continuously for some time, it has become urgent and desirable that this Government should convey our request to the Government of India to make further representations in the matter and to do whatever is possible and so on and so forth. Now, Ceylon also is in the Commonwealth of Nations and India also is there. What is the position of Indians in South Africa? The same thing is happening there; and there too we have a High Commissioner and South Africa also is a member of the Commonwealth; but still when the situation develops so as to affect the legitimate rights of people who are settled there for years and who have been born and bred up there, I feel that the least we should do is to repeatedly impress on our own Government and through that Government on the concerned country that they should safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of the people who were born and bred up there. I only want to add that I do not approve of the fury and the vehemence of my hon. Friend, Mr. Kameswara Rao, in saying that we should sit quiet and leave it to the leaders; on the other hand, we would be strengthening the hands of our leaders like Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru by expressing our unanimous opinion in the matter. Ceylon and India are independent countries, not only independent, but free units of the Commonwealth with inter-dependence. Mahatma Gandhi was saying that it was not enough to be independent but there should be inter-dependence. And inter-dependence means readiness to approach the difficulties of all people living in the country with sympathy and goodwill, not to the detriment of the units themselves, but in the interests of the comity of nations."

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JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I just visualized for a minute as to what would be the effect on our Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru of our to-day's debate, and particularly the Government resolution and more so, the amendments of Mr. Swaminathan and Mr. Kosalram. If there is any difference between the amendments of Mr. Kosalram and Mr. Swaminathan, it will be just the difference between tweedledom and tweedledee, neither more nor less. With regard to the Government resolution itself, I am just trying to recollect what the Hon. Minister for Public Works said the other day. The other day replying to several questions on this subject, he said that Madras had done its best, that the debate of last year had been sent to Pandit Nehru and that every now and then this Government had been trying to invite his attention to the difficulties experienced by our nationals in Ceylon. I like to know what this resolution is going to effect. I have never seen a case where the Provincial Assembly is asked to pass a resolution which is binding on the Prime Minister . . ." 3-15 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER:—" It is not binding."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" Or even let it be a request, Sir. It is quite possible that our Prime Minister is going to Ceylon for the Foreign Ministers' Conference there but he may feel that this is not the occasion on which to take up the matter or he can have his own difficulty about it. Secondly, this House is asked to agree to the proposal that representatives of the Government of Madras should go and meet Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru either in India or in Ceylon. Every week and every month, we see representations are made by this Government and I do not see any special necessity of mentioning that thing. I approve the idea of the Government of Madras; when they knew that there was such a desire for a debate in this House, they brought the subject for debate so that the Government of India may know what the views, sentiments and feelings of the representatives in this House are and surely they represent the people. But I may say on this occasion that the Government of India and particularly the Prime Minister is in full possession of facts. By our resolution, we should say that the matter is very urgent and we are not going to do anything more about it. I do not like to refer to speeches made on the floor of the House for that has been done by my hon. Friend, Mr. Anwar. I maintain, Sir, that I am in entire agreement with several hon. Members about the difficulties, sufferings and hardships undergone by our nationals in Ceylon: but are we from India going to help them by speeches? Some hon. Members suggested that we must have complete confidence in the High Commissioner and that he is doing his very best but at the same time there were others who said we should recall our High Commissioner. I am not sure how Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru will react to these suggestions—we are not diplomats and we can only speak covered by the privileges of the House—which referred to the withdrawal of the High Commissioner."

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MR. SPEAKER:—" It is not a motion to recall him.'

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" It was said so and I invite you to refer to the proceedings. Such a thing is not going to help us. I maintain that, if really the Government of Madras was anxious that the Government of India should take some action, it could have been done by way of private demands to the Government of India or particularly to our Prime Minister to the effect that the situation in Ceylon is getting abnormal. I feel that all our speeches instead of helping our nationals in Ceylon will only aggravate and add to their difficulties."

*SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Government resolution. It is a fact that Indians in Ceylon are passing through fire and we cannot sit have mum and say that we are helpless. No doubt, Sir, Ceylon is independent and so are we. Ceylon can respect the sentiments of India and so also we can give all our co-operation for furthering the progress of Ceylon. Ceylon is not only our neighbour but also a member of the Commonwealth. It is unfortunate that that country is not able to discharge her duties as a neighbour nor her obligations as a member of the Commonwealth. Recently, Sir, the International Labour Conference was held at Geneva but the Government of Ceylon purposely did not send a labour delegate because the labour delegate of Ceylon should necessarily be an Indian. If he had gone there and if he had occasion to speak, he would have made a clean breast of things obtaining in that country and would have exposed the tactics of the Government of Ceylon. The Ceylon Government Member, Mr. Muthayya Rajanayakham, the Commissioner of Labour, while speaking on the 14th of June in the International Conference painted a very bright picture of labour conditions in that country. He said—

'Our legislation relating to trade unions gives all categories of workers the right to organize themselves and registered trade unions have certain privileges and are free from legal liabilities for torts committed in the course of this work.'

But the unfortunate thing is that the privilege was denied to labour and the labour delegate was consequently not sent to the I.L.O. He said in another place—

'We never had indentured labour. We recruited workers from South India who came under conditions and terms agreed to by the Government of India. We established depots in South India in the districts where labour was available.'

And further he says that everything was done for them. I wish to make only one more reference to this illustrious representative of the Government of Ceylon. He said—

'I can say with confidence that our plantation labourers are better fed, better treated and looked after than such workers in other parts of the world.'

The International Labour Conference in its Migration Committee Report has recommended that—

'It should be the general policy of members of the International Labour Organization to develop and utilize all possibilities of employment and to this purpose to facilitate international distribution of man-power and in particular, movement of man-power from countries which have a surplus of man-power to those countries that are deficient.'

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I do not wish to take up much of the time of the House except to point out that the Ceylon Government has been treating with discourtesy not only the citizenship rights of Indians domiciled in that country but also the obligation which that country owes to us. It is high time that we rise and point out to them the mistakes and wrongs that they have done to our nationals. After all a resolution like this telling our grievances to our Prime Minister and requesting his good offices to see that the Ceylon Government does not ill-treat our nationals in Ceylon is not out of order. On the other hand, we have every right to ask our Prime Minister as a duty not only to us but for other provinces as well. It is high time that the Prime Minister takes up this question and our Madras Government should not merely be satisfied with a resolution like this but should do everything in their power to see that our nationals especially South Indians who have gone there and worked and toiled and moiled for the benefit of Ceylon should not be subjected to ill-treatment."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have had on the authority of *Ramayana* that Sita Devi was rescued from Ceylon and brought back safety to India. Even so we will rescue our kith and kin and our brothers and sisters, sooner or later from their disabilities imposed upon them by the Ceylon Government in their new-found freedom. We need not feel anxious about it. While we should be anxious in supporting the Government motion in this regard, we should not forget that the Government of India led by the great Prime Minister of India must be feeling even more than we do and realize the need to rescue our kith and kin like the Great Rama himself and bring them back safely from that country known as Lanka to our country and at the same time restore them to their proper place in the economic and political life of the country. It is not natural that it is the desire not only of the Government but also of the people in the Province to strengthen the hands of the Government of India and particularly the Hon. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in settling our affairs in Ceylon in as peaceful and as friendly a manner as possible. A country that has found its freedom recently would try to safeguard the interests of the sons of the soil and in doing so it sometimes happens as it happens in other countries that outsiders are excluded or some harm is caused to them in an indirect manner. These are only happening in the process of adjustment. We also find here in our own country we are experiencing many difficulties after the attainment of Independence and we have got to regulate our relations with our neighbours and when we look at the international set-up of the present day world, such things would naturally arise. There are no doubt matters of conflict but not of antagonism and let us not antogonize our brethren in Ceylon. It is a small country which is as it were the pendant of India and it has been so historically and she is very closely associated with this country especially with South India. That being so, let us approach the problem in a very friendly and sympathetic manner. That is what we should do at a moment like this. After all the Ceylonese would naturally

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have an affection for India on account of the long connexion and the traditional relationship that has existed for centuries between the two countries. India very rightly can be regarded as a mother by Ceylon and she should look upon the smaller country with maternal care so that it develops to its full stature of liberty."

* JANAB HAJI MOULVI ABDUL KHADHAR JAMALI :—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, நம்முடைய நாட்டின் 10 லக்ஷம் மக்கள் இன்று சிலோனில் பரிதாபமான நிலையிலே இருக்கிறதற்காக நம்முடைய அனுதாபத்தைக் காட்டிக்கொள்ளும் வகையில் இந்த தீர்மானத்தை கவர்ன்மெண்டார் கொண்டுவந்த வகையில் நான் மிகவும் அவர்களே பாராட்டுகிறேன். நம்முடைய அனுதாபம் எப்பொழுதும் அவர்களிடம் இருக்கத்தான் செய்கின்றது. இதை-வெளியுலகத்திற்கு காட்டுகிற வகையில் இன்று இந்த தீர்மானத்தை கனம் மராமத்து இலாகா மந்திரி அவர்கள் கொண்டுவந்திருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த தீர்மானத்தை இந்தச் சபையில் கொண்டுவந்ததை ரகசியமாகவே சர்க்கார் கொண்டுவந்திருக்கவேண்டும். 'சுவற்றிற்குக்கூட காதுண்டு' என ஒரு பர்ஷியப் பழமொழி யொன்றுண்டு.

"இன்று இச்சபையில் சிலோனைப்பற்றி பேசியவர்களின் பேச்சுகளெல்லாம் வெளியுலகத்திற்கு எப்படி பரப்பப்படுமோ என்று நான் நினைத்துப் பார்க்கும்பொழுது உள்ளபடியே நான் வருந்துகிறேன். இன்று இந்தச் சபையில் பலர் பலவிதமான பேச்சுக்களினுல் தங்களுடைய ஆத்திரத்தை எவ்வளவு தூரம் காண்பிக்க முடியுமோ அவ்வளவு தூரம் காண்பித்து விட்டார்கள். நம்முடைய பத்து லக்ஷம் மக்களின் கஷ்டத்தை நிவர்த்திப்பதில் அவர்களுக்கு உள்ளபடியே கருத்து இருக்குமானுல் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் கொண்டுவந்திருக்கும் இந்த தீர்மானத்தில் இந்த இரண்டு திருத்தங்களுக்கும் அவசியமேயில்லை.

3-30 p.m. "இப்போது நாம் உலகம் போகிற போக்கைப் பார்ப்போமானுல் மிகவும் கவனத்துடனும், பொறுப்புடனும், ராஜதந்திரத்துடனும் நடந்துகொள்ள வேண்டியதாயிருக்கிறது. சிறு சிறு விஷயங்களெல்லாம் மிகவும் பிரமாதப் படுத்தப்படுகின்றன. அதுவும் இன்று இந்தச் சபையில் சிலோனில் அவதிப்படும் நம் நாட்டு மக்களின் கஷ்டத்தை நிவர்த்திப்பதற்கு அந்த சிலோனுக்குப் போகக்கூடிய பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்களுடன் நமது மாகாண கவர்ன்மெண்டின் சில பிரதிநிதிகள் அனுப்பவேண்டுமென்று சொல்ல இவ்வளவு பெரிய பேச்சுகள் வேண்டியதில்லையென்று நினைக்கிறேன். இதை எவ்வளவோ அமைதியான முறையில் இந்தத் தீர்மானத்தை நாம் அமுலுக்குக் கொண்டுவந்திருக்கவேண்டும்.

"ஆனுல் நான் ஒன்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் ஊன்றி கவனிக்கவேண்டும். முதலில் நாம் பிறரைப்பற்றி குறை கூறுவதற்கு முன்பு நம்மிடமுள்ள குறைகளை நாமே நிவர்த்திக்க வேண்டும். குறிப்பாக பத்து லக்ஷம் மக்களின் கஷ்டத்தை நிவர்த்திக்க வேண்டிய ஏற்பாட்டைப்பற்றிச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன்.

"அதாவது அங்கிருப்பவர்கள் இங்கேயுள்ள தங்கள் குடும்பங்களுக்கு பணம் அனுப்புவதற்கு மிகவும் கஷ்டப்படுகின்றனர். அதற்கு இங்கிருந்து கையெழுத்திட்டு ரெவின்யூ ஆபீசர்கள் 29-ம் நம்பர் பாரத்தை அனுப்பினுல் தான் அங்கிருந்து பணம் அனுப்ப முடிகிறது. இந்த பாரத்தில் கையெழுத்திட்டு அனுப்பவேண்டுமானுல், ரெவின்யூ ஆபீசுகளில், இந்த பாரம் கையெழுத்திட்டு அனுப்புவதற்கு நம்முடைய கவர்ன்மெண்டு உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் செய்கின்ற அக்கிரமும், காலதாமதமும், அதிக ஊழல்களும் இருக்கின்றன என்பதை நான் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்குச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். அது மாத்திரம் அல்ல. அவர்களுக்கு பாஸ்போர்டு அவசியம் வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. இந்த பாஸ்போர்டு வழங்குவதில் நம்முடைய கவர்ன்மெண்டார் அசிரத்தையாய் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதை நாம் கவனத்தில் வைத்துக்கொண்டு இவைகளையெல்லாம் உடனடியாக கவனித்து நிவர்த்தி செய்ய நமது கவர்ன்மெண்டார் முன்வரவேண்டும்.

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[Janab Haji Moulvi Abdul Khadhar Jamali]

"பொதுவாக நம்முடைய மக்கள் அங்கு கஷ்டப்படுகிறதற்கு நாம் அனுதாபம் உள்ளவர்களாயிருக்கிறோம். நான்கூட சிலோன் காங்கிரஸ் கூட்டத்திற்கு சென்ற ஜனவரியில் என்னை அழைத்தபோதுகூட எப்போதும் இந்தியர்களுடைய அனுதாபம் உங்களுக்கு உண்டு என்று தெரிவித்தேன்.

"இப்போது பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்கள் எப்படி தென்னுப்பிரிக்காவில் இந்தியர்களுடைய கஷ்டங்களை நிவர்த்திப்பதற்கு முழுமூச்சுடன் வேலை செய்கிறார்களோ, வேலை செய்ததன் பயனுய் இந்தியர்கள் வெற்றி பெரும் நிலைமையை அடைந்திருக்கிறார்களோ அதேபோல அவசியம் இந்த விஷயத்திலும் கனம் பிரதமர் ஜவஹர்லால் நேரு அவர்கள் கவனம் செலுத்துவார்கள், இதை அவசியம் நிவர்த்தி செய்வார்கள் என்ற நம்பிக்கைதான் நம்முடைய மனதில் இருக்கவேண்டும். ஆகையால் நான் இந்த தீர்மானத்தை வரவேற்பதுடன் இந்த இரண்டு திருத்தங்களும் வேண்டாமென்று நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

* DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is human to look at ourselves through our own spectacles. Sometimes it does us good to look at ourselves through others' spectacles. We are conscious of the grievances of our countrymen and of the teeming millions that inhabit this vast country. We are rightly proud of our country and are conscious of our capacity, as to how we can make money practically out of nothing. We know also how to accumulate wealth. These are the very characteristics, of which we are proud, and which the others nations are afraid of. I remember years ago, when the freedom of Egypt was being discussed, I put the question to a shrewd European, why so much sympathy was expressed for Egypt, but India's freedom was discounted. / After beating about the bush, he had the magnanimity to speak out the truth. He said, 'we, European nations, are not afraid of Egypt; whatever Egypt might do, the population is small, we can easily counter-check it; on the other hand, India, with its teeming millions, we know not what its great energy will be directed to. Naturally the world is afraid of handing over power to India; because no one knows what its ultimate effect will be.' When Mahatma Gandhi started the great movement for our national freedom people in the world did not realize what our freedom would bring about in the world. It was only as year after year and decade after decade had passed under his great leadership and guidance that we have let the world know that our efforts are going to be in the direction of peace and not of war. Only then the world appreciated our demand for freedom, and to-day the whole world rejoices over our freedom.

" Sir, let us look at the problem of Ceylon from that angle of vision. A Tamilian friend of mine, who lived there for some time—I, too, more than once visited that Island—the other day revealed to me why some of the Sinhalese have got a grievance against Indians living there. They know that an Indian knows how to make money, and they also feel that an Indian is not willing to part with his money. The Sinhali lives a more complex life and a more expensive life. His standards are high; while the Indian who goes from here lives a simple life—of course some of them who have settled there for a long time, have changed their standards of life. In my own experience of Ceylon, where I have stayed for a short time, during my sojourn visits to Europe

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and America, I have always found the Sinhali keeping up a high standard of life and I found in the City of Colombo, life was more expensive than either in London, Paris or Berlin. So when a group of people go there and try to save money and create an impression that they are fond of money rather than live a high standard of life, they are apt to be misunderstood. And there is always the fear that India with its teeming millions might some day take an excuse and swamp them up. So this is not a thing to be brushed aside by a resolution. We who live next-door to Ceylon in the Madras Province may know the real cause. Those who live away from Ceylon cannot know it. When the Andhra does not understand the Tamilian, and when the Tamilian does not understand the Andhra, how can you expect the Sinhalese to understand us, Indians, who are there in large numbers? Therefore it is not a thing to be decided by a resolution. We should let them see somehow that our intentions are peaceful; that it is not our intention to swamp them and that those of us who wish to live in their country have no intention to undercut them. If that feeling is engendered then the distrust of Indians will disappear."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would not take much time. We are indeed greatful to you, Sir, and the Government for giving us an opportunity to voice forth the difficulties of Indian nationals abroad. The Provincial Government and the Central Government have at all times in the past been good enough to devote time and energy to look into the interests of Indian nationals. The very fact that this resolution has been accepted and moved by the Government shows that the object of the resolution is to foster the good relationship between the two countries, India and Ceylon. The relationship between India and Ceylon has all along been good in the past and we sincerely hope and trust that it will be possible to maintain that good relationship in the future also. Sir, it is fortunate indeed in one way that the Leader of Ceylon is a person of great integrity, is a person who is the Leader of that Country, is a person whose voice will be heard and whose decision will be adhered to, and who if he makes up his mind to accept a particular decision will be able to push it through. He is a person who is held in great esteem in that country. He is a man who is in a position to deliver the goods, if I may say in that simple language. We are very fortunate that there is likely to be the visit of the great Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to that country in connexion with the Commonwealth conference. We can say on behalf of India, or at least on behalf of South India that any agreement entered between Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Mr. Senanayake will have hundred per cent chance of being accepted and followed up by both countries. That is a happy feature that we see. The difficulties of the Indians in Ceylon have been mentioned several times before in the past, both on the floor of this House as well as in Ceylon and Delhi. So I do not wish to take up the time of the House except to say that the problem is such that it is capable of mutual discussion in Ceylon ultimately. It is a happy augury that the

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Commonwealth Foreign Ministers' Conference is to take place in Ceylon itself in the near future, that we are all members of the Commonwealth and that it will give an immediate chance of this subject being discussed by the two Prime Ministers of India and Ceylon. Let us only hope that the discussions that will take place between Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Mr. Senanayake will result in amicable relations being continued between the two countries."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the resolution moved by the Hon. Minister for Public Works. Some time ago this House had an opportunity of debating a resolution of a similar nature. Then, Sir, we took that opportunity to give vent to our feelings in this matter. We hoped very much that the position of Indians in Ceylon, as a result of that debate, would improve. But then we find that the position instead of improving has really deteriorated, and that difficulties and disabilities are being put more and more in an increasing manner in the way of the poor Indians who are somehow connected with Ceylon; difficulties in very possible way are being placed in the way of Indians in Ceylon. In the matter of emigration, in the matter of citizenship rights and franchise, in the matter of remittance of their hard-earned money to their kith and kin in this country and in several other matters, the difficulties of Indians in Ceylon are insuperable. There is no gainsaying this fact. The idea seems to be that the Indians in Ceylon should be sent away from that country bag and baggage (An hon. Member: 'There is no baggage'.) and even without baggage. Naturally people here as well as there feel exacerbated. Their hearts are wounded and are being exacerbated more and more. Therefore it is only natural that we should feel very bitterly over this question. All the same, we must take our dignity and the position of our great country into consideration. I do not think that a responsible Minister of Ceylon would have made himself responsible for the remarks which were quoted in this House. At any rate, I do not think he would have made those remarks with the meaning which has been attributed to them. If he had made those remarks deliberately, he ought to know that, if Ceylon can produce one Bandaranayake, this country can produce several such men as has been demonstrated too clearly in this House. If the Ceylon State Council enjoys the privilege of producing Bandaranayakes, the same privilege cannot be denied to this House. However, this country being great as it is, does not want to avail itself of that privilege. We must remember our dignity and our great position. We must also remember that we stand on justice. We do not stand merely on physical force. Whatever may the provocation that the people on the other side might indulge in, they cannot cheat this country of its lawful right. We must place the justice of our cause before the world in a dignified and proper way. If we always bear this in mind, I am sure that we cannot be cheated of our rights at all.

3-45 p.m.

"In this connexion some of the hon. Members went so far as to make certain disparaging remarks against our High Commissioner in Ceylon. He is our representative; he is the Government

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of India in Ceylon. He has been doing, I know, what all he can do under the circumstances. If the Ceylon Government were adamant, it was not the fault of our representative."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"No member mentioned that he was not successful. We said that, if he was not able to succeed in this affair, it was better that the Government of India withdrew him."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"It does not lie in his hands alone to succeed in the attempt. There are always two parties to a case. Even if we send another High Commissioner in his place, he will also be placed in the same predicament. I say that we must give every encouragement to our representative in that country in the difficult position in which he is placed.

"Our Friend the hon. Dr. Ramachandra Rao said that this might be a case of misunderstanding between one people and another even as there was misunderstanding between the Tamilians and the Telugus. I do not think this is a matter of that nature at all. This is a question of hard facts."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"On a point of information, Sir. The hon. Dr. Ramachandra Rao never said that there was misunderstanding between the Tamilians and the Telugus."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let Dr. Ramachandra Rao answer."

DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO:—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir, I said: 'The Tamilian does not understand the Andhra and the Andhra does not understand the Tamilian'."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"That was exactly what I said. It is not a question of misunderstanding. It is a question of our people being deprived wholly of their rights and properties in that country. The money that they have earned in the form of wages is not allowed to reach their kith and kin whom they have to protect in this country. This, one cannot say, is a matter of misunderstanding. The people and the Government of Ceylon do understand that the people here will naturally feel bitter if Indians are deprived even of their property and the human right of voting in a country where they have lived for decades and carried on their avocation for generations. That is the position. I do not think that this is a matter of misunderstanding. Even though the matter is a difficult one, I say that we should not use harsh or hot words in that connexion. That is not the way to achieve things. Our strength must make us handle the subject with dignity and firmness. We can be firm with dignity. This is an international matter. We must set an example to the other parts of the world in this matter and see that feelings which are already bitter in many quarters are not made further bitter. If the ten lakhs of Indians in Ceylon are hard hit, we must exercise restraint and appeal to the sense of humanity of the Ceylon Government and see that justice is

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meted out to our people. For doing that, our great Prime Minister is just the person. It is fortunate that the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers' Conference is being convened in a short while in that country. I hope that the main object of that conference is to cement the friendly relations between the Commonwealth countries. This is a fit subject for our Prime Minister to deal with on that occasion. I repeat that we cannot find a better and more suitable person for dealing with this matter than our Prime Minister. Let us hope and pray that he will succeed in this matter and thereby cement the friendly relations between this great country and our neighbouring country with whom we always want to be in friendship."

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am obliged to the hon. Members for the light thrown by them on this vexed question. I have nothing to add to their contribution by way of reply. I think we can now leave the matter safely in the hands of our Prime Minister. References were made in this House to the difficulties experienced by people in this province in the matter of remittances from Ceylon and also in the matter of obtaining passports. I once again assure this House that the Government are taking all necessary steps to alleviate the difficulties that have been experienced. For the information of the House, I would like to read the memorandum which has been issued by this Government to Collectors and Revenue Divisional Officers.

'It has been represented to Government that Collectors' and Revenue Divisional Officers insist on preliminary certificates from village officers for the purpose of granting certificates of proof of dependence in Form No. 29 prescribed in the Ceylon Exchange Control Regulations and that this has caused delay and inconvenience to the applicants which could be avoided if certain responsible non-officials also are authorized to grant preliminary certificates. The Government accept this suggestion and direct that in addition to the certificates issued by village officers, preliminary certificates issued by M.L As. and Members of District Boards may be accepted by Collectors and Revenue Divisional Officers as the basis for the issue of certificates of proof of dependence. It is now understood that the last date for remittance prescribed by the Ceylon Exchange Control Regulations has been extended up to 30th November 1949. The attention of the Collectors is once again invited to the importance of issuing the certificates in time and they are requested to see that all cases now pending in their districts are disposed of expeditiously. Collectors are also requested to bring the above to the notice of all concerned and also to issue instructions to village officers to give all possible assistance to the applicants.'

We have also sanctioned the necessary staff to carry out this additional work in the office of the Collectors and the Revenue Divisional Officers.

"I accept the amendment moved by the hon. Member Sri R. V. Swaminathan. I request the hon. Member Sri K. T. Kosalram to withdraw his amendment."

* SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, இப்பொழுது இலங்கைவாழ் இந்திய தொழிலாளர்கள் அல்லாத மற்ற தேசத்துவர்களுக் கெல்லாம் எந்த விதமான கட்டுப்பாடும் இல்லாமல் இருக்கிறார்கள்; இந்தியர்களுக்கு மட்டும் இடைஞ்சல் செய்வதாலும், கோல்பரி கமிஷனிடம் கொடுத்த வாக்குறுதியைமீறி எந்த சலுகைகளையும் இலங்கை அரசாங்கம் கொடுக்க மறுத்தால் இலங்கை அரசாங்கத்திற்கு இப்பொழுது வரக்கூடிய 90 பெர்சண்டு வருமானமும் இந்தியருடைய

உழைப்பினால் வருவதால் அவர்களுக்கு பிரஜா உரிமை இல்லாமலிருப்பதாலும் மலேயாவில் இந்திய தொழிலாளர்களை ஆதரித்திருப்பதாலும் அங்கே அவர்களை அனுப்பி சௌகர்யங்களைச் செய்யலாம். நம் தேவத்தை விருத்தி செய்ய அவர்களை இங்கு கொண்டுவரலாம். அவர்களை withdraw பண்ணும்படி பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்களிடம் சொல்லும்படி கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

The amendment was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am going to put the motion of Sri R. V. Swaminathan. The question is—

'that the following be added at the end:—

"and that the Government may be pleased to request the Hon'ble the Prime Minister of India to receive a deputation before he proceeds to Ceylon for placing before him the hardships of Indians in Ceylon".'"

The amendment was carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am going to put the motion as amended. The question is—

'that this Assembly recommends to the Government to convey its request to the Government of India that in view of the rapidly deteriorating position of Indians in Ceylon in various spheres, including economic, political, emigration, citizenship rights, etc., the Hon'ble the Prime Minister of India be pleased to arrange to discuss with the Ceylon Government the outstanding Indo-Ceylon issues during his forthcoming visit to Ceylon and if possible to arrange for a deputation of the representatives of Madras Government to be present at the discussions to assist the Hon'ble the Prime Minister and that the Government may be pleased to request the Hon'ble the Prime Minister of India to receive a deputation before he proceeds to Ceylon for placing before him the hardships of Indians in Ceylon.'"

The motion was carried *nem con.*

III.—MOTION UNDER RULE 15 (3) OF THE ASSEMBLY RULES.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, I move—

'*That under rule* 15 (3) *of the Madras Assembly Rules that item IV* (1) *in the list of business namely, the Provincial Small Cause Courts (Madras Amendment) Bill*, 1949, *be taken up before item III.*'"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that item IV (1) in the list of business namely the Provincial Small Cause Courts (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1949, be taken up before item III.'"

The motion was carried.

GOVERNMENT BILL.

IV.—THE PROVINCIAL SMALL CAUSE COURTS (MADRAS AMENDMENT) BILL, 1949 (L.A. BILL No. 38 OF 1949).

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to introduce the Provincial Small Cause Courts (Madras Amendment) Bill[a], 1949 and move— 4 p.m.

'*That it be taken into consideration at once.*'

"Sir, the object of the Bill is to correct a mistake that has crept in, in the matter of grant of vacation to the additional small cause courts in the districts. Till 1946, District Munsifs and Subordinate Judges were being invested with small cause powers under section 28 of the Madras Civil Courts Act, 1873. In 1946, however, a number of independent small courts were established under section 5 of the Provincial Small Cause Courts Act, 1887 at the headquarters of districts and the District Munsifs and Official Receivers at those headquarters were appointed as the presiding Judges and Additional Judges, respectively, of those courts. That does not provide for vacations, but the Judges and Official Receivers enjoy vacations to which they are entitled and the High Court pointed out that this matter was overlooked by all concerned and suggested an amendment to the Small Cause Court Act of 1885, providing for the grant of vacations for all these courts and the Government have therefore accordingly come forward before the House with the necessary amending Bill. As these additional small cause courts had had summer vacations during 1947 and 1948, we have to rectify those vacations that had already been taken up by them and so we have to give retrospective effect to this Bill from 1st April 1947."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Provincial Small Cause Courts (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration at once."

The motion was carried.

Clauses 1, 2 and the Preamble were put and carried.

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I move, Sir—

'*That the Bill be passed into law.*'"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Motion moved—

'that the Bill be passed into law.'"

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very glad to find that the Government at least in one case have accepted the recommendation of the High Court and brought in this amending Bill."

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, I entirely repudiate the most mischievous suggestion of my hon. Friend Sri Viswanatham that the Government have at least in one case

[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 6th September 1949.

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accepted the recommendation of the High Court. We have in every case accepted the recommendation of the High Court in all such matters of legislation and it is very unfair and improper for my hon. Friend to make such a mischievous allegation like that."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" I am very sorry that the Hon. Minister for Law has lost his sense of humour. I would not say anything more on this matter."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—" Sir, I cannot understand the meaning of the words 'most mischievous' and 'sense of humour.'."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The question is—

'That the Provincial Small Cause Courts (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1949 be passed into law'."

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed into law.

NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS—BILLS.

V.—THE MADRAS ANIMAL AND BIRD SACRIFICES ABOLITION BILL, 1949 (L.C. BILL No. 2 OF 1947).

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

'That the Madras Animal and Bird Sacrifices Abolition Bill[a], 1947, *as passed by the Legislative Council be taken into consideration at once.'*

" Sir, this Bill was introduced in the Legislative Council by Sri S. B. Adityan, M.L.C., and was passed on 26th January 1949. I have to point out that this Bill is of a limited nature in its character as well in its scope. The aim of this Bill is to prevent the killing or maiming of animals and birds in the precincts of Hindu temples. This Bill does not prevent the killing of animals in the slaughter-houses or anywhere else. Animal sacrifices are made in the name of God and Goddess in various places in the Presidency. In some places animals are sacrificed even before they are born. It is curious, Sir, to hear that the stomach of the pregnant goat is cut open and the young baby animal is removed from the womb and offered as sacrifice. Sir, in the name of sacrifice and in the name of God, barbarous cruelties are committed by some persons. No civilised country can tolerate this. There are various other forms of cruelties perpetrated in various other places. For instance, in the district of Nellore in our own Province, a buffalo is put into a pit and people kill it by stabbing with spears. In one place in the Tirunelveli district, an iron spike is fixed on the ground and pigs are thrown on the spike from some height. In Vriddachalam in the South Arcot district, the goat is laid on the ground and its neck is cut with a chisel. In some places sheep and goats are beaten to

[a]Printed as Appendix IV on pages 1105–1103 infra.

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death by sticks. In another place in Visakhapatnam district a pig is kept in a standing position and a spear is driven through its body from one end to the other. Sir, sacrifice of buffaloes is going on everywhere. Slaughter of buffaloes is permitted and hundreds are being slaughtered. In the interests of agriculture and of the grow more food campaign at least, we must put an end to this slaughter of manure-producing animals like buffaloes, sheep and pigs. It is a common superstition that Gods are pleased with these sacrifices. It is a superstition going on much to the degradation of our ancient Hindu community. That is not religion, Sir. This kind of superstition leads even to human sacrifices. Things have come to such a stage that people believe that we cannot stop these sacrifices, because that would rouse the anger of Gods. Such curious beliefs have developed and it is high time that we see such beliefs are dispelled.

" Sir, since 1937 when the Congress Government came into power this practice has been voluntarily stopped in many places. We have to thank the South Indian Humanitarian League which has done much work in this field. Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, once condemned this custom of animal sacrifice in the following words: " Sacrificing animals in the name of religion is the remnant of barbarism". Pandit Nehru, our beloved Prime Minister of India, who was the President of the Indian National Congress, sent a telegram to the South Indian Humanitarian League in 1937 in the following terms: 'I am grieved to learn that it is proposed to offer animal sacrifices in temples. I think that such sacrifices are barbarous and degrade the name of religion. I trust that the authorities of the temples will pay heed to the sentiment of culture in this matter and refrain from such sacrifices.' Sir, as a result of propaganda and pursuasion by the workers of the South Indian Humanitarian League, animal sacrifice was stopped in many places like Palamcottah, Chidambaram, Thiruvottiyur, Sankarankoil, Cuddalore and Palghat. In the Andhra districts also this practice was stopped in places like Bezwada, Tenali and other towns.

" In the Travancore State they have stopped the practice of sacrificing animals in temples. Public opinion has very much come round and there is a demand throughout the Province for the immediate stopping of this practice. The only opposition will be from the poojaris and priests of these temples. They are the only group of people who stand to gain by continuing this evil practice. Sir, if the gods and goddesses really accept the sacrifice and eat away the animals and birds so offered, this evil and barbarous custom would have been stopped long ago and there would have been no necessity for us to bring forward this measure.

" Sir, this Bill was published in the Gazette long ago and since then the Secretariat of the Legislature has received a number of memoranda signed by thousands of persons supporting this measure.

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" Sir, with these words I move that the Bill as passed by the Legislative Council be taken into consideration at once. "

The motion was duly seconded.

MR. SPEAKER:—" Motion moved—

' that the Madras Animal and Bird Sacrifices Bill, 1949, be taken into consideration at once. ' "

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, before the Bill is taken into consideration, on a point of information, may I know from the Hon. Leader of the House whether the Government have received any message from His Excellency the Governor-General according his sanction to this Bill? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The Government have not received any message from His Excellency the Governor-General, Sir. Perhaps he might have communicated his individual opinion to any Member of the Government, but the Government as such have not received any message from the Governor-General."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, நமது நண்பர் ஸ்ரீ இராஜாராம் அவர்கள் கொண்டுவந்த இந்த 'பில்லை' ஆதரிக்க முன்வந்துள்ளேன். பல வருஷங்களுக்கு முன்னதாகவே இது சட்டமாகி இருக்கவேண்டும். ஆனால் இப்பொழுதுதான் இந்த சபையில் பிரேரேபிக்கப் பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஜீவஹிம்சையை தடுப்பது ரொம்பவும் அவசியம்தான். எனது சொந்த ஊரிலேயே நூற்றுக்கணக்கான மிருகங்களை கடவுளின் பெயரால் பலியிடப்பட்டுக்கொண்டு வந்தது. இப்பொழுது நிறுத்தப்பட்டிருக் கிறது. ஆண்டவன் பெயராலும், கடவுளின் பெயராலும் மிருகங்களை பலி செய்துவருவதை நிறுத்தவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுவதை ஒருவரும் மறுக்கமாட்டார்கள் இதற்கு ஒருவரும் விரோதமாகவுமிருக்க முடியாது. இவ்விதம் பலியிடுவதை நிறுத்தவேண்டுமென்று எவ்வளவோ மனுக்கள் வந்திருக்கின்றன. ஆகையால் இந்த மசோதா மிகமிக அவசியம். இவ்விதம் பலியிடுவது எவ்வளவோ கொடூரமான காரியம். இன்னும் சில இடங்களில் நர பலிகளைக்கூட போட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். மனிதர்களுடைய குழந்தைகளைக்கூட பலியிடுவதாக இருந்திருக்கிறது. நீங்கள் மட்டும் ஆடுகளை வெட்டி சாப்பிடலாமா என்று கேட்கலாம். ஆடுகளை வெட்டிச் சாப்பிடுவது என்பது வேறு. ஆண்டவன் முன்னால் கடவுளின் பெயரால் மிருகங்களை பலியிடுவது வேண்டாம் என்பதுதான் இந்த மசோதாவின் நோக்கம். அப்படிச் செய்வது கொடூரமான ஒரு ஜீவஹிம்கை. அதைத் தடுக்கவேண்டுமென்பதற்குதான் இந்த மசோதா அவசியம். உடனே இதை சட்டம் செய்யவேண்டுமென்பதாகக் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். "

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I beg to move an amendment—

' *That this Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion.*"

" Sir, I want to make it quite clear that personally I am not at all against this Bill. But I honestly feel that there are ever so many people who have strong feelings in the matter and my own view is that this is a question which may arouse passion and feelings in certain communities and from the point of view of Government, if I have anything to do with the Government myself, I would have certainly hesitated not once, but ten times

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before bringing forward a legislation like this in this House. After all, Sir, the result that will be achieved by this measure will not be commensurate with the feelings that might be roused in the country. Probably educated public opinion in the country may support this Bill, but there are certain sections of uneducated people in the country who are against this measure and therefore I think, it is better that we circulate this Bill for eliciting public opinion before we proceed further with this Bill. Sir, it may be possible to get their opinions and suggestions as early as possible and then we might consider whether any amendment to this Bill is necessary.

" Sir, some people might ask, after all we eat mutton and when that is so, what objection can there be in killing the goats like this in front of the temples. Sir, when my hon. Friend Mr. Rajaram narrated the instances and described the manner in which these poor animals are killed in temples, I myself felt a very great sense of horror at the way in which such killing is done. I am therefore in entire sympathy with the measure and I do realize that this Bill has been passed in the other House with acclamation and I have no doubt in my mind that it will also go through this House in the same way. But I do suggest that a few weeks delay that we are going to have by the circulation of the Bill for public opinion will not in any way do any harm. (Interruption.) Even assuming, Sir, that it involves a few months' delay, or even one year, as my hon. Friend Sri Rajaram Nayudu fears, I think it is better that we ascertain public opinion clearly on this matter, because we have waited for years and years, and for years and decades we have been allowing this custom to go on, and therefore we would not lose anything, if we wait for a few months' more and strengthen our hands in the meanwhile, before passing this measure.

" I would only suggest that a little delay will help the Government to receive public opinion from the several communities who have very strong views in the matter. As I told earlier, I am personally of the opinion that the Bill is good. But I feel that it is necessary that this House should consider this aspect of the matter and agree to circulate this Bill for public opinion I have no doubt that the Government will only strengthen their hands by receiving public opinion, for, I am sure they will receive the opinion from many sections of the community supporting the Bill. So, they can say in reply to any objections that may be raised that they have a large measure of support from many sections of the community. As against a small section of the community opposing the measure, there will be an enormous number of sub-communities who are supporting the Bill. The conscientious and religious objectors will have the satisfaction that they have placed their case before the Government and that their case has been heard. Probably a suitable amendment may be made in one particular respect and they may feel the sense of satisfaction. It is only with that

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view that I am suggesting that the Bill should be circulated for public opinion. I am suggesting this not with a sense of dilatoriness. I do not at all want to delay the Bill. I shall be perfectly satisfied if the Hon. Minister for Law would say that the time for receipt of public opinion shall be two months from now, and that the Bill will be taken up on the next non-official day after two months from now. Probably, in February 1950, the Bill can be passed into law. I do hope that the Government would see the reasonableness of the proposition that I have just placed before them through you."

MR. W. J. FERNANDEZ:—" Sir, I second the motion of Raja Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad that this Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion. It seems to me that no serious harm will befall if there is a little delay before this Bill is put on the Statute Book."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I want to know under what rule the motion is moved."

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Sir, this Bill has come from the Upper House. We can only make a motion for reference of the Bill to a select committee."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Rule 105 says—

' 105. On the day on which such motion is set down in the list of business, the member in charge of the Bill may move that the Bill be taken into consideration. On that date or on any subsequent day to which the discussion of the motion is postponed, the principle of the Bill and its general provisions may be discussed, but the details of the Bill must not be discussed further than is necessary to explain its principle.' "

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Sir, for Bills that originate in the Council and are received here therefrom, there is provision for referring them to a select committee, if they have not already been referred to a select committee of the Council or a Joint Select Committee of both Chambers. There is no provision for circulating the Bill to elicit public opinion. The Bill can only be referred to a select committee."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Under what rule? "

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Sir, the hon. Member so far as this House is concerned, is making his motion under . . . "

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Sir, I refer to rule 74 in Chapter XII of the Assembly Rules. The rule says—

' 74. No motion that a Bill be taken into consideration or be passed shall be made by any member other than the member in charge of the Bill and no motion that a Bill be referred to a Select Committee or be circulated or recirculated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon shall be made by any member other than the member in charge except by way of amendment to a motion made by the member in charge.' "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member says that he is moving his amendment under rule 74."

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" No, Sir. This rule refers to Bills originating in the Assembly."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Let the Hon. Minister explain the position and give an opportunity to the hon. Member who moved for circulation to explain his position."

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" Sir, there are separate provisions for Bills originating in the Assembly and Bills originating in the Council and received therefrom in the Assembly. A particular procedure is prescribed for Bills originating in the Assembly and another set of rules govern the procedure to be adopted for Bills originating in the Council and received therefrom in the Assembly. For Bills originating in the Assembly there is provision for circulating or recirculating the Bill for eliciting public opinion. But when a Bill originates in the Council and is received therefrom in the Assembly there is no provision for circulating or recirculating the Bill for public opinion, the object being that only after sufficient public opinion the Bill has been passed in the Council. That is why no provision has been made in the rules to refer a Bill for public opinion when once it is passed in the Council and is received therefrom in the Assembly."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Sir, I do not want to take up the time of the House in this matter. I withdraw my original amendment and move—

' That the Bill be referred to a select committee, whose names will be given later.'

I hope at the select committee stage, we can elicit public opinion."

MR. W. J. FERNANDEZ:—" I second the amendment of Raja Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Amendment moved—

' that the Madras Animal Sacrifices Abolition Bill, 1947 (L.C. Bill No. 2 of 1947), be referred to a select committee. The names of Members will be announced later.' "

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Sir, may I submit that the idea of the hon. Member Raja Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad in moving this amendment is only to gain some time. I submit that we have only eight more minutes left. I suggest that we now adjourn, and take up this Bill on the next non-official day. In the interval we will have time to study the provisions of this Bill, and also the public will have time to raise objections, if any. That is why, I submit that we now adjourn the House and take up this Bill on the next non-official day. This Bill will have the first priority on the next non-official day."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I want to know the position as it stood in the Upper House. Rule 106 says—

' Any member may (if the Bill has not already been referred to a Select Committee of the Council or to a Joint Committee of both Chambers, but not otherwise) move as an amendment that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee . . . '

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I do not know what the position was in the Upper House. It is better that the Government enlighten me on this. I have no objection to adjourn the House now, and take up this Bill later when we will know the position as it stood in the Upper House."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I am not in a position to say definitely, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister himself is in darkness. We shall take up this Bill on the next non-official day."

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU:—"Let us take the sense of the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not a question of taking the sense of the House. The Government themselves are not in a position to say whether a select committee was constituted in the Council."

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU:—"Sir, the Government are not opposing the Bill. They are only supporting it. In the Council, two Hon. Ministers also supported this Bill."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Nobody is opposing this Bill. But all that I want to know is whether this Bill was referred to a select committee. The Government Members are in darkness about this matter. The best course I propose to adopt is to adjourn the House now, and take up this Bill later."

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU:—"The Bill was introduced in the Legislative Council in 1947, Sir."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The Bill was not referred to a select committee in the Council, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"So, we shall adjourn now, so that we may know something in the interval."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Even otherwise, Sir, I requested you to adjourn the House at 4-30 p.m. in view of the Sheriff's meeting to-day at 5 p.m. It is only 5 minutes to 4-30 now. We may adjourn now, and take up this Bill on the next non-official day. It cannot be passed in five minutes, because any Member speaking on the Bill would have prevented the Bill from being passed into law. Therefore, no purpose will be served by rushing this Bill through."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I hope the Government will then be in a position to give me information whether a select committee was appointed in the Council, etc.

"I now adjourn the House till 11 a.m. on Friday, the 16th December 1949."

The House then adjourned.

25th November 1949]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 207 asked by Sri T. Viswanatham at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 25th November 1949, page 1051 supra.]

MOHAN INDUSTRIES, LIMITED, TENALI.

Profit and Loss Account for the period commencing from 5th July 1947 and ending with 31st December 1948.

Dr.

	Rs.	A.	P.
To Salaries	1,350	0	0
,, Rents	680	0	0
,, Licence	50	0	0
,, Membership fees	50	10	0
,, Travelling expenditure	294	8	0
,, Postage and telegrams	20	0	0
,, Stamp duty and registration charges of mortgage-deed.	1,923	2	0
,, Filing charges	62	4	0
,, Advertisement	596	0	0
,, Miscellaneous expenditure (typing repairs, letter pad, etc.).	16	0	9
Total ..	5,042	8	9

Cr.

	Rs.	A.	P.
By Interest account	5	3	4
,, Net loss	5,037	5	5
Total ..	5,042	8	9

MOHAN INDUSTRIES, LIMITED, TENALI—*cont.*

Balance-sheet as on 31st December 1948.

Dr. *Cr.*

Capital and Liabilities.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Share capital—						
Authorized—						
50,000 shares of Rs. 10 each				5,00,000	0	0
Issued and subscribed capital—						
5,500 shares of Rs. 10 each				55,000	0	0
Called up and paid-up capital—						
5,500 shares of Rs. 10 each ..	55,000	0	0			
Less calls in arrears	45,000	0	0			
				10,000	0	0
Loan, unsecured—						
From managing agents				2,00,700	0	0
Share deposits				4,416	0	0
Total				2,15,116	0	0

Property and Assets.	Rs.	A.	P.
Fixed capital expenditure—			
Goodwill at cost	7,396	6	0
Land and buildings	1,26,785	0	0
Machinery and plant	17,278	10	0
Furniture and fittings	19,124	11	3
Typewriter	400	0	0
Telephone installation	570	0	0
Library	19	12	0
Preliminary expenses	3,856	6	6
Stock-in-trade at cost	30,050	0	0
Advances recoverable in cash or kind or value to be received	170	0	0
Cash and bank balances—			
Cash on hand	6	9	6
Cash at bank (current account)	4,421	3	4
Profit and loss account	5,037	5	5
Total ..	2,15,116	0	0

ALAPATI VENKATRAMAIAH,
Managing Agent.

AUDIT REPORT.

We have examined Balance-sheet and the Profit and Loss Account of Mohan Industries, Limited, Tenali, above set forth and have obtained all the information and explanations we have required. The above balance-sheet exhibits a true and correct view of the state of the company's affairs according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us and as shown by the books of the company.

In our opinion, the said Balance-sheet and Profit and Loss Account are drawn up in conformity with the law and the books of account have been kept by the company as required by section 130 of the Indian Companies Act. No depreciation was written off on the assets purchased from the vendors.

K. SUBBA RAO,
for P. Ramachandra Rao & Co.,
Registered Accountants.

[25th November 1949

THE SUDARSAN OIL MILLS, LIMITED, KATPADI.

Profit and Loss Account for the year ending 31st March 1949.

Dr. *Cr.*

	Rs.	A.	P.		Rs.	A.	P.
To Establishment	10,737	7	3	By Gross profit from the manufacture and sale of Groundnut oil and oil-cake	15,923	12	7
,, Rent, rates and taxes	2,551	14	0	,, Transfer fee	4	0	0
,, Printing and stationery	556	4	6	,, Sundry receipts	166	4	6
,, Postage, telegram and telephones	1,366	13	6	,, Net loss for the year	73,532	0	6
,, Travelling and conveyance	2,511	2	11				
,, Directors' sitting fees	1,150	0	0				
,, Managing Agents' allowance	12,000	0	0				
,, Legal and audit fees	1,600	0	0				
,, Interest (net)	15,836	7	1				
,, Interest on debentures	16,363	10	0				
,, Insurance	1,250	10	0				
,, Debenture trustee's remuneration	150	0	0				
,, Repairs and renewals	1,597	8	7				
,, Bank charges and commission	169	3	0				
,, Subscription to commercial bodies	2,773	13	4				
,, Sundry expenses	705	13	9				
,, Part of expenses for raising loan from Government of Madras written off	727	2	0				
,, Part of Library written off	17	5	6				
,, Depreciation	17,561	8	2				
Total ..	89,626	11	7	Total ..	89,626	11	7

Examined and found correct.
(Sd.) BRAHMAYYA & CO.
Incorporated Accountants,
Registered Accountants,
Auditors.

for THE SUDARSAN OIL MILLS, LTD.
for RAGHU & CO.
(Sd.) T. N. RAGHUNATHA REDDY,
Managing Partner, Agents.

(Sd.) B. VENKATARAMA REDDY,
Chairman.
,, M. B. RANGASAMY REDDY.
,, V. DATTATREYAN (*Govt. Director*)
,, E. V. NARASA REDDY.
,, T. N. VENKATASUBBA REDDY.
,, T. N. RAGHUNATHA REDDY
(*Ex-officio*),
Directors.

25th November 1949]

THE SUDARSAN OIL MILLS, LIMITED, KATPADI—*cont.*

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 1949.

Dr.

Capital and Liabilities.	Details. Rs. A. P.	Total.	Property and Assets.	Details. Rs. A. P.	Total. Rs. A. P.
Capital—			**Fixed capital expenditure at cost—**		
Authorized—			Land—As per last balance sheet ..	51,929 0 0	
5,000 6 per cent tax free redeemable cumulative preference shares of Rs. 100 each.	5,00,000 0 0		Additions during the year	166 10 0	
2,00,000 ordinary shares of Rs. 10 each.	20,00,000 0 0				52,095 10 0
	25,00,000 0 0		Factory buildings—		
			As per last balance sheet	1,17,004 2 2	
Issued—			Additions during the year	1,16,854 11 0	
For payments in cash—				2,33,858 13 2	
2,000 6 per cent preference shares of Rs. 100 each.	2,00,000 0 0		*Less* depreciation written off to date.	6,689 2 2	
80,000 ordinary shares of Rs. 10 each.	8,00,000 0 0				2,27,169 11 0
	10,00,000 0 0		Plant and machinery—		
			As per last balance sheet	8,54,075 0 4	
Add—			Additions during the year	4,53,195 5 10	
For consideration other than cash—				13,07,270 6 2	
500 6 per cent preference shares of Rs. 100 each.	50,000 0 0		*Less* depreciation written off to date.	39,018 6 2	
20,000 ordinary shares of Rs. 10 each.	2,00,000 0 0				12,68,252 0 0
	12,50,000 0 0		Electric installation—		
			As per last balance sheet	10,452 15 11	
			Additions during the year	71,896 4 7	
				82,349 4 6	
			Less depreciation written off to date.	1,177 4 6	
					81,172 0 0
			Permanent residential quarters—		
			As per last balance sheet	71,092 13 0	
			Additions during the year	5,986 3 9	
				77,079 0 9	
			Less depreciation written off to date.	5,962 0 9	
					71,117 0 0

Subscribed, called and paid up—			Furniture and fittings—		
Rs. 2,500 preference shares of Rs. 100 each.	2,50,000 0 0		As per last balance sheet	10,174 14 3	
Rs. 1,00,000 ordinary shares of Rs. 10 each.	10,00,000 0 0		Additions during the year	2,144 10 0	
	12,50,000 0 0			12,319 8 3	
			Less depreciation written off to date.	1,996 8 3	
					10,323 0 0
Less—					17,10,129 5 0
Calls in arrears on preference shares Rs. 2,925.			Preliminary expenses as per last balance sheet.		13,000 0 0
Allotment money and calls in arrears on ordinary shares Rs. 21,085.	24,010 0 0		Under writing commission on shares as per last balance sheet.		8,000 0 0
		12,25,990 0 0	Debenture issue expenses as per last balance sheet.		8,000 0 0
Rs. 2,500—Four and half per cent (tax free) debentures of Rs. 100 each (secured by a floating charge on the assets of the company).		2,50,000 0 0	Expenses for raising loan from Government of Madras.	19,727 2 0	
Reserve for taxes		164 3 0	*Less* written off during the year ..	727 2 0	
Security deposits from building contractors.		7,250 0 0			19,000 0 0
			Tools and implements at cost as per last balance sheet.	15,152 10 6	
Loans—			Additions during the year	18,048 1 0	
Secured from Government of Madras. (Secured by a mortgage of the assets of the company subject to the prior rights of the debenture holders.)	8,00,000 0 0				33,200 11 6
			Live stock and vehicles at cost—		
			As per last balance sheet	2,371 3 9	
			Less sales during the year	559 0 0	
				1,821 3 9	
			Less depreciation written off on vehicles to date.	882 3 9	
Add—					939 0 0
Interest accrued thereon	14,083 5 4		Trolly at cost—		
		8,14,083 5 4	As per last balance sheet	2,500 0 0	
Liabilities—			*Less* depreciation written off to date.	286 0 0	
For goods supplied	3,806 5 0				2,214 0 0
For expenses (due to Directors Rs. 2,857-12-4).	5,348 11 7		Motor lorry at cost—		
For other finance	10,954 3 6		As per last balance sheet	8,444 0 0	
		20,109 4 1	*Less* depreciation written off to date.	5,113 0 0	
					3,331 0 0

THE SUDARSAN OIL MILLS, LIMITED, KATPADI—*cont.*

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 1949—cont.

Capital and Liabilities.	Details.		Total.		Property and Assets.	Details.		Total.	
Dr.								*Cr.*	
	RS.	A. P.	RS.	A. P.		RS.	A. P.	RS.	A. P.
Notes—					Tarpaulins at cost—				
1. Preference shares are redeemable after 31st December 1960 after three months' notice by the company.					As per last balance sheet	3,187	13 0		
					Less depreciation written off to date.	411	13 0		
								2,776	0 0
2. Dividend due on preference shares up to 31st March 1949, Rs. 42,887-3-0.					Library at cost—				
					As per last balance sheet	108	11 0		
					Additions during the year	2	10 6		
						111	5 6		
					Less written off during the year ..	17	5 6		
								94	0 0
					Sundry stores and spares at cost as certified by the management.	..		95,481	7 0
					Book debts, unsecured, considered good.	..		9,538	10 10
					Advances for supply of machinery ..	1,28,091	1 9		
					To contractors	54,146	12 8		
					To staff	380	0 0		
								1,82,617	14 5
					Advance payment of income-tax ..	..		5,835	13 0
					Prepaid expenses	..		1,774	0 8
					Sundry deposits	..		1,551	10 0
					Cash and other balances—				
					Cash at banks in current account ..	70,957	11 6		
					Cash and stamps on hand	2,338	2 3		
								73,295	13 9
					Profit and Loss Account—				
					As per last balance sheet	73,285	5 3		
					Add net loss for the year as per Profit and Loss Account.	73,532	0 6		
								1,46,817	5 9
			23,17,596	12 5				23,17,596	12 5

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE SUDARSAN OIL MILLS, LIMITED, KATPADI.

We have examined the Balance Sheet as at and the Profit and Loss Account for the year ending 31st March 1949 as above set forth, with the books of the company and have obtained all the information and explanations we have required and we beg to report that the above Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account are, in our opinion, drawn up in conformity with the law, that the above Balance Sheet exhibits a true and correct view of the company's affairs according to the best of our information and explanations given to us and as shown by the books of the company and that, in our opinion, books of account have been kept by the company as required by section 130 of Indian Companies Act, 1913.

BRAHMAYYA & CO.,
Incorporated Accountants,
Registered Accountants,
Auditors.

for THE SUDARSAN OIL MILLS, LTD.
for RAGU & CO.
(Sd.) T. N. RAGUNATHA REDDY,
Partner, Managing Agents.

(Sd.) B. VENKATARAMA REDDY,
Chairman.
(,,) M. B. RANGASWAMY REDDY,
(,,) V. DATTATREYAN (*Govt. Director*),
(,,) E. V. NARASA REDDY,
(,,) T. N. VENKATASUBBA REDDY,
(,,) T. N. RAGHUNATHA REDDY
(*Ex-officio*),
Directors.

Madras, 18th June 1949.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 208 asked by Sri A. Kuppuswami (on behalf of Sri M. Kanniappan) at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 25th November 1949, page 1051 supra.]

[*Statement showing the names of the Members of the Legislature who have purchased new cars on permits issued since 1st January 1946.*]

Serial number and name.	Make of car purchased.
1 Sri C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliar, M.L.C.	Ford.
2 Srimathi V. Lakshmi Ammal, M.L.A.	Do.
3 Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin, M.L.A.	Ford Mercury.
4 Sri K. M. Desikar, M.L.C.	Do.
5 Janab K. Muhammad Hussain, M.L.A.	Ford.
6 Sri A. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, M.L.A.	Chevrolet.
7 Janab V. S. Mohamed Ibrahim, M.L.A.	Ford Mercury.
8 Janab Abdul Latif Farooki, M.L.C.	Packard Clipper.
9 Janab U. Hameed Sultan Maricair, M.L.C.	Austin.
10 Sri Guntur Narasimha Rao, M.L.A.	Do.
11 Sri T. S. Pattabhiraman, M.L.A.	Do.
12 Hon. Sri H. Sitarama Reddi, M.L.A.	Ford.
13 Sri M. K. Jinachandran, M.L.A. (Central)	Do.
14 Srimathi A. Sumangalamma, M.L.A.	Do.
15 Janab Mohamed Rafeeuddin Ahmed Husain, M.L.A.	Austin.
16 Sri T. J. M. Wilson, M.L.A.	Do.
17 Srimathi V. Seethamahalakshmi Amma, M.L.A.	Hillman Minx.
18 Janab Hajee K. M. Ahmed Kutty, M.L.A.	Austin.
19 Sri D. Durairaj Pandian, M.L.A.	Ford.
20 Sri W. S. Srinivasa Rao, M.L.A.	Do.
21 Sri S. B. Adityan, M.L.A. (Central)	Do.
22 Janab Mohamed Raza Khan, M.L.A.	Austin.
23 Sri S. C. Balakrishnan, M.L.A.	Morris.
24 Sri P. R. Kandaswami Gounder, M.L.A.	Vauxhall
25 Sri Pydah Venkatanarayana, M.L.A.	Ford.
26 Sri T. A. Ramalingham Chettiar, M.L.A. (Central)	Plymouth.
27 Hon. Sri J. L. P. Roche Victoria, M.L.C.	Morris.
28. Dr. V. K. John, M.L.C.	Dodge.
29 Sri M. A. Easwaran, M.L.A.	Austin.
30 Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman, M.L.A.	Buick.
31 Srimathi Bhupathiraja Bangarayya, M.L.A.	Ford.
32 Janab K. M. Rahimatullah, M.L.A. (Central)	Do.
33 Sri N. Sivaraj, M.L.A. (Central)	Chevrolet.
34 Hon. Sri A. B. Shetty, M.L.A.	Ford.
35 Sri P. Natesan, M.L.A.	Do.
36 Sri Alluri Satyanarayana Raju, M.L.A.	Chevrolet.
37 Sri M. Bapineedu, M.L.A.	Ford.
38 Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi, M.L.A.	Do.
39 Sri V. C. Vellingiri Gounder, M.L.A. (Central)	Austin.
40 Sri R. Raghava Menon, M.L.A.	Do.
41 Sri K. Koti Reddy, M.L.A.	Nash.
42 Sri K. Subramanyam, M.L.A.	Studebaker.
43 Sri Maddi Sudarsanam, M.L.C.	Chevrolet.
44 Sri A. Kameswara Rao, M.L.A.	Do.
45 Sri M. Venkataraju, M.L.A.	Pontiac.
46 Hon. Sri K. Chandramouli, M.L.A.	Chevrolet.
47 Sri B. Venkatachalam Pillai, M.L.A.	Austin.
48 Sri P. Ratnavelu Tevar, M.L.A.	Ford.
49 Srimathi C. Ammanna Raja, M.L.A.	Austin.
50 Sri R. V. Swaminathan, M.L.A.	Do.
51 Sri L. S. Karayalar, M.L.A.	Ford.
52 Sri K. Lingaraju, M.L.A.	Austin.
53 Hon. Sri B. Parameswaran, M.L.A.	Chevrolet.
54 Sri V. M. Ramaswamy Mudaliar, M.L.A.	Plymouth.

Serial number and name.	Make of car purchased.
55 Hon. Sri C. Perumalswami Reddi, M.L.C.	Chevrolet.
56 Janab P. P. Hasan Koya, M.L.A.	Ford.
57 Sri R. Nathamuni Reddi, M.L.A.	Studebaker.
58 Sri T. Prakasam, M.L.A.	Chevrolet.
59 Sri K. R. Karanth, M.L.A.	Do.
60 Sri V. V. Giri, M.L.A.	Pontiac.
61 Sri K. K. Subbanna Gounder, M.L.A.	Chevrolet.
62 Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillai, M.L.A.	Austin.
63 Sri N. Ranga Reddy, M.L.C.	Chevrolet.
64 Sri K. Venkataswamy Nayudu, M.L.C.	Austin.
65 Sri V. C. Palaniswamy Gounder, M.L.A.	Dodge.
66 Sri K. T. Kunhikumaran Nambiar, M.L.A.	Oldsmobile.
67 Sri N. Narayanamurthi, M.L.A. (Central)	Ford.
68 Sri R. Ramakrishna Naidu, M.L.C.	Do.
69 Janab Haji Mohammed Ismail, M.L.A.	Chevrolet.
70 Janab Mohamed Raza Khan, M.L.A.	Morris.
71 Sri S. K. Sami Gounder, M.L.A.	Oldsmobile.
72 Sri A. Aron Rao, M.L.A.	Chevrolet.
73 Dr. P. Govindan Nayar, M.L.A.	Austin.
74 Sri N. Sankara Reddy, M.L.C.	Studebaker.
75 Sri M. Pallam Raju, M.L.A.	Plymouth.
76 Sri K. Bhashyam, M.L.A.	Ford Mercury.
77 Janab M. S. Ataullah, M.L.A.	Studebaker.
78 Sri P. Subbayya, M.L.A.	Pontiac.
79 Sri V. T. Kannappa Mudaliar, M.L.A.	Chevrolet.
80 Sri B. Ananthachar, M.L.A.	Do.
81 Sri A. Y. S. Parisutha Nadar, M.L.A.	Buick.
82 Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao, M.L.A.	Chevrolet.
83 Sri R. Venkata Reddy, M.L.A.	Do.
84 Hon. Sri N. Sanjiva Reddy, M.L.A.	Do.
85 Sri M. D. Thiagaraja Pillai, M.L.A.	Ford.
86 Srimathi G. Durga Bai, M.C.A.	Austin.
87 Sri V. C. Kesava Rao, M.C.A.	Chevrolet.
88 Prof. N. G. Ranga, M.C.A.	Do.
89 Sri Pydah Venkatanarayana, M.L.A.	Do.
90 Sri K. Ishwar, M.L.A.	Hillman Minx.
91 Dr. U. P. Mallayya, M.L.A.	Austin.
92 Sri M. Narayana Menon, M.L.C.	Do.
93 Sri S. Paramananda Rayar, M.L.A.	Hillman Minx.
94 Sri D. V. Ramaswamy, M.L.A.	Ford.
95 Janab Md. Ismail, M.L.A.	Studebaker.
96 Janab H. S. Hussain, M.L.A.	Hillman Minx.
97 Sri B. S. Murthi, M.L.A.	Morris.
98 Sri S. K. Sadagopa Mudaliar, M.L.C.	Ford Mercury.
99 Janab M. A. Md. Ibrahim, M.L.A.	Hillman Minx.
100 Sri N. V. Chalamaji, M.L.C.	Ford.
101 Srimathi Dakshayani Velayudam, M.L.C.	Ford Mercury.
102 Sri K. Bokkai Gowdar, M.L.A.	Plymouth.
103 Sri P. Thiagu Voikarar, M.L.A.	Do.
104 Janab Rafeeuddin Ahmed Ansari, M.L.A.	Do.
105 Sri D. Manjayya Hegde, M.L.C.	Oldsmobile.
106 Sri Adusumalli Gopalakrishnayya, M.L.C.	Chevrolet.
107 Sri T. S. Avinashilingham Chettiar, M.L.A.	Ford Mercury.
108 Sri Medai Dalavai Kumaraswami Mudaliar, M.L.C.	Chevrolet.
109 Sri N. S. Varadachari, M.L.A.	Austin.
110 Srimathi C. Ammanna Raja, M.L.A.	Do.
111 Sri S. Thiyagaraja Sholagar, M.L.A.	Chevrolet.
112 Sri P. R. Srinivasa Padayachi, M.L.A.	Do.
113 Sri A Krishnaswami Vandayar, M.L.A.	Do.
114 Sri T. Viswanatham, M.L.A.	Oldsmobile.

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 210 asked by Janab Mohamed Abdul Salam at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 25th November 1949, page 1052 supra.]

Press Note No. 200, *dated the* 3*rd November* 1949.

The Government have noticed certain Press reports to the effect that the Government have not taken expeditious action to relieve the present sugar scarcity. But, the Government wish to point out that the present scarcity is entirely due to short supply. The consumption requirements of this Province amount to about 10,000 tons per month while the total quantity allotted to this Province by the Government of India out of the stocks frozen by them amounts to only 14,700 tons for the entire period from September to end of December 1949, which roughly works out to only 40 per cent of our normal monthly requirements. Even this quantity has not been readily available in full for distribution as the bulk of this quantity, viz., 7,200 tons represents the North Indian sugar, of which only a negligible portion has arrived till now in spite of the best efforts made for the expeditious movement of these consignments. Pending arrival of the North Indian sugar, the Government have had to equitably distribute the available stocks in local factories among all the districts and special arrangements were made to make at least some sugar available to the public for the Deepavali festival to the extent that the stock position allowed.

As already explained in the Press Note No. 166, dated 11th September 1949, the Government have arranged for the distribution of sugar through licensed wholesalers and selected retail dealers. The Government have received complaints that, in Madras City, the number of selected retailers is very small and that no rational basis is adopted for fixing the quota allowed to each cardholder. Instructions have therefore been issued to the effect that all the rice ration shops in the city should be selected as retail shops for sugar distribution, that sugar should be distributed only on production of the rice ration cards, and that a cardholder should purchase sugar only from the rice ration shop to which he is attached. As the public are already aware, each cardholder is being supplied with half a viss of sugar during the week commencing from 30th October 1949. The distribution will be made on the same basis for the week commencing from 6th November 1949 also. However, with effect from the week commencing from 13th November 1949, the distribution in the city will be made after taking into account both the size of the family and the income of the head of the family. A basic ration calculated at the rate of 8 palams per month per head (children being treated on the same footing as adults) will be issued to all cardholders. In addition, a supplementary ration calculated at the rate of

12 palams per head per month will be issued to all families,—the income of the head of which is more than Rs. 100 per month. Such income will be ascertained by obtaining declarations from the cardholders. On a date fixed for the purpose, the cardholder or his agent should call at his rice ration shop, obtain a form of declaration, fill it up and hand it over along with the rice ration card to the officer deputed for the purpose. The rice ration card will be returned to the cardholder subsequently after noting the supplementary ration therein. Due publicity will be given to the details of the procedure to be adopted by the City Rationing Officer in this matter and the dates on which the declarations will be obtained in the ration shops of each circle in the city. The public are requested to co-operate with the authorities concerned, so that the work of collecting the declaration forms and rice ration cards and the returns of the cards with supplementary ration entered therein may be finished in time for the new scheme of distribution to commence functioning from 13th November 1949.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide item V at page 1088 supra.]

L.C. BILL No. 2 OF 1947.

(As passed by the Council.)

A Bill to abolish animal and bird sacrifices in connexion with Hindu temples.

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the prohibition of animal and bird sacrifices taking place in connexion with certain Hindu temples; It is hereby enacted as follows:— Preamble.

1. This Act may be called the Madras Animal and Bird Sacrifices Abolition Act, 1949. Short title.

2. It extends to the whole of the Province of Madras. Extent.

3. It shall come into force on such date as the Provincial Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint in this behalf. Commencement.

4. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context, Definitions.

(i) "precincts" in relation to a temple includes all lands and buildings near a temple, whether belonging to the temple or not, ordinarily being used for purposes connected with the worship of the temple, and in particular shall include the mandapams, prakarams, frontyards and backyards of the temple by whatever name called, and also the ground on which the temple car ordinarily stands;

(ii) "sacrifice" means the killing or maiming of any animal or bird for the purpose of, or with the intention of, propitiating or pleasing any deity;

(iii) "temple" means a temple as defined by section 9 of the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act, 1926. Madras Act II of 1927.

Sacrifice inside temple or its precincts prohibited.

5. No person shall sacrifice any animal or bird inside any temple or its precincts.

Service in any sacrifice prohibited.

6. No person shall officiate, perform or otherwise serve in any sacrifice in any temple or its precincts, or shall offer to officiate or serve in any such sacrifice.

Land or building in temple precincts not to be allowed for sacrifice.

7. No person being in possession of any land or building forming part of the precincts of a temple shall willingly allow any sacrifice to be performed on such land or in such building.

Penalties.

8. (*a*) Any person found guilty of an offence under section 5 shall be punished with fine which may extend to rupees three hundred.

(*b*) Any person found guilty of an offence under section 6 shall be punished with simple imprisonment which may extend to three months or with fine which may extend to three hundred rupees or with both, provided that if the offence was committed while the person was a servant in the temple or the holder of a service in the temple for which he receives emoluments or perquisites, he shall be punished with simple imprisonment which may extend to three months and with fine which may extend to three hundred rupees.

(*c*) Any person found guilty of an offence under section 7 shall be punished with simple imprisonment which may extend to three months or fine which may extend to three hundred rupees or both.

Trial of offences.

9. Any offence under this Act may be tried by a Presidency Magistrate or by a Magistrate of the first or second class.

M. SURYA RAO,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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