



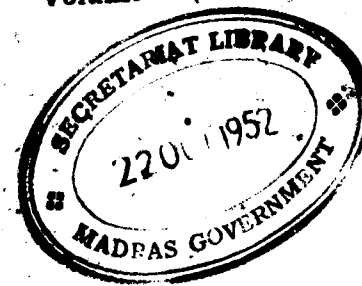
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INDEX TO MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

FIRST SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

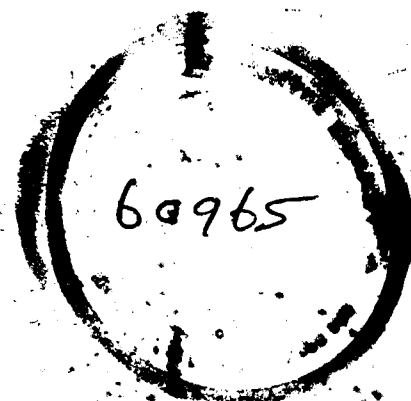
11TH, 13TH, 16TH AND 27TH FEBRUARY, 1ST TO
4TH, 10TH, 11TH, 13TH AND 14TH MARCH
1950

Volume I (Nos. 1-12)



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MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

FIRST SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA.

Volume I (Nos. 1 to 12).

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PERSONNEL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

HIS EXCELLENCY COMMODORE MAHARAJA RAOL SRI SIR
KRISHNA KUMARSINHI BHAVSINHI, K.C.S.I.,
MAHARAJA OF BHAVNAGAR.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

- 1 THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA, *Chief Minister.*
- 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. PERUMALSAMI REDDI, *Industries Minister.*
- 12 THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA, *Food Minister.*

MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS.

Speaker.

THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGHAM PILLAI.

Deputy Speaker.

SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA.

Panel of Chairmen.

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN.

JANAB M. S. ATAULLAH.

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIAR.

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI.

Secretary to the Assembly.

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

Assistant Secretary to the Assembly.

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

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

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
1 Aaron Rao, Alladi	Guntur <i>cum</i> Nellore, Indian Christian.
2 Abdul Hameed Khan	Kurnool, Muhammadan, Rural.
3 Abdul Khader Jamali, Hajee Moulvi.	Ramnad, Muhammadan, Rural.
4 Abdul Majid, M. S., B.A. ..	Chingleput <i>cum</i> South Arcot, Muhammadan, Rural.
5 Abdul Rahman	Tirunelveli, Muhammadan, Rural.
6 Ahmad Kutty, Haji Koyappa-thody 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 Appa Rao, M. R. (Kumar Zamindar of Vuyyur).	Northern Landholders I.
13 Arunachalam, T. S.	Tiruchirappalli <i>cum</i> Srirangam Towns, General, Urban.
14 Ataullah, M. S.	Salem <i>cum</i> Coimbatore <i>cum</i> the Nilgiris, Muhammadan, Rural.
15 Avinashilingam Chettiyar, T. S.	Palladam, General, Rural.
16 Balakrishnan, S. C.	Palni, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
17 Bapineedu, M., B.Sc. (Cornell), M.Sc. (California).	Eluru, General, Rural.
18 Batchelor, B. W.	European Commerce, The Madras Chamber of Commerce and the Madras Trades Association.
19 Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin, B.A. (Hons.).	Madras City, Women, Muhammadan, Urban.
20 Bhaktavatsalam, The Hon. Sri M. (Minister).	Tiruvallur, General, Rural.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIRST SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY UNDER
THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA, 1950.

Saturday, the 11th February 1950.

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

SWEARING-IN OF MEMBERS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The only business on the agenda to-day is the taking of the oath required by Article 188 of the Constitution. Hon. Members are already aware that I have been appointed by His Excellency as the person before whom hon. Members are to make the prescribed oath.

"I propose to ask the Secretary to call first upon the Deputy Speaker, then the Hon. Chief Minister, then the other Ministers, then the Leader of the Official Opposition, then the Leaders of parties, the Ex-Ministers the Government Whip and other hon. Members.

"I may remind hon. Members that His Excellency will address both the Houses to-day at 4-30 p.m. in this Hall. The debate on that address will commence on Monday, the 13th February 1950.

"The relevant rules have been circulated to Members already. But this being the first occasion when we are having a debate on this Address, I should like to say a few words on the procedure proposed to be adopted.

"The discussion usually falls into two parts according to parliamentary practice, viz., first a review of the Government policy specially in relation to contents of the speech and second, debate on amendments usually moved by the Leaders of the Opposition. To shorten the length of the debate, I propose to adopt the usual procedure in this House in regard to motions, viz., that the resolution of thanks and the amendments may be moved together and the discussion can proceed on both the resolution and the amendments thereto. I would request the members to give notice of the amendments to the resolution, if any, by 10-30 a.m. on the 13th February 1950.

"Now hon. Members will take the oath. After taking the oath they will shake hands with the Speaker, sign the register and resume their seats."

The following hon. Members took the oath of allegiance* :—

Serial number and name of member.	Serial number and name of member.
1 Srimathi C. Ammannā Raja (Deputy Speaker).	3 The Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam.
2 The Hon. Sri P. S. Kumaraswami Raja (Chief Minister).	4 The Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi.

* Please see Appendix I for other particulars.

SWEARING-IN OF MEMBERS

[11th February 1950]

Serial number and name of member.	Serial number and name of member.
5 The Hon. Sri H. Sitarama Reddi.	44 Sri Govindan Nair, P.
6 The Hon. Sri A. B. Shetty.	45 Sri Govindaraju Nayagar, S. K.
7 The Hon. Sri K. Chandra-mouli.	46 Sri Govindaswami Nayudu, N.
8 The Hon. Sri B. Parameswaran.	47 Sri Guruvulu, Saketi.
9 Janab M. Muhammad Ismail (Leader of the Opposition).	48 Janab Hassan Koya, Puthiya Pommami.
10 Raja Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad.	49 Janab Hussain, H. S.
11 Janab Abdul Hameed Khan.	50 Mr. Hydross, M. V.
12 Mr. B. W. Batchelor.	51 Janab Ibrahim, Sinna Kaziar Haji Moulvi, S. A. F.
13 Sri T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiyar.	52 Sri Ishwara, K.
14 Sri V. Kurmayya.	53 Janab Jaffer Mohideen.
15 Sri B. Venkataratnam.	54 Mrs. Jebamoney Masila-money.
16 Srimathi R. Lakshmipathi.	55 Sri Jogi Nayudu, Allu.
17 Sri M. Bapineedu.	56 Janab Kader Kutty, A. K.
18 Sri Aaron Rao, Alladi.	57 Sri Kadirappa, D.
19 Janab Abdul Khader Jamal Hajee Moulvi.	58 Sri Kakkan, P.
20 Janab Abdul Majid, M. S.	59 Sri Kamakshi Chettiyar, K. P.
21 Janab Abdul Rahman.	60 Sri Kameswara Rao, Anna-pragada.
22 Janab Ahmad Kutty Haji, Koyappathody M.	61 Sri Kandaswami Gounder, P. R.
23 Srimathi Anjalai Ammal.	62 Sri Kandaswami Pillai, P.
24 Sri Annamalai Pillai, N.	63 Sri Koti Reddi, K.
25 Sri Arunachalam, T. S.	64 Sri Kothari, Chendulal Moti-lal.
26 Janab Ataullah, M. S.	65 Sri Krishnan, S.
27 Sri Balakrishnan, S. C.	66 Sri Krishnaswami Vaidyar, A.
28 Begum Sultan Mir Amirud-din.	67 Sri Kulasekara Doss, K.
29 Srimathi Bhupathiraju Bangarayya.	68 Sri Kumarakrishna Yachendra Bahadur Varu of Venkatagiri, Sri Sarva-gna.
30 Sri Brahmanandam Reddi, K.	69 Sri Kumaran, M.
31 Sri Chandu, A.	70 Sri Kumaraswami, Gare-mella.
32 Sri Chengam Pillai, O.	71 Sri Kunhi Kammaran Nam-biar, K. T.
33 Sri Chidambara Ayyar, S.	72 Sri Kuppuswami Nayudu, A.
34 Mr. Cormack, H. I.	73 Sri Kuppuswami, B.
35 Sri Damodaran, M. P.	74 Srimathi Kuttimalu Amma, A. V.
36 Sri Easwaran, M. A.	75 Sri Lakshmanaswamy, Pandu.
37 Janab Ebrahim Coonhee, M.	
38 Mr. Fernandez, W. J.	
39 Mr. Fowler, H. O.	
40 Sri Gopalaswami, L. N.	
41 Sri Govinda Das, D.	
42 Sri Govinda Menon, M. P.	
43 Sri Govindan Nayar, C. K.	

SWEARING-IN OF MEMBERS

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Serial number and name of member.	Serial number and name of member.
76 Srimathi Lakshmi Ammal, V.	116 Sri Ponnuswami Mudaliyar, A.
77 Sri Latchanna, Gouthu.	117 Sri Raghavan, K.
78 Sri Leonard, D. G.	118 Sri Raghava Menon, R.
79 Sri Linga Raju, K.	119 Sri Raja Gurunathan.
80 Janab Mahboob Ali Baig.	120 Sri Rajamannar Chetti, G.
81 Janab Mahin Schamnad.	121 Sri Rajaram Naidu, K.
82 Sri Manickam, R. S.	122 Dr. Ramachandra Rao, D. S.
83 Sri Marimuthu, M.	123 Sri Ramanujalu Reddiyar, P. R.
84 Janab Mohamed Rafeudin Ahmad Ansari.	124 Sri Ramaswami Mudaliyar, V. M.
85 Janab Moideen Kutty, P. K.	125 Sri Ramiah, N. P.
86 Mr. Moses Wilson, John.	126 Sri Rangaswami Reddi, N.
87 Janab Mohamed Abdul Salam.	127 Sri Ramaswami, D. V.
88 Janab Mohammad Ismail Haji.	128 Sri Rayappa, A.
89 Janab Muhammad Anwar, N.	129 Sri Sami Gounder, S. K.
90 Janab Muhammad Ibrahim, M. A.	130 Dr. Samuel, M. J.
91 Janab Muhammad Raza Khan.	131 Sri Sangam Naidu, Pala-valasa.
92 Sri Murthi, B. S.	132 Sri Sankarasubrahmanya Mudaliyar, V. S.
93 Sri Nachiappa Gounder, K. A.	133 Sri Sanyasi Rao, Geddam.
94 Sri Nadhamuni Reddi, R.	134 Sri Satyanarayana Raju, Alluri.
95 Sri Nagappa, S.	135 Sri Satyanarayana Raju, Bhupatiraju.
96 Sri Nagaraja Ayyangar, N.	136 Sri Seetharamaswami, Gona.
97 Sri Nageswara Rao, Meduri.	137 Janab Seethi, K. M.
98 Sri Nagayya, S.	138 Janab Shah Alam Khan Savoi.
99 Sri Narasimharaju, P. L.	139 Sri Shanmugam, K.
100 Sri Narasimha Rao, Guntur.	140 Sri Shanmugasundaram, V.
101 Sri Narayana Reddi, K. B.	141 Srimathi Sitamahalaksh-mamma, Vallabhaneni.
102 Sri Natesan Chettiyar, M. G.	142 Sri Srinivasa Rao, W. S.
103 Sri Natesan, P.	143 Sri Subbanna Gounder, K. K.
104 Sri Natesan, R.	144 Sri Subbaraman, N. M. R.
105 Sri Pais, L. C.	145 Sri Subbarao, Kallur.
106 Sri Palaniswami Gounder, V. C.	146 Sri Subbiah, P.
107 Sri Pallam Raju, M.	147 Sri Subba Iyer, R.
108 Sri Paramananda Rayar, S.	148 Dr. Subrahmanya Ayyar, S.
109 Sri Parisutha Nadar, A. Y. S.	149 Sri Subrahmanyam, A.
110 Sri Pattabhiraman, T. S.	150 Sri Subrahmanyam, K.
111 Sri Paliya Kudumbar, S. K.	151 Sri Surayya, Kollipara.
112 Sri Periyaswami, M. P.	
113 Sri Perumal Nayudu, B.	
114 Mr. Pocker, B.	
115 Sri Ponnambala Gounder.	

SWEARING-IN OF MEMBERS

[11th February 1950]

Serial number and name of member.	Serial number and name of member.
152 Sri Apparao, M. R. (Kumar Zamindar of Vuyyur).	166 Sri Venkanna, Gottumuk-kala.
153 Sri Thangavelu, R.	167 Sri Venkatachalam Pillai, B.
154 Sri Thangaswami Nadar, P. A.	168 Sri Venkatanarayana Pydah.
155 Sri Thiagoo Voikkarar.	169 Sri Venkatnarayana Reddi, B.
156 Sri Thyagaraja Pillai, M. D.	170 Sri Venkata Reddi, Gopavararam.
157 Sri Thyagaraja Sholagar, G.	171 Sri Venkatarreddi, Reddi-vari.
158 Sri Vaidyanada Ayyar, A.	172 Sri Venkatarama Ayyar, Ammapet P.
159 Sri Varadachari, K.	173 Sri Venkataraju, M. Subbayya.
160 Sri Varadachari, N. S.	174 Sri Venkata Nivarthi.
161 Sri Vedaratnam Pillai, A.	175 Sri Venkataasubbiiah, Pende-kante.
162 Sri Veeranna Padal, Kanki-patti.	176 Sri Viswanatham, T.
163 Sri Veeraraghaviah, Nukala.	
164 Sri Velayudapani, P. M.	
165 Sri Veluchamy Goundar, P. S.	

MR. SPEAKER :—“ Is there any other hon. Member who is here and who was not taken the oath of allegiance?
(No other hon. Member came forward.)

“ I now wish to remind the House that at 4-30 p.m. both the Houses of Legislature will assemble to hear His Excellency the Governor's address. I now adjourn the House till 4-30 p.m. this afternoon.”

The House then adjourned.

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APPENDIX I.

The Hon. Speaker took his oath of allegiance before His Excellency the Governor on 26th January 1950.

The following Members took their oath before the Hon. Speaker on 4th February 1950 :—

- 1 Sri K. Bhashyam.
- 2 „ V. I. Muniswami Pillay.
- 3 „ M. Doraikannu.
- 4 „ K. R. Karanth.
- 5 „ A. Devanayagiah.
- 6 Srimathi K. Lakshmi Ammal.
- 7 Sri R. V. Swaminathan.
- 8 „ K. T. Kosakram.
- 9 „ T. K. T. N. R. Tatachari.
- 10 „ Rokkam Ramamoorthy.
- 11 The Hon. Sri N. Sanjeeva Reddi.
- 12 Sri B. Anantachar.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, the 13th February 1950.

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

I.—SWEARING-IN OF MEMBERS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Hon. Members who have not taken their oath already can take their oath now."

The following Members were sworn in:—

- (1) Sri L. S. Karayalar.
- (2) „ S. Nagaraja Manigar.
- (3) Janab V.S. Muhammad Ibrahim.
- (4) Sri V. Ponnuswami Gounder.

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

II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION RE SHOOTING OF COMMUNIST CONVICTS IN THE SALEM CENTRAL JAIL.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member, Mr. Salam, has given notice of an adjournment motion to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance. The motion reads as follows:—

"I move that the business of the House do stand adjourned to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the serious situation that has arisen due to the Government warders of the Central Jail, Salem, opening fire on prisoners, killing twenty and injuring hundred persons, and to discuss the failure of the Government in not saving the lives of the prisoners."

"In this connexion, I must tell the House that to-day and probably on the 16th we are going to discuss His Excellency's speech and hon. Members have an opportunity of speaking about this to-day and probably on the 16th. So, I am going to rule the adjournment motion out of order as offending the rule of 'anticipation.' So, I rule the motion out of order."

III.—PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

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 first session of the Assembly as from the commencement of the Constitution of India:—

- (1) Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin.
- (2) Janab M. S. Ataullah.
- (3) Sri V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliar.
- (4) „ G. Kumaraswami."

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IV.—DISCUSSION ON H.E. THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS.

Address by His Excellency the Governor under clause (1) of Article 176 of the Constitution of India.

Hon'ble Members of the Legislature,

I thank you all most sincerely for your courtesy in attending this joint session. I have often had the privilege of watching your proceedings before, but this is the first occasion I address the two Houses. A new era has just started in the life of our Nation and my presence here is only an indication of this new order of things. We have many difficulties ahead of us in this country. We must not under-rate these difficulties, but let us at the same time prepare to overcome them with a willing and ready spirit and sustained by confidence in our rulers at the helm of affairs whose leadership is one of which any nation may be proud.

Our Constitution has set forth great ideals before us and it is our duty to see that they are fulfilled. The destinies of more than fifty million of our fellow human beings have been placed in our hands, and it is our responsibility to see that these ideals are translated into action for the service and welfare of these millions. The dazzling illuminations with which we lighted our public buildings on Republic Day can have no meaning unless we bring a portion of that light to the humblest and the meanest homes in our land and dispel the darkness of want and poverty, disease and ignorance.

Among our first responsibilities is that of bringing home to the millions of voters in this State their new duties. The elections under the new Constitution will have to be held in the near future. The new electoral rolls on the basis of adult suffrage are under print and after the new Electoral Law is enacted by Parliament, these rolls will be published as preliminary rolls, and finalized after disposal of claims and objections. My Government expect to be fully ready for holding the first general elections well in time. Seasonal conditions have been peculiarly bad, as in September 1949 the Ceded districts as well as Krishna and Guntur were affected by floods, while the entire Circars districts suffered heavily from cyclone and heavy rains in October. Remission of land revenue and special expenditure for the relief of sufferers were sanctioned by Government promptly. In the south, the north-east and southern districts and here also remission of land revenue will have to be granted. Regarding improving the lot of the agriculturists, my Government have taken action to intensify the minor irrigation works programme and a tank improvement scheme estimated to cost over Rs. 10 crores spread over a period of five years was sanctioned in August last. Schemes for the grant of subsidies to the ryots for sinking of wells have been in force since 1944 and Government have decided to extend the scheme to 1950-1951 also.

Owing to the damages caused by floods, etc., mentioned under the previous item, the food position in the State has assumed a very

grave aspect. The estimated deficit is about 9.9 lakhs tons of rice and 2.9 lakhs of tons of millets. Our deficits are usually made up by internal procurement and from supplies made by the Government of India. The internal procurement this year is bound to suffer very materially on account of the loss of crops due to adverse seasonal conditions already referred to. The Government of India have decided to drastically curtail food imports and this will have its effect as regards supplies by the Government of India. My Government are actively considering the steps to be taken to improve the situation so that the hardship to the people is minimized. In this connexion they have undertaken a food production drive and all food production schemes will continue to receive the topmost priority. The Government have adopted a two-year plan for intensive cultivation and the scheme includes, production and distribution of seeds, distribution of manure to the ryots and schemes for mechanised cultivation by the use of modern agricultural machinery, such as tractors. The Government have also under active consideration the development of fisheries, both inland and marine, so that the food situation may, to some extent, be eased.

The question of Land Revenue reform has been under the consideration of my Government for some time past. It was thought desirable to await the publication of the report of the Agrarian Reforms Committee appointed by the All-India Congress. The Government propose to constitute a committee of officials and non-officials to examine the present land revenue system and to formulate proposals for its improvement, if it is considered defective. The Committee will examine also the question of framing a Land Revenue Code for the State and such examination will also take into account the recommendations made by the Agrarian Reforms Committee. The Estates Abolition programme of the Government started in September last, when one batch of Estates consisting of six major Estates and 36 minor Estates were taken over. Government hope to take over the remaining estates before long. The rent reduction work in the whole State has made rapid progress and is expected to be completed by the end of March 1950.

It is a matter for legitimate pride that this State has in anticipation of Article 50 of the New Constitution been able to make a good start for the introduction of a scheme for the Separation of the Judiciary from the Executive. This Scheme has already been introduced in six districts and will be extended to the remaining districts without any avoidable delay. The reform has been welcomed with enthusiasm and there is every reason to hope that it will prove beneficial.

The policy of my Government is to take all possible steps to protect the health of the people, prevent the occurrence of epidemics and provide for adequate medical relief. The rapid implementation of this policy involves large expenditure and, what is even more important, the employment of large numbers of medical men who are not available. Very high priority will therefore be given to the expansion of facilities for medical education and training with a view to increase the output of medical

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graduates. Water-supply and sanitation being fundamental requirements in the campaign of prevention, a five-year plan of new water-supply and drainage schemes and improvements to existing systems will be vigorously pursued as a first instalment of a plan for the provision of protected water-supply within 20 years. With the co-operation of local bodies, public institutions and individual members of the public, it is hoped gradually to build up a scheme of public health and medical relief which will cover every part of the State and provide facilities and amenities to every citizen. In this attempt, all systems of medical relief, including our indigenous systems will be encouraged so that medical relief of some kind or other will be available in the rural areas. In particular, primary health centres under the modern system will be opened in the rural areas to the maximum extent possible and village Vydias will be trained to afford safe medical relief under the indigenous system.

In the field of Elementary Education, my Government attach the greatest importance to Basic education and they will accordingly endeavour to provide for an increasing number of Basic Training Schools and Basic Elementary Schools. The Government have initiated a scheme of adult education as a first step in their campaign for the liquidation of adult illiteracy. In the field of Secondary education, the Government will continue to implement a scheme of reorganization which was introduced in 1948. My Government have wholeheartedly co-operated with the Government of India's scheme for the formation of a National Cadet Corps.

The Government's schemes in regard to the Electricity Department contemplate the supplementing of Hydro-electric schemes with Thermal schemes wherever necessary and the investigation of new Hydro-electric sources. Owing to the failure of the monsoon, new Hydro-electric sources have gone down and this has made water levels in the reservoirs have gone down and this has made necessary the introduction of certain restrictions; but agricultural loads are not affected and the Government always bear in mind that connexions for rural and agricultural purposes must have the highest priority. Shortage of materials is responsible for the outwardly slow development of Government's electrical schemes.

The Irrigation policy of the Government has assumed a new urgency because of the necessity to attain self-sufficiency in food by 1951. Every effort is therefore being made to accelerate the progress of the various sanctioned schemes such as the Tungabhadra, Lower Bhavani, Malampuzha and other projects. Several big and small schemes are now under investigation and it is the hope of the Government to have under execution an appreciable number of schemes in the near future.

Intensive rural reconstruction schemes which the Government initiated in 1946 provide a democratic basis for the development of rural areas. The scheme has yielded good results in the areas in which it has been tried and Government have decided to extend it to 50 more Firkas in the State next year. Government will

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continue their policy of giving all possible assistance for the development of Khadi in accordance with the scheme which has been in operation since December 1946.

Government have pursued vigorously their policy of amelioration of Harijan and other backward classes. For the efficient implementation of this policy a Harijan Welfare department was created on the 1st of April last and substantial progress has been achieved.

The Police Force continues to help to maintain law and order in an efficient manner despite the very heavy strain thrown on it as a result of the subversive activities of certain political organizations. My Government will appeal to all who have the interests of the nation at heart to co-operate with them in the task of maintaining law and order and combating subversive activities.

The following is the programme of legislation drawn up by my Government:—

(a) *The Madras Village Panchayats Bill*.—This Bill is of far-reaching importance and will enable the panchayats to undertake nation-building activities on a large scale. The Bill has been passed by the Assembly and will come before the Council during this session. The Bill implements Article 40 of the Constitution, under which the State shall take steps to organize village panchayats and endow them with such power and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of Self-Government.

(b) In order to regulate the letting of all residential and non-residential buildings and to control the rents of such buildings, etc., my Government have enacted the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act, 1949. In working the provisions of the above Act, certain practical difficulties have been experienced and it has been decided to amend the Act in certain respects. An Amendment Bill for the purpose is expected to be introduced in the current session of the Legislature.

(c) In pursuance of their policy of ensuring the proper administration of religious institutions and endowments the Government introduced the Madras Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Bill, 1949, in February of last year. This Bill will be placed before the Legislature during the current session for its consideration.

(d) The Legislature is likely to be asked to consider during this session a Bill for amending the Madras Co-operative Land Mortgage Banks Act, 1934, so that Land Mortgage banks could be organized in the districts of Malabar and South Kanara as in other districts of the State.

(e) There are other pieces of legislation under contemplation and they will be introduced in due course.

All these activities of my Government and all the items of legislation will duly come under the survey of your Houses. I know the great traditions of this Legislature, and I am confident in the

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trust that you will examine and decide them with the same high sense of duty and responsibility as in the past. I pray that you may be guided with faith, courage and wisdom in your counsels.

I thank you once again for your courtesy and your patience.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have to acquaint the House that on the 11th His Excellency the Governor was pleased to make the above speech to both the Houses of the Legislature of which I had, for greater accuracy, obtained a copy and placed it on the table of the House on the 11th itself.

"Before the House begins to debate on the speech, I wish to inform the House that it has another opportunity of discussing the Government's policy, that is, when the Hon. Finance Minister introduces the Budget when it will have four days for general discussion. Since there is going to be another opportunity of discussing the policy of the Government, hon. Members need not take much of their time on it now. (Interruption by an hon. Member: 'That will be duplication.') The Budget programme was drawn up long before the Constitution came into force.

"Then, regarding discussion of His Excellency's speech, His Excellency has made mention in his speech of certain Bills. For instance, the Madras Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Bill. It is the practice in the House of Commons that while discussing these, hon. Members should not anticipate, with reference to what I have already stated, viz., rule of anticipation, that is, they should not discuss as if they are discussing on the second reading stage of those Bills. I will explain it further by quoting from Erskine May:

'Ministers, before the Debate on the Address, give notice of the more important Bills which they intend to introduce. In this case, notice is given for the purpose of ensuring that the Debate on such Bills shall not be anticipated through their subject-matter being canvassed in the course of the Debate on the Address.'

In this connexion, I want to tell the House that certain Bills were published but not introduced, though notice was given. In discussing these Bills, therefore, hon. Members need not discuss them as if they are on the second reading stage. For instance, the Madras Civil and Village Courts (Amendment) Bill, 1939; the Madras City Municipal, District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1949; the Madras Co-operative Land Mortgage Banks (Amendment) Bill, 1950 and the Madras Jute Control of Prices and Sales Bill, 1950. These Bills were published but not introduced and so in discussing these hon. Members should not discuss them as they would on the second reading. In the House of Commons, the practice is the Government motion is discussed on the first day and the amendments on subsequent days. But, I had a conference with the Leader of the House, as well as the official Leader of the Opposition and the other leaders of the groups and we came to the conclusion that the Government motion should be moved to-day and a few members should speak on it. Then the Opposition amendments should be moved. In England they follow the practice, that those who take part in the

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discussion on the first day will not take part on the subsequent days, though strictly speaking there is nothing to prevent a member who speaks on the main motion from speaking the next day also on the amendments. In this House, I would however like to adopt the convention of the House of Commons, that is, those who speak on the Government motion may not speak on the amendments.

"Now, I call upon the Government Whip, Sri M. Bapineedu, to motive the motion standing in his name."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"On a point of information Sir, I think it is better for the Government Whip to give notice of the motion. I want to know also whether we Members cannot speak on the sins of commission and omission of the Government with reference to those Bills."

MR. SPEAKER:—"What I said was, hon. Members need not speak as if we were in the second reading of Bills."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"On a point of order, Sir, it is a matter of constitutional importance. It is the practice in the House of Commons that back-benchers of the Government Party move the resolution and back-benchers of the Opposition move amendments. But, here I find that the hon. Sri Bapineedu who is not a back-bencher and the Leader of the Opposition who is not also a back-bencher are to move resolutions and amendments. I would like to know . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not the Hon. Ministers who are moving the motion, but the hon. Sri Bapineedu is moving it."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"On a point of order, or rather of information, with reference to your ruling, Sir. Is it the definite practice or the constitutional practice in the House of Commons of Great Britain that it is only the back-benchers on either side should move the resolution or the amendment to it, or as a matter of practice they are doing it?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"In the House of Commons as far as the resolutions of thanks to His Majesty are concerned, it is usually left to the back-benchers on the ministerial side to propose and second them. Thus an opportunity is given to the back-benchers to come to prominence. That is the practice there."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Is that the law, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is the convention. I now call on Sri Bapineedu to move the motion."

*SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to move that an address be presented to His Excellency the Governor of Madras in the following terms:—

'May it please Your Excellency,

We, the Members of the Madras Legislative Assembly beg leave to thank Your Excellency for the Address delivered to both the Houses of the Legislature.'

[Sri M. Bapineedu]

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"It is indeed a proud privilege and honour assigned to me for moving a motion of thanks to His Excellency the Governor of Madras for the inspiring address which he has been pleased to deliver to the members of Legislature outlining the policy and programme of our Government in the new set-up of this great country of ours.

"We are indeed privileged men and women—all of us here and the millions we have the honour to represent—that we should be alive in these historic times when a new era is opening in the history of India and therefore of Asia and the World. We are indeed fortunate that we are ourselves, in however small a measure, the architects of the Republic of Bharat, pioneers in working the new democracy which is destined to become a vital and living part of the rich heritage of future generations in this country. Ours is the pride and glory of being contemporaries and co-workers, however small and insignificant, of the makers of the new India, for did we not breathe the same air as our Father and Master, our unerring guide in the path of righteousness, the Apostle of Ahimsa, our non-violent commander in the struggle for freedom, our Yuga Purusha, Purna Purusha, who gave us a new life and a new purpose in life, the supreme architect of our freedom—Mahatma Gandhi. And do we not live in the same soil and share the joys and sorrows of such giants among men as our great Rajaji, our beloved Prime Minister Pandit Nehru, our Deputy Prime Minister Sardar Patel and our popular President Rajan Babu? The First Indian Governor-General and last to occupy that position piloted the new ship through troublous times, Rajaji had the unique privilege of proclaiming India a Republic and handing over the gadi to Rajan Babu. Panditji and Sardar Patel must indeed be feeling the absence of his wise counsels in the many intricate problems confronting the Central Government at every turn. But we are happy for we now have him with us again to help us forward and to guide us on the right path.

"Rajan Babu as President of the Constituent Assembly of India, piloted the Constitution Bill and as a fitting culmination to a great life he was chosen as the first President of our New Republic. Pandit Nehru with his international outlook and scholarship has focussed the attention of all the world on India and Asia and is the acknowledged leader of all Asia. The iron man of India, Sardar Patel, has unified and integrated India after centuries of division and disintegration. He has put an end to the anachronisms called Indian States by putting the people's leaders in power and this achievement will live in the history as one of the greatest and grandest."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir. On a point of order, are we discussing the activities of the Central Government or the Provincial Government?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let the hon. Member continue his speech."

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SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"Yes, Sir, this day is a proud day not for me only but for you, for this House, and for the people of Madras, for this day is symbolic of the great future in store for us, of the greater triumphs we will achieve in national regeneration treading the straight and narrow path marked out for us by Mahatmaji. And on this day and every day of our lives henceforward it shall be our duty to pay our homage to him who made us what we are, who shaped us into men and broke our shackles and set us free. It shall be our duty not only to pay homage to him, but to pledge ourselves anew to be faithful to his memory; to live our lives according to his tenets, not to betray him by word or deed.

"I shall be failing in my duty, Sir, if I do not mention here the noteworthy contribution made by sons and daughters of South India to the attainment of this new status. The first name that comes to every body's lips is of course that of our beloved Rajaji who has come back to our midst."

"The second great South Indian I can think of is our Rashtrapathi, Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya, whose part in the freedom struggle of States deserves particular mention. There was numerous others, the Commander-in-Chief of our armed forces, General Cariappa, our very able representative on the United Nations Security Council, Sri B. N. Rau, our Ambassador in Moscow, Philosopher Dr. Radhakrishnan and in Peking the political thinker and writer, Sardar Panikkar, and the Governor of the Reserve Bank, Sri B. Rama Rau not to speak of our illustrious representatives in the Central Cabinet and in the Parliament. There is a galaxy of them and we are thankful to them for raising our country's prestige high in the world. And let us remember at this hour of joy the thousands of our brethren and sisters who laid down their lives, so that we may live to see this honour.

"Just 18 days ago we celebrated the birth of the Republic witnessed and shared in the fulfilment of one of the Mahatma's most cherished dreams. On the 26th of last month we gave to ourselves a new constitution guaranteeing to all the people of India, now and hereafter, justice, social, economic and political, equality of status and opportunity, freedom of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship, association and action, subject to law and public morality. The constitution is opposed to communal polity and contemplates a secular State for India, where equality of citizenship, irrespective of religion, caste, creed, colour or sex is assured.

"No time can be more opportune or appropriate, than this, a turning point in our chequered history, to look back into the rough road we have traversed and take stock of our achievements and also to look forward with hope, strength and determination to the mighty tasks ahead of us of working our new constitution successfully and making this truly a land of plenty and prosperity. His Excellency the Governor has in his address drawn attention to these two aspects of our present position and his succinct review of what has been done in this state of ours thus far is sufficient

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answer to critics who might look askance at our plans for the future. The central theme on which our critics harp is generally that we have fallen away from Gandhian ideals, that we have forgotten the constructive programme. Others who glibly charge us with neglecting the common man—a convenient term for politicians with no purpose except self-emancipation. It shall be my humble endeavour to-day, Mr. Speaker, Sir, to prove that all these criticisms are baseless and pointless, that indeed we have stood always by the constructive programme and will stand by it, that only Gandhian ideals guide us in all our actions, that the masses have been benefited greatly by the measures we have brought about, and that, in short, we have done nothing that can make any reasonable man say that we have neglected the welfare and happiness of the common man.

“Mahatma Gandhi's message of constructive work is in essence the Gospel of Indian renaissance. It means the co-ordination of every form of activity conducive to the welfare of the people. It implies a wide general awakening to both economic and intellectual values in national life. It is in this spirit that the constructive programme must be implemented, and it is in this spirit that we are implementing it in a wide and comprehensive sense.

“The various measures we have passed on these lines are of benefit to the poor man, and the oft-repeated complaint that this is a “rich men's government” loses its significance when we just glance at the list of legislative measures we have adopted in this Legislature.

“Since the Congress Ministry assumed office in the Provinces (since called States under the new constitution), Madras has made notable achievements in the field of social legislation and social justice. Our State has been the pioneer in many of these measures and we have led other States and achieved what they have failed to achieve. It is a matter for pride that officials of other provinces are sent here to study the working of several of our schemes for making a beginning in their own areas. The outstanding achievements in this direction are the introduction of total prohibition and zamindari abolition and schemes relating to the development of firkas and rural reconstruction, appointment of poets-laurate, etc. We are not a wit behind other States, if not all far ahead of them, thanks to our sound financial position and high moral standards in the matter of education, public health, co-operation, land reform and improvement of the food position.

“The last mentioned is the foremost in importance, the food and agricultural position of the province. For over a century and a half, the province has been deficit in food supply, in spite of the fact that Madras is largely an agricultural province. The Madras Government inaugurated in 1947, a five-year food plan to fight the food shortage, and as a result have given to the remotest South Indian villager the electric motor, the pump-set, the oil engine set, and the bull-dozer. We have been able to deal with the position satisfactorily. As a result of our schemes—both short term and long term the Madras Government have succeeded in a large measure in coming to the aid of the agriculturists.

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Comprehensive state aid to agriculturists resulted in the reclamation of about 36,000 acres of waste lands. Schemes were also set afoot to encourage the sinking of new wells by the grant of subsidy and advances to agriculturists, both interest free, for the cultivation of fallow lands, and loans at concessional rates of interest for other lands. There are several other schemes which the Madras Government have instituted directly or indirectly connected with the production of more food for the people. Pandit Nehru has declared that there will be no food imports after 1951 and that India must at any cost attain self-sufficiency in food within these two years.

“I may here enumerate some of our agricultural schemes: (a) land development by mechanical cultivation, (b) supply of electric pump-sets to ryots, (c) hiring of electric pump-sets and oil-engines through the Central Agricultural Engineering Stores and Supply Centre, (d) tractor cultivation, (e) rural compost making, (f) subsidized distribution of chemical manures, (g) multiplication and distribution of improved paddy and millet seeds, (h) provision of green manure, and (i) distribution of iron and steel for agricultural purposes. All these have been before the House a good number of times.

“In the field of long term foundations for food production, we have made great strides. With the advent of the popular government began planned province-wide development of irrigation. It is significant that the Government have changed the irrigation policy for the benefit of the ryot. The emphasis has been shifted from the remunerative aspect to the production and relief aspect. There are about 35,000 tanks in the province and Government tanks irrigate over 3.5 million acres and bring in a revenue of a crore of rupees annually. Government have drawn up a 10 crore programme for tank improvement, and work on it has already commenced in some districts. And the Government have also drawn up a mid-term programme for the smaller rivers and a long term programme for the major rivers. The first consists of 33 major irrigation schemes costing about Rs. 30 crores, designed to bring under cultivation, a new extent of about 3.34 lakhs acres.

“The long-term programme consists of the Lower Bhavani project and projects on the Godavari, Krishna and Tungabhadra. When all projects reach completion, there is little doubt that our Province will be more than self-sufficient in food and free from want.

“One other important achievement of the Madras Government is the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive. On 2nd October 1949, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, the Government introduced the scheme of separation of the Judiciary from the Executive in two districts, and the scheme is being gradually extended to four other districts.

“This brings us to the maintenance of law and order. As His Excellency said, the police force is doing that very efficiently,

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but that will not be enough. The people must take it upon themselves to combat all subversive activities, so that our Republic may live and so that democracy may flourish in our country.

"Industrialisation is intimately connected with power supply, mineral resources, and availability of other raw materials. This Government have been always encouraging the starting of new industries and have supported the issue of capital to new enterprise through the Board of Industries. In oil technology, sericulture, food, fishing and fruit farming, the Madras Government have made great strides. After the establishment of the Industrial Finance Corporation of the Government of India, Madras was the first to establish a similar Corporation called the Madras Industrial Investment Corporation with an authorized capital of Rs. 2 crores for affording short-term and long-term credit to existing and new industries.

"The expansion of industry and the consequent employment of more labour in organized industries has brought various problems of industrial labour to the fore. In October 1948, the Provincial Labour Advisory Board was set-up at the suggestion of the Government of India to solve the difficulties that may arise in the industrial life of the Province. A number of disputes that arose between the workers and the Managements have settled by courts of enquiry, arbitrators, adjudicators and the Labour Commissioner.

"In the field of co-operation also we are ahead of other States in the matter of controlled credit, building societies, organization of wholesale societies, etc. Our co-operative milk supply union and our handloom weavers' co-operative society are the largest in India and serve as a model, dealing successfully in crores of rupees. Our Land Mortgage Banks are also model organisations for other States.

"Harijans, 'the people of God' as Gandhiji so affectionately called them, have had several schemes for their uplift in our Province, like the Temple Entry Act, the Removal of Civil Disabilities Amendment Act, 1947, and other Acts. In 1946 the Government set-up a one crore fund called the Harijan Uplift Fund to improve the conditions of Harijans. Early in 1949 a separate department of Harijan Welfare with an Honorary Director at its head was constituted to enable more efficient administration of Harijan welfare work.

"A great land reform measure which the Madras Province has successfully launched is the Madras Estates (Abolition and Conversion into Ryotwari) Act, 1948. This enactment has wiped out an age-long evil and is calculated to restore the ryot to his rightful place. The Act enables the Government to take over 2,810 Zamin estates and about 3,500 inam villages on payment of total estimated compensation of about Rs. 16 crores. Already certain estates have been notified, and it is intended that by the middle of 1950 a very large number of estates will be notified.

"The intensive rural reconstruction scheme is being implemented in 34 selected firkas and centres, each of which is in the charge of a firka development officer assisted by Grama Sevaks.

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As far as possible, every aspect of the rural reconstruction schemes has to be conducted on a co-operative basis, with no distinctions whatsoever. The intensive rural reconstruction scheme aims at placing the destiny of the masses in their own hands. The villagers themselves have a share in framing the proposals for their improvement and it may generally be said that the aims are being achieved. The scheme is making rapid progress in all the firkas.

"A new 'panchayat raj' era is ahead of us. The village Panchayat Bill after being passed by the Legislature will be implemented in due course. A panchayat will be formed for every village or hamlet with a population of 500 and above. The panchayat will consist of elected representatives of the villages and will manage all local matters civic and administrative. And when this Act is enforced and the panchayats start functioning veritably the Ram Rajya that Gandhiji dreamt would have become a reality.

"We have also made rapid strides in the field of education, particularly in Basic and Adult education, to the provision of transport and co-operation.

"I must make mention of a recent event which is still fresh in our minds—the Andhra cyclone which caused widespread suffering and sorrow and loss in the Andhra areas. Our Government rushed to the people's aid, and the terrific effects of the tragedy were minimised a great deal. The Governor's fund for the purpose and the fervent zeal of our officials and other workers averted what might have been a disaster.

"In the face of this proud record of achievement who can still say truthfully that we are not carrying out the behests of the Father of Nation? We have achieved much and yet there is much more to achieve, a world of difficulties to be overcome.

"The administration of our State is in able hands. Our Hon. Ministers, collectively and individually have introduced into the administration new ideas and policies to fit in with the changing times, and have not only introduced progressive legislation but implemented each measure fully. Their team spirit has been remarkable. It will be superfluous to draw attention to the valuable co-operation of the members of this house, both those on the ministerial benches and those on the opposition benches in the enactment of progressive measures for the benefit of the poor man.

"I cannot do better than conclude in the words of our Chief Minister, the Hon. Sri P. Kumaraswami Raja. 'My appeal is that all shall stand united and work the Constitution with the sense and spirit worthy of our aspirations and with pride in the citizenship of the Republic of India'.

"We are thankful to His Excellency the Governor for outlining the future activity for implementation. Let us on this day swear to stand by the spirit of his words, and let us march ever forward in the path of peace and progress. Jai Hind."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Before the hon. Member Sri Rajaram Nayudu seconds the motion, I will clarify the point raised by the Leader of the Opposition. Mr. Alpheus Todd in his book on

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'Parliamentary Government in England' says: It is customary for the leader of the House to entrust the moving and seconding of the address in answer to the speech to some member who is not an 'habitual speaker;' and such occasions afford an excellent opportunity for the introduction to the notice of parliament of members from whom a successful debut may be anticipated."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Some Members spoke as though it was a parliamentary practice. From the above quotation it is clear that the choice is left to the leader of the House."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Yes."

SRI K. RAJARAM NAIDU:—"கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே! நான் பாரிஸ்டீ பிளேட்டிங் தீர்மானத்தை நான் ஆமோதிக்கும் முறை யில் இரண்டொரு வார்த்தைகள் கூற விரும்புகிறேன். மேன்மைதங்கிய கவர்னர் அவர்கள் தமது பிரசங்கத்தில் பெரும்பாலும் கிராம மக்களின் அபிவிருத்தியைப்பற்றியும், விவசாயத்தின் முக்கியத்துவத்தைப்பற்றியும், எதிர்காலத்தில் இம் மாகாணத்தின் விவசாயம் பெருகுவதற்கு தமது சர்க்கார் என்னென்ன திட்டங்கள் வகுத்திருக்கிறதென்றும், மேலும் வகுக்க முற்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்பதைப்பற்றியும் விரிவாக எடுத்துக் கூறியிருக்கிறார். நாம் கடமைப்பட்டிருக்கிறோம்."

"தற்போது இம்மாகாணத்தில் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் பஞ்சநிலைமை மிகவும் மோசமாக இருந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறது. வட ஜில்லாக்களில் மழை அதிகத் தினமும், புயற்காற்றாலும் பஞ்சநிலை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறதென்றும், தென் ஜில்லாக்களில் மழையின்மை அதிக பஞ்சத்தை ஏற்படுத்தியிருக்கிறதென்றும், தமது பிரசங்கத்தில் மேன்மை தங்கிய கவர்னர் குறிப்பிட்டிருக்கிறார். வட ஜில்லாக்களில் பற்றி நேரிடையாக எனக்கு அதிகமாகத் தெரியாதபோதிலும், தென் ஜில்லாக்களிலுள்ள நிலைமையை சர்க்காரின் கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டு வர விரும்புகிறேன். தென் ஜில்லாக்களில் தற்போது ஜனங்களுடைய முன்ன தானியம் அதிகமாகப்போனால் இரண்டொருமாத ஜீவனத்திற்கு போதுமானதாகத்தான் இருக்கலாம். இப்பொழுது சில தாலுகாக்களில் குடிக்கத் தண்ணீர் கூட கிடைக்காத நிலையில் மக்கள் வாடி வதங்கிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இயற்கை கடந்த மூன்று வருஷங்களாக இம் மாகாணத்திற்கு அவ்வளவு நல்ல முடிவைக் கொடுக்கவில்லை. குறிப்பாக கோயம்புத்தூர், தென்னாற்காடு, மதுரை, ராமநாதபுரம், திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாக்களில் மக்கள் பறம் கஷ்டம் சொல்ல. திறமன்று: பலபேர் தம்முடைய வீடு வாசல்களை விட்டு இப்பொழுது தஞ்சாவூர் போன்ற செழிப்பான பிரதேசங்களை நோக்கி குடிபெயர் ஆரம்பித்துவிட்டார்கள். தவறான எண்ணத்துடன் அவர்கள் அம்மாதிரி வெளியேறுகிறார்கள். என்னென்றால் தஞ்சை ஜில்லா விலும் கூட கூலிவாரி நீர்ப்பாசனமிருக்கும் பிரதேசங்கள் தவிர மற்ற பிரதேசங்கள் அந்த ஜனங்கள் அறியாததினால் தான் அம்மாதிரி வெளியேறுகின்றார்கள். கூலி வேலையைச் செய்து பெற்ற கூலியை எடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். ஜீவனம் நடத்துவது என்றாலும் இன்னும் இருமாதங்களுக்கு இவ்விதம் நடத்தமுடியும். ஆகையால் சர்க்கார் தங்களுடைய முழு கவனத்தை யும் வேறுபக்கத்தில் திருப்பாமல்; இதுதான் பிரதானமென்று நினைத்து இதில் அதிக கவனம் செலுத்தவேண்டும்."

"சர்க்கார் பல திட்டங்களை போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள் என்று மேன்மைதங்கிய கவர்னர் அவர்கள் தெரிவித்தார்கள். நமக்குத்தெரியும், திட்டமெல்லாம் இருக்கின்றன; ஆனால் அதை நிறைவேற்றுவதில் எவ்வளவு தயக்கமும், தாமதமும் இருக்கின்றன என்பது நிதர்சனம். ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாவிலும் இந்த திட்டங்களை நிறைவேற்ற நியமிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கும் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் எண்ணிக்கை போதுமானதாக இல்லையென்பது ஒருபுறம் இருந்தபோதிலும், ஜனங்களுக்கு கூலிவேலை கொடுத்து இம்மாதிரியான பஞ்ச நிலைமை

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வேலையை வெகு சீக்கிரமாக அந்தந்த இடங்களில் ஆரம்பித்து அவர்களுக்கு சௌகரியம் செய்து கொடுக்கக்கூடிய வேலையும், இருக்கக்கூடிய சர்க்கார் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களைப் பொறுத்து நடக்கவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. கவர்னரே, சர்க்காரைச் சேர்ந்த மந்திரிகளோ உத்திரவு போடலாமெய்யுமிய ஆங்காங்கே உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் அதை சரிவர நிறைவேற்றுவதில் தான் எந்தத் திட்டமும் வெற்றியடைவது பொருத்திருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் அந்தக் கன நடவடிக்கைகளை உடனடியாக எடுத்து எப்பிரல் மாதத்திற்குள்ளாக பஞ்சப் பிரதேசங்களில் நிவாரணவேலை தொடங்கப்படாவிடில் நம்மை ஒரு பெரிய சோதனை எதிர்பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது என்பதை சர்க்கார் தெரிந்துகொள்ள வேண்டும். வரப்போகும் எப்பிரல், மே மாதங்கள் மிகவும் அபாயமான மாதங்கள். அதிலிருந்து பின்னால் வரும் மாதங்கள் நமக்கு மிகவும் மாதங்கள். உணவுப் பண்ணைக்கூடிய மாதங்கள் என்பதை சர்க்கார் தெரிந்து பயத்தை உணர்பண்ணக்கூடிய மாதங்கள் என்பதை சர்க்கார் தெரிந்து கொள்ளவேண்டும். உணவு விவசாயத்தொழில் சில இடங்களில் கிடைத்து நீர்ப்பாசனத்தைக் கொண்டு நடந்துவந்தது. ஆனால் தரத்திருப்பதற்காக இப்போது போதுமான மின்சாரவசதி கிடைக்கப்படவில்லை. பூமியில் இருக்கும் தண்ணீரும் மிகவும் ஆழத்திற்குப் போய்விட்டது. இதுவரை சௌகரியமாக கிடைத்துவந்த தண்ணீர் இப்பொழுது சில கிணறுகளில் இல்லாமலேயே போய்விட்டது. ஆகையால் தண்ணீர் எடுக்க ஆழமான கிணறுகளை இன்னும் போய்விட்டது. ஆகையால் நிலைமை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதற்கு மக்களிடத் தில் தற்போது பணமில்லை. இதைப்பெல்லாம் சர்க்கார் கவனிக்கவேண்டும். தாராளமாக விவசாயிகளுக்கு கடன் வசதி செய்துகொடுத்து அவரவர்கள் கிணறுவெட்டி விவசாயம் செய்வதன் மூலம் ஏழை ஜனங்கள் வேலைசெய்து உணவைப்பெருக்கி, கூலி அடைந்து பஞ்சத்தை ஓரளவாவது குறைக்கமுடியும். ஆனால் இப்போது இருக்கும் சர்க்காரின் முறைகள் குறிப்பிடத்தக்கவையாகும். கடன் வாங்குவது இன்றால் இன்று மனுப்போட்டால் ஒரு வருடமளிக் கும். கடன் வாங்குவது இன்றால் இன்று மனுப்போட்டால் ஒரு வருடமளிக் கும். சர்க்காரிடம் கடன் வாங்குவதற்கு, இதைப்பெல்லாம் தாற்காலிகமாக, சம் பிரதாயமாக இல்லாமல் நிறுத்திவிட்டு, உடனடியாக ஏதாவது ஒருவகை செய்து விவசாயிகளுக்கு கடனாக பணம் உதவுவதற்கு வழிசெய்ய வேண்டும். Land Mortgage Bank-கள் மட்டும் போதாது. சர்க்காரே இதற்கான ஏற்பாடு பின்பிட்டு தாராளமாக விவசாயிகளுக்கு கடன் கொடுத்தும், கிணறுகள் வெட்டியும் விவசாயத்தைப் பெருக்க ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டும். மேன்மைதங் கிய கவர்னர் அவர்கள் பிரசங்கத்தில் குறிப்பிட்டபடி ஐந்து வருஷத்தில் பத்து விசை ரூபாய் திட்டத்தை நிறைவேற்றுவது மிகவும் நல்லதுதான். அதற் காக அவையும், சர்க்காரையும் போற்றுகிறோம். உணவு பிரச்சினையை சர்க்கார் முதலாக கவனிக்கவேண்டும். இப்பொழுது மழையின்மையால் வாடிக்கொண்டிருக்கும் பிரதேசங்களில் உடனடியாக ஜனங்களுக்கு வேலை கிடைக்கும்படி செய்யவேண்டும். குளங்கள், கால்வாய்கள், கிணறுகள் இவைகள் மராமத்து செய்வதன் மூலம் ஜனங்களுக்கு கூலி கிடைக்கும்படி செய்தால்தான் அவர்கள் பிழைப்பு நடக்கும். முதலில் நான் குறிப்பிட்ட படி அவர்கள் தங்கள் பிரதேசங்களிலிருந்து வெளியேற அவசியமில்லாமல் போகும். கிணறுகள் வெட்டி கொடுத்துக்கொண்டிருந்த உதவியை நிறுத்தி யிருந்ததை மீண்டும் கொடுப்பது என்று சர்க்கார் உத்திரவிடப்போவதாக கவர்னர் குறிப்பிட்டிருந்தது மிகவும் பாராட்டுதற்குரிய விஷயம்.

"வைத்திய வசதிகள், சுகாதார வசதிகள் எல்லாம் முன்பு இருந்ததை காட்டிலும் இப்போது அதிகம் வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. மக்களுக்கு போதுமான போஷாக்கான உணவு இல்லாததால் தெத்துநோய் வியாதிகள் நான் போன்ற பாலி நம்மை கஷ்டப்படுத்திக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. ஆகையால், சுகாதாரம் பாலி நம்மை கஷ்டப்படுத்திக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. ஆகையால், சுகாதார இலாகா, சுகாதார மந்திரி இலாகா மிகவும் கவனமாகக் கருத்தில் கொண்டு கிராமப் பிரதேசங்களில் வைத்தியவசதி, சுகாதார வசதிகளை முன்பு இருந்ததைவிட இப்போது அதிகமாக கவனத்துவருவது நல்ல. கிராம வைத்தியர்கள் பயிற்சி திட்டம் போட்டிருக்கிறமென்று மேன்மைதங்கிய கவர்னர் குறிப்பிட்டிருந்தார். அதையும் மிகவும் சந்தோஷமாக வாழ்வேற்க வேண்டிய நிலைமையில் இருக்கிறோம். கிராம வைத்தியம் மிகவும் முக்கியம். நகரங்களில் வைத்தியர்களுக்கும், பட்டம்பெற்ற டாக்டர்களுக்கும் குறைவில்லை ஆனால் கிராமங்களில் குறைந்தபடியும் 20 மைல், 15 மைலுக்கு சென்றால்

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கூட வைத்தியர்களைப் பார்ப்பது மிகவும் அரிதாயிருக்கிறது. இதிலும் கவனம் அதிகம் செலுத்தி கிராம வைத்திய வசதிகளை அதிகரிப்பதற்கு உதவி செய்யவேண்டும்.

“மற்றொரு முக்கியமான விஷயம் ரூ. தியோர் கல்வி. ஏனெனில் சுதந்திரம் பெற்ற இந்தியாவின், குடியரசு இந்தியாவின் தலைவிதி இந்த நாட்டு ஓர் கனின் கையிலிருக்கிறது. அவர்களில் நூற்றுக்கு 86 பேர்கள் எழுத்தறிவில்லாதவர்கள் என்றால் அவர்களை ஒட்டுமொத்தமாகப் பெற்ற நம் நாட்டின் முன்னேற்றம் எப்படி இருக்கும்? அவர்களில் நூற்றுக்கு 86 பேர்கள் படிக்காமல் இருக்கும்பொழுது அதனுடைய முடிவு என்ன என்பதை யாராலும் இப்போது சொல்ல முடியாது. ஆகையால், முதியோர்கள் கல்வி பெற வழி செய்வதையே சர்க்கார் முக்கியமாகக் கொண்டு அதற்கு வேண்டிய ஏற்பாடுகளைச் செய்வார்கள் என்று அவருடைய பிரச்சாரத்தில் கூறியிருப்பதை நான் மிகவும் வரவேற்கின்றேன்.

“பிரிக்கா அபிவிருத்தி திட்டத்தை எல்லா ஜில்லாக்களிலும் விஸ்தரிப்பதைப்பற்றி குறிப்பிட்டிருந்தார். அத்திட்டம் மிகவும் வெற்றிகரமாக நடைபெறும் கூறியிருந்தார். அதையும் வரவேற்கின்றேன்.

11.45 a.m. “அடுத்தபடியாக ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு வீட்டு வசதி செய்து தருவதாக மூன்று வருஷங்களுக்கு முன்னேயே நமது சர்க்கார் பணம் ஒதுக்கி வைத்து திட்டங்கள் போட்டுவருவதாக நமது சர்க்கார் பணம் ஒதுக்கி பிரச்சாரத்தில் அதைப்பற்றி எத்தனும் குறிப்பிட்டிருந்தார்கள். கவர்னர் நினைத்தேன். திட்டம் உருப்பெற்று விரிவாக கூறியிருப்பார்ப்பதென்று வேண்டிய வீட்டு வசதிகள் செய்துகொடுக்க உருப்படியான ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு நடைபெற்றதாக தெரியவில்லை. ஆகையால், சம்பந்தப்பட்ட மந்திரி அவர்கள் இதில் அதிக சிரத்தை எடுத்து சீக்கிரத்தில் அவர்களுக்கு குறைந்த செலவில் வீடு கட்டுவதற்கு வழி செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“பஞ்சாயத்து சட்டத்தைப்பற்றி குறிப்பிட்டார்கள். நம் சுதந்திர இந்தியக் குடியரசு வெற்றிபெற வேண்டுமென்றால், உண்மையான குடியரசாக இது திகழவேண்டுமென்றால் கிராமங்கள் நல்ல நிலைமையில் தங்களுடைய காரியத்தை தாங்களே பார்த்துக்கொள்ளும்படியான ஏற்பாடுகளையும், அத்தகாக்க கொண்டுவிட்டு இந்த அமைப்பினியில் நிறைவேற்றப்பட்டிருக்கும்சட்டம் கௌன்ஸிலில் இன்னும் நிறைவேற்றப்படாமல் இருந்தாலும், அந்தச் சட்டத்திலுள்ள ஷரத்துகள் பூரணமாக கிராமங்களுக்கு கையாள் இடஞ்செல்லும் மார்க்கம் அதில் இருக்கிறது. பஞ்சாயத்துச் சட்டத்திலிருக்கும் ஷரத்துகள் எதிர்காலத்தில் மக்கள் தங்களுடைய பொறுப்பை உணர்ந்து தீர்வாகப் பயிற்சிபெற்றுக்கொள்வதற்கு, தங்களுடைய காரியங்களை தாங்களே பிறரை எதிர்பார்க்காமல் பூர்த்தி செய்து கொள்வதற்கு, அது ஒரு வசதியான சட்டமாகியிருக்கிறது. எதிர்காலத்தின் மேலும் அபிவிருத்திகள் செய்து அந்தச் சட்டத்தை ராம ராஜ்யத்தின் உரை கல்லாக திகழும் சட்டமாகத் திருத்திக்கொள்ளலாம். ஆகையால் ராம ராஜ்யம், சுதந்திர ராஜ்யம் கிராமங்களில் ஏற்படுத்துவதற்கு இதை ஓர் முதற்படியாக நாம் கொள்ளலாம்.

“தற்போது பொதுவாக வெளியிலிருக்கும் அரசியல் வாதிகள் காங்கிரஸ் ஸர்க்காரையும், காங்கிரஸ் கஷ்டமையும் சாட்டி வருகிறார்கள். அதில் அவசரப்பட்டுக்கொண்டு, யோசனையில்லாமல் சட்டங்களை வெகு விரைவாய் இங்கு நிறைவேற்றி விடுகிறார்களென்றும், சட்டங்கள் இங்கு ஸர்க்கார் ஏற்படுத்திய சட்டங்கள் என்னென்ன? யோசித்துச் சட்டம், ஹிந்து மத தர்ம் பரிபாலன மசோதா (இன்னும் சட்டமன்றத்தில் இருப்பது), மதுவிலக்குச் சட்டம்; இவைகளைல்லாம் வெகு தரிதமாக நிறைவேற்றிவிட்டார்களென்று யாராலும் சொல்லமுடியாது. ஜமீன் ஒழிப்புச் சட்டம் சுமார் 9, 10 மாதங்கள் பொறுக்குக் கமிட்டியில் விவாதிக்கப்பட்டது. ஹிந்து மத தர்ம் பரிபாலன மசோதா இந்தச் சபையிலிருந்து பொறுக்குக் கமிட்டிக்குச் சென்று வருஷம் ஒன்று ஆகியும் இன்னும் அதன் நிபந்தனைகளைப் பூர்த்தி செய்யவில்லை. பஞ்சாயத்துச் சட்டமும் கூட 9 மாதங்கள் பொறுக்குக் கமிட்டியில் பரிசீலனையில் இருந்து வந்த சட்டமாகும். இந்த நிலைமையில் யோசித்தாகாமல் சட்டங்களை இயற்றிவிடுகிறார்களென்று காங்கிரசைச் சேர்ந்தவர் களும் கூட குற்றம் சாட்டுவது மிகவும் விசனிக்கத்தக்க விஷயமாகும். ஆனால் இதற்குமான என்னோன்றவர்கள் ஜனங்களுக்கு மிக அவசியமான சட்டங்கள் அனுவசியமாக காலதாமதமாக்கப்பட்டு நிறைவேற்றப்படாமல் இருக்கிறதே என்று சொல்லாமல் இருக்கமுடியாது.

[Sri K. Rajaram Naidu] [13th February 1950]

கமிட்டியின் பரிசீலனையில் இருந்து வந்த சட்டமாகும். இந்த நிலைமையில் யோசித்தாகாமல் சட்டங்களை இயற்றிவிடுகிறார்களென்று காங்கிரசைச் சேர்ந்தவர் களும் கூட குற்றம் சாட்டுவது மிகவும் விசனிக்கத்தக்க விஷயமாகும். ஆனால் இதற்குமான என்னோன்றவர்கள் ஜனங்களுக்கு மிக அவசியமான சட்டங்கள் அனுவசியமாக காலதாமதமாக்கப்பட்டு நிறைவேற்றப்படாமல் இருக்கிறதே என்று சொல்லாமல் இருக்கமுடியாது.

“அத்துடன் இப்போதிருக்கும் ரெவினியூ கோடு நிலவரி முறையை மாற்றி அமைக்க வேண்டுமென்று மேன்மை தங்கிய கவர்னர் அவர்கள் பிரச்சாரத்தில் குறிப்பிட்டிருப்பதானது மிக முக்கியமானதொரு விஷயம் மென்று கருதுகிறேன். ஏனென்றால் கிராமவாசிகளுக்கு அன்றாட வாழ்க்கையில் இருந்துவரும் கஷ்டம், இந்த பழைய ரெவினியூ கோடினால் கையிற் இருந்துவரும் கஷ்டமே தவிர வேறு ஒன்றுமில்லை. பட்டா மாறுதல்கள் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் கஷ்டமே தவிர வேறு ஒன்றுமில்லை. விவசாயி விஷயம் மிகவும் கஷ்டத்தை உண்டு பண்ணிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. விலசாயி களுக்கு Land Mortgage Bank-லோ, அல்லது தார்க்காலிக் கடன் வழங்கும் ரெவினியூ இலாகாவிலோ வாங்கவேண்டுமென்றால் இப்போது இருக்கும் நிலத்தின் சொந்தக்காரர்களுக்கு மூன்று தலைமுறைக்கு முந்திய பட்டா தான் இருக்கிறது. இதை மாற்றுவது என்றாலும் மிகவும் கஷ்டமாயிருக்கிறது. இதை உடனடியாக மாற்றுவதற்கு ஸர்க்கார் ஏற்பாடு செய்ய வேண்டும். வேறு பாங்குகளில் அடமானம் வைத்தாவது தங்கள் நில அபிவிருத்திக்கு வேறுவாசிகளும் பெற வேண்டுமென்றாலும் மாற்றியமைக்க விருத்திக்கு வேறுவாசிகளும் பெற வேண்டுமென்றாலும் மாற்றியமைக்க வேண்டும். நிலவரியை அடியோடு மாற்றவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. இதை இரண்டு வருஷங்களாக நமது ஸர்க்கார் தமது கொள்கையாக அங்கீகரித்தும் கூட அந்த ரெவினியூ கோடை, ரெவினியூ வசூலிக்கும் முறையை மாற்றி யமைக்கவில்லை. மாற்றியமைக்க சட்டமும் இதற்கான வேலையையும் இன்னும் ஸர்க்கார் செய்யாமல் இருப்பது இன்னும் வருத்தத்தக்க விஷயம். வேகு சீக்கிரத்தில் அதற்கான வேலையை செய்வார்களென்று நினைக்கிறேன். ஏனென்றால் இப்போதுள்ள நிலைமையில் கால் எக்ரா நிலமுடையவனும், ஆயிரம் எக்ரா வைத்திருப்போனும் ஒரே சராசரியாக வரியை செலுத்த வேண்டிய நிலைமையிலிருக்கிறது. ஆகையால், மற்ற சில தேசங்களிலுள்ளதைப்போல் குறிப்பிட்ட அளவு நிலம் உள்ளவர்களுக்கு வரியே இல்லாமல் செய்து அதற்கு அதிகமாக நிலம் வைத்துக்கொண்டிருப்பவர்களுக்கு வரியை விகிதாசாரப்படி படிப்படியாக அதிகமாக வசூலிக்கும்படி சட்டத்தை மாற்றியமைக்கவேண்டும். இந்தத் துறையில் ஸர்க்கார் கவனம் சென்று கொண்டிருப்பதைக் கண்டு நான் மிகவும் சந்தோஷமடைகிறேன்.

“ஆகையால் குடியரசு பெற்று சுதந்திரமடைந்த நமது தேசத்தின் இந்த மாகாணத்தின் மேன்மை தங்கிய கவர்னர் அவர்கள் இரு சபைகளையும் கூட்டி ஸர்க்காரின் கொள்கைகளை விளக்கிச் செய்த பிரச்சாரத்திலிருந்து என் போன்றவர்கள் தெரிந்துகொண்ட விஷயம், ‘ஸர்க்காரின் கவனம் முன்போலில்லாமல் தற்போது கிராமங்களின்பாலும், கிராம விவசாயிகளின் பாலும், விவசாய அபிவிருத்தியிலும் அதிகமாகத் திரும்பி வந்து விட்டது.’ இன்னமேல் இந்த நாட்டில் கிராம ஜனங்களுக்கும் விவசாயிகளுக்கும் ஒரு நல்ல காலம் பிறக்குமென்ற எண்ணம் உண்டாகியிருக்கிறதுதான் அத்துடன் இயற்கையும் நமக்கு உதவி செய்து காலா காலத்தில் மழை பெய்து நம்முடைய பஞ்ச நிலைமையையும் கஷ்ட நிலைமையையும் போக்கவேண்டுமென்று பிரார்த்தனை செய்துகொண்டு என்னுடைய சிறுநுரையை முடித்துக் கொள்கிறேன்.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“It has been moved and seconded that an address be presented to His Excellency in the following terms:—

‘May it please Your Excellency,

We, the Members of the Madras Legislative Assembly beg leave to thank Your Excellency for the Address delivered to both the Houses of the Legislature.’

“I had a talk with the Leader of the House and the leaders of the parties in the Opposition. We have arrived at the decision

[Mr. Speaker]

[15th February 1950]

that the debate on the motion moved by Sri M. Bapineedu will continue the whole of to-day and that amendments will be moved on the 16th.

"Raja of Chettinad will now speak."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Is there yet time to give notice of amendments?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Order, order. I have called upon the Raja of Chettinad to speak."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very unique occasion and a memorable day as the Assembly meets for the first time after the inauguration of the Republic of India. New conventions are likely to grow in the wake of the inauguration of the Republic in this country. We have just emerged from the celebrations throughout the length and breadth of India connected with that inauguration. While we rejoice, we also feel the responsibilities that are cast on the leaders of the country particularly with reference to the working of the Constitution. In the first meeting of this Assembly after the inauguration of the Republic, we are naturally inclined to feel retrospectively and think of the past achievements of the people of this country. The history of this country for the last sixty years has been the history of the great struggle for self-government. The climax of that struggle has now been reached and we cannot but remember with gratitude the great services rendered by that one man, the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi. His name will go down in the history of this country for his great services in emancipating the people of this ancient land. I do not want to dwell on the subject at length as I want to contribute to the conservation of the time of the House in my own humble way. The sacrifices of many distinguished sons of our country have been responsible for this self-government. But further sacrifices are necessary on the part of the people of this country, particularly the leaders. It might be that in the past it has not been possible for some of us to make the same amount of sacrifice as others. But to-day we all have a common purpose and that is the raising of the standard of the common man and the raising of the status of our nation in the world. This is a responsibility which everyone should undertake. This is an occasion when everyone, irrespective of his political leaning, should co-operate and put forth his best effort in this direction.

"Sir, His Excellency the Governor's address on the advice of his Ministers has been before us. We are glad at the setting up of the convention of the Government expressing their views on current problems and future policies through His Excellency the Governor probably once or more than once a year. Some might have expected the announcement of dynamic policies. Though our expectations might not have been fulfilled, we need not minimise the good work that has been done during the last two difficult years, though there are many big problems still awaiting solution. The last two or three years have been a difficult period

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for the Governments in the States and the Centre to carry on their administration in the various fields, particularly in the field of ensuring peace and law and order in the country. I think we should, in all truthfulness, say a good word of congratulation to the Government of Madras for the way in which they preserved peace in the land. We naturally wish that peace should be ensured in the future, particularly in the near future in view of the very great experiment of adult franchise that we are launching upon. If elections are to be based on adult franchise, it behoves the Government of the day to ensure peace. If there is no peace of a nature that will ensure peaceful election, adult franchise will become a failure for that one reason alone. I wish the Government all success in their efforts to maintain peace and law and order. The Police, who have stood loyally and steadfastly behind the Government, also deserve a word of cheer on this occasion.

"Among the problems mentioned in His Excellency's address, the main things relate to the needs of the common man, namely, food, cloth and housing. Of these three, probably food has the top priority. While we are glad that the Government are aware of the famine conditions and the need for more food, let me be permitted to mention that the Government of Madras should be banging at the door of the Government of India day in and day out. Unless they do it from now, in few weeks or months, there will be starvation in many parts of this State. It will well nigh be impossible for the Government to procure food from North India or from other parts of the world. Transport by sea or rail is not an easy task which can be accomplished in a day or two. I do hope that the Government will take up this matter very seriously and be banging at the door of the Government of India. There is no use in saying that representations have been made. I think the Minister for Food must remain in Delhi for at least fifteen days in a month. It is not necessary for him to go round the Province, because there are able officers who will furnish him with reports about the famine conditions. It is necessary that he should visit Delhi once a week.

"Sir, I see in the Address, reference to a two-year plan for intensive cultivation and the scheme includes production and distribution of seeds, distribution of manure to the ryots, etc., and this is in the nature of a long-term plan. The Government are probably dealing with situation, in this context, from a long-term point of view, while one would have expected and looked for some detailed statement regarding the immediate arrangements necessary to get over the crisis, perhaps some months ahead of us. I do hope that the Government will take immediate and energetic steps to save the kuruva crop, which is expected shortly, from being dried up. Otherwise, I am sure the districts in the south will be in very great distress.

"Sir, while I am on the question of food and famine, I should be permitted to say something about the plight of some of the districts in the Tamil Nad, like Tirunelveli and Ramnad. Sir, in this connexion, I should like to recall to the mind of the Hon. Minister for Public Works, the cut motion that I

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moved during the last budget session and which I formally withdrew on the assurance given by him at that time. While I appreciate the Government's efforts in trying to improve the conditions in the Rayalaseema by setting up a Rayalaseema Development Board, I should, at the same time, like to urge upon the Government the immediate necessity of constituting a similar Development Board for some of the districts in the south. The Hon. Minister gave a categorical assurance when I moved a cut motion on that subject last year that he would take steps to form such a Board. Till now, we have not heard anything about it nor has the Hon. Minister for Public Works taken any action to set up such a body. I do hope that, in between now and the coming budget session, the Hon. Minister for Public Works will be in the happy position to state on the floor of the House that a Tamil Nad Development Board has been formed and that it has begun to function. Let me also tell the Hon. Minister for Public Works that if it is not formed as early as possible, I will not withdraw any cut motion at the next occasion, if I happen to move. I would insist on its being put to vote on the floor of the House and if it is lost, the responsibility of the Government will be greater, for by defeating that cut motion the Government will give a seeming impression to the public that all is well. If only they study the real conditions in the State then I am sure the Hon. Minister for Public Works will realize the need for the setting up of such a Board.

"Sir, the next subject that I should like to touch upon is the cost of living index. The cost of living index is showing no signs of going down, but on the other hand, it is going up day by day. Unless the cost of living index is brought down by ensuring more food production and supplying food to the people at cheaper rates, I do not think the economic crisis that is facing the country and the acute food shortage this is threatening this State in particular could be successfully tided over. I would therefore emphatically urge upon the Government to examine the question of the colossal expenditure with which they are now faced and see in what ways it could be curtailed. Let me not, at this stage, enter into an examination of the subject or attempt to suggest ways and means of curtailing the Government expenditure. It is for them to devise ways and means to curtail their expenditure and thus bring down the cost of living index.

"Sir, while I am on the subject of the Government expenditure, I am naturally tempted to refer to the advice which the Government of India and our leaders in North India have given to this Government, to go slow with regard to their various schemes and policies, for instance prohibition and the abolition of horse races. This Government did not give heed to their advice and to that extent they are not benefited by the directions from the Centre. The Government need not fight shy in this matter, nor should they stand on false prestige. I can assure them that if they retrace their steps and go slow with regard to these schemes, the ultimate good will be greater. The Government could have

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more money at their disposal, by which they could help the poor people in many ways. They could subsidize their food, their cloth and also provide houses for them. If they do so, then I am sure prices will go down and the cost of living index will also go down and people will not be put to the suffering, to which they are now put, by the Government pursuing their scheme of prohibition. Sir, while I am, in no way, a less enthusiast in regard to prohibition, than the Members of the Treasury Benches, I feel it is very necessary for the Government to act according to the advice of the Central Government and of the leaders of North India, who are no less interested in the welfare of this country than us, and I only hope that it is not too late for this Government to pay heed to their advice and thereby save the large revenue that is now given up by their prohibition policy and do good to the people in other ways."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"What is your concrete suggestion?"

RAJAH MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Sir, the Hon. Minister for Finance wants me to make concrete suggestions in the matter and my reply is that if I be in his place or alongside with him, I shall certainly do so. But at the same time, this is such a large and important question affecting the future of this country and of its people and I shall not, therefore, stint giving whatever advice I can on the floor of this House. My suggestion to the Government is the same as the advice given by the Central Government, namely, to go slow with their scheme of prohibition, and thereby they will be able to retain more money at their disposal. That was a simple and sound advice given by the Government of India and by our Prime Minister, Pandit Nehru, but this Government have spurned it aside. What is the result? The result is that the Government's financial difficulties are growing up. I submit, Sir, that even now, it is not too late to retrace their steps and follow the advice from the Centre, particularly because, the Finance Minister has not yet finished giving final touches to his budget proposals.

"Sir, while I am on the subject of expenditure, I am also tempted to speak about taxation. From the manner in which the Government are going on with their schemes, one is not tempted to hope that Government expenditure would come down and that the tax burden would be lightened on the people in the near future. If Government expenditure goes down, taxation will be brought down and the common man will be able to buy his essential needs at reasonable prices. I want to tell the Hon. Minister for Finance what a nice picture would present itself, if the huge expenditure in enforcing the policy of prohibition and certain other programmes of the Government is cut down and an attempt made to reduce taxation and provide foodgrains to the people at cheaper prices. If the loan policy of the Government has not been successful in the past, it is due to this huge Government expenditure on unremunerative schemes, and the persistence of the Government in their own policies and programmes.

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If a slight change is made in regard to them, according to the advice from the Centre, the public confidence will be restored and the Government will be able to get more money from the people by way of loan, and thus they will be able to conserve the money for carrying out many beneficial schemes of irrigation and public works and thereby bring lasting good to the people.

"Sir, it is most important that this Government should attempt to reduce their expenditure on these lines, particularly in view of the fact that the Government of India themselves are faced with a very heavy expenditure on account of the Kashmir operations and other causes and there is no chance of the Government of India reducing their expenditure on their defence expenditure in near future. It is, therefore, not possible for this Government to look up to the Central Government for any help in this direction. It, therefore, behoves upon this Government to help themselves and to adjust their finances and reduce expenditure wherever possible. Their responsibility is now greater and therefore they must go forward with their schemes a bit slowly and cautiously.

"There is another problem which I should like to refer in connexion with the economic situation in this country, and that is the problem of the shortage of cotton and the consequent unemployment that is threatening the workers and mill-hands in the textile industry in this Province. I should, in this connexion, like to impress upon the Hon. Minister for Industries and the Hon. Minister for Labour that this is not the concern of the Government of India alone. It is as much the concern and responsibility of this Government also to see that the situation is eased. If, on account of the shortage of cotton, the various mills in this Province are closed, what will happen? Labour will be thrown out of work and the Government will be faced with a huge unemployment problem among the workers, and if that situation comes, it will be exploited by the Communists to their advantage and the popularity of the Government will be at stake. The situation with regard to the textile industry in this Province to-day is this. People who have a say in the textile policy of the Government of India are the mill-owners of Northern India and the majority of the textile mills in Northern India are composite mills, that is to say, they do both spinning and weaving. But in Southern India most of the mills are only spinning mills and they are at a great disadvantage, because only the price of cloth has been increased and not of yarn, and that is because of the predominance of North Indian mill-owners in the Textile Board. Even with cotton now being supplied, many of the South Indian spinning mills are not working at a profit, because they have got to pay higher wages and higher dearness allowance to their workers. You can very well imagine the situation, when the supply of cotton is stopped and the mills closed down consequently. Such a situation is now brewing and in the course of two months, the breaking point will be reached. Unless the Madras Government go to the Government of India immediately and appraise them of the real situation in these mills, the situation

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would get out of control, and disaster would follow. Unless more cotton is supplied immediately, and at a subsidized cost, to these mills, and unless the yarn prices are put on a stable basis, the South Indian mills will have to close down, with serious consequences on the labour situation. I must also mention, on this occasion, that the mill-owners are not anxious to close down their mills themselves, because they do not want to invite trouble from labour. I do hope that the Government will realize the seriousness of the situation and make immediate representations to the Government of India and see that the situation is eased. I was hoping that His Excellency the Governor's address would contain a reference to this matter. I cannot understand why His Excellency had not thought it out and made a reference to it. I still hope that the Hon. Minister in charge of Labour and Hon. Minister in charge of Industries, while moving for Demand for Grant under this head will be able to say on the floor of this House that they have done something, between now and the next month, to appraise the Government of India of the situation and to see that the situation is eased and thus remove the misapprehension in the minds of the public that they had done nothing at this critical juncture. (At this stage, Madam Deputy Speaker took the chair.)

"Madam Deputy Speaker, on this occasion, we are expected to speak only on the general policy of the Government and not on the detailed aspects of their administration in view of the impending introduction of their budget proposals. As this is the first session of the Assembly after the inauguration of the Indian Republic, I cannot but congratulate the Government for the strenuous work they had been putting for the last two years in restoring law and order whenever and wherever it had been threatened in this State. While I deeply sympathise with them for not being able to do many more things, because of these pre-occupations, yet I am sure, they reserve the support of all sections of the House and the public and in this connexion, we wish to assure the Government that nothing will give us greater pleasure than to give our support to them in full measure in all the good things that they are trying to do to the people of this State. I do hope that the people of this Province also will, in turn, give their best to the Government for continuance of their good work in this Province."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Madam Deputy Speaker, I heartily endorse the motion that was moved by the hon. Gentleman, Mr. Bapineedu, the member for Eluru rural constituency, that the thanks of this House be conveyed to His Excellency the Governor for the address that he delivered to us the other day on the occasion of the first session of this House after the inauguration of the Republic in this land. Mr. Bapineedu, Madam, as you know, is a man of many parts. But what has struck me most in regard to him, are his wide knowledge and freedom from a narrow exclusive outlook. I believe he has acquired these traits as a result of his training in the City College, Calcutta, and also in an American

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University. It is a matter of common knowledge that education in foreign lands and even travel abroad widens one's horizon and makes people less insular than they are likely to be when they are confined within the narrow limits of their particular regions. Hence, it is, that we in this House have been urging the Government to send more students abroad on foreign scholarships so that they may bring back with them the knowledge, and the broad outlook that is needed in a country such as this which abounds in differences. Mr. Bapineedu, as you know, is the whip of the Government and as such keeps exceedingly busy. Even now he is absent somewhere trying to whip up the members of his party to speak on this or that motion or to vote in the manner the Government desire. Since he remains so occupied, I find that in the past he has not had the time to participate sufficiently in the deliberations of this House. Therefore, I am glad that he has had the opportunity to-day to come forward with his views.

"Coming now to the subject-matter of the motion before the House, we are indeed grateful to His Excellency the Governor for having so kindly addressed us. His Excellency has been taking a keen interest in the welfare of the people of this State ever since he assumed office as Governor. Although he does not belong to these parts, he has made himself popular with all sections of the inhabitants of this State. I hope that during his regime many of the problems which confront the Government will be solved, if not wholly, at least partially.

"We have assembled here to-day after the advent of an epoch-making event, namely, the inauguration of the Republic in this land. This occasion has been an event of outstanding significance in contemporary history, and also unique in the entire history of the land, for, never before in the past was established an indigenous rule throughout the length and breadth of this vast country, which is now unified into a single political unit. It is true that in ancient India, there were self-governing village republics here and there. But never before was such an extensive territory unified into one whole, and three hundred millions of people, including 50 millions in this State, given the opportunity to rule themselves. Hence, it is that the occasion has been hailed with considerable pride and joy by all. Naturally people are gratified that their aspirations have been fulfilled. While indulging in jubilation, it must be remembered that the joy will justify itself and become abiding only if both the members of the Government and the citizens of the land who can now plan and shape their own destinies make a firm resolve to be worthy of the great tasks that lie ahead of them. His Excellency the Governor has rightly stated in his speech that the dazzling illuminations with which the public buildings were lit could have no meaning unless a portion of that light was brought to the homes of the meanest and the humblest in this land, and unless the darkness of want, poverty, disease and ignorance were dispelled. I hope the Hon. Ministers will bear

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those words in mind and will do all that lies in their power to bring some comfort and happiness to the hearths and homes of those that are plunged in want, misery and distress.

"This country and this State are not in a happy position at all, even after the advent of Independence. The common man is not interested in the mechanism of the Government or the theories underlying the Constitution under which he lives. His concern is threefold—security, economic stability and freedom from want. The success of a government can be measured by the contentment of the people at large. But the people of this State, who were fed on high hopes, far from being contented are most unhappy and dejected to-day. This is so, because they are suffering untold misery and hardships despite their having had a national Government at the helm of affairs for the past three years; continuous grumbings and constant dissatisfaction are not healthy symptoms. It is indeed time that due attention is paid to matters which vitally affect the common man instead of carrying on the administration of the Government in the same apathetic manner which prevailed during the bureaucratic regime.

"The common man is deeply affected by three things, namely, lack of sufficient food, shelter and clothing. I am afraid the Government have not directed the necessary attention to these urgent problems. In fact the approach adopted by the Hon. Ministers to a number of problems has not been the correct one. It is true that nature has been most unkind to this State in recent years in the matter of food production, because droughts and floods have adversely affected the progress that could have been achieved in this direction. Nevertheless there can be no gainsaying the fact that the Grow More Food Campaign in this State has not been making the headway that it should have done, commensurate with the amount of money that is being spent on it. It is no use merely crying out to the Centre, as was suggested by the previous speaker, to come to our help. The Centre will be able to render assistance to us only for another two years, because the Prime Minister of this country, the Hon. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, is emphatic on the point that after the end of 1951 all imports of foodgrains should cease. Hence it is high time that we should make vigorous efforts to speed up production in every way possible. If we implore the Central Government we may get some doles now. But what will be the position of this State after two years which, after all, is not a long period? The Government should meet the future as realists and concentrate all their attention on tackling the major question of food by bringing more land under cultivation. People are no longer in the mood to be swayed by slogans nor are they much interested in the form and machinery of Government. They share with the poet the belief that

'For forms of Government let fools contest.
That which is best administered is best.'

—Their major concern is that they should be supplied with the elementary essentials of life at reasonable prices. There has been

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a steep rise of prices of foodstuffs from 100 in 1939 to 416 in 1949. This has meant a great deal of suffering to the people at large. Radical measures are needed to bring down prices if there is to be peace and contentment in the land.

"With regard to clothing, His Excellency the Governor mentioned in his speech, that the Government intended to intensify khadi production. But I wish to know why khadi should be forced down the throats of people when they are unwilling to take to it. Hon. Ministers are themselves aware that khadi worth lakhs of rupees is to-day lying in the godowns unsold, because people have come to the conclusion that now that India has attained her freedom khadi has fulfilled its purpose and it need not be fostered any longer in the manner it was encouraged in pre-Independence days. People are not eager to buy khadi because, in the first place, it is coarse and inartistic and secondly because it is dearer than mill cloth. I think the time has arrived when the ideas of Hon. Ministers in regard to this commodity should undergo effective transformation. In the days gone by it was necessary to insist on khadi, because it was synonymous with indigenous cloth as distinguished from foreign textiles, particularly Lancashire goods, which were proving a drain on the resources of the country. But to-day India herself has become the Lancashire of the East and is noted for the production of high-class mill cloth, with the result that its textiles are being largely exported to eastern countries like Indonesia, Malaya and other lands. When khadi no longer competes with foreign cloth and when cheap Indian-made mill cloth is available, I do not see any reason or logic on the part of the Government to waste its funds and energy in further intensifying the production of khadi. This act of the Government will not solve the problem of clothing for the people of the land since they are now averse to take to khadi.

"With reference to the housing problem, it is a matter of common knowledge that apart from certain co-operative housing schemes, the Government have done nothing to ameliorate the hardships to which people are exposed for lack of accommodation. A couple of years ago, the Government appointed a Provincial Housing Committee, which made a comprehensive study of the problem. There were engineers on that committee who gave their earnest attention to the matter and as a result of their wide experience made suitable recommendations. But, I am sorry to note that the report of that committee has been shelved with the result people to-day continue to suffer enormous hardships for lack of suitable habitation. No doubt, the richer classes are building houses of their own. But the Government have done very little to ameliorate the conditions of the low-paid income groups and particularly to provide housing for its low-paid employees. The Government should give its earnest attention to this matter in future.

"It is a matter of gratification that during the past three years the Government of this State have been successful in maintaining peace, law and order, and I am glad to note that all

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sections of the people have co-operated with the authorities in this task. The Government may rest assured that all sections and all parties will extend to them their wholehearted co-operation and support in the preservation of peace and order. While expressing satisfaction at the success of the Government in this direction, I wish to remind the Hon. Ministers that this State is no longer merely a Police State, as it used to be under the British Government in the days of yore. On the other hand, this State is pledged to become a welfare State and its obligations are different from what they were in the past. So, this Government cannot lay a flattering unction to its soul and proclaim that it has justified its existence merely on the score of putting down subversive activities and maintaining law and order. The task of those who are at the helm of affairs is something more than that. They have to carry the message of cheer and culture, of freedom and prosperity, of life and light into each cottage and mitigate the sufferings, misery and want of the common man.

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by the capability and competence of its backward citizens. Hence, the Government have to take vigorous steps to eradicate the unequal educational development of the communities.

"When dealing with backward sections of the population, I wish to lay emphasis on the need to give women a fair deal on the basis of merit. In this connexion, may I remind the Hon. Ministers of this Government of the advice that has been given to them by the great champion of women, the Hon. the Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru? (A voice: 'Mr. Kripalani also'.) I hope the Ministers of this Government will hereafter abide by that advice. It may be remembered that the Hon. the Prime Minister of India stated the other day in the Union Parliament that the appointments of women, whether by this country or foreign countries or by the United Nations, had in every case justified itself, but that he could think of many instances where the appointments of men had not justified themselves. This is a high tribute to womenhood. When I urge upon the Government to give a fair deal to women, I mean that women should receive consideration on the basis of merit and merit alone, and on no other ground. Not even party considerations should weigh in this regard. In this country we have to be on our guard against inefficiency and I do not wish inefficient women to add to the problems of the Government. I find that in the Union Parliament there is a motion before the House to prescribe qualifications for those who are to come forward for election to the Legislatures. It is indeed desirable that this is done for, if India is to march in the path of advancement, she must have efficient men and women at the helm of affairs and to discharge important duties. Now that India has become a Republic, selection on the basis of party should cease and instead steps must be taken to see that only front rank efficient men and women are put in charge of important tasks. I would urge upon the Government to bear this in mind in all appointments, even to the select committees. I would not like the House to go away with the idea that when I urge that women should be given their due, it is my desire that men should be ousted from their places. Nothing is further from my mind than this. What I plead for is that in the national interest those who can render the best service to the country should be given a chance irrespective of sex.

"In his speech, His Excellency the Governor referred to the Estates Abolition Programme of the Government. We find that the financial resources of this Government are most inadequate to meet its commitments. When the coffers of the State are in a depleted condition, the advance compensation of 6½ crores that is to be paid to the zamindars as a result of the Zamindari Abolition Act could have been kept for better purposes, which would have been possible if the Zamindari Abolition Act had not been pushed through at this juncture. No doubt, the zamindari tenure is an anachronism in the modern age and there is need to abolish it. But this question should have been tackled as a part of a more comprehensive policy of agrarian reform instead of having

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been taken up as a piecemeal measure at a time when inflation had raised its ugly head. I am afraid the resources of the Government are gradually dwindling down, because the right approach has not been adopted in regard to many matters.

"Reference has been made to the Panchayats Bill, which is now on the anvil and which will be passed by the other House in the course of a few days. The principle of this Bill, which conforms to Article 40 of the Constitution Act is, no doubt, sound as the best foundation for building the New India on proper lines is a well-designed and healthy functioning village panchayat. But before launching on this measure, the Government should have created the conditions for its successful working by promoting education and infusing a sense of citizenship in the rural areas. The average citizenship in rural areas is so full of strife, faction to-day as a consequence of illiteracy, that grave doubts arise as to whether the Panchayats Bill has been rightly timed. Now that the Government is pushing forward this measure, the main question on which it should concentrate its attention is that of adult education. Reference has been made by His Excellency the Governor to what is being done by the Government in this regard. But I am afraid the provision that has been made by the Government for the spread of adult education is exceedingly meagre and is but a mere drop in the vast ocean. Since the forthcoming elections are to be held on the basis of adult franchise, the question of adult education looms large on the horizon and should be given top priority for the whole future well-being of the people of the land hinges on that problem. Ignorance is the Achilles' heel of democracy and ignorance must first be wiped out before democracy can be a success.

"In conclusion, I wish to lay emphasis on two points for the successful working of the new democracy. One is efficiency, the other hard work. In the words of the Prime Minister of India, Hon. Pandit Nehru, the bane of this country is sloppiness. We are living in an age where we have to be efficient. Without efficiency we cannot hold our own in the international field and rise to a high status. Another desideratum is hard work. I wish to impress the need for these, not merely on the Hon. Ministers of this Government but also on all the members of the House and on all the citizens of the land. After the advent of Independence, people have acquired a sort of a holiday spirit and are attending to work more leisurely than they used to do previously.

"There has been a clamour for more holidays and more festivities and this has been acceded to as is evident from the fact that in recent months we have suffered from a plethora of public holidays. Banks, business houses and public offices have remained closed for 3, 4, 5 and 6 days in succession with much inconvenience and dislocation of normal business that this involves. The period of festivities is over and we have now to face realities and live issues. Hence the Government should bring the holidays of this

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State in line with those obtaining in other lands. The cry of the hour is increased production. How can this be brought about when there is such a passion for holidays? If production is to be intensified there can be no gainsaying the fact that the holiday spirit should be curbed. If the energy of life is to be roused in the dormant consciousness of the people of India, those in charge of responsible positions must work hard and be particularly active and alert. My remarks are directed not merely to the Members of the Government but to members of my own party as well for even the hon. Members of this House clamour for holidays, and in response to their desire this House had a holiday last year for the cricket match. If we are to enjoy holidays in this manner, we shall be losing the race. (Interruption.) I am afraid the young members behind me, for whom life appears to be mere fun, frolic and holidays do not realize the significance of the demand they make and the effect thereof on the body politic.

"In conclusion I wish to state that in the promotion of the well-being of the New India not merely the Government but also every citizen in the land has to take an interest and contribute his or her best, with a firm resolve and a clear vision. Let us, therefore, go forward in this task in a spirit of concerted effort and earnestness, with minds full of hope and hearts filled with understanding for the attainment of a goal, both great and glorious."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I was delighted when His Excellency began his speech with the following sentiments: 'The dazzling illuminations with which we lighted up our public buildings on Republic Day can have no meaning unless we bring a portion of that light to the humblest and the meanest homes in our land and dispel the darkness of want and poverty, disease and ignorance.' Not only myself, but every one of the hon. Members of this House might have been so delighted. I expected that the later portion of his speech might contain some dynamic programmes and policies to remove the darkness of want and poverty from the homes of the poorest and meanest in our country. But I was disappointed and many members of this House were disappointed too when they heard the later portion of the speech of His Excellency."

"Anyhow, I have to appreciate the remarkable progress which has been made by the Public Works Department in the matter of the minor irrigation schemes and also tank repairs. His Excellency had been kind enough to mention that ten crores of rupees have been set apart for the development of minor irrigation schemes and tank repairs to be spread over five years. Considering the present condition of the tanks and the minor irrigation system in the villages, I am of the opinion that ten crores of rupees is a very small amount. Again, the time which has been prescribed for the spending of this amount is five years. Madam, Deputy Speaker, I want to point out that the period of five years is too long. If the Government want to achieve their object and if they want to earn a good name among the poor ryots of this State, then

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they must reduce the time-limit of five years to one or two years, so that some remarkable progress could be made. With regard to the minor irrigation scheme and tank repairs, my thanks are really due to the Hon. Minister for Public Works for his real interest in the matter, although he has not given any major scheme for my own district, Ramnad.

"I was very glad the other day when His Excellency said that 'the Government propose to constitute a committee of officials and non-officials to examine the present land revenue system and to formulate proposals for its improvement, if it is considered defective.' It appears that the Government will make a change or alteration if it was considered defective. I want to say emphatically that the present land revenue system is definitely defective and it must be reformed. Because, the present system does not give any benefit either to the ryots or landholders or the agricultural labourers. Therefore this system must be thoroughly examined and a new reformed system must be brought into existence."

"I want to say one thing with regard to the policy adopted by the Government in the abolition of the estates. Though the Zamindari Abolition Bill was introduced two years ago and was enacted last year, there has been very little progress in giving effect to it. The Government have taken only 6 major zamindaris and 36 minor zamindaris. Considering the vast number of estates in our State, I am sorry that only 42 estates have been taken over. Their progress resembles the movement of a snail. They should take more interest in the matter and take effective steps. It is said that the Government hope to take over all the remaining estates before long. The words 'before long' should not denote only a pious hope. We have been repeatedly urging that all these estates should be taken over and that is why we have passed this legislation. After passing this legislation, if we have not taken over all the estates, what is the good? Are you not sincerely interested in this abolition of the estates?"

"With regard to the deficit in foodstuffs, it is said that there will be a deficit to the extent of 10 to 11 lakhs of tons. I may mention that this deficit is not due to the failure of monsoon alone. Our State is a deficit State always. Therefore I would ask the Government what effective steps they have taken to increase the food production in our State under their Grow More Food schemes. They have not achieved any remarkable progress. There is a mention in His Excellency's speech of distribution of manure and agricultural implements, etc., to the ryots. I want to know how many of the ryots have been benefited by these. Let them go to the village and ask the ryots whether they have received these, and let them find out whether the real villager has been given these. They will surely get a negative answer from the ryots. Therefore I want the Government to be really sincere and see that the real ryots are benefited by this scheme. I do not want to say much on this. Most of the Ministers and the

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members of the party in power have given a pledge in their election manifesto under the Indian National Congress that they are very anxious and very much interested in the welfare of the villagers. So, when they have got the interest and the mind to fulfil their pledge, much can be done. But I am sorry to say that nothing substantial has been achieved within these three years. We must find out and the Hon. Ministers must find out where the wrong lies.

"In His Excellency's speech mention was also made of mechanised cultivation. I want to know whether the Government have examined how our lands are situated. I want to point out that in this State lands are being divided into various small fragments with a number of people. Therefore this mechanised cultivation by tractors is not at all possible. If the Government sincerely want to increase food production, of course they must adopt mechanised cultivation themselves and it is very necessary that the present land system should be changed to suit that. Unless they change the entire order of the present system and introduce new methods of collective farming or some such thing, they cannot achieve the object which they want to.

"Mention has also been made in His Excellency's speech about the achievements made by this Government with regard to Harijans and backward classes. I want to know what are the achievements that they have made."

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"Mr. Swaminathan is here."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"When I ask what are the benefits derived by the backward classes, the Hon. Chief Minister is very much pleased to say that I am here. What is the benefit given to the poor Harijans and backward classes? Except for the pretensions that this Government have allotted some Rs. 5 lakhs or so for scholarships to students belonging to backward communities, I find no real achievement of this Government in the direction of amelioration of the backward classes. We have suggested several proposals to this Government to ameliorate the conditions of the backward classes, but the Government have not heeded. With regard to selection of students to the Engineering College, Medical College and also selection of appointments under the Government, backward classes are given 2 seats out of 14. This is very small."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"What did you have two years ago?"

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"The Hon. Leader of the House wants to know what we had two years ago. It may be that we might have had less. But when Hon. Sri Gopala Reddi and Hon. Sri Kumaraswami Raja are there, we want more than what we had two or three years ago.

"I am very glad that the Hon. the Minister for Public Works has laid down a policy with regard to admission to Engineering

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Colleges. This policy ensures the selection of two candidates from the backward communities out of every 14. Also, the backward communities get preference in admission, when the requisite number is not forthcoming from among the other communities for whom there is provision. This is really a very good thing and I would request the Hon. the Public Works Minister to advise his colleagues to follow the same principle in respect of admission to other colleges and recruitment to Services.

"Lastly, Madam, I want to say a word about the Police. Here, I should confess that during the last three years when I have been a Member of this House, I have always attacked the work of the Police force. But now, on this occasion, I want to pay a tribute of admiration and praise to them. Indeed, to-day we find a change in their outlook. The Police as a whole have changed their outlook. They have begun to feel they are public servants. They realize that they are serving their own country and their own people. Of course, it is true that there are a few officers who are still given to the old policies which they have inherited from the British. Therefore, I say, the Police, as a whole, are a changed people to-day and I want them to continue to maintain law and order as efficiently as they have been doing till now. However, I feel that there cannot be efficient service in the absence of good salaries. I want that the salary of the police constables should be raised. When I say this, I do not take into account the higher police officers—sub-inspectors and others—the constables and head constables should be paid better than they are paid especially in view of the fact that they have adjusted themselves to the new set-up.

"His Excellency's address does not contain any dynamic programmes for the Government. All the same, I feel it my duty to thank him for the address he has delivered to us and I support the motion."

* JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Madam Deputy Speaker, I rise to thank His Excellency for his kind address but I am sorry to find that it is not his own. It has been drafted on the advice of his Ministry. Of course, I know what an up-hill task it was for the Hon. the Chief Minister, the Hon. the Leader of the House and the other Ministers to catalogue what they have really done or what they have achieved during the last three years. But I may remind them that gone are the days when the people could be fed on mere promises or mere speeches and statements printed, no doubt, beautifully in the manner in which His Excellency's address is brought out. To-day, people are asking the Ministers wherever they go 'What are your achievements or what have you achieved substantially and have you got anything to your credit?' Such questions confront the Members that are adorning the Treasury Bench to-day whenever they address public meetings. Now-a-days even these meetings have become a rarity since it has now become very difficult for them to address meetings. (Interruption.) They say here that they have done this thing and that. But what have they actually done? Prohibition is on

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everybody's lips. Hon. Members and the people at large know how it is working and I can only say, 'the less said about it, the better.'

"Next comes the Abolition of the Zamindari. I wish the Government could give us a better account of things relating to this measure. Matters have been made worse in this regard than they have ever been. Again, who are responsible for this state of affairs? It is those gentlemen that sit on the Treasury Bench. They had the temerity to tell us that they would do everything in their power to ameliorate the condition of the people but what we find to-day as a result, is that the poor have become poorer, after the Congress came to power. The poor man feels that he would be better off to-day had not the Congress taken up office. My hon. Friend, Begum Amiruddin Saheba, was referring to the number of holidays in this State. But why object to that when the Ministry is always in a holiday mood. Times without number we have complained—and if one peruses the dailies one will find—that out of the twelve Ministers including the Hon. the Chief Minister, ten are always away from Madras, for no purpose. There is no necessity for such intermittent tours and this actually amounts to taking a holiday from the headquarters. In the City they sit comfortably in their rooms in the Fort St. George and are seldom responsive to public opinion. When this is the attitude of the Hon. Ministers one cannot expect anything better from the people. So, Madam, as I have already said, you cannot feed the people on speeches and thereby try to get their support. If you take a trip to any town or a village and ask the people what they feel about the Government, then you will know how unpopular this Government have become. Sometimes, even I, a Member of the Opposition, feel greatly embarrassed when people talk of the unpopularity of the Government. And who is to blame for this? I feel that nobody is to blame but the Government, for the various policies which they have adumbrated in the last four years or so. What I find in the address is nothing but promises made some three years ago which have not been fulfilled so far and present promises which are not going to be fulfilled at least for three or four years to come.

"In the last paragraph of the address, we have been reminded of certain impending Bills. But I ask, 'what is the use of all these Bills'. The capacity of a Government or the greatness of a Government or the achievements of a Government do not depend on the number of Bills which they have got passed. It is really the prosperity of the people of the Province—or the State—as is now said—that is the hallmark of the capacity or greatness of the Government. And this prosperity cannot be said to exist until you have solved the innumerable problems that face us to-day, like housing, clothing, food, etc. In fact, this year we have to face a food crisis unprecedented in our history. I do not know how the Government are going to solve the problem. It is indeed going to be an uphill task in the matter of procurement and much depends upon what we are going to get from the Central Government. The Central Government have promised only three lakhs

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of tons and I do not know how the Hon. the Chief Minister or the Hon. the Minister for Food is going to influence the Central Government to give us more. On a modest estimate, there is going to be a deficit of nine or ten lakhs of tons. Even this difference will have to be made good by the Centre itself.

"Madam, there is, however, one thing about which this Government may be proud, and can be proud, and that is the way in which law and order has been maintained in this Province. As was said by my hon. Friend, Begum Amiruddin Saheba, I have seen from the beginning that this Government have taken all steps necessary for the due maintenance of law and order. They have not minded the huge expenditure it involved. Even now, our Chief Minister is very anxious to preserve the peace and he will not hesitate to take any steps necessary in that direction. In fact, we have set up a record in this matter. In this connexion, may I point out that in this great work, all sections of this house have co-operated with the Government?. Unfortunately, however, a sad incident has been reported in the Press yesterday which bears out the way in which things are done in the Salem jail. I do not want to say anything at this stage as I am given to understand that our Minister in-charge of Jails has rushed to Salem to personally acquaint himself with the situation there. But I want to point out one thing here. When the Members of the Opposition requested the Government not long ago to constitute a Committee of Enquiry into the incidents that have of late become common in the jails so that the causes of unrest might be known and a permanent solution might be found to put a stop to such incidents, the Government Members were very complacent about the situation and were optimistic enough to say 'Come what may, we are not going to appoint any committee.' What is the result to-day? The result is the unfortunate incident that has taken place in Salem Jail. The Government may say that the 20 persons killed were Communists. But I ask, 'are they not our fellow-men, our own brethren?'. Does the act of killing 20 and injuring 120 persons bring any credit to this Government? I know that whatever I say will not appeal to the Government. But I would ask the Members on the Treasury Bench to imagine what would have happened if an incident, one-hundredth in magnitude of the one that has taken place in Salem Jail, had occurred during the British regime. I am sure they would have raised a big hue and cry and taken the whole Province by storm. Such things would not appeal to them now because they are in power. My hon. Friend, Begum Amiruddin, spoke very eloquently on democracy. If I have understood the Government Members aright, I feel that they never believe in democracy. Their conception of democracy is that they should remain in power forever . . ."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Do you believe in democracy?"

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Yes, I do. But I believe in the right type of democracy. I think if the Hon. the

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Leader of the House and myself could sit for a while together and discuss, we can find out the correct definition of democracy. The Congress party wants to be in power always. It cannot tolerate any one who holds a view different from what it holds. I may tell the Government that the strength of democracy does not lie in the number of Members in this House. It lies in the large body of people outside this House who believe in democracy. A huge majority for the Government does not mean that the Government is democratic. This Government cannot put up any criticism. Whenever we charge the Government with failure on their part, one of the Ministers would suddenly jump up and say, 'allright, the elections are coming and try your hand there, you will see the result'. Madam, elections are not the sole criterion in judging the popularity of the Government. You know that elections can be won with the help of the Press and by so many other methods. But it is actual work that is needed and not statements and conferences. They serve no useful purpose. Judging from this view-point, I feel that the Government, to use a very mild expression, have miserably failed.

"To-day, I do not propose to touch upon communal matters like treatment of Muslim minorities and the like because I feel no useful purpose will be served by telling people who are not inclined to listen to the points of view of others. Madam, the Government have been charging us that we are communal-minded. But, do we not see to-day the existence of groups in their own organisation, Telugus as against the Tamils, Brahmins against the Non-Brahmins, the backward against the forward and so on. What is all this due to? Obviously, this is due to the fact that the Members on the Treasury Bench are bent upon encouraging and helping a certain section of the community. Has communalism been ever more rampant in our State than it is to-day? How is it that such a state of affairs exists here in spite of a popular Government being in power in this State? Madam, I must say that those sitting on the Treasury Bench have a sacred duty to perform and that is that of doing justice to all sections of the community. God has placed you in power. God has equally enjoined upon you the responsibility of treating all alike. So, when you function as a Government, you should always see that you function in the interests of the State and in the interests of the people that live in that State. I am really yet to know how many Members are really actuated by such a feeling.

"Finally, I would like to refer to one thing and I do not know how far it will be relevant to the matter under discussion. Madam, you are aware of the recent elections to the Constituent Assembly. You will find that no women candidates were selected. How has this come about? Three Ministers sat round a table and decided that two seats should go to the Telugus, three to the Tamils and so on. Is this the way . . ."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"It has no relevancy here. It is better that the hon. Member does not make mention of it."

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JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"I made mention 1-15 about it because some show boys were selected for the Central p.m. Assembly."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will not refer to it."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"I submit to your ruling, Madam.

"Let us forget the past. Four precious years were lost. I am saying there is still time before you. You just make a firm determination and resolve to see that the State improves in all fields of activities. But unfortunately it has not been so. Going through the particulars given in the address I may say there has been some progress in the matter of irrigation. But take the case of industries. What is the development or improvement that has been effected? My hon. Friend Mr. Perumalswamy Reddiar is new to the affair. What is the achievement in the industries department during the past three years. Industrial development is always expanding. It is a department on which you can spend some money to-day and get a return. But that does not seem to be the case. Even the very important activities of the Department are shrinking and looks that after some time there will be no industries department in existence.

"We are spending a crore of rupees on the Harijan Welfare department. You can go and ask the Harijans whether there has been any improvement in their lot. We should not think that by opening a number of labour schools and hostels, their conditions are ameliorated. Then the Government have their usual fads, the Khadi scheme and the Firka Development. The Government without any regard for the State finances are wasting funds on these schemes which are unproductive.

"In conclusion, Madam, I say there is nothing over which this Government can feel enthused about their achievements. No doubt the Government have their own difficulties but in spite of it if they had that zeal and devotion they could do something. But unfortunately four precious years have been wasted by the Government. The hon. Gentleman, the Leader of the House is smiling because he feels that what I am saying will not be heeded. The way in which this Government functions is the same as that of the old bureaucratic Government. At least there was efficiency and very good regard for rules and regulations. At present efficiency is just the other way. You have rules and regulations now, but in many cases it is observed more in the breach than in the observance. There is not much chance or scope for improvement. I am sure the members of the Treasury Bench will take note of the present situation. Let them not take what all we say as a true indication but let them take the real feeling outside and understand how people feel about this Government. Then they will have surely an idea as to the estimation in which this Government is held by the public at large. I am sure if things go on at this rate the conditions might still deteriorate."

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SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“ Madam, Deputy Speaker, I thank His Excellency for his address delivered day before yesterday to the Legislature. I regret very much and feel disappointed that nothing was mentioned about the economic development of the masses. We know we are all in a new era, an era of democratic republic. Just now Mr. Swaminathan was referring to this. I must say we were all in jails seven years back and under foreign domination, and foreign rule. To-day we are free, we have our own constitution. We have got independence and every man is expected to have an equal opportunity to develop himself. We have a right to ask or demand from the Government that every section of the nation should get their due share either in the services or in the economic development.

“ His Excellency did not make any mention of the plans for the improvement of the common man. He said that Government have allotted 20 crores of rupees to be spent over years to improve the condition of the agriculturist or improve the sources of irrigation. I am glad to note that, but I must ask the Government not to waste the money in the name of the agriculturist and make richer people richer. Who are the people who are going to be benefited by these schemes. I feel the real agriculturist, the tiller of the soil, is not going to be benefited. I do not say that Government should not spend on these schemes. I only ask that Government should frame definite policy as regards land tenures before the schemes are sanctioned. Only the landlords with thousands of acres are benefited after the abolition of the zamindari. The Government should enact a legislation and see that the tiller of the soil, who tills the land and ploughs the land and produces something for the betterment of the nation and supplies food for the nation, is protected.

“ It is stated in the speech of His Excellency that a committee is going to be appointed consisting of officials and non-officials to report as regards the land revenue reform. I don't think that any land revenue reform is needed now because of the high prices of the commodities. The reform of the land tenure is the thing that is needed after the abolition of the zamindari. So long as this or any other Government cannot bring about reform in land tenure, they cannot satisfy the people at large. The rural people who are working day in and day out are undergoing hardships and are suffering. It should be the constant duty of the popular Government after the introduction of the new Constitution to see that no man suffered. I am sorry His Excellency's address does not make any mention about the improvement of the economic conditions of the masses in general. As you know there are more than five crores of people in this Province who require our attention. In spending money on schemes referred to in the address we are only making rich people richer and poor people poorer.

“ According to the speech there is a deficit of 12.8 tons of paddy and millet. This is according to the quota settled by Government, viz., 8 oz., of ration per adult. On account of controls, on account of insufficiency of the ration allowed to every

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individual, black-marketing is going on. If the quota is increased, if every man is given 15 to 16 oz. of ration there will be no black-market. If the Government really want to see that black-market and corruption is done away with, they must give sufficient food to the people. I know nobody is suffering for want of sufficiency of quota from the ration shop. Every one gets what he wants from the black market because either the retail shop-keeper or the wholesale man is selling whatever is required by the consumer. If all these is taken into account, I would say that the deficit is 20 lakhs of tons and not 12.8 lakhs of tons.

“ It was mentioned in the address that priority should be given to sanitation and health. Go to the villages and see where the people, especially the Harijan cheris are located. Can you improve the sanitation of the poor when they have no food to eat, no house to live and no room to erect his own hut? I want to know whether any instructions have been given to the Local Boards and the Municipalities to have rural roads from Harijan cheris to caste peoples villages. If any Hon. Minister or a Leader has to go to the village he cannot go by car; he has to go walking in the mud and water. There should be good roads to connect the Harijan cheri with the main village. There is no use of talking about sanitation and health centres and health units. What is the use of wasting money on these centres and units and for the purchase of medicines? Let us go to the General Hospital, Tuberculosis Hospital and the Royapetta Hospital and see the conditions there. There is no place for a poor man. The man who wants to get admission should pay something. The poor man for whom the hospitals are opened and money spent on it is not benefited. Are the Government going to rectify these things? We talk of dispensaries and the like. I must say here that the medicines supplied to these dispensaries are not properly used. The District Medical Officer has to go to the dispensaries once a year for inspection. Before the inspection by the District Medical Officer the medicine is thrown into the canals and tanks. I know many of these cases. They mark attendance for 50 people while only 10 actually attended. I must say, Sir, the officers must take interest and feel that they are there to serve the nation. So long as Government does not change the present officials it would be impossible for any Government to carry on the Government of the State in the interest of the people.

“ In regard to the difficulty experienced in getting experienced men, last year and year before last, of the thousands of applicants only a few hundred were selected. Even this was done on communal and territorial basis. If the Government want to produce more graduates they must start more hospitals. I know there is no dearth of doctors. There are many doing private practice. The salary offered to the doctors is very meagre. That is why they are not coming forth.”

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—“ The hon. Member may continue after lunch.”

The House adjourned for lunch.

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(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

SWEARING-IN OF MEMBER.

Sri M. Kaniyappan took the oath of allegiance to the Constitution of India and then took his seat.

IV.—DISCUSSION ON H.E. THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS—cont.

SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“ Mr. Speaker, we are now under a Republic and every citizen of India is expected to have justice, freedom of action and speech and equality of opportunities. In the address delivered day before yesterday by His Excellency the Governor to our joint session, he has not mentioned how this Government are going to implement the provisions of the Constitution framed by our Constituent Assembly. Is it not the duty of this Government to tell us how they are going to implement the provisions of the Constitution and protect the rights of the common people? What is going on in the villages to-day? His Excellency appealed to the legislators that every one should have confidence in our rulers and that we should see that a portion of the light of the illuminations of the public buildings on the Republic day should be brought to the humblest and meanest homes in our land. Here I must say that His Excellency the Governor who belongs to a once ruling class and our Chief Minister who also belongs to a once ruling class have not forgotten the position they enjoyed once. His Excellency referred to the rulers. I want to ask him, Sir, through you, who the ruler is to-day. There is no ruler. The Ministers are administering the country on behalf of the people. Under our new Constitution, there is no reference at all to their being rulers. The days of rulers are gone. Of course, they have not forgotten their position they enjoyed. Now the sovereignty lies with the voters. The legislators representing the people administer the policy enunciated by the electorate, directly or indirectly. It would have been better if the word ‘rulers’ had been avoided. Under the new constitutional position, they are our leaders. Sir, he has also used the words ‘the humblest and the meanest homes’. I really object to the word ‘meanest’. Who is the meanest and where is the meanest home in free India? Every citizen is given free and equal rights under the Constitution. One of the fundamental rights is the equality of every citizen. I request His Excellency the Governor and the Government, through you, Sir, that they should not use these words hereafter. If the ministry is responsible to the legislature, the legislators are in turn responsible to the voters, directly or indirectly. His Excellency also appealed to the House and the people at large to have confidence in the Government and the Police and help them to maintain law and order. But, Sir, I should point out that in the name of the Communists and some subversive movements going on somewhere in the Province, innocent people are harassed. Everyday, I am receiving numerous letters and representations and petitions from Krishna, West Godavari, East Godavari and Guntur districts that

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the Police are unnecessarily committing atrocities on the people. Is it not the duty of this Government to go and see things there personally for themselves and not leave the whole thing in the hands of the Police? I know that the Government are going to get a bad name, for the administration of the country should not be left to the Police alone. The people are freely saying that they are not satisfied because of the rule of the Police people.

“ Sir, His Excellency also has stated that the Government have pursued vigorously their policy of amelioration of Harijan and other Backward classes and for the efficient implementation of this policy a Harijan Welfare department has been created. An Honorary Director of Harijan Welfare also has been appointed. I thank the Government for what they have done. But is it not the duty of the Government to create conditions of social security, eliminate dirt and disease and raise the standard of living of the people? What are the plans and the policies of this Government to raise the standard of living of the people? Everyday, we hear of strikes. Why? Because the people are not getting sufficient wages. The poor people are harassed by the landlords because they are asking for higher wages. The Government must announce a policy which will help 50 million people of this State. I hope everybody will be behind the Government in any scheme they may adopt for the purpose. Now, as it is, the Ministers have no mind. I must tell you straightaway that they do not know what to do, when to do and how to do, to help the poor people. They do not represent the poor people. We do not represent the crores of people. Mr. Gopala Reddi may ask whom I am representing. I am representing only 10 per cent of the Harijans and the Backward classes. Under the new Constitution, 50 per cent of the people are going to be voters. Then Mr. Gopala Reddi, myself and the Chief Minister may claim to represent the people.

“ As regards the next elections, it is said that it will be held in the near future. It may be one, two, three or five years. It is sometimes said that, unless the 1951 Census is held, the next elections will not be possible. To wait for the 1951 census will postpone the elections for two years. I therefore request the Government to say definitely that on such and such a date elections would take place. As 50 per cent of the people are going to be the voters, I am anxious about it.”

SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the first place, I must join in the heartfelt thanks given to His Excellency the Governor for his having addressed the joint session of both the Houses. An occasion like this is of the greatest importance, because it is the first time after the democratic republic has come and given us an independent Government. In such an address by the Governor of a State, necessarily the major problems which have been agitating our minds have first and foremost to be dealt with. We find several things that have been done or have to be done. We may also congratulate ourselves that this State of Madras has with all its failings and weaknesses, in its achievement done as much as any other State in India and probably

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much more than others. Many progressive legislations have been introduced and great efforts have been made to implement the constructive programme in some of its major aspects. We have also had to tackle some of the foremost problems which are agitating the minds of our people from day to day. The most prominent is the question of rising prices. Last time when the Public Safety Act was being discussed, I pointed out that it was no use in merely taking more powers and passing repressive legislation and that we must go to the root of the matter. We must see why a handful of Communists are able to gather about themselves the poor people of this land, why in spite of all the repression, they blindly obey them. I said that it was the problem of hunger and that the rise in prices should be tackled straightaway. That should have a high priority. It is going in a vicious circle and it is affecting the society as well as the administration. Prices have risen now, as would be seen from the Gazette Extraordinary, to 400 per cent of the pre-war level. Yet whatever help you may give the officials and the wage-earners, you can never possibly go beyond 100 per cent of the original wages. This rise in prices affects the poorest of the poor, the lower middle classes. The only people who feel happy over the present conditions are those who have a large amount of fortune at their back, whether made well or ill, who have been profiteering during the war years and the post-war years in ways which everyone has condemned. Unfortunately, it is only those people who can lead a comfortable living. The poor people now want somebody to be made responsible for all the burden of their misery. In the case of the poor classes and the lower middle classes—the clerks and the head clerks and so on—their everyday living is a problem to them. They have sold almost everything they had. The ornaments of their womenfolk are gone; whatever little landed property or house they had are all gone. It is their hunger that is consuming them. Their poor wages, even with the increases which a sympathetic Government can give, are inadequate to satisfy their bare needs.

"I pointed out last time that in a short period of three days prices rose more than 25 per cent. To-day, within a month, we find that the price of chillies has risen to the enormous extent of Rs. 6 a viss. It is a thing unheard of before. Many of the essential commodities apart from rice have gone up sky-rocketing in prices. How can we or any Government hope to meet the situation by giving some small additional wages or additional salaries to our workers to enable them to face the rise in prices of articles?"

2.45 p.m. "Therefore, I urged this as the biggest and the greatest weapon of public safety, that this Government should, and it should also urge the Central Government to, tackle in some way the question of rising prices and try to bring it down within the smallest possible time. I also urged then that the prices of articles had at no time risen to the extent they had done; that prices of articles which were in production had also gone up to some extent, and it was only in a few cases that they had gone down. War speculation, post-war

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speculation, profiteering, blackmarketing and corruption, all these have in one way or other prevented the people from paying a decent price for the articles purchased. Let us see if without tackling this major problem, it is at all possible for either society to exist or for the administration to be carried on. How long can any administration go on increasing the wages? Every department is clamouring for higher and higher salary; the Postal department, the Telegraph department, and some of the other departments manned by our respected Socialist leaders are also clamouring and are threatening a strike now and then. The railways are there which employ a large number of workers. In all these cases, the more we raise the salary, the higher still the prices of articles rise, with the result that they go on from bad to worse and we do not know where the upper limit is. If we approach the workers and want that more articles should be produced, always the argument is that the wages of the workers are not sufficient. And if the workers are directed to be paid higher amounts by industrial tribunals, we find that straightaway some mills close down entirely and others threaten to close down and in some other cases some fifty per cent of the workers are asked to go out, to add to the already unemployed. Even the last reduction of the hours of work suggested by the Hon. Minister for Public Works on account of shortage of electricity supply has had the effect of throwing out nearly 25 per cent of the workers and because of that, it has become an increasing problem in each district and industrial town as to how to tackle the people who get half-wages and are half unemployed. In these circumstances, I have been urging that the Government should take courage in their hands and see that somehow this artificial rise is put an end to by some kind of legislation, even by a special ordinance if necessary. The same article which was originally sold for a particular price is now being sold for four times the value as a result of speculation; and it is not the producer nor the consumer that gets the higher price; it is the middle man who gets it and hoards and hoards as much as possible. They happen to be persons who are neither producers at one end nor consumers at the other end. If we go to the mill-owner or the capitalist and say 'these men have to be paid higher wages,' he replies 'I cannot produce more because the higher the wages I pay, the less is my profit; I cannot produce on these conditions' and he says he will have to close down the mill or threatens to do so. All this therefore goes on in a vicious circle. If we ask the labourer to produce more, he says 'how can I do it when, as a matter of fact, the prices of commodities are rising'. When I go to the cultivator and ask him to accept lower price for his article, he says 'how can I receive less amount for my paddy when, as a matter of fact, I have to pay four times for cloth, six times for chillies, for kerosene oil and for every other article which an ordinary villager like myself wants. 'I am the person who suffers because I am getting hardly double the price while for the things I have to buy I pay nearly four to five times'. His argument is irresistible and unanswerable. I should have therefore expected that when first we meet here under the democratic

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Republican constitution, an attempt would have been made by His Excellency the Governor and his Government to say what steps they are taking or propose to take. Even an assurance by His Excellency and his Cabinet that they are trying to take steps to give some relief in this direction would have restored considerable confidence in the poor people. An attempt was made some time back to reduce the paddy price and I believe it works out to 3 pies per measure, as I was told. How this 3 pies is going to help when the price of other articles is rising, I do not know. (At this stage the Deputy Speaker occupied the Chair.)

"I would therefore urge that on an important occasion like this, this problem of somehow bringing down the prices of commodities should be given the priority—this enormous increase in prices on no principle at all, which does not depend either on production or on supply really.

"The next important thing which has been agitating the minds of most of us who have tried to work for the last thirty years under the guidance of the Father of the Nation is as to what programme we are to follow. Our difficulty has been increasing in many ways. The world has now almost adopted the view that Gandhiji's ideal alone can be the remedy for no-war in the world. But the ideology of Gandhiji alone would not produce the no-war position; along with it, Gandhiji's method also will have to be adopted. It is impossible to attain Gandhiji's ideal without adopting also his method of economics. Gandhian economics alone will lead to the practice and attainment of Gandhiji's ideology and that alone will lead to the position of no-war in the world. Yet, what are we trying to do now? After we took up the Government ourselves, have we in any way tried to bring about that stage for which the Father of the Nation laboured, to which we have been paying lip service during the last thirty years? The items of the programme chalked out by him are found in the sheets signed by the Congressmen in the Tamil Nad. There are 23 items given there, and although we have signed it, probably it has been put into the innermost corners of the Congress office from where it may have to be drawn out on ceremonial occasions. We have had three chances to put them into practice, and this is the third time we have the chance. At the time we took up the reins of Government after the war, there was an opportunity for us to give a drive in respect of khadi. We should have had during the period of one and a half years that we had before we got Independence on the 15th August 1947, a big drive in khadi which represented the ideals of Gandhiji, and seen that that item of his programme was spread throughout the land and that the services of the administrators of this Government were utilized to the utmost to spread khadi, the khadi mentality and the khadi ideal in the minds of the people. Having lost that opportunity, we lost the first occasion to do something in this direction. Again, when Independence was given to us on the 15th August 1947, untrammelled by British domination, we had the second chance. Did we do anything to take up this programme? It was also a

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subject of discussion taken up by the Members of the Opposition who had to point out that even the khadi produced was not being sold out and asked whether that was the way in which we were working the programme. Now a third opportunity has come; we have been told on the 26th January of this year 'yours is a democratic republic, you are free to rule yourselves and you have got rights which are common to everybody'. Is it not for us to-day to see that a big drive is given; that in the opening address we are told that this should be our ideal. It is admitted on all hands that it is this programme of Gandhiji that has led us to the achievement of this bloodless revolution, to independence, to the Swaraj as Mahatma Gandhi portrayed and told us. Of the items mentioned by him, one was cottage industries; and yet what has been done to-day? We are talking of taking hold of the villagers; are we giving them loans? On the other hand, we find an Industrial Corporation being started with several lakhs as capital, the Vanaspati mills which produce things which the All-India Industrial Association condemns as articles which do no good at all to the human system. We have therefore helped such industries with lakhs of rupees for producing such things. Is that help given to village industries, I ask?

"With regard to sugar, in some areas sugar disappeared from the market. What happened in Mathurai was that an embargo was put upon the manufacture of jaggery. Whenever any defect is pointed out, I must say our Government have always tried to be quite reasonable; and recently the embargo has been removed by means of a notification. One should have expected that encouragement was given to the manufacture of cane jaggery as a cottage industry as Gandhiji had been pleading. In all these things, people will be thinking that the Government have been dallying and playing with these problems. On such occasions as these, therefore, we must see to it that a whirlwind campaign is made, so that the imagination of the people may be roused and they may begin to practise anew the methods which Gandhiji was stressing, for which he stood, and which formed the basis of an ideology on which alone the world is likely to rest in the future. Again, our Bapu was stressing that we should not go to other countries for our food and clothing; yet, what are we doing now? We have had imported about Rs. 150 crores worth of foreign food into this country. I am glad that at least Bapuji is no longer with us to see with his own eyes in what way his own followers who had been trying to achieve freedom along with him and under him, have now been practising the principles which he taught them. To-day, we are going to foreign Governments begging them on bended knees for food, for dollars, for help with loans. Which creditor is there who appreciates the difficulties of the prudent man who has always tried to see that he lived within his means and tried to take advantage of opportunities for getting more and more dollars? Are we to-day giving as much help to the cottage industries as we are giving to the mills? These are things which should have been really dealt with in the address; we should have been told what steps were being taken for working out the principles for which Gandhiji stood.

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This was the opportunity for us to define our ideals, and that would have given a fillip to the people to see that the ideals for which we were fighting are now being attempted to be put into practice.

"Coming now to matters which are of minor importance, I must say that with the best of intentions, our Government have been trying to do their best with regard to labour legislation; but there is also the difficulty of Central legislation often times overlapping it. It is a fact that labour is not satisfied; when there was no compulsion as regards wage, the mill-owner and the factory-owner were giving to the poor labourer his wage and there was no trouble; but after the Wages Act was brought into force, difficulties arose. When the conciliator gave an award, it was not possible to enforce the same and Government had to apply to Industrial Tribunals. In Mathurai when the Industrial Tribunal had three-fourths investigated the case—and judgment should have been given yesterday—an order came from the Madras High Court—a writ of certiorari under the new Constitution Act, saying that the Tribunal should not proceed with the case further.

3 p.m.

"The factory owners are rich; the industrialists are rich and the poor people, even under law, are at a great disadvantage. I would urge that at a time like this we are always regretting the flood of communism. Are we taking any steps to take the wind out of the sails? One of the articles of the Soviet is that the judge shall be responsible for seeing that the poor man gets his rights and that the balance should be kept even by the judge himself. Is that the law we are practising for the last 30 years? These things we should have gone into thoroughly and tried to see that we produce a state of affairs where the poorer man is at an advantage. We have now the Constitution Act and we are a democratic state, independent and free, but in the sense of Swaraj, as Mahatmaji has told, we have not attained it. The departmental officers and the top men have not yet learnt that the Government exist for the poor. They should feel that the Government are by the people and on behalf of the people. Even to-day the poor people who go in for manure or bonus are turned out by the neck by the ordinary peons as it was done in the past. There are still these cob-webs of the imperialist past to-day. In fact, we have found we have not yet got rid of the many cob-webs. I find in several Government offices and in courts the picture of King George or the Proclamation of 1857 still hanging over even after the Democratic Republic has been proclaimed as if it is to be a reminder of the past and not as an encouragement to the person concerned. That mentality is still there and unless we are able to produce a radical revolution in the minds of people we shall not be able to convince that the administration is only on behalf of the people and for the people.

"His Excellency the Governor has referred to the question of new duties that have devolved on the people for which the responsibility rests upon the Government to see that the people exercise their franchise. What is the time left? The time is probably ten months—the highest maximum limit is probably ten months. Within that time, have we, either as Government or in any other

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capacity, seen to it that the crores of voters in the Madras State, have acquired that amount of knowledge of politics or that amount of other knowledge that is necessary for the purpose of exercising their votes?

"Then we find always there are complaints even in the way things are done. I am glad the Estates Abolition programme has been carried out, but there are murmurs that Government have taken charge of the collections in estates even in cases where they have not been notified. In some cases, settlement officers have not been administering the Act according to the rules sent to them because they have probably not properly understood them.

"Madam, it was stated—and we have figures placed before the Assembly—that there has been a heavy incidence of cholera. Though it was avoidable and a mobile unit could have easily and immediately tackled it nothing has been done to prevent deaths.

"With regard to one or two other matters, I thought I might refer on this occasion. Madras alone is in the unique position of having a Communal Government Order, the spirit of which runs against Articles 15 and 16 of the Constitution, and whatever might have been its necessity in the past, it is a relic of the Justice Party.

"Madam, Articles 15 and 16 of the Fundamental Rights state:

"15. The State shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them."

"16. There shall be equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters relating to employment or appointment to any office under the State."

So far as Article 15 is concerned, we have tried to tell the other section, Muslims, Christians, etc., in the Constituent Assembly, that they should remain within and abide, with the exception of Backward classes, by the Constitution and that they should not seek any priority. Yet this anachronism of Communal Government Order is there and I expected an announcement in His Excellency's address that this thing has lapsed on account of the Constitution. We waited to hear that that would be done and I thought that would have been a capital gift.

"There are several other things, but on account of pressure of time I could not deal with them just at present. But there is only one thing. On account of the fact that more work is thrown upon us in the Democratic Republic more departments have to be created and people have to be encouraged. But, there is a general complaint that things are not done as they ought to be done. Take for instance, the Harijan department. We have created a number of Harijan Welfare Officers and a special department has also been created, but still the number of wells sunk and number of other works undertaken is not as much as it was before the separate department was created. Efficiency has to come first and we cannot possibly abide by all the red-tapism that strangled us in the past. What we should have done in the Democratic Republic is, that the thing must be done and done at the earliest possible time and in the quickest possible manner and we should not hang the public by red-tape. I thank His Excellency for his address and I wish all the problems dealt with in His Excellency's address were tackled by the Government."

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* MR. H. O. FOWLER:—“ Madam Deputy Speaker, this being the first session when we are meeting here, as legislators of this State, after our country has declared itself a Sovereign Democratic Republic, I would like to take this opportunity first of all, to place on record, as the representative of one of the minority communities, my very deep sense of gratitude for the fair and generous treatment meted out to the minorities under the new Constitution. Perhaps it would not be out of place for me, on behalf of the community I represent in this State, to pledge our whole-hearted loyalty to the new Republic, of which we are proud citizens to-day.

“ I rise, Madam, to support the motion, but I do so with a sense of real disappointment. The speech which His Excellency was pleased to deliver to us was (with all due respect to His Excellency) one full of lofty ideals, but one which did not seem to take cognizance of the grim realities that are facing us to-day. I would call his address a catalogue of pious resolutions, mostly concerning long term policies. Now, anybody would agree that these long term policies are absolutely essential for any progressive State, but we are faced with so many urgent problems, that are of far-reaching consequences, that I feel many of us were disappointed that His Excellency did not make any mention of these problems or the way in which his Government are going to tackle them. Unfortunately for us, Madam, the word ‘ Communist ’ today is being used very loosely, and I am afraid that there are many who merely because of their non-support of the present Government, have been branded as Communists. I make bold to say that communism, real communism, has a very small place in our country to-day. Our communism is not the communism of reasoning minds but the communism of empty stomachs. And that is the major problem for us in this State to tackle. What are we doing to fill these empty stomachs? His Excellency was pleased to use the words ‘ top priority ’. In my own humble opinion, I consider it, to be of extremely top priority to see that the common man feels that the essentials of life are provided for him. I consider it our top priority to-day to see that these empty stomachs are fed; to see that the homeless people have roofs over their heads; that those who are naked have shirts to their backs and that the unemployed who are discontented are found some suitable and honest types of work. There is no sense in planning for results after five years. Unless we solve these urgent problems and solve them in the near future we are bound to regret all these long-term policies and we are bound to find that all these resolutions of ours are nothing more than empty words. This is the situation as I can see to-day, a grim situation; and I feel that this is not the time (to use a medical allusion) for potions or pills, but it is the time for the surgeon's knife. Unfortunately for us, we are inclined to assume that if we send a few people to jail things will quieten down. But, I am absolutely certain that it is no solution to our problems. Unless we give a fair deal to the common man, I am sure that all of us, who are responsible for the Government of the State are going to regret it. It is imperative that we should tackle this problem and

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tackle it immediately or else not only the poorer man but every one of us is bound to suffer in the repercussion. This Madam, I agree, is a colossal challenge to us; and I would ask this question: Are we, who are responsible for the Government of this State, going to face this problem and try to conquer it or are we going to run away from it and let it conquer us?”

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“ Madam Deputy Speaker, 3-15
this is an occasion on which we get an opportunity to review the .m.
general policies of the Government that are placed before us for the future. I am not going to deal with our achievements of the past.

“ I am glad that the address begins very properly with an important thing, namely, the coming elections, for it is good that we have an awareness that the people are watching us. It is good that we have not forgotten the people, though we have not served them to the limit of our capacity. In such statements as His Excellency makes, it is expected that the Government would put down in a very general but still in a very understandable form what they are going to do in the immediate future and it is good to be told that we are going to face elections very soon and it is then that the people will ask: Are you good enough, are you competent enough and are you efficient enough, to tackle the problems that will arise from day to day and which will pertain to the raising of the living standards of the masses of our people?

“ I shall content myself with a few observations on the food situation and public health. If parliamentary traditions are to be maintained, it is not enough for members of the Opposition or for that, members of our party to play political acrobatics or to indulge in mutual adulation or conventional flattery; it is necessary if members feel that what the Government have done is not enough to meet the situation, to sketch out an alternative policy.

“ We know, Madam, that the seasons have not been favourable and against a background of a history of two years of drought and failure of rains, it is indeed a terrible thing that we have got to face. The Government have told us that they are expecting bad days to come. But what is the policy they intend to pursue? They know that imports are to be curtailed which is a result of the decision taken by the Government of India. It is no doubt a negative decision but one which could contain positive elements of growth and of enhancement of production in this country if only we could take advantage of the situation in the proper spirit. The alternative left to us is to produce more and more food and not stand merely as supplicants before the doors of the Government of India asking for doles of food for our people. We must understand their difficulties and they must understand ours. I shall attempt to place before the Government an alternative policy: The policy which they have been pursuing in respect of food, I must say, Madam, means nothing to me; it makes no appeal to me. We have tried controls; we have watched their effects upon the people and the alternative left to us is: how long shall this continue; shall we

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modify it or shall we tell the people to what extent controls will be lifted so that people may be infused with hope to pull through these times of famine. We have got to get through this famine whether there are rations or not, whether there are stocks or not, whether the procurement policy brings us enough or not. We have still plenty of resources and we are not fighting with empty hands. No doubt we have to face the problem of hunger which is apparent everywhere in the south. But there is a solution if you are brave enough to put it into execution and get through the famine and that is to tell the people that from September onwards when the new harvest will be coming—as did the great master mind just before his death, who knew instinctively the pulse of the masses—these controls which do not agree with us are bound to go sooner or later and we shall, therefore, take the first step in that direction. I do not mean to suggest that controls must be abolished all at once. You are trying to chew more than you can digest; the area of your controls is very large and you are unable to control the administration. You have lost grip over it. Food is there but it does not reach the people and it is not placed before one and all to their satisfaction. There is in such circumstances one alternative and that is of limiting the rationing to the towns and lift rural rationing at least from September. Tell the people that we shall go through the famine; from now onwards they can look forward to a new policy; tightening your belts, you have been looking forward for some gesture from us and in order to remove your suspicion and misunderstanding and the sullen attitude which some of you adopted towards the Government, we shall give you this policy of lifting of rural controls. Make a bold gesture and you will succeed. If you confine the rationing to the cities and towns and if you give them a sufficient amount of ration so as to prevent the gravitation of foodgrains into the towns, from neighbouring rural areas, you will still get your procurement, from the resources left with them to control a bad situation in the rural areas, if ever any such situation arises there. I can work out the figures but this is neither the time nor the occasion for it and I shall deal with it at length on a cut motion when the Budget comes up for discussion before the House.

“Now, what is your procurement policy—next to nothing. You can seize some grains off and on; you have no doubt a total target and you try to get it somehow or other from some section of the people without any policy. You are not very efficient in your procurement policy. Big landlords to whom all sorts of facilities are provided by you by way of manure and seeds, run away with them; they earn money and fill their pockets by growing non-food crops and you do not know whether it is food crops that they grow or cane or tobacco or turmeric. You do not fix any responsibility on that surplus producer. But you are trying that in other fields of work, in the case of mill-owners or other industrialists and you ask them where is your measure of performance? But from these people do you ask for any measure of their performance? Nothing at all. They may grow anything, plantains, turmeric, they may

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raise betel gardens and all these while the people cry aloud for rice and more rice and better rice. Unfortunately no responsibility rests on the big landholders but you grab at the marginal farmer who is only able to grow grains to feed his hungry stomach; you invade his house, open his doors and you walk into it even without a search warrant and take away from him the last part of his stock that he has grown, not so much for his stomach but for seed purposes to be put on the land for the next harvest. Do you think this is a sound policy; it is no policy; it has no basis and you are simply launching prosecutions galore on all sorts of people, big or small and I myself have taken such cases more than once to the notice of the Government and I may tell you the awful result of it. This year because of your foolish policy two such people have not grown food upon their lands, fifty acres each, big landlords who offered in the past 600 and 500 bags for procurement to you in years of drought and failure of rains. Do you think this is a sound policy; do you think there is commonsense in all this? Why do not you show a gesture of relief to poor people and even to surplus producers and say that you have found a new method of fixing responsibility upon them? Supposing the Leader of the House has one thousand acres in his own village, I would expect him and I would even bind him down by a *muchilika* that he would supply all the surplus grains of a particular kind in which we are deficit; I cannot allow him, however powerful and influential he may be, to run away with money in his pockets by growing other non-food crops. I have been urging upon the Government year after year and session after session that it is necessary for the Madras State to stand on its own legs and get through this food situation. It may be asked: What about prices? I may tell you that prices do not rise by the method I have suggested. The marginal producer produces grains for himself and the question of price, therefore, does not arise. It is only to the surplus producer that your hearts go and really to that extent you are a capitalist Government and I must give you lashes upon your back in order to make you realise this. It is then that you bring surplus producers more or less to the position of marketing assistants. You become marketers—I do not say black-marketers; you market your surplus and you should not be treated any more than the person who has in his possession more than he needs.

“Let me come to production. You have no responsibility regarding produce, especially surplus producers. If you have a scheme of giving seeds, manure and other things that will run for two years, it means nothing unless you fix the responsibility on the surplus producer. If you do this your food problem will be solved without simply waiting at the doorsteps of Delhi disturbing their economy and their arrangements saying: We want food, more food and imported food; and you never take it at all even when it is given. The natural way to get through the business is to put far ahead of the sowing season as much help as you can in the hands of those who can grow surplus grains, make them realize their duty to their fellowmen and then you will see the success of your experiment. I am not concerned with your policy and I hope you will

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give heed to this advice and that in good time and combine your policy of procurement with this responsibility on producers to whom you supply manure and other facilities to give a definite kind and quantity of foodgrains.

"Let me take the question of Public Health to which reference has been made. This morning a very good pamphlet was put into my hands—I believe it was prepared by the Economic Adviser to Government. I hope the Hon. Finance Minister will go through it very carefully and the caricatures which reflect very good humour. Expenditure on public health is three pies per rupee on medical accounts, nine pies in the rupee, and expenditure on food production and cattle is one pie per rupee and two pies in every rupee spent by the Government. Is this your programme? Why do you keep the public health programme so much in the fore-front and yet do not spend enough money over it? You know how many avoidable diseases there are. Go to the General Hospital and they can give you statistics of how many typhoid patients are lying on the verandas and in the wards. Each costs a hundred rupees even if he is cured and how many people are there who are suffering from dysentery or dyspepsia or cholera, in respect of which you can take preventive action? You must have known that in periods of drought or after excessive rainfall, you get cholera and other water-borne diseases. It will be all right if you take steps to prevent it; but you do not do it. You want to build more and more hospitals and treat people who are ill. It looks as if you make them ill and you try to treat them. Is that your policy to wait till they get ill and treat them? I wish the Leader of the House will reflect on this for a moment; is it a good policy? Why not you reverse the policy and spend more on public health and environmental sanitation and then if necessary reduce the expenditure on hospitals? Are our people so sick and emaciated as to look forward for the opening of more and more hospitals? If this is your public health policy, I say you will have to attach a hospital to every house in this country. I suggest that you must do something about it at once. You must revise your policies and your notions on public health and all schemes of public health must claim high priority.

3-30 p.m. "If hopes will satisfy the public, nothing else will do it better than this green booklet containing His Excellency's address. The public are watching the Government from outside with anxious care. They are patient to-day and perhaps a little sullen; they have even ceased to clamour for the recognition of their views because every day they are being made aware of the gulf that separates performance from promise. Let the Government bring their promises nearer to performance. Let them not make big statements like the one they have made with regard to the Village Panchayats Bill. They say that the Bill will enable the panchayats to undertake nation-building activities on a large scale! There is something smacking of a false claim. Let us be modest in our claims and tell the public that we are able to do only this much. The public will really appreciate it. One crore of rupees for

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Harijan Uplift and four crores for Firka Development are amounts which the Government never spend. In the course of the budget discussion, I will show that my Hon. Friend has mere book balances and spends very little in actual practice. That is not the way to deal with things. If the Government are serious, let them build up a good administration, decide matters of policy, and give the administration the freedom that it must enjoy in the proper implementation of those policies. I make bold to say that under the present Ministry administrative interference has been the largest ever on record. The Ministry may not admit it but the services will certainly respond with a bold 'yes' to my claim. The service is assuming an attitude of irresponsibility. It says: "Ministers will tour and give orders. Why should we bother?" Is that the way in which we should do things? Has Mr. Attlee been running up and down the country from morning till evening? England has got finer railway saloons and provides more conveniences. Until the elections came, Mr. Attlee was pinned to his seat in No. 10, Downing street, except for a brief holiday and dealt with the situation arising from day to day from his headquarters. Our Government must learn to do likewise. A democratic ministry must stay at headquarters and work all the eight hours. Let the Ministers take a holiday if they like, go to their home country, do agriculture or gardening or some such thing which will provide them with a pleasant diversion.

"The address is very polite, well-meaning and couched in good language. But if it had disclosed as much hold on the problems of the day as it is suave, it would have been more inspiring and given to the country a correct lead for which it is anxiously waiting. Give the correct lead. Don't be trembling in your shoes. Don't feel stagnant. Make a move. You are not moving in the matter of food, you are not moving in the matter of public health. Please for Heaven's sake move, move not in the trains but move and apply your minds. Then I say there will be improvement and we can go to the people at the end of our term of office and before the next election and tell them: We have been good enough, we have been competent enough, we have been efficient enough."

JANAB MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I have nothing but sympathy for the Government. His Excellency the Governor, as the Head of the Government, stated the problems facing the country in his own way. No doubt the problems are stated but their solutions are not given. Where the solutions are given, they are not satisfactory. Where they are satisfactory, beneficial results could not be achieved from them on account of the inefficiency in administration. That seems to be the trend of the criticism on the address. The two speakers who preceded me, Mr. Fowler and Mr. N. S. Varadachari, have made it very plain that the question of food is intrinsically connected with the political unrest in India, especially in our Province and the more so in the district to which I have the honour to belong. It is the primary duty of a Government to maintain peace and tranquility

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which in the legalistic language are known as law and order. For, without these, the Government cannot administer and the people cannot progress. My Friend, Mr. Fowler said that unless the Government removed the causes for the spread of Communism, they would have to regret in the near future. But I fail to understand what his solution to the problem is. His Excellency the Governor has referred to the food problem. But how to tackle it is the question. My Friend, Mr. N. S. Varadachari tried to solve it in his own way. He said that there was inefficiency in administration, that the executive did not feel its responsibility and that hence rationing and control had failed. But what is the remedy? He suggests that rationing should be abolished in the rural parts and that it should be retained only in towns and cities. I do not know whether this haphazard way of solving the food problem will do any good at all. He took cudgels against the Government for the inefficient way in which procurement is done. I am aware of many cases of great hardship to persons who do not deserve to be treated in the way they have been treated by the Government. It is also true that procurement has for its basis not a reasoned or logical procedure. Some procedure is laid down by the Board of Revenue or the Government and, when put into effect by the lower officials, it has always gone wrong. If Mr. Varadachari's suggestion that there should be no procurement at all is accepted, I do not know where we will land ourselves. For some years we have had experience of decontrol and to our great distress and shame we found that nobody who had surplus foodgrains parted with that surplus smilingly. Therefore, there is no other go for us except to procure and procure intensively. But I do not approve of the methods by which this procurement is done. It is again characterised by the same inefficiency of administration which has been voiced by one and all on both sides of the House. One Member had said to the extent of saying that the administration had deteriorated and that that was the public opinion in the country. How far this is true is for the Government to examine and set right the defects without fear or favour. To save the poor and the lower middle class people and the landless agricultural labourers from starvation, it is necessary to continue procurement till such time as there is a certainty of surplus food in the Province. If at any weak moment the Government relax their procurement policy, they will be hastening the advent of the Communists. I understand that there is the method of procurement on the levy basis. Let the Government try this method as it is a fair method and as there is less scope for corruption and inefficiency in it.

3-45 p.m. "Then Madam, with regard to production, I entirely agree with my hon. Friend, Mr. Varadachari as to the methods that are to be employed, but the Government are trying to encourage production by adopting their own means and methods, and I am not so hopeful that they will produce results which are expected of them. One thing however stands in bold relief and that is their irrigation policy. Thanks to the Public Works Department, it is trying to do its little bit. I am not now speaking of those long-term

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schemes which are in themselves very necessary no doubt, and if we had only such long-term plans and schemes some years before and had carried them into execution by now, certainly this present food problem would have been a matter of the past. But I wish here to refer only to short-term schemes which the Government are going to take up on hand immediately to tide over the present food crisis, such as the tank restoration schemes, wells schemes, etc. Even with regard to these schemes, we have not fixed the targets for the year 1951. While we are in this predicament, Madam, we are threatened by the Government of India that no foodgrains would be imported into this country after 1951 from outside, that they would no longer be able to supply food to the Provinces and that the Provinces should make themselves self-sufficient by 1951. But from all that we see and hear and feel, it looks as if it would be impossible for this Province to become self-sufficient in the matter of food by 1951. We are actually placed between what is called the devil and the deep sea. I do not know how the Government are going to solve this problem.

"Now, Madam, I should like to touch upon the consequences of a policy which has led us now here in the matter of food production. As I said at the beginning, the primary duty of the Government is to maintain law and order. How are you going to maintain law and order when the people are starving and when there is not enough food-production in the country? You cannot maintain law and order under these conditions, without infringing upon the elementary rights of the people. You must have recourse to repression—it may be of persons who are guilty of violence in the first instance. But repression will not stop at that stage. It will go on increasing the more it is resorted to. But I ask, is that a sound policy? Will it be good to the country? Where is it going to lead you to? Now Communism in its violent form which it has assumed in certain districts in this Province is really going to prove a great menace in the course of a few months. There cannot be any two opinions about it. Are you going to put that down by clapping these persons into jails and by killing them one here and one there? No doubt, it is necessary that people who come within the mischief of the law should be punished and it is also necessary, where the situation becomes beyond control, to open fire; but can an organized Government afford to do what the Communists are doing at present? Can the Police officials go to a village where there is Communist trouble and even when the Communist submits and surrenders himself to the police, shoot him down? Certainly you cannot do that. A Communist is a desperate man and he can afford to do anything he likes, but certainly not a Government official or a Police official. After I returned from New Delhi, a few friends of mine met me at a certain place and they told me plainly that in the Krishna district a person who was suspected to be a Communist, but who was amenable to the orders of the Government and who could easily be brought and put into jail had been shot by the Police. That is not what a Government should do.

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"Secondly, Madam, what is happening now in the border villages? During nights the Communists come to these villages, plunder, rob and loot the people and carry away their weapons and on the next morning the Government officials and the Police officials come and beat the very same people, because they had not given information to the Police beforehand that the Communists were coming to those villages. They ask the people of the village, 'Why don't you inform us beforehand that the Communists are coming into your village?' Why do you help the Communists and connive at them?" Therefore, Madam, during the day-time, it is the Government officials who are doing the zoolum, while during nights, the Communists are doing the same. Thus the people in the border villages are in this predicament. I want that some of our Ministers themselves should go to those villages and find out how they are getting on."

SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I am afraid there is no quorum in the House."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"No, there is quorum. The hon. Member may continue his speech."

JANAB MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—"If any of our Ministers actually visit some of these border villages, the people there would clearly describe to them in what a helpless condition they are in. The Government are not in a position to place a regiment or a Police party in every village. Then how are they going to solve this problem of the maintenance of law and order and to put down the Communist menace? They must find out some other alternative for this. It is not possible for the Government to arm the villagers themselves and give them some aid and protection. The villagers are in such a miserable condition. I cannot describe it in words. In fact, in some villages, the Government are trying to give arms to the people and train them in self-defence. I want the Hon. Leader of the House and the Hon. Minister in charge of the Police to visit these villages and see things for themselves and investigate into the matter. Many responsible persons have told me that in the name of law and order the police are creating a zoolum in these villages and in the name of Soviet Communism, the Communists are committing the same sort of atrocities during nights. This is the general opinion, the honest opinion, not of this or that person, but of persons whose opinions count and on whom you can rely upon. Therefore, Madam, this is not the way to solve the problem of maintaining law and order or to combat the Communist menace. As my hon. Friend Mr. Fowler has put it, you must find out the real causes which go to swell the number of the Communists and try to eschew those causes. You must not make the field fertile for the growth of Communism, by actions such as these. You must try to eliminate the causes of discontent and suffering among the people. The villagers who are already victims of the Communists should not be made further victims of the

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Police zoolum. I make bold to say that it is this state of affairs in this Province, or at least in some parts of this Province, that is going to lead to anarchy. Now we see what is happening in West Bengal and Calcutta. There the problem of the maintenance of law and order has gone out of control. But as far as this Province of Madras is concerned, I should think that Andhra presents a problem of problems, so far as the Communist menace is concerned. It is true that the Government are doing their very best to combat the menace, but they will not be able to do so successfully, if they follow the same methods as they have been following till now. They must chalk out some other effective method of protecting the people in the border villages and they must, at the same time, issue strict orders to the Police that they should not deal with the villagers in the manner in which they have been dealing with them all along. I am afraid, Madam, that if things continue in this manner, those border villages of the Andhra districts will lead us into anarchy. That is the warning that I give on the floor of this House and I do so on very good authority and on the representations made to me by responsible persons, by lawyers, merchants and by many public men. It is enough if you go and sound their minds, and you will know what are the feelings working in their minds. I submit, Madam, that the situation is fraught with dangerous possibilities and the Government should not sleep over this matter in a complacent mood. Let me, Madam, before I close, once again emphasize that this is a very serious matter and I do hope that the Government will take the earliest opportunity to visit those villages and investigate into the matter and remove the causes of discontent and remedy and set right the defects prevailing therein, not only with a view to put down the Communist menace, but also to warn the officials and the Police, who, in the name of law and order have been infringing upon the elementary rights of the people in those villages, from indulging in such practices."

* KUMAR ZAMINDAR OF VUYYUR:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, while I wholeheartedly associate myself with the sentiments expressed by my hon. Friend Sri Bapineedu in thanking His Excellency for the address which he delivered to both Houses of the Legislature, I want to point out some of what I think are the omissions in that address. First of all, the most important problem that is agitating the minds of all people in the Andhra Desa is the question of the creation of a separate Andhra Province. But I find no mention whatsoever of it in His Excellency's address."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"It is not agitating in our minds."

KUMAR ZAMINDAR OF VUYYUR:—"Perhaps it may be so in the mind of the hon. Member, but we all thought that the Andhra Province would have come into existence with the advent of the Indian Republic, because it had been our pious

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hope and our pious dream for a generation and more. But I regret to find that there is no mention at all about that in the address of His Excellency and this is indeed very disappointing to us. No doubt, of course, the whole matter is now under the consideration of the Central Government, and we see from the papers that it is bound to come soon and that there are not as many difficulties now as were imagined at the beginning. Anyhow the mention of it in the address that it would come, would have satisfied the public feelings, at any rate, of the majority of the people in the Andhra districts.

"Madam, the next question about which we see no mention in His Excellency's address is the taking over of the zamindaris. Of course, no zamindar is anxious to retain his zamindari. But our real regret is that His Excellency did not mention anything about the payment of compensation to the zamindars, whose estates have been taken over by the Government. Hon. Members perhaps know that compensation has not yet been paid to the zamindars whose estates have been taken over by the Government already, although it was assured to them that compensation would be paid before their zamindaris were taken over. But even in respect of the small estates that had been taken over, compensation has not yet been paid to the estate-holders, and, as far as I know, no assurance has been forthcoming that it will be paid very soon. There are many more estates which remain to be taken over yet. For them also, there is no assurance given as to when they would be taken over. Both the zamindars and the ryots want that these estates should be taken over very soon. Some indication in His Excellency's address about these points would have a very great significance, especially at the present juncture, because the Government are going to nationalize some of the industrial and agricultural properties in the near future, consequent on the recommendations of the Agrarian Reforms Enquiry Committee.

4 p.m. "In view of the agrarian reforms that are on the anvil of the legislature, land has to be taken from the bigger landholders, and given to other people, and compensation will have to be paid. Payment of compensation to zamindars, whose lands are to be nationalized by the Congress Government first, has a lot of significance to the future legislation and the confidence of people in the payment of compensation to industrial property or agricultural property. I am sure the Government will consider this question and see that compensation is paid soon, and that the other zamindaris are also taken over soon.

"The other question that is most important is food production. As the hon. Member Sri Varadachari pointed out, the process of procurement is not satisfactory. I find that the procurement staff have evolved a system of procurement called 'the sampling system'. According to this system, an acre or so of land is taken as sample for harvest by some of the officials. The surplus that is available from that sample acre is taken to be the surplus for all the fields in the whole district or taluk. I must

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say that this is a very dangerous procedure, because the inclemencies of weather will affect the yield in the coastal districts of West Godavari, East Godavari and Guntur. There has been a cyclone there recently, and by some whims of Nature an acre which could produce ten bags of paddy produced only about two bags. Sampling system under such cyclonic and unusual conditions is very dangerous. I actually know of a tenant possessing about 10 acres of land. The harvest of his lands was only about 50 bags of paddy. That is not even sufficient for his own consumption. But yet he gets a notice to give ten or fifteen bags to Government. This sort of procurement is very dangerous. I do not say that we should not procure. We must procure only the surplus from the people. The procurement system needs revision, and I am sure the Government will take up this point and see what necessary changes should be made in the procurement rules.

"Coming to the production side, Madam, we all know our leader Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru saying that, by 1952, we must become self-sufficient in the matter of food. We are surely to become self-sufficient because we cannot afford to waste two hundred or one hundred and fifty crores of rupees on imports. How to become self-sufficient? Seeing the present progress, I personally do not feel confident that it is possible.

"There is another point that I should like to mention. The Ramapadasagar Project would take 10 or 15 or 20 years to come into existence. There is no mention of this project in His Excellency the Governor's address. The Andhra feeling is very strong on this point, and there is a feeling, as you all know, that Andhra districts are neglected. The mention of this Ramapadasagar Project in His Excellency the Governor's address would, I think, have removed this feeling. I came to know that some modified Ramapadasagar Project is being investigated. I hoped to learn from His Excellency's address that the modified Ramapadasagar Project would be possible. That also I did not find. His Excellency the Governor has mentioned the minor irrigation works in his address. If we take the Krishna district, there is the Budameru which is causing immense damage not only in the year of cyclone, but in every year. It is stated that this is being investigated. I do not know what is happening to these investigations. No progress has been made after the investigation. I learn—I cannot say it authoritatively—that there are two aspects to this project. One is the bunding and repairing of the course of the Budameru river. The bunding and draining of the river alone would prevent the flooding of nearly 13,000 acres. This is not going to be very costly, but even this has not been done so far. If the reservoir is built, there is scope for a lakh of acres to be irrigated and more food produced. In West Godavari, there is one Tumileru Project which also has been investigated. The staff have been appointed. This project also is not put into execution. If this project materialises, another 50,000 acres would come under the

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plough. Budameru leads to Kolleru which is a big marshy area of perhaps 200 square miles. If that Kolleru is drained properly, lot of acreage can be cultivated and more food can be produced. All this does not require immense expenditure like big projects. I request the Hon. Minister for Public Works to see that the Grow More Food campaign is supported, and also incidentally the Andhra feeling that the Andhra districts are neglected, is removed.

"Another important point is about the morale of officials. We thought that, after the advent of Independence, there would be a change of outlook on the part of the officials. I am sorry to say that that is not so. Independence and the dawning of Republic would not have much significance if they do not mean a change in the mental and moral outlook of the people and our officials. His Excellency the Governor's address seems to me to be satisfied with the present condition of our officials who have to put into execution the projects of the Government. A warning and an exhortation to the officials that they must be more patriotic and more honest should have been, I think, quite an important factor, because to put an end to the subversive activities that are going on, our higher Police officials and Revenue officials must be sure of the sincerity and efficiency of the staff. I am afraid that our Government have not yet realized the seriousness of the consequences. I ask the Government to take note of these facts and see that the staff are made more efficient. There are many good points in the address over which we need not take much time, because we must see what are our defects. The Panchayats Bill and the various other Bills that are coming, really show the anxiety of our Government to give effect to our ideals and our promises mentioned in the election manifesto. The Government promised the Land Mortgage Banks Act. We find that most of the land mortgage banks have hitherto been giving money only for the redemption of prior debts. About 90 per cent of the capital seems to be spent for the relief of past debts, so much so the tenants are complaining that they are not getting enough money for land development. In future, I think, more money would be given, and the land mortgage banks would provide more scope for real help to the tenants. I hope red-tape will be removed, and more credits will be given to people for the development of their lands, and thus they will be enabled to produce more food.

"With these few remarks, I support the motion to thank His Excellency the Governor for his fine address, and I request Government to take note of these few points mentioned by me."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—Madam, Deputy Speaker, I rise to support the motion moved by my hon. Friend Sri Bapi. needu. The address of His Excellency the Governor has dealt with many things done and are to be done. I feel that nothing

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has been done so far to improve the condition of the common man about whom so much has been said. As regards food production, no appreciable progress has been made. No efforts have so far been taken to bring under cultivation much of the waste lands. In my speeches in this Assembly, I have suggested many times that collective farming and State farming must be introduced with modern agricultural implements. But, in spite of all that, no experiment has so far been made. Our Government are only busy just to maintain law and order. Of course, maintenance of law and order is very essential. But unless we take up the constructive side, we cannot do anything better for the uplift of the masses. We did not get this Freedom nor did we declare Bharat a Republic after a bloody revolution. Everything appears to be as if it were a miracle that has happened. We are to-day under the Republican Flag. It is all due to the great saint and patriot Mahatmaji, his ideals and his weapon of non-violent non-cooperation that made us reach our goal so soon and so easily. That is why we are unable to assess the real value, and we are still going on with the same machinery. The engine is the same, but the carriages are new ones. (At this stage, Mr. Speaker occupied the Chair.)

"I suggest that, for Heaven's sake, we shall sit together and consider for some time what we have done so far before we think of what we have to do and what we will do in future. There should be a plan in all our dealings. Without a planned economy, the Government will not be able to improve the condition of the masses nor will they be able to hold the power that they have snatched from the British. Already elements which are anti-national are working to deprive us of power. As we see in papers, the incident that took place in Salem is the work of those anti-national elements who are bent upon creating anarchy in this country and dethroning the Congress Ministry and interested only in creating confusion and bringing in a power which is foreign to us again to dominate us. This is not an isolated incident. From Cape Comorin to the Himalayas, in jails and outside, they are following a policy detrimental to the interests of the people themselves though they say it is in their interest. They want to bring about a bloody revolution in this country where we attained our freedom peacefully. I would only think that they are following a wrong policy and if they really open their eyes they will see that after the attainment of freedom through peaceful means and after the adult franchise they can obtain their goal, if at all there is anything yet to be obtained, through peaceful non-violent means. But, if the Government do not adopt stringent measures, they will not be able to administer. In that way, I appreciate that the Government must be strong. But, at the same time, it is shocking to learn that in Salem jail some 20 prisoners have been shot down. Any ordinary human being will feel thrice before he can come to any conclusion. He will think over what made the Government use such a force over the unarmed prisoners, and what was the provocation that was responsible for the shooting down of 20 convicts. There is not enough material before me to say anything on the matter and I would only

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await a statement from the Government, after the return of the Minister in charge of Prisons, as to the actual facts that led to this incident. If we find some irresponsible officer has wrongfully committed excess, it is our duty to be bold enough to say to the people that the particular officer has committed excess and beg the pardon of the people.

"Now, elections are nearing, as His Excellency said, and in these elections I am sure we will have the majority of votes. I am not a pessimist but an optimist. I know our Government have committed mistakes; but knowingly, I am sure they have not committed mistakes. (Mr. B. S. Murthi: Blunders.) All the hon. Members are responsible for those blunders, because we are representatives of the people. I am a member, so also my hon. Friend Mr. Gopala Reddi is a member of the Assembly and we are representatives of the people. He has come here not in order to misuse his power. With the good wishes of all, he has joined the Ministry, but if he has committed any blunders, he will be able to realize his mistake and correct himself; so also all the other Ministers.

"In conclusion, I would only analyse what I have said, that in food production schemes we must take up minor irrigation schemes, and as regards procurement and distribution, controls must go altogether and we must take courage into our hands to feed the people. See that the food is distributed properly, fix the prices; if anybody sells a particular commodity at a price higher than that fixed, he may be sentenced to 7 years or 14 years' imprisonment or even be hanged. If such a policy is followed, then only the blackmarketing will go. Have co-lective farms or State farms, and bring under control all the waste land. I wish the Government, instead of talking much, may have a plan spread over a number of years and proceed according to that plan. In that plan, they must follow a socialistic system, unless you destroy the private ownership of the means of production, there is no salvation for the country and the humanity. The only remedy is Gandhian socialism, non-violence, ahimsa and truth. Unless you follow that, you cannot govern better and give better facilities to the poor and the needy."

SRI L. C. PAIS:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the main resolution and in doing so, I would just make a few remarks."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I fix a time-limit of 10 minutes for each speaker."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"It is too short, Sir. We are sitting only for two days."

MR. SPEAKER:—"But the hon. Members have got another opportunity on the 16th."

* SRI L. C. PAIS:—"Sir, I refer in the first place to paragraph 2 of His Excellency's address where His Excellency refers to two matters, first to the great ideals which are set forth in our Constitution and secondly, to the necessity of carrying out

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these ideals into actual practice. The ideals set forth in the Constitution have to be taken alongside the fundamental rights which also find a proper place in the Constitution. I belong to one of the minority communities; I am a Christian and speaking for and on behalf of the Christians. I might say—and I do not think I will be contradicted in this matter—that every cherished object of ours, every cherished ideal, and every fundamental right have been correctly, properly, and generously embodied in the Constitution. I may go even further and say that in no Constitution probably in the whole world have these fundamental rights been so meticulously and so correctly defined and codified as in the Indian Constitution. The problem of the minorities in future therefore, is simply this—whether these great ideals and the fundamental rights which are put into the Constitution will, as a matter of fact, be translated into action. That is the main question which the minorities to-day are perturbed about. I fully concede that it is a difficult situation. A great deal of generosity and accommodation will be necessary on behalf of the majorities and I will also say a good deal of sweet reasonableness will be necessary on behalf of the minorities. One of the ideals set forth in the Constitution is the ideal of a secular democratic state which means every man will have equal opportunities and no man will be preferred or made to suffer because he happens to belong to a particular caste or creed. We have been free for the last two and a half years and there was ample opportunity for the Government to put into practice these great ideals. And the question that pertinently arises for consideration is whether these ideals are being actually translated into action. I would only refer the Government to four matters and ask them whether their policy so far at least as these four matters are concerned, does not require reconsideration.

"I refer, in the first place, to the communal Government order. My opinion and also the opinion of many people here is that a communal Government order of this kind has certainly no place in a secular state.

"I refer next to the discrimination that is daily shown as between Hindu Harijans and Harijan converts into other religions. I do not for a moment wish to say that anything done for the Harijans must not be done to them. They have suffered far too long and it is my submission that more should be done to them. But my simple position is this—why make this distinction; why carry this discrimination in every day life? The Harijans are entitled to certain privileges. (Interruption.) The moment he converts, these privileges are denied to him and the moment he comes back to the Hindu fold, again these privileges are revived. Of course, the latest amendment is 'after five years'. Is this in consonance with the big principles, big ideals, which we profess to preach?

"The third point I would like to refer to is the question of endowments and also measures like the Requisitioning of Property for educational purposes. I do not want to speak anything

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more on this point because there has been enough discussion on this subject on the floor of the House. I may only remind the House that the safety of democracy lies in the contentment of the minorities and it is for them seriously to consider whether measures like the Requisitioning of Property Bill would bring about the contentment.

"I would refer next to page 3 of the address where His Excellency discusses the question of land reform—

"The question of Land Revenue reform has been under the consideration of my Government for some time past. It was thought desirable to await the publication of the report of the Agrarian Reforms Committee appointed by the All-India Congress. The Government propose to constitute a committee of officials and non-officials to examine the present land revenue system and to formulate proposals for its improvement, if it is considered defective."

"Now, it is very clear from what the Governor says and also from the attitude adopted by our own Government that we have no chance of getting any reform in the near future. I admit, that on account of differences of land tenure from one place to another, introducing an uniform agrarian legislation to meet the demands, of everybody is not easy. But some of us have been pressing for just our point, especially the members of South Kanara.

"We want that legislation should be brought to safeguard the rights of the tenants and to prevent indiscriminate eviction of tenants. I know that in 1946 there was a Bill which was almost ready and signed. Subsequently also, there were plenty of opportunities. I was even assured by the Revenue Minister that legislation would be soon forthcoming for safeguarding the interests of the tenants. Now I was told more or less definitely that this Government have given up this legislation. When the Hon. Minister for Law visited South Kanara we put this question. 'Are you bringing this legislation?' He assured us that it was coming in a few days. But as such this Government seem to have no mind to bring a legislation of this sort which certainly affects the vast sections of the tenants in South Kanara. I do not want to say more except to make a passing reference to the policy of Prohibition. It does not lie in the mouth of a congressman to say anything against this policy which is brought about in the best interests of the masses. But the question that is often put to us is, 'At what cost and at what sacrifice are you adopting this policy?' I am connected with the Mangalore Municipality. I may say that most of our nation-building activities are held up because of the simple answer from the Government 'we have no money'. In Mangalore there are 15 roads which require to be tarred and we are asked to select 2 roads per year for tarring. It is a first-grade municipality having 53 miles of roads and hardly 3 to 4 miles are tarred at present. When we approach the Government and say that there are things like tarring of roads and other important amenities, we get an answer from the Government, 'we have lost to the extent of Rs. 17 crores and so we cannot give you the required relief'. Although in theory the scheme may be all right, it is practically admitted that in practice it is a failure. It is also stated

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that there is no co-operation from the public. It is for the Government to find out and investigate why there has been no co-operation from the public. With these words, I support the resolution moved by my friend Mr. Bapineedu."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to thank His Excellency the Governor for his Address to this Assembly after the inauguration of independent India, particularly so, when he referred to the object of administration. To dispel the darkness of want, poverty disease and ignorance is really the object of administration. The Madras Ministry also takes credit that their achievements during these three years in making the average man better and happier have been manysided and substantial. During the current year, the Finance Member claims that he has received revenue to the extent of Rs. 56 crores and more and capital income, that means income from capital grant about Rs. 13 crores or more. At the same time he spends the same figure. That is one side of the picture. As regards the other side of the picture, according to the statistics furnished to us by the Economic Adviser to the Madras Government, we find that the real national income per capita of the Province has fallen to 364 crores. That means, it works out at the rate of 12½ per cent as compared with 1938 figures. Other things being equal, the irresistible conclusion is that the people of Madras have begun to live upon their own capital, not upon their own income. This is the real picture that we have to face. Whether the same position will be continued, or not, is for the Government to tackle in a systematic manner.

"With regard to the food policy, I do not understand why there is so much hubbub. It is claimed that we have been annually producing about 8 million tons of foodgrains and we are annually deficient to the extent of four hundred thousand tons of foodgrains. When we produce 8 million tons, is it not possible for us to put additional effort to get the additional four hundred thousand tons also in the same year? There may be a reason for it. They may say that it is an act of God and Nature. It might be so in this year or year before. For the last 4 or 5 years, if they had really pursued the policy with the real objective that this Province should be self-sufficient in the matter of food production, certainly it would have been within the possibility of the Madras Government to have made Madras self-sufficient."

"With regard to other activities, if the Government had as their object, the keeping of the man in the street happier and better in his surroundings and if they had concentrated their attention on this matter, they would not have frittered away their funds. Take for instance the Firka Development Scheme or the Shop Assistants Act. I do not blame that the Shop Assistants Act should not be passed. I want that priority should not be given to the Shop Assistants Act but should be given to any scheme of social security measure, something like unemployment insurance, old age pension or sickness insurance and so forth. If they had spent their funds on such measures, it would have been

[Janab M. A. Muhammad Ibrahim] [13th February 1950]

much better and the national income per capita would have been increased by this time, and they need not cut a sorry figure as they are doing to-day. So also, the same is the case with the Firka Development department. Hon. Friend, Mr. Vaidyanatha Iyer has also dealt with this subject. If they single out the importance of certain cottage industries, their work will be welcome. But they go beyond that. They have spent vast sums of money in so many firkas. Is it all desirable under the existing finances? By frittering away their financial resources in such schemes, they will only be creating trouble thereby reducing our income per capita and a serious situation will have to be faced. Sir, with these words, I close my speech."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to contribute my quota of felicitations to be offered to His Excellency the Governor for the speech that he has made the other day. Sir, the Governor has been pleased to indicate the lines on which his Government are going to work in the next financial year. When I was closely following and attentively listening to the speech, I must say I was greatly disappointed. If it is not to be taken as discourtesy to His Excellency, I would like to call the speech as a dull, insipid and uninspiring speech to the common man, of whom he said in his opening remarks, "the dazzling illuminations with which we lighted up our public buildings on Republic Day can have no meaning unless we bring a portion of that light to the humblest and the meanest homes in our land and dispel the darkness of want and poverty, disease and ignorance". I would like to ask his Ministry, who have given him the material for the speech, whether they are able to do anything to dispel the darkness of want, poverty, disease and ignorance that are now stalking all through the State of Madras. Last time, when we discussed about the cyclone, I repeatedly requested the Government to take earliest steps to see that pestilence did not spread in the cyclone-affected areas. To-day, we have received news from Krishna, West Godavari and Guntur that cholera, smallpox and other pestilences are doing havoc there.

"His Excellency has not spoken anything about food. He has only dilated about the number of schemes which the Government are going to put into operation next year. There is not a word about combating black-market and there is not a word about the prevention of the anti-social elements and the like in his speech. After hearing this speech, if we are asked to say that our Government are going to get a millenium next year, it is to deceive ourselves. After having heard and read the speech, most of us are disillusioned. Not a word has been said about the landless labourer, not a word has been said about the reclamation of the backward communities. The amelioration of the conditions of the Harijans has not been sufficiently dealt with in the speech of the Governor.

"I would like to call the attention of the Government to one or two aspects which have been agitating the minds of the public for some time past. Everywhere we find that the agrarian trouble

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is increasing day by day. Have the Government tried to see how the disease has come into existence, what the remedies are and what they propose to do? Now we have heard in the speech of the Governor that the Government have increased the police force in order to prevent anti-social elements. My humble opinion is that the mere provision for more police force is not enough. On the other hand, the pell-mell beating and the provocation of the police are causing increasing public antipathy to the Government and also to the party which, in season and out of season, have been using the name of Mahatma Gandhi."

SRI T. S. PATTABHIRAMAN:—"You also belong to the same party." 4-45 p.m.

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Yes, I am a Member of the party. And I am not an insignificant member also. I have contributed my utmost to see that the party is respected. I want to remind my hon. Friend that we are all Congressmen and are the *persona grata* of the Congress. Upon our character, capacity and the interest we take in the welfare of the people, depend the popularity of our administration and our organization. All that I want is that the Congressmen should try to get more and more into the hearts of the people.

"Sir, here is an appeal, a memorial rather, presented to the Hon. the Labour Minister to the Government of India, Mr. Jagjivan Ram, when he visited the Andhra areas, by the local people. I was ashamed to read it. However, I feel it my duty to bring to the notice of the Government what had happened in one of the places in our parts, as several of my appeals on the Floor of this House have gone unheard and consequently borne no fruit. My hon. Friend, Mr. Linga Raju, has also issued a statement on the atrocities committed on the Harijan folk. But surprisingly enough, our Ministers, while sitting in this House hear us narrate all these tales and as soon as they get into their rooms, these tales pass out into oblivion, and they begin to enjoy the pleasures of *Omar Khayum*. (Laughter.) It does not mean anything like woman or wine. It is one of the best pieces of poetry and my Hon. Friend, Mr. Gopala Reddi, has also translated it into Telugu. Let me revert to the memorial I have mentioned just now. This memorial was presented by the landless agricultural labourers from the Razole taluk of the East Godavari district to the Labour Minister, Government of India."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Who read the memorial?"

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"I understand the Hon. the Minister's hallucination. Perhaps he thinks that I have a hand in it. Let me assure him that it was a surprise to me when it was handed over to me in the presence of the Minister."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is the hon. Member going to read the entire portion of the memorial?"

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SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"No, Sir, I shall read only two sentences."

"We beseech your honour to listen to the atrocities committed by the Caste Hindus with the assistance of the Police force in several parts of the Andhra Desa and particularly in Razole taluk in the East Godavari district where the Harijans are beaten severely every day and women are being raped and put in concentration camps and subjected to firing; their houses are being set fire to."

During the last four years, I have been begging the Hon. the Ministers to visit such places of occurrence and see if they were not a fact. The other day, I requested the Hon. the Minister for Law to take a trip to the spots where such atrocities have been committed. But they have not done anything so far. I ask, 'are you afraid of facing facts, have not you got the courage to face facts?'. Whether wishy-washy or willy-nilly, they must do justice to their existence as Government and meet out justice to all Congressmen in this Province must prove true to the tenets of Gandhism and must follow in practice the Gandhian principle of giving succour to the poor man. Otherwise, we shall be witnessing the continuance of the present rule of making the rich richer and the poor poorer. The present Government are capitalist-inclined. If anyone goes to anyone of the Minister's rooms, he would find the Minister closeted with a capitalist. (Interruption.) My hon. Friend, Mr. Viswanatham is saying something but he speaks in a low voice though sweetly. I do not catch him."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member's time is up. He has already taken ten minutes."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"His Excellency's address makes mention of a proposal to constitute a committee of officials and non-officials to examine the present land revenue system and formulate proposals for its improvement if it is considered defective. Sir, for ten or fifteen years, we have been agitating for a committee to be set up to go into the question of land-less labour in order to alleviate the sufferings of those people. But nothing has been said in the address about the constitution of such a committee. May I request the Government to examine the conditions of this class of people at least now and take adequate steps to win over their confidence and good-will? This class constitute the teeming millions of this country. The committee when appointed, I suggest, may be asked to consider whether establishment of co-operative colonies could be thought of as a means of ameliorating the conditions of the land-less people, who are now grounded under the feet of these capitalist-ridden, cruel caste-Hindus."

* SRI K. LINGA RAJU:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, our thanks are due to His Excellency for having given us a fairly good review of the Government's work in the past and a rough estimate of the Government's work in the future. Some or almost all the information contained in the address is being doled out to us in the 'Madras Information' but today it has come out with the annotation of the Government whip. So, when I say that our thanks are due to His Excellency, it is not for giving us the information but for affording an opportunity for us to review the

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position. His Excellency has made a very apt reference to the illuminations on the Republic Day. As one who has seen the enthusiasm of the people on previous occasions of the Independence Day and now this Republic Day celebrations—in the last two and a half years—I am very sorry to observe here that something is wrong somewhere. I could not see the same amount of enthusiasm on the Republic Day as I witnessed in August 1947 when India became free. On the former occasion, there was spontaneous jubilation and enthusiasm among the people and no invitations were then necessary to the people to gather in large numbers to express their gratitude to the one Leader of this country and the numerous lieutenants of his. In 1948, the enthusiasm slowly slackened and in 1949 it further slackened with the result that when the Republic Day was celebrated, this enthusiasm could be seen only among a few Government officers who were asked to illuminate their offices and the school children who as on a Durbar day in the past, were expecting a few peppermints. As Congressmen we had a duty to perform, viz., rallying the people on this occasion but what was the reply we got when we approached the people? They said, 'what have you done for us so far?' Sir, I am not unaware of the difficulties of Government, particularly our Government, which have inherited a difficult legacy from the British. For two and a half years, we have been holding on the people with hopes, hopes of different kinds, about food and all other comforts necessary for them. But till now, none of these hopes have been realized—not even a fraction of them. The Government have always been counselling patience. The people can remain patient if they are sure that the Government are moving in the right direction. But what do they find? They see that the Government, professing to go to Delhi get into the Malabar Express. (An hon. Member: What is the relevancy here?) I say that we profess one thing but do the reverse. At this rate, I am afraid the Government cannot carry us to the destination, viz., prosperity and peace. Perhaps, our leader, Mahatma Gandhi had foreseen several of these difficulties and showed us the way. But most of us are lacking and our Government, in particular, lack the courage to follow in his foot-steps. Sir, I have no time to deal at length with the several aspects of the address and let me, therefore, refer to the question of maintenance of law and order about which His Excellency has expressed his entire satisfaction. A few years back we were styled as agitators. We know what is meant. But we are in a difficult position to-day as we are running the Government. Sir, I feel it my painful duty to tell this House that the Police have declared their republic and independence in several areas where they are charged with the duty of protecting life and property of innocent people. There is a Telugu saying that the fence is eating away the crop. I am making references to an incident that occurred at a place ten miles from Rajahmundry where a number of Police officers aided by certain 'gentlemen' went to a village, Maramanda, raided houses, dragged the people out, beat the men and molested women, in the public street. The village Congress President who was an eye-witness to these atrocities was threatened with his life. This

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incident occurred two days after Republic came into existence. My hon. Friend, Mr. Murthi mentioned about the incidents that had taken place in Razole

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Everything is alright now."

SRI K. LINGA RAJU:—"Except for a few women, who have been molested. I am very sorry that ordinary labour troubles are often magnified into huge Communist troubles and some interested gentleman aid the Police and the Malabar Special Police to resort to indiscriminate kicking, with the result that we are losing most of our people from us. In the particular area referred to by my hon. Friend—Razole taluk—land is extensively owned by a few men and small agriculturists go without it. Whenever these people ask for more wages, they are dubbed as Communists. This state of affairs has been obtaining for the last one year but to-day the situation has assumed such proportion that immediate action is called for. It is high time the police are told 'Pray, the Britisher is gone. By committing atrocities on behalf of the Britisher you helped us to win our freedom.' But do not commit atrocities in our name and make us lose our country to the Communists. I do not, Sir, at the same time, deny the existence of Communists and their activity. But, somehow or other, the most confirmed among them escape very mysteriously and the Police in the name of combating Communists perpetrate all sorts of atrocities on the innocent villagers. The victims are mostly innocent men and women. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig was putting in a nutshell the Communists rob the people in the night and the Police do the same thing during day. This state of things is not edifying to any Government. So, I request the Government to go deep into this matter and see that such things are stopped for good."

"Reference has been made to elections. Elections give an opportunity to the people to choose a Government of their liking. We have to seek the vote of the public and it is the voters who should decide whether we can run the Government. So, let us be able to justify our conduct and let us produce a good record to enable us to face the public."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The debate will be continued on the 16th February 1950. The House stands adjourned till 11 a.m. that day."

The House then adjourned.

V.—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

G.O. No. 2557, L.A., dated 21st December 1949, regarding the postponement of the date of elections to Ambapuram Panchayat Board (Krishna).

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, the 16th February 1950.

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

I.—SWEARING-IN OF MEMBERS.

The following Members were sworn in:—

- (1) Sri T. Prakasam,
- (2) Sri D. Durairaja Pandian,
- (3) Dr. U. P. Mallayya.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I wish to know whether there are any more Members who have not taken their oath. If there are any they can come and take their oath now." (No other Member came forward.)

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

II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Mr. Abdul Majid has given notice of an adjournment motion to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance. The motion is as follows:—

'This House do stand adjourned to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, viz., the failure of the Government of Madras to provide immediate distress relief to nearly 7,000 weavers' families of Melapalaiyam, in Tirunelveli district, and arrange for the adequate supply of 20 counts of yarn without which the weavers of that area are to-day facing starvation and death.'

I have already told the House that during the days when we discuss the speech of His Excellency, hon. Members have an opportunity to talk about these matters. So, it comes under the rule of anticipation. I therefore rule it out of order."

III.—DISCUSSION ON HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS—cont.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The debate on His Excellency's speech will now continue. The hon. Leader of the Opposition will now move the amendment that stands in his name."

"I wish to suggest to the House that when a number of Members give notice of amendments, they can take up one comprehensive amendment and discuss it and the others need not move their amendments. Or shall we adopt the ordinary procedure of each amendment being moved and discussed? I leave it to the hon. Members. But in future I think it will be better to take up one comprehensive amendment and leave out all the other amendments."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"But I submit, Sir, each Member may press some point of view; that may not be possible if one

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amendment is taken up. I think if all the amendments are moved at one time, one after the other, the whole thing may be discussed."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The proper procedure will be to take up one comprehensive amendment and ask all the Members to speak on it. It makes no difference at all. However, I shall now allow hon. Members to move all their amendments formally and then we shall have a discussion both on the motion and all the amendments."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Sir, I move—

that the following be added at the end:—

"but regret that while problems and difficulties are multiplying in various directions in the State, Your Excellency's advisers have been following wrong policies and have not taken such steps as would solve those problems and difficulties"

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"I second the amendment."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Amendment moved—

that the following be added at the end:—

"but regret that while problems and difficulties are multiplying in various directions in the State, Your Excellency's advisers have been following wrong policies and have not taken such steps as would solve those problems and difficulties"

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, my amendment is to add the following words at the end:—

"but regret that in spite of advice from high quarters, the Government persist in pursuing the policy of prohibition and khadi which along with other actions of the Government, has resulted in a sense of frustration in the people of the State and heavy financial loss to the Treasury."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"I second the amendment."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Amendment moved—

that the following be added at the end:—

"but regret that in spite of advice from high quarters, the Government persist in pursuing the policy of prohibition and khadi which along with other actions of the Government, has resulted in a sense of frustration in the people of the State and heavy financial loss to the Treasury"

"Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan is not in his place. Mr. Viswanatham will now move his amendment."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"You said the other day, Sir, that a Government Party member cannot move an amendment."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I did not say so at all; how can I prevent an hon. Member from moving his amendment?"

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SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"My amendment runs as follows, Sir:—

that the following be added at the end:—

"but feel disappointed to note that the Address—

(1) indicates no steps to increase the number of Andhras in services in proportion to their population strength, particularly in the Secretariat and offices at the headquarters;

(2) does not promise any special measures to build up the irrigation and electricity projects in the Telugu-speaking areas commensurate with their needs;

(3) gives no indication of the intentions of the Government to abolish the communal Government Order; and

(4) to relieve the State and the people from controls and consequent corruption"

SRI D. KADIRAPPA:—"I second it."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Amendment moved—

that the following be added at the end:—

"but feel disappointed to note that the Address—

(1) indicates no steps to increase the number of Andhras in Services in proportion to their population strength, particularly in the Secretariat and offices at the headquarters;

(2) does not promise any special measures to build up the irrigation and electricity projects in the Telugu-speaking areas commensurate with their needs;

(3) gives no indication of the intentions of the Government to abolish the communal Government Orders; and

(4) to relieve the State and the people from controls and consequent corruption"

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"I move—

that the following be added at the end:—

"but feel that the amelioration of the conditions of the Harijans and other Backward classes in the fields of economic uplift and education must have first priority"

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"I second the amendment."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Amendment moved—

that the following be added at the end:—

"but feel that the amelioration of the conditions of the Harijans and other Backward classes in the fields of economic uplift and education must have first priority"

SRI C. K. GOVINDAN NAIR:—"I am not moving the amendment, Sir."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"Now the motion as well as the amendments are before the House. As regards time-limit, I must tell the House that the hon. Leader of the Opposition is allowed, as you all know, half an hour's time; those who have moved the amendment are allowed twenty minutes and the rest fifteen minutes."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have really to thank His Excellency for the opportunity he has given us through his Address of placing before the House certain things which are of vital importance to the State. I admire the dignity, grace and magnanimity with which His Excellency is performing the functions of the high office held by him, and when I presume to offer any criticism on the contents of his Address, it should not be taken, Sir, as referring to his person or to the high office he is holding. It is only a criticism of the Government whose say we are having in this Address; and it is only a constitutional formality that has made His Excellency say these things instead of his Government. With this preamble, I would crave your indulgence for referring to certain things mentioned in the Address."

"One would thoroughly agree with His Excellency in his Address when he says that the 'dazzling illuminations with which we lighted up our public buildings on Republic Day can have no meaning unless we bring a portion of that light to the humblest and the meanest homes in our land and dispel the darkness of want and poverty, disease and ignorance.' That is probably the ideal and the aim of every Government, particularly a popular Government, Sir. But the Government in the Address have not indicated what are their achievements in those directions mentioned in the Address, i.e., in the direction of dispelling the darkness of want and poverty, disease and ignorance. What is really the position in the State? There is food scarcity stalking the State. Prices are still keeping high. In this connection, there is a strange phenomenon in the Province; that is to say, whenever one speaks of high prices and whenever there are high prices, you will find them accompanied by a plentiful supply of money. But here we find the opposite to be the position. Prices are high, but money is not there, and this is due to the wrong policy of the Government. Production has not increased, and that is another reason for the high prices obtaining in this State as well as in the country. No appreciable progress has been made in the development of the basic industry of the province, i.e., agriculture, and also the other industries. Unemployment is on the increase. The one main aim of any Government, particularly the Government in our country, should be the raising of the standard of living of the people. The Government have not indicated in what measure they have succeeded in that aim. They may say that wages are high to-day but what is the intrinsic value of the wages that the wage-earners are getting? Are they getting more than they were getting some ten years before or are they getting less than they were getting a decade ago? The most pressing thing which demands immediate attention and also which

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requires immediate results to flow from such attention is the scarcity of food. How the present shortage of food is to be met is the question. The Address speaks of the schemes of minor irrigation, well-sinking and the two-year plan. But every one knows these won't give immediate results. For one thing, as I said once before, the two-year plan adumbrated in our State has not borne fruit, because of the floods and cyclone in the northern districts and failure, in consecutive years, of monsoon in the southern districts.

"Minor irrigation schemes and well sinking are not going to solve our immediate deficiency in the matter of food supply. Sir, the Leader of the Upper House is reported to have said that this is not the first time we are having the food difficulty; we had it in the past and we were able to manage it and in the same way we shall be able to manage it at present also and people need not be anxious. Sir, that seems to be his advice and that seems to be the attitude taken by him as the spokesman of the Government. We had, of course, such difficulties in the past and then he says we overcame them. How did we overcome them? Is it by proper rationing to the people, that is, by giving them as much as they required for their proper nourishment? Or, does he mean to say that they managed the situation so that the rationing system did not break down altogether? Sir, we know that the people have been underfed for a number of years in the past and their vitality is now at a very low ebb and the Government cannot go on with impunity and equanimity on this matter. Of course, they say they were able to manage it in the past and that somehow or other they would manage the present situation. I may say that the present situation is quite different from the past and it is not what it was in the past years. Now, Sir, we are in the third year of consecutive failure of monsoon in the State and our difficulties have been piling up and the vitality of the people has been going down and we have had unusual floods and cyclone this year which have made our position still more difficult. Again, Sir, we are asked willy-nilly to cut down the prices of agricultural produce. I say, this is going to affect the production of foodgrain and on top of this all, we are faced with the problem of curtailing our food imports. Sir, as I have already said, the minor irrigation schemes and other schemes of the Government are not going to bear fruit so that we may overcome this grim difficulty which is staring us in the face and I do not think the Government will be able to manage the present situation as they say they were able to manage it in the past. Sir, the Leader of the Upper House who spoke on behalf of the Government is not reported to have said anything clearly as to how the Government propose to solve this food problem, but he says we shall manage it somehow. It is quite characteristic of the Government to say that somehow they will manage things and take care of the people of the Province. Neither have the Government enabled His Excellency to put clearly what the Government intend doing in the matter of food and we do not find any clear idea presented to the House in the Address. I therefore stress this point for one very important reason. The people are not given any clear idea as to how this

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food difficulty is going to be solved. If really they are not satisfied that the food difficulty will be solved and in a reasonable and proper manner, what will happen is people will begin to hoard more, they will not let out any grain they have and as a result procurement will be difficult. Therefore, this policy of vagueness and drift will increase the difficulty of the Government and it will naturally increase the difficulty of the people also.

"Then again, in another direction it will increase the hardship of the people. When the Government see that they are in a pinch and that they want food supplies urgently, they will try to enforce various control measures in a very hard manner. Then that will be creating avoidable and unnecessary hardship to the people and that will make the Government unpopular and will make the controls also naturally unpopular with the people. Therefore, it is, I want the Government to go through all aspects of the question and see how they are going to solve this problem so that the people are not left with the idea that the Government might by some magic or by Pandora's box solve the difficulty of the people. At least in the matter of food they ought to have said things in a more concrete manner and ought to have put forward their plans very plainly and very clearly so that the people may understand them. They ask for the co-operation of the people but they do not say how they ought to co-operate with the Government. People ought to know in what way they ought to co-operate with the Government. So, Sir, I say things must be made clear to them. For this, the Cabinet must sit together, think clearly and put forward a plan and then enforce it as vigorously and rigorously as possible.

"Then, Sir, we do not know what happened at the Food Conference or at the Conference which our Food Minister or any other member of the Cabinet had with the Government of India in the matter of allotting quotas to the Madras State. We do not also know whether the real situation in this State at present was placed before the Government of India. If it had been properly and clearly placed before them, I do not think the Government of India would have allotted 300,000 tons of rice which is considerably less than the quota which was allotted to us last year. Now, our production is even below that of last year. When we could not carry on even with the last year's quota how is it possible to go on with this reduced quota. If really the Government of India had been informed of the present plight of the State I do not understand how the Government of India would have asked us to be satisfied with even less than the quantity given us last year. I am not really able to understand it. Government should tell us what the Government of India expect of us in this matter and how they expect us to manage the situation. The Government of India ought to know that our rate of procurement stands first than the other States of the Union and that our State is doing its best in the matter of the Grow More Food Campaign when compared with the other States. That does not mean the Government are doing what they must do, but when compared with the other States this State is ahead of other States in the

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matter of procurement and Grow More Food Campaign. Having all these things in view, the Government of India would have really appreciated our difficulties when they were represented to them and given us whatever we wanted.

"Now, Sir, the Food Commissioner of the Government of India is reported to have said on a previous occasion that the Government of India will not let any State starve and that they will do their best particularly to help the State of Madras. That was really a reassuring statement though in a vague manner. We do not know what the Government of India are going to do in this connection. Yesterday I saw a report in the papers which rather belied the previous reports."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Order, order. I would request hon. Members not to carry on conversation when the hon. Leader of the Opposition is speaking. I am not able to follow the debate at all."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Sir, our Food Commissioner, Mr. Patil, is reported to have said while referring to the Food position in Madras that he was not quite clear. That is the point I wish to refer. He complains that the matter has not been made clear to him. We have provided the Government of India with whatever information we could, and the Government of India should give a little more to this State, that is, a little more quantity than the quantity given last year, I mean even over and above that lower quota, particularly when we had a larger amount of production in foodgrains. So, perhaps this is the result of what the Government have done with regard to getting assistance from the Government of India. Therefore, Sir, the matter must be made clear and the members of this House would very much like to know what exactly this Government conveyed to the Central Government and what exactly . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has only five more minutes. At 3.45 p.m. the Hon. Minister wants to reply and he may probably take one hour."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"The Hon. Minister may reply even at 6 o'clock. At least now I say this Government must make proper representations to the Government of India. The Government of India have stated that they have already curtailed their imports from 37 lakhs of tons to 13 lakhs of tons. It is really a very serious matter. When they say this, it means they have already settled on the matter of curtailing imports. So it will be difficult for us to get more imports. We must therefore take time by the forelock and tell the Government of India that they have to relax their policy of curtailing imports on account of the circumstances beyond our control which are existing in this State. We must tell them so even now, so that they may not say that it is too late.

"Then, Sir, with regard to the Grow More Food Schemes, I said though the results may not be forthcoming now for our immediate needs, they have an important bearing on the economy

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of our State, but there again the policy adopted by the Government is not satisfactory. Take only one aspect of the problem. Since we are pressed for time, I do not want to go into details over this and in regard to other points and I will take another opportunity, that is, during the time when the Budget is being discussed. Now, I wish to refer only to the Grow More Food campaign. First taking the question of sinking wells, it has been put to the Government time and again that the proper way of dealing with this subject is first of all to make a survey of all underground water resources in the Province. It has been put to them and yet the Government have not done what they ought to do in this connection. They speak of some Investigation Division, but what is that Investigation Division and what is their plan, we are not able to know. If they had only made a survey of the Province two or three years ago, the large amount of money which has been wasted on this campaign would have been directed towards much greater results and the State would have been studded with very useful wells all over the Province.

11-30 a.m. " They have been subsidizing wells in a haphazard manner. Somebody applies for a subsidy; the application is sent to the Revenue Official and the subsidy is given whether a new well has been dug, or whether an old well had been in existence or a new well is going to appear. Had a survey of the underground water resources been taken and a copy of the survey maps left in the Taluk Office and if the availability of the maps had been made known to the people, people would have been able to put money which they receive from the Government to a much better use than they had done so far. They cannot say that this idea did not occur to them; this had been put to them and I do not know whether they paid any serious attention to it.

" Another wrong policy of the Government which is standing in the way of food production, is the failure on the part of the Government to settle the first principles when they took up the question of the abolition of the zamindaris, which we urged, that is, the ownership of properties must be settled. They said they will take care of themselves but that they had given a pledge to the people and therefore, zamindaris must be abolished. There must be a method and a way of doing things; they did not give the pledge to the people that they will do it and that too they will do it irrespective of consequences. Should you not have given your thought to those things side by side and solved the other difficulties attendant upon it? There are hundreds of thousands of waste lands in the State. Some man comes forward and asks that he be given some 300 or 400 acres. That man has got the money and means to improve the land and bring it under the plough but the Government are afraid to give him the land lest they should be twitted with being capitalistic in their outlook. Then, Sir, some poor man comes and applies for three or four acres. Here also there is difficulty for the Government; they say that that man will not be able to put that land to proper use; he does not have the means to do it. So, between these two, they are not able to make any progress; they may not admit this but there it

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is. The Leader of the House once asked us what our constructive suggestions were and this is one of our constructive suggestions that we make and I say these are suggestions that had been ignored by the Government to the detriment of the interests of the State. They have to settle the principle if they want to make any progress in the matter of food production.

" The Address, I am sorry, Sir, does not make any reference to one important matter, namely, the separation of the Andhra Province. There, again, Sir, the Government have pursued a wrong policy. Why did they all of a sudden start this subject? Of course, people were clamouring for it but if they were in the know of things, if they were sensible people, they ought to have known that there are difficulties and that they ought to try and satisfy the people. They were forced and they allowed themselves to be forced to take up this question. When they first took up the matter, they said that they could not settle the matter before the 26th of January and that with difficulty, they would complete it by the first of April. It was with this idea they were proceeding but in the middle because of the pressure exerted upon them, they said that it looked as though they could complete the matter even before the 26th of January and they were proceeding about it in red-hot haste. Then what happened? The whole question was torpedoed and they say now that the matter has fallen through, after having split hairs over it and having raised so much bitterness; a sense of frustration has been created in the mind of the people and the Government of Madras do not say what is really the position and what exactly the Government of India have told them, whether they have asked them to drop the matter once for all or whether the Government of India are going to take up the matter in the near future or whether they expect this Government to take it up in the near future; we are in the dark about these things and no information has been given by the Government and the Address does not make any reference to it. They must know it is a matter that has been agitating the minds of the people to the exclusion of every other subject for weeks and weeks.

" The Address makes reference to the Untouchables, the Harijans, please excuse me, Sir, that word has gone out of existence and out of our dictionary and it is wrong to refer to any as Untouchables or to speak of untouchability in the country as it does not exist under the Constitution. They say that everything possible is done for the uplift of the Harijans and they have even established a Welfare Department for the Harijans. It is quite in keeping with the lines adopted by the Government but we do not know what is being done and whether the old stigma has been liquidated. They allotted a crore of rupees for their uplift schemes some years ago and they were again and again living upon their reputation of having allotted that amount whenever they were asked what schemes had been adumbrated for utilizing the amount to the best advantage of the Harijans and no satisfactory reply was forthcoming. I may say, Sir, that this one crore of rupees is a paltry sum when compared with the huge

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problem to be tackled. The Government must make it clear what benefits had accrued to the community. In that connexion, I may say, Sir, there are several minorities and the Address has not made any reference to the other minorities. Can they do away with these minorities by ignoring them? These people are eliminated from economic spheres; they are eliminated from representation in the Government and it cannot be said that these things are done after consideration of respective merit. I only say, Sir, that discontent created in the mind of the minority is not good.

"Let me take the question of State finances. You know, State Autonomy and State finance are very important questions but I will only touch mainly upon State finance. You know, Sir, Agriculture, Education, Public Health, Irrigation, Industrial Development . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member was a Member of the Constituent Assembly and he could have done all those things there."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Sir, I submit that what this Government could have done, they have not done and that is my complaint. We took up this matter there but the Government of Madras failed to support us and that is why the whole matter was thrown overboard. We were crying hoarse over it and I charge this Government with not having supported us and I want them to tell the House how they are going to meet the difficulties created by their remissness. These subjects are Provincial subjects and they are called nation-building departments. I wish to know what are the financial means that are left to the State. Land revenue is dwindling and there is no excise revenue and the only important item is the sales tax and even there the Centre has encroached upon the Provincial sphere, as all the sales tax is not left to the State. What are the Government going to do? What are they going to do for the development of the State and with what resources?"

"In the matter of food, agriculture is a very important item and fixing of prices is of vital importance to agriculture if one wants to develop agriculture but that is in the hands of the Centre, whereas you have somehow to take care of agriculture. I am very much grieved that the State has not done all that it ought to have done in the matter of securing finances for carrying out these nation-building activities. The Government cannot always depend upon grants and doles from the Centre. At best, they are uncertain and this Government cannot make their plan depend upon their grants. There was a scheme and the Finance Minister was told that the Centre could not give any money and he adopted a very strange method, knowing as he does, that land revenue was dwindling because of the hardships which the people concerned had to endure. He wanted to mulct the agriculturists to the extent of the land revenue paid by each pattadar."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It was only as a loan."

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JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Every day, he must be getting demands for remission of land revenue and the Government and the party are concerned with doing away with it altogether and having some other means of recouping their loss. That being so, I am unable to see how all of a sudden he expects to get five crores from these people. That only indicates the pinch into which the Government has placed itself on account of its wrong policies. All of a sudden they want some money and they want that it must come from the next man and they do not know what the result will be, until later on they see they receive a blow when they know that somebody is also doing something and the whole thing is thrown out of gear by that time. I do not know how, if things go on like this, the State can get along in the proper way."

"Sir, education is another important subject. The Government have indicated that they propose to continue the system of basic education. Leaving apart the common people, Sir, even people that matter do not know what is meant by basic education but this much is admitted by everybody, that is, that they do not have the equipment for carrying on basic education, not to mention adequate staff. Primary education, Sir, is of supreme necessity when adult franchise is to be introduced and we must educate the people as much as possible with regard to their responsibility. That is our main function if the people are to have a certain amount of knowledge and thinking power to follow our policies."

"If the Government want to provide for more employment, they must provide for it side by side with other schemes. They must not mix it with adult education. They must not confuse one thing with the other. Otherwise the whole State will have to suffer because its people will not be educated properly. This kind of basic education will only retard the progress which it is vital for the State to make." 11-45 a.m.

"In my amendment I have referred to the wrong policies pursued by the Government. Prohibition is an instance of such wrong policies. We lustily and enthusiastically supported the Prohibition policy. But at the same time we said that they must tackle the problems arising from the enforcement of Prohibition. A large number of toddy tappers have been thrown out of employment. The Government must have schemes for absorbing these people. But they have no such schemes. The result is that Prohibition has increased the difficulties of the people and the problems of the Government."

"Another pet scheme of the Government is Khadi development. Khadi had its own use when the struggle for independence was on. But now independence has been got. We see that people do not want Khadi cloth. They say that it is not economical. Why should the Government compel people to buy Khadi? The Government do not pay even half as much attention as they pay to the Khadi scheme to the handloom industry which is an old cottage industry of this State. You, Mr. Speaker, read out notice

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of an adjournment motion with reference to a place called Malapalayam. The people there want the Government to help them to carry on their handloom industry to earn their livelihood; they do not want any doles or grants. But sufficient yarn is not forthcoming. People have no employment, no wages and therefore no food. People are actually dying because the Government do not help them in carrying on their ancient industry.

"There is the question of industrial development. The Address does not reveal how far the Government have succeeded in increasing industrial production. I do not want to take any more time of the House as I shall have an opportunity to refer to this subject in the budget session.

"I commend my amendment for the acceptance of the House."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I gave notice of an amendment. But you have ruled that all the amendments should be moved formally and that the Members would be called upon to speak afterwards. I am sorry I was not present at the time of your ruling to move my amendment. My amendment relates to only one fact and that is that our Government are taking too many things on hand without devoting concentrated attention on essential services. The legislations they bring forward do not relate to what are urgently required by the people.

"The Address of His Excellency the Governor of Madras is a new institution as a result of the New Constitution of our country. It is good in that through the Address the Houses come to know of the legislative measures that the Government propose to bring forward. One Bill after another used to be thrown at us without sufficient notice and we were called upon to rush the Bills through. The Address at least serves the purpose of letting us know what legislations are likely to be brought up before the Houses.

"Some hon. Members who spoke before me referred to the following passage in His Excellency the Governor's Address:—

"The dazzling illuminations with which we lighted up our public buildings on Republic Day can have no meaning unless we bring a portion of that light to the humblest and the meanest homes in our land and dispel the darkness of want and poverty, disease and ignorance."

Before we bring a portion of that light to the humblest and the meanest homes, we require more light in this House itself, particularly on the Treasury Bench. If His Excellency had known this, he would have directed his remarks towards this House, particularly the Treasury Bench. In any case, the institution has served some purpose.

"I said that the Government of Madras were wasting their time and energy on unessential things with the result that they could not devote adequate time and concentrate attention on the essential services required by the people of the State. There is the essential problem of food. We know that the Government of

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Madras, with the help and under the direction of the Government of India, are conducting a campaign for increasing food production. But the increase in food has not been commensurate with the requirements of the State. Every time we are told that there is shortage of foodgrains. The Government of India are spending crores of rupees on importing rice, wheat and other foodgrains from foreign countries. If a fourth of that amount had been spent on agriculture and irrigation in this country, the agriculturist would have stuck to his land and I am sure by this time we would have had more production. The agriculturist is giving up his profession and taking to industries or business for various reasons, the main reason being that he does not get a fair return for his labour. We are faced with a critical situation particularly on account of the cyclone and floods in the Circar districts. There has been failure of monsoon in our State for three consecutive years. Some say that the Government are not anxious to serve the people and that therefore God is not favourable to them. But I will not say that. I will not also say that these natural calamities are due to Government action. If the cyclone and floods had not occurred in the Circars, I am sure the bumper yield from the crops in that area would have been sufficient to meet the situation due to the failure of the monsoon in the Southern districts. We have reached a very acute stage and I do not know how the Government even with all their resources could meet the situation. The Government of India have made a very grim determination to stop imports from abroad from 1951. The Food Minister of the Government of India has said that his Government have decided to reduce the imports even for this year by half. If that Government had been appraised of the position in this State clearly, I am sure that they would not have talked glibly in the manner they have done in saying that they would cut down the imports for this year by half. The Central and the State Governments will have to take stock of the real situation. Though the State Government may say that they could manage the situation with or without difficulty and distribute the available foodgrains to all people through ration, I would like to ask whether they realize that very serious situations have arisen in many districts of our State which they are not able to meet promptly. I earnestly ask the Government of Madras to concentrate on the food problem with a short-range policy to meet the immediate requirements and a long-range policy to do away with imports ultimately. Our Government are spending only seven pices in the rupee on agriculture and one anna and six pices on civil works according to the figures furnished by the Economic Adviser to the Government of Madras.

"Sir, the time has come when the Government should spend more and more money on agriculture as well as irrigation. But in the chart which I am holding in my hands, I find that under the heading 'Others', the Government of Madras are spending Rs. 0-5-1 in the rupee. I do not know what exactly the item 'Others' include, and I am not sure whether it includes food production, but if it is, then I must say that it is absolutely

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insufficient. My contention is that the Government should now take up the question of food production in real earnest and carry out both their short-range and long-range schemes at the earliest possible time. So far as their short-range policy is concerned, I am afraid, they cannot do much, because it is impossible to produce foodgrains to meet the entire needs of the people in this State immediately. They must therefore have to go to the Government of India and urge upon them not to curtail their imports and impress upon them the necessity to allot more food to this State in view of the failure of crops, both on account of cyclones and floods and of the failure of the monsoon. Sir, I have read in the papers that the Government of India are going to allot 6 lakhs tons more of foodgrains to this State. But I am afraid that this quantity will not be sufficient to meet the situation that arisen in our State. The Government of Madras must insist upon the Government of India to supply them whatever quantity of food is required to meet the full needs of this State. These are my remarks so far as the food situation in this State is concerned.

"Now Sir, let me come to irrigation. Irrigation, I have always said, should be the first consideration of the Government, whereas I find that they are going forward with unnecessary and unprofitable pieces of legislation. With regard to water-supply also I find that the present position is not satisfactory. How many towns in our Province are getting protected water-supply now? Not only is there no protected water-supply in many of the towns, but even the water supplied in certain towns is not adequate. How can you then improve the public health of the State as a whole? So far as the Madras City is concerned, we require as much as Rs. 70 lakhs in order to put up mechanical filters so as to improve the present system and supply water to the people in the City to meet their needs adequately. When the Madras Corporation approached the Government of Madras to provide this sum either by way of loans or by means of grants, the latter regretted their inability to do either, because they had no funds. Without this amount, it would be impossible to put up the mechanical filters, which are very necessary for augmenting the City water-supply. Why have the Government of Madras come to this plight? It is an open secret. By their own actions and on account of their own policies, the Government of Madras have brought all these troubles on themselves. Of course, Sir, I am not saying anything against prohibition. But having lost that very great source of revenue from Excise, they are now finding it impossible to go ahead with any of their nation-building activities which are very necessary for the improvement of this State. Now it is not possible for the Government to retrace their steps in the matter of prohibition, for a stage has been reached, when even if a hundred Natesans might come forward and say, 'Give up Prohibition; it is not going to pay', the Government will not pay any heed, because prohibition has enabled many of the people in the State to carry on cottage industries of their own for the manufacture of illicit liquor and toddy to such an extent,

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that it would be impossible for the Government to get a single pie from the excise revenue, even if they decide to give up prohibition. That is the present situation and it would be useless for my hon. Friend Mr. Natesan to give any such advice to the Government because the Government know full well, that even if they give up Prohibition, they would get no revenue from excise. But my submission is, that the Government of Madras had not taken the financial condition of the State into consideration before launching upon their policy of prohibition, which has resulted in our present plight of having no money for carrying out even the essential schemes of improvement. Now our finances are in a very bad way. The Government of Madras should concentrate their attention upon essential things which should be taken up first, such as water-supply, food, housing and the public health of the people of the Province. Nothing has been done, so far as public health is concerned.

"If the Government of Madras spend more money than what they are now spending on education, I am sure that they would find it unnecessary to spend so much on Police, in order to maintain law and order. Education will improve the general morale of the people and people will become more law-abiding and commit less crimes. According to the Economic Adviser, the Government are spending 2 annas in the rupee on police and only $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas in the rupee on education. Education is the crying need of the hour and it is very unfortunate that the Government are spending only $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas in the rupee of their revenue on education. The people of our State are expecting that the Government should devote more and more attention to the promotion of education among our boys and girls both secondary and collegiate. The Government have got only one idea and that is to bring into vogue what is called basic education among our children. Basic education may perhaps be a good thing in practice, but it will take a long time for the Government to train a sufficient number of teachers in basic education and put them in charge of all the schools in the Province. That would involve considerable sums and in that way it would take a very long time to liquidate illiteracy in this State. Further, in their desire to complete their scheme of basic education, they are neglecting elementary education as a whole among our children. People expect that within the next five years, the whole province should become literate and compulsory elementary education introduced in all the schools in the province, but that is not likely to take place, if the Government were to proceed in the manner in which they are pursuing their educational policy.

"Then Sir, how can we expect education to progress if the people who take up to educational service are paid very low. The cry of the teachers for increase of their salaries has always been a cry in the wilderness. The colossal nature of the problem and the huge cost involved in granting any increase in the salaries of teachers have always been put forward by both the Ministers for Finance and Education, as the greatest handicap in their way, so that the result is that persons are discouraged from taking

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up this noble profession of teaching, because they are given not even a living wage. That is why we are not able to attract many people to the teaching line and that is why our progress in education suffers in this State. (At this stage, Madam Deputy Speaker occupied the Chair.)

"Madam, I am just suggesting that the Government of Madras should take up the most important requirements of the people first like public health, food and education and concentrate their attention upon them and only after that they should take up the things, which are not immediately necessary and which could wait for better times.

"Madam, so far as the maintenance of law and order is concerned, it is the primary duty of the Government to see that they maintain complete peace in the country. In this respect, I must say that the Government are trying to do their best. When I say peace, I do not want that we should have the peace of the grave, but the peace of the person who is contented and happy. If the Government think that by suppressing their political opponents and by suppressing all parties which are opposed to them, they could maintain peace in the country, they are utterly mistaken. It will not be good either for the country or for the Government themselves. If such a thing takes place in a country like England, I am sure people would not tolerate it. They will certainly not be satisfied with one-party Government. They would certainly bring into existence if such a critical situation arises in the country, a National Government consisting of all party leaders to deal with the situation, even as they had done during the last War. But here in this country, neither the Central Government nor the Provincial Governments have thought of setting up a National Government even to overcome the critical situation that has arisen at present, in regard to the food situation.

"Now Madam, I should like to say a few words about controls. The controls to-day have become more and more fads and they are not producing the results expected of them. Without realising what harm controls are doing to-day, the Government are still blindly following the policy of the Government of India and keeping on controls over various articles. I wish that we put our heads together and see to what extent these controls could be relaxed and retain only such controls that are absolutely necessary. The controls that are now in force are not enforced with a view to help and benefit the people for which they are originally introduced but, on the other hand they are enforced in a most haphazard and arbitrary manner, so much so that they have become mere engines of oppression and harassment of the people. The economic condition of our Province, as I have already said, Madam, is really very deplorable. So far as the Government are concerned, they have themselves become bankrupt as a result of their own policies. They have not enough finance at their disposal to carry through any large schemes of progress. So far as the people are concerned they are also finding it very difficult to make both ends meet and particularly the Government servants and salaried employees are feeling the greatest pinch, because of the

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ever-increasing cost of living all round. Although the Government of Madras had given them some dearness allowance, it has not helped the Government servants in any way to make both ends meet. The Government are not inclined to increase the salaries of low-paid Government servants nor are they prepared to enhance their dearness allowance commensurate with the increased cost of living. Yet they expect them to be contented and do their jobs satisfactorily and well.

"Madam, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition has referred to the question of imports and he has also referred to the relations between the Government of Madras and the Government of India in this respect.

"I would very much like to tell the Government that they should take up this question with the Government of India, and that they should get a certain amount of foreign currency allotted to the States. The States must divide *pro rata* the foreign currency in such a way as would give an opportunity to each State to have its say so far as imports are concerned. That is a matter that the Government of Madras should take up with the Government of India. I do not know what the Hon. Minister for Finance is going to do when another conference takes place regarding the allotment that has been suggested by Deshmukh in regard to the income-tax allocations. Our State is always treated with step-motherly attitude. I wish the Hon. Finance Minister takes up this question with the Government of India and see that he gets at least the original allocation so far as contribution from income-tax is concerned. 12-15 p.m.

"I wish to say one word with regard to the various parties that exist in this State. The Congress to-day has a very large majority in this legislature. It is unfortunate that the Opposition is not larger than what it is now and it is not more effective than what it is at present. Democracy requires that there should be a good balance between the party in office and the party in Opposition. I hope when the elections, to which reference has been made by His Excellency the Governor in his address, take place they will result in having proper alignment of parties both in office and in the Opposition. For want of a proper and effective alternative party, what happens is that the Members of the Government, however good intentioned and honourable gentlemen they might be, feel that they can do and act as they like, because there is nobody to question. (Srimathi Rukmani Lakshminipathi: 'With immunity.') I would not use the words 'with immunity' as suggested by the hon. ex-Minister. If democracy is to function as democracy and not as autocracy, we must have a strong Opposition. It is in the absence of the Opposition we find all the difficulties arising. The elections to which reference has been made will bear fruit and will really establish in our State and country a good democratic system. So far as the party in office is concerned, they have not considered whether it is not time that they should change their policies and programmes. The policy and programme which they formulated for their organization before the attainment of independence are being still followed even after the

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attainment of freedom. It would have been all right when we were fighting a foreign Government to have the khaddar programme. All the various items of the programme have become out of date. I think it is time that they bring about a change in their programme. The Congress party is supposed to be a democratic party. But I am afraid I cannot accept that proposition, because I find in the Congress membership they have introduced the caste system. There are what are called higher caste, second caste and the lower caste. The sooner they do away with the caste system in their membership, it is better for them, because after all it must become a political party instead of remaining as it does a non-political party so far as this programme is concerned. I do not wish to take up more time except to say that I would like to make an appeal to this Government that they concentrate their attention on the essential requirements of the State instead of frittering away their energies on unessentials and waste not only their energies, but waste also the money and the time of the people, and thus waste also the money that this State very badly needs for very essential services to the State."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, it is said that 'Nero was fiddling when Rome was burning.' (An hon. Member: 'Nehru'?) I would not impute it to Nehru, but I am talking of Nero. In the same manner, our Finance Minister is fiddling with the finances of this country. He is fiddling with the finances of this State in a manner which is not worthy of the Congress Government. (Interruption.) I will first refer to the Prohibition policy of the Government. Of course I have spoken over and over again on this and the Government also have replied over and over again, but they have not added one more reason for introducing Prohibition. In the Council I find Dr. Rajan saying that the Government are committed to Prohibition, and that there is no question of going back. I consider that it is a rather strong language to use. When a great man like Gandhiji realised what he made was a mistake, he simply went back. That is the honest way of doing things. Here the Government invoke the aid of Gandhiji almost every time and do all those things which Gandhiji would not like them to do. Anyhow I am not going to deal with that point. I only wish to deal with Prohibition. Let us see the reaction of the country at the present moment. I find and I must here pay a tribute to the Madras Mail for bringing up the results of Prohibition to the notice of the public. I find that in Salem a member of the District Food Production Committee has stated that every labourer earns more income from illicit distillation which has increased and has become more or less a cottage industry. I want to repeat only the Congress men's words."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"Was it a member of the Food Production Committee who said it."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—"He is a Member and he is a member of the public also. I want to draw the attention of the Hon. the Minister to a report which appears in the Madras Mail under

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Eluru, where I find Mr. Thimma Reddi, the Vice-President of the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee addressing the Eluru Taluk Ryots Conference. There, the hon. Sri T. Prakasam ex-Minister of the Government of Madras and Sri Narayana Rao, M.L.C., were present. What does this Vice-President say? He says that after the Congress men came into power, they have become indifferent to the needs of the ryots. He says that so far as Prohibition is concerned it is time that 'we warn the Bombay Government not to commit the mistake which the Madras Government has done'. Sri Prakasam never seems to have raised one word against what he said. Again the hon. Gentleman Sri Annamalai Pillai who happened to preside over the political conference in Madras the other day said 'let us search our hearts; the co-operation of popular leaders has been neither effective nor continuous'. The latest report on the working of Prohibition says that there has been a drop in the number of cases but that it does not necessarily mean there have been fewer offences. What do the Government themselves say? They say in their Administration report of 147-48 that 'illicit distillation, a most serious kind of offence under the Prohibition Act was widely prevalent in the Ceded districts; co-operation from the village officers was much lacking; the work carried out in the taluk and village prohibition committees was not satisfactory; public co-operation in the enforcement of Prohibition was very much lacking generally in all districts'. This is what the Government say. What does this mean? It means that really people do not want Prohibition. When we pass a law we must effectly enforce it. When people are prepared to disobey it every time, people like me interpret it to mean that the legislation is not wanted by the general public. Madam, there are also other things with regard to Prohibition. What is the population of this State? I think it is about 50 millions. Out of this 50 millions we shall take away all the women, children, the infirm and the aged, say 40 per cent. Of the balance of 30 millions let us see how many people take to toddy, and also see whether it is worthwhile introducing a legislation for this small number of people. We have been having this drink for the last 2,000 years, and I have not heard of any State or anybody coming forward and saying that toddy is harmful. Simply because some big leader in the Congress party has taken into his head once upon a time to introduce Prohibition, should they do it now? What is there for them to pass this Prohibition law? The Government could have gone slow with their Prohibition. Why I am saying all this is to show how the Government are losing money, without being able to enforce Prohibition. I belong to Madras and I am born in Madras. I cannot have my drink here. But if I were in Delhi, Calcutta or Bombay, I can have my drink. Is it the liberty of individual envisaged in the Constitution?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"You can be in Pondicherry."

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saying what the ordinary man in the street says. We are, of course, anxious to get tourists. How are you to spend money for them? Don't you know other people must come and spend money here? We know how Switzerland lives. It is a small country where American visitors come and spend their dollars. Here the Government say that they are prepared to give permit to the foreigner who comes whether he is a foreigner from the west or from the east. When he is allowed to drink, do Government except him to have drinks all by himself? Then, there is what is called social life. That is, you would like to share your drinks. Have you not got the imagination to think whether these people should be given permits in a limited manner? Why not you say 'The law of my land prohibits drink; you shall not have drinks'? That I can appreciate. But when you make an exception, make it on a liberal scale. You want to prevent Indians from having drinks but the foreigner can come and have his drunk. Why should he alone have the drink? That is what I feel. I am not able to follow what this Government says. (After noticing the Deputy Speaker), you entirely agree with me, I am glad, Madam."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member does not understand my speeches."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—"I understand what is good for me. If the Hon. Minister will at least think seriously as to what we on this side say, I should be more than satisfied."

"Then, Madam, I come to 'khadi'. 'The aim of the intensive khadi scheme is to achieve the ideal of self-sufficiency in clothing in terms of khadi.' This is a fantastic idea. If only the Congress Members of the Assembly, their wives, children and grandchildren stick to this khaddar, there will be no need for this khaddar to lie idle. Because it is lying idle, they want to dump it on the Government institutions as they are the only people under their control. Look at these peons; they are not given decent dress. Then when the local bodies have no money to spend, they compel them to purchase khadi. Simply because they are in the majority, they are able to compel them. It is not fair. What right have they to compel them? They cannot be riding rough shod all the time. Here we see hon. Members coming in torn shirts and torn dhoties. I am ashamed of it. I dislike it most strongly. It is not that it is wrong; but it is a question of not being economical. It does not wear. I am not talking of the poor man. Your own people do not use it. The ordinary man cannot afford to buy khaddar because it is very expensive. It does not wear. If khaddar is so durable, why does it not find a sale from amongst the Congressmen existing in the country?"

"It is said that the Government ordered in March 1948, that all officers who have been enjoying the use of uniforms should use khadi for the purpose. I can understand if it is cheap. If it is cheap, I will be the first man to buy it. But it is not so. Gandhiji did it on some principle; but these gentlemen are not following

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his teachings. He wanted self-sufficiency in the villages, but not even one village is self-sufficient in spite of their talk about firka development schemes. Tell me of one village where khadi is produced and used. I am prepared to sit down and will not talk about prohibition or khadi. After all is said and done, these are all things which have got to be done when things are normal. By all means take to khadi, encourage people to do certain things, but not force people to do them.

"There has been so much of controversy about gambling. We have always said over and over again that, human nature being what it is, gambling is bound to prevail. Even Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the Prime Minister of India, has given a direction to the Madras Government to continue racing, not so much as a gambling but because the breeding of the horse in this country depends on racing. Breeding has got to be done by a set of good stallions. General Cariappa has said that 'we want horses because the number of horses in Northern India is very little, and we want them particularly for military purposes.' Incidentally we are having racing. It is better not to stop it. Anyhow, Madam, I¹²⁻⁴⁵_{p.m.} only wish that my attack on Prohibition and khadi is not misunderstood; I am a man quite in favour of these things, but I only want them to go slow and not to get into a quandary as they are in to-day. That is why I began my speech with the words 'Nero was fiddling when Rome was burning Madam'. I have moved my amendment and I hope it will commend itself to the hon. Members."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAN:—"Madam Deputy Speaker, I want to confine myself to a few points. I do not want to cover the entire ground of the address, nor do I want to go into details or into a critical survey of the administration. I want to make a distinction, as the Speaker has suggested, between a debate on the address by His Excellency and a debate on the General Budget. Criticism, we belonging to the Congress Party are fated to receive from day to day throughout the province on account of the deficiencies of administration; but still, I would restrain myself and confine myself to just a few points, particularly those raised in the amendment I have moved."

"Madam, for one reason or other, the Andhra Province has not materialized and the vast majority of our countrymen in the Telugu-speaking areas are not really sorry that the Andhra Province as shaped and as contemplated by the Partition Council did not come off. We would certainly have been glad to have the province, but we are not sorry that in the existing circumstances it has not come about. We were of course anxious that the Andhras should have a province; but now it is the Tamilians who are anxious that the Andhras should have a province." (Inter-ruption.)

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"No interruption please."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAN:—"I understand the interruption, Madam. When I speak upon this most important subject,

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I expect naturally some interruption; but at the same time I expect some patience also. I am not going to raise any controversial matters here. Controversies we have had quite a good number. I only referred by the way that for one reason or other, the province did not materialise. However, certain facts emerged out of the deliberations of the Partition Council and it is with reference to them that I am addressing the House now. The Partition Council disclosed to us that the Andhras in the services are not adequately and sufficiently, not even properly, represented. When I was just reading out my amendment, two friends opposite made some interjections by way of ridicule. I am one of those who are against reservations in favour of anybody; but when I speak of the deficiency of Andhras in the Services, it is not from the point of view of reservations that I speak. For a number of years and decades, the administration has gone on and yet the Andhras who form a considerable portion of the population of this province are not adequately represented in the services. Madam, in the Secretariat, in the headquarters for example, there are about 1,100 officers, both gazetted and non-gazetted. Out of the 1,100, only 175 are Andhras. I want the hon. Leader of the House, the hon. Members of this House, especially those who made interjections by way of ridicule when I was reading out the amendment to note, that in the Secretariat which has been running a combined administration in this province for about 150 years and more, the strength of the Andhras is only 175 out of 1,100. There are about 70 gazetted officers and only 3 of them are Andhras, it is said. In the Board of Revenue again, there are 620 officers and only 76 of them are Andhras. It would take a long time for me to go from department to department; everywhere the tale is the same. Take the Engineering department at the headquarters. There are 46 gazetted officers of Government, and only 5 of them are Andhras; there are 637 non-gazetted officers and only 80 of these 637 are Andhras. Take the Sanitary Engineering department which has 40 gazetted officers, only 3 of them are Andhras. Take again the Electricity department which has now become very vital for the development of this province. At the headquarters here, there are 48 gazetted officers and only 6 of them are Andhras. There are 349 non-gazetted officers in the Electricity department at the headquarters, and out of them only 37 are Andhras. Am I wrong therefore under these circumstances, to draw the attention of Government that they should take effective steps to give adequate representation and increase the strength of the Andhra personnel in the combined administration? I am not advancing any new proposition; I am not advancing any controversial proposition. There is a Government Order passed about ten years ago that about 38.62 per cent of the personnel here should be Andhras, i.e., nearly in proportion to the strength of the Andhra population. I am making an unexceptionable proposition and let me not be ridiculed by my Tamil friends; the facts are there; we are in a sorry plight, and we are in a perpetual minority in this House; my Tamil friends are in a majority and therefore they have now the grip of the administration. Even these figures about the

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Andhra strength given by the Partition Council are likely to be accurate, because the enquiry was done in somewhat great hurry and they could not get at the figures and might have therefore made some mistakes. I am not making a charge against them because, as I said, they were in a hurry. For instance, Mr. T. Hanumanthappa, the Assistant Secretary of this Legislative Assembly, has been shown as an Andhra officer. I should be glad to have him as an Andhra, but unfortunately he is not. I am not, as I said, charging the Partition Council either with any amount of wilful recklessness or some such thing; but I am submitting that the strength of the Andhras as disclosed by them may not be accurate and we are not at all adequately represented in the Services. The Council itself was forced to remark that except in a few departments, there is an appreciable deficiency of Andhra officers in the District offices; the deficiency is striking in the regional offices. I submit therefore, without passing any remarks as to what has happened hitherto, that the Government should take adequate steps to increase the Andhra personnel, both in the Secretariat offices and in all the offices at the headquarters. D

"Madam, I shall not go into greater details; I have given an indication; I have enunciated the principle, and I am submitting to Government to follow up that principle. As I have already submitted, there is already a Government Order, and I only request Government to put it into effect."

V(21,3) NSD

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is already being done so far as Secretariat recruitment is concerned; this principle is being observed in the method of recruitment to the Secretariat service."

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JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"May I know from the Hon. Leader of the House whether the Andhras are taken ..."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"How can the hon. Member ask for information now when the other hon. Member is in the midst of his speech I am afraid he must wait for his turn."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"It is only a matter of clarification."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"You can refer to it in your speech."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"The Hon. Leader of the House said that the Andhras are recruited in sufficient numbers; may I know if he will stop recruitment of persons other than Andhras until the correct proportion of Andhras is reached?"

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"I am glad to hear from the Hon. Leader of the House that some attention is being paid to this. Since out of 1,100 only 175 are Andhras, let not the hon. Leader of the House rest content till he gets the required 38.62 per cent of Andhras in the total strength of officers."

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"I now pass on to the other point I have mentioned in my amendment, viz., that commensurate with the needs of the Andhra areas, irrigation and electricity projects should be expedited. Whenever we talk of these projects, the huge expenditure which is contemplated in respect of two particular schemes, the Tungabhadra and the Machkund, is always thrown at our face, and we are asked to be content with these two projects. Madam, the Andhra area is a very vast area; there are several rivers there; several projects have been under investigation, but such investigation has been delayed far beyond the necessities of the case and is trying the patience of the Andhras. For example, there is a good river called the Vamsadhara in the Visakhapatnam district; it is a big river, it flows always, it is very broad and not much investigation is necessary to put three or four dams across it. For three years now the investigation has been going on, and yet even the preliminary estimates have not been completed; at any rate the investigation reports have not been placed on the floor of the House, although the Members have been asking for them. If only the Vamsadhara project had been taken up and completed, what would have happened? Visakhapatnam would have had ample food; the scheme would have brought under the plough one lakh of acres of virgin soil and Visakhapatnam would have become a self-sufficient district, with the result that the entire East Coast from Chilka lake up to Madras, would have become self-sufficient. It would also have relieved the pressure on the Civil Supplies department and the pressure on transport. The Government would have been very well able to concentrate on their plans of distribution of foodstuffs only in the other areas. Yet the Government would not do it; always there is some delay. Take for example electricity schemes. In Visakhapatnam, there is a thermal station; for three years, there is deficit supply; for three years budget provisions have been made and in the revised budget, the provision was reduced and again in the estimates for the next year, the provision was included. Three years have been taken to give two 600 kw. Diesel sets. About Rs. 6 or Rs. 7 lakhs have been spent and yet the Diesel sets have not been installed. When we ask that electricity should be given to householders, our applications have to come all the way to Madras from Visakhapatnam, a distance of 483 miles, and the papers lie here for some time and we cannot get our much supply. The thermal station is there, but there is not the entire province, for Pykhara, for Mettur, for Tambraparani, Papanasam and other places, it is available, but it is not available for Visakhapatnam or Kakinada? It is a very strange thing. Madam. Even here I am not going to criticise the Government, but I am only appealing to them that hereafter at least they must pay greater attention to these matters. If there is a block somewhere let the Ministers scrutinise them and remove it. The Ministers go on tour—I have no complaint that they go on tour—as my hon. Friend, Mr. Natesan complained. But, I want them to go on tour to useful purpose and see where the snag is and where there is a bottle-neck I want them to see that it is removed and give

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relief to the Andhra area. We are indeed paying higher rates because we have a thermal station. We have no hydro-electric projects; we are not able to increase the supply; we are not able to have house connections or supply power to agriculture and for water-supply schemes. I submit, therefore, that the Government should take greater and lively interest in this matter in regard to the Telugu-speaking areas. Of course, there is no use harping on the question of the separation of the Andhra province or Andhra partition. We are all parts of the province and we are a combined people and we must say to the Government that they should apply their mind to these areas because these have been neglected for a very long time.

"I submit that in the case of irrigation, the Krishna-Pennar project has always dangled before our eyes. I do not wish to go into the details of this project. The huge expenditure on the Ramapadasagar project is thrown on our face and I do not wish to go into the details of it either. But, I want the Government to go into all the various small schemes which will make the province self-sufficient. Closely allied to this is the production and distribution of our rice supplies. Madam, you know the Telugu areas are self-sufficient; probably we grow a little more than what we actually want. But, what is the position? In Vishakhapatnam district, we are asked to survive on 8 oz. a day and our surplus is given over to other deficit areas. Of course, we have no complaint about our surplus being required in deficit areas. We want our brethren elsewhere to take real surplus if any. But, what is happening? We do not have so much and we are obliged to eat 8 oz. a day and we are asked to send away all our 'surplus.' I submit, this is not a fair way of dealing with the districts. I want the Government to treat all the Telugu-speaking areas as one zone for the purpose of food procurement distribution and then remove all inter-district restrictions. Unless we have something to eat we cannot have contentment in the province.

"Now, talking about contentment my mind goes to the administration of the Police. Reference has been made that law and order have to be maintained. I am not one of those who say that law and order should not be maintained. I say that law and order must be maintained at any cost, but there is a limit also to the 'cost.' With your permission, Madam, may I present a copy of one issue of the Telugu weekly called 'Praja Patrika' to the Hon. Leader of the House after reading one or two extracts from it, in order to make the House understand how law and order are maintained. We have not deteriorated into such conditions as exist in far eastern countries: there must be some limit to the maintenance of law and order. Some months ago we had occasion to discuss about some incidents at Velivolu. We wanted a non-official enquiry into the conduct of the police in that particular village and I do not know whether any enquiry was actually made and with what result. Recently, it was a case of a police officer going almost mad in the discharge or extra discharge of his duties. I would like just to read one extract from this paper. It is on

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page 3 of the weekly I referred to. There are several serious allegations in the extract which I cannot read here because it would not be quite decent to read the language used in it relating to the incident in a mixed House consisting of ladies and gentlemen. It gives an account of the activities of the police officers of the Rajahmundry police station and what was done under the pretext of suppressing communist activities. The paper gives the name of the officer. When the Republican Day celebrations on the 26th of last month was going on, the Rajahmundry Town Police Inspector and the Circle Inspector of Angara and Sub-Inspector, Modukur went there. I will read the extract without translating it and it runs as follows:—

‘కమ్యూనిస్టు ప్రమాదాన్ని అరికట్టడము అనే పేరుతో తూర్పు గోదావరి జిల్లా అంతర్వేదికాం పోలీస్ లా’

‘Under the pretext of suppressing communist activities in Antharvedipalem firka of East Godavari district.

‘ కొందరు స్థానిక కాంగ్రెసు నాయకుల సహాయ ప్రోత్సాహాలతో
‘ With the help of some local Congress Leaders.

‘ పోలీసులు కొన్ని గ్రామాలపై దాడినన్ని ఆమాయక ప్రజలను దారుణహింసల పాల్గొనినారని, యిట్లు దోచుకుంటున్నారని, భీతావహం కలిగిస్తున్నారని.
‘ The police raided certain villages and committed atrocities.

‘ ప్రజా ప్రతిక ” అనే పత్రికలో వ్రాయబడియున్నది.
‘ 1950 వ సం॥ జనవరి 28 వ తేదీన మురమండ గ్రామ కాంగ్రెసు కమిటీచే

విచ్చాటుచేయబడిన రివల్వర్ అవతరణ సమాహ మహాత్మ్యవంల గ్రామస్తులంతా నిమగ్నై యుండగా, రాజమండ్రి రెండవ ట్రపుకా పోలీసు సబ్ ఇన్స్పెక్టర్, అంగర సర్కిల్ ఇన్స్పెక్టర్, మోడుకూరు సబ్ ఇన్స్పెక్టర్, విడిద కపిశ్వరపురం జమీదార్లు మరికొంతమంది పోలీసులతో సురుమండ గ్రామం వెళ్లి పోలీసు యూనిఫారమును, పిస్తోళ్లు కూపి హదావుడిచేసేసరికి గ్రామస్తులు భీతిచెంది ఆర్జల్లో దూరి తలుపులు వేసుకొనగా; దొర్లవ్వంగా తలుపులు నీయించి, యిండ్లలోని స్త్రీలను బైటకులాగి ఎత్తుకొనిపోయి నడివీధులలో గ్రామస్తులు, బంధువులు అందరి సమాక్షములోనే పశు ప్రాయంగా వెరచినారు. దుర్భాగ్యుల యూనిఫారము, పిస్తోళ్లు కూచి, గ్రామస్తులు భయపడి నిస్సహాయులై పోయినారు. గ్రామస్తులంతా భయభ్రాంతులై గ్రామంవదలి కొందికలవరె యితర గ్రామాలకు వెళ్లిపోయినారు.’

I am referring to this one incident to draw the attention of the Hon. Leader of the House and the Government to the fact that while we congratulate them that law and order are maintained, they should also see that excesses are not committed. Why should such things become the order of the day, especially when only three months ago we saw such incidents at Velivolu about which there was very severe criticism. I dare say the Government have got police reports about the latest incident to which I have referred. I think several of the Congressmen have also sent their reports and the newspapers have published a report about the incident. Have the Government taken care to enquire into these things? If they do not enquire into these things the inaction of the Government encourages misguided police people to execute their duty in

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such a manner as this. On the other hand, if you take action at once they will be brought under control. If you neglect it for one reason or another—whether for administrative or other reasons but not for ultra-administrative reasons—and do not enquire into the matter, this will encourage the police to commit these atrocities. Now, Madam, from Krishna this kind of keeping of law and order came to Godavari and from Godavari it will go to Visakhapatnam and from there it will go to Tirunelveli and Tanjore and elsewhere. There should be an end to all these things and Government should see that in the interests of the maintenance of law and order these people do not execute their duties in this atrocious manner. I expect a Committee of Enquiry would soon be appointed and justice done to the victims of these atrocities.

“ Madam, I do not like to go into greater details. But, there is one other thing to which I want to make a reference. It is true these are days of democracy and in the point I am going to advance I may not have the sympathy of a good number of members of this House, but still when I feel that a particular thing is right I consider it my duty to advance it. My complaint is that this Government have not taken steps to modify the Communal Government Orders. They are against the spirit of the Indian Constitution, and against the Indian nationalism. When these orders were originally introduced in 1923 all the Congressmen were fighting against these orders on the ground that they were non-national in their outlook and denationalizing in their effect and undoubtedly the efficiency of our services has considerably deteriorated on account of these communal Government Orders. Assuming we were right in 1923 in passing these communal orders, 27 years afterwards if still the Government say these are necessary, I believe, Madam, the Government are not right at all because, as I said, these communal orders will never help those communities whom they want to help in the manner they want. I am not referring to the Harijans at all when I say this because they have a statutory safeguard. Not only the statute gives them ten years safeguard but I may tell you that until the Harijans come to the level of the higher. . . . (Interruption by Sri S. Nagappa) as I said, they shall have all the safeguards until they attain their higher level in social status, the services, in culture and in other aspects of national life. Of course, I do not say these communal orders should be cancelled but I said they should be modified and my hon. Friend, Mr. Nagappa, should have some patience.

“ There is also another thing. Arguments had been advanced that when the Indian Republic had been established, there must be communal justice, but I submit they are not doing it. When they suppress a particular community they are not doing communal justice. I had the honour of advocating this proposition both in this House and at party meetings, though I have not had sufficient response to it and I pray that God might grant sufficient light to all the members of this House to see the unwisdom of

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these communal Government Orders particularly with regard to educational institutions they do not redound to the credit of the Government. As a matter of fact, I have got the Chief Minister on my side. He has been reasonable and making a number of speeches that we should not depend upon these communal Government Orders. I only wish that not only the Chief Minister but also other Ministers consider the position and give us a national life to enable us to make onward marches in this country.

"Then, Madam, I come to the next point which is mentioned in my amendment and that is in regard to the question of controls and consequent corruption. So far as corruption is concerned, I have got the Hon. Leader of the House on my side who says—and he has gone one little step further—and he is capable of nice sentences that everywhere there is corruption and where is it we do not find corruption? (Interruption by an hon. Member: 'Where did he say so?') I do not remember where, but he said so in some meeting. It was extracted in cold and beautiful print. I was glad when I was reading this sentence of the Hon. Sri Gopala Reddi. Of course, he might have said it for the rhetoric effect of it and he might have over-stated the case. But, corruption is there. A few weeks ago when the Governor-General of India came to Visakhapatnam, we presented a Municipal Address to him and in that we pleaded that these controls must be abolished. We also pleaded that the controls had no advantage to the people, and instead of making food supplies equitably distributed, they made us feel that the deficit is even more. In fact, where the deficit was only 10 per cent according to calculations, in actual effect it comes to 40 per cent on account of the management or the mismanagement of the various departments. When we pleaded all these, the Governor-General said, 'it is all right you plead for the controls to be abolished but all people are not honest,' but I had no opportunity to contradict him at the time because he was my guest and he was replying to a Civic address of welcome. Then I met him and asked him 'If you want to continue controls because the people are not honest, are you, Sir, sure that you have placed the administration of these controls in the hands of people who are honest?' 'Yes, yes, I think it is also true,' he said in his characteristic way. I say, Sir, if there is all round corruption, control is not the cure as controls corrupt those who have to observe them and those who administer them. Controls cannot be administered honestly in large areas; they can be administered for a short time and in a limited area under some great national stress; spread over a small area and confined to a few people, say in jails; and even in jails it has not been successful as people experienced in jail life like us, know. I submit, Madam, Deputy Speaker, that the Government should take serious steps to press upon the Central Government to remove the controls altogether as that is the only way to end corruption. It may be said that prices may shoot up; if they shoot up, my answer is: Purchase at the local market rates and

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rush supplies there. That will be a real subsidy to the poor people. As a matter of fact, the Government have been spending large sums of money on subsidies helping the poor and the rich which is wrong economics but under this system, when I propose only the poor would be helped; there is no need to subsidize the prices for the rich. I will not enter into the details of the way in which the procurement administration is run and I will reserve my criticism to a later occasion, that is at the Budget. But now, Madam, I plead that as a matter of policy, Government should think of revising the system of controls and if they are not able to remove controls completely, I submit that so far as paddy and rice movements are concerned, the Government should treat the whole of the Telugu-speaking area as one zone and remove inter-district restrictions and remove rationing and whatever real surplus we have will be willingly given away to others but not by starving ourselves and our children. One Hon. Minister was very good and he said: 'Why should the Andhras and the Tanjoreans feel as if they are giving us rice free? We are purchasing it; they have to sell it somewhere and we buy it and so, let no Andhra be proud that he is giving us rice.' That is all right but let me ask him, Madam Deputy Speaker, if he is not compelling me to sell it to a particular person at a particular price; the sale is not of my choice nor is it after meeting my requirements. Twenty ounces was the normal diet for an individual prior to the War but now it is only eight ounces and why should we starve ourselves? We are losing our national stamina and our physical stamina is going down. In hostels, just at the time when the boys grow up, they have food only for five days in the week and for the rest of the days of the week, they have to eat what is made available to them; that is the position in every hostel in Madras and in other places and also in Visakhapatnam.

"I will conclude with one word of congratulation. I congratulate the hon. Mr. Bapineedu on having been selected to move this important resolution. Of course, he is a prominent member no doubt; he is the Government Whip, only Mr. Speaker did not do him justice when he said that some member who is not so prominent is always chosen. I congratulate Mr. Bapineedu because he was able to confine himself entirely to the speech which he had very carefully prepared and read out. The Hon. Speaker also ruled that members on the Government side ought not to criticise; I always believe that we ought not to criticise our Government. But what really happened is that when the seconder of the resolution went on criticising the Government, I also thought I could add my suggestions for the consideration of the Government. I have been thinking even now that I have not criticised the Government; I am only giving them some extra points for their consideration; I am only giving them a suggestion to be considered when I say that the Telugu-speaking areas should be constituted into one zone for purposes of movement of foodgrains and I am not criticising them; I am not criticising the Government when I ask them to enquire into the police excesses as I am only making them a submission; I am not criticising the

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after some months. We may dig wells but there will be no water. Things are assuming dangerous proportions. In the midst of all this, the Hon. Ministers are arranging tours, tours and tours. When you take the papers, you see nothing but their tour programmes."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"Can the hon. Member finish his speech now?"

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"No, Madam, I shall continue it after lunch."

The House adjourned for lunch.

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

* JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir while I was closing my speech in the forenoon, I was referring to the tours undertaken by the Hon. Ministers of this Government. I really do not understand the sickly haste with which the tour programmes of the Ministers are prepared and performed. I really do not know whether these tours of the Ministers of Government are really serving the purpose. What we actually see in the tours is public meetings or private meetings, dinners and lunches; but I wonder whether the starving millions of this Province are really satisfied with these itineraries of the Hon. Ministers. I should like to put it to the Hon. Leader of the House whether it is not a fact that by your tours you are undermining the dignity, the respect and the prestige of the representatives of the people who are Members of this House? I wonder what these honourable representatives of the various constituencies are doing in this House. Are they not bringing to the notice of the Government and the Ministers concerned the disabilities and the hardships of the people in their own constituencies? By these tours the very prestige of the hon Members of the House has gone; and the people only look up to the visits of Hon. Ministers to their villages. I submit there is no necessity for such tours which involve huge expenditure of public finance."

"Again, Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Minister for Finance particularly, at every Budget speech has made a promise that he would look into the capital works and see that the capital schemes before the Government are implemented. Unfortunately, I have got to point out to you that in Government parlance, probably promise means indefinite postponement. I once again bring it to the notice of the Leader of the House that so long as you are going to postpone capital expenditure and capital undertakings in this Province, so long are you going to postpone the solution of poverty and ignorance and disease in this State. His Excellency in a beautiful passage referred to lighting the dark homes of the poor masses. One of the hon. Members said that he was delighted at that passage, but when I see the deep implications of that particular passage, what do I see? I see famine, like a hungry wolf, howling before the abode of poverty and ignorance. I ask the Hon. Ministers of Government, what have they done to liquidate that poverty and that

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illiteracy? We are going to have adult franchise. Have you educated our masters, I ask? No; they are still in the depth of their ignorance. You can only bring them round to your way of thinking by your appealing speeches; but after they go to the ballot boxes and after they actually see what is happening in this Province, they will know what a grave error they have committed in simply accepting the promises of these gentlemen. Therefore, Sir, if we are really having a Government of the people by the people for the people, that Government must go to the rescue of the teaming millions of the Province and see that their lot is improved."

"Again, Mr. Speaker, reference has been made to several plans. With regard to the five-year plan of Russia, an English woman seems to have said 'I have been seeing this five-year plan for the last fifteen years, I have been watching it with interest.' That is almost the fate of the several plans of this Government and there seems to be no co-ordination between plan and plan. Why not the Government have a master-plan prepared and see that within a limited period of say ten years, they give to the people whatever they say they would give."

"With regard to elementary education, the other day you may remember, Mr. Speaker, when I asked the Hon. Minister for Education how many villages there were he asked me to refer to the revenue records. These are vital statistics with which the Hon. Ministers must be duly conversant; if the Ministers are not posted with such vital statistics which are important to the welfare and the progress of this Province, I really do not understand what they are really doing, sitting in the Treasury Benches. Again, the Hon. Minister for Education stated it was the responsibility of the local boards. Sir, you must amend the Local Boards Act or the District Municipalities Act and take powers to see that the Government give one elementary school for every village in the Province. Only in that way, you can educate the masses. Three thousand elementary schools for a big and extensive Province like this is something which, if a foreigner were to come and see he would simply laugh at. We cannot do anything, keeping these poor people in everlasting ignorance and illiteracy. We can go and address them no doubt; I have heard speeches made by Ministers delivered to these people 'You are the rulers of this country, you are the governors of this country'; but I do not however know who are real rulers and the governors."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member this morning has already taken eight or nine minutes. There will be another opportunity shortly for the hon. Member to refer to these matters."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"I know, Sir, you have already said there is going to be a Budget speech; and this debate on the Governor's address also, may be a duplication. I should like to see that next year when the Governor's address is delivered to this House, hon. Members are given a little more time to have a say on its contents."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"Then speeches on the Budget will become short."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"There is no objection for doing so. Only, we cannot but repeat several of the arguments on both the occasions."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"In that case, those who are participating in this discussion need not participate in the general discussion on the Budget."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are the guardian of our liberty and you know it better. This morning, I moved an adjournment motion, and you have been pleased to rule it out saying that I could make a reference to the subject in my budget speech. Therefore, Sir, you should please give me some more time now, so that I can make a reference to that."

"Now, what is happening to the handloom industry, the Members of the Treasury Bench know fully well. They say: 'Why do you produce exportable varieties? The Government of India and other State Governments are prepared to buy your produce, and you are not supplying the necessary variety to them.' I ask them: 'Do you know the structure and the mechanism of the handloom industry in this Province?' I need not go into further details, Sir. To-day nearly five lakhs weavers families are facing starvation and death. This is an important cottage industry; it has already established a name not only in this country but throughout the Mid East and the Far East, and it must be the duty and the responsibility of the Government to tackle that industry. They are now only going about the Khadi Scheme. I am not against the Khadi Scheme, but here is a surviving cottage industry which has been going on from time immemorial and I ask, is it not their duty to see that it is developed? They are not supplying yarn to the weavers. The price of yarn is going up. When the price of other commodities is going up, to-day the handloom products are sold below their production cost. Naturally, there is starvation and several deaths also have been already reported. Therefore, Sir, in order to invite the attention of Government, I tried to move that adjournment motion. I do not know what action the Government are going to take with reference to that. I want the Government to take all these facts into consideration and see that something is done immediately. I find the Hon. Leader of the House in deep and silent contemplation."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"In the Budget speech you will certainly have some information on this point."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Perhaps the Hon. Minister is thinking how to reply to this debate. I know he would give very nice replies; but I ask, how is he going to convince the hon. Members of this House?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Have you convinced me?"

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JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"I really do not know; when you are determined not to be convinced, I cannot convince you. Are you going to convince the hon. Members of this House? But your masters are outside this House. You must convince them; and that is what I ask. With these few remarks, I close my speech."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"On a point of order, Sir. I find hon. Members referring to the policy of the Government for the last three or four years. I want to know, is the present Government responsible for the actions of the Omandur Ramaswami Reddiar or the Prakasam Ministries? This is quite a different Ministry, although some of the Ministers alone have changed. Are we to call all these ministries one ministry or different ministries?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not a point of order; I think the Leader of the House will answer it."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is the same Congress Party which has been in office from the 1st of April 1946 and we are responsible for all the actions of the previous ministries also."

* SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, having been a Member of the Madras Legislature for about a quarter of a century, I feel pleased to see that this country has become a Republic and also that His Excellency, the head of the administration, has been pleased to be present in this Chamber and give an address, for which not only myself but my whole community feel thankful. Having created the atmosphere of a Republic in this country due to the sacrifice and suffering of that great soul Mahatma Gandhi and several other Indians, I think we should be proud to-day to express in this House freely and without any obstruction, what we honestly feel as regards the administration of the Government. Sir, it is this atmosphere that has given an opportunity to men like Mr. Natesan who was so desperate this morning about the acts of the Government, especially in regard to the policy of prohibition. I shall refer to this question later, but I shall confine myself for the present to the amendment that I have given notice of and moved in this House."

"While we are jubilant over the political advancement of this country, it is needless for me to bring to the notice of the Government the pathetic condition of the poor people, both in the rural and urban areas, who are now dwindling into a state of poverty and have been reduced almost to a skeleton. I know, as a matter of fact, there is a great shortage of foodstuffs. Due to the constant failure for the last three years of the monsoon, the Government have been faced with a very difficult position to meet the demands of the people in the matter of food. I know that attempts have been made and the Government of India have been approached in all possible ways to make good the shortage which is anticipated. The

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Government of India have their responsibility not only to this State but to the other States as well and they have given us the assurance that the shortage will be made good as far as possible. If the food shortage is not made up I fear our rural population will further dwindle in their stature and there will be a great calamity in this country. Happily I find in the Address of His Excellency a statement to the effect that 'My Government are actively considering the steps to be taken to improve the situation so that the hardship to the people is minimised.' I hope this will be translated into actual practice, so that the poor people may not further feel the hardship. I also find from the speech of His Excellency some important points, such as, improvement in rural industries, rural construction schemes and above all khadi. These are the things which have been brought to the notice of the Indian public by Mahatma Gandhi and I am glad that the Government have taken note of them and I think they are trying to do something to implement these schemes. It is really unfortunate that the hon. Gentleman Sri Natesan, when he spoke this morning, referred to Prohibition and Khadi. He was in despair about these things, but it was a despair not because these schemes have not worked but because he was not able to get his dose of alcoholic drinks. He was not the only person who was deprived of these but there are also hundreds of people similarly placed as himself. The Government have gone into the various aspects of the policy of Prohibition and after deliberate consideration and clear debate not only in this House but even outside they thought that Prohibition was really a salvation for the masses. Sir, coming as I do from a district which is inhabited by the hill tribes, the aboriginals and plantation labour, I may assure this House that Prohibition has done yeoman good. I know as a matter of fact, it has improved the economic lot of these poor people. If one goes to the rural areas in the various districts, I am sure that without any fear of contradiction, the representatives of those districts will support this statement of mine. Sir, a reform of this nature, namely, Prohibition, which has not been tried in any other country, except America where it failed, probably because the other nations have not got the courage and the foresightedness to bring forward such a reform, happily for us through the instrumentality of Mahatma Gandhi and the statesmanship of Rajagopalachariar, it has been the proud privilege of this State to bring about. I do not agree with those who say that this Prohibition reform is dangerous to the whole society.

"Coming to the amendment I have given notice of, namely, about the amelioration of the condition of the Harijans, it should be given first priority. Sir, I would be failing in my duty if I did not thank the Government for the steps they have taken to bring about some reform and also some ameliorative measures for the improvement of the Harijans. It is true that the Government have set up a separate department for the welfare of the Harijans and I also know that recently they have appointed a special officer for carrying out the recommendations of the Provincial Harijan Welfare Committee's Report. We welcome it. As envisaged by the

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Constitution, I find His Excellency's Address has not touched on the implementation of the various reforms and measures of amelioration for these poor people. I find also from Articles 38, 39 and 46 of the Constitution that they go a long way to improve the lot of these weaker sections of the community and I am sure the Government will take note of this and see what they can do in the matter of the economic advancement of the community.

"Again, Sir, His Excellency has been kind enough to refer to the Agrarian Reforms Committee. He said that this Government are going to constitute a committee to go into the whole matter and see what can be done for the welfare of the tiller of the soil. There are some people in this land who are in doubt as to who is the real tiller of the soil. But, I may submit that the Harijans who are the toiling millions of this land and who are shedding their sweat for the improvement of land are the true tillers of the soil and so these Harijans will have a place in the future economy of land. I know, as a matter of fact, the Constitution itself makes it very clear about the position of the Harijans and the tillers of the soil.

"Sir, in the matter of education, it has been already accepted by the Constitution that adult suffrage shall be the order of the day in regard to the future elections, but in regard to the community to which I belong, the Harijans, if you take the percentage of literacy among them, it is very small and if the adult suffrage afforded under the Constitution is to be worked properly in the interests of the Harijans there must be a greater percentage of educated people from among these people. So, in all future ameliorative measures, for instance, expansion of primary education, I feel the Harijan hamlet must find a place in that scheme because there is a feeling in the country that the Harijans must merge with the majority communities if really the object is to be achieved. If that is done, I am sure, the object envisaged by many of the leaders of the Indian community will be achieved.

"Sir, the other day, when my hon. Friend Sri Vaidyanatha Ayyar was speaking he expected a declaration that the communal G.O. would be done away with after the new Constitution came into force, I was startled when he made such a statement and I never expected a man of Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar's standing to have made the statement to do away with the communal G.O. He also quoted certain articles from the Fundamental Rights, namely, Articles 14 and 15 of the Constitution. But, unfortunately he has not gone just below those articles, for instance Article 16, in which it is made very clear that 'There shall be equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters relating to employment or appointment to any office under the State'.

"Again under Article 16 (4), it is very clearly set out that 'Nothing in this Article shall prevent the State from making any provision for the reservation of appointments or posts in favour of any Backward Class of citizens which, in the opinion of the State, is not adequately represented in the services under the State'.

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"Then, particularly with regard to the Scheduled Castes, Article 335 makes it very clear and it says 'The claims of the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes shall be taken into consideration'.

"Further, Sir, from these Articles it is very clear that on no account the communal G.O. can go. Perhaps, it is because Sri Vaidyanatha Ayyar has ascended the steps of the ladder and gone to the top he feels that he can kick the ladder from which he rose, but I want to know from him whether others also should not climb up the ladder. If he thinks so, it is really most ungenerous on his part. As we see at present, there is only one community which is predominating the services. I would ask him, is the Harijan quota fulfilled? It is not so. So, Sir, unless we reach the quota on the basis of population, it will be ungenerous and also bad on the part of the Government to think of doing away with the communal G.O. It is this communal G.O. that has given some opportunity to our people to become Collectors and District Superintendents of Police and various other offices. I may in this connexion, say that those persons who have been appointed to such posts have done their work to the satisfaction not only of the officers but also the public in general.

"Then, Sir, referring to the speech of His Excellency, Mr. Pais accused the Government for not giving certain privileges for converts from Harijans. This fact has been definitely made clear not only in this House but even in the Constituent Assembly that it is not only the Harijans but also the Scheduled Castes that shall be protected from social injustices. It has also been very clearly laid down both in the 1935 Act and its rules and in the present Constitution that Harijan means Hindu. We Harijans do not oppose or obstruct the Christians or any other communities, though they may not be called minorities under the Constitution, from getting any advantages. So far as I could see, there is no reference to the word 'minority' in the Constitution. So, Sir, I do not find why even in the days of the Republic people should accuse the Government for not giving facilities to converts. If they are poor the Government are there to come to their help, but to talk of not giving the converts anything from the quota of the Harijans is a thing which I myself and my colleagues who believe in that way do not like.

"Now, coming to the Grow-More-Food campaign, on account of the rule that was prevailing during the war days, the Government deprived the Harijans from getting land on a permanent basis. But, recently the Government were kind enough to make rules for the assignment of land, but in assigning these lands what the Government have done is that in many districts lands given to the Harijans on Sivoijima basis, were taken away and given to political sufferers. Of course, there may be many reasons for the Government for doing so, but I know, as a matter of fact, this is being felt by my community people as a great disappointment. Secondly, on account of the failure of monsoon and other causes our people are not in a position to obtain the required seed manure and

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loan for cultivation purposes. I hope the Government will come to their rescue, if they want them to prosper and unless the community develops itself in the economic field and in matters of education, it will not be possible for the component parts of the nation to be safe and sound.

"I believe that these points will be taken note of and the Government at least in the future will see how best they could uplift the Harijans. It is said that during the next ten years, primary education must be made compulsory and all the people in the State must receive primary education. As I have already pointed out, the rate of illiteracy in my community is very low and I hope that the Government will embark upon a dynamic programme so that, not only in the matter of education but in the economic sphere also, their case will be given the first priority so that they might have equal opportunity for service and aspirations and so that they might be of as much use as possible to the Government and the State in the future development of the nation."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to thank His Excellency for his Address but on the policies mentioned in it, I must say that there can be no policy for this Government. The House knows it and everybody knows it and they know how they have been conducting the affairs of the State for the last three or four years. Can there be any policy for a party which is full of partisan spirit and which spirit not only pervades among the Ministers and members of the party in power but also goes down to the villages? It is very clear in the amendment which I have given notice of how this spirit moves the party but unfortunately I could not move the amendment and that is the thing that prevents this Government from having any policy, either long range or short range. That can be seen from the speech of His Excellency the Governor and it can be seen how the Government is incapable of advising His Excellency on important matters. Have we not seen this party treating their own leaders in the way they did the hon. Mr. Prakasam and I do not know what they are going to do now, when the Ides of March will be coming in connexion with the annual election of leaders. My hon. Friend Mr. Majid has explained to the House how except for the proposal to have a committee on land laws, there is nothing new in the Address. To any one who has made a study of how they had proceeded about their business, it would be seen how the appointment of a committee is just a prelude to shelving or postponing consideration of a thing. During the last three years some ten committees have been appointed. Matters are gone into and reported; either they are printed or not but when asked for information on the floor of the House, the Hon. the Leader of the House says that the Government are not going to publish the report. I can name some ten committees. Money would have been spent on printing and they would be saying that the matter is under consideration but always the result is like this. I am afraid that is what will happen to this Committee also.

"It is a very strange thing that this Government have not advised His Excellency in the matter of civil liberties.

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"As very ably explained by the hon. Gentleman, Mr. Viswanatham, the Government were not able to advise His Excellency on a very important matter, namely, the separation of the Andhra Province, a question which has been agitating the minds of the entire Province. This Government had no time to make mention about that in the address. The way in which the Government have behaved in the matter is going to be their Waterloo. They have not published what things they had before them, what they had sent to the Government of India, what their report to the Central Government is and what after that, the Central Government have asked them to do and whether the Government have given up that question. I understand that there are 10 per cent of officers from the areas which should constitute the new state; whereas on a population basis, they must be expected to have 38 per cent. If only the Hon. Andhra Ministers had a sense of self-respect they would not have remained there and I ask the Andhra Ministers what their part is."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"There are no Andhra Ministers in the Cabinet; they are Madras Ministers."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"They represent the Andhra country and if he is not an Andhra, he would not have any place in the Cabinet; but for the support of the Andhras, he would not have been there. I am not asking him to be an Andhra and Andhra only; he is there to represent the interests of Andhras; what has he done regarding the deficiency of Andhras in the services. In this connexion, I shall have to illustrate the position by referring to the question of the stoppage of Muslim recruitment in the Police Department. They put a stop to the recruitment of Muslims in the Department on the ground that they were over-represented. If now it is seen that there is this deficiency, why did not the Government stop the recruitment of Tamilians or Malayalees who are over-represented in the services till the proportion is reached? Sir, I pause for a reply and the House will know what he is going to say."

"Mr. Speaker, you would have seen the report of proceedings of the Tamilnad Political Conference and members of the Government sat there hearing music and speeches criticizing the hon. Mr. Prakasam and other Andhras who were working for safeguarding the interests of the Andhras in the event of a separation. What was the sin that Mr. Prakasam committed; he was only trying to safeguard their interests. If hon. Members and Members of the Government think he is wrong, let the public judge but only let them place at their disposal their deliberations in connexion with the partition. They will not do that. The Ministers like the Hon. Mr. Bhaktavatsalam who found a place in every Cabinet were there in the group but there was no protest on their part or on the part of the Andhra Ministers of the Government when they were criticizing him in all manner of ways. It has been said time and again that this is an agreed plan and they cannot open their mouths and The Hon. the Leader of the House himself said that the Andhras have accepted certain proposals and they

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"proceeded upon it. But I say it was done on the understanding that we should get the Province on the 26th of January and because we are not getting it, the decision taken by the then Hon. Ministers are not binding on the Andhras and we have got a right to agitate and put forward proposals in the best interests of the Andhras as Mr. Prakasam has done."

"Let me tell you, Sir, that freedom of action and liberty of the citizen are a rare commodities in this State and the Ministers have not been able to advise His Excellency the Governor regarding the effects of some of the emergency measures regarding freedom of action nor have any indications been given having regard to the fact that they are temporary measures, that they would try to avoid them. His Excellency on the advice of his Ministers has appealed to the people to co-operate with the Government in the matter of countering subversive activities. We are with the Government but the unfortunate position is that this Government will not appreciate whatever we say from the Opposition. Take the incidents which occurred within the Salem jail. If such an incident had happened elsewhere the people responsible would have been sent to the gallows. There are protests about it from the entire country but Ministers have not said anything about it. But the Hon. the Minister for Jails has rushed to the place and he has promised to appoint a committee; perhaps he has gone to the place to see the dead bodies; the number has now risen to 22 since he went there, and perhaps he saw the dead bodies and frowned upon them. I ask, Sir, whether in the past you have not appointed committees to enquire into such incidents. Let me ask, Sir, what happened in Chirala. The Committee was presided over by Mr. Justice Horwill; that Committee enquired into the police firing there and submitted a report to Government but the Government decided not to publish the report. To revert to this Committee, I am not sure if the whole thing might be prejudiced if they appoint persons with anti-communist tendencies as members. Shooting down people who were shut up in jails, I must say, is an experience which we have not come across even in the worst days of the Britisher in 1942. In jails, in judicial detention there was a population of about 220 in that jail and out of them 22 people have died and 120 others have been injured. I want to ask whether this Committee's report will be published; whether the proceedings of the Committee will be open to the Press, whether advocates will be permitted to appear on behalf of the injured and whether after the report has been received by the Government, it will be published."

* SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI :—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே. நாளை Honourable His Excellency the Governor அவர்கள் செய்த பிரசங்கத்தின் சாராம்சமானது என்னவென்றால் நம்முடைய எதிர்க்காலத்தில் நாம் என்ன செய்யவேண்டும் என்பதை விளக்கிக்கொள்வதுடன் அவைகளை அவர் நமக்கு எடுத்துக்காட்டியும் இனி செய்யப்போகும் வேலையையும் அவர் சொல்லிய திலிருந்து இங்குள்ள அங்கத்தினர்களுக்கும் பொது ஜனங்களுக்கும் சந்தோஷத்தை உண்டு பண்ணுகிறது என்பதில் சந்தேகமில்லை. அப்படி சந்தோஷமடையும்படியாகச் செய்த பிரசங்கமானது நமக்கு திரும்பியளிக்கிறது."

[Sri N. Annamalai Pillai] [16th February 1950]

ஆனால் அதிருப்திகொண்டவர்களுக்கு வேறுகாரணம் என்னவிருக்குமென்றால், அது அரசியல் நோக்கமே தவிர வேறு எந்தக் காரணத்தைக் கொண்டும், குறை சொல்ல முடியாது என்பதை நான் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“நம் நாட்டில் எழுதப்படிக்கத் தெரியாத ஜனங்கள் 100-க்கு 90 பேர் களுக்கு இருக்கிறார்கள். இந்தக் குறையை நிவர்த்தி செய்வதற்கு ‘adult education’ ஐயும் மற்றுமுள்ள education ஐயும் அதிகப்படுத்துவதற்கு வேண்டிய ஏற்பாடுகளை செய்திருப்பதாகவும் சொல்லியுள்ளார். Basic training அதாவது ஆதாரக்கல்வியை போதிக்கும் விஷயத்தில் அரசாங்கம் கவனம் செலுத்தி இருக்கிறார்கள் என்றும் தெரிவித்தார். எந்த முறையிலும் இது வரையிலிருந்த அரசாங்கம் ஜனங்களுடைய முன்னேற்றத்திற்கு ஒன்றும் செய்யவில்லை. ஜனங்களுடைய அறிவுவளர்ச்சிக்குத் தகுந்த முறையில் கல்வி போதிக்க ஏற்பாடு செய்யவே இல்லை, Basic training மூலமாக ஜனங்கள் அடையப்போகிற நன்மைகள் இனிமேல்தான் தெரியவரும்.

“அடுத்தபடியாக நீர்ப்பாசனம் இதில் ஏராளமான வேலைகளைச் செய்வதற்கு வேண்டிய ஏற்பாடுகள் செய்து கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள் என்றும் தெரிவித்தார். இந்த சர்க்கார் ஏற்பட்ட மூன்று வருஷங்களுக்குள்ளாக ஒரு சவர்க்கலோகமாகக் வேண்டுமென்று நினைப்பதில் அர்த்தமில்லை. ஜால வித்தை மந்திரம் ஜபித்து செய்தால் ஒழிய வேறுவிதம் செய்திருக்க முடியவே முடியாது. நமது சர்க்கார் இது வரையில் செய்திருக்கும் வேலைகள் பாராட்டி இன்னும் உற்சாகப்படுத்தி வந்தால்தான் இன்னும் வேலைகளை அதிகப்படுத்துவதற்கு உற்சாகம் ஏற்படும். அதை விட்டுவிட்டு குறை கூறுவதே தொழிலாக வைத்துக் கொண்டு வேலை செய்வார்களேயானால் அவர்களுக்கு அதிக உற்சாகம் இருக்கமுடியாது என்பதை தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“மேலும் Pirka development-ஐ ஆரம்பித்திருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த வேலையினுடைய பலனை என்ன ஜில்லாவில் நான்கண்டு அனுபவித்து அதனால் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் நன்மையை நேரடியாக அறிந்திருக்கிறேன். இங்கிருக்கும் அங்கத்தினர்கள் அங்கு சென்று நேரடியாகப் பார்த்தால்தான் அங்கு ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் நன்மைகள் நன்கு தெரியவரும்.

“மற்றும் சமீபத்தில் நடந்த அரசியல் மகாநாட்டில் நான் தலைமை வகித்தபோது என்னுடைய தலைமை பிரசங்கத்தில் மதுவிலக்கு திட்டம் தோல்வியுற்றது என்பதாக நான் பேசியதாக ஓர் அங்கத்தினர் இந்த சபையில் எடுத்துச் சொன்னதாக நான் கேள்விப்படுகிறேன். அந்த சமயம் நான் இங்கு இல்லை. என்னுடைய பிரசங்கத்தில் நான் சொல்லியிருப்பது என்னவென்றால் பொது ஜனங்களும், சபை அங்கத்தினர்களும், காங்கிரசினுள்ள அங்கத்தினர்களும், இன்னும் அதிகமாக இந்த திட்டத்தில் உற்சாகம் காட்ட வேண்டும் என்பதாகத்தான் தெருவித்திருக்கிறேன். இப்போது ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் பஞ்சத்தின் கொடுமையினால், இந்த பஞ்சக்கொடுமையிலிருந்து ஜனங்களை அதிலும் ஹரிஜனங்களையும் ஏழைகளையும் மீட்பதற்காக இந்த குடிப்பழக்கத்தை விடும்படி செய்திருப்பதால் அவர்கள் இன்று வறையில் உயிர் வாழ்ந்து வருகிறார்கள். இந்த மதுவிலக்கு திட்டம் காரணம் ஒன்றில்தான் அவர்கள் அவ்விதம் உயிர் வாழ்ந்து வருகிறார்கள் என்பதை இச்சமயம் ரூபகப்படுத்த விரும்புகிறேன். கனம் நடேச முதலியார், மதுவிலக்கு திட்டம் தோல்வியடைந்து விட்டது என்று நான் சொன்னதாக அர்த்தம்படும்படி பேசியதாக கேள்விப்படுகிறேன். ‘கூறுகிறவன் தான் நினைத்தது போல் கூறுவான். குடிக்கிறவனும்—தான் நினைத்ததுபோல்தான் குடிப்பான்’ என்றும் பழமொழிபோலிருக்கிறது. தனக்கு உபயோகப்படுமடியாக பிரசங்கம் செய்தானது அசட்டுத்தனமானது என்று நான் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். என்னுடைய பிரசங்கத்தின் மூலம் சொன்னதானது 100-க்கு 75 பேர்களுக்கு இந்த திட்டத்தினால் சாதகம் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்பதுதான். கிருமினல் கோர்ட்டுக்கே எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் கிரிமினல் குற்றங்கள் குறைந்திருப்பதாகவே கேள்விப்படுகிறேன். 100-க்கு 75 Per cent குற்றங்கள் நடந்த இடங்களில் இப்பொழுது 100-க்கு 25 Per cent பேர்கள்தான் குற்றத்திற்கு ஆளாகி இருக்கிறார்கள். மதுவிலக்கு திட்டம் இல்லாமலிருந்தபொழுது ஆளாகி இருக்கிறார்கள். கொண்டு அவர்களை போக்கிரிகள் என்று கருதி அவர்களை அப்பொழுது இருந்த சர்க்கார் கிரிமினல் குற்றங்களுக்கு ஆளாகி இருக்கின்றார்கள்.

16th February 1950] [Sri N. Annamalai Pillai]

அந்த சர்க்கார் செய்த வேலைகளை பாராட்டுவதற்காக அதற்கு அனுசரணையாகப் பேசுவது போல் இந்த சர்க்கார் செய்திருக்கும் வேலைகள் தோல்வியாகப் பேசுவது என்பது சொல்வதை என்போலுள்ளவர்கள் சகித்துக் கண்டித்து விட்டன என்று சொல்வதை மிகவும் வருத்தத்துடன் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். பொறுப்புள்ளவர்கள் இப்படி பேசக்கூடாது என்பதையும் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இப்பொழுது மதுவிலக்கு பூர்ண வெற்றி யடைந்திருக்கிறது. அது மாதிரமல்ல இப்பொழுது கோயம்பத்தூர், மதுரை, பெல்லாரி, கடப்பை முதலிய ஜில்லாக்களில் 1935-ம் வருஷம் வரையில் நடந்த கொலைக்குற்றங்களையும் இப்பொழுது எவ்வளவு நடந்திருக்கின்றன என்பதையும் சர்க்கார் எடுத்துவைத்திருக்கும் கணக்கைப்பார்த்தால் தான் நன்கு தெரியவரும். முற்றிலும் நின்று போனதாகவே தான் தோன்றுகிறது. நின்று போனதற்குக் காரணம் இந்தக் குடிப்பழக்கம் இல்லாதது ஒன்றும். நின்று போனதற்குக் காரணம் இதைக் குடிப்பழக்கம் இல்லாதது ஒன்றும். குடித்துவிட்டு மயங்கிக் கிடக்கும்போது அவர்கள் இந்த கெட்ட குற்றங்களுக்கும், திருட்டுக் குற்றங்களுக்கும் ஆளாகியிருக்கின்றார்கள். இப்பொழுது இந்த கொலைக் குற்றங்களும் திருட்டுக் குற்றங்களும் முற்றிலும் குறைந்து விட்டதற்குக் காரணம் இந்தக் குடியையும் கள்ளையும், சாராயத் தையும் அடியோடு எடுத்துத்தூறியது என்று சொல்லிக் கொண்டும் மகாத்மா காந்தியை புகழ்ந்து பேசிக்கொண்டும் அவருடைய கொள்கைகளுக்கும் பூசித்தும் இந்த மது விலக்கு திட்டம் தோல்வி படத்தை வைத்துக்கொண்டு பூசித்தும் இந்த மது விலக்கு திட்டம் தோல்வி யடைந்து விட்டது என்று சொல்வதில் பிரயோசனமில்லை. தங்களுடைய அறிவையும் புத்தியையும் உபயோகப்படுத்திச் சொல்வதுதான் இங்குள்ள நிர்வாகிகளுடைய கடமை; இங்கிருக்கும் அங்கத்தினர்களுடைய கடமை; அரசாங்கத்தினுடைய கடமை; தலைமை அதிகாரிகளுடைய கடமை யாகும் என்பதைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். தோல்வியடைந்துவிட்டது என்று சொல்வது கூடாது. யாரும் கங்காணியாக இருந்து கொண்டு சர்க்காருடைய கொள்கைகளுக்கு எதிராக இருக்க முயற்சி எடுத்துக்கொண்டும் சட்டசபை மெம்பராக இருக்க முயற்சிப்பதும் கூடாது என்பது எனக்குத் . . .

MR. SPEAKER:—“கங்காணி என்று இந்த சபையில் சொல்வது தவறு.”

* SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI:—“என்னையேதான் நான் சொல்லிக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். இருந்தாலும் நான் வாபீஸ் வாங்கிக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆகையினால் என்மீது எந்தப்பழியையும் சுமத்த வேண்டாமென்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“மற்றும் ஒரே ஒரு வார்த்தை. உணவு, இந்த சபையிலுள்ளவர்கள் பூர்ணமாக உணவு பெருக்குவதற்கு உதவியெய்ய வில்லை. முயற்சியும் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவில்லை என்பதையும் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். காங்கிரஸ் காரர்களும் பொதுவாக காங்கிரஸ் அல்லாதவர்களும் இதில் கவனம் செலுத்தவேண்டும். அதனால் தேசத்திற்கே பிரயோஜனம் உண்டு. அவர்களும் தேசப் பிரதிநிதிகளாக வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால் அவர்களும் இந்த வேலையில் முனைந்து ஜனங்கள் பஞ்சத்தில் மடிந்து போகாமல் இருப்பதற்கு உணவு பெருக்கத்தை அதிகப்படுத்துவதற்கு முயற்சி எடுத்துக் கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்பதாகக் கேட்டுக்கொண்டு நம்முடைய கவர்னர் அவர்களும் நம் நாட்டிற்கு நல்ல வழி காட்டுவார் என்பதாகத் தெரிவித்துக் கொண்டு என்னுடைய வார்த்தையை முடித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

* SRI M. A. EASWARAN:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the motion moved by Sri M. Bapineedu, I want to say something about the food position. The food position is becoming more acute day by day and the discontent among the public is increasing. In the distribution of foodgrains, distinction is made between rice eaters and mixed diet eaters. Recently an order was received by the Rationing Officer, Erode municipality under which about five thousand rice cards had to be changed to mixed diet cards. After 3-15 p.m.

[Sri M. A. Easwaran] [16th February 1950]

the introduction of rationing, people who were not accustomed to take maize, maida flour, wheat and some other foodgrains have been compelled to take them even in villages where rice is produced. There should not be any distinction made between people and people. All available rice and millets should be distributed equally among all the people even by reducing the rice content of the ration in towns and cities if it becomes necessary. Such an arrangement will remove the discontent among the public in regard to distribution. There is already discontent with regard to procurement, and to it we should not add discontent due to unequal distribution.

"I can speak of Tamilnad with some knowledge. In Coimbatore district, there is acute famine condition, as the monsoon has failed consecutively for three years. In Udumalpet town, drinking water is being sold at three annas a pot! That is the position in Udumalpet town. In Udumalpet, Palladam, Dharapuram and Erode taluks, fodder scarcity is very severe. Cattle are fed on palmyra leaves which are selling at the rate of forty leaves per rupee. Cattle are being sold at cheap prices because the agriculturists cannot afford to maintain them properly.

"Sri T. Viswanatham complained that Andhras were not adequately represented in Government service. This State has been ruled as one unit when the British Government were in power. No distinction was made on the basis of Andhras, Tamilians, Kannadias or Malayalees and only the best men, to whatever linguistic area they might belong, were chosen. Nobody then thought it fit to make the complaint which Sri Viswanatham now makes. Now he agitates that the Andhras should be represented in proportion to their population strength. In the same breath he says that the communal G.O. should be abolished. That G.O. has come into existence because of the agitation of the depressed and backward classes for adequate representation in Government service, as Sri T. Viswanatham now agitates for the Andhras. Therefore there is justification for retaining the communal G.O. for some more time.

"Peace and order have been well maintained in this State by the Police and the Jail authorities, and I congratulate them on it."

JANAB MAHIN SCHAMNAD:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no separate electorate but only joint electorate in the country. Muslims want separate electorates because they have no confidence in the majority party. If they had confidence, they would have welcomed joint electorates. Some hon. Members say on the floor of this House that Muslims should not entertain any suspicion against the majority party because they have taken Muslims on the municipal councils; local boards and corporation and that too in excess of what their population strength warrants. The majority party do not treat other parties as their equals. There is a proverb in Kannada:

ನಮ್ ಮರಿ ಹೊಸಿ, ಮರಿ.
ಮರಿ ಮರಿ ಕಾಣಿ ಮರಿ.

16th February 1950] [Janab Mahin Schamnad]

The majority party do not treat members of other parties as their equals unless they sign a bond of allegiance and join the Congress. Where is the necessity for this bond? If parties are created and party feelings promoted, there will be no safety in the country. Muslims are loyal to the Government, co-operate with them and are ready to fight against the enemies of the Government. Such being the case, where is the necessity for the Congress Party to treat other parties as their enemies and not as their friends? If there is any election, the Party want to set up as candidates only their own partymen and capture all seats without giving an opportunity for members of other parties. I am a member of the South Kanara District Board. That District Board wanted to form different committees to deal with education, health and other matters. One impartial Congress gentleman, who is the Secretary of the Taluk Congress Committee, proposed my name for the membership of one of the committees after taking my consent. This was supported by other Congress gentlemen. The Congress members of the District Board held a meeting, which I could not attend as I stood as an independent candidate, and the majority opposed my selection and decided that the selection should be confined to the members of their own party. Thus I lost the chance of serving my people in my old age. It is this kind of treatment that makes the Muslims cry for separate electorates. By this treatment the Congress Party are driving away men to the Communist camp and many people have joined the Communist Party. In conclusion I say that as long as the Congress Party want to create parties and foster party feelings, so long there will be no peace in the country."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I endorse every word of what was said by Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillay about the Harijan cause in this august House. In the course of the address, His Excellency the Governor has said that the destinies of more than fifty million of our fellow human beings have been placed in our hands. But the bulk of them happen to belong to very poor classes. The address which has been circulated to us is a very hollow statement; it is very ambiguous, is full of empty words, makes no promise, outlines no policy and nobody can expect anything from that statement.

"His Excellency says that light should be brought to the humblest and the meanest homes. A home can be small but there is no home in this State which can be considered to be mean.

"The address says that seasonal conditions in 1949 have been bad. What have the Government done to the people of the Ceded districts when so many houses were collapsing and the people were dying for want of food? This Government never moved their little finger. They doled out a grant of five rupees and ten rupees to people who lost property worth thousands of rupees! Can a Government which treat the suffering people like this be called a popular Government? I sound this note of warning that they have ceased to be popular and lost all regard and respect in the country. If the Government continue in this manner, they will be digging their grave and along with their grave the grave of their party.

[Sri S. Nagappa] [16th February 1950]

"Let us take the minor irrigation works programme. It is a ten-crore programme. Extending over how many years? Twenty years! Can a Government which feed people on eight ounces and ten ounces and which attend to the minor irrigation works programme in this leisurely way be called a popular Government? This is the most important programme, and if they have no staff, they should borrow the necessary staff from other Governments and execute the minor irrigation works speedily.

"My hon. colleague Sri N. Venkatasubbayya long long ago submitted a scheme for installation of wind mills. We have enough air and water. What have this Government done to harness the natural wealth that is given to us? They have no policy or forethought. Can this Government be called a popular Government? It is an aristocratic Government doing things in an aristocratic way in these democratic days. The Ministers are all landed aristocrats and they cannot understand the sufferings of the poor people. They simply waste public money on tours and pilgrimages.

"Kurnool district is surplus so far as millets are concerned. This Government neither allow the ryots to sell their surplus millets nor do they procure them through their own agency. The Government agencies have become bankrupt and they cannot procure when the ryots are ready to sell. The result is that the millets have deteriorated and thereby valuable foodgrain is lost. The Government are fit to be criminally prosecuted for this deterioration. This is the way in which the Government are guiding the destinies of more than fifty million people of this State.

"I now turn to intensive cultivation. The Ministers own hundreds of acres. What have they done in the direction of intensive cultivation? Why did they not parcel out their lands and lease them to different people for cultivation? When the poor Harijans reclaim lands after spending a great deal of money, time, energy and labour, these people simply snatch away those lands for giving to political sufferers. The political sufferers have been a nuisance to the Harijan cause everywhere.

"The address says that the Government propose to constitute a committee to examine the present land revenue system. This is a method invented to shelve the problem. It affects the Ministers who are landed aristocrats, and that is why they are giving cold shoulder to this problem. What were the Government doing all along? They could have taken up this important problem long long ago as that would have solved the food problem.

"It is said that very high priority will be given to the expansion of facilities for medical education and training. How many colleges have been opened during the regime of the present Government? Poor people are not admitted in colleges, and their applications are turned down on some pretext or other. Some Minister's relative or Secretary's relative or some high official's relative gets admission by backdoor methods."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"The hon Member should be able to prove all his statements."

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"I can prove the statements. When I make a statement, I make it with a full sense of responsibility.

"I now refer to drainage schemes. There is the wonderful report of the Kaleswara Rao Committee on drainage schemes. In the normal course my municipality (Kurnool) should have got the drainage scheme in 1949-50. Now we are on the eve of 1950-51. Yet nothing has been done. My people do not support the ministerial policies and the way in which the aristocratic Ministers have been playing with these schemes.

"Coming to thermal schemes, there was a proposal to extend the thermal scheme in Nandyal. I do not know what made this Government stop it. They say that they will complete the Tungabhadra Project—in which year God only knows—and supply power from it and ask us to remain in dark till then.

"The Constitution says that the moment it is inaugurated compulsory education should be introduced. What have this Government done? They have withdrawn even the mid-day meal that was given to poor Harijan children. Are they here for doing such atrocities?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Mid-day meals are being continued and we have not withdrawn that concession."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"I thank the Hon. Minister for this statement. I have been receiving innumerable complaints that mid-day meals have been stopped. Probably they were stopped for some time.

"I hope the Government will extend compulsory education and see that poor students are given mid-day meals.

"The Tungabhadra Project has been dangled before us like Padmini in the mirror. We have been hearing about it for so many years. When are the Government completing it? Is there any definite programme?

"The Government are still investigating the Krishna-Pennar Project. It is from the original Sangameswaram Project, and why they have converted it into the Krishna-Pennar Project? They are not moving quickly in regard to this project.

"His Excellency has been pleased to say that a Harijan Welfare Department was created. What has the Director of Harijan Welfare done concretely, I ask. Ever since he came into existence, papers are moving slowly and red-tapism has increased. Hostels, which were getting grants hitherto have been denied those grants, and the full grants that were given to hostels for the addition of boys have been reduced. The Government are framing rules every day as though this one crore of rupees will be a permanent one crore. I thought every year they will spend one crore on these poor people. The Constitution provides that the Government must take special care to see that Harijans and other backward classes are brought to the level of others. Some members have been pleading for the abolition of the communal G.O. So far as backward communities and scheduled classes are concerned, their quota must

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be set apart for them. The Government may do anything they like with regard to others and I am not concerned with them. I have got many suggestions to make."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am sorry I cannot allow any more time."

3-45 p.m. * SRI A. SUBRAMANIAM:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, மேன்மை தங்கிய கவர்னர் அவர்களுடைய பிரசங்கத்தை நன்கு வரவேற்று ஒவ்வொரு வரும் புகழ்ந்து பேசவேண்டிய சந்தர்ப்பம் இப்பொழுது ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் மேன்மை தங்கிய கவர்னர் நிகழ்த்திய பிரசங்கத்தில் சில முக்கியமான விஷயங்களை சரிவர குறிப்பிடாமலிருந்ததை என்னால் எடுத்துக்காட்டாமலிருக்க முடியவில்லை. முதலாவதாக, விவசாயிகளுக்கு கிருக்கும் உண்மையான குறைகள்; இரண்டாவது, பிற்போக்கினத்தவர்களுடைய குறைகள்.

"முதலாவதாக, இப்பொழுது பருவ மழை பெய்யாது உணவு பஞ்சம் ஏற்பட்டு மக்கள் கஷ்டமடைந்து வருகின்றார்கள் என்பதை யாரும் மறுக்கமுடியாது. மேன்மை தங்கிய கவர்னர் அவர்களும் இதைத் தெளிவு படுத்தி பல விஷயங்களை எடுத்துக்கூறி யிருப்பதில் இதையும் எடுத்துக்கூறி யிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் இந்த தேசத்தில் முக்கியமாகவுள்ள வர்கள் விவசாயிகள்தான் என்பதை ஒருவரும் மறந்துவிடக்கூடாது. அவர்கள் தான் இந்த தேசத்தின் 'தர்மாமீட்டர்'களாக இருந்து வருகின்றார்கள் என்பதையும் நாம் மறந்துவிட முடியாது. அவர்களுக்கு என்ன குறைகளிருக்கின்றன வென்பதை அரசாங்கம் முதலில் கவனித்தும், அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய சலுகைகளை தீவிரமாகச் செய்ய முன்வர வேண்டும். அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய கருவிகள், உரம், தோல், மாடு, விதை இவைகளுக்கெல்லாம் அவர்கள் ஏராளமான பணத்தைக் கொட்டி வாங்க வேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. அவைகளுடைய விலைவாசிகள் இப்பொழுது ஒன்றுக்கு நான்கு மடங்கு உயர்ந்திருக்கின்றன. ஆனால் நெல்விற்கு மட்டும் விலையை ஒன்றுக்கு நான்கு மடங்கு உயர்த்தப்படவில்லை. நிலைமை இப்படி இருக்கும்பொழுது அவர்களுக்கு உணவு தானிய உற்பத்தி பெருக்கத்தில் எப்படி உற்சாகம் வாழமுடியும்? கஷ்டப்பட்டு வேலைசெய்து உழைத்து பயிர் செய்து தானிய உற்பத்தியை உயர்த்துவதற்கு நஷ்டமல்லவா ஏற்படுகிறது. ஆகவே, நெல்லின் விலையை உயர்த்துவதற்கு அரசாங்கம் வழியைக் கண்டு பிடித்து அதற்கு வேண்டிய திட்டமிட்டு அவர்களுக்கு சலுகைகள் காட்ட முன்வர வேண்டும். இம் முறை அனுஷ்டிக்கப் பட்டால் வாங்கக்கூடியவர்கள் கஷ்டமும், நஷ்டமும் அடைவார்களே என்று கூறலாம். அதைத் தவிர்க்க அரசாங்கம் ஒரு முக்கியமான காரியத்தைச் செய்யவேண்டும். தானியத்தை வாங்கி உண்ணக்கூடியவர்களுக்கு சொற்ப விலையில் விற்க முன் வரவேண்டும். இப்பொழுது அரசாங்கம் விவசாயிகளுக்கு அதிகமாக தொகையை கொடுத்து கொள்முதல் அல்லாது விவசாயி அப்படி கொள்முதல் செய்து தானியத்தை விற்கும்பொழுது வாங்கக்கூடியவர்களுக்கு அனுசரணையாக குறைவான விலையில் விற்பதற்கு அரசாங்கம் முற்படவேண்டும். அதனால் ஏற்படும் பல கோடி ரூபாய் அரசாங்கம் அரசாங்கம் ஏற்றுக்கொள்ள வேண்டும். அப்படி ஏற்படும் நஷ்டத்தை உணவு பெருக்கத்திற்காக ஒரு பெரும் தொகையை அரசாங்கம் சிலவழித்த தாகக் கருதவேண்டும். இந்த முறையை அரசாங்கம் சிலவழித்த உணவு நெருக்கடி தீரும். Black-market-ல் சில விவசாயிகள் நெல் விற்பதையும் நிறுத்தி விடுவார்கள். இன்னும் விவசாயிகளுக்கு நெல் விற்ப உணவு உற்பத்திச் செய்வதற்கு ஊக்கத்தைக் கொடுத்தவர்களுமாவோம். இதை உடனடியாகச் செய்ய அரசாங்கம் முன்வர வேண்டும் என்பதை இந்தச் சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் நான் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ள ஆசைப்படுகிறேன்.

"மற்றொரு முக்கியமான விஷயம், தற்போது அரசாங்கம் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களுக்கு இலாகா காட்டுவதில் சரியான முறையை அனுஷ்டிக்க வில்லை என்பதை வருத்தத்துடன் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். மொத்த ஜனத்தொகையில், அதாவது ஐந்து கோடியில் பேர்பாதி, அதாவது சுமார் 2½ கோடி ஜனங்களாகிய (150 இனப்பிரிவுகள் கொண்ட)

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பிற்போக்கு இனத்தவர்கள் இம் மாகாணத்திலிருக்கின்றார்கள். அவர்கள் விஷயத்தில் இந்த அரசாங்கம் சரியானபடி சலுகைகள் காட்டவில்லை. குறிப்பாக, தற்போது இந்த அரசாங்கத்தினால் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிருக்கும் வருப்புவாரி பிரதிநிதித்துவ முறையை பார்க்கும்பொழுது உத்யோகம் வழக்குவதில் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களுக்கு பதினான்கு ஸ்தானங்களில், இரண்டு ஸ்தானங்கள்தான் வழங்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. ஆனால், விரல்விட்டு எண்ணக் கூடிய பிராமணரல்லாதார் என்று சொல்லக்கூடியவர்களுக்கு இந்த பதினான்கு ஸ்தானங்களில் ஆறு ஸ்தானங்களென்று குறிப்பிடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இது எப்படி பொருந்தும். நியாயமாக யோசித்துப் பார்த்தால் புரியாமல் போகாது. பிராமணரல்லாதார் என்ற இனத்தவர்களுக்கு ஆறு ஸ்தானங்கள் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருப்பதை மாற்றி இம் மாகாணத்தின் ஜனத்தொகையில் 50 per cent ஆக இருக்கக்கூடிய 150 இனப் பிரிவுகள் கொண்ட பிற்போக்கு இனத்தவர்களுக்கு ஆறு ஸ்தானங்கள் என்று உடனடியாக மாற்றி அதை திருத்தி, ஒதுக்கிவைக்கப்படவேண்டும். அப்படி செய்தால் தான் இந்த தேசத்திலுள்ள பிற்போக்கினத்தவர்களுக்கு உண்மையாகவே இந்த அரசாங்கம் ஜன அரசாட்சியின்படி நீதியை செலுத்தி நன்மையை செய்து வருகிறது என்பதை பொது ஜனங்கள் உணருவார்கள். மேன்மை தங்கிய கவர்னர் அவர்களும் இதில் ஆவனச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். இதிலே பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களின் ஆவல், ஆகவே அவர்கள் இதை உடனடியாகச் செய்யவேண்டும்.

"அடுத்தப்படியாக கல்வி விஷயத்தில் சில சலுகைகளுக்காக இந்த பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களுக்கு முதலில் ஒரு லட்ச ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கிவைக்கப்பட்டது. இந்தத் தொகையை வைத்துக்கொண்டு இந்த இனத்தவர்களுக்கு என்ன செய்ய முடியும் என்பதை அறிவாளிகளை யோசித்துப் பார்க்கவேண்டும். இந்த ஒரு லட்சம் ரூபாய் சென்ற வருடத்திற்கு முந்திய வருடம் ஒதுக்கி வைக்கப்பட்டது. ஆனால், இதற்கென்று சென்ற வருஷம் ரூ. 5 லட்சம் ஒதுக்கிவைக்கப்பட்டது. 150 இனப் பிரிவுகள் கொண்டதும் ஒரு பெரிய ஜன சமுத்திரத்தைப் போன்றதுமான ஒரு கூட்டத்திற்கு இந்த ஐந்து லட்சம் ரூபாயை எந்த முறையில் சிலவு செய்யமுடியும் என்பதையும் யோசித்துப் பார்க்கவேண்டும். குறிப்பாக அவர்களுக்கு பெப்பர்மெண்டு வாங்கிக் கொடுப்பதற்கு கூட போதாது. ஆகவே, இந்த 2½ கோடி மக்களுக்கு ஒரு பெரும் தொகையை, அதாவது ஐந்து கோடி ரூபாயை ஒதுக்கி வைத்து நல்ல வசதியும் சலுகையும் அரசாங்கம் செய்ய முற்படவேண்டும். இன்னும் உத்யோகங்கள் அளிக்கும் முறையிலும் இந்த பிற்போக்கினத்தவர்களுக்கு உத்யோகங்கள் காட்டப்படவில்லை. ஒவ்வொரு இலாகாவிலும் சரியானபடி சலுகைகள் காட்டப்படவில்லை. ஒவ்வொரு இலாகாவிலும் அவர்களுக்கு உத்யோகங்கள் ஒதிக்கி முதல் சலுகை காட்டி உதவவேண்டுமென்று நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆனால், உத்யோகங்கள் வழங்கப் படுவதில் அவர்களுக்கு தக்க merit-ம் அனுபவமும் தேர்ச்சியும் வேண்டுமென்று நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆனால், உத்யோகங்கள் வழங்கப் படுவதில் அவர்களுக்கு தக்க merit-ம் அனுபவமும் தேர்ச்சியும் வேண்டுமென்று நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இதை அரசாங்கம் காட்டவேண்டுமென்று நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அப்படிச் செய்தால்தான் உடனடியாக கவனித்து உதவ முன்வரவேண்டும். அப்படிச் செய்தால்தான் வருங்காலத்தில் ஜாதி, மதபேதங்களெல்லாம் நீங்கப்பட்டு தேசத்தின் மக்கள் எல்லோரும் ஒன்று என்றும் சொல்லும்படியான நல்ல காலம் வரும். இப்பொழுது நமக்கு குடியரசு ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இந்தக் காலத்தில் முற்பட்ட இனம், பிற்பட்ட இனம், ஹரிஜனம் என்று சொல்வன வெல்லாம் கொஞ்ச காலத்தில் மாறி எல்லோரும் இத்தியர்கள் என்று சொல்லும்படியான நன்னிலை உடைவதற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டும். சொல்லும்படியான நன்னிலை உடைவதற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக் கொண்டு இத்துடன் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

* DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to join in the chorus of those who want to thank His Excellency the Governor of Madras for his address to the Legislature in which he has assured us that we have passed from the stage of tutelage

[Dr. D. S. Ramachandra Rao] [16th February 1950]

to freedom and from freedom to a secular democratic republic. It has been a great joy to those who have worked in the past for the consummation of this ideal which at last has come within their lifetime.

"Sir, I want to reflect and to see whether this assurance would hold water for any length of time. We are told that this Democratic Republic is all that is desirable. No doubt, Sir, when we longed for a Republic, we were under the impression that all that is best, all that is noblest and all that is finest in our hopes and aspirations will be consolidated and when the day of our freedom comes, we shall be in a position to express through our Government what our national ideal is. Sir, democracy which is rule of the people by the people and for the people could only have its justification so long as it really represents the will of the people. Otherwise it has no right to exist. Democracy, no doubt, is beset with great difficulties and everybody who is supposed to know something about democracy must realize their duties and responsibilities as citizens of democracy. There is a danger of people crying for the moon. We have no right to exist as a democracy if we are going to be a third or fourth rate democracy. That great Father of the Indian Nation has found for us a place in the map of the world by that wonderful soul force which he himself exhibited and taught his disciples in a way to believe in and indeed to appreciate its wonderful powers, and thus we have been as a free nation, enabled to play our part and to contribute whatever we can for the well-being of the humanity in this world. But now, Sir, we are at the parting of the ways. We are new to democracy and therefore there is every danger, in the initial stages, of its leading to inefficient administration, unless the Treasury Benches, and the representatives of the people and the Government exercise all their strength and all their power and all their wisdom to make it really efficient and you cannot possibly maintain that efficiency unless all the people in the country support the Government with that single-minded purpose and with that devotion and with that faith which democracy demands.

"Sir, the people are but a reflex of the Government and the Government are themselves a reflex of the people. Unless the great masses of our people realize their responsibilities and support the Government when they are doing what is right and what is good to the country and unless at the same time they are in a position to withdraw their support the moment the Government embark on a policy that would ultimately lead to the weakening of the administration, democracy cannot be said to have become perfect. And till then, Sir, the reciprocity in the relations between the Government and their supporters and the representatives of the people is likely to be strained and not harmonious. But at the beginning of things, we must look ahead and make a determination to see that our democracy should be an ideal democracy just as our freedom has been fought and won in an ideal way. And this idealism could be realized only by keeping up a high level of efficiency and showing a high sense of integrity in all matters relating to the administration of the country.

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"Sir, I quite realize that there are weaker elements in the nation that would need time and opportunity to be gradually brought up to a high level of efficiency, but there cannot be any excuse for adopting a policy of put in anybody and everybody into positions of great responsibility before ascertaining whether they are fit to bear that responsibility. It would be a dangerous policy for a republic to level down its standard, while on the other hand there is everything to be gained by levelling it up.

"Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillay, took exception to some statements that have been made in this House that people are jealous in a way because of the help that is being given to the Harijans. Sir, some of us who have been working in our own humble way for the uplift of the Harijans are more than thankful to the Government for the one crore fund which they have set up for the uplift of Harijans, but their only fault is that a more dynamic and a more heroic method of grappling with the problem has not yet been put forward. Sir, another point is that Harijan uplift does not exhaust all the possibility of social amelioration in this country. There are in every community from the highest to the lowest, from the richest to the poorest, a sub-strata of people who are economically backward, politically inarticulate and socially ostracised because they live in insanitary and filthy surroundings and remain ignorant and illiterate throughout their lives and they too have to be looked after by the Government and for whom crores and crores have to be spent if they are to be uplifted. They are practically neglected to-day. They are not in the lime-light. Their existence has not been brought to the focus and it is up to the Government of this State to find out where they are and do everything they can to lift them up and to improve their lot and to bring them up to the level of the rest.

"Sir, there is another point. We are asking people to produce more food. Grow-more-food is the watchword to-day. No doubt, people are also asking for more food. But we know that for the last two or three years Providence has not been kind and has been against us and we have not been able to grow more food. In the southern districts, particularly Madras and Chingleput which I have the honour to represent, there has been a great dearth of rain and that has handicapped production greatly and crops have dried up for want of water. If we go up to the northern districts, there we find that on account of the recent floods and cyclone, great havoc has been wrought and almost all the standing crops have been either washed away or destroyed. Therefore, Sir, if we want procurement in those areas to be spontaneous and generous, something must be done to make people feel that the Government are in real earnest to help the people and that they are not procuring simply to harass the people. On the other hand, Sir, it was brought to my notice—and the Government know how far it is true—that paddy seeds which had hitherto selling at Rs. 18 per bag, on the ton of the misfortune brought about by the floods and cyclone, were brought from the southern districts and sold to them at Rs. 24 per bag by the Government."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member's time is up."

* DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO:—"Therefore, it is up to the Government to have shown a little more consideration and a little more imagination and seen to it, when they were already suffering so much on account of the havoc wrought by nature, that they were supplied with seeds at the same price at which they were purchased and not at such a high price, as has been done, and this would have created a favourable impression in their minds that the Government were interested in their welfare, and their response in the matter of procurement would have been correspondingly good. Therefore, Sir, if our country is to progress, we must have a republic that is both democratic and secular, both in truth and in spirit."

* SRI R. KUPPUSWAMI:—"கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, மேன்மை தங்கிய கவர்னர் அவர்கள் செய்த பிரசங்கத்தைப்பற்றி பேசும் பொழுது அதை வரவேற்கக் கூடியதாக இருந்தாலும் அதில், முக்கியமாக தொழிலாளர்களைப் பற்றிய அபிப்பிராயம் ஒன்றுமே காணப்படவில்லை. இந்த சுதந்திர தேசத்தின் எதிர்காலத்தில் உற்பத்திக்கும் மற்றும் எல்லா தொழில்களுக்கும் தேந்திர ஸ்தானமாயிருக்கக் கூடியவர்கள் தொழிலாளர்கள் தான். அவர்களுடைய எதிர்கால நிலைமையைப்பற்றியும், தொழில் இயக்கத்தைப் பற்றியும், தொழில் வர்க்கத்தைப் பற்றியும் மேன்மை தங்கிய கவர்னர் அவர்கள் அவர்களுடைய பிரசங்கத்தில் கூறப் படாமலிருந்தது மிகவும் வருந்தத்தக்க விஷயம். ஆகவே தொழிலுக்கும், தொழிலாளர்களுக்கும் செய்யவேண்டிய சலுகைகள், அவர்களுடைய வளர்ச்சி, அவர்களுடைய முன்னேற்றம் இவைகளையெல்லாம் சர்க்கார் மிகவும் அவசியமாக கவனிக்கவேண்டிய நிலைமையிலிருக்கிறது. இன்றைய தினம் தொழிலாளர்களின் மத்தியில் தான் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் பலாத் காரத்தை உண்டுபண்ணி தேச நன்மைக்கு விரோதமாக தொழிலாளர் களிடம் கிளர்ச்சி செய்து எல்லாவிதமான முட்டுக்கட்டைகளையும் போட்டு மிகவும் இடஞ்சலாக இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகவே அப்பேர்ப்பட்ட ஏழை மக்களின் எதிர்கால வளர்ச்சிக்கு அரசாங்கம் மிகவும் கவனம் செலுத்தி அவர்களுக்கு தக்க பாதுகாப்பு அளிக்கக்கூடிய முறையில் அரசாங்கம் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று இப்பொழுது நான் சொல்லிக்கொள்கிறேன். ஆகவே சர்க்கார் இதையெல்லாம் நன்கு மனதில் வைத்துக்கொண்டு தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு பாதுகாப்பு அளித்து அவசியமான சலுகைகளும், வேண்டிய வசதிகளும் செய்து கொடுக்கும்படியாக நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்."

4 p.m. THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, under the New Constitution a great privilege has been given to the Assembly, and this Assembly will have opportunities of discussing the entire policy of the Government while thanking His Excellency the Governor for the speech he delivers to this legislature. Previously only the budget speech was before the legislature, and they had ample opportunities of reviewing the entire position with regard to what has been done and what has not been done. But, to-day, besides the budget speech they will have opportunities at the commencement of each session, and I take it that it certainly enlarges the privileges of the House to that extent. Any enlargement of the privileges need not necessarily mean that the Government should necessarily be put in the dock and assailed from every angle. But that is what has been done during these two days, and I am not sorry that that has been done. I very much expected that hon. Members will take this as a sort of formal function and they

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will hear His Excellency the Governor's speech, and that they will not very severely criticise the Government in view of the coming budget discussion when they will have opportunities of going into great many details with regard to the working of every department. But that was not to be. What was thought to be a pleasant swearing-in ceremony and hearing His Excellency the Governor's address proved a businesslike session, and we have started well under the New Constitution.

"Hon. Members criticized that His Excellency's address did not contain very much, that it was more like a replica of the administration report, and that what was not found in the 'Madras Information' was not found here. Hon. Members must realize our difficulties in the matter. We are almost at the fag end of the financial year, and we were called upon to prepare a speech, because it was obligatory under the New Constitution. It is not even 'may,' but 'shall'. Therefore, it cannot but be a review of what was done last year, because what is to be done in the next year will be mentioned in the budget. So, it was rather difficult for us to decide what should be mentioned in the address and what ought to be mentioned in the budget speech. We did not want to repeat in the budget speech what was mentioned in His Excellency's address, and we did not also want that His Excellency's address should repeat what would be mentioned in the budget speech. That was obviously our difficulty. Normally His Excellency's address will be at the commencement of a session, say, some time in July or August. After the budget discussion, it will be about four or five months of the year. What was promised forward into the remaining months of the year. What was promised in the budget speech could be reviewed, and what they have done in the previous four or five months could also be then enumerated to the House. Naturally at that session they could also enact all their legislative measures which they would be going to bring forward. That would have been the normal procedure. But now, Sir, we are not transacting any business in this session. Originally we thought that we could take up the Hindu Religious Endowments Bill. Had we known earlier that the Endowments Bill would not be taken up, perhaps we could meet as well on the 26th and have the swearing-in ceremony and the Governor's address also. We could then straightaway plunge into the budget discussion and could avoid this duplication. But our expectations were falsified, and we have not transacted any business except the Governor's address and its aftermath, as it were. That is our difficulty, and I think this is only an exceptional difficulty, and hereafter it will not be so, because it will come almost in the beginning of the year and not at the fag end of the year.

"Sir, as many as 31 hon. Members have spoken on this occasion. I think a much larger number will speak again on the budget, and most of them will be obliged to cover the same commissions and omissions of the Government. We are aware of the difficulties of the people. It is not as though we imagine that people are living in very happy conditions, and that they have no right to complain,

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and that simply for fun's sake they are coming to the Assembly and ventilating their grievances. We are not under any misapprehensions of that sort. We do know the difficulties of our people, and they are many in various spheres. Whatever sphere we take and whatever department we take, there are certainly many grievances. They are largely due to the heritage we have inherited from the previous administrations. The British were here for such a long time. They were no less efficient administrators. Later they were also looking after the welfare of the people. But what was not done by them all these decades could not be done by any popular Government all on a sudden, and there is the time factor to be reckoned with. Many times our friends in their enthusiasm to ventilate the grievances of the people of their constituencies overstepped the mark, and were hyper-critical about the various activities of the Government. The times also are not normal. Immediately after the war, when there was all round confusion, when there was scarcity of essential commodities, when the prices of articles were soaring high and when there was lack of technical personnel, the Congress Party was called upon by the people to assume responsibility. In spite of lack of foodstuffs, textiles, etc., I think we have been fairly managing our affairs, and those scenes of Bengal were not re-enacted here. It is really a good thing that we can say with confidence—whether it is 6 ounces, 8 ounces or 12 ounces ration—that we were somehow pulling on in spite of our huge deficits, and that we had been able to finance our food imports from other countries. All our troubles in the post-war period are due to the war and all its concomitants, to the Muslim League, to the Communist Party, and to some extent perhaps, according to the hon. Member, Mr. Natesan and other friends, to the legislative measures of the Government like Prohibition, Zamindari Abolition, etc. I can classify all our troubles under these four heads, not of this State particularly, but of the whole country.

“The controls are there, and we have inherited them. They were started some time in 1942-43, and we did genuinely attempt to relax these controls under the guidance of Mahatma Gandhi. Again under the direction of the Government of India, we had to go back on our decision because things did not move as we expected. The other day Australia went to polls on the question of controls. The Liberal Party which has defeated the Labour Party has immediately removed at least the control over petrol consumption which they promised at the polls. To-day Mr. Churchill is also campaigning on the issue of removing all controls. Perhaps that is one of the big planks in his election manifesto, and I do not know how the British people are going to react on the 23rd of this month. I think even Mr. Truman's election was based on the control issue. In every country whenever they went to the polls, these controls and non-controls had been a very live issue. Even in our own country there are people who have been urging that controls should not be resorted to, there must be free movement of foodstuffs from district to district and from state to state, and that the Government may safely step out of these matters. But there are economists,

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administrators and others, who knew the paucity of essential commodities in this country, advising the Governments that in that way lies danger, and that we ought to resort to controls—regulate and keep up price controls. They also say that the supply and demand of these commodities must be controlled by the Government. Some of our Collectors have been advising us to adopt a different method, but in these matters we have to consult the Government of India. We are at their mercy as it were with regard to food imports, and we cannot do anything without consulting them. We are also anxious that we should not take any risks in this matter. People should not say later that contrary to advice we have removed the controls and therefore we are in a quandary and that our people are suffering from want of foodstuffs. We do not want them to suffer. We want to be doubly sure, and we want to go very slow with regard to these controls. As far as I could see, nobody wants these controls. The Government servants and Congress men do not want these controls. We are not fond of these controls. We do not want that everything should be jockeyed from place to place and from ration shop to ration shop. I will certainly be personally happy if all controls with regard to textiles and foodstuffs are removed. I know my own difficulties personally with regard to petrol rationing. People want some extra petrol for some meeting or for some other purpose. It is not at all a happy thing to be attending to these small details. But then when things are in short supply, necessarily they have to be controlled, and all controls are irksome. People are put to a lot of inconvenience. Sometimes some people go into the blackmarket where things are obtainable at higher prices. I do not know what this particular Government or even the Government of India can do when people's conscience has not been roused in regard to these matters. When there are people prepared to buy at higher prices in the blackmarket and there are also people to sell in the blackmarket, the position of the Government becomes very miserable and almost helpless because when large sections of people indulge in such blackmarket activities, the Government cannot put them down overnight. Sardar Vallabhai Patel from the time of his release from jail and up to the time he became a Member of the Government of India, had been giving a grave warning to the blackmarketers that they would be lynched in the public streets. But what is the result of his appeal? Has blackmarket been put down completely? No; it thrives here and there in the dark corners. In spite of the police vigilance and in spite of the Special Department to prevent blackmarketing, blackmarket thrives. Therefore, we want people's co-operation in addition to all our departmental activities. It is not Government agency alone that can cope with the situation. Non-official agencies and non-official committees must co-operate with the Government and see that blackmarket does not thrive. Therefore, while I appreciate Mr. Viswanatham's viewpoint that controls must be removed and that it will enhance our prestige and position in the country, I should point out that there are obvious difficulties, and the Government of India also, who have an over-all picture of the country's position, do not want to take any risks in this matter.

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4-15 p.m. "Therefore, Sir, while we have been clamouring against controls, for three or four years, much could not be done because production must be increased ultimately and when that is not done, we will have to go very slow with the relaxation of controls. It is also a pity that prices are going up—not very much of course. Between 1st January 1949 and 1st January 1950, in some 5 or 6 places the price index has shown a slight decline and in a few places it has shown a slight rise. I have been week after week studying closely the cost of living indices and fairly it has been steady from 1st January last year. But between 1st January last year and 1st January 1948, there was increase and also things are not very happy because prices are very high and I can understand the difficulties of middle class people, of fixed salary group people when essential commodities are showing this rise in prices. Therefore, Sir, in spite of our sympathies with the move to relax controls, we do not want to take grave risks in the matter because we have seen in our own country a few years ago how things went very bad in Bengal and many of our countrymen had been victims of some mistake somewhere at high levels.

"The second point is in our country, with special reference to what happened in Bengal and the Punjab, the Muslim League politics were greatly responsible. The hon. Gentleman Mr. Raza Khan in his usual manner, effective manner he thinks, asks 'what is your achievement? You were returned to office four years ago; you have been here. Have you solved people's problems and have you given them food and clothing? What is your achievement as reflected in the Governor's speech?' It is true that we cannot achieve much. Considering the enormity and intensity of some of the problems involved, it takes perhaps decades and therefore, in a few years' time, we cannot say we have achieved much. In a country's progress those things which were not moved during centuries of administration cannot be made to move in four years and five years; it will take some little time and it also requires great amounts of money, people's money; money got from people either by loan or by taxation. Unfortunately some of the taxation measures—after all they were not many—were severely criticized by the Assembly Members and by the press and on the platform—that the Government were trying to tax more. Ultimately what was enforced was very little. Except perhaps the substantial motor vehicles taxation, all the rest were small little bits giving altogether about 15 to 20 lakhs only. But yet the impression created in the country was that 'the Government are blood-thirsty; they want to suck the people's blood by heavier taxation; on the top of it they want to get from the agriculturists some loans repayable with interest so that electricity and irrigation schemes could be financed.' Even that was not fully appreciated by the public. They want the Government to work a sort of miracle. They say 'do not tax, have prohibition, forgo your 17 crores, abolish your race and forgo your 29 or 30 lakhs, increase the teachers' salaries, give more dearness allowance to the employees, gazetted and non-gazetted, take up Ramapadasagar, Krishna-Penjar, Lower Bhavani

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Projects or Machkand and other hydro-electric schemes, develop Rayalaseema and have a school in every village'. It is not 3,000 schools that are needed. It is 30,000 or even more, so that our masters and the country may be educated. I am slowly slipping into my budget speech, as it were, Sir. I need not anticipate your ruling me out of order. I do not want to anticipate my own budget speech and budget discussions. I will have ample opportunity to explain what was done when we take up the budget. But I want to reply to Mr. Raza Khan and Mr. Raza Khan is not a single individual, he is a member of a big party; he has been returned on its ticket and he clings to it. Therefore, Mr. Raza Khan represents a group of people who think alike with him. He has asked what is our achievement. I ask Mr. Raza Khan to enumerate and prepare a statement of his own achievements in the last four years, what he has done to the people in the districts or in the State. Let him read it out to his constituency and ask his opponents 'what have you got to say about my achievement which I have published in the pamphlet?' I want it to be seriously done. I want Mr. Raza Khan to prepare a pamphlet of all his achievements during the four years and read it out somewhere and ask his opponents, not his sycophants, not his admirers, but his opponents. 'This is my achievement; what have you got to say?' Let him do it and then he will know the difficulties. As far as I could see, I shall enumerate his achievements. He has been making very long speeches in the Assembly, whenever there was an occasion on all important Bills, perhaps on unimportant Bills too, and he has been making himself felt and perhaps some of his people in the gallery or some of his Press friends have been coming to him and saying to him 'You have made a powerful speech and the Government have collapsed by your speech'. But what is the net effect of his speech? Has he been able to influence the Government to withdraw an iota of what they had intended to do? So, from that angle, his speeches have always been effaced and there is no achievement he can show to his constituency 'This is my achievement; here I have been able to influence the Government and ask them to withdraw some of these repressive measures, etc.'. On the other hand, I have been, with my persuasive power, pleading with the Government to give more grants to the Muslims, more payments to the Muslims and things like that. But what is your achievement? (A voice: 'Pakistan'.) If you go on to ask the Ministers 'What is your achievement?', I in my turn can ask you 'What is your achievement?' You have been here in the Assembly for four years; you have been returned by a big majority from the Chittoor district and what is it you have been saying except irritating us and the Congress members occasionally? He is quite good at going to the coffee-hotels and buses to cull public opinion. He says 'wherever I go, to coffee-hotels, to motor buses, to tramcars, people are thinking ill of the Government and they are speaking against the Government'. That is the manner in which he made his speech the other day. I do not know why he goes to the coffee-hotels and to the buses for getting public opinion. He ought in fairness to everybody go to the polls, contest in the district board

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and municipal elections or the numerous bye-elections that come from time to time, set up his own candidate or ask somebody else to set up a candidate, and go and campaign for that candidate. Here are the things which the Congress people have failed to do to the people. I want you not to return the Congress candidate. He could have done that in the last municipal elections or in the district board elections. That is the legitimate parliamentary way of reflecting public opinion. The bye-elections, the local elections, the borough and the country elections are the real tests of public opinion. He has not done that. Has he taken any opportunity of telling us that 'here in this bye-election an important member of your party was set up and he has been defeated owing to the commissions or omissions of the Government'? He does not do that; instead he always goes to the coffee-hotels and buses. I do not want Mr. Raza Khan to tell me that wherever he goes, public opinion is against the Government. I claim public opinion is not against the Government; it may be that some interested people living in towns perhaps sitting very leisurely, may be indulging in talks against the Government. But let them talk; I do not mind as long as I win my bye-elections and as long as I am sure to win the general elections. What does it matter to me if in the buses all the twenty people indulge in talks against the Government as long as I am sure that all the twenty of them are going to vote for the Congress at any bye-elections or the general elections? Let them talk and let Mr. Raza Khan lend his ear to them, write letters to the editor and quote letters published in the papers that the Congress Government are not at all popular with the people. That is not the way of judging the popularity of a political party. I want that he should induce other people to give us a good fight in the elections and educate those people to vote against the Congress candidate. Then, certainly I will reflect and see whether I am following the correct path or I am really being duped by my own actions. I want Mr. Raza Khan to be serious in this matter. Let him not indulge in cheap criticism and ask 'What is the purpose of the Ministers' tours and what is it that they have done?' It leads to nowhere; it does not help himself or his community or his district or the Government of the day. So, I want him to be a little more serious in what he talks and not merely be carried away by rhetoric or attractive phrases which may be powerful but the net effect of which is zero and zero.

"Sir, what is the achievement of his party also? I am sorry that unfortunately a man like Mr. Ismail is caught in the coils of the Muslim League and he is still sticking to it. He remains the Leader of the Muslim League Party. But when I look back—I am no enemy of the Muslims; I want to be friendly with them. I am certainly I can distinguish the Muslims and the Muslim League—but I have a right to look back on the achievements of the Muslim League. Mr. Raza Khan, apart from his being a legislator, represents a big party and he has every right to say what he has done in the last ten years, five years or two years. They came into prominence not on any sacrifice or service. The Congress Party at least has made sacrifices; you may doubt their *bona fides*; you

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may say that they are inefficient and corrupt. It does not matter but they have at least suffered for the sake of the country; repeatedly they have gone to jail and right from 1921 up-to-date, whenever there was a call from the country, they did not hesitate to go into jail or undergo any privations. But the Muslim League did not bother about any sacrifices or any services to the people. They simply appealed to their communal passions and created doubts and suspicions in the minds of the people. They said 'Hindus are demons; they are going to devour you as soon as the British people leave the country.' They roused the passions of the people and exploited them to the extent possible. What is it that they have done to their own Muslim community except creating misapprehension against the majority community and appealing to their passion? It is not patriotism; as I would call it, it is 'passionalism'. They have made passionate appeals to them and on that 'passionalism', they have been returned to the Assembly. What is it that they wanted? Their goal or ideal was 'We do not believe in democracy'. Mr. Raza Khan said 'The Ministers do not believe in democracy'. I challenge him and I want to tell him that he and his Muslim League did not believe in democracy for years and right from 1940 or even earlier they said 'We do not believe in majority community's rule; when the British people quit, there is going to be a Hindu raj and it means that we are only exchanging our masters, we will continue to be slaves, whether it is Hindu master or British master; we will not agree as long as we are not masters of the situation.' That is the way in which they behaved. They said 'We do not believe in majority rule; this two party system is no good to us and the British fashion of democracy does not suit the Muslim aspirations'. So, they created all sorts of slogans. Slogans have thrived; they sailed on slogans and ultimately wanted Pakistan and the north-western and the north-eastern part of the country.

"The Muslims have shown such enormous confidence in their leadership, in that sort of sloganism, and they reposed much confidence in the Muslim League. I can say that to your credit, that you had more confidence in the Muslim League and the Muslim League enjoyed more the confidence of the Muslim community than the Congress enjoyed the confidence of the non-Muslim communities—I say that to your credit. You have been returned in such large numbers; all the 29 seats here were yours, and there was no difficulty at all about that. But what happened? You succeeded in your goal of Pakistan. The birth of Pakistan is the end of the Muslim League, though of course they do not want to admit it. They still want to cling to it till 1951 October or so. Yet, after the Muslim League's success in bringing about Pakistan, what is the fate of the Muslims in Bihar, United Provinces, Madras, Bengal and the other provinces? Are they happy? Are they not regretting that they voted for the Muslim League in asking for Pakistan. Are they not regretting that their position has been worsened from day to day because the majority community has begun to realise that they cannot put up with this two-nation theory. So, your own achievement is doubtful; and when your

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own achievement is doubtful, you want to talk about the achievements of the Congress party. But before you talk of the Congress party's achievement, you ask yourself 'What is my party's achievement?' The record of the Congress party is unique: it has worked for and brought about a sovereign democratic republic to the country. But what is it that your party has brought about? Death, degradation and misery. Because of the philosophy of the Muslim League, the country was partitioned and we have seen that lakhs and lakhs and millions of people had to leave their homes, they had to flee for their lives—all because you supported the League and it succeeded in getting Pakistan which meant death and misery to our people. So, repeatedly do not ask for an enumeration of our achievements. Look back on yourself, on what you have done; have a little retrospective attitude; and when you look back, you will find that the Muslim League has not done any real service to the people, but really it has brought misery to the Muslims and to the other people. Unfortunately many of my own friends in the Madras Province are not at all happy at what has happened, because they know they cannot have it both ways. You say 'please forget what has happened before 15th August 1947'. How can I forget it when your past is so replete with such philosophies and anti-democratic doubts? I cannot forget the past and the people also cannot forget it. After all people are people and you cannot say to them 'Forget the past, let us open a new chapter, we are all sons of the same soil, we must all live like brothers' and all that. That philosophy, if it is to be adopted, will take some time for people ultimately, to adopt; the non-Muslims cannot forget all that has happened before the 15th August 1947.

"Sir, the Muslim League had really a meteoric past and a brilliant past; it dazzled the Government and Indian politics perhaps for ten years, from 1937 to 1947. It was not much of a power in the country before 1937 and it was not much of a power in the country after 1947. All their activities and power were for ten years during a period when Congress had resigned, when Congress was in jail and when the British people were busy with their war efforts; it was then that the Muslim League went up like a rocket. The Muslim masses rallied round their banner, and ultimately they achieved their Pakistan, only to go through a valley of misery and death. In spite of their past, their present is really a pitiable and a penitential present. Their future is dark; there is nothing but a dismal future for the League. It will go the way of the Justice party. In 1937 the Justice party dwindled as a result of the elections and by 1946 in the elections it extinguished itself. And in 1946, you had cent per cent success and you got all the 29 seats allotted to you. After the 15th August 1947, from 29 you have come down to 20 or 21 and at the next elections, the '2' in the '21' will leave you and you will be left with '1' or zero. (Janab Muhammad Anwar: 'One honest man is enough'.) Sir, if I am pardoned a little alliteration, I can say that you have distinguished yourself in the past, you have languished in the present and you are going to extinguish yourself in the future. I

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do not know why in Madras alone, where things have been always fairly normal, where the relations between Hindus and Muslims have been normal—there have been no serious disturbances here as we have had in Bihar, Bengal and the Punjab—the Muslim League is still living, while in all other legislatures it has been dissolved. I do not know why it is so; I am unable to unravel the secret of it. Perhaps I can say it is our own party divisions that have been responsible for keeping alive the Muslim League in the present Assembly. But it must be said to the credit of our party members that although they have been very harsh and critical of the Government's policies sometimes, still it must be said to their credit that they have not chosen to leave the Congress party; they have not defied the discipline of the Congress; and what you perhaps expect them to do behind the scenes, they are doing perhaps on the floor of the House itself. But I must assure my Muslim League friends that in spite of all the lightning and thunder we see on the floor of the House, there is a fundamental unity between Congressmen; they are all knit together by that fundamental unity, though perhaps there may be some personal factors and some individuals may not like certain policies of the Government; but in spite of all that, as I said, there is a fundamental unity among Congressmen and we are loyal and owe allegiance to the Congress High Command, and whatever is said by them will be law unto us, because they are all great leaders, they are the beloved sons of our country and they are all staunch patriots; every inch of them. That is why, all quarrels, instead of being behind the scenes, are found on the floor of the House.

"Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I listened to all the 31 speeches, except perhaps the few speeches made in support of the Government's policy, it looked as though everybody came with a panacea for the ills of the Government. They said: 'the Congress is sick, the country is sick, the Ministry is sick; here I am a doctor coming to prescribe some medicine; why don't you take this medicine and become healthy?'. Everybody comes and says 'The Government and their officers are not well; you are not following the right policy; I am a doctor, I can prescribe a medicine to you; sometimes it is Unani, sometimes it is Ayurveda, sometimes it is allopathy and sometimes it is even hydropathy; you take this and you will recover and you will live for 125 years, take it'. I ask those critics: 'Examine yourselves first; what are your *bona fides*, what are your credentials for prescribing that medicine to me? I have to think twice before I accept your prescription; in most cases I will have to reject what you prescribe to me, because you yourself are not a healthy man; while you are not yourself well, you are thinking all the while that the other person is sickly and that he needs some medicines at your hands'. That is what I ask.

"Mr. Raza Khan was criticizing that we have sent some people to the Constituent Assembly in the recent elections and that we have chosen only friends. He said 'you did not look to the interests of all the communities; you have sent some show-boys of the Congress party'. Sir, it is better to be a show-boy of the majority community than to be a tom-boy of the minority community. I will

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certainly welcome some show-boys who have seen what has been happening, and who know what is happening and what is going to happen in the country. I will welcome such show-boys; and if they are chosen friends like Janab Meeran Sahib, and if you say they are the show-boys of the majority community, I will certainly welcome such show-boys and want them more and more in our Assemblies than these tom-boys as I said, like Mr. Raza Khan. Ineretore, Sir, I want Mr. Raza Khan to give us a fight in the bye-elections. Mr. Speaker is going to declare one seat vacant very soon in the Coimbatore district as His Excellency Dr. Subbarayan has been appointed Ambassador in Indonesia. That is a chance for my friend; the Congress will set up a candidate; I want all the members of the Muslim League party and all other parties—you may take Mr. P. T. Rajan if you want with you, because the other day he has been trying to revive the Justice Party, not as an individual, I think, but as the leader of the Justice Party—all of them to go and try their influence at the bye-election. If they beat the Congress candidate, then they can come and say 'well, you have been beaten, you must reverse your policy' . . .

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Will you resign?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"If I am told that you will resign in case you are beaten, if you promise that, then I promise that I will resign. It is a good contract; I agree to the challenge."

"We have seen in the district board elections recently—leave alone the municipal elections—that except in Tiruchirappalli and South Arcot (An hon. Member: 'What about Bellary?')—in Bellary they did not set up any Congress candidates—everywhere there has been a triumph for the Congress. In spite of controls, in spite of all that has happened either in the case of Prohibition or in respect of zamindari abolition, in spite of our multitudinous sins of omission and commission which have been before the public, and in spite of our own division and difficulties, we have been able to capture almost all the district boards barring a few and the majority of the municipal councils also. That is the test you will have to apply."

Next, Sir, I come to the Communist trouble. We have spent large sums of money on our Police department; last year we spent over Rs. 6½ crores while it was only 1.60 crores in 1940-41. We had to take very strong measures to put down this Communist menace, because in Tiruvur in the Krishna district and other places, we have seen how they were preaching the philosophy of violence. They were actually killing people and no Government worth the name can tolerate such lawlessness and defiance of law. So, we had to take strong measures. Incidentally, I may also refer to what happened in the Salem jail. It was a very unfortunate incident; nobody is more sorry than the Ministers themselves for what has happened in Salem; and certainly we are going to institute a committee of enquiry to see whether the warders have indulged in excesses or they used only the minimum force needed.

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I do not want to go into this question now because a committee is going into the question, and I do not want to say anything either for or against what has happened. But really it is unfortunate. We did not give, nor could we have ever given instructions to our jail people or even the police people to commit what they are alleged to be committing in the districts or what they are alleged to be doing in the jails. Mr. T. Viswanatham was referring to the unfortunate incidents in East Godavari; he can be rest assured that no responsible man could tolerate such incidents and could never have issued instructions to do these things in order to curb Communism in the country. We have certainly some decent limits to whatever we do; and we cannot put down a political philosophy by all excess and all terrorism on our side. But, I can assure 4-45 p.m. Mr. Viswanatham that whenever police excesses are reported, they are immediately enquired into—of course, there are many instances and I cannot answer off-hand—but I may say, where we had to take strong action against the police officers concerned, we have done it. But, if the hon. Member puts a separate question I can give all the relevant answers. I can say only this much. We do not want to tolerate excesses whether on the police side or on the people's side or on any side and we want everybody to act within their limits and not trespass their limits. Sir, I shall not go into that question further.

"The hon. the Leader of the Opposition wanted to know what happened to the Andhra Province issue and the Kumararaja of Vuyyur also regretted that there was no mention of the Andhra Province issue in the speech of His Excellency. Sir, obviously the Governor could not have said anything with regard to the Andhra Province; either he could say 'I regret the Government of India did not accept the Partition Committee's recommendations', or he could have stated he was not happy that the Government of India did not accept the recommendations of the Partition Committee. It is because the entire initiative rests with the Centre. Our own Constitution Act definitely says that the move must come from the President and only incidentally they will consult the State Legislature. So, the entire initiative is with them. What form the Andhra Province should take, when it will be formed, with what assets and liabilities, with what personnel, all these matters rest with the Government of India and there is therefore nothing His Excellency could have said in his speech. The Leader of the Opposition asked categorically what is the final order of the Government of India and what they did say. Without going into the entire communication, I will read only the operative portion for the benefit of hon. Members."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Is it not confidential?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Yes, it is confidential, but I would like to read only the operative portion of it. They have discussed all the points raised by the Partition Committee and by other private individuals. This is what they say: 'The points mentioned above show clearly that the conditions which are

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essential for the setting up of the proposed Andhra Province do not at present exist. The Government of India were, for these reasons, unable to advise the Governor-General to issue an order for the setting up of the Province of Andhra before the 26th January 1950. Nor are they able to agree to its formation while these outstanding differences and unresolved questions remain unsettled. They, therefore, consider it essential that before the question is taken up again, these outstanding differences and unresolved questions are settled. In the meantime, the administration of the Province should be continued on the existing basis as that of one province and all possible steps taken to ensure that it is not allowed to suffer or deteriorate in any manner.' This is the operative portion of the order and in view of that there could not be anything for His Excellency to give any indication in his speech of what is happening.

"Sir, the question of Harijans also was raised by Mr. Nagappa and I am glad Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillay at least has acknowledged in an ample measure what was done by the Government with regard to Harijans. That is again a big question, the sin of untouchability cannot be removed over-night and we cannot also think of spending all the moneys for the amelioration of the Harijans. I would like to give the hon. Member some figures in this connexion. In 1945-46 when the Congress was not in power the Government spent 24 lakhs on the amelioration of the Harijans, either for labour schools, or for hostel grants or for house-sites. In 1946-47 it was 37 lakhs; in 1947-48 it was 41 lakhs and in 1948-49 it was 51 lakhs. Those are all actuals. In 1949-50 the budget estimate is 78 lakhs and the revised estimate 81 lakhs."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Is that all?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"That is all. I do not want to say what we are going to provide in 1950-51. As I said, the revised estimate for the current year is 81. So, Sir, all within three or four years we have doubled and even trebled our expenditure on Harijan amelioration. (Interruption by Sri S. Nagappa.) Yes, from 24 lakhs in 1945-46 it has come to 81 lakhs in the current year and it cannot be considered a mean achievement for any party. And, we are also pledged for the amelioration of the condition of the Harijan community and certainly Mr. Nagappa instead of getting very curious to know what was done for the community, should also look to these figures."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"How many lakhs for the backward classes?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Last year we set apart 5 lakhs in the budget. I do not want to be drawn into a budget speech because there will be occasion to discuss about it when the budget is presented to the House. There were also other questions referred to and particularly the food situation was mentioned repeatedly. I have also figures as to what is happening with regard to the food situation. Unfortunately, the recent cyclone

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and the famine have created great difficulties for our Province. Nature also seems to be against the people of this Province, because for the last three years in the southern districts we have had no monsoon. Had we had good monsoon as we expected, we would be turning the corner, but it could not be done. The result of it is, our overall deficit is going to be about 8 lakhs of tons. The Government of India have promised us 3 lakhs of tons and if we procure a little more, perhaps if we remove rationing in some places where it is not necessary and if the Government of India also give a little more, we will be able to turn the corner. We are also taking steps to address the Government of India again for further quotas with regard to our food-stuffs. We are certainly anxious to see that people do not suffer on account of hard supply of food material.

"Sir, I do not know whether I should refer to all the points raised by hon. Members. Sri Viswanatham raised the question of Andhra representation in services. As I have already said, there is a rotation for Secretariat recruitment and where recruitment is made they have to go by a certain turn. It comes to 4 Andhras, 5 non-Andhras and 2 for West Coast or some such thing. It is perhaps 4, 6 and 2 respectively. I think, for Andhras it is 4 as he himself has referred.

"With regard to the communal G.O., I do not know whether the time has come when we can safely withdraw it, but he only wanted not its withdrawal but its modification. It has to be considered very carefully and public opinion has to be created in favour of it. I think our own Congress Committee, the district boards and municipalities have to be educated with regard to this. When they are also in favour of the modification of the communal G.O., the Government will not lag behind but will see whether it can be modified to the extent possible. But, as far as I could see, it is a very ticklish question; it is not a very happy thing. Certain people ask for the repeal of it and a large section want the retention of it and when there is such sharp difference of opinion, I do not know whether the Government will be well-advised in cancelling or modifying the communal G.O. But, when the time is ripe and when we think is quite good, without detriment to any section, we will certainly be happy and we will do what we can to usher in that day. As Mr. Easwaran said, there is a little snag in what Mr. Viswanatham said. He cannot ask for reservation for Andhras and at the same time for the modification of the communal G.O."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"I did not ask for reservation. I only wanted increase in personnel."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"How can it be increased when there is a written test by the Public Service Commission? It is not a question of Tamil or Telugu. It is a Public Service Commission and they have a written test for recruitment and unless I say 25, 30 or 40 per cent is reserved for the Telugus,

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they must get it on their own merit. Mr. Viswanatham asked that merit should not be the sole criterion as regards Andhra representation."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"I never said that merit should not be the criterion."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It comes to that by implication. Merit alone is not the criterion but some representation should be given and because there is a paucity of Telugu personnel some seats should be reserved for them. Whether it is 38 per cent or 33 per cent, he wants that some seats should be reserved and that merit alone should not be the criterion. At the same time, he wants that non-Brahman Hindus and backward communities, Muslims and Harijans should not ask for it. Non-Brahmans say they want this reservation given to them for some time and that seems to be the unanimous opinion on the part of those communities. So, the question of repealing or modifying the Communal G.O. must come only from these coming certain privileges in the past. So, Sir, there is a snag in what Mr. Viswanathan has said. If the Telugus apply for the tests conducted by the Public Service Commission and come at the top in the required examination, they will no doubt be recruited. No Telugu has been deprived of his seat because of his being a Telugu, but because he did not secure the minimum number of marks required."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Not at all."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It may be that the Telugus have failed in the competitive examinations and therefore they have not secured the posts."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"There are figures to prove it."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The hon. Member has quoted certain figures. It is a competitive examination and the first 40 or 50 are taken, not anything more. I can also give figures. Only certain communities are occupying a high percentage of posts. I may say, there is no representation of Mr. Subrahmanyam's community or for the matter of that Mr. Nagappa's community, so that they may also march forward in the race for service to the community and the country. Therefore, Sir, I said it is a ticklish question and should be considered carefully and negotiated carefully."

"After all, Sir, we have already seen that the speeches made on one side reacted on the other side. Mr. Salam has been asking me, 'what is the sin that Mr. Prakasam has committed; has he no right to express his views?' I may ask him why not Mr. Annamalai Pillai or Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari express their own views. Of course, they have the right, but speeches like that are only

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creating more difficulties for the Government. Instead of doing things equitably, such speeches made on platforms and in conferences create difficulties, because whatever we say and whatever we do will have adverse reaction in other quarters."

"Sir, I have taken one full hour. (Janab Muhammad Raza 5 p.m. Khan: 'Is it an achievement?' I thank you, Sir, and the hon. Members for the speeches they have made, particularly Mr. Raza Khan and others. When Mr. Raza Khan has asked me about my achievement, I have to ask him about his achievement. Whatever it is, we are glad that we have begun with the Governor's speech after the Republic was inaugurated and we are indeed thankful to His Excellency for the speech he has delivered. I heartily support Mr. Bapineedu's proposition."

"The Hon. Leader of the Opposition said that within the short time he has been holding the high position as the head of the State, His Excellency and Her Highness have become extremely popular among all sections of the people and Muslims, Hindus, Christians, Tamils, Telugus and Malayalees all like His Excellency the Governor. Therefore, I commend Mr. Bapineedu's proposition to the acceptance of the House and I would be very glad if all the amendments are withdrawn and the main motion is passed unanimously."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am going to put the amendments to the vote of the House. In regard to the amendment of Mr. Ismail I would like to know whether he is going to press it or withdraw it."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"I am not withdrawing, Sir, for this reason."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has no right of reply."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"On a point of information, Sir. I want to know why the Hon. Minister has not cared to reply to the points raised by me when they are after all only very few."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"When the excess demand is moved, we will have a full debate."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"I am not withdrawing my amendment because the Hon. Leader of the House has not replied to any of the points raised in my amendment. He has not convinced me in his reply. In his reply he was only insulting the other side instead of replying to my amendment."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

that the following may be added at the end:—

"But regret that while problems and difficulties are multiplying in various directions in the State Your Excellency's advisers have been following wrong policies and have not taken such steps as would solve those problems and difficulties."

The amendment was lost.

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SRI P. NATESAN:—"Sir, in view of the assurance given by the Hon. Finance Minister, I am prepared to withdraw my amendment."

The amendment of Sri P. Natesan was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"In spite of the language used by the Hon. Leader of the House, I withdraw my amendment."

The amendment of Sri T. Viswanatham was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"I withdraw my amendment, Sir."

The amendment of Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillay was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Before putting to vote the main motion, I would like to know the method of presenting it to His Excellency. In the House of Commons two Privy Councillors are selected to present it in person to the King. First I thought whether the Speaker, the Leader of the House and the Party Leaders might go and present it in person or whether the Speaker would be authorized to communicate it personally."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"In respect of all propositions moved in the House and accepted, generally it is the Hon. Speaker who communicates them. Likewise in this case also we may authorize the Hon. Speaker."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Now, I am going to put the main motion to the vote of the House, namely: That an address be presented to His Excellency the Governor of Madras in the following terms:—

'May it please Your Excellency,
"We, the Members of the Madras Legislative Assembly beg leave to thank Your Excellency for the Address delivered to both the Houses of the Legislature",',

The motion was carried *nem. con.*

MR. SPEAKER:—"I would like to follow the following procedure, namely:—

'Resolved:

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the Members of the Madras Legislative Assembly beg leave to thank Your Excellency for the Address delivered to both the Houses of the Legislature; and the Speaker be requested to communicate it to His Excellency.'"

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"On a point of information, Sir. We are not in a joint session to-day, but the wording in the motion is 'the Legislature' and not the 'Assembly'."

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I move, Sir—
'that the resolution be conveyed by the Hon. Speaker to His Excellency the Governor.'"

The motion was put and carried.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on the 27th February 1950.

IV.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

(1) G.O. No. 2441, L.A., dated 3rd December 1949, issuing instructions regarding the conduct of elections to Edugundlapadu Panchayat Board (Guntur).

(2) Motor Vehicles—Government Bus Service—Madras City—Balance-sheet as on 31st March 1948.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, the 27th February 1950.

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

I.—SWEARING-IN OF MEMBERS.

Dr. P. Subbarayan, Sri A. Kaleswara Rao, Sri K. S. V. Krishnan and Sri V. Raghavayya were sworn in.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Share of income-tax from the Central Government.

* 1 Q.—JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN (on behalf of Janab S. Muhammad Ismail): Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of the share that this Province gets out of the divisible pool of income-tax from the Central Government; and

(b) whether this Government have made any representations to the Central Government to distribute this divisible pool on population basis and if so, with what result?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“(a) The Madras Government will get 18 per cent of the divisible pool in the current year and 17.5 per cent from the next year.

“(b) The answer is in the affirmative. The representation made by this Government was also taken into account by Sri Chintaman Deshmukh who was appointed by the Government of India to examine the question of allocation among the Provinces of the provincial share of income-tax and to determine the basis of distribution. Sri Deshmukh's award will be in force from 1950-51 till the Finance Commission to be set up by the President of India makes its recommendations in the matter.”

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“May I ask whether the Government are aware of the basis on which this award was given?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“The award was not based on any principles and even in respect of the Neimeyer Award we were not aware of the basis. Mr. Deshmukh might have improved it or modified it to a little extent; that is all.”

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“Do I understand the Hon. Minister to tell us that Mr. Deshmukh decided without any basis or without any principles?”

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"He must have based his decisions on some principles, but we are unable to scrutinize them."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—"May I know what will be the shortage in the revenues of the Madras State by this reduction?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Ordinarily it will be about 20 lakhs. But the outturn has increased and there will not be any decrease; on the other hand there may be a little increase."

SRI Y. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Government of Madras have made any further representation on Deshmukh's decision to reduce the share of income-tax, and if so, what the reactions of the Government of India are?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Deshmukh's award is only an interim report, and we expect a finance commission to go into the whole question threadbare; so we do not propose to make any representation at this stage."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"May I inquire what is the percentage that the Central Government are collecting from this Provincial Government in relation to the entire collection made by the Central Government from the whole of India?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"If a separate question is put I can furnish the figures."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Is it not a fact that the Hon. Finance Minister gave promises a number of times in this House that on the representation which has been made by the Government of Madras, they will get a better share of income-tax; and may I ask whether he is satisfied with the award now made by the Central Government?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"There was a time when we apprehended a more drastic cut, but now I see we get only half a per cent less. I hope the finance commission will look into the matter."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know whether the Government have any idea, when this finance commission is to be set up?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The Constitution lays down that it should be set up in less than two years. But I think the President is already moving in the matter, and consulting the State Governments."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"May I know whether the Central Government will bear in mind the loss that this Government will incur as a result of the Government of India taking over sales tax?"

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and all of us, of course, are bound to state our difficulty in the matter; but all the same we have got to take into account the difficulties of the Government of India."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"May I know what is the amount of income-tax that is collected from Madras State by the Government of India?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not know the figure exactly. But I am afraid we are getting a little more than we give to the Government of India."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Will the Government in the course of representation they may make to the Government of India insist that they should be given a better share to States which take necessary action in the case of tax-dodgers and that they ought to be given a better share of the income-tax collections?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not think the Government of India will accept that principle."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I ask if the Hon. Minister is sure that the Government of India know what our financial position is, and that our budget has always been a deficit one for some years, having to lose as much as 18 crores on account of Prohibition?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The Government of India are certainly aware of our financial position, for, from time to time, we appraise them of it. Even before the Deshmukh award we gave an elaborate note for his examination."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"May I know on what basis is this award given? Is it on the basis of the population of the Province, or the needs of the Province or the backwardness of the Province or the turn-over or income of the Province?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"That is where I say it is not definitely known; because the share differs from State to State. So, I think, it must have been given on the cumulative effect of all the three factors, population, accrual and requirements."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"May I inquire of Government, whether it is not reasonable to insist upon a larger share of the surplus divisible pool to Provinces which take energetic and prompt action in the case of tax-dodgers?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I am afraid it is contemplated in the constitution that the States put together should get the net proceeds on certain principles."

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Certainly the requirement of State Governments will be borne in mind by the finance commission."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Hon. Finance Minister apprehends that if the legislation proposed by the Central Government with respect to sales tax is passed, this Government will be losing seven to eight crores?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is quite likely; a substantial proportion of State's revenue from sales tax would be reduced if the proposal went through. I hope, it would not go through."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—"May I know whether the different States have any control over the collection and distribution of the income-tax; or is it a Central Government subject?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The entire administration of income-tax is a Central subject."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"May I know whether the distribution of income-tax is based on population basis, and if so, whether the inclusion of Pudukottai and other States in Madras State will also be taken into consideration before the matter is decided?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, this is only for the Madras State. If the division had been based on population basis, Bombay would not have got 21 per cent. Further, when the financial integration of the merged States is settled, we would get something more."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—"May I ask what justification is there for this State to ask more from income-tax, especially when we get more than what we pay?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The requirements of this State Government are such that we cannot do without an adequate proportion of the income-tax returned to us."

Dispute of the Arumuganeri Salt Factory labourers.

* 2 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member Sri K. T. Kosalram is not in his seat. The answer will be printed in the proceedings."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the dispute of the Arumuganeri Salt Factory labourers has been referred to the Industrial Tribunal, Mathurai;

(b) whether it is a fact that the proceedings of the Tribunal have been suspended for the past three months;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Government Pleader of Tuticorin himself applied for the stay of the proceedings; and

(d) if so, what steps the Government propose to take for instructing the Tribunal, Mathurai, to resume the proceedings.

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

" (b) Yes; by the tribunal.

" (c) No, Sir.

" (d) Further adjudication proceedings will be resumed by the tribunal after the injunction petition is disposed of by the court. The Government do not propose to interfere with the discretion of the tribunal."

Control on coal and coke distribution.

* 3 Q.—JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN (on behalf of Janab S. Muhammad Ismail): Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether this Government have asked the permission of the Central Government to remove the control on coal and coke distribution; and

(b) if so, whether the Central Government have accorded permission to do so?

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—" (a) No, Sir. The distribution of coal and coke is under the control of the Government of India.

" (b) Does not arise."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether it is a fact that the import of coal is mainly in the hands of European firms in spite of the fact that the Director of Controlled Commodities allots quotas to various persons?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—"A separate question may be put."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In the answer it is said that the distribution of coal and coke is a Central subject. The questioner also knows that. I want to know whether the Madras Government have done anything in the matter, knowing full well that it is a Central subject."

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—"This Government have done nothing."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know the total quantity of coal production in this State?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSWAMI REDDI:—"I want notice."

Non-gazetted officers of Tellicherry and Cannanore.

* 4 Q.—JANAB K. M. SEETHI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the hardships of the non-gazetted officers of Tellicherry and Cannanore in the matter of the denial of house-rent allowance to them?

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(b) what action has been taken by the Government to give relief to them in respect of house-rent allowance?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“(a) No.
“(b) The question does not arise.”

Allotment of lands to landless labourers for cultivation.

* 5 Q.—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have allotted any lands to the landless labourers for cultivation in the Tanjore district;

(b) if so, how many acres of land have been allotted so far and where;

(c) how many acres of cultivable waste land are available in Tanjore district for allotment to the landless labourers; and

(d) whether the Government have got any proposal to bring them under cultivation and if so, what they are and when?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“(a) to (c) In 1943, the Government imposed a ban on the permanent assignment of land. The ban was withdrawn in June 1949 when the Government issued orders regarding the land assignment policy. Under these orders, lands at the disposal of the Government will be assigned to political sufferers, ex-servicemen of the second World War and landless poor persons in that order of priority. The assignment to these three categories of persons is made free of market value and the extent assigned is 5 acres of wet or 10 acres of dry land. The Government have no information of the extent of land assigned to the landless poor persons in Tanjore district under these orders. The Government have also no information of the total extent of cultivable waste and poramboke land not required for any communal purpose and available for assignment in Tanjore district.

“(d) Apart from the assignment of the available land to the categories of persons mentioned above, there are no proposals for bringing such lands under cultivation.”

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—“A number of applications for assignment of land for cultivation were made to the Government by landless agricultural labourers, but there has been no response from the Government though thousands of acres are available for assignment. May I know the reason for the Government's silence and the steps they propose to take to bring the lands under cultivation?”

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information about non-assignment in any particular place, I suggest that he draws the attention of the Government to it so that I may take immediate action.”

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—“Are the Government aware that the Board of Revenue has issued an order to the District Collectors to the effect that no land should be assigned to categories other than political sufferers until all the political sufferers in this State have been given land?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I am not aware of any such order. But I may assure the hon. Member that the Government Order will be followed by the district officers. As I have already said, under that order political sufferers get a priority over other categories.”

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—“May I know whether there is an order that a ryot who has cultivated poramboke land should not be dispossessed of that land until he has recovered his investment on that land even though the ryot is rich?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I am not aware of any such order. But I believe the Collectors have been given discretion to allow a ryot to continue to cultivate the land for such further period as will enable him to reimburse his investment on the land to avoid hardship and on the ground of equity.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“May I know why a political sufferer should get priority as against a landless labourer?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Because he is a political sufferer.”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“Arising out of the answer to clause (b) that the Government have no information of the extent of land assigned to landless agricultural labourers in Tanjore District, may I know why no land has been allotted in that district though several thousand applications from agricultural labourers have been sent to the Government?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I have already said that I have no information about the extent of land assigned.”

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—“Arising out of the answer to my supplementary question, may I request the Hon. Minister to find out whether such an order has been issued by the Board of Revenue and ask whether he will reconsider the classification in G.O. No. 1523, dated 11th June 1949, so that the categories of people other than political sufferers may also get some land?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“In the order to which the hon. Member refers, there is no prohibition to Harijans and landless labourers getting land. It is only a question of priorities.”

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JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“Am I to understand from the answer of the Hon. Minister that landless labourers were not given even an inch of land?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Each landless labourer is entitled to five acres of wet land or ten acres of dry land which is much more than an inch of land.”

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“I am not asking about what a landless labourer is entitled to, but about what has actually been given.”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“It is quite possible that land might have been given in some other districts. If the hon. Member points out any specific instances where the Government order causes hardship, I shall certainly look into them.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Is it not a fact that at least one such case was brought to the notice of the Hon. Minister wherein a man who *bona fide* took land on lease under the Grow More Food Campaign was dispossessed of the entire land for assignment to political sufferers?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I know the case to which the hon. Member refers because he personally represented the case to me. It was felt by the District Authorities that the person to whom the land was leased had secured sufficient benefit from the land for the money he had invested and that there was no need to continue the lease in his favour. That was why the land was taken away.”

SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“May I know whether the Government will issue definite instructions to the Board of Revenue not to oust landless labourers from the Government lands on which they might have encroached in the past years?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“The order is quite clear on the point.”

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—“As between a political sufferer who has got some means of subsistence and a landless labourer who is actually starving, how will the Government fix the priority?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“As per the Government Order already passed.”

SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“Many representations were sent to the Hon. Minister through me complaining that landless labourers were being evicted from the lands which they occupied in the past years. May I know how they have been dealt with?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Such cases as were represented to me either directly or through the hon. Member were referred to the Collector for disposal according to the Government order already passed.”

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SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—“Will the Government ask the Board of Revenue to revoke its order so that the Government order may have effect?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I assure the hon. Member that I will call for the order that he refers to and see what I can do in the matter.”

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—“Are the Government aware that this pitting of the agricultural labourers, political sufferers and ex-servicemen against each other and the delay in disposal are arousing a very unhealthy competition in the State making it appear as though it is another World War No. III?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“If there is any truth in what the hon. Member has said, it is wrong.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I know whether the Government will give priority to Harijans and especially will they consider the desirability of not dispossessing Harijans who are already in possession of lands for giving those lands to political sufferers?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“The Government order itself provides that a person cannot be dispossessed if he has got only five acres of wet land or ten acres of dry land.”

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—“In view of the confirmed opinion that fragmentation of land and cultivation in small plots do not help the Grow More Food Campaign, do the Government propose to continue the policy of splitting up the available land into small plots and distributing them among various persons?”

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—“Is it not a fact that ex-servicemen, Harijans and landless poor are preferred rather than political sufferers in distribution of lands?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The Hon. Minister has already answered this in his reply to some other question.”

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—“Will the Hon. Minister immediately call for information from the Collector of Tanjore as to whether the acreage of cultivable land available will be enough for assignment to landless labourers, political sufferers and Harijans?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“There is no point in calling for that information. We have already said that, if land is available, it should be distributed according to the priority given in the order.”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“As this question is one of the reasons for the agrarian trouble in Tanjore district, will the Government expedite the disposal of papers relating to the assignment of land to agricultural labourers pending with them and the Collector?”

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I do not accept the assumption of the hon. Member that this question is responsible for the agrarian trouble in the Tanjore district."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Were political sufferers asked to suffer politically in anticipation of getting lands as against landless labourers?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"It is a question of policy and the Government have enunciated their policy."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Will the Government place on the table of the House statistics about lands given to political sufferers, ex-servicemen and landless labourers?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I am afraid the collection of statistics for the whole State will involve a lot of scriptory work and investigation. The labour involved may not be commensurate with the purpose that the statistics will serve. If the hon. Member wants statistics in respect of any particular area, they will be furnished."

JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"May I know whether the Government have assigned lands to political sufferers who are members of a joint family?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I don't think the Government Order precludes political sufferers of a joint family from enjoying the benefit."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that while landless labourers, political sufferers and Harijans have not been given any lands in the Tanjore district large extents of lands are being allowed to be used by big mirasdars for cultivation purposes?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I should like the hon. Member to furnish me details, Sir."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government have assigned lands in Wenlock Downs in Ootacamund in spite of the fact that the Government have appointed a Committee to enquire into the matter?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may put a separate question."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that political sufferers are given lands in preference to all others, and also get preference in the matter of recruitment to certain places, and jobs under the Ministry, and preference in the matter of permits in the selection of books and other things?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"This question relates only to lands. Let the hon. Member put a separate question."

SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Government Order issued by the Government to give lands to political sufferers has created a lot of discontent among the

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agricultural labourers, Harijans and also political sufferers, because about 99 per cent of them have not been able to get lands, and if so, may I ask the Government whether it is not desirable to withdraw the Government Order altogether and save these people from the discontent and dissatisfaction against the Government?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The Government are aware, Sir, that this Government Order has caused some disappointment to some people when we make certain priorities in the matter of the grant. Naturally the person who is put in the second place will feel that he should have been placed in the first. There is therefore bound to be some sort of discontent like this, but that is no reason why we should withdraw the Government Order altogether."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"In view of the dissatisfaction expressed by the Congress members themselves over this Government Order, will the Government revise their policy of priorities in the matter of grant of lands and hereafter give preference at least to landless labourers over the claims of political sufferers?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I may tell the hon. Member that most of the political sufferers are themselves landless and poor."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know whether the Government are prepared to issue fresh instructions to Collectors that the lands already in possession of Harijans and landless labourers prior to May 1948, will not be considered as fit to be given to political sufferers, though the Political Sufferers Committee has recommended such a procedure?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I cannot give an assurance of the sort that the hon. Member wants. There are certain persons among the Harijans who are very rich and I do not know why they should be allowed to get lands; however, all these cases are dealt with by the Collector according to merits, as laid down in the Government Order."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether the Government will consider the desirability of taking into account the landed property of the political sufferers before any lands are given to them by the Government?"

Sugar control.

* 6 Q.—JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN (on behalf of Janab S. Muhammad Ismail): Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state whether it is a fact that sugar control is to be removed before April this year and whether this is being done under the instructions of the Government of India?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"There is no information on the point raised. The question of removal of sugar control is an All-India one and has to be decided by the Government of India, with reference to the stock position, estimated production and other relevant factors."

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Remission of rent in the drought-affected areas.

* 7 Q.—SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have decided to grant remission of rent in the drought-affected areas; and

(b) if so, the names of the districts?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“(a) & (b) Remissions will be sanctioned as soon as detailed proposals therefor are received from the Collectors. The proposals are awaited, but meanwhile Collectors have been directed to suspend kists wherever necessary.”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“May I know, Sir, the districts that are under the consideration of the Government for the grant of remission?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“All the affected districts of this State, Sir.”

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—“Does this concession hold good in the case of cyclone and flood-affected areas of the Circars as well?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Orders have already been issued so far as the cyclone-affected districts are concerned, Sir.”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware that kist collections are going on in the North Arcot district and that these are causing considerable hardship to the ryots who have lost all their crops on account of the failure of the monsoon?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I have been going through the reports of the Collector of the North Arcot district and I have not come across any reports such as this. But, I believe, Sir, that if an area has been declared to be affected, in such areas, the Collector of the district has the complete discretion to postpone the collection of kists, and I think that perhaps the hon. Member is referring to a place where there has been a good crop.”

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware that in the flood-affected areas kists have been collected and no remission has been given in spite of several appeals by the ryots?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“In all such cases which are deserving, our officers have already given the needed relief, Sir.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I know, Sir, what is the anticipated loss to the Government, on account of the suspension of kists?”

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SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Collector of Ramnad has submitted his report about the conditions in the Ramnad district and if so, whether he has also mentioned the conditions in the zamin areas of Sivaganga and Ramnad Estates in that report?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Reports are being received every week from all the affected districts and Ramnad district is one of them. Recently I have had an occasion to go to Ramnad and see things for myself and I have had discussions with the Collector and we are taking adequate steps to see that all the relief that is needed is given and so far as the affected zamin areas of the district are concerned, I have, no doubt, they will also get the benefit.”

Alleged sale of ration shop licences by licensees to private parties.

* 8 Q.—SRI M. KANNIAPPAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received recently any reports about the sale of ration shop licences by the licensees to private parties for a lump-sum amount; and

(b) if so, what action the Government have taken on such ration shops' licensees?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“(a) Yes. One anonymous petition has been received.

“(b) The matter is under investigation.”

“முதலாவது கேள்வி (அ) ஒரு கையெழுத்திலாத கடிதம் சர்க்காருக்கு வந்தது.

“இரண்டாவது (ஆ) அந்தக் கடிதத்தில் இப்பொழுது சர்க்கார் கவனம் செலுத்திக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள்.”

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—“கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, கண்ணன் என்று சொல்லக்கூடியவர் I. N. A. பெயரால் சென்னையில் மூன்று கடைகள் வாங்கி, அவைகளை வாசுதேவராவ் என்பவருக்கு மூவாயிரம் ரூபாய்க்கு விற்ப்பதற்காக தகவல் பரவி ரேஷன் ஆபீசருக்கும் எழுதப்பட்டிருப்பதாகத் தெரிகிறது. அது உண்மைதானா என்று கேட்கிறேன்.”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“தெரியாது.”

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—“அப்படித் தெரிவித்தால் நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக் கொள்வீர்களா?”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“எடுத்துக் கொள்ளத்தயார்.”

Extent of land taken over under the Zamindari Abolition Act.

* 9 Q.—SRI B. S. MURTHI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state the total extent of land taken over by the Government under the Zamindari Abolition Act?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“5,097,820-58 acres.”

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SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know whether the Government are contemplating to form any co-operative or collective farming societies in respect of the waste lands in the zamin areas?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I would suggest to the hon. Member to put a separate question."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, whether all the lands that have been taken over by the Government in these zamindaris are being cultivated by the Government agency and, if not, by which agency, they are being cultivated?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" The question relates to the extent of land that have been taken over by the Government under the Zamindari Abolition Act. May I draw your attention, Mr. Speaker, that I cannot possibly answer the question, because we have got to go through all the procedure laid down by that Act."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know, Sir, whether all these lands are now in the possession of the Government or whether they have been distributed to the ryots who have been cultivating these lands before?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" The hon. Member knows the provisions of the Zamindari Abolition Act and the entire area is covered by that Act."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—" May I know, Sir, whether the provisions of G.O. No. 1523 will also apply to the lands that the Government have assigned to these various people?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I should like to have notice, Sir."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have got any scheme by which a portion of the lands which have been taken over from these zamindaris may be made available as soon as possible for people who want to cultivate them on some basis?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Most of the lands are already cultivated and owned by the tenants themselves, Sir."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" May I know, Sir, how much of the lands that had been taken over were covered by forests and hills and how much are actually cultivated?"

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

Construction of a bridge across the river Coleroon near Anaikaran Chatram.

* 10 Q.—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state with reference to question No. 327 answered on 17th September 1948—

(a) whether the Government have commenced the construction of the bridge across the river Coleroon; and

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(b) if not, when the work is expected to be begun and when it will be completed?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" (a) & (b) Preliminary works such as construction of temporary quarters, formation of approaches and protective works required for the bridge have already been commenced and are nearing completion. The question of entrusting the main work on contract is under consideration and the work will be started as soon as this is settled. The work is expected to take 3½ years for completion."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have taken any precautionary measures to prevent the bridge from flood damage, because the old bridge was washed away on account of the heavy floods in the Coleroon previously?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" I have no doubt, Sir, that the Engineers who have designed the plans should have taken note of that."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, what is the estimated cost of the works and how much has been spent so far and how much is expected to be spent in the coming year?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The estimated cost of the works is Rs. 26 lakhs. About Rs. 1½ lakhs have been spent so far."

Prevalence of famine conditions in the Tirunelveli district.

10-A Q.—

MR. SPEAKER:—" Sri K. T. Kosalram is not in his place. The answers will be printed in the proceedings."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received recently any representations from Tirunelveli district that famine conditions are prevalent there;

(b) the areas in that district which have been declared as famine areas;

(c) whether the Government have ordered the payment of famine relief wages;

(d) whether the famine relief wages will be paid according to the increased cost of living at present;

(e) whether the Government have received reports that people in Koilpatti taluk are migrating to other parts due to famine; and

(f) what relief measures the Government have taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (a) Yes.

" (b) No areas in this district have been declared as famine areas, but departmental works have been opened in certain localities to provide employment to agricultural labourers adversely affected by the seasonal conditions.

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- "(c) No.
- "(d) Does not arise.
- "(e) In December last the Collector of Tirunelveli reported that agricultural labourers were reported to have migrated from one village, i.e., Vedantam village in Koilpatti taluk. There is no information of any other migration.
- "(f) To give relief to the agricultural labourers, 5 road works costing about Rs. 2 lakhs and 8 minor irrigation works costing about Rs. 15,000 have been undertaken in Koilpatti taluk. More works will be taken up as required."

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

III.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION—LATHI CHARGE ON POLITICAL PRISONERS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Mr. Salam has given notice of an adjournment motion for the adjournment of the House to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance. The motion reads as follows:—

"I move that the business of this House do stand adjourned to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the serious situation that has arisen due to the Jail authorities in Vellore and Saidapet, etc., resorting to lathi charge on prisoners and injuring prisoners like, (1) Sri K. Anandan Nambiar, M.L.A., (2) Mr. K.T.K. Thangamani, BAR-AT-LAW, and (3) Mr. Kalyanasundaram, President of the S.I.Ry. Labour Union and others and the failure of the Government in not giving protection to the prisoners and for not providing proper medical facilities for the injured persons."

"I have to inform the House that day-after-tomorrow we will have an opportunity to discuss all these matters in the budget debate. So, under the rule of anticipation, I rule it out of order."

IV.—MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have to announce to the House that I have received the following message from the Hon. Chairman of the Madras Legislative Council, dated the 16th February 1950:—

"I transmit a copy of the Madras Village Panchayat Bill, 1949 (L.A. Bill No. 22 of 1949) as passed by the Council with the amendments set out in the Annexure and signed by me for the concurrence of the Assembly."

ANNEXURE.

(1) In the Madras Village Panchayat Bill, 1949, including the schedules thereto, for the word in the first column of the table below, substitute the word in the corresponding entry in the second column thereof:—

Table.	
(1)	(2)
Province	State.
Provincial	State.

(2) In Clause 2, sub-clause (4) of the said Bill, after the words "Act of Parliament", insert the words "of the United Kingdom."

(3) For Clause 2, sub-clause (23) of the said Bill, substitute the following, namely:—

"(23) "Scheduled Castes" shall have the same meaning as in the Constitution of India."

(4) In clause 12, sub-clause (2) of the said Bill—

(i) Omit the words, "or special" wherever they occur; and

(ii) for Explanation II, substitute the following, namely:—

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"Explanation II.—In this sub-section the expression 'territorial constituency' shall have the same meaning as in the law made under Article 327 or, as the case may be, under Article 328 of the Constitution of India."

(5) In clause 42, sub-clause (3) of the said Bill, for the word "revenues", substitute the words "Consolidated fund."

(6) In clause 63 of the said Bill, add the following sub-clause at the end, namely:—

"(4) Clause (c) of sub-section (3) shall have effect subject to the provisions of Article 286 of the Constitution of India."

(7) In rule 12 of Schedule III to the said Bill, for the words "Any tax", substitute the words "Any tax, cess or fee."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"On a point of information, Sir. May I know whether it is a fact that the hon. Member Mr. Prakasam has asked you to allot to him a seat in the Opposition?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is next to the Opposition."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"I saw a press report that the hon. Member Mr. T. Prakasam has requested you to allot to him a seat in the Opposition."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is in another place by the side of the Opposition. That is what he has written."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Sir, on a point of order of constitutional importance. One of the Members of the Cabinet, the Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan, revealed to the people at a meeting in Mathurai a secret in the budget that provision has been made for starting a medical college in Mathurai. He has stated that the college will be used only by Tamilians, and that it will be located in Mathurai. May I know, Sir, whether it is not a budget secret."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have not done anything like that, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Finance Minister will now present the Budget."

V.—BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1950-51.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Mr. Introductory. Speaker, Sir, I rise to present to the House the Revised Estimate for the current year, 1949-50 and 11-50 a. the Budget Estimate for the next year, 1950-51."

"It is now just a month, since India became a Sovereign Democratic Republic and Dr. Rajendra Prasad—Rajen Babu as he is affectionately known—was unanimously chosen as its first President. As I said when I had the good fortune of welcoming him to preside over the All-India Agricultural and Economic Conference at Madras on 1st January this year, Dr. Rajendra Prasad has by his selfless service,

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sacrifice and unremitting toil, carved out a permanent place for himself in the hearts of millions of our people and in particular of our peasants. It is but fitting that the choice of the Nation for the first executive head under the new Constitution which is designed primarily to secure to all citizens Justice, social, economic and political, should have fallen on the person under whose guidance it was framed.

"At one time, it looked as though the Andhra Province would be formed before the new Constitution came into force; but as the House is aware, the Government of India have decided that the question requires further consideration. So I am before you for the third time presenting the budget for the whole State of Madras.

"The problem of Kashmir still awaits a solution. In the prevailing uncertainty, it is heartening to feel that in the Shere-i-Kashmir, who was in our midst a few days ago, India has a staunch friend and an eloquent exponent of her case.

"In my last budget speech, I expressed the hope that an early decision would be reached in regard to the future of the French dependencies in India. The question still remains unsettled, giving rise to various administrative difficulties. For instance, the French India Government decided to withdraw Prohibition in their Settlements *except* Yenam, with effect from the 1st January 1950, and this has made the enforcement of Prohibition in the border areas more arduous.

"The Madras State now includes the merged areas of Banganapalle, Pudukkottai and Sandur. The transactions relating to these areas are at present being shown in the deposits section of the accounts; but they will be brought on to the regular heads of revenue and expenditure from 1st April 1950, and this has been allowed for in the Budget Estimates for 1950-51.

"The hon. Members will notice that the payments on account of the privy purse to the Ex-Rulers and allowances to their families have also been included in the budget for next year under the head 'Territorial and Political Pensions'. This is only provisional, and we are taking up with the Government of India the question whether they should not properly bear this expenditure. Even if these payments are excluded, the receipts to this Government

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from these areas will, according to the present estimates, fall far short of the expenditure to be incurred; and the Madras Government propose to ask the Government of India to make good the deficit.

"I cannot now definitely say when the elections under the new Constitution will be held. The preliminary work is going on apace, and for budget purposes, it has been assumed that the elections would be held early in 1951. The provision made in the budget for next year is Rs. 29.34 lakhs, in addition to a sum of Rs. 20.62 lakhs included in the Revised Estimate for the current year for the preparation and printing of electoral rolls. It is hoped to recover from the Government of India a sum of Rs. 12.50 lakhs during the two years, representing the estimated expenditure on the conduct of elections to the House of the People in the Union Parliament.

"Turning to the financial affairs of this State, the final accounts of the year 1948-9 show a small deficit of Rs. 4.90 lakhs, against a deficit of nearly Rs. 366 lakhs anticipated in the Revised Estimate for the year. This improvement of about Rs. 361 lakhs in the Revenue Account was mainly due to the non-adjustment in the year's accounts of some large items of expenditure as indicated in paragraph 4 of the Finance Secretary's Budget Memorandum (Part I) for 1950-51. The deficit was covered by the withdrawal of a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs roundly from the Revenue Reserve Fund. There was a reduction in the capital expenditure also to the extent of Rs. 188 lakhs, mainly on account of the delay in the receipt of plant and machinery and slower progress on Electricity and Irrigation Schemes.

"Coming to the current year, 1949-50, an important decision affecting the entire financial and economic structure of the country was the devaluation of the rupee in relation to the dollar from September 1949. It is to the credit of the Government of India that adequate steps have been taken to prevent any increase in the general level of internal prices on this account and that the devaluation is contributing towards the increase in the country's exports and the easing of the balance of payments position. The finances of this Government have not been seriously affected except to the extent that the machinery and equipment to be imported from the hard-currency areas for our important projects will

Financial
affairs of the
State
Accounts,
1948-49.Revised
Estimate,
1949-50.

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cost us more. Imports from these areas will, however, be resorted to only to the extent that corresponding machinery and equipment which will meet our requirements cannot be had from soft-currency areas.

"The hon. Members will remember that in presenting the budget for the current year, I anticipated that there would be a deficit in the Revenue Account of about Rs. 391 lakhs.

"To cover this deficit, I proposed various new measures of taxation and took credit for an additional revenue of Rs. 400 lakhs under the head 'Other Taxes and Duties'. As the House is aware, most of these proposals were dropped, either as a result of closer examination or in deference to the views expressed by the Legislature. The only changes in taxation made during the year were—

(1) An increase in the rates of tax under the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act;

(2) An increase in the rate of tax from 3 pies to $4\frac{1}{2}$ pies in the rupee on articles of food and drink sold in hotels and boarding houses with a turnover exceeding Rs. 25,000 per annum;

(3) The levy of a tax at one-half of one per cent in the rupee at a single point on sales of raw cotton;

(4) Extending the surcharge levied in respect of electricity used for industrial purposes to consumption for domestic purposes also in Hydro-Electric areas and levy of an industrial surcharge in the Madras area; and

(5) A small tax on cinema shows except those of touring cinemas in villages.

Nevertheless, the growth of revenue under the general sales tax consequent on the tightening up of the administration and increase in business transactions, has made up to a very large extent for the abandonment of several taxation measures originally proposed. On the representations made by this Government, the Government of India have also increased the compensation in lieu of tobacco taxation from Rs. 22 lakhs to Rs. 56 lakhs per year. I am thankful to the Hon'ble Dr. John Mathai, the Finance Minister to the Government of India, for having readily acceded to our request. On the basis of the estimate of the total amount of the divisible pool

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furnished by the Government of India in the beginning of this month, it is expected that our income-tax share for the current year will be Rs. 31 lakhs more than the budget estimate. On the other hand, the seasonal conditions this year have been bad in a number of districts, and provision has therefore been made in the Revised Estimate for remission or postponement of land revenue to the extent of Rs. 70 lakhs against the ordinary seasonal remissions of about Rs. 11 lakhs in a normal year. The result of all these factors is that the Revised Estimate of revenue under all heads is Rs. 56.91 lakhs, i.e., Rs. 116 lakhs more than the budget figure of Rs. 55.75 lakhs.

"Turning to the expenditure on Revenue Account, the Revised Estimate is Rs. 56.38 lakhs against the budget figure of Rs. 55.66 lakhs, showing an increase of Rs. 72 lakhs. This is mainly due to the introduction of a number of schemes during the course of the year and smaller savings from the retrenchment measures than those for which credit was taken in the budget estimates, partly offset by smaller expenditure on Post-war Reconstruction Schemes.

"The net result is that the transactions of this year are expected to yield a surplus of Rs. 53 lakhs. I may mention in this connexion that though it was originally expected that there would be a net expenditure of over Rs. 47 lakhs on State Trading Schemes in 1949-50, the present indications are that the transactions booked in the accounts of the year would result in a substantial credit, mainly due to the rectification of wrong debits raised against this Government in previous years.

"The total capital expenditure outside the Revenue Account is now estimated at Rs. 948 lakhs, against the original budget figure of Rs. 12.38 lakhs, showing a decrease of Rs. 290 lakhs. This is mainly due to the net credit of about Rs. 250 lakhs on account of the transactions booked in the year under State Trading Schemes being allowed to remain in the Capital Account. A sum of Rs. 51 lakhs originally provided in the budget towards the value of shares in the Madras Industrial Investment Corporation and another sum of Rs. 25 lakhs for the purchase of shares in the Ammonium Sulphate Factory at Sindhri (Bihar) have been omitted in the Revised Estimate, as no calls for these are expected in this year. A provision of Rs. 25 lakhs has been made in

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the Revised Estimate for 1949-50 for interim payments to zamindars whose estates have been taken over. A provision of Rs. 107 lakhs has been made in the budget for the next year for the payment of advance compensation, in respect of these estates in accordance with the recent legislation. The Government are considering whether these payments may not be made in the current year itself.

Loans and advances by the Madras Government, 1949-50.

"The budget for the current year took credit for recoveries amounting to Rs. 817 lakhs and provided for advances to the extent of Rs. 684 lakhs. According to the Revised Estimate, the corresponding figures are: Rs. 562 lakhs and Rs. 715 lakhs. The smaller recoveries are mainly due to the smaller loans taken by the Madras Provincial Handloom Weavers' Society in the previous year, while the slight increase under 'advances' is the result of loans sanctioned to local bodies for new schemes for which no provision was made in the budget.

Loans from the Government of India, etc.

"The Madras Government had hoped to get a loan of Rs. 6 crores from the Government of India during the current year for meeting capital expenditure and for giving loans and advances to local bodies, cultivators, etc. In view of the special difficulties facing them, however, the Government of India finally decided not to give any loan this year. It was too late to go in for an open market loan by the time this decision was communicated to this Government, and the requirements have been met for the time being by issuing treasury bills and taking ways and means advances from the Reserve Bank of India. The capital expenditure has also been slowed down, wherever possible.

"The total outstanding balance of loans due to the Government of India on the 31st March 1950 will be Rs. 12.29 crores, and the outstanding balance of loans raised in the open market will be Rs. 15.20 crores. It is anticipated that the ways and means advances and treasury bills now outstanding would be repaid before the end of the year. The total outstanding loans will thus be Rs. 27.49 crores, which is less than one-half of the present annual revenue. The loans advanced to local bodies, agriculturists, and to others due to the Government will be about Rs. 16.45 crores.

Closing balance on the 31st March 1950.

"The year 1949-50 started with a balance of Rs. 46.21 crores in the shape of cash and securities

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including the amounts pertaining to the Revenue Reserve Fund. On the basis of estimates now available, it will close with a balance of Rs. 37.99 crores. The Government will also hold separately securities belonging to the Sinking Fund Investment Account, Famine Relief Fund and the Electricity Depreciation Reserve and Special Reserve Funds, of the purchase value of Rs. 5.19 crores.

"The Budget for the next year, 1950-51, will be the first under the new Constitution. Before I set out the estimated financial results of that year, I shall briefly survey the position under various heads, as it has progressed during the preceding five years. In doing so, I shall not cover the ground already traversed in the Governor's address, and as far as possible let the relevant figures speak for themselves. I propose also to anticipate the budget proposals of the next year, wherever this seems necessary to give the House a complete picture of the subjects dealt with.

"The total normal revenue and expenditure on Normal Revenue Account of the State (excluding transfers Revenue and Expenditure from or to the Revenue Reserve Fund) are as follows: — of the State.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus column (2) minus column (3).	Capital outlay on State Trading Schemes transferred to the Revenue Account.	Final Surplus in the Year's Accounts column (4) minus column (5).
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
	CRORES.	CRORES.	CRORES.	CRORES.	CRORES.
1945-6	47.99	32.28	15.71	1.60	17.31
1946-7	51.98	44.79	7.19	12.20	5.01
1947-8	50.71	45.75	4.96	0.16	5.12
1948-9	53.28	51.29	1.99	2.04	0.05
1949-50 (Revised Estimate) ..	56.91	56.38	0.53	..	0.53

It will be seen that leaving State Trading Schemes out of account, both the receipts and the expenditure have been increasing and that the net result of each year's transactions is a surplus, though the amount of the surplus has been decreasing steadily from 1946-7.

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Excise
Revenue.

"During these years, the excise revenue which stood at Rs. 16.80 crores in 1945-6 has almost vanished. The actual figures are as follows:—

	Revenue, RS. CRORES.
1946-7	14.68
1947-8	10.69
1948-9	3.67
1949-50 (Revised Estimate)	0.46

The figure for 1949-50 represents the small revenue now derived by the issue of opium to addicts, duties on medicinal preparations containing opium, alcohol, etc., fines in respect of prohibition offences, and some arrear collections. The Madras Government do not regret the loss of this revenue, as they believe that it has been more than made up by the increase in the general standard of living of the poorer people. Complaints have sometimes been made that the enforcement machinery is not fully effective at present, but the Government hope that with the co-operation of the people, there will soon be a considerable improvement in this regard.

Growth of
Revenue
other than
Excise.

"The increase in the total revenues of the State, notwithstanding the disappearance of almost the entire excise receipts is due to the phenomenal growth of receipts under income-tax, the general sales tax, and the tax on motor vehicles. The figures are—

Year.	Income- tax receipts. RS. CRORES.	General Sales tax receipts. RS. CRORES.	Receipts under Motor Vehi- cles Act. RS. CRORES.
1945-6	4.31	5.82	0.98
1946-7	4.48	6.96	1.31
1947-8	5.35	8.31	1.67
1948-9	8.42	13.03	1.97
1949-50 (Revised Estimate)	8.20	15.52	2.75

Income-tax.

"The increase in our receipts under the head 'Income-tax' reflects the growth of the total income-tax revenue and consequently of the divisible pool from year to year. Under the Niemeyer Award, the share of this Government was 15 per cent of the divisible pool, and this continued to be in force until the partition of the country. As a result of the release of the percentages allotted to the areas now included in Pakistan, the Government of India increased the Government's share to 18 per cent with effect from

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15th August 1947. The share of income-tax for the pre-partition period in 1947-8 has not yet been finally adjusted, as the accounts are still being made up by the Auditor-General of India. A sum of Rs. 90 lakhs was provisionally adjusted in 1948-9 on this account, and this is the reason for the comparatively large revenue credited in that year.

"As regards the next year, 1950-51, Shri Chintaman Deshmukh, ex-Governor of the Reserve Bank, who was appointed by the Government of India recently to make an award in regard to the allocation of the divisible pool among Provinces (States) has reduced the percentage share of Madras from 18 to 17.5. This Award has been made on a consideration of the representations of all the State Governments. The Madras Government urged in that connexion that the allocation should be made mainly on a population basis with some slight adjustments in favour of the backward States which might stand in need of special assistance. Shri Deshmukh has explained that he allocated the percentages released by the partition of the country among the States more or less on a population basis and that necessary additions have been made to the percentages under the basic Niemeyer Award. The Award has, therefore, to be accepted for the time being, although this Government regret that their percentage share has been reduced. This Award will, however, be in force only until the Finance Commission contemplated under Article 280 of the Constitution of India makes its recommendations. It is understood that the President is likely to set up this Commission shortly. Any satisfactory solution of this vexed question of income-tax allocation can be found not by taking away from some States what is to be given to others, but by allotting a larger percentage, say 60 per cent, of the total revenue to be divided among the States. The Madras Government hope that the Finance Commission when it is set up will find itself in a position to recommend larger allocation among the States, so as to enable them to implement their development programmes. For the present, it is a matter of some consolation that owing to the larger estimated proceeds of income-tax, the actual amount to be credited to this Government in 1950-51 may be about the same as in the current year (Rs. 8.20 crores) in spite of the reduction by half per cent in the percentage share. No credit is taken either

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in the Revised Estimate for the current year or the Budget Estimate for 1950-51 for the arrear adjustments for the pre-partition period, 1947-8.

General
Sales Tax.

"The growth of revenue under General Sales Tax is due not only to the revision of the rates of taxation made from time to time, but also to the gradual improvement in the machinery for assessment and collection. The General Sales Tax has till now been a veritable 'Kamadhenu' to this State, but I am sorry to say that its position has been made somewhat vulnerable under the New Constitution.

"Clause (1) of Article 286 of the Constitution prohibits the imposition of a tax on the sale or purchase of goods where such sale or purchase takes place outside the State or in the course of the import of the goods into or export of the goods out of the territory of India. Clause (2) of the same Article lays down that except in so far as Parliament may by law otherwise provide, no law of a State shall impose, or authorize the imposition of, a tax on the sale or purchase of any goods, where such sale or purchase takes place in the course of Inter-State trade or commerce. It has been estimated that this provision will result in an ultimate loss of revenue of about Rs. 1 crore per annum to the Madras Government, though the effect will not be felt in 1950-51, as the President has issued an Order under the proviso to Article 286 (2) authorizing the continuance of the tax wherever levied till the 31st March 1951. Clause (3) of the same Article further states that no law made by the Legislature of a State imposing, or authorizing the imposition of, a tax on the sale or purchase of any such goods as have been declared by Parliament by law to be essential for the life of the community shall have effect, unless it has been reserved for the consideration of the President and has received his assent. The Government of India propose to introduce legislation declaring certain articles including foodgrains and textiles as essential for the life of the community.

"This proposal is no doubt designed to bring down the general cost of living in the general interests of the country, but its repercussions on the finances of the States will require very careful consideration.

"It also seems to this Government that the language of clause (3) of the Article would be extremely inappropriate, if it is intended to affect taxes which

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were already being levied when the new Constitution came into force and that any legislation undertaken by the Government of India in this respect can apply only to the taxes to be newly levied or to enhancements newly contemplated by the States. The question of amending the General Sales Tax Act so as to bring it in consonance with clause (2) of Article 286 of the Constitution will be taken up in due course.

"Our Budget for 1950-51 allows for a small decline in revenue (Rs. 52 lakhs) under the General Sales Tax with reference to Article 286 (1) of the Constitution and a possible fall in prices.

"The Budget for 1950-51 takes credit for nearly Rs. 3 crores as receipts under Motor Vehicles Acts as against the sum of less than Rs. 1 crore realized in 1945-6. This is partly due to an increase in the number of vehicles and partly to the enhancement in the rates of tax introduced with effect from the 1st July 1949. While the improvement in the receipts is no doubt gratifying, it is to be remembered that our rates of tax are the highest in the whole of India and possibly in the whole world (hear, hear), and the question of their reduction will have to be considered when other sources of revenue are made available to this Government.

"I shall in this connexion refer to the allied subject of our Nationalized Motor Transport. As the House is aware, the Government Transport Organization consists of three commercial units—(1) the Government Bus Service, (2) the Government Automobile Workshop and (3) the Government Coach-building Factory. During 1947-8 and 1948-9, the working expenses of all these three units were shown directly as expenditure under the head 'Miscellaneous', but from this year (1949-50) they are taken to the revenue side of the Account in deduction of the gross receipts under the separate head 'Road Transport Schemes'.

"The net revenue to end of March 1949 for the Government Bus Service alone was Rs. 14.59 lakhs. This should be deemed to be satisfactory having regard to the fact that the full strength of the fleet was reached only towards the end of 1948. The results for the year 1949-50 are, however, not expected to be so favourable owing to the increased cost of petrol, spare parts and accessories and the

Receipts
under Motor
Vehicles
Acts.Madras City
Bus Service.

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enhancement of the motor vehicles tax (which the State Bus Service also pays). If allowance is made for the fact that the fares in Madras City have not been increased specifically with reference to the increased tax, the anticipated net revenue of about Rs. 4 lakhs for the year 1949-50 need not be regarded as discouraging.

" During the year 1949-50, a few Government buses were introduced on long distance routes from Madras to Tirupati and Nellore in addition to the City and suburban routes. It was found possible to do this from out of the fleet and staff sanctioned for the City Bus Service.

" The Government Automobile Workshop and the Government Coach-building Factory cater to the needs of other Government departments in addition to those of the Government Bus Service and are working at a profit.

" The final report of the Expert Committee set up to examine the working of the Government Transport System was received only recently and the recommendations are under the consideration of the Government.

Land
Revenue.

" The proceeds from Land Revenue including portion due to irrigation (Rs. 8 crores) now stands at practically the same level as in 1945-6. This source of revenue is still very much dependent on the vagaries of nature. During the period of three decades from 1920, we have had major cyclones in 12 years and serious floods in 17 years. Up to the end of 1945-6, Famine Relief camps had to be opened on a large scale in six years, mostly in the Ceded districts, due to the failure of rains, involving an expenditure of over Rs. 231 lakhs on famine relief operations. Nearly 70 per cent of this expenditure was incurred in 1943. This does not of course include the cost of the expansion of various departmental works to provide employment in the distressed areas. From 1947, we have had three bad seasons in succession and I have already referred to the large provision of Rs. 70 lakhs made in the current year for land revenue remissions. Rupees 24 lakhs in the current year and Rs. 10 lakhs in the next year have also been provided for relief of distress.

" As the House is aware, the Village Panchayat Bill about to be passed by the Legislature provides

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that the Government should set apart a minimum of 12½ per cent of the land revenue (including water-cess) of the State, for distribution as grants on the basis of population to small village panchayats. As, however, it will take some time for the new panchayats to be formed, no provision has been made in the Budget for 1950-51 for these grants.

" As against this, it may be expected that when the Zamindari estates taken over are settled on ryotwari principles, there will be some additional receipts to Government under 'Land Revenue'. This, however, will take time, and for the immediate future, the management of the estates and the survey and settlement operations will only mean a net additional expenditure to Government.

" The receipts from Electricity Schemes have also been steadily on the increase and now form an important source of revenue to this Government. The figures of net revenue are—

Year.	RS. LAKHS.
1945-46	53.85
1946-47	52.90
1947-48	62.31
1948-49	85.12
1949-50 (Revised Estimate) ..	1,24.70

" The revenue in the current year would have been greater but for the continued high cost of labour, materials and equipment in general and of coal and fuel oil so far as Thermal stations are concerned. The revenue in 1950-51 is estimated at over Rs. 158 lakhs and will increase further in future years with the completion of the several systems now under construction.

" Legislation has recently been passed for the nationalization of all the private electricity undertakings. This, however, is only an enabling measure, and as the Government intend to take over first the less efficient units, so as to give better service to the people, no net additional revenue to the Government is anticipated on this account to begin with.

" The Electricity Supply Act, 1948, passed by the Central Legislature, contemplates the setting up of an Electricity Board for the management of all electricity concerns in a State. But, considering the progress and the co-ordinated development already

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achieved in this State, it is hoped that the formation of an Electricity Board for this State will not be taken up for several years to come.

Grants
from the
Government
of India for
Post-war
Develop-
ment and
Grow More
Food
Schemes.

“ Another important addition to our revenues in recent years, which looks like fading away in the future is the grant given by the Government of India for Post-war Development and Grow More Food Schemes. Originally, the Government of India promised to give a block grant towards the expenditure to be incurred during the five years from 1947-8 on Post-war Development Schemes approved by them and they also agreed to reimburse to this Government by way of ‘ advance grants ’ the whole of the unproductive expenditure incurred up to the 31st March 1947 on such approved schemes. They also promised to give grants for approved Grow More Food Schemes. In the first year, grants were given to cover the total expenditure incurred by this Government, but later, the grants were restricted generally to 50 per cent of the approved expenditure. The grants actually adjusted in each year’s accounts were as follows:—

	RS. CRORES.
1946-47 ..	2.30 for Post-war Reconstruction Schemes.
	+ 2.10 for Grow More Food Schemes.
1947-48 ..	2.80 } for both classes of schemes.
1948-49 ..	2.78 }

“ For the current year, 1949-50, the Government of India originally promised to give Rs. 5 crores of which Rs. 1.50 crores were earmarked for Grow More Food Schemes, leaving a maximum of Rs. 3.50 crores available for Post-war Reconstruction Schemes. Subsequently, they reduced the maximum grant for Post-war Reconstruction Schemes by Rs. 1 crore, and also intimated that grants for approved Grow More Food Schemes would be given only to the extent that the special bonus for procurement given by them is not sufficient to cover the expenditure on such schemes. The special bonus at the rate of 8 annas per maund of foodgrains procured by this Government was sanctioned by the Government of India for the first time in 1948-9 and the amount received in that year was Rs. 2.07 crores. This was taken in reduction of the capital outlay on State Trading Schemes. The bonus anticipated for 1949-50 is Rs. 2.03 crores, credit having been taken in the Revised

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Estimate for 1949-50 for a total grant of Rs. 5.03 crores as direct receipts, made up of Rs. 2.50 crores for Post-war Reconstruction Schemes, Rs. 2.03 crores as special bonus for procurement and Rs. 0.50 crore as additional grant for Grow More Food Schemes. So far as 1950-51 is concerned, the Government of India have intimated that it would not be possible for them to give any grant for Post-war Reconstruction Schemes and that the conditions for Grow More Food grants will be the same as in the current year. The budget for 1950-51 therefore takes credit only for an estimated special procurement bonus of Rs. 2.13 crores. The provision made for expenditure on Post-war Reconstruction and Grow More Food Schemes (both Capital and Revenue Accounts) in 1949-50 (Revised Estimate) and 1950-51 (Budget Estimate) is as under:—

	1949-50 (Revised estimate).	1950-51 (Budget estimate).
	RS. CRORES.	RS. CRORES.
Post-war Reconstruction Schemes.	14.70	16.85
Grow More Food Schemes ..	3.92	3.97

“ Of the provision for 1949-50, about Rs. 9 crores under Post-war Reconstruction Schemes representing capital expenditure on Irrigation and Electricity Schemes and about Rs. 1 crore under Grow More Food Schemes representing mainly the cost of agricultural machinery (tractors, pipes, pump sets, oil engines, etc.), will not be eligible for a grant from the Government of India. The balance of the provision made will be sufficient to earn the grants for which credit has been taken in the Revised Estimate.

“ Hon. Members will notice that notwithstanding the absence of a grant from the Government of India for Post-war Reconstruction Schemes in 1950-51, the provision made for such schemes in that year is even larger than the estimated expenditure for the current year. This is because it has been found to be impracticable to delay or suspend the execution of schemes which are fairly under way without serious detriment to the economic and social welfare of the people. Some expansion of a few of the schemes has also been found to be inevitable. The financing of the programme for 1950-51 without any assistance from the Government of India will throw a considerable strain on the resources of this Government. I hope that the Government of India will realize how sudden

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changes in their policy are a source of embarrassment to State Governments in implementing their plans, and that they will find it possible to revive their assistance in the form originally contemplated, at least from 1951-2 onwards.

Expenditure
on Revenue
Account.

"The increase in the total expenditure since 1945-6 is mainly on nation-building services. The expenditure on such services has risen from less than Rs. 10 crores in 1945-6 to nearly Rs. 20 crores in 1948-9 and Rs. 24.5 crores in 1949-50 (Revised Estimate), and the provision in the next year's budget is over Rs. 26 crores, as detailed in paragraph 20 in Part I of the Finance Secretary's Budget Memorandum. Unless the general level of prices comes down appreciably, there is very little prospect of the expenditure being reduced, and in fact some further increase in future years will be inevitable to meet the essential needs of the people. The possibility of retrenchment has been examined in detail, but it has been found that retrenchment to the extent contemplated by the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee is out of the question. The progress of developmental schemes necessarily involves increase of recurring expenditure from year to year. With the prices at their present level, the payment of dearness allowance to Government servants as well as to the employees of local bodies has to be continued. The expenditure on the Police and Jail Departments has been steadily going up on account of the general unrest among various sections of the community and the subversive activities of Communists. The total expenditure on revenue account under 'Jails' and 'Police' which was only about Rs. 3½ crores in 1945-6 mounted to over Rs. 7½ crores in 1948-9, and it is expected to be about the same in the current and next years.

"I shall now draw your attention to the progress of expenditure on departments connected with the welfare of the people.

ducation.

"The expenditure on 'Education' (excluding that on buildings and on specialized institutions under the control of other departments like medical and agricultural colleges and schools and the special expenditure on the education of Harijans and backward classes) stood at about Rs. 4½ crores in 1945-6, but has risen to nearly Rs. 9 crores in 1948-9 and is expected to touch the Rs. 10 crores mark in 1950-51.

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If the expenditure pertaining to 'Education' under the control of other departments and on buildings is also included, the estimated expenditure in the next year will be as much as Rs. 11.5 crores including about Rs. 1 crore debitable to the Capital Account. The number of educational institutions and students has shown a steady increase from year to year, as the following figures will show:—

	Number.	Strength. IN LAKHS.
Elementary Schools (Boys and Girls)—		
1945-6	35,916	32.42
1946-7	36,148	34.56
1947-8	36,575	36.51
1948-9	37,195	38.17
Secondary Schools (Boys and Girls)—		
1945-6	796	4.16
1946-7	901	4.39
1947-8	975	4.74
1948-9	1,108	5.21
Arts Colleges (Men and Women) including Oriental Colleges—		
1945-6	75	29
1946-7	78	31
1947-8	82	35
1948-9	89	40

IN THOUSANDS.

"We have now about 250 basic elementary schools, 36 basic training schools and about 400 adult literacy schools. With a view to enable managements to provide buildings for basic schools, the scale of building grants has been raised from one-half of the cost to three-fourths, subject to certain maxima. The supervisory staff has been reorganized, so as to reduce the number of elementary schools under the jurisdiction of each Deputy Inspector to about 60.

"Bifurcated courses have been introduced in 100 secondary schools. It may also be noted that the distinction previously made between secondary schools opened by local bodies before 1930 and those opened afterwards, for payment of subsidies for construction of buildings, purchase of equipment and acquisition of lands for playgrounds has been removed and all schools are now eligible for aid on the same basis.

"New courses also have been opened in the various Government Colleges.

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" *Special Institutions.*—Facilities for the education of defective children have also been increased. Government schools for the blind have been opened at Cuddapah and Salem. It is also proposed to open a school for the Deaf and Dumb at Chunangad in South Malabar, in the next year.

" A noteworthy feature this year was the opening of the Central College of Karnatic Music in Madras. Rural colleges for men were opened by the Government at Arcot, Badagara and Pentapadu, besides a college under private management at Perianayakanpalayam.

" *National Cadet Corps.*—The following units have been raised:—

Senior Division in 9 Infantry Companies, 4 Specialist Universities. Units (Electrical and Mechanical, Engineering, Medical and Signal Units).

Junior Division in 21 Units and 1 Sub-Unit. High Schools.

It is proposed to raise two more infantry companies in the Senior division and 24 more units (including one sub-unit) in the Junior division, during the next year.

" The total provision made for new schemes relating to the Education Department in the budget for next year is Rs. 55 lakhs. The details of the new schemes will be found in the Budget Memorandum.

Medical and
Public
Health.

" His Excellency the Governor referred in his address to the steady pursuit by the Government of their policy of taking all possible steps to protect the health of the people, prevent the occurrence of epidemics and provide for medical relief by encouraging both the modern and indigenous systems. The total expenditure on the Medical and Public Health Departments (excluding the expenditure on buildings) has increased from Rs. 294 lakhs in 1945-6 to Rs. 388 lakhs in 1948-9 (including Rs. 21 lakhs debited to the Rural Water-supply Fund). The annual expenditure in 1949-50 and in 1950-1 is expected to exceed Rs. 4 crores, including about Rs. 7 lakhs for the School, College and Hospital of Indigenous Medicine.

" The Government have sanctioned the opening of a separate Dental Department to be treated as part

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of the Medical College in the General Hospital, Madras, with a view to train students for the B.D.S. Degree. The Government have also sanctioned the construction of three new medical wards in the King George Hospital, Visakhapatnam, at an estimated cost of Rs. 17.25 lakhs, with a view to providing facilities for training in clinical subjects for the additional students proposed to be admitted for the M.B.B.S. course in the Andhra Medical College and for the students so far admitted in the Guntur Medical College. The following institutions have come under Government control during this year:—

H.H. the Maharaja's Hospital, Vizianagaram (44 beds).

H.H. the Maharani's Hospital, Vizianagaram (20 beds).

H.H. the Maharaja's Dispensary at Simhalalam.

Victoria Hospital for Women and Children, Visakhapatnam.

" The gross provision made for Water-supply and Drainage Schemes in each year from 1945-6 has been as follows:—

Year.	Urban schemes.		Rural schemes.		Total.
	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	
1945-6	5	12	17		
1946-7	21	25	46		
1947-8	23	24	47		
1948-9	29	40	69		

In pursuance of the policy of accelerating the progress of Water-supply and Drainage Schemes in the urban areas of this Presidency, the Government have drawn up a programme of works to be executed in the next five years. This involves the payment of grants to local bodies to the extent of Rs. 20 lakhs in the current year, Rs. 40 lakhs in each of the next two years and Rs. 80 lakhs in the two subsequent years.

" The total provision made in the next year's budget for new schemes relating to Medical and Public Health Departments is Rs. 9 lakhs in the Revenue Account and Rs. 9 lakhs in the Capital Account.

" The capital schemes are, the construction of an infectious diseases ward and quarters for staff in the Rajah-Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar's Lying-in Hospital,

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Madras (ultimate estimated cost Rs. 33 lakhs), improvements to the Headquarters Hospital, Mangalore and Lady Goschen Hospital, Mangalore (ultimate cost Rs. 29 lakhs) and improvements to certain taluk headquarters hospitals (ultimate cost Rs. 18 lakhs).

Agriculture
and food
production.

"The expenditure under the head 'Agriculture' rose from Rs. 74 lakhs in 1945-6 to Rs. 127 lakhs in 1948-9. The estimated expenditure in 1949-50 is as high as Rs. 241 lakhs, including a provision of nearly Rs. 1 crore for the purchase of tractors, pipes, oil-engines, pump-sets, etc., in connexion with the Two-Year Plan of intensive cultivation, which has been referred to in the Governor's address. The budget for the next year provides about half a crore for the same purpose, and the total is about Rs. 188 lakhs. At the instance of the Government of India, the Two-Year Plan is now being revised into a Three-Year Plan for the period 1949-50 to 1951-2. The net cost of the plan will be Rs. 3.39 crores, of which the Government of India will bear about Rs. 72 lakhs. The additional production of foodgrains expected during the three years is 782,000 tons.

"The Well Subsidy Schemes accounted for under the head 'General Administration' have been in force since 1944. Up to the end of March 1949, a total sum of Rs. 579 lakhs has been disbursed under these schemes and an additional extent of 108,000 acres brought under cultivation. A new well subsidy scheme was introduced during the current year and a sum of Rs. 105 lakhs disbursed up to November 1949. The scheme was then held in abeyance for some time, pending the consideration of the Government of India's proposal that subsidies in the form of cash should be discontinued and that assistance should be given only in kind. It has now been decided with the concurrence of the Government of India that the scheme should be continued without any modification. It is expected that a total sum of Rs. 150 lakhs would be disbursed as loans in the current year and Rs. 152 lakhs in the next year.

"Loans are converted into subsidies, only after the wells have been constructed and the accounts scrutinized. This necessarily takes time. A total sum of Rs. 128 lakhs only has therefore been provided in the Revised Estimate, 1949-50 for conversion into subsidies, mainly in respect of schemes in operation in

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previous years. The corresponding figure for 1950-1 is Rs. 88 lakhs. The cost of the special staff including one Collector and eight Deputy Collectors employed in connexion with these schemes is expected to be about Rs. 18 lakhs in each year.

"The Government has continued to bestow special attention to the improvement of Minor Irrigation works. As the House is aware, a comprehensive Tank Improvement Scheme covering both Ryotwari and Zamindari areas was sanctioned in August 1949. The scheme is expected to cost Rs. 10 crores, spread over a period of five years and to bring about an increase in food production to the extent of 1½ lakhs of tons. A provision of Rs. 35 lakhs in the current year and Rs. 85 lakhs in the next year has been made for this scheme. In addition, a lump-sum provision of Rs. 60 lakhs has been made for other irrigation works to be taken up in pursuance of the Grow More Food Campaign. The works will be spread over all the areas of the State and a list of the schemes which will be considered in this connexion will be found in Appendix II to the Detailed Budget Estimates.

"The number of Grow More Food irrigation schemes sanctioned in the Public Works Department from April 1946 to September 1949 was 177, involving a total estimated cost of Rs. 229 lakhs and expected to yield 69,000 tons of rice. The expenditure actually incurred during the period was about Rs. 62 lakhs and the anticipated additional yield from the works so far executed is nearly 17,000 tons of rice.

"It is estimated that the cumulative effect of the various agricultural and smaller irrigation works I have just referred to, will enable this Government to substantially reduce their imports of foodgrains in future years. In the Kharif year 1948-9, we imported 1.29 lakhs of tons of rice, 1.16 lakhs of tons of wheat and wheat products and 1.43 lakhs of tons of other grains for consumption in the Madras State, and the drain on the resources of this Government on account of food subsidies during the six years from 1943-4 to 1948-9 was of the order of Rs. 17 crores, exclusive of a sum of Rs. 4.5 crores spent on staff for procurement and rationing. The figure of Rs. 17 crores includes a sum of nearly Rs. 3 crores paid as bonus to ryots in 1946-7 without any portion of the cost being passed on to the consumers. Although the cost has been heavy, I think that on the whole,

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the Madras Government are entitled to some credit for having tided over the very difficult food situation during the last three years.

"The Government are alive to the seriousness of the present food situation consequent on the damages to crops caused by floods, etc., in the North and drought in the South and they will continue to press upon the Government of India the need for adequate assistance.

Major
Irrigation
Works.

"While the Madras Government have given due priority to short-term measures to meet the food situation, so as to enable the Government of India to adhere to their decision to discontinue imports of food-grains by the end of 1951, they have continued to push on with their major irrigation schemes of long-term value. By the end of the current year, it is expected that a sum of Rs. 594 lakhs would have been spent on the execution of the Tungabhadra Project and Rs. 116 lakhs on the Lower Bhavani Project. The budget for 1950-1 provides for an expenditure of Rs. 287 lakhs and 103 lakhs respectively on these two projects. The other schemes which are under execution and for which a large provision has been made in the next year's budget include the Malampuzha Reservoir Project, Rallapad Project, improvements to Romperu and Peddalanka Drains and the Mettur Canals Scheme.

Total
irrigation
expenditure.

"The growth in the expenditure on irrigation has been as follows:—

	Revenue Account. RS. LAKHS.	Capital Account. RS. LAKHS.	Total. RS. LAKHS.
1945-6			
1946-7			
1947-8			
1948-9			
1949-50 (Revised Estimate)			
1950-1 (Budget Estimate)			
	184	578	712

communications.

"Development of roads other than National Highways is now carried on according to a Five-year Plan to which I referred in my last budget speech. The average annual expenditure on communications (original works and repairs) during the three years 1946-7 to 1948-9 amounted to Rs. 275 lakhs, against Rs. 145 lakhs in 1945-6. The expenditure in the current year is expected to be Rs. 425 lakhs.

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of grants-in-aid to local bodies to the extent of Rs. 80 lakhs for the works under their control. The corresponding figures for 1950-1 are—

"Rs. 439 lakhs and Rs. 55 lakhs, including Rs. 4½ lakhs for village roads.

"Turning to Industries, there has been a wide-spread slump this year in the important handloom industry. To relieve the consequent distress among the weavers, the Government have introduced a special scheme in the districts of Salem, Cuddapah, Chittoor, Kurnool, Bellary, Malabar and Coimbatore. Under this scheme, the Government provide interest-free advances at the rate of Rs. 25 for every weaver newly admitted into the weavers' co-operative societies, recoverable in 12 monthly instalments. They also give advances to the societies at the rate of Rs. 75 per loom for purchase of yarn and payment of wages to the members. The Government also guarantee the loans obtained by the societies from financing Banks and undertake to make good the net loss incurred by the societies in working the scheme. The scheme will be extended to other districts as and when the need arises.

"The Intensive Khadi Scheme introduced early in 1947 in seven selected firkas continues to work satisfactorily. From the inception of the scheme up to the end of September 1949, nearly 16 lakhs yards of khadi were produced and over 10 lakhs yards sold. The 'extensive' scheme has been introduced this year in one firka in each of 19 districts. One thousand charkas will be introduced in each firka and cotton will be supplied to spinners at net cost. Subsidies to cover a part of the cost of the charkas and the wages payable to weavers on cloth produced from the yarn spun by them will be paid to the spinners by the Government.

"Since 1946, eight polytechnics have been established on a regional basis. The total number of candidates who have passed the diploma examinations is now 1,008.

"As the House is aware, the Madras Industrial Investment Corporation came into being in March 1949 with an authorized capital of Rs. 2 crores, of which Rs. 102 lakhs would be subscribed by the Government. One half of this amount has been paid and provision for the other half is made in the budget for the next year. The Government have guaranteed not only the shares of the Corporation, but also

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Harijan
welfare.

a minimum dividend of 3 per cent per annum, subject to tax for a period of 10 years. The Government now hold shares worth Rs. 40 lakhs in the Fertilizers and Chemicals, Alwaye, and propose to purchase shares for another Rs. 20 lakhs during the next year.

"As educational advancement is the first requisite for Harijan welfare, special attention has been paid to the provision of facilities in this regard. The number of special Harijan Welfare Schools rose from about 1,100 with a strength of 69,000 pupils on 1st April 1946 to over 1,200 schools and 95,000 pupils on the 1st April 1949. During the same period, the number and amount of boarding grants rose from 1,885 and Rs. 2.29 lakhs to 6,753 and Rs. 10.08 lakhs. The Government are also maintaining 12 hostels including two for girls (with a strength of 675 boarders) at a cost of over Rs. 1.30 lakhs per annum. Mid-day meals are now supplied to the Harijan pupils in all the special welfare schools in the State, the total annual cost being now nearly Rs. 12 lakhs, against Rs. 8 lakhs in 1945-6. The system of scholarships to Harijan pupils has also been liberalized from year to year, over Rs. 3 lakhs being paid to about 7,700 scholars in 1948-9 as against Rs. 1.6 lakhs for 6,600 scholars in 1945-6.

"The provision of healthy and suitable house-sites for relieving the congestion in Harijan cherishes has received high priority among the amenity measures. Nearly 100 thousand house-sites have been provided up to the end of March 1949, since the commencement of the scheme. Other amenities like wells, approach roads and drainage facilities are also being provided on an increasing scale. The total expenditure on Harijan welfare which was less than Rs. 30 lakhs in 1945-6 rose to Rs. 64 lakhs (roundly) in 1948-9. The provision made in the revised estimate for 1949-50 and the budget estimate for 1950-1 is Rs. 82 lakhs and Rs. 93 lakhs respectively."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"That is all!"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let there be no interruptions."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The expenditure in these years over the level of expenditure in 1948-9 will be met from the Rs. 1 crore Harijan Uplift Fund."

and

"The Government also continue to devote special attention to the improvement of the backward

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classes by the grant of scholarships, boarding grants, etc. The budget for the next year includes a lump-sum provision of Rs. 5 lakhs for this purpose as in the current year. This is in addition to the general provision made for Harijan welfare.

"In December 1949, a conference was held to consider the problems relating to the Agency tracts and to formulate a plan both for the development of the areas and the amelioration of the conditions of the hill tribes. One of the recommendations of the conference was that a Special Officer of the grade of senior Collector should be made exclusively responsible for the formulation and implementation of the detailed plan for all the Agency tracts in the districts of East Godavari, West Godavari and Visakhapatnam, the routine administration of the areas continuing to be in the hands of the Collectors as before. The Government have accepted this recommendation and have sanctioned the creation of a temporary post of Special Development Officer for the scheduled areas.

"The intensive Rural Reconstruction Schemes introduced in 1946 are working a silent revolution in the economy of our villages. As stated in the Governor's address, the scheme will be extended to 50 new additional firkas.

"As the hon. Members are aware, a Village Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift Fund was constituted in 1946-7 with an initial contribution of Rs. 4 crores from State revenues—Rs. 1 crore for Village Reconstruction, Rs. 2 crores for Khadi and Cottage Industries, and Rs. 1 crore for Harijan Uplift. A further contribution of Rs. 10 lakhs (Rs. 5 lakhs for Village Reconstruction and Rs. 5 lakhs for Harijan Uplift) has been made in the current year. The total expenditure from the fund to the end of March 1949 was about Rs. 69 lakhs. The expenditure that is expected to be incurred during this year and the next year is Rs. 153 lakhs, made up of Rs. 57 lakhs under Village Reconstruction, Rs. 50 lakhs under Khadi and Cottage Industries and Rs. 46 lakhs under Harijan Uplift. There will thus be a balance of about Rs. 188 lakhs still left in the fund at the end of the next year.

"In my last budget speech, I drew attention to the Five-year plan of Electrical development in this Province, which was drawn up soon after the

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close of the war. Good progress has been made in the implementation of this plan. The following statement shows the progress of expenditure on the major items:—

	Expenditure up to end of 1948-49.	Revised Estimate, 1949-50.	Budget Estimate, 1950-51.
	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.
Machkund Hydro-Electric Scheme.	39	99	161
Moyar Hydro-Electric Scheme.	129	99	83
Pykara III stage ..	29	57	64
Papanasam Extension ..	91	31	27
Madras Power Station Extension.	73	76	70
Ceded Districts Scheme.	24	23	16

“The demand for rural electrification and industrial development is on the increase and the Government are sanctioning the detailed investigation of new schemes.

Housing.

“The Government have passed orders on most of the recommendations of the Provincial Housing Committee. During the current year, Rs. 45 lakhs were sanctioned as loans for the construction of 622 new houses and for the completion of 319 houses commenced in the previous years. A provision of Rs. 120 lakhs has been made in the next year's budget for granting loans to Building Societies, of which Rs. 20 lakhs will be earmarked for rural societies. It is also proposed to construct 50 quarters for Government servants at Todhunter Nagar.

Modification of pension system for Government servants.

“An important reform affecting Government servants is the decision recently taken to introduce a scheme of combined pension, provident fund and insurance in place of the existing pension system. Under this scheme, pension will be reduced to half the present scale and the reduction will be made up by Government contributing to a provident fund at the rate of 9 pies in the rupee of the actual pay drawn from time to time. The Government servant will be required to insure his life for a certain minimum sum prescribed for his class and will be permitted to withdraw from his own accumulations in the provident fund for payment of insurance premium if necessary. The accumulations in the

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provident fund including the Government contribution will be paid to the Government servant on retirement or to his heirs if he dies in service and compassionate gratuities, *ex gratia* payments and commutation of pensions will be abolished in respect of persons coming under the new scheme. The new system will apply to all future entrants and option will be given to all existing Government servants without any substantive appointments and for permanent Government servants with a total service of less than ten years to come under the new system. The scheme is designed to remedy the main defect of the existing pension system, namely, that no benefits are payable to the family of a Government servant who happens to die in service before reaching the age of superannuation.

“I have now surveyed the growth of revenue and expenditure under important heads, and I am glad to say that so far, the financial position of the Government has been extremely sound. The amount at the credit of the Revenue Reserve Fund has increased by about Rs. 2 crores since 1945-6. The figures are—

Cash and securities
(Market value).

	RS. CRORES.
As on 1st April 1946	31.45
As on 1st April 1947	26.93
As on 1st April 1948	32.44
As on 1st April 1949	33.00
As on 1st April 1950 (Estimated) ..	33.81

This building up of our reserves has been achieved, in spite of the steady increase in activities for the betterment of the conditions of the people. Whether this policy can be continued will depend largely on our finances under the new Constitution.

“As there is very little scope for increased taxation and as the yield from some of our important sources of revenue may decline in future for the reasons I have already indicated, there is an imperative need for additional allocations of revenue and grants-in-aid from the Union Government. I have no doubt that this aspect will receive the fullest consideration of the forthcoming Finance Commission.

In this connexion, I may refer to the Local Finances Enquiry Committee set up by the Government of India primarily to find additional sources of

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revenue to local bodies. The Madras Government are already giving substantial aid to local bodies in various directions and they will not be in a position to increase this aid either by allocating a share of the State revenues or by making larger grants, unless their own resources are strengthened adequately.

Budget
Estimate,
1950-51.

"I now pass on to the figures of the Budget for next year. The estimates for the Revenue Account are—

Revenue
Account
summary.

	RS. LAKHS.
A. Revenue—Normal	55,21.25
B. Expenditure on Revenue Account—	
(i) Normal expenditure, i.e., excluding expenditure on Post-war Development and Grow More Food Schemes.	47,91.26
(ii) (1) Expenditure on Post-war Development Schemes.	5,39.91
(2) Expenditure on Grow More Food Schemes.	2,26.06
Total	55,57.23
C. Deficit	— 35.98

"Hon. Members will find details of the figures for the Revised Estimate for 1949-50 and the Budget Estimate for 1950-1 in an appendix* to the printed copy of my speech. As compared with the Revised Estimate for 1949-50, the Budget for 1950-51 anticipates a decrease in normal revenue of Rs. 170 lakhs. This is mainly the net result of the factors I have already mentioned, viz., absence of the credit for the grants from the Government of India for Post-War Development Schemes and anticipated fall in the receipts under the general sales tax, partly off-set by the absence of provision for special remissions of land revenue next year and the larger receipts from electricity schemes. The estimate of expenditure in the next year is less than for the current year by about Rs. 81 lakhs. The reduction of Rs. 71 lakhs occurring under 'Irrigation' is only apparent. The provision for Tank Restoration Schemes and other Grow More Food Irrigation Schemes which appeared in the Revenue Account in the current year's budget has been included in the

* Printed as Appendix I on page 193 (infra).

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Capital Account for next year, treating the individual items as part of a single comprehensive scheme. Large decreases occur also under 'Agriculture' (Rs. — 52 lakhs), Stationery and Printing (Rs. — 21 lakhs), Miscellaneous (Rs. — 20 lakhs) and Civil Works (Rs. — 19 lakhs). Against the above decreases large increases occur under 'Education' (Rs. + 54 lakhs), and Industries and Supplies (Rs. + 50 lakhs). I shall not trouble the House with detailed reasons for these variations which will be found explained under the relevant demands in the Finance Secretary's Memorandum.

"The total net cost in 1950-51 of the new ^{New} schemes which have been included in the Budget is Rs. 137 lakhs debitable to the Revenue Account and Rs. 190 lakhs debitable to the Capital and Debt Accounts, while schemes costing Rs. 13 lakhs will be financed from the Village Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift Fund. The ultimate cost of all the schemes is Rs. 39 lakhs recurring and Rs. 767 lakhs non-recurring. I have already mentioned some of these schemes and a full list is given in Appendix I to the Budget Memorandum for 1950-51.

"The provision for new schemes made in the Capital Account is Rs. 133 lakhs made up of Rs. 71 lakhs for the Irrigation Department, Rs. 20 lakhs for the purchase of additional shares in the Fertilizers and Chemicals (Travancore), Limited, and Rs. 42 lakhs for buildings. The provision for buildings consists of Rs. 15 lakhs for the Police Department, Rs. 14 lakhs for the Education Department, Rs. 10 lakhs for the Medical, Public Health, and Agricultural Departments and Rs. 3 lakhs for quarters for Government servants. In the Debt Account, a provision of Rs. 57 lakhs is made mainly for the grant of loans to local bodies for various purposes.

"The net result is a small deficit in the Revenue Account of Rs. 36 lakhs in the Budget for 1950-51. ^{Revenue} ^{Deficit,} ^{1950-51.} Considering the substantial provision made for new schemes and the absence of the Post-war Reconstruction grant from the Government of India, this deficit cannot be regarded as of any consequence. In fact, the deficit is about the same as the estimated excess of expenditure over revenue in respect of the merged areas of Pudukkottai, Banganapalle and Sandur. If any compensation is received from the Government

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of India in respect of these areas, the deficit will be practically wiped out. It is, therefore, proposed to leave the deficit uncovered for the present.

Capital expenditure. "The capital expenditure incurred since 1945-6 has been as follows:—

	RS.
	CRORES.
1945-6	1
1946-7	2
1947-8	6
1948-9	8.5

The total amount spent during the last three years is Rs. 16½ crores, including Rs. 10 crores on electricity schemes, Rs. 4.5 crores on irrigation works and Rs. 1 crore on industrial development. The estimated expenditure in 1949-50 is Rs. 12 crores excluding the transactions under State Trading Schemes. The provision made in the budget for next year is Rs. 15.5 crores. The increase over the revised estimate is mainly due to the provision for advance compensation to zamindars and better progress expected on large projects such as the Lower Bhavani, Tungabhadra and Machkund schemes. The transactions on account of State Trading Schemes that will be booked in the year's accounts are not expected to result in any large debit or credit. Details of capital expenditure will be found in an appendix ^a to the printed copy of my speech.

Loans and Advances by the Madras Government, 1950-51.

"Under 'Loans and Advances by the Madras Government,' it is expected that there will be a net disbursement of nearly Rs. 105 lakhs in 1950-51 against a net disbursement of Rs. 153 lakhs in the current year. The Government have guaranteed an overdraft up to Rs. 3 crores with the Imperial Bank on behalf of the Madras Provincial Co-operative Bank, and a loan of Rs. 190 lakhs given directly by the Government is also now outstanding. It is expected that this outstanding loan will be recovered during the course of the next year and that there will be no need for a fresh loan to the Bank. The gross amount of loans provided in the Budget for 1950-51 (Rs. 516 lakhs) includes Rs. 35 lakhs for short-term advances to the Madras Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank, Rs. 152 lakhs for well subsidy loans, and Rs. 90 lakhs further advances to cultivators. A sum of Rs. 35 lakhs has been provided for loans under

^a Printed as Appendix II on page 204 infra.

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the State-Aid to Industries Act. A provision of Rs. 29 lakhs has been made for new loans to local bodies, including nearly Rs. 16 lakhs to the Corporation of Madras for construction of roads, markets, water-supply, drainage and other public health schemes. The loans include also Rs. 9 lakhs to the Madras City Improvement Trust for housing schemes, Rs. 100 lakhs for building societies and Rs. 20 lakhs for housing societies in rural areas to which I have already drawn attention.

"As usual, no credit is taken in the budget for ^{New loans.} the proceeds of loans that may be raised in the open market or taken from the Government of India in 1950-51 to finance capital outlay and loans and advances to local bodies, etc. The withdrawal from the invested cash balances which is now shown in the budget will be reduced by the amount of any new loans raised. The total net outlay relating to capital heads and loans provided in the budget is Rs. 16.5 crores, and the Government trust that they will have the co-operation of the enlightened public of this Presidency to their loan programme.

"The year 1950-51 is expected to start with a ^{Opening and Closing Balance, 1950-51.} balance of Rs. 37.99 crores including cash and securities in the Revenue Reserve Fund. It is estimated to close with a cash balance of Rs. 58 lakhs and securities worth Rs. 23.52 crores, without allowing for any new loans that may be raised. In addition, Government will hold separately securities belonging to the Sinking Fund Investment Account, Famine Relief Fund and the Electricity Depreciation and Special Reserve Funds of the purchase value of Rs. 5.69 crores. Full details of the position relating to these and other Special Funds will be found in Appendices III to VII of the Budget Memorandum, 1950-51.

"Appendix II to the Budget Memorandum 1950-51 gives a detailed statement of the Government's liabilities and of their assets of certain kinds. The liabilities on the 31st March 1951 are estimated at Rs. 104 crores and assets at Rs. 121 crores. The excess of the assets over liabilities is thus Rs. 17 crores.

"Sir, I have now come to the end of my speech. The budget that I have presented contains no surprises, nor does it hold any hope of immediate relief from existing taxation; but it will be some consolation to many people that the Government do not propose to resort to additional taxation as they were compelled

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to last year. (Hon. Members: Oh!) It is no doubt true that the figures I have given regarding the growth of expenditure on the various departments of the Government reflect to some extent the general increase in price levels and that the increase in well-being and prosperity of the people has not been in proportion to the increase in Government expenditure. But no impartial critic will deny that appreciable progress in many directions has been made during the brief period of four years the popular Government have been in charge of the administration. We have still a long way to go before our goal of education for all and a reasonable standard of living for every one is achieved. There is, however, no short-cut to this goal, and hard and sustained work by all sections of the community and fullest co-operation among them will be necessary before we can repair the ravages caused by the last war. To keep the existing inflationary tendencies in check, it is necessary that we should maintain budgetary equilibrium as far as possible and it is a tribute to the essential soundness of the finances of this State that without violence to this principle and with a very much reduced scale of assistance from the Centre, it has been possible to provide for some expansion of developmental activities, particularly in the important spheres of education, medical relief, water-supply and improvement of communications. It is often said that we could have done very much more if this Government had not pursued policies such as Prohibition and the encouragement of khadi. But such criticisms are pointless."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Yes; because you say that."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Because these measures are really articles of faith with the present Government and they contribute as much, if not more, to the well-being of the people as other lines of development. I, therefore, hope that all Members of this House will help the Government by constructive criticism only (Laughter) appreciating the limitations within which the Government have to function and their achievements, without unduly magnifying the things that still remain to be done."

"I take this opportunity of thanking Sri B. Rama Rau, Governor of the Reserve Bank and his Deputies for the full assistance they gave us in the matter of Treasury Bills and other matters whenever we sought their advice and help."

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"This is the first year of complete Prohibition in the whole State and it has created its own problems in the Finance Department. The ways and means position becomes very anxious at times and a very vigilant eye has to be kept on it, with a fairly accurate estimate week after week. The non-availability of the anticipated loan of six crores of rupees from the Government of India added to our difficulties considerably. I cannot allow the speech to be concluded before congratulating and sincerely thanking Mr. T. N. S. Raghavan and his able Assistants for the very able and valuable work they have done during this year. I certainly express my joy for the able way in which they have managed the very difficult situations."

"I shall now conclude with an earnest prayer that it might be given to everyone of us to follow the precept in the *Tirukkural*—'Tread humbly but resolutely, unmindful of pain, the path of common good'—, (cheers) so that our infant Republic may soon grow into a potent force for peace and harmony among the nations of the World!" (Applause.)

Jai Bharat!

MR. SPEAKER:—"I adjourn the House till 11 o'clock on Wednesday, the 1st March 1950."

The House adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on the 1st March 1950.

VI.—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE.

G.O. No. 105, L.A., dated 12th January 1950, issuing instructions regarding the conduct of elections to the Perambalur (Tiruchirappalli) Panchayat Board.

APPENDIX I.
Revenue and Expenditure on Revenue Account of the Madras State from 1945-6 to 1950-51.
[Vide page 192.]

A. REVENUE.

Major heads of revenue.	(1)	1945-6.	1946-7.	1947-8.	1948-9.	1949-50 (Revised Estimate).	1950-51 (Budget Estimate).
		RS. LAKHS.	(3) RS. LAKHS.	(4) RS. LAKHS.	(5) RS. LAKHS.	(6) RS. LAKHS.	(7) RS. LAKHS.
Taxes on income other than Corporation tax		4,31.25	4,48.05	5,35.32	8,42.22	8,20.00	8,20.00
Land Revenue—							
Gross receipts including portion due to Irrigation ..		7,97.33	8,53.37	8,08.42	7,08.79	7,08.62	8,68.48
Excise		16,79.50	14,67.99	10,69.18	3,66.54	46.42	32.09
Stamps		3,74.20	4,37.74	3,35.92	4,05.57	4,26.32	4,26.30
Forest		1,43.24	1,61.39	1,82.81	1,69.57	1,74.70	1,75.00
Registration		69.83	75.96	78.90	86.55	89.36	89.88
Receipts under Motor Vehicles Acts		97.96	1,31.11	1,66.64	1,97.45	2,75.00	2,95.00
Other taxes and duties—							
General sales tax		5,82.70	6,95.70	8,31.26	13,03.01	15,51.50	15,00.00
Other items		1,45.33	1,49.29	1,98.52	2,29.32	2,78.29	2,79.02
Total		7,28.03	8,44.99	10,29.78	15,32.33	18,29.79	17,79.02
Irrigation—							
Direct receipts		11.73	12.82	11.88	12.06	11.76	13.13
Deduct—Working expenses		70.00	79.38	90.24	1,03.44	1,21.59	1,15.14
Net receipts		58.27	66.56	78.36	91.38	1,09.83	1,02.01

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	2.80	3.02	2.80	3.09	2.32	2.34
Irrigation—						
Direct receipts	95.00	1,24.43	79.96	93.72	95.01	93.32
Interest	53.75	48.92	72.51	73.12	78.18	80.04
Administration of Justice	15.76	13.93	13.21	15.99	20.48	16.86
Jails and Convict Settlements	18.93	15.66	13.79	19.51	21.53	16.93
Police			47.08			
Ports and Pilots	15.41	27.58	32.63	30.29	29.06	35.00
Education	18.15	17.73	20.35	23.33	20.83	20.72
Medical	6.63	5.95	5.49	7.79	7.61	6.38
Public Health	20.73	29.98	22.50	23.86	65.81	92.96
Agriculture	3.34	3.62	2.73	3.50	4.17	4.72
Veterinary	7.60	7.68	8.89	12.28	17.59	15.75
Co-operation	59.17	60.96	72.49	75.81	93.93	1,32.83
Industries	11.02	15.09	17.14	20.68	23.24	21.04
Miscellaneous departments	48.46	66.30	1,11.27	86.34	81.24	94.49
Civil Works	1,17.73	1,25.14	1,83.89	2,71.22	3,16.54	3,63.53
Receipts from Electricity Schemes (Gross)	63.88	72.24	1,21.58	1,86.10	1,91.84	2,05.45
Deduct—Working Expenses						
Net receipts	53.85	52.90	62.31	85.12	1,24.70	1,58.08
Receipts in aid of superannuation	6.03	6.46	7.39	4.80	3.68	3.60
Stationery and Printing	12.92	13.02	13.75	13.44	14.67	13.61
Miscellaneous—						
Gross Receipts from Bus Service (a)	41.34	87.44	23.35	95.87		
Other items	41.34	87.44	93.41	92.41	1,00.35	98.38
Total	41.34	87.44	1,16.76	1,88.28	1,00.35	98.38

A. REVENUE—cont.

Major heads of revenue.	1945-6.	1946-7.	1947-8.	1948-9.	1949-50 (Revised Estimate).	1950-51 (Budget Estimate).
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Receipts from Road Transport Schemes—Gross Receipts (b)	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.
Working expenses (b)	..	..	..	..	— 87.20	— 87.14
Net receipts	..	..	..	..	4.44	5.07
Miscellaneous adjustments between Union and States Governments.	0.13	0.13	0.10	0.21	0.21	0.21
Extraordinary Receipts	..	2,36.47	2,98.05	2,79.25	5,31.94	2,24.56
Transfer from Revenue Reserve Fund	..	5,01.00	..	5.00	..	..
Civil Defence	..	44.62	7.22	0.47	0.43	..
Grand total	47,98.89	56,99.53	50,71.10	53,33.52	56,91.30	56,21.25

(a) The receipts are shown under "Receipts from Road Transport Schemes" from 1949-50.

(b) Prior to 1949-50, the receipts were included under the revenue head "Miscellaneous" and the Working Expenses were shown under the expenditure head "Miscellaneous."

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B. EXPENDITURE ON REVENUE ACCOUNT.

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Major heads of expenditure.	1945-6.	1946-7.	1947-8.	1948-9.	1949-50 (Revised Estimate).	1950-51 (Budget Estimate).
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Land Revenue	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.
Excise	26.01	27.30	28.98	37.45	42.11	56.53
Stamps	51.59	53.09	59.44	69.04	79.15	69.25
Forest	13.74	13.33	21.04	21.16	20.99	21.02
Registration	77.00	80.35	86.29	79.10	83.40	86.23
Charges on account of Motor Vehicles Acts	38.56	43.74	48.62	51.86	51.38	53.83
Other Taxes and Duties	68.19	89.66	96.47	1,01.67	96.26	97.27
Interest on works for which capital accounts are kept.	48.41	68.72	87.03	1,19.47	1,38.03	1,38.94
Irrigation—Interest on works for which capital accounts are kept.	89.45	91.18	94.65	1,04.15	1,16.00	1,34.00
Irrigation—Other revenue expenditure financed from ordinary revenues.	77.54	93.81	1,09.29	1,43.57	1,95.36	1,27.66
Construction of irrigation, etc., works	6.11	0.63	2.59	4.07	9.74	6.12
Interest on debt and other obligations	65.40	78.52	81.96	1,00.04	1,10.34	1,10.67
Deduct—Interest transferred to Commercial Departments.	—1,26.45	—1,30.92	—1,46.78	—1,73.58	—2,12.88	—2,62.35
Net amount met out of ordinary revenues	— 61.05	— 52.40	— 64.82	— 73.54	— 1,02.04	— 1,51.68
Appropriation for reduction or avoidance of debt	55.90	57.00	1,42.78	69.68	75.50	75.68
General administration	4,27.24	6,14.11	5,60.39	5,82.05	6,89.41	6,86.77
Administration of Justice	1,28.80	1,42.42	1,45.64	1,50.03	1,53.07	1,57.13
Jails and convicts settlements	61.50	65.78	79.63	1,10.22	1,12.20	1,12.53
Police	2,98.03	4,05.71	4,64.81	6,51.97	6,27.42	6,29.22
Ports and Pilotage	5.00	4.56	..	0.01	..	..
Scientific Departments	1.53	1.21	1.37	1.52	1.60	1.47
Education	4,59.72	5,90.27	7,03.70	8,85.93	9,41.61	9,95.68
Medical	1,80.00	2,15.98	2,38.49	2,76.54	2,79.54	2,83.57
Public Health	54.48	87.37	1,90.51	90.54	1,06.56	97.67
Agriculture	74.06	1,05.70	1,16.93	1,26.74	2,40.89	1,87.99
Veterinary	23.64	26.95	31.81	40.58	47.36	47.15

APPENDIX

B. EXPENDITURE ON REVENUE ACCOUNT—cont.

Major heads of expenditure.	1945-6.	1946-7.	1947-8.	1948-9.	1949-50 (Revised Estimate).	1950-51 (Budget Estimate).
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
Co-operation	30.93	44.33	42.69	53.41	78.77	79.16
Industries	72.49	97.78	1,12.75	1,20.30	1,57.14	2,07.76
Capital outlay on Industrial developments	22.10	..	.02	0.06	0.92	..
Miscellaneous Departments	71.93	87.49	1,19.81	1,15.55	1,34.43	1,35.95
Civil works	2,81.65	3,91.30	4,64.01	5,88.84	7,40.16	7,21.76
Interest on capital outlay on Electricity Schemes	35.96	39.45	49.94	66.92	89.94	1,20.28
Other revenue expenditure connected with Electricity Schemes.	1.13	2.32	2.91	0.11	— 0.86	— 4.38
Famine	6.32	20.39	3.80	4.75	23.77	10.00
Territorial and Political Pensions	..	..	..	..	..	5.42
Superannuation allowances and pensions	1,38.19	1,42.97	1,57.65	1,56.36	1,62.51	1,64.51
Commutation of pensions	3.59	2.68	1.83	4.37	4.80	5.70
Stationery and Printing	43.07	51.66	49.42	71.98	93.53	72.51
Miscellaneous—						
Expenditure on Bus service	..	..	12.44	90.31	..	..
Other items	1,52.66 (c)	5,21.98	1,06.86	1,33.24	39.48	19.31
Extraordinary charges—						
Not outlay on State Trading Schemes transferred to the Revenue Account.	— 1,60.35	12,19.51	— 16.04	2,03.63	..	..

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Other items	2,15.89	1,84.54	78.61	1,07.23	1,06.57
Total	14,35.40	1,98.50	2,82.24	1,07.23	1,06.57
Transfer to Revenue Reserve Fund	17,31.00	5,10.00	..	..	..
Civil Defence	1,62.64	20.29	1.17	0.81	..
Grand total	56,98.89	50,68.56	53,33.42	56,38.17	55,57.23
Final Revenue Surplus (+) or Deficit (—)	+ 0.15	+ 2.54	+ 0.10	+ 53.13	— 25.98

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(c) Includes Rs. 100 lakhs representing contribution to the Rural Water-Supply Fund.

(b) Includes Rs. 10 lakhs representing contribution to the Rural Water-Supply Fund.

(c) Includes Rs. 400 lakhs representing contribution to the Village Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift Fund.

* Working Expenses of the Madras City Bus Service are taken in deduction of the receipts from 1949-50.

APPENDIX

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APPENDIX II.

[Vide page 194 supra.]

Details of Capital Expenditure.

(See paragraph 42)

NOTE.—In the case of works or systems common to Andhra districts and other districts, they are shown either under Andhra districts or other districts, without any allocation.

A. IRRIGATION, NAVIGATION, ETC., WORKS.

I. ANDHRA DISTRICTS.

Works.	Expenditure to the end of 1948-49 including amounts met from the Revenue Account.†	Expenditure debited to capital account only.	
		Revised Estimate, 1949-50.	Budget Estimate, 1950-51.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	RS.	RS.	RS.
	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
Godavari delta system	2,18.12	2.97	3.19
Krishna delta system	3,06.20	30.96	29.33
Pennar river canal system	60.55	..	..
Polavaram Island Project	16.78	..	..
Kurnool-Cuddapah canal	2,35.31	..	..
Muniyuru system	6.04	..	..
Nagavalli river system	17.68	..	..
Siddapur tank	7.91	..	..
Mopad reservoir	23.39	..	..
Thippayapalem Project	5.72	..	..
Basavannah channel	5.83	..	..
Tungabhadra Project	3,59.91	2,34.02	2,87.24
Rallapad Project	..	6.72	6.72
Other minor systems or works	31.51	7.36	10.66
Total	12,94.95	2,82.03	3,37.14

II. OTHER DISTRICTS.

Cauvery delta system	91.39	91	45
Srivaikuntam anicut	16.68	..	..
Chembarambakkam tank	6.51	..	..
Shatlatope anicut system	10.30	..	..
Cheyar anicut system	9.64	..	..
Periyar system	1,04.65	51	10
Lower Coleroon anicut system	29.13	..	..
Cauvery-Mettur Project	6,49.28	2.12	1.06
Kattalai scheme	40.55	..	..
Ponnar scheme	..	6.05	5.24
Mettur canals scheme	..	3.54	40.93

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A. IRRIGATION, NAVIGATION, ETC., WORKS—cont.

II. OTHER DISTRICTS—cont.

Works.	Expenditure to the end of 1948-49 including amounts met from the Revenue Account.†	Expenditure debited to capital account only.	
		Revised Estimate, 1949-50.	Budget Estimate, 1950-51.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	RS.	RS.	RS.
	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
Malampuzha Project	..	6.85	25.85
Madras Water-supply and Irrigation system.	16.29	..	..
Pelandurai anicut system	6.43	..	..
Palar anicut system	23.72	..	..
Toludur Project	23.71	..	..
Lower Bhavani Project	33.75	82.57	1,02.67
Other small schemes	29.62	5.17	6.20
Total II	10,91.68	1,07.72	1,82.60
Grand total—Irrigation, Navigation, etc., works excluding Buckingham canal.	23,86.63	(a) 3,89.75	(a) 5,19.74

† The Accountant-General has not yet finalized the figures for 1948-9 under individual systems. These figures furnished by him in December 1949 are therefore liable to some modification later.

(a) Excludes lump-sum provision and other expenditure not allocated by systems in the estimates.

B. CAPITAL OUTLAY ON ELECTRICITY SCHEMES.

I. ANDHRA DISTRICTS.

	Expenditure to the end of 1948-49.	Revised Estimate, 1949-50.	Budget Estimate, 1950-51.
	(1)	(2)	(3)
	RS.	RS.	RS.
	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
Machkund Hydro-Electric scheme	39.06	99.01	1,61.25
Ceded Districts scheme	24.23	22.98	16.02
Visakhapatnam Thermal scheme	42.08	15.51	10.06
Vijayavada Thermal scheme	68.06	12.82	7.37
Kakinada Thermal scheme	9.11	5.21	6.66
Vijayavada-Bajahmundry-Samaikot extension.	66.80	45.88	20.07
Nellore Thermal scheme	28.06	10.92	8.48
Other minor schemes	8.15	11.40	28.87
Total	2,55.50	2,23.73	2,52.78

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B. CAPITAL OUTLAY ON ELECTRICITY SCHEMES—*cont.*

II. OTHER DISTRICTS.

	Expenditure up to the end of 1948-49.	Revised Estimate, 1949-50.	Budget Estimate, 1950-51.
	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.
Pykara Hydro-Electric scheme	6,03.83	1,81.94	2,07.12
Mettur Hydro-Electric scheme	3,81.31	1,04.77	93.94
Papanasam Hydro-Electric scheme ..	2,96.99	48.44	45.69
Other small schemes	11.19	..	..
Total	12,93.32	3,38.15	3,46.75
Madras Thermal scheme	2,16.57	80.74	71.82
Grand total—Electricity schemes ..	17,95.39	6,42.62	6,78.35
<i>Deduct—Lump-sum out for probable savings.</i>	..	..	1,12.24
Net total	17,95.39	6,42.62	5,66.11

C. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

I. ANDHRA DISTRICTS.

Andhra Paper Mills	25.34	.78	.33
Ceramic Industry	0.02	2.74	7.22
Polytechnics (Buildings)	..	3.00	17.55
Total	25.36	6.52	25.10

II. OTHER DISTRICTS.

Cinehona plantations	82.43	25.82	22.74
Kerala Soap Institute, Industrial Engineering Workshop, Madras Vegetable Ghee Factory, etc.	5.08	10.88	4.18
Polytechnics (Buildings)	..	3.67	23.42
Total	87.49	40.37	50.34
Shares in Fertilizers and Chemicals, Ltd., Travancore.	40.00	..	20.00
Shares in Industrial Investment Corporation.	51.00	..	51.00
Shares in Radio and Electricals, Ltd., Madras.	2.00	..	..
Grand Total—Industrial Development ..	2,05.85	(b) 46.89	(b) 1,46.44

(b) The figures exclude Rs. 7.92 lakhs in the Revised Estimate, 1949-50 and Rs. 10.99 lakhs in the Budget Estimate, 1950-51 which are not allocable by areas (Tools and Plant and Chemical testing and analytical laboratory).

D. CAPITAL OUTLAY ON ROAD TRANSPORT SCHEMES.

Madras City Bus Service	60.08	8.05	4.08
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E. CAPITAL OUTLAY ON CIVIL WORKS.

	To the end of 1948-9.	Revised Estimate, 1949-50.	Budget Estimate, 1950-51.
	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.
All districts	2,01.28	75.82	1,33.27

NOTE.—Figures for individual works have not been compiled. The important works now under construction will be found on pages 82 to 89 of the Detailed Civil Works Budget for 1950-51.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, the 1st March 1950.

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

I.—SWEARING-IN OF MEMBERS.

The following Members were sworn in:—

Sri R. Shanmuga Rajeswara Sethupathi, Raja of Ramnad.

„ Meka Venkataramiah Appa Rao Bahadur, Zamindar of Mirzapuram.

„ A. S. Sahajananda.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Increased water-supply to the standing crops in the Tambraparni area.

* 16-A Q.—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any representations recently from the public and the officials of Tirunelveli district that the standing crops in 82,000 acres in the Tambraparni area will not be harvested if water is not supplied from Papanasam reservoir at an increased rate of 550 cusecs a day for 45 days; and

(b) if so, what the increased rate per day and the period for which water will be supplied are?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“(a) Yes. Representations were received from the Collector of Tirunelveli, the ryots' association and the hon. Member himself.

“(b) A supply of 500 cusecs a day for a period of three weeks was ordered in the first instance and this increased supply was commenced on 29th January 1950. After about a week, the position was reviewed and an increased supply of 950 cusecs a day for a period of ten days was ordered. This was given effect to from 9th February 1950. Every effort will be made to give the necessary supply to save the standing crops.”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I know, Sir, whether there were any recent rains in the district and, if so, what the present position of the crops is?”

[1st March 1950]

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"There were reports that there were some rains in that area also and hon. Members would have seen reports in the Press. The Collector of Tirunelveli has also issued a statement that all the standing crops are being saved."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether the supply of water is being continued or stopped now?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I think it has been stopped, Sir."

Indian Labour in Ceylon.

* 11 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA (on behalf of Sri B. S. Murthi): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether this Government have been informed by the Government of India as to the nature of the talks that took place between the Prime Minister of India and the Government of Ceylon concerning the Indian Labour in Ceylon and the results thereof?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"The answer is in the negative."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"May I know, Sir, whether, in view of the great importance of this question to the people of this Province, the Government will be pleased to tell us about the latest situation after the talks that our Indian High Commissioner had with the authorities at Delhi?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member means the situation in Ceylon. It is a Central subject and the question can be put only in the Central Legislature."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED, KHAN:—"May I submit, Sir, for your consideration that that question was discussed in this House and the hon. Gentleman wants information as to what this Government have done so far as that matter is concerned?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member wants to know about the position of the Indians in Ceylon. I will ask the hon. Member to repeat the question."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"In view of the importance of the matter to the people of this Province and in view of the resolution passed by this House, may I know, Sir, whether the Government will be pleased to make a statement on how the position stands at present?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Regarding the position of Indians in Ceylon, the question has to be addressed to the Government of India."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I know, Sir, what steps the Government have taken with regard to the resolution passed in this House and whether the Government waited on

[1st March 1950]

a deputation on the Prime Minister of India or whether the Hon. Minister himself has represented the matter with regard to the resolution?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"We have explained the position to the Government of India and I can assure the hon. Members that the Government of India are fully seized of the matter and are doing their best in the matter."

JANAB P. P. HASSAN KOYA:—"May I know, Sir, whether this Government have impressed on the Government of India that the immediate anxiety of the labour in Ceylon is to get the subsistence allowance transferred to India forthwith before the main questions are resolved between the Government of India and Ceylon?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I would like to have notice, Sir: That question is not before the Government."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the fact that most of the Indian labour in Ceylon is from Madras State, will the Government of Madras be pleased to depute one of the Ministers to go to the Central Government and see that the problem is settled?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I do not think it is necessary, Sir."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"In view of the importance of this question to South India, may I know, Sir, whether this Government asked the India Government and secured the report on the talks and, if so, whether the Government are prepared to place it on the table of the House?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"There were no talks on the question during the visit of the Prime Minister and, therefore, we have not received any report from the Government of India."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"Sir, may I know from the Hon. Minister whether, in view of the reply given by the Government of India, that this matter of Indians in Ceylon will be taken up again as this was not discussed in the Commonwealth Conference in Ceylon, the Government will consider the desirability of sending a communication to the Prime Minister to discuss this matter?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I do not think, Sir, it is again necessary to remind the Government of India about this matter."

Land revenue remissions.

* 12 Q.—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have recently received any representation from the ryots of the dry area of Tiruturaipundi taluk regarding land revenue remissions;

[1st March 1950]

- (b) if so, the reasons for their request;
 (c) whether the Government have received any report from the District Collector in this connexion;
 (d) if so, what that report is; and
 (e) what action the Government have taken on the subject?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“(a) Yes.

“(b) Failure of the monsoon for the last three years and the consequent failure of crops.

“(c) to (e) Yes. The Collector of Tanjore has reported that it may be necessary to grant dry remission in the Vedaranyam sub-taluk of Tiruturaipundi taluk and that he is examining the question whether such remission is called for. The Collector's further report in the matter is awaited.”

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government have received a request from the ryots to treat the area as a famine-affected area and do famine relief work as there was no rain during the last three years and if so, what is the decision of the Government in the matter?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“The Collector of the district is watching the situation and if any steps are necessary to be taken under the provisions of the Famine Code, they will be taken.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government are prepared to give remission for cyclone-affected areas in Andhra?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“That is a different question. Let the hon. Member put a separate question.”

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister, may I ask, Sir, whether the Collector is looking at the skies to see whether rains are coming or not?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Watching for the rain is perhaps a part of the work to be done by the Collector because he has to report about the rains received in the district.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government have given relief to the people in this area and whether famine work has been started?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I only like to draw the attention of the hon. Member to the provisions of the Famine Code.”

SRI M. KUMARAN:—“May I know, Sir, whether in view of the fact that this failure of crops has been a phenomenon more or less affecting the whole Province, the Government have taken steps to call for reports from all the Collectors of the districts in the Province so as to post themselves with sufficient data for effecting equitable distribution of the reserve of 70 lakhs for remission of land revenue throughout the Province?”

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MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member may put a separate question.”

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government have made any arrangements for future cultivation, for the supply of seeds and meeting cultivation charges?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I should like to have notice of this, Sir.”

Opening of a sub-treasury at Vedaranyam.

* 13 Q.—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state with reference to question No. 627 on the subject, answered on 25th January 1949—

(a) whether the Government have examined the representation made by the public to open a sub-treasury at Vedaranyam; and

(b) if so, what the result is?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“(a) & (b) The Government have carefully examined the representation made by the public to open a sub-treasury at Vedaranyam in the Tanjore district and have considered it unnecessary to do so.”

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—“May I know, Sir, what was the necessity that arose to remove the treasury which was existing there for over a century?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I find from the file with me that there was a sub-treasury maintained by the Central Government. That has been removed.”

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—“In view of the open burglaries now prevalent in Tanjore district, will the Government consider the possibility of opening as many sub-treasuries as possible to save public money?” (Laughter.)

Starting of a Co-operative College in the State.

* 14 Q.—JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN (on behalf of Janab S. Muhammad Ismail): Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to start a Co-operative College at any place in the Province to provide for Co-operative training on the lines of the Manchester Co-operative College?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—“There is at present no proposal to start a College of Co-operation in the State. The proposal to convert the Central Co-operative Institute into a College of Co-operation was considered by Government and it was finally decided that the purpose in view could be achieved by the institution of a B.Com. (Hons.) course with

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Co-operation as a special subject in the Colleges in the City in the first instance. The Loyola and Pachiappas Colleges have instituted the course from the academic year 1948-49. The Government have sanctioned the appointment of a Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies during 1949-50 to give lectures on Co-operation to the students admitted to the B.Com. (Hons.) in the two colleges. It is also proposed to sanction two Deputy Registrars as a permanent measure to give the lectures from 1950-51 onwards."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, how many students were admitted so far."

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" About 30 students."

JANAB N. MUHAMMED ANWAR:—" As co-operation is conspicuous by its absence in this Province, will the Hon. Minister take early steps for the institution of a College of Co-operation in our Province? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" The purpose will be served by the present arrangements. That is enough."

11-15 a.m. JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" In view of the importance of co-operation not only for this Province but for the whole of our country, will this Government consider the matter seriously and also consult the officials and the non-official co-operators in this Province with regard to the starting of a college in our Province? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" It is only after consultation with the Vice-Chancellor, the Co-operative Department and others that this method has been adopted. Let us try this experiment for some time and watch its results. If they are favourable, very good. Then there would not be any necessity for starting a separate college."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Arising from the answer of the Hon. Minister, may I ask whether the same provision for teaching Co-operation will be made in other colleges which are affiliated to the University for the B.Com. course? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" Wherever it is necessary, it is open to them to write to the Government and the matter will be considered."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I ask whether the limited admission of 30 students to which the Hon. Minister referred, is open to the students coming from the Andhra University area also? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" It is open to all the students in the State."

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Failure of crops in the Nagapattinam and Arantangi taluks.

* 15 Q.—SRI M. D. THYAGARAJA PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been failure of crops in the Nagapattinam and Arantangi taluks and in the Vedaranyam firka of Tiruturaipundi taluk, Tanjore district, owing to the failure of monsoon;

(b) whether there has been any representation for making a remission of kist; and

(c) if so, what action the Government have taken in that respect?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (a) There has been a partial failure of the north-east monsoon in the district as a whole.

" (b) A representation has been received from the Panchayat Board, Vedaranyam, and from certain ryots of the area for the grant of remission in Vedaranyam and from the District Board, Tanjore, for the grant of remission in the Arantangi area.

" (c) The Collector of Tanjore has reported that it may be necessary to grant dry remission in the Vedaranyam area and that he is considering the question. Orders sanctioning remission of land revenue will be issued after the final report from the Collector is received."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—" In view of the fact that several questions of a similar nature have been coming before the House, will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to lay a statement on the table of the House showing the action the Government have taken with regard to the districts where the rains have failed? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" As I have already stated, the Government have been receiving information from all the affected districts every week. There is a Demand coming under the head of Famine. I would suggest to the hon. Member to take up the question then and when I reply to the debate, I would certainly give all the details."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" As this question relates to Tanjore district, may I know whether Tanjore district comes in the famine areas of this Province? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" There is no question of any district coming in the famine area of this Province. It is all due to bad seasonal conditions in a particular year."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" Have the Government given any block grants for remission in Tanjore district, so that the Collector may work out the details and give the remission? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" There is no need for it. Whatever money is wanted, will be furnished."

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JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"May I know the reasons for the failure of the rains?" (Laughter.)

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"May I know what is meant by dry remission?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Nothing more than what I have said. It means remission for dry lands."

Appointment of Muslims from the West Coast as Assistant Inspectors of Labour.

* 16 Q.—

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

JANAB MAHIN SCHAMNAD: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how many of the Assistant Inspectors of Labour selected for appointment a few months ago are Muslims;

(b) whether any Muslims were taken from the West Coast; and

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the negative, the reason for not selecting any Muslims from the West Coast?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (a) Thirteen.

" (b) No, Sir.

" (c) Selection for posts reserved to be filled by direct recruitment was made by the Madras Public Service Commission and those to be filled by transfer, by the Commissioner of Labour. Seven Muslims were selected by the Commission and six by the Commissioner of Labour. No Muslim from the West Coast was successful at either selection."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"On a point of order, Sir. I find that my seat has been changed by four or five places. I do not know whether it is promotion or depromotion. May I know, Sir, if some of us join together and wish to be seated separately similar facilities will be given to us also?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may refer to Rule 51. I may tell the hon. Member that what he has now raised is not a point of order, but a point of information."

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

III.—GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1950-51.

* JANAB P. P. HASSAN KOYA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, with very great respect to the Hon. the Finance Minister and even at friendship with him, I feel constrained to say that his idea of a provincial budget is that of a school-boy's arithmetical problem. Like a school boy, he adds, subtracts and multiplies and finds a deficit and then calls upon anybody, any Tom, Dick and Harry

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in any circumstances whom he thinks has got money, to pay and he takes credit for it. Last year he introduced certain taxation measures and on further consideration he gave them up. I should like to remind him that we, the Members of the Legislature, the people outside and important sections of the press told him even then that these taxation measures were unnecessary. We even went to the extent of saying that they were irresponsible and were not in the interests of the people of the province. Unfortunately, Sir, in all his taxation proposals, the Hon. the Finance Minister does not take into account the incidence of taxation, the consequences of taxation and all the other important principles of taxation.

"Sir, it is my regret that this presidency which has produced some of the most capable administrators and statesmen and a most important international personality should have an administration which, in the words of the great Prime Minister of India, is constituted of second-rate men. We have some greatest financial experts. The Congress Party, at least in the matter of finance, should not have stood on prestige, and they should have put the finance portfolio in the hands of a financial expert. When the taxation measures were brought up last time we vehemently protested against them and said that they would ruin the economic and financial position of the Province. The Finance Minister protested and said that he had no other alternative than that to cover the deficit in the budget. But on further consideration, the taxation measures were given up and I am happy to note that the expected deficit has not materialised.

"In his budget speech, the Finance Minister takes credit for having balanced the budget. May I remind him, Sir, that he has balanced his budget only at the cost of crores of people unbalancing their domestic budgets. The prices are very high and time and again it has been stated that the prices would go down and the poor man's burden would be reduced. But even during the last three months, the cost of living has gone up by 4 per cent. On the 1st of May last year, the Central Government's Finance Minister assured us that the prices would go down by 10 per cent. We were again assured on the 1st December that prices would go down. But they have not gone down to any appreciable level, but on many articles, they have gone up.

"Sir, the difficulty is this. In my humble opinion, this Government go at break-neck speed where they can go slow and they crawl at snail's pace where they should go fast. As examples of this haste, recklessness and irresponsibility, there are numerous legislative measures. I shall refer to certain legislative measures and executive actions taken by the Government. First of all, the former Ministry introduced in my district of Malabar a scheme for the distribution of food. It was said to be a poor man's scheme, a scheme which would wipe out the rich capitalists in the matter of distribution of foodgrains. It was the scheme of producer-consumer co-operative societies. Sir, everybody who

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had anything to do with the food administration and the administration of my district protested against the introduction of the producer-cum-consumer co-operative scheme. What is the result to-day? Mr. Kelappan, the ex-president of the Kerala Provincial Congress Committee, the biggest Congressman in Malabar who resigned only a month ago on account of certain differences with his colleagues, in an open statement at Ponnani said that the whole scheme had failed, that it had introduced blackmarketing and made the life of the people more difficult and that the earlier the Government abolished the scheme the better. We had often impressed on the Government that the whole scheme was rotten from beginning to end. But the Government would not listen. It was a pet scheme prepared by some of their men and they put it through. They would not see reason.

"Secondly, Sir, we spent some months in passing the Zamindari abolition legislation. As soon as this legislation was passed, it was understood that the Government of India informed this Government that they could not spare the money for giving effect to the legislation. The difficulties suffered in the zamin areas, both by the ryots and zamindars are now very great and even now no proper scheme for compensation and solving the zamindari issue has been put forward.

"Another legislation passed by this House was with regard to racing. It was said that racing was bad. Then the Government received a recommendation from the Government of India that stoppage of racing was against the interests of the Defence Department. The legislation was dropped. My point is that this Government have been careless in their measures and thoughtless in their actions. They cannot be said to have the interests of the province clearly at heart.

"Sir, the Hon. Finance Minister referred to the position of industries and referred to the handloom industry. During the last year, it has been in a very bad position. The handloom industry has suffered very seriously. By the innumerable contradictory measures adopted by the Government and by the step-motherly treatment given to it, the handloom industry is almost dying. There are certain other industries, which, by proper encouragement and support of the Government, would have improved vastly. One example of it is the plywood industry. It was a flourishing industry and it held out very great promise as an industry. But to-day the plywood manufacturers are finding it most difficult to sell their goods in the country. If this Government had taken up with the Government of India the question of the plywood industry in this Province, I believe, it would not have met the fate that it has to-day. The Minister says that they are here for the poor and all their measures are for helping the poor. He says that prohibition is the greatest benefit that has been conferred on the poor people of the presidency. Sir, I am a Muslim and belonging to this Party, I have always supported the Government in their prohibition policy. But I am not departing from the truth when I

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say that the most important cottage industry now is the manufacture of illicit liquor. (Hear, hear.) It is more important than any other industry, than even the handloom industry. It would have been proper if the Finance Minister had said that this was the most flourishing industry. As far as I know, in several parts of the country, every house is a place for the manufacture of illicit arrack. As far as I know, everybody who was drinking before drinks to-day and even those people who had not been drunkards before have now taken a fancy for the violation of the prohibition rules and they have also become drunkards. On account of the expense involved in prohibition, we are denied all sorts of amenities in this Province.

"The Advisers were hoarding up. It is said that the hoarder's son is a spendthrift, and that is the example that this Government have given us. The Advisers set the example of hoarding up money, even refusing to give amenities to the public and they gave us the assurance that as soon as a popular ministry came into power, they would use the eighty crores of rupees for public amenities. But the Finance Minister here says 'I am doing this, I am doing that' but all the same, his promises have never been fulfilled. The Finance Minister was referring to the great developments in the matter of education. All that has happened is that about 1,200 elementary schools have been started during the last three years, i.e., about 400 elementary schools have been added during each year since this Ministry came to power, and it is said that this is a big achievement in the educational development of this Province. 11-30 a.m.

"Again, apart from the routine hospital work, and the imaginary village dispensary where the absence of medicine is becoming more and more conspicuous every day. It is said that Rs. 18 lakhs, nine lakhs of rupees from the revenue account and nine lakhs of rupees from capital account—are to be spent on new schemes of public health. The Finance Minister was also referring to the impossibility of executing the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee. The Retrenchment Committee was working for a number of months and spent a large amount of public money and they advised the Government but the whole thing was thrust aside by saying that the Retrenchment Committee's recommendations could not be executed. What are the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee which cannot be put into execution and why? A blank statement like that by the Finance Minister is most disappointing.

"Coming now to my own pet problem of the sales tax, last year when the sales tax was raised from Re. 1 to Rs. 1-9-0, it was pointed out to the Hon. Finance Minister that this tax was being paid by the consumer, that this increase of tax was not only a violation of the fundamental principles of the sales tax but it would largely result in an increase in the cost of living. The one thing about the sales tax is that it must be quantitatively insignificant. But the Hon. Finance Minister has received much

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more than he expected; but I believe in due course there will be more and more evasion of the tax and the whole commercial tax system would be discredited. In this connection, I want to remind the Hon. Finance Minister of one solemn promise made by him on the floor of the Legislative Assembly that a sales tax tribunal would be appointed. The commercial community will not be satisfied and will not rest content unless and until a sales tax tribunal is established in this Province; the commercial community has completely lost its faith, in the sense of justice of the Board of Revenue and the Commercial Tax department for their unjust actions. I repeat, Sir, that only a non-official sales tax tribunal on the lines of the income-tax tribunal would give justice to the commercial community in this Province."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Is the income-tax tribunal a non-official tribunal?"

JANAB P. P. HASSAN KOYA:—"I said on the model of the income-tax tribunal. An independent tribunal on the lines of the income-tax tribunal will alone give justice to the people. I believe, Sir, the Finance Minister was wrong in saying that the sales tax is a *Kamadhenu*. Sir, the sales tax is an indirect tax, and the burden of the sales tax falls not on the rich people; to-day when prices are rising and the market is fluctuating, the entire tax is being transferred by the merchant to another and by him to a third party and so on to the consumer. I am glad that the constitution has provided that the sales tax cannot be imposed on exports, and the constitution has also provided that the President can eliminate or exclude certain items from the imposition of sales tax. I wish the day would come as early as possible when the Madras Government would be forced by the Centre to exclude certain necessary items from the sales tax. And whatever may be the advantages or disadvantages, I have absolutely no doubt in my mind that such a step will be welcomed not only by the commercial community but by the large masses of the people of this country."

"Talking about nation-building, the Hon. Finance Minister seems to think that his alone is the responsibility for the welfare of the poor; and yet nothing has been done for nation-building, except perhaps wasting some money on firka development and on prohibition. For example I have been looking into the books supplied to me to find out how much money has been spent on animal husbandry in this province. Sir, this is one important department of nation-building,—animal husbandry and cattle welfare; they produce protective foods, the cow's milk, the goat's milk and eggs. How much money is being spent on this animal husbandry? I find that 7 pies per man is spent in this province; whereas Re. 0-5-10, is spent per head in the agricultural department; again, the consumption of milk in this province is 6 ounces per head while in undivided Punjab and even in the present Punjab, the consumption per head is about 16 ounces."

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"As days pass on, the feeling is growing more and more in the minds of the people that the Government from top to bottom are becoming more and more inefficient, not only in provincial administration but also in district administration. With great respect to my Congress friends, I may say this is largely due to the interference by Congressmen in the district administration. I am sorry I have got to say that, but I believe the earlier my Congress friends realise it, the better. It is said that it is easy for a man in the mufassal to get anything done by just coming over to Madras. Another reason for this inefficiency is the frequent and unwanted tours made by the Ministers. I have been wondering how many hours these Ministers work in their offices in a month. I would request, with all respect to my friends on the Treasury Benches, that sooner they curtail their instinct to tour places very often the better, and I have known Ministers touring the same place at least half a dozen times in a year. I am sure if they stay in their offices at headquarters for longer days, they can turn out much greater work. An official friend of mine in the Coimbatore district told me once that much of his work consisted of going to the railway station frequently to see some Minister or other for about fifteen days in the month; that some Minister or other would be coming to the Coimbatore railway station or would be passing that way and the poor man had to go and see him. Another peculiarity is that police officers have also to accompany the Ministers; that means that their legitimate work in the districts, in the maintenance of law and order, is upset. I would therefore request the Hon. Ministers to do better work in their own offices."

"Then again I would seriously ask my friends not to believe in their jail-going certificate. If they believe that this certificate is going to stand by them for ever, I am afraid they are heading for a great catastrophe. Of course, my friend the Hon. Finance Minister will turn round and say 'all these sins of omission and commission of the Government are due to the Muslim League and their two-nation theory' and all that. That shows not only his lack of courtesy and lack of chivalry towards a helpless minority community in this country but it is an insult to the political intelligence of the crores of people in this country including Congressmen. I believe also that if things continue like this, if the hon. gentlemen occupying the Congress Benches do not improve, somebody will rise in this country and tell these gentlemen what Cromwell told the British Parliament. Some abler man, some more competent man in this House itself, perhaps, will rise and say to these friends what Cromwell told the Parliament—but let me make it sure that I am not saying it myself; I am only putting it for the benefit of the hon. gentlemen occupying the Treasury Benches, by repeating what Oliver Cromwell told the Long Parliament—'Gentleman, you have sat here too long for any good that you might have done; for God's sake, get up and go.'"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am going to fix a time-limit for the speeches. Half an hour will be allowed for the Leaders and twenty minutes for the others."

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* SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, personal regards apart, the least I can say is that the Budget presented by the Hon. Finance Minister is one of great disappointment. When the country wanted and was anxiously waiting for relief in respect of direct and indirect taxation, we are told that there cannot be any relief and that we must thank our stars for having no further additional taxation. The Hon. Finance Minister is himself aware that there is no possibility for further taxation, for reasons which he is fully aware of. There is no extra production, there is no constructive work in the country, and in the absence of that there is no possibility for further taxation in this State. The fountain of available savings has been completely exhausted, and hence in the present financial, economic and industrial set-up of this country it is pointless to say that further taxation is possible. The Hon. Finance Minister has to realize that the law of diminishing returns has already begun to work and unless and until the coat is cut according to the cloth available, there is every possibility that the kamadhenu which he has been talking about will give less and less returns from day to day. There was a very good opportunity for him to ask the different departments to cut and retrench their expenditure. What has happened is that during the course of the last four years, our expenditure has doubled, but nobody has been able to find out why and nobody has seriously taken into consideration the reason for such increase. You allow the expenditure to go up four or five times and then you say there will be retrenchment and that by 5 or 6 per cent. That is not the way in which the Ministry should think of retrenchment. Very recently, we had a retrenchment committee packed with people of their own choice, with nobody from the Opposition side or from the business circle. (At this stage the Deputy Speaker occupied the Chair.) Madam, their report which has been presented to the Ministry has not been published nor has it been put in the hands of Members of this House. I feel the time has come for the report to be published and placed before the House for its consideration so that it may know whether retrenchment is being undertaken on a big or a narrow scale. Whenever a suggestion is given by the Opposition in respect of retrenchment, it is being neglected; and when we say there is no elasticity in respect of excess taxation, we are told that we ought to thank our stars that there is no further taxation. Madam, I think they are all intoxicated with power and because of that, they do not hear the other side. It has been said by the Hon. Finance Minister in the last few lines of his speech that criticisms as regards Prohibition and Khadi are pointless as they are articles of faith with the present Government and according to them and the present Ministry they contribute to the well-being of the people. I have no quarrel over the faith of the Government, but I have every reason to quarrel with them when my own faith is being trampled on. And, under the present Constitution, I ask the Ministry, whether they would respect the faith of others. I would like to approach the subject from a different angle of vision and it is the economic one.

11-45
a.m.

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"During the course of the last four years we have lost a revenue of nearly 50 crores and if that amount had been utilised for the constructive and productive works of the country I am sure the Hon. Finance Minister would have plenty to spare for the industries and for providing for other nation building activities also. Imagine how much of the constructive, social and productive works would have been possible if these 50 crores had been spent on such works. To say that Prohibition has improved the lot of the masses—to say the least—amounts to keeping our eyes closed to realities. There are no statistics regarding this.

"The illicit distillation is a newly-born industry and is thriving so very well that it is considered to be one of the best cottage industries of the south. Instead of healthy toddy being given to the people, to-day people are drinking poison, more especially mythilated spirit mixed with gur which makes them blind. But, Madam, when the advice of the Hon. Pandit Nehru was thrown to the winds, we feel that it is no use talking from the point of view of faith but from the loss which this country is suffering from this kind of faith. We were told that it was a matter of pledge and it was a matter of faith and that they gave this pledge to the country when the Congress was elected at the last elections. I ask the Ministry and the members of the Congress to go to the polls on the plank of Prohibition and see what the result would be. I feel that what happened to Labour in the United Kingdom in the last British Elections is likely to happen to the Congress here also. Madam, on account of the loss of a large revenue of nearly 17 to 18 crores in the course of a year we find that the country and especially the trade is completely frustrated. Is this the enthusiasm of Independence which came to us after a struggle of nearly 20 or 30 years? Is this the result of the sacrifices of the Congress Party? Would not their enthusiasm be sustained by way of creating more power, more work and more industry? The trade of the country which has been the country's greatest asset has been completely frustrated during the last three years. Why is it? It is because we have been doing things which are taxing the resources of the masses. Here, Madam, it may be useful to mention what the Hon. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru recently stated, namely, that the contact with the masses has been completely lost and it is no wonder that under such conditions the country feels not only frustrated but completely depressed.

"Coming now to the sales tax, Madam, we had been told last year that a Bill would be introduced with a view to avoid harassment to the commercial community. But, as a business man what do I find? The harassments are progressing in geometrical progression and unlimited powers are given to commercial tax officers. They are given a target as to what should be procured in the course of the year and not what it should be according to the equity of each case. The consequence is,

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that the canons of equity are thrown to the winds and the judgments given are a great harassment to the community. May I ask the Hon. Finance Minister, whether he is aware that the sales tax is also levied on the sales tax? I would ask the Hon. Finance Minister to let this House have statistical figures in respect of the number of cases which have been heard by the Revenue Board and how many have been taxed and what is the collection in respect of each trade and such other information as any trade or community that want such information. We have been asking for such statistical information for a number of years but we have not been supplied with that information. Since the last three years we have been asking for an Appellate Tribunal and even last year we were promised it would be coming, but nothing happened so far. But, Madam, it is a trite economic truth that the percentage of expenditure on personal consumption to the gross national income has increased as the national income has decreased and *vice versa*. Under such conditions, to fashion the Budget seeking to raise the revenue in relation to the projected expenditure without looking to the national savings would be to adopt a process which would go against the principles of logic and economics. What happens is, when the Budget is framed after looking to all kinds of expenditure we would like to have, the Hon. Finance Minister gets the balance from different taxation. But, the real economic way of doing it would be, that he should tell the different Departments of the Ministry that such and such amount would be available for the department concerned and that each department should fashion Budget accordingly. But, the reverse is the process in this country, while the other countries are having the other process. Madam, the result of this is, the expenditure is first taken into account and then the taxes are increased because the Hon. Finance Minister has got to provide for those items of expenditure. Madam, coats have to be made and gorgeous ones too, to suit the convenience of the different departments, and the Hon. Finance Minister has not been able to say that such coats are not possible to make.

"May I draw the attention of the Hon. Finance Minister to the fact that the levy of a tax of half a per cent in the rupee at a single point on the sale of raw cotton has been working a hardship to the agriculturist. The country is aware—I hope the Hon. Finance Minister is also aware—that the merchants take half a per cent of the cost of cotton which the agriculturists pay. I hope the Hon. Finance Minister will look to the interests of the agriculturists by at least withdrawing this tax on raw cotton.

"Now, I am coming to the point which perhaps I do not want to anticipate, but I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Finance Member to look at the Central Budget particularly the portion relating to the remission of Income-tax and perhaps the Hon. Finance Minister will be able to make up the loss by retrenchment.

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on them the necessity to see that a crisis does not come. If they do not do so, I am sure, in the course of two or three months the situation would worsen.

"Madam, I must enter my strong protest against Government's method of increasing food production, and more especially against their inactivity in implementing the definite promise they made last year. Last year, I tabled a cut motion for the formation of a development board for a few districts in the South. I ultimately withdrew my cut motion on the assurance of the Hon. Minister in charge of Public Works. I see no mention about it in the Hon. Finance Minister's speech. I hope the Hon. Minister for Public Works, while moving his Demand, will deal with this in his explanatory remarks. I do not know what he has been doing all these eleven months for Ramnad district and Pudukottai and for taluks of Arantangi, Dindigul and Manapparai for the formation of a development board. Particularly now, when famine conditions face them, is it not the duty of Government to announce the constitution of this board on the lines of the Rayalaseema Development Board?

"Madam, I may be excused for referring to one or two items, which may be small items, but all the same I consider them to be important. I see the Government are interested in the improvement of the slums. The City Improvement Trust has been constituted to provide better housing. I am not, however, satisfied with the work done by the recently constituted Harijan Welfare Committee. I do hope that the Hon. Minister in charge of that portfolio, when he moves his Demand will explain to us what has been done by the Committee. The City Improvement Trust has been constituted with a small fund consisting of two and a half lakhs contributed by the Corporation of Madras and two and a half lakhs given by Government. So far it has not devoted its attention to improving the slums. It has been building bungalows for the upper middle classes, who can look after their interests themselves. I would request a sub-committee of the Cabinet may be formed consisting of the Hon. Minister for Housing, the Hon. Minister in charge of City Improvement Trust and the Hon. Minister in charge of Harijan Welfare Fund, and they should divert some fund from the Harijan Welfare Fund for the improvement of the slum areas in the City. For it is a well-known fact that in our City, the slums are populated mostly by Harijans and as such a portion of the Harijan Welfare Fund may be diverted to the City Improvement Trust and earmarked for bettering the condition of the slums.

"Madam, then, I pass on to another subject. In view of the fact that the country is not in a position to bear any more taxation and in view of the fact that the Government of India are not going to help us with any more money, I think, it is essential that this Government should go into the question of retrenchment very very seriously. I know the Hon. Finance Minister will tell us that the Retrenchment Committee's proposals

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in Razole taluk. Indescribable is the position with regard to these things with the police on one side and the Communists on the other. How horrible are the Communist atrocities! If they want to behead a person, it will be all right if they behead him straight-way. But they take the person concerned, lay him down, sit on his back, put the knife on the toe and cut up across the thigh up to the abdomen. These things have been going on in this State for the past two or three years and what is the protection that the Government have given to these unfortunate victims who are supposed to be their subjects. This is the position so far as the administration of law and order and the protection to the people are concerned.

"Next I shall take the position in the southern districts. In the southern districts also, troubles which were not existing previously have come upon them. There are the famine conditions and Communist activities. It is some time since I laid down office. Since then I have been watching closely the offences that are being committed in those districts. There also the people experience the same difficulty. There is nobody to say on the floor of this House what the Communist activities are, how many people have been killed, how many heads have been removed, how many injuries have been inflicted and so on. So far as administration is concerned, I should say the Government must feel ashamed at the state of things in this State of ours. A government who feel incompetent to give protection and maintain law and order have no business to continue in office and they must take particular care to see that those who can give the protection take their place. (The Hon. Finance Minister left the Chamber.)

"Next, I will deal with the budget speech of the Hon. Sri Gopala Reddi. Though he has left the Chamber, I can say what I have got to say even in his absence. Read the budget speech carefully from one end to the other. The Finance Minister is a gentleman who comes from one of those districts recently affected by floods and cyclone. Not one single word of sympathy for the sufferers is to be found in these pages. For whom is this budget prepared and for whom is this administration carried on? Many figures are given as usual. The Secretariat will prepare the whole thing and fill up the figures. Is that the way in which a budget should be prepared without any regard to the actual conditions prevailing in the districts? (The Hon. Finance Minister entered the Chamber.)

"The other day a friend came from one of the districts in the north and asked me why this rationing and control should be continued, as ordinary people were not able to get enough food even if they had got some money to purchase it, and added that there was nobody to look to these sufferers even though people made representations in writing and through deputations. I had known all these things when I was in charge of the Food portfolio. Even now I am not a man who is sitting idle in my house. Even

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I am a wanderer; I go from place to place. What do I find there? Leave aside the delta areas where there is some green and fresh crop. Go into the interior dry areas. What is the position there? Nobody is looking after the people there and alleviating their suffering.

"Now I refer to procurement. What is the policy of the Government and what are the rules and regulations with regard to procurement? Just before I started for the Assembly meeting this morning, a friend came and told me about the number of bags of millet which have been removed from the Bellary district or Anantapur district without leaving sufficient margin to the producers. The rice that is sent there for consumption is of a quality which is beyond description and is repulsive even for sight. That is the way in which procurement is being carried on. Who is responsible for this kind of administration with regard to procurement? Madam Deputy Speaker, you may be aware along with the hon. Members who are sitting on the Treasury Bench of the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies that were started for the procurement of foodgrains in the first year of office of the first Ministry after the war. More than two crores of rupees were collected within two months from the people of the Coastal districts. The societies were formed and they began to work. While they were working, this overthrowing of the Ministry came in and new friends came into office. The first thing they did was to apply the knife to these societies which were doing wonderful work. Within three months balance-sheets were produced which showed that they were flourishing. It was at this stage that they were strangled. During the three months of their existence, procurement was done without any pressure or force, without the police people, and without the revenue officers rushing in and falling upon the people and compelling them to part with their foodgrains. Without any of these things, those societies collected the foodgrains. When that was the position, sitting here day after day and month after month I was expecting the Hon. Ministers to revise their policy and revive those institutions. They are still lying there; but in what condition of life? (The Hon. Chief Minister was observed smiling.) This is not a matter for the Chief Minister to be smiled over or laughed over. The position of these societies became a long struggle as it were between those who went out of office and those who came into office. Although I went out of office with my other friends as we ought to do, we expected those who succeeded us to do justice. But what did they do? They appointed the T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar Committee to enquire into the position of these societies. Seeing the callousness on the part of this Government, I was forced to call upon the people not to co-operate with the committee which was appointed against the wishes of the people. The committee went to the areas where these societies were functioning, collected evidence, found that everything was in order and made a recommendation that the societies were functioning well and that they should be allowed to continue."

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The hon. Member never wanted the Ramalingam Chettyar Committee."

12-30 p.m. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"This logic on the part of a gentleman calling himself the Finance Minister, you can all imagine. (Laughter.) Is that an excuse for your not having carried out the recommendations of the Ramalingam Chettyar Committee and is it because of that you have killed those societies and are carrying on your administration in the manner in which you have been carrying on, so far as procurement and distribution of food is concerned? Madam, Deputy Speaker, I was against the appointment of that committee and I never wanted that committee. I even went to the extent of asking my friends to boycott that committee because I thought that they would not be able to understand the position in those districts. I went out to see things for myself. The Ramalingam Committee went there, examined the working of these producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies and they were honest enough to admit that they had been doing good work and recommended that they might be continued. But even with regard to these recommendations, the Government were not sensible enough to accept them, and without accepting them, the Hon. Finance Minister now interrupts and says that I never wanted them. I never wanted many things. I never wanted him to be there. Is that a reason?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"What is your honest confession?"

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"My honest confession is that you should not talk, because, if you talk, I shall have to reply and to add something to the criticism levelled against the portfolio which you hold. Other hon. Friends have attacked Prohibition in their own way, but I do not wish to attack the administration of the policy of Prohibition by the Hon. Minister for Prohibition in the manner in which others have done. I must say that the Hon. Minister has not been able to administer Prohibition laws properly and efficiently. He has not been able to prevent illicit distillation that is going on unchecked in the villages and the various other offences against those laws. He has not been able to provide the necessary arms and equipment to those people who have been asked to work out this Prohibition policy. A person came to me and said to me in the dak bungalow where I was staying, some time back in the district from which the Hon. Minister for Prohibition hails, 'What are we to do, Sir, when we have not been provided with guns to protect ourselves? We are attacked by the rowdy elements who are dissatisfied with us for giving information regarding illicit distillation.' That is how the Prohibition laws are administered and the Prohibition policy is being carried on. The Hon. Minister must be ashamed to call himself the Prohibition Minister. Take his own district of Anantapur or Bellary or Kurnool. In all those districts, how is Prohibition carried on? In truth, there is no Prohibition at all. My hon. Friend Mr. Koti Reddi who was in charge of this portfolio before did his best to

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carry out the Prohibition policy effectively and without giving any room for people to infringe the Prohibition laws. But the present Minister for Prohibition has simply allowed matters to drift and they are simply drifting. Everywhere in the Province, we find more and more illicit distillation going on, and in almost every house in every village, you have some kind of illicit toddy or arrack, and these are being sold as if they are tea or coffee. Even to-day if he goes along with me, I shall show him how these things are going on in villages. What kind of people has he employed to carry out this important and responsible work? I have always felt, even as the Hon. Minister for Prohibition has at heart that this policy of Prohibition must become a success, and not a failure. But what do we see to-day in the country-parts? (Interruption.) (An Hon. Minister: "After all we are trained by you!") Yes, after all you are trained by me, and I have been training myself also. Even in Delhi, I said that I have been learning from my young friends so many things. Young friends should tell us and I should also tell them when occasion comes. But, on the question of Prohibition, we cannot feel proud of the manner in which the Hon. Minister for Prohibition has been carrying on his policy of Prohibition. One must hang down his head in shame and sorrow, when one hears the lot of things that are going on in the districts in the name of Prohibition. We have to do things in a different way, in a different spirit and with people of a different kind equipped and marshalled with different weapons for carrying on this programme of Prohibition.

"Now, Madam, let me come to the question of Revenue and Expenditure. Glorious passages are printed in the Hon. Finance Minister's speech. I was trying to find out whether there is anything to show that these glorious maxims were being put into practical application or whether they, in any way, reflect the real situation obtaining in the Province, but I am sorry to find that there is nothing that we can boast of, about the achievements of the present Ministry. Now, take the question of the devaluation of the rupee. Britain was the first country to adopt the devaluation of her currency, because of her commitments to America and because she was threatened with an economic crisis. Britain had entered into certain agreements with America. America gave loans to Britain at a time when Britain required them to get over her troubles. Instead of getting over her troubles, she got deeper into them, with the result that when America asked Britain to repay her debts, and to honour the bond executed by her, Britain had no other alternative than to devalue currency in relation to the American dollar. But, what happened in this country? We have also been forced to execute a bond in favour of that great man, Mr. Truman, the President of the United States of America, devaluing our rupee currency, because our currency had been linked up with sterling—which is the currency of Great Britain—to the same extent, as the sterling was devalued.

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When we wrote the bond, we felt that we would be getting everything from America. This picture of our Ambassador in America, —a lady—signing the document came out in the papers, and we have seen it in this country. What was it she has done? She was signing the document, entrusting the throat of this country into the hands of those people for obtaining a loan. It was in the same manner in which Mr. Dalton, had executed a bond in favour of America, pledging the throat of Great Britain, as a result of which Britain had to give a sum of 35 million dollars to America. Britain was unable to pay this sum on account of her internal economic difficulties, which at that time had reached a crisis. For five days she considered over this matter and on the sixth day she said that she could make no more payment. The original agreement was suspended and she had to devalue her currency by 30 per cent. That was the position so far as Great Britain was concerned. But, where is the necessity for the rupee to be devalued? We devalued our rupee even after we had obtained our independence, because we had no other option, and because the rupee was linked with sterling from 1926. When I was a Member of the Central Assembly at that time, I voted against this measure. Now we are seeing the result. Under such circumstances, I ask, is it not the duty of the Hon. Minister for Finance to examine the whole thing and to find out how it would affect the financial, the economic and the trade position of this country, if the rupee was devalued. The Government should have consulted some experts in the matter before coming to this decision."

SR^I K. T. KOSALRAM:—"Is it not an All-India matter, Madam?"

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Madam, the hon. Member must remember that I have come from All-India, which is our country. I have come from All-India and our Province is also part of All-India. We expected that our Finance Minister would consult traders and financiers and examine how the trade and commerce of this Province had been affected after the rupee had been devalued and place some information regarding that in this budget for the House to know, although we have to carry out the policy dictated by the Centre in these matters. He could have told our friends here and the people outside how devaluation has affected our financial position and also the trade and commerce of this Province, at least in some paragraphs in his budget speech. The Hon. Minister has lost this opportunity. I do not wish to be harsh upon this Government, merely for the sake of harshness. I have reconciled myself with the situation and I am prepared to do whatever is possible under the circumstances, because we have to pull together for the good of the Province as a whole. But, when everything has failed, what can we do? There is a limit to human patience. That is why I have mentioned these things in this House, so that even at this stage something can be done by the Government and by the Members of the House to retrieve."

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the past. Hon. Members may have been belonging to this side or that side in the matter of elections or of party leadership, but I have no quarrel with them, because these things have happened. We are here for the good of the Province as a whole and we must work together. We have seen the statements of the Hon. Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister of India appealing to the people of this country to work hard, to work together in order to survive and overcome the present difficulties and the economic crisis that is threatening us and that is the sort of appeal that one should have expected from our Ministers here in this Province also. But, not a word like that has been found in this budget speech of the Hon. Finance Minister. We want that the administration of the Government should be a liberal one, without making it a caste administration, or a class administration or a sectional administration or a group administration. What is the kind of administration that is being carried on by the Government of the Hon. Mr. Kumaraswami Raja? Does he mean to say that he is the leader only of his party? Does he suppose that he is head, only of his party over which he has full control? No, Sir, when he comes here as the Chief Minister of this Province, he must leave aside all party considerations and be the responsible head of the whole Government and of the entire House and work together with all the Members towards good Government and betterment of the people of the Province as a whole. He must understand that there is not only one party in this House there is not only one section or only one community or only one group in this House. The Muslim League is there, the Independent Group is there and others are also there. All these people are supposed to be responsible for carrying on the administration of the Province. That is how I am looking at it. The Congress is not a mere party organization. It represents millions of people according to my conception. It does not merely represent those who have become members by paying a four annas subscription and signing the Congress pledge. We came to grips with this matter of the active membership of the Congress, the other day at the All-India Congress Committee meeting, while we were discussing the one-rupee membership pledge. We felt really ashamed to have been sitting there discussing the question of the active membership of the Congress by signing the one-rupee pledge. In one district about 420,000 members of the Congress got themselves enrolled as active members by paying one rupee each. That was declared by the Congress High Command, before bringing it before the All-India Congress Committee, as a fraud on the country. (Interruption.) It was declared, Madam, Deputy Speaker, (Sri P. Kandaswami Pillai rose in his seat.)

"I am not at the disposal of the hon. Member." (Laughter.)

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"We shall hear what the hon. Member wishes to raise."

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The hon. Member has not risen to raise any point of order. (Laughter.) Madam, Deputy Speaker,

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when I am completing my speech, and when I am in the last sentence of my speech, if the hon. Member comes and raises a point of order, you ought to have ruled him out of order. (Loud laughter.) No tolerance should be shown to the point of order. I am just completing my speech. Madam, it was stated in a communique which was issued that the enlistment of these members, about 420,000 in number is a fraud upon the country, and that therefore they are not binding. We have reduced . . . (Inter-ruption by Sri P. Kandaswami Pillai.) He has not studied all these things. What is the good of my saying all this. (Laughter.) All the hon. Members must be proud of the fact that such a fraud without any further investigation was detected and recorded as fraud, and it was cancelled. The right was given to the primary members who would not give even the four annas. The four-anna membership has got its own history about which I will be telling hon. Members in this House a little later."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"Madam, is this part of the budget idcussion?"

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"It is part of the budget discussion. It is an essential part of it. (Interruptions.) Mr. Kosalram's question is an honest question, and I will answer it. It is an essential part of the discussion. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Kosalram in his future work for this country will have to tackle a budget placed like this by going into the heart of it, and dealing with it."

* SRI L. C. PAIS:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, we are indebted to the Hon. the Finance Minister for the very clear picture he has given us so far as our finances are concerned. He has told us in brief that the finances of this State are as sound as ever and that the public debt is not large, he has stated that the revenue reserve fund remains intact. These are certainly things in the right direction, and the Government have to be congratulated in this regard. As against these facts, there is another set of facts of a perplexing nature. I refer to them not in a spirit of carping but in a constructive criticism. I refer in the first place to paragraphs 12 and 46 of the Hon. Finance Minister's speech, wherein reference is made to Prohibition and Khaddar. It will be seen from these paragraphs that it is the view of the Government that they do not regret the steps they have taken so far as Prohibition is concerned. They say that the lot of the common man has improved substantially and that so far as Congressmen are concerned, it is taken as an article of faith. Madam, I do not want to be misunderstood. I am a Congressman and a believer in the policy of Prohibition. At the same time I may say that I am a believer in this—that first things have to be taken up first and essentials have to be taken up before non-essentials. We have launched upon a big scheme like Prohibition no doubt with best of motives, and we really thought that good would result to the common man. But after a period of four years, what is it that we find to-day? We find that

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there is absolutely no co-operation from the public. I myself am a member of the Prohibition Committee in South Kanara, and every month there is the remark regarding Prohibition that there is no co-operation from the public. The question pertinently arising then is 'why should there not be co-operation from the public.' One of the reasons is that harassment of the public on a large scale is going on at present. Innocent and good people are harassed. People who have not been dealing in illicit distillation and people who are not in the habit of drinking have been harassed just because the police and the excise staff want to have a certain number of cases on their rolls. The second point is, as has been already pointed out, illicit distillation has been going on on a large scale. I speak with particular reference to South Kanara. It is a well known fact that in the villages almost every house has become a distillery. People are making money everyday, so much so, some people fondly pray that Prohibition may not be withdrawn, because they would lose one useful and good source of making money. As I have already spoken, the public are greatly harassed by the police and excise staff.

"I will now refer to one important matter. Every good movement and every development scheme looks as though it has got a setback, because invariably the answer that we get for those schemes is that the Government have no money. I refer at this stage to the beautiful brochure on Madras finances by B. Natarajan. In the last page there is a very instructive chart. It has got the foreword of the Hon. Minister, and, therefore, everything that is stated there must be taken as correct. I refer only to that chart. So far as animal husbandry is concerned, what the Government are able to spend is only 1 pie out of the rupee. For agriculture, it is 7 pies, for public health 3 pies, and medical 9 pies. I only ask whether under the present condition of things and with the finances at our disposal it would be possible to attend to things like animal husbandry, agriculture, and public health in a better manner. With all the best intentions of the Finance Minister, we have to take the position as it is to-day. It is impossible for them to devote more money to these worthy causes considering the present condition of things. The result is good movements and nation building activities suffer. I speak with particular reference to municipalities. I am connected with the Mangalore municipality. It is a first grade municipality. I am bringing to the notice of the Government one or two facts and the way in which things are going on. The Government with all their good intentions—I do not say that Government are actuated by bad intentions—under the present condition of things, will find it impossible to come to the rescue of municipalities. In 1939, the Mangalore municipality sent up proposals for tarring 15 roads. We were asked then to wait till the war was over. After the war, we renewed our request for tarring 15 bits of roads. Mangalore municipality has got about 53 miles of roads, of which fairly 4 miles are tarred. After the present Government came into power, we renewed our request for

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the tarring of roads, so far as these 15 bits were concerned. What is the answer that we got? The answer is: take two bits of road per year. All the 15 bits put together would not come up to more than 5 or 6 miles. As I have already stated there are about 53 miles of roads in the municipality. I ask the Hon. Minister whether, under the present condition of things, it would ever be possible for the Government to give this relief of dustless surfacing of roads to this municipality.

"I now take water-supply schemes. We have been told more than a year ago that water-supply schemes have been sanctioned, and that so many lakhs of rupees have been sanctioned. But I ask why is not the scheme put into effect? I ask, why should not some work be started immediately. The public have become very sceptic about it, and the inference that is drawn is this, namely, the Government say that they want to do something, but they have not the money to carry it into effect. The same is the case with regard to the drainage schemes. In Mangalore we have got filaria. It has become endemic in form. The latest report is that 18 per cent of the people suffer from filaria. What we want is that we should be permitted to go on with the drainage scheme. The latest position is this. The Government say 'you cannot have the drainage scheme altogether; take only partial schemes if you want help; but if you want to take up the whole scheme you will have to do it yourself.' The partial schemes cost nine lakhs of rupees. I ask when are the Government going to put into effect these drainage schemes, and whether it will be possible for the Government to put into effect these schemes when they are able to spend on public health only three pies in the rupee.

"I take up now the question of khaddar. I am a believer in khaddar, and I have been wearing khaddar for the last 10 or 15 years. But we cannot carry things to extremes. I just refer to a resolution that is passed a few days ago by our Mangalore municipality. There the public menials threatened to strike if their demands were not conceded. In answer to their demands, a resolution was passed by the municipality. The resolution is: 'The committee recommends the grant of the following: two saris and two blouses to the ladies and two shirts and two knickers to the gents; the committee is definitely of the opinion the khaddar is costly and not sufficiently durable and that Government should be addressed to permit the use of handloom cloth or mill cloth.' During the Adviser's regime and when there were nominated councils, these concessions were given to the public menials. Now, naturally when the elected councils have come into being, the public menials repeat their demands, and ask us to give them at least those things which the Advisers' regime gave them. We stated that we were willing to give. But there is this Government circular in the matter. The Government say that if municipalities want to give cloth to public menials, they must give only khaddar. Now, the Mangalore Municipal Council consists of Congress men, and

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they passed this resolution to give saris, blouses, shirts and knickers. Under the present condition of things, it is not possible to give public menials khaddar. We have collected figures so far as the cost is concerned. A khaddar sari costs Rs. 18 whereas a handloom sari costs just Rs. 7. I just ask the Government whether it is right and proper to carry over love for khaddar to such an extreme extent as to ask the local bodies and others to take to this khaddar? When the Local Finance Enquiry Committee came the other day. 1 p.m. I was one of the members who had the opportunity to speak about this point. Our municipal finances are limited; we do not get the usual grants from the Government but we receive instructions now and then that we should do things in a particular manner. I would only appeal to the Hon. Ministers who are present here whether in a matter of this sort where public interests are concerned, where you are not in a position to give help to the full extent, is it not just and proper to give a little more latitude and discretion to municipalities so as to enable them to deal with this question in a manner which they think proper.

"It is about the menials in the municipalities who are above 300 in number. It is a tremendous number. I have spoken only about saris. What about the nickers, shirts and blouses? Everyone of these items has to be prepared out of khaddar. You can just imagine the drain which the municipality will be put to if it is to respect the wishes and desires of the Government.

"I do not want to say much now because when the relevant demand comes up, I would take the opportunity to speak on other points. But, Madam, considering the position in which the Government find themselves now, there was a time when certainly all of us were with the Government that the best thing should be done and the lot of the poor man should be improved. But having had the experience of four years, it looks as if our policies and some of our pet schemes have to be revised. I would particularly refer to the stand that is definitely taken by some of our dailies 'The Hindu' and 'The Mail'. They say that we are taking a very strange attitude in regard to prohibition and that the policy adopted has been the cause of a lot of trouble and inconvenience and it has also given rise to a growing feeling in the country that we rushed to socio-economic reforms before we attempted an actual rehabilitation of the common man in the country. Many of our schemes have been held up and it is necessary in the light of events which have taken place during the last two years that, we should revise our policy. Now that we have gone headlong, in what way can this policy be revised? I have always been insisting upon one thing and that is 'at least for the present exempt toddy from the prohibition policy'. It is an article of food and there are people who would like to have a glass of toddy as a substitute for food. When you grant exemptions in certain places and do not grant in other places, that also is a cause for the people to feel that there is a differential treatment. That is one

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of the reasons why there is not to-day that co-operation which certainly a Government ought to have. If on account of difficult conditions of food, Government could relax rules to some extent and exempt toddy, I feel, and that is also the opinion of many people in South Kanara, that the prohibition policy will receive more co-operation from the public. As I said, it is difficult to go back all of a sudden and the question of prestige also comes in. But my submission to the Government is not regardless of prestige, if really the interests of the public and of the common man demand that this policy should be revised, certainly the Government should not look back but look forward and decide in what ways this policy should be revised. With these few words, I support the budget."

* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I should like to thank the Hon. the Finance Minister for preparing the budget and also for the flowery language in which he has prepared the same. Whether it has been prepared by him or by his Secretaries, as it was said by Mr. Prakasam, anyhow as the Finance Minister he is before the House and the credit goes to him. Now, Madam, I do not want to speak on each and every subject. As the time given to me is very short I have to make a proper selection so that I can handle the subjects which are vitally important to the people of this State and especially to the minority communities. Madam, we are in bad days; a strange wind is blowing across the world and India also is not safe from it. We are seeing what is going on in the borders of India. China has become red. In Tibet Matextung has set up a rival Government. Indo-China is under the clutches of the Communist. Burma is not free from the menace of Karens and finally Nepal and Bhutan are waiting for their turn. We have to plan of what we have to do immediately. With this view, Madam, I have selected only two subjects. During the last session also when the general discussion was going on, I selected only two subjects, namely, B.M. and B.S. (Black-marketing and Blood-sucking). Likewise I have selected only two subjects now. I crave you to be kind enough not to force me to sit down before I finish these two subjects for I have already minimised my subjects and I would try to finish them in the minimum possible time."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member must finish them within the time-limit fixed. The time-limit is 20 minutes and 5 minutes are already over."

* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"Our main concern is to see first that our country is safe and the next thing is we should live safe in it. We eat to live and live to eat. It is a fact known to the world that we have nothing to eat and also there is no protection of life or property in this State. Still, Madam, as I have told you, I am going to speak on only two subjects."

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THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"I do not want any abbreviations."

* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"No abbreviations, Madam. I am now going to speak on communalism and communism. These are the two things which have been worrying the Hon. Ministers and also everybody else, from top to bottom, throughout India. The responsibility to prove that communalism is necessary devolves on us because we are having a communal League. It is really unfortunate that the other day when an hon. Member from this side was criticizing the Congress activities, the Finance Minister immediately got wild and asked what the League had done. It seems the Finance Minister was also saying that the League was dying as the Justice Party died. It does not matter if the League dies, but let me say that if you think that this League, a communal organization is vice, even then it is a necessary evil. To defeat and kill communism, you want communalism. I will prove and also let you know what is going on in the world. I will impress upon you that during the recent elections throughout the world, communal organizations have come out successful defeating the Communist and other organizations. This is the time when we should be very serious and to speak the truth. The communal organizations are supposed by our Hon. Ministers to be rather dangerous. It is not so with us. In the Western countries, especially during recent elections in Germany, France, Italy, etc., the Christian Democratic Parties have succeeded in defeating Communists and other parties. I will clearly give the reason for their success. I will read what the Leader of that Christian Democratic Party of Western Germany says in this connexion after elections—

"The Communist Party was very strong in connexion with the Pittsburg election and was sure of success. At the last moment churches jumped into the battle. Catholic priests in line with increasing participation of their church in labour affairs were by far the most outspoken although Protestants joined in as well. The intervention had a mixed effect alienating workers too."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"What is it that the hon. Member is reading from?"

* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"I am reading from my notes. I am having my notes and I have to refer to them."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"I thought the hon. Member was quoting something."

* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"I am only saying what that leader says. When the 'Red Leader' during the election spoke and the hecklers cried 'Stalin says', 'No' the Christian Democratic Party hecklers cried 'Pope says', 'Yes' and finally the Communist Party was defeated. He clearly gives the reason for this success also. He says that 'it is

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a fact that the Europeans are taking certain values implied by the adjective "Christian", with high seriousness. Not all of them are Christians but some of them agnostics. In the Western countries to-day religion has inter-penetrated into politics in such a way that people have been voting for humane values and good men. So, it is not proper that you should always attack us and condemn us that the League is a communal party and that it should not be there. The League may be a communal party and communal party may be dangerous. Fire and water are dangerous and much depends upon how you use them. Fire can set fire to a town; at the same time, it is very necessary for our daily cooking. Similarly, water may drown people but at the same time it is necessary for drinking. Therefore, a communal political party must be guided by good principles and good morals. But for that, it may be dangerous. So, it is not worthwhile to say that a communal party is always dangerous. I will now quote what Master Tara Singh says regarding communal parties."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member need not quote anything from what others say. He can say what he feels without doing any propaganda for others here. He can tell us his views."

* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"The thing is the names of great men like Gandhiji and Subhas Bose and others are often quoted to create some impression on the minds of the people."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"In the eyes of the hon. Member, some people may be great but they may not be great in our eyes. In the case of undisputed leaders, the hon. Member can say something. In the case of others, I do not want him to quote anything."

* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"Then I will say a great leader of international reputation says 'communal party for the minority is a shield against the usurpation of powers by the majority and others'. Some other leader says that 'communalism with the majority party will be a sword'. For our benefit and to safeguard our interests we are having communal organizations."

"The next thing is, so many things are said about the protection of life and property. This morning, hon. Sri Prakasa was talking about how the Police had been working. However, he did not explain clearly as to what was going on. Anyway, I should thank the Government for maintaining law and order. It has been done in a splendid manner. That cannot be denied. But some interested people misuse their power and spoil the administration. So far as Mathurai is concerned, we had no trouble with

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anybody. We were quite all right. In spite of so many things and in spite of so many political changes, Mathurai was safe. I may say that the whole of South was safe, although a few incidents happened here and there. But, Madam, sometime ago, in Mathurai a new Congress Muslim with his few friends was making mischief with a particular motive. The whole trouble is Muslims belonging to League Party, did not join with him for the Nationalist Muslim Conference. This Muslim who was with the Justice Party long ago and afterwards was a Communist and later in the League has recently become a Congress Muslim for his personal benefits. These people soon after their joining the Congress and becoming Congressmen wanted to force some of the Muslims to join their camp. Madam, joining a party is left to the will and opinion of the particular individuals. When these people were not successful in their attempts, they used to give reports to the Police that they were Communists. So, some of the Muslims who were not in the good books of those people, were reported to the Police. Thus, some of them were arrested. The Hon. Chief Minister recently visited Mathurai to preside over a conference, and he may know the facts. Soon after the visit of the Hon. Chief Minister, there were at least 13 cases in which young boys numbering about 50 are involved. On receipt of false reports from interested parties that they were Communists, so many people are arrested. But for this, there is political harmony, there is communal harmony and even leaders are quite all right there in Mathurai. The only thing is, some people who want to exploit the situation and who want to do something for their own benefit create some trouble.

"Finally, I would like to say, Madam, that in the matter of maintaining law and order, a better arrangement may be adopted. Of course, people of all creeds should co-operate with the Police. That is a good policy. But I must say that it should not be at random. Every Congressman should not go and report falsely to the Police. Irrespective of political creed, and irrespective of caste, creed or colour and irrespective of power and position, all should have voice. Congressmen alone are not the monopolists of virtues. If the report is given by good people and if the report is given by a man who is not a Communist, then that is to be taken. Suppose I am arrested and suppose I am asked to go and get a slip from a Congressman. I may or may not get that. That is the position now. In conclusion I request the Hon. Chief Minister to appoint peace committees in every place. Let all these things be scrutinized and examined by these peace committees and let the leaders of people of every shade and every party go into the matter and give a report to the Police. But for that, I am afraid that even law-abiding people and peace-loving people who have been loyal to the Government and who have been sincere to the Government will turn to be communists. They might have been good people in the past. But consequent

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on the indiscriminate Police harassment and lathi charges, they will, knowingly or unknowingly, turn to be Communists. I request that in the interests of our country and administration, peace committees consisting of all shades of creeds and opinion may be appointed in every place, so that they may be helpful to the Police in maintaining good administration and law and order in the best interests of the State. With these words, I conclude my speech."

* JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—"Madam Deputy Speaker, before proceeding with the general discussion on the budget, I want to say a word or two about two or three special subjects. First of all, with regard to the land revenue remission, I am glad to know that the Hon. Finance Minister has made some provision. About 70 lakhs have been provided for land revenue remissions. When we are getting about 8 to 9 crores of rupees a year as land revenue only 70 lakhs have been provided for land revenue remission which especially this year, is not in my opinion, adequate, because of the catastrophe that the Province has undergone both in the northern parts as well as in the southern parts. Therefore, an adequate and larger land revenue remission is necessary. Last year, that is to say in fasli 1357, we have spent about 16 to 17 lakhs of rupees as seasonal land revenue remission. There was also some other land revenue remission according to Standing Order No. 13. When that was so in normal times, when we have a major catastrophe, 70 lakhs of rupees is not adequate. Further, in working out the land revenue remission, the present Standing Orders Nos. 13 and 14 are not elastic. They hinder the proper working of the land revenue remission. In Standing Order No. 13, there is only reference to seasonal remissions that will be given when there is an utter and total failure of crops. Standing Order No. 14 refers only to special circumstances such as failure of 50 per cent of crops under which land revenue remission is permissible. In giving remission to these poor people, these standing orders stood in the way in the past. It should be liberalized according to the present circumstances and emergent conditions. The provision for land revenue remission should be more so that the people in the rural and agricultural areas may get their due benefits and the rules thereunder should be liberalised."

"There is another feature which I noted in the budget speech and that is the absence of any proposal with regard to the compulsory loan or local levy. Madam, there was a talk and there was also a reference by the Hon. Finance Minister some time ago that there would be local levy or compulsory contribution of one year's kist. That proposal is absent in the present budget speech. I am very glad to see that the Government have given up that proposal for the good. When the economic position of the Province was to be reviewed, this Government should come to this question because we are not earning enough and our productive capacity has not gone further, our real per capita income has fallen."

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12½ per cent. At the same time it is admitted that there is no surplus money in circulation either in the rural population or in the urban population. Under these circumstances, it will not be equitable to get a certain section of the population to give compulsory loan to the Government. Therefore I am glad that the Government at least for the present have abandoned the proposal of compulsory loan. So also, they have abandoned the idea of the Agricultural Bill.

"There is another feature which I am glad to note and that is the Government will attempt to get more allotment from the Centre. The Hon. Finance Minister has stated the position in paragraph 38 of his speech and I may be allowed to read a portion of that paragraph. He says—

"As there is very little scope for increased taxation and as the yield from some of our important sources of revenue may decline in future for the reasons I have already indicated, there is an imperative need for additional allocations of revenue and grants-in-aid from the Union Government. I have no doubt that this aspect will receive the fullest consideration of the forthcoming Finance Commission."

"I am very glad that the Finance Minister has brought pressure upon the Central Government and said that the Madras Government cannot carry on the administration without adequate financial aid from the Central Government. Recently he has also made some representation before the Deshmukh Committee. So he has made the position clear. No doubt the percentage has been reduced by half a per cent, that is to say, we will have only 17½ per cent. Still some attempt has been made by this Government to press upon the Central Government that our financial position require something more. In this connection I want to say that the allocation of Income-tax revenue should be based on a population basis. That is the only one way. At least the divisible pool may be increased to 70 per cent of the total income-tax revenue. I would urge upon the Government to take steps in the right direction so that our financial position may be improved. Madam, Deputy Speaker, finishing my speech on the special aspects, I now come to the general discussion, on the budget."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"Can the hon. Member finish his speech now?"

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—"I cannot finish now and I want some more time, Madam."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member can continue his speech after lunch. I now adjourn the House to meet again at 2-30 p.m."

The House rose for lunch.

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

* JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM (cont.):—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was only just beginning to say a word or two about the general aspect of the Budget. The Hon. the Finance

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Minister claims that he has provided for an expenditure (about 56 crores of rupees) which equals the revenue expected. He has given a lot of figures relating to expenditure on nation-building activities. But, apart from the figures, I ask, 'in what way the man in the street or the public are benefited?' I mean, 'how has the standard of life in our State been raised?' He has not given any indication, either in the Financial Statement or in the other booklets brought out by the Government like 'The Achievements of the Madras Ministry' or 'Madras on January 26, 1950'. It is an admitted fact that we have not produced enough food, enough clothing. Nor have we embarked upon any new industrial projects. Our productive capacity has not increased in a satisfactory manner. On the contrary, we find that the prices of commodities have soared up. The budget reveals no steps either taken or contemplated by the Government to check the rising cost of living. The measures, one can see, the Government have so far taken have only added to our difficulties. As an instance, I can cite a recent order issued by the Government discontinuing issue of licences for starting new rice mills. Sir, if the Government want to propogate and encourage hand-pounding, it is well and good. But they ought to have intimated to the public what they had intended to do, in advance. They ought to have fixed a time-limit after which the new Order would take effect. Far from doing this, here comes the Order, all of a sudden, issued by the Government without giving sufficient notice to the trade. Machinery worth lakhs of rupees has been imported. Buildings valued at enormous sums have been acquired. What is the effect of the Order on these? They are allowed to lie idle. This has entailed great loss not only to the individuals concerned but to the Government as a whole, for, is not the prosperity of the individual the prosperity of the Government? Considered from these points of view, therefore, I maintain that the Budget speech contemplates no progress but drift. Coming to the Budget proposals, if we scrutinize each item, we will find that they are inequitable in their incidence. Already, some hon. Members have spoken about the incidence of the sales-tax upon the people and I do not want to repeat what has already been said. The Hon. the Minister for Finance has called the sales-tax a veritable Kamadhenu. I only want to point out that it constitutes the 'blood money' of the poorest of the poor. The Government should see that the incidence is reduced by exempting the necessities of life from the sales-tax. The poor can no longer bear the burden.

"Sir, next comes the 'pet' land reform. The Government have not done anything in this matter also. Indeed, it is an admitted fact that the present land revenue system is inequitable. Smaller holders are called upon to pay the same rate as the big holders which is out of all proportion of their capacity to pay. Reform in this respect is long over due and the Government must take up this matter at least now. Another aspect of the Budget is that it makes an expanding Budget, whilst the rest of the

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country and the world is anxious to draw up a 'contracting' Budget. We can take the case of the Government of India or the United States of America or the United Kingdom. During the war period, their Budget figures were high. But now, they have cut short their budgets. In Madras, on the other hand, we find an expanding Budget to day and we claim credit for such an expansion! The Budget should bear relationship to the economy of the State. In the present circumstance, it would have borne this relationship if it had indicated remissions and tax reliefs. The Hon. the Minister for Finance takes pride in the fact that the financial position of the State is sound. Sir, if we turn to the assets and liabilities of this Government for the year ending 31st March 1951, our assets over the liabilities come to about 165 crores of rupees whereas it had remained in the war year—1946-47—at 175 crores. The proposal of the Hon. the Finance Minister envisages an expenditure of three crores of rupees. I would call this a waste; because this sum will not be taken on the assets side. Therefore, care should be taken to see that no provision is made for wasteful expenditure. We are now hard-pressed for money. Whenever we spend anything on capital outlay it should be one that can be taken on the assets side.

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

"Madam, in this connexion, I would utter a word of warning to the Government with regard to our debt position. It may do some credit to the Government that they are managing without floating public loans in the open market or taking any loans from the Government of India. But such a position cannot last for long. It cannot remain for ever. It may be only for a short duration. The Hon. the Finance Minister himself has admitted in the last portion of the Budget speech that the position is rather difficult and that the Government, therefore, have to keep a watch over the ways and means position. I think it would be better and sounder if any expenditure of a capital nature, whenever embarked upon, is financed from loans from the public or the Centre. This should be also subject to one condition, viz., that the duration of repayment should be spread over a long period, the first payment itself commencing only a few years after the loan has been taken. There should not be a call for immediate repayment. I would request the Government to bear these factors in mind whenever they are faced with the necessity of financing capital expenditure. With these words, Madam, I conclude."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Madam Deputy Speaker, hard-working, public-spirited and patriotic, as the Hon. the Finance Minister is, we expected that his Budget speech would contain his remarks on some of the burning topics of the day. It must be confessed, Madam, that we are a bit disappointed at the significant omission in the Budget speech of some of these topics and even throwing cold water over some others. The Hon. the Minister for Finance should have been very busy otherwise; or else these important matters would not have been omitted. Madam, these

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is the Communist menace much about which has indeed been said in this House. Day in and day out, hon. Members have been complaining about the troubles perpetrated by the Communists. But it looks as though the Tamil section of this House does not seem to be in the least concerned about what is happening in the northern edge of this State. At least, to make them realize the gravity of the situation there, I would invite the Communists to invade the southern parts so that the lethargy with which people here are caught up might go and so that the Hon. the Chief Minister of this State might feel that he has a duty to perform to the dumb millions of the northern half of the State. Take for instance, Madam, the reports that appear in the newspapers almost every day on the Communist atrocities. The latest incident is from a village in the Guntur district where a karnam who did his duty, his bare duty in the fond belief that this Government is too powerful to ward him off from all dangers, has been murdered, along with his kith and kin. He did his duty loyally and for the act of giving information to the Government, vengeance has been wreaked against him by the Communists. I do not quarrel with the Communists because they are men of business. They are not like Congressmen who go about parading past greatneses and indulging in future promises. They are men who know their job and execute it neatly. So my admiration goes to them whoever they are and wherever they are. The karnam's family consisted of four members. They caught hold of the karnam who was in the field in the night and out him into pieces. Then they went into his house and knocked at the door. When the karnam's wife came out to open the door, they shot her down. The little child who was sleeping by the side of the mother, woke up and they finished with the child also. The vengeance they have wreaked upon the family made the neighbourhood feel that anybody who raised a voice of protest against the Communists would meet with the same fate. The fate that has befallen the karnam and his family may befall on anyone else but the time is not yet come for us to feel it. Perhaps we in the south are farthest from those zones. Perhaps this is one of the reasons why our Ministers are anxious to go and open old bridges, perform the opening ceremony of an old cinema. Do not they know, Sir, that there is a place which is a no man's land on the border of Krishna, on the border of Guntur and on the border of Nellore as well? Why don't these Gentlemen go there to study the conditions for themselves, or at least to test the fruits of their legislation? You have passed an Act called the Defence of India Act, but you don't say the little servants of the Government, the little police officers, the District Superintendent of Police or the Deputy Superintendent of Police rushes there, tells them that they need not be afraid of future atrocities, that the Police would be at their beck and call and that there would be no trouble in future. The thing is repeated again and the same old tale of assurances repeats itself.

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"I want to put one square question to the Finance Minister because he seems to be dealing with matters connected with police. (The Hon. the Finance Minister: 'No, no.') Thank you. I wish you would do some time because I know you are a man of business as well. You know how to tackle things, not in a shilly-shally manner but in a thorough manner. I wish you would take it up. But this seems to be a no man's land because the Chief Minister who is in charge of the portfolio seems to have too many things claiming his attention and hence the whole trouble. Somebody should be made responsible for this item so that I may ask for shelter from him. Is it the Finance Minister who answers questions upon all Police matters and answers questions dealing with other topics also or is it the Chief Minister of this Province who makes his appearance rarely whom I should approach on these matters?

"What I say is that the Government should realise the seriousness of the situation and come out with a clearly stated policy. Either excuse the Communists as was done by the British Government when they were in serious trouble, faced as they were by foreign aggression. The British sent for men like Joshi and told them: 'Let us be friends. What is the good of fighting with each other. The common object before us is that the German and Japanese axis must be broken. Let us join hands.' They did join hands. Well, there is a foreign aggression facing India, though it is not the German-Japanese axis, it is the Russo-Chinese axis. But as you know, there is a rift in the lute and the Communists are divided between two violent forces. There is a party among them who believe in the method of outraging families, destroying them and creating terror in the villages. Why don't you send for them and request them to co-operate with you. You remove the ordinances and bans and then invite them and tell them that that was not the proper way to deal with the masses. Because of their terroristic activities the masses are afraid, they are getting panicky and hate the communists. Somehow the Communists have a wrong genius and they work havoc on these poor villagers. They burn cheris, they burn paddy stocks. It is a very unsafe thing, a very undesirable thing. But they do it. What I suggest is, either prevent them from committing this orgy of murder and loot and arson or wage your war with them befitting your dignity and strength and influence which the Government holds in this land. If without doing either of these if you simply lecture from this assembly or issue statements, it does not do good. On the other hand it may do positive harm.

"What I understand from responsible people and officials is that things on the other side of the border are not very happy. You have posted a retired old official as the Deputy Inspector-General of Police on the Hyderabad side. The Hyderabad Government took loan of the services of the old official, the former Motor Transport Controller, who is not able to do his job properly on the other side. My information is he is not able to

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help Government any more in the matter. I am speaking of Mr. Karunakara Menon, I am told that most of the officials who go there, the other side, are not moving fast because they are equally afraid that it may be unsafe. What I say is send for the officials; confer with them; find out what is exactly the strength of the Communists, how they operate and the area over which they operate and so on. Unless you take up operation which will cover the whole area, it is no good. I do not know whether the Madras Government have thought it fit to take the permission of the Government of India to send a regiment, a Gurka regiment, and post them in that area. After all the area itself will be 50 square miles. The Government could have requisitioned their services and instead of killing one every day and making the number a thousand they could have killed hundreds a day and finished the matter once for all. I am not a militarist myself. I am not an expert in that line. It is demoralising the people in this country. So far as Krishna district is concerned, the condition in every village is terrible. My hon. Friend Mr. Kaleswara Rao might fume at me for encroaching upon his prerogative but still, Sir, I have to mention the fact that four miles from Masula, the capital town of our Rashttrapathi, the seat of the District Government, recently some Communist people swooped upon a village, killed some men and took away some property. The property was recovered. Then about 8 to 9 miles from the Capital Town another incident happened and with the co-operation of the policemen the property is being recovered. What, I ask, is the position of the Government in regard to Krishna district? In Guntur, things are happening exactly the same way. I went to a place there where a month prior to that a police reserve force was kept for the past one year. It was removed on the report of the District Superintendent of Police who said that it is a place safe for the Government and no more force was necessary. Upon that report, unfortunate report of the District Superintendent of Police, the force was withdrawn. When I went and enquired about the conditions they gave a very alarming report and requested reposting of the reserve force. I requested the Chief Secretary to repost the force there and luckily he did post the force there, a month back. Ten days after that the incident happened when the karnam and his family were killed. Why should these District officials not knowing the seriousness of the position make remarks which result in costly experiments on the people? I would therefore request our authorities to pay proper attention to matters of such serious importance.

"I asked a question one day whether the victims of these atrocities, the poor families are going to be compensated for their loss, or at least paid a money grant; forthwith came the reply from the Minister for Revenue that no such thing was contemplated. I have a great complaint against the Revenue Minister. He does not take anything seriously. So far as his private life is concerned, it is not my concern. So long as he is in this House,

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he owes a duty to the portfolios he handles. He holds two portfolios, one is Revenue and the other—most unfortunate portfolio—the labour. All my grievance is that labour and industrial portfolios should not be handled by the same person and especially by a person without the labour bias. Here unfortunately, he has an industrial bias and labour suffers at his hands, and that too enormously. Take for instance his tenure of office, he has been in office for the past three years. No one piece of labour legislation has been so far passed in this Assembly. On the other hand he has had so many measures made for the industrialists, the State-Aids, formation of the Finance Corporation and good many things. Not one piece of legislation was brought forward by the Hon. Minister for the uplift of labour. I say if he has absolutely no taste or liking for the Department, the least he can do is to quit and give the department to somebody instead of sticking to it. But not to do anything there, is a thing which would tell upon the morale of the country.

"Another important point I would make is this. Recently I was pained to see the report in the papers in which our redoubtable Minister for Medicine is reported to have indulged in metaphors which were very costly to his reputation and the reputation of the House. It is not for him to say scornfully that the Andhra Province question has been buried and the post-mortem examination might have been made if it was taken for completely dead. It did not add grace to either the questioner who put the question about the dead state or the dying Andhra Province or the cruel joke indulged in by the Minister in that matter. I wish such carping remarks were not indulged in. It is very dangerous to wound a wounded tiger because God knows what will happen at the next moment. I think a spirit of dignity should mark the proceedings of the House hereafter.

"Another thing which, I found, was not mentioned in the Budget report is about the State-Aid to Industries. Indeed the Minister for Finance made a passing reference that 35 lakhs has been provided for this year. What has become of the previous aid? I expected the Minister of Finance would have given an idea as to the industries that were benefited by the State-Aid already given, how far they have progressed, what amounts were repaid and what was the exact state of progress made in regard to State-Aid to Industries. Instead of that we get a bald statement that 35 lakhs have been provided and further aids would be given. Then again reference was made to the poetic remarks of Rabindranath Tagore indulged in by the Finance Minister last year which really made the report very attractive and very nice. But this time he has given a matter of fact and a business like budget. But this has not paid him good returns; on one side he is being terrorised by the Communists and on the other he is being ground down by the machinery of Government. I expect the Hon. Minister for Finance to realise that the Communist is not far from our own country and that we are being surrounded slowly and

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steadily by a rank of enemy countries, beginning from Tibet about which the India Government has released a statement this month. Indo-China is in serious trouble. Burma is already in trouble. China is looming large, looking like a potential enemy always ready to pounce upon Indo-China. I therefore wish to suggest to the Hon. the Finance Minister that the policy of appeasement to the labourer, to the landless poor and the communist worker is more urgent now than at any time.

"The Government have taken up total prohibition. Whatever might be said against it, I am here to testify to the fact that wherever Congressmen have not interfered, prohibition has succeeded very well. The Hon. Minister for Prohibition may not know it. I know a case where some high officials drink in spite of the prohibition. If the Government comes in and makes them feel that high officials are not immune from the punishments of the Act then everything will be alright. I warn the Hon. Minister for Prohibition not to extend the benefits of the permits hereafter. I know of a lawyer from my district who successfully broke the prohibition laws all the while, sought for a permit and got it recently? It is not very creditable for us, at any rate, men with education, and rich men to get the permit with impunity. This ought not to be allowed. If drinking is a sin ban it. If drinking is against the interest of the state ban it, whether European, Indian or anybody. Do not make a distinction. But if you begin to make a distinction on the question of influence, merit and so on, well, prohibition can never succeed.

3 p.m. "I now come to another matter about the aborigines and their uplift. I am glad that the Finance Minister has taken very good steps in the matter and given them priority. The aborigines were never cared for. I am glad that the committee appointed to enquire into their condition has resulted in the appointment of an officer of a Collector's grade to look after the amenities of the aborigines. But the Finance Minister ought not to go away with the idea that all the aborigines are confined to the agency areas. Only half the total population of ten lakhs is confined to this area and the remaining half is spread over the 11 Andhra districts, which have the largest aboriginal population. Therefore the Government should extend these beneficial activities to the Yenadis who number 1½ lakhs and to the Erukulas and the Lambadis also.

"I now come to the Firka Development Scheme. I am glad that this most beneficial of all schemes which was launched in Mr. Prakasam's time has been taken up and extended with a zeal which is worthy of emulation. I am glad that the scheme has been extended to two more firkas in every district. If Government can claim anything by way of substantial achievement, it is the firka development work. More roads, wells and other amenities for the villagers in the firkas have made them understand what the future Ram Rajya is going to be. They know that the firka villages are better favoured and that they get their quotas of essential things quickly and in larger quantities. The scheme should be

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extended to more firkas in each district. Any amount invested in the scheme will not be a waste. I wish the Government ample success in this. I hope they will make themselves more popular in this direction.

"Lastly I wish to say a word about corruption. Corruption is everywhere. It is in the air. From the Prime Minister of India down to the Chief Minister of Madras, they are not tired of speaking against corruption. But what is it that is actually done to put it down? The whole trouble lies in the Congressmen themselves sometimes. I hold extreme views in this matter. If I feel that things are not going well in a particular district because of the interference of Congressmen with the administration, I would not hesitate to apply the rule of law to it and say that this body shall not exist until normal conditions prevail. Whether it be the Congress Party or the Muslim League, the State is more important than the party. If Congressmen shamelessly go about interfering in these matters, why should they have the freedom to do so? For instance, I know a case. When I was coming in the train I was told that in the communist case where 70 people were undergoing trial, one of the two parties in the Congress in Guntur is anxious to get the adherence of these communists and enlist them as Congressmen. To put on khaddar dress and a khaddar cap on the head, to glibly walk about in slippers and Nehru coat is not to follow Congress. Those days are gone; past laurels will not help us in present predicament. I request the Government to be more earnest. Let them apply the rule strictly.

"Sir, some very sharp criticisms have been made about the seating arrangements for Mr. Prakasam and his admirers and followers. People have begun to threaten them with action for breach of discipline. Before they do so, let them examine themselves and find out how many times they have themselves committed a breach of Congress discipline? Why should any Congressman interfere in the administration? If Government take a very soothing attitude in regard to these matters, the villagers and the officials in the villages get completely upset. I know the Minister for Revenue has interfered and given certain permits to people who, I have pointed out time and again, have been proved black-marketers. He gave them permits and he suffered for it afterwards."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I have not suffered."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"Unfortunately you have suffered in your reputation in the country. Hardly six months after, these people have lost their permits because they misbehaved. All the people who were given permits by the Hon. Minister for Industries have lost their permits. To interfere with the Collectors and compel them to do this and that, to go and halt in the houses of proved blackmarketers—why do they want to do all this? If the Ministers want to keep up the reputation of the Government, they

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can go and halt in the dak bungalows. They are waiting for them and they have priority of residence. I hope the Government will take some of the suggestions which I have made in a camaraderie spirit in which I have offered them and bring back to this country the ancient glory which it once had."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—Madam, Deputy Speaker, I must confess that while I was not exactly in a mood of thanksgiving on the Governor's Address, I am today inclined to be very severely critical of the present Budget. The Finance Minister has called for constructive criticisms and he will have as much of it as he desires. But I want a sporting assurance from him that he will attempt to reply to whatever criticism is made from whatever quarter it comes. Last time, to my utter astonishment, the points raised by way of pure constructive criticism were left out of account altogether. It is not fair. I want him to be more fair. I shall now attempt to make a sober and practical judgment of our achievements as forecast in the revised estimates and in the budget for the next year.

"Now, Madam, the Opposition has drawn a red herring across the path. It has criticized prohibition from its own point of view. It has even raised the leftist bogey. I am neither a leftist nor a rightist. I stand for wise policies conducted in the true Congress spirit.

"Let me analyze the present figures. We have been very fortunate from year to year and in spite of the advice tendered very soberly last year against additional taxation, taxation was attempted to be forced on the people. Luckily on account of the strong desire of the people expressed in the select committee stage and also in the House when the measures came up for open debate, the taxation measures were dropped for the most part. Year after year, the Finance Minister has been saying that there would be a deficit and I have been saying from here from this very seat that he will not suffer a deficit and that he is budgeting for artificial deficits. Last year he budgeted for a deficit of Rs. 368 lakhs. Where is that deficit? From year to year he has been living on this one thing because the opposition has been cautioning him that his revenues have been diminishing on account of prohibition. The Revenue Reserve Fund in the hands of the previous Government stood at Rs. 30 crores and today it stands at Rs. 33 crores, with the fortunate accumulation of cash balances for which he can take no credit and which his predecessors have left, he has been able to carry on a capital programme in spite of the fact that he did not go into the open market for loans. I am now referring to paragraph 10 of his speech. He says that the year 1949-50 started with a balance of Rs. 46.21 crores and would close with a balance of Rs. 37.99 crores. Not only has there been no deficit but the surpluses accumulated by miserly administrators have helped this Government to put through a very modest capital programme. The Finance Minister has taken credit this year in the capital

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1st March 1950] programme for Rs. 2½ crores being the balance of the state trading schemes. This is all constructive criticism. He has said: 'We are forced because of our articles of faith to adopt prohibition and khadi development. We have lost revenue; we are at the end of our resources. We cannot find any more. We have no money and so we are not able to put through many nation-building programmes'. Now I say that this is a very humdrum budget. It shows perfect inertia and stagnation in many departments. If the budget is not to be a mere lifeless presentation of figures, if it means live policies adopted by the Government in accordance with plans, I say that this budget is a very poor performance. It shows that the Government have no policies. Even the policies they have, have not been wisely executed. They have many bad policies which ought to go at once. The net result is no policy at all on many matters. I shall first take the figures and then come to policies. The Government are stuck up at a budget of Rs. 55 crores of revenue and expenditure. Naturally the expenditure cannot go higher than the revenue. All this must be viewed in the light of the rise in prices. Compare the revenue to-day with what it was in 1932 or 1945. Commercial products have increased in prices by 79 per cent in the last four years and foodgrains have increased in prices by 53 per cent. If it is viewed in this light, there is urgent need for finding more revenue, if they want to finance nation-building activities. Instead, they are hesitating. Even in the matter of taxation, they have not collected correct data. Land revenue cannot expand and might even become unsteady on account of the failure of the monsoons. Sometimes, the Government are forced to charge such a high rate as Rs. 20 as water-rate under the high level channel in Tiruchirappalli. I think they should not do it, if they have the Grow More Food Campaign at heart. They should go slow in the matter. Land revenue is very inelastic. It may have to be modified a great deal. Let us take sales-tax which has replaced excise revenue. There is no point in the Opposition saying that prohibition should be abandoned and then we would get more revenue. If prohibition is removed, they will say at once that the sales tax or at least such part of it as was unnecessarily enhanced during the last three years should be removed.

"That is my answer on the taxation side. I have a more significant answer on the administrative side, but that will be taken up when the prohibition demand is on. 3-1 p.

"Now what is our other revenue? Do the Government give us the sales tax figures? No; they merely say that it has gone up to Rs. 15 crores and also say that it may even shrink next year. Have they looked into the balances, into the turnover of each one of the trades? Have they made a survey? I tell you, Sir, that Finance Department has not made any such survey. I warned the Government against this even last year. This tax which is a very good source of revenue must be worked very carefully, very cautiously and must be worked with effect if it is really intended to produce the revenue which it is designed to produce. Yet the Government have given no information about these figures. (An hon. Member:

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..They are all given'. Then they have included them in the Budget. The Government do not place all their cards on the table and they deprive me of the chance of looking into the figures.

"Last year I pointed out that mill after mill of coconut oil in the West Coast has disappeared and the whole of the business has migrated to Bombay because of the sales tax. In an article which can be used once, twice or thrice, like cotton being made into yarn and yarn into cloth, or jute made into hessian or jute into yarn and then into gunnies, you are making a terrible mistake in levying taxation all through. It may be a principle that where it is a tax on manufactured goods—of course tax on exports is excluded—the last stage alone should be taken; otherwise, the result will be that there is a lot of fudging of accounts; we lose the revenue, the Government of India loses its revenue and we also lose our divisible income. This Government and the Government of India must work in unison and in collaboration and they must help in finding out tax-dodging. I do not want a single patriotic son of this country to stand up and say 'I will dodge the tax and look on and still I may put on Government committees.' It is a very distressing state of affairs. We must have a very close examination of this tax; and I ask for it with repeated emphasis this year.

"What are the other taxes? Now, forests have shown an increased revenue. Let me tell the Forest Minister that he is pursuing an absolutely wrong policy in giving away things to the highest bidder. Let me have his attention for a minute. His department is now coming under review so far as revenue is concerned. Supposing a coupe is put up for auction, and on an average it has produced Rs. 60 per acre last year, and suddenly out of blind zeal, a man blinded with stupid competition offers Rs. 200 per acre. Are you to allow him to go with that? (Interruption by the Hon. Minister for Forests.) I am sorry the Minister is a child in this department; he does not know his department; I will instruct him as to what he should do; let him take instructions in a serious manner. What he should do is this: He must take the average, find out if the man can produce the necessary amount of timber or of fuel from the forest at Rs. 200 per acre, and it is not his duty—it is duty of the Hon. Minister—to see that our forests are worked. This ruinous competitive policy should be put an end to at once in respect of at least of certain items. You do not know your job yet, and you must learn a good deal about this business. (Interruption.) I do not want the Hon. Minister to interrupt or to be meddlesome when I put forward these suggestions. Then coming to sandalwood, there is no more expansion of this forest undertaking. Let us take electricity. It depends on various schemes and all the schemes depend on machinery imported from abroad; but let us take other items; where then is your expansion? The Government should look forward to new sources of revenue.

"One of them is transport. The Opposition said 'Do not become leftist; abhor the word nationalization.' I do not ask the

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Government to nationalise industries, I do not ask them to nationalise difficult things; but I ask them certainly to nationalise transport with a view to finding their own solution to their difficulties. The Government should nationalise transport at once, by stages if they like and must go forward boldly. Instead, what do we find? Rs. 60 lakhs for capital works in the first, Rs. 8 lakhs in the previous year which amounts to no more than a part replacement from depreciation fund, and Rs. 4 lakhs for the next year. The Government have succumbed to vested interests; a number of people in this House have either interest in the motor bus trade or, I am sorry to say,—I will prove my facts—or they are attaching too much personal importance to it. What are the results? Rs. 14 lakhs in one full year, after paying the tax you have placed on motor vehicles, after setting aside interest and income-tax—you may correct me if I am wrong—and after setting aside an accident reserve and a depreciation fund. What does all this mean? For 300 vehicles, besides the tax—however inefficiently run they may be—I do not say it, other members say so who have vested interests—they produced about Rs. 14 lakhs plus another Rs. 4 lakhs in the shape of motor vehicles tax. And there is another provision for amenities and accidents and the like which no private-owner has provided in his budget. Is this a sad state of affairs? Take expert advice on technical points, if necessary—I am not against it—but go forward. This is one of the sources that is open to you. In Bombay they have gone forward, I do not know how far; but why do this Government show hesitation? This is not the way to run the Government.

"Let me turn now to expenditure. The Government take credit that they have spent more than in the previous year and for the coming year, they have provided for more than at any time previously. Take education. What is the provision? The Government have doubled the grants; is that a provision? Last year, I asked this question and so I am glad you have furnished the figures this year. In the elementary schools, the number of boys have risen from 32.42 to 38.17, and what is the increase in population in these four years? Have you ever looked at it from this point of view? I say it has never occurred to you. Take the next figure; The secondary schools are a little better, but even there if you make allowance for what I have suggested, it is not much. Then as regards Arts colleges, your stupid discriminatory policy has interfered with the progress of education. Never mind, I have used strong expressions, but you can reply to them.

"Next I go to irrigation. You have got the figures no doubt. Last year I complained that there was a lot of disparity between the estimates and the actuals. I put it to the Irrigation Minister to look at this. I have collected the rates from the Public Works Department. The expenditure includes a lump payment for machinery imported from abroad. Surely you cannot take credit for that; if machinery goes up in price, you cannot say in terms of money that you have made wonderful progress. Of course there are limitations

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I understand, as a practical man, limitations of staff, limitations for other reasons, but we cannot take credit and shout from the house-tops that we have done more. Actually it seems to me taking into account the rise in prices allowed for in the Public Works Department estimates, we have not done very much more than in the previous years. That is so far as irrigation is concerned. I can say that in respect of some other items also, but it will be wasting the time of the House.

"Let me now come to policies. There are only three other matters which I would like to take up, viz., Public Health, Food and thirdly Prohibition; or shall I reverse the order, and dispose of prohibition first? Sir, prohibition is a policy of which I am proud, because it is one which we have honestly attempted and quickly attempted. We have put our heart into it, but it is a difficult matter. There are many things in respect of this which the Prohibition Minister must look into. It is no use simply looking at things in the interval of lightning tours; he must take his seat firmly in Madras and watch the course of development, keeping a grip over the administration. I say now you have lost your grip, taking your own admissions. The Minister goes into his own districts and sees sometimes perhaps some of his own community men or men of other communities becoming leaders in the sale of illicit liquors. I am not afraid of illicit liquor; I would even say that if an addict drinks only once or twice in a week, it may be condoned. But there are other things which the Minister must take note of. You must take note of this vice and grip it from above, you must hold it in the tight grip of your hands. I may tell you in the City under your very nose, what is happening, do you know? There are alcoholic preparations Aqua Auranti Floris which contains 60 per cent tincture, Aqua Rose which contains 50 per cent, Tinc Lapsi which contains 60 per cent, Spirits Aethens Nitroso which contains 80 per cent. They are all made in this City; do you know what they are? They are all hideous poisons which are mixed with soda and lime-juice and sold at every betel shop in the City. I do not want to make it as propaganda, but people there are who know their names. I want the Minister to understand all this. Has the Excise department done anything to investigate in which factories these are produced, what proportion it bears to the total produced, and all that? I will inform him. If a firm produces 60,000 rupees worth this poison alone accounts for 60 per cent. These are all supposed to be medicinal preparations and they are happening under your very nose. Please do not shut your eyes; you are blind; we are becoming deaf; I do not know why I should become dumb in the matter of making statements like this here.

"I do not know if these industries are state-aided. I would ask the Minister for Industries to tell me, but he puts me on the sly and says 'You go to that man and obtain the information straight-away.' Your aid is given to all and sundry, if there is a friend of yours, he must be given aid. I ask, is there any priority list?

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This aid is intended for difficult industries to which capital cannot be attracted, or industries which are essential for the security of the State and which have got to progress.

"Now let me take public health. I am sorry I am taking up the time of the House, but I shall finish in five minutes. What is your Public Health Policy? It is nothing. You must split up your budget head hereafter. Medical and Public Health should not be clubbed together. The medical department figures are no doubt separated, but the control and the administration must not be confused. Medical refers to the cure of disease; Public Health deals with the prevention of disease, wherein you can work and show progress.

"Now, what is your public health expenditure? As I told you it is just 3 pies in the rupee and for hospitals 9 pies. It is like setting a house on fire several times and then using your nose to quench the fire. Do you want your people to get more and more disease? Is that your policy? There are cases you get in hospitals. Why not ask for figures? Typhoid, dysentery, all these are easily preventible. Your water is impure and so you get all these diseases. Your malaria again. Your environment is unsafe. It is environmental hygiene. Now, have you increased your public health expenditure? What is your policy in respect of cholera, I want to know? Every year you want to resort to inoculation whenever the epidemic bursts and everybody is attacked. You have not got the mind and you have no grip; you have lost your grip. But, I would ask you to still think over and then seek for a re-orientation of the policy in regard to preventible diseases.

"As regards rural water-supply, what is your expenditure? It is only a trifle, practically nothing at all. You have, of course, increased it slightly. Considering the cost involved, you must make some progress. Why not make progress in all directions, for instance, in the direction of development, organisation and machinery? On the other hand, you have no tendency to develop elastic revenues so that additional revenues may be flowing into the exchequer from day to day.

"Then, Madam, let me take one more item. What is your policy regarding food. I am sorry the Hon. Food Minister is not here. I do not want to be too hard on him, he is new to the job and he is only carrying on in the manner in which his predecessors were carrying on. Now, have you announced your new policy? Last time I asked, why don't you restrict the ration to towns, abolish rural rationing and you build up your reserve but you have no policy. Now, what is your policy in regard to procurement. No doubt, you have district targets. I do not understand all that. Your surplus producers go merry while the marginal producer has kept the knife inside him. There is no self-sufficient care so far as the man who cultivates for his own use is concerned; he has very little surplus left with him. I say it is unwise to go on procuring without a policy.

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"Madam, I do not wish to take up the time of the House and I will conclude this way. As I have shown it is wise to develop a liking for good policies. First, I would be satisfied with that. Then planning and execution of wise policies. Now, if we had that, we do not have to lean on other people and go with a nervous fear that the leftists may engulf and swallow us. As I said, I am not afraid of the leftists. The Congress has certain standards which we must observe. Now, let it not be said that the Congress in our case, like charity, covers a multitude of defects. Let us not make the public think that democracy cannot be laid on unstable foundation, on undesirable, on understandable policies, and intelligent initiative, to help us in moving forward and making use of every resource in the province, to fill not only your coffers, but to increase the happiness of the people. Otherwise, khaddar becomes an empty symbol and the Congress a mere label."

* SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, after one year again we have met in the Budget session. During this one year, have we improved in the surroundings, in the condition of the people, in better Government and in the confidence that the Government have created in the minds of the people? From every point of view there is nothing but deterioration. I am living in the most central part of the Andhradesa. I see on all sides nothing but gloom, dissatisfaction and unrest. Our life and property are quite unsafe. The Government have miserably failed. I have been urging always that there should be a special Inspector-General of Police for the Andhra area and unless the Andhra State is separated this communist menace cannot be put down. The Andhra province has not come. The Tamil Home Minister has completely failed in giving us security. There has been greater and greater deterioration owing to the communist situation. No doubt, the expenditure has increased; more police have been appointed and more Malabar Special Police have been wandering in villages, but the people have lost all confidence of having any protection at the hands of the Government. Only the other day, I went along with Mr. Arvanayagam to visit a Girls' Training Centre of Basic Education. The terror-stricken villagers came to us. The President of the District Congress Committee was also there. What advice could I give to those people? Where is the police to protect them? About ten villages were subjected to riot by the communists one evening and five men had been killed. It is feared that they might swoop all the villages. Many of those people are sleeping in the police stations. Is that the security that this Government are giving? On Munagala side no man would stir out after six in the evening and the officer who is in charge of Munagala and Muthyala Estates told them to run away. In the centre of the Krishna district itself people are terror-stricken. If I tell the Government that I am keeping my windows in the upstairs shut during nights, let them believe me. I am in the City of Vijayavada and it is also infested with communists and they are challenging

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1st March 1950] the Government. Murders, loots, butchering of women and the burning of grain stacks in several of the villages are taking place and they are increasing in number. Only the other day, communist attacks had taken place in the Guntur district, again in East Godavari district and in the West Godavari district and we are in such a position. Is that not the responsibility of the Government? Are not the Government bound to do something to create confidence in the minds of the people? What has the Home Minister done and how many times has he come to our parts? At least Mr. Omandur Ramaswami Reddiar came there a few times, but this gentleman came there only once. Afterwards he has never come there. Is this the sort of anxiety that this Home Minister has to show to the people of the Andhradesa? Of course, he may be doing something; and the Deputy Inspector-General may be doing something. Only very recently, on the 24th of January there were pamphlets distributed in large numbers among the communists that they should create terror in the City of Vijayavada itself; otherwise, they will not get international reputation. The pamphlet showed that it had created sufficient terror in the villagers. But, thanks to the local Police, they took precautionary measures and about 120 persons were arrested during all these days and we could take out processions and hold meetings, but what was the result? The Circle Inspector has been transferred to Nellore simply because one rag of a paper has been attacking him because he was a Brahman. That paper claims to belong to the Government group. I say that this group system is the bane of the Government and this group mentality and communalism are also the bane of the Government. I wish to point out only one thing. My hon. Friend will excuse me if I say, what are the Andhra Ministers doing? Of course, one of my hon. Friends has stated we have not come here as Andhras. Yes, because you belong to a particular community you can say so. Otherwise I do not know what you would say. Now, there are two Reddies and one Kamma? Is that not worse than communalism like Non-Brahmans, Christians and others? Is this the way of doing things? Your Government is weak and what are these 4 Andhra Ministers doing there? Because they have not done their duty to the people, everything has deteriorated. So, our lives are in our hands. That is our security position which I want to tell my hon. Friend.

"Then, coming to the question of floods, before the lands became dry the cyclone came and then several houses were drowned. What was the relief that the Government had given to the affected people? Only very little. I know thousands of huts of Harijan and labourers had fallen down, but very few of them got any relief. But, what is the use? It was all only petty relief. They gave only Rs. 10 per hut; they gave one rupee to a peon, one rupee to the karnam and one rupee to the Revenue Inspector. Things have been done in that way. I saw the other day a case of attachment of property. They collected dry rates of assessment even on lands which were submerged under water for several days. Though the

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Tahsildar and the Deputy Collector knew these things, yet the attachment proceedings were taken. Cannot the Hon. Revenue Minister send down instructions that remission should be given also to dry lands in all the areas? What is the meaning of expecting people to put in petitions and making them undergo all red-tapism from the Revenue Inspector to the Tahsildar, then to the Sub-Collector and then to the Collector and so on. I want you to give general instructions for all the dry areas. This morning I put a question relating to the matter and immediately I was snubbed by saying that I might put a separate question. I am now doing it by asking a separate question.

“ Now, with regard to procurement, Krishna has suffered most in the cyclone and floods and as many as 65 persons died as a result of the cyclone. That is admitted and also several thousands of acres have been submerged under floods and the result of it was that the crop yield was very low. Added to these, the communists also had their share of setting fire to grain stacks. In this state of affairs, I am reliably informed that in spite of the reports of the local District Collector and other officers who recommended something like 75 lakhs of tons only could be procured from our district, about 1½ times of what is attempted to be procured. It is really a very serious situation and especially when people are expecting famine in the district within a short time, the officers are coercing people and taking their rice. Unless the Hon. Revenue Minister and the Food Minister collaborate and see that procurement is carried on only to the capacity of the district there will be serious troubles. To add to this, there is the communist danger. So that is the serious situation that is facing Krishna district. I do not know much of other districts. As far as my district is concerned I can say there is scarcity, famine, distress, the after-effects of cyclone and flood and last but not least, insecurity.

“ Coming to my own home, Vijayavada. I am living in a substantial building; and I am sleepless on account of mosquito trouble. (Laughter.) Vijayavada is the biggest town—here I do not want to go into competition with my young friend, the Hon. Sri Sanjeeva Reddi, who will say, Anantapur is the biggest town. But my point is, the drainage question in Vijayavada has been put off for years together. What I am told is this: and I want the Hon. Ministers to examine it. Sanctions are being made for drainage schemes in Andhra districts as well as for Tamil districts. While executions are going on in certain parts, only paper sanctions are being made from year to year in certain other parts, and so amounts are being carried on from year to year. So, that is the belief; and that is also what is actually taking place to the best of my knowledge. Long ago, we gave priority in our provincial water-works drainage schemes to the Vijayavada drainage scheme; and yet, nothing has been done. Recently, some investigation staff was put in, and it was also suddenly removed; and then, one subdivisional officer was appointed, but within three months he was also transferred. I had a talk with the Chief Engineer in the matter, and he said ‘ We are

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passing orders’. I am told the matter is pending on the table of the Hon. Finance Minister, Sri Gopala Reddi Garu. (Laughter.) I request the Hon. Finance Minister to look into the matter and do what is possible in the matter. I also appeal to the Hon. Health Minister.

“ Leaving off a few small questions I come to the question of the formation of the Andhra Province. (An hon. Member: Visala Andhra!) The formation of the Andhra State is the most important step for the formation of the Visala Andhra. I thank my friend for reminding me of it. The time has also come for the formation of that. The Government of India is seriously considering the disruption of the Hyderabad State into three linguistic component parts, the Telangana districts being added to the Andhra districts, thus facilitating the formation of Visala Andhra. I think, such a thing can be thought of now, as the Nizam's territories have been taken over by the Government of India, and the Hyderabad people being asked to decide their own future. For the Prime Minister of India has assured them, that it is only the will of the people of Hyderabad State that has to decide this question. When that takes place, the office of Rajapramukh will be abolished, the area speaking Kanarese will go to Karnataka Province, and the area speaking Telugu will go to the Andhra State. So, the first step towards that is the formation of the Andhra State. But I see, there is an opinion gaining ground among the people that the formation of the Andhra State has been dropped; it is thrown in the cold storage. Such a thoughtless and reckless statement made by the Hon. Dr. Rajan is irritating the people and also confirming the belief of the people. But, of course, I am glad to see in the budget speech of my Hon. Friend, the Finance Minister, that the matter is still under consideration by the Government of India. I want that this Government should place the communiqué on the table of this House. For people do not know the full contents of that communiqué from the Government of India. There is no use in reading that portion and this portion from time to time to suit one's convenience. We want the whole communiqué to be printed and circulated to us so that we may know exactly what the difficulty is. If that is done, we may represent the views of the people to the Government of India and do the needful.

(At this stage the Speaker occupied the Chair.)

“ Sir, it would have been better if the Government of India had set up an impartial tribunal of high-placed gentlemen to effect partition instead of asking this Government to do it. Then arose dispute on substantial points, namely, the division of assets and liabilities, the location of the capital and with regard to the services. Regarding the last, it was said that the Andhra Province will be a Tamilian manned province. These points are serious and Mr. Prakasam has already said that it is for the Government of India to decide through experts immediately and form the Andhra State. It is a very urgent one. For people are

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dreaming about it day after day, and the friction between the Tamils and Andhras prevails in every walk of life. It is not safe merely for the services. It is not good for anybody. You can see the friction even in coffee hotels. So this question of Andhra State, having once been started, and it having come to a particular stage, it should not be stopped there; it should be settled immediately. I therefore want to know what the Ministry has been doing about this most important matter, particularly my friends, Andhra Ministers. They should voice the feelings of the Andhras, which is, I may say, unanimous, or rather perhaps with the exception of a small and insignificant Rayalaseema group, which has been opposing vehemently the splitting up of the Madras Province. As was said by Sri Kala Venkata Rao, all Andhra leaders are unanimous in their demand for the creation of the Andhra State immediately. We all want that the question raised by Mr. Prakasam in his dissenting minute should be examined by the Government of India with the help of impartial experts and the matter should be settled immediately. On this point there is no difference of opinion. Also we want that the Madras City should be the capital of the Andhra State for the time being, until the Telangana question is settled, when, we hope to have Hyderabad as the capital. We have passed resolutions to that effect on the 11th November 1949 as well as on the 4th January 1950. So, there is no difference on this question among Andhra leaders. The only difference is between Tamil friends and Andhras. Therefore, we seek the help of the Government of India to settle this question one way or the other. I am glad to read the statement of the Premier of Madras that he would be bound by the arbitration award of the Government of India. If really the Government of India want to make it a condition precedent for the formation of the Andhra Province, that there should be a common agreement between Tamils and Andhras on all important points, the Ministry should tell them, it is entirely wrong and it is unreasonable. I hope that is not the view taken by the Government of India. It is to find out all these things I want the Ministry to place the entire communiqué from the Government of India on the table of the House.

“With regard to the services I found a surprising speech was made by some one of the Hon. Ministers over there.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member's time is over.”

* SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“I shall finish my speech in one sentence. When the question was raised, ‘why don't you raise the number of Andhra officers immediately by direct appointment or otherwise’ there was an objection raised to that. And when questioned, as to how by direct recruitment Andhras were not made till now, one of the Hon. Ministers is reported to have stated that Andhras are not studying well, so they are failing in examinations and so there is not a sufficient number of them in the services. Sir, I agree with Justice Subba Rao, when he

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said, that such a proposition is simply preposterous. I am quoting his own language now. So the burden of raising the number of Andhras in the services rests with the Andhra Ministers more than on others. So I am appealing to my Andhra Ministers to work up in the matter and to place the communiqué from the Government of India on the table of the House. Sir, I have nothing more to say now.”

* SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—“கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே! குடியரசு ஏற்பட்டபின் முதன் முதலாக புதிய வரி எதுவுமில்லாமல் ஒரு வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தை சமர்ப்பித்ததற்காக நம் முன் நதி மந்திரி அவர்களை நான் பாராட்டுகின்றேன். புதிய வரி எதுவும் போடாது கண்டு நாம் சந்தோஷம் அடைவதற்கில்லை. ஆனால் தற்போது வரிகள் உச்ச நிலையை அடைந்திருக்கின்றன. அவை வெகு வராகக் குறையவேண்டும். அதுவும் குறிப்பாக எங்கள் தஞ்சை ஜில்லா, இம்மகாணத்தில் மாத்திரமல்ல—அகில இந்தியாவில் மாத்திரமல்ல—உலகத்திலேயே அதிக நிலவரி செலுத்துகின்ற ஒரு ஜில்லா என்பது ஞாபகத்தில் இருக்கவேண்டும். இப்பொழுது இருக்கக்கூடிய அதிக வரியைக் குறைக்கவேண்டுமென்றால் சட்டபூர்வமாக நில வரியை நிர்ணயம் செய்ய வேண்டும். அப்படிச் செய்யப்படாத வரையில் இந்தக் குறை நிவர்த்திக்கப்பட முடியாது. சட்டபூர்வமாய் நில வரியை நிர்ணயம் செய்யும் முறையில் சட்டமியற்ற வேண்டும். இப்படிச் செய்வதற்கும், இன்னும் இப்போன்ற வரிகளைக் குறைப்பதற்குமான சில யோசனைகளை இச்சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் அவர்களுக்குக் கூற விரும்புகிறேன்.

“எங்கள் ஜில்லாவில் பார்த்தால் சாகுபடிக்குத் தகுதியான ஆயிரக்கணக்கான ஏக்கர் நிலம் தரிசாகக் கிடக்கின்றது. அவைகளை நிலமில்லாத விவசாயிகளுக்குக் கொடுப்பதன் மூலம், அவை அனைத்தையும் சாகுபடிக்கு தக்க நிலமாகக் கொண்டு வருவதன் மூலமாக உணவுப் பஞ்சத்தை ஒருபுறம் போக்கி விடலாம். அத்துடன் நிலவரி மூலம் நல்ல வருமானம் அரசாங்கத்திற்கு கிடைக்க இடமிருக்கின்றது. இதைப் பற்றி கனம் ரெவின்யூ மந்திரி அவர்களிடம் எங்கள் தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவில் எவ்வளவு தரிச நிலம் உபயோகப்படுத்தப்படாமல் இருக்கின்றது என எத்தனையோ அவகாசத்துடன் கேட்டதற்கும் அவர்கள் அதைப்பற்றி தங்களுக்கு தகவல் இல்லையென்று அறிவித்து விட்டார்கள். ஒரு ரெவின்யூ மந்திரி, குறிப்பாக ஒரு ஜில்லாவைப்பற்றி—மகாணம் முழுவதையும் பற்றி—கூட இல்லை—எவ்வளவு நிலம் தரிசாகக் கிடக்கின்றது என்றதற்கு தெரியாது என்று கூறிவிட்டால் அது மிகவும் அவமானம் என்று சொன்னால் மிகையாகாது என்று குறிப்பிட விரும்புகிறேன். எங்கள் ஜில்லாவிலுள்ள தரிச நிலம் எவ்வளவு என்பதை கனம் ரெவின்யூ மந்திரி மூலமாகவே எனக்குப் பதில் கிடைக்கவில்லை யென்றால் வேறு யார் மூலமாக அவைகளைப் பெற முடியுமென்று கேட்கிறேன். நான் சொல்லுகின்றேன்; எங்கள் தாலுக்காவில் மாத்திரம் 10 ஆயிரம் ஏக்கர் சாகுபடிக்கு ஏற்ற நல்ல நிலங்கள் தரிசாகக் கிடக்கின்றன. அவைகளை நிலமற்ற ஏழை விவசாயிகளிடம் சாகுபடிக்குக் கொடுத்து பாசனத்திற்குத் தக்க கிணறும், மற்ற வசதிகளையும் செய்து கொடுத்து, அவற்றையெல்லாம் சாகுபடிக்குக் கொண்டுவரத்தக்க நடவடிக்கை எடுத்தாலேயே இந்த மகாணத்திலிருக்கின்ற உணவுத் தட்டைப் போக்குவதோடு கூட இம் மகாணத்திலிருந்து வெளியே ஏற்றுமதி செய்யக்கூடிய நிலைமை ஏற்படும். தஞ்சையில் இந்த ஒரு தாலுக்காவில் மாத்திரம் இவ்வளவு நிலம் தரிசாகக் கிடக்கின்றது என்றால் இதைப்போல ஒவ்வொரு தாலுக்காவிலும் ஏழாநில விரும்புகின்றது என்று சொல்லுகின்றேன். மொத்தமாக இம்மகாணத்தில் எவ்வளவு நிலம் தரிசாகக் கிடக்கின்றது என்று சொல்லவேண்டியதில்லை. இந்த விஷயத்தில் அரசாங்கம் உடனே தக்க நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு முயற்சி செய்யவேண்டும்.

[Sri A. Vedaratnam Pillai] [1st March 1950]

“மேலும் இந்த தரிசு நிலங்களை யார் சரியாக தக்க கவனத்துடன் பயிர் செய்வார்களோ அவர்களிடம் கொடுத்து அவர்களுக்கு பாசனத் திற்குத் தக்க வசதியும், நல்ல உரம், விதை, விவசாயக் கருவிகள் இவைகளை கொடுத்தும் உதவிசெய்து சாகுபடிக்குக் கொண்டுவந்தால் நிச்சயமாக இந்த மாகாணத்திலுள்ள உணவுப் பஞ்சம் போக்கடிக்கப்படுமென்று சொல்லுகிறேன். மாஜி சிப்பாய்கள் சாகுபடிக்காக ஒதுக்கப் பட்டிருக்கும் நிலங்கள் எங்கள் ஜில்லாவில் திருமங்கலக்கோட்டை என்ற இடத்தில் அப்படியே பெரும்பாகம் சம்மாய் தரிசாய் இருக்கின்றது. சாகுபடி செய்ய சக்தி இல்லாதவர்களுக்கு அவைகளை ஒதுக்கிவந்து அவைகள் அப்படியே பண்படுத்தப்படாமல் இருக்கின்றது. அவைகளைச் சாகுபடி செய்ய சக்தியுள்ளவர்களுக்குக் கொடுத்து அவைகள் சரியான முறையில் பயிர் செய்ய உபயோகப்படுத்தப்படுகின்றதா என்று கவனிக்கவேண்டுமென குறிப்பிடுகின்றேன். இங்கு ஒரு கரும்பால வைத்து நடத்தப் போதிய கரும்பு விவசாயத்திற்கு லாயக்கான ஆயிரம் ஏக்கருக்கதிகம் இருக்கின்றது. இவற்றையெல்லாம் அவர்கள் சரியாக ஆலோசனை செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“முக்கியமாக இந்த மாகாணத்தில் தொடர்ந்து மூன்று வருஷமாக மழை பெய்யாமல் பஞ்ச நிலமை ஏற்பட்டதன் காரணம் காடுகள் இருக்கின்ற இடங்களிலெல்லாம் காடுகளை அழித்துக்கொண்டு வந்து விட்டார்கள். குறிப்பாக எங்கள் ஊருக்கு அருகிலுள்ள கோடிக் கரை காடுகளைச் சவுக்கு பயிர் செய்வதற்காக என்று, அழித்துத் தீ வைத்து கொளுத்தி அழித்தார்கள். அந்த வருஷம் முதலே இதுவரை மழை யில்லாமல் பஞ்சம் உச்சநிலை அடைந்திருக்கின்றது. சவுக்காவது அந்த இடத்தில் நன்றாகப் பயிராயிற்று என்றால் அதுவும் கிடையாது. இப்பொழுது மழை யில்லாமல் போய்விட்டது. காடுகளை மறுபடியும் உற்பத்தி செய்ய முன் போலவே முனைந்திருக்கவேண்டும். ஆகையால் இனிமேலாவது இந்தக் காடுகளைத் தக்கபடி பராமரிக்க முயற்சி எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும்.

“இதைத்தவிர இக்காடுகளினால் ஏற்படக்கூடிய வேறு சில நன்மை களைச் சுட்டிக்காட்ட விரும்புகிறேன். ஏராளமான விவசாயிகளுக்கு உதவி செய்யக்கூடிய மிருகங்கள் இக்காடுகளில் இருக்கின்றன. இவைகளைக் காட்டிலாக தக்க கவனத்துடன் பராமரித்தால் விவசாய காலங்களில் இவை களைப் பிடித்து விவசாய வேலைக்கு உபயோகப்படுத்திக்கொண்டு மற்ற காலங்களில் காட்டில் விரட்டி மேய விட்டுவிடலாம். இப்படிச் செய்வதால் விவசாயிகளுக்குச் செலவு ஒன்றும் கிடையாது. விவசாயத்திற்கு இம் மிருகங்கள் மிகவும் உதவியாக இருக்கும். இன்னும் இங்குள்ள குதிரை, மான் முதலிய இம் மிருகங்கள் நல்ல முறையிலே பராமரிக்கப்பட்டு, இதை அவர்கள் கவனிக்கவேண்டுமென கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அதே சமயத்தில் காட்டு அதிகாரியின் அனுமதி பெற்றுக்கொண்டு, ஒரு மாஜிசை் சூடுவதற்கு போகிறவர்கள் ஒரு பகுதியை—மான சுட்டத்தையே சுட்டுக் கொண்டு அழித்து விடுகிறார்கள். அது மாதிரி நடக்காதபடி காட்டிலாக அதிகாரிகள் தக்க கவனம் செலுத்த வேண்டுமென கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“அதே மாதிரி அரசாங்கத்தார் பல இடங்களில் இப்போது **Cattle Breeding Centres** ஏற்படுத்தி அந்தப் பிரதேசங்களிலுள்ள உம்பனச் சேரி கால்நடைகளைப் பராமரிக்க பல வருஷங்களாகத் திட்டம் போட்டும் சரியான ஏற்பாடு செய்யவில்லை. முக்கியமாக இந்த **Cattle Breeding Centres** களிலே நல்ல **breed**களை வளர்த்து அதன்மூலம் நல்ல **breed**களை அபிவிருத்தி செய்வதற்குத் தக்க ஏற்பாடுகளைச் செய்யவேண்டுமென நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“அடுத்தபடியாக இம்மாகாணத்தில் ஆதாரக் கல்வியை அபிவிருத்தி செய்வதற்காக கல்வி மந்திரி அவர்கள் எடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கும் முயற்சி களை நான் மனப்பூர்வமாக பாராட்டி அதை ஊக்குவிக்கிறேன். அந்த ஒரு முறையின் மூலமாகத்தான் இம்மாகாணத்தில் நல்ல கல்வி அமைக்கப் பட்டபோகின்றது. அதுவும் அவர்கள் கூறியிருக்கின்றது. இந்த வருஷ

[Sri A. Vedaratnam Pillai]
1st March 1950]

காலத்தில் மாகாணம் முழுவதும் ஆதாரக் கல்வியைப் பரவும்படி செய்வ தன் மூலம்தான் இந்நாட்டின் எதிர்காலம் உன்னத நிலையை எய்தப் போகின்றது. செல்வ நிலையிலும் உயர்வு எய்தப் போகின்றது என்று நான் சொல்லுகின்றேன். இப்போது பீஹார் மாகாணத்தில் இந்த ஆதாரக் கல்வி நன்றாக வெற்றிகரமாக நடப்பதின் காரணமாக கல்வி இலாகா செலவு செய்யும் தொகையில் 65 சத வீதம் அவர்கள் மறுபடி சம் மாதத்துவிரிகிறார்கள் என்று அகில இந்திய கல்வி மகாநாடு இங்கு நடந்த காலத்தில் அவர்களுடைய அறிக்கையின் மூலமாகவும், வேறு விதமாகவும் நாம் அறிந்திருக்கிறோம். அதே மாதிரியே நம்முடைய மாகாணத்திலும் ஆதாரக் கல்வி முறையை விருத்திசெய்தால் 10 கோடி, 11 கோடி இந்த இனத்தில் செலவு செய்கின்ற நம் மாகாணத்திற்கு 60 சத வீதம் (சுமார் 6 கோடி ரூபாய்) மிச்சம் ஏற்படுமென்று அவர்க ளுக்கு நான் ஞாபகமூட்டுகிறேன். இந்த ஆதாரக் கல்வியை இன்னும் அதிகமாக நன்றாக பரவ முயற்சிகள் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். இப் பொழுது பழைய கல்வி முறையையும், இந்த ஆதாரக் கல்வி முறையை யும் சேர்த்துப் போதிக்கப்படுவதால் எந்த விதமான நன்மையும் ஏற்படாது. ஆதாரக் கல்விக்காக ஒரு தனி இலாகாவையே ஏற்படுத்தி இந்த முறையில் போதிக்கவேண்டும். பழைய முறையில் பயிற்சிபெற்ற அதிகாரிகள் மூலம் இந்த முறையை நன்கு வளர்க்க முடியாது. மேலும் அவர் களுக்கே ஆதாரக் கல்வியைப்பற்றி ஒன்றும் தெரியாது. ஆகையால் ஆதாரக் கல்வியை பழைய கல்வி இலாகாவுடன் சேர்க்காமல் இதற்கென்று தனி இலாகாவை ஏற்படுத்தி ஆதாரக் கல்வியை பரப்புவதற்கு வேண்டிய ஏற் பாடுகளைச் செய்யவேண்டும். சென்ற ஆண்டு இந்த திட்டத்திற்கு பத்து லட்சம் ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கியிருந்தார்கள். ஆனால் இப்போது ஒரு லக்ஷ ரூபாய் தான் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இதன் காரணம் எனக்குத் தெரியவில்லை. இந்த ஆண்டுகளுக்குள் இந்த ஆதாரக் கல்வியைப் பரப்பி, இம் மாகாணத்தின் எதிர்காலம் அதிக கவனம் செலுத்தவேண்டும். “உற்பத் தியைப் பெருக்கு—உற்பத்தியைப் பெருக்கு,” என்ற கோஷம் போடுவதனால் எதுவும் சாத்தியமாகாது—உண்மையில் உற்பத்தி பெருகி நாடு சுபீக்ஷ நிலை அடையவேண்டுமென்றால் அது ஆதாரக் கல்வி ஒன்றினால்தான் முடியும். பழைய முறை கல்வியால் (exploitation) சரண்டாவைத் தவிர வேறு ஒன்றாலும் ஏற்படாதென்று சுட்டிக்காட்ட விரும்புகிறேன். ஆகை யால் இந்த ஆதாரக் கல்வியை முன்னுக்குக் கொண்டுவர முன்வரவேண்டு மென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“இதே சமயத்தில் முதியோர் கல்வி விஷயமாக இப்போது அரசாங்கம் தீவிர முயற்சி எடுத்துக்கொண்டிருப்பதை நான் பாராட்டுகிறேன். முதி யோர் கல்வி விஷயமாக இந்த வருஷத்தில் மத்திய அரசாங்கம் 6 லட்சம் ரூபாய் நம் மாகாணத்திற்கு உதவி அளிக்க முன் வந்ததைப் பயன்படுத்திக் கொண்டு, நம்முடைய மாகாணம் முழுவதிலுமுள்ள முதியோர்கள் கல்வி பெற வழி வகை செய்ய முன் வந்ததைக் கண்டு பாராட்டுகிறேன். முதி யோர்களுக்குக் கல்வி புகட்டும் ஆசிரியர்கள் ஒவ்வொருவருக்கும் ஒரு ரூபாய் வீதம் எவ்வளவு பேர்களுக்கு அறிவு புகட்டுகிறார்களோ அவ்வளவு ரூபாய்கள் நன்கொடை அளிப்பது மிகவும் வரவேற்கத்தக்கது. ஆனால் இதில் தவறு நடந்துவிடாதபடி, உண்மையில் எவ்வளவு முதியோர்களுக்கு கல்வி கற்பிக்கப்படுகிறதோ அதற்குத் தக்கபடி பணம் கொடுக்கப்படவேண் டியென்பதில், படித்தவர்களையே காட்டி அவர்களுக்குப் படிப்பு சொல்லிக் கொடுத்ததாக பொய் சொல்லி பணம் பெறுதபடி கண்காணிக்கவேண்டும். உண்மையில் முதியோர் கல்வி விஷயத்தில் சிரத்தைக் காட்டும் ஆசிரியர்கள் முதலிய எல்லோரையும் இந்தப் பணியில் எடுத்துக்கொண்டு முதியோர் கல்வி சங்கம் அமைத்து அதன் மூலம் வயது வந்தோர்கள் ஆண், பெண் இருபாலரும் கல்வி பெறும்படி எல்லாவித முயற்சியையும் எடுத்துக் கொள்ளவேண்டும். இன்று ஆண்களிலாவது படித்தவர்கள் கொஞ்ச மிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் தூதிருஷ்டவசமாக பெண்களில் படித்தவர்கள்

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மிகமிகக் குறைவு. ஆகையால் அரசாங்கத்தார் பெண்களுடைய கல்வி விஷயத்திலும் அக்கரை காட்டி கல்வி கற்காத மாதர்களும் கல்வி கற்கும்படி செய்வதற்கான முயற்சியை அவர்கள் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“அடுத்தபடியாக கிராமக் கைத்தொழில் அபிவிருத்திக்கு நம்முடைய பிரிக்காக்கள் மிகவும் உபயோகமாக இருந்து வருகிறது. ஐம்பது பிரக்காக் கள் முன்பு இருந்ததுடன் இப்பொழுது இந்த திட்டத்தை விஸ்தரிப்பதை நாம் எல்லோரும் வரவேற்கவேண்டும். முதலில் எடுத்த பிரக்காக்கள் பல இடங்களில் வேலை செய்வதற்கு வசதி இல்லாமல் மிகவும் கஷ்டமான நிலைமையில் இருந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறது. இந்தத் தடவை எடுக்கப்போகும் அந்த பிரக்காக்கள் எல்லாம் நல்ல முறையில் வேலைகளை நடத்துவதற்கு தக்கபடி அவர்கள் முயற்சி எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று நான் கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன். அந்தந்த பிரக்காக்களுக்கு வேண்டிய பஞ்சு, சர்க்கா முதலியவைகளை அதிகம் சப்ளை செய்யவேண்டும். அதேமாதிரி சுய ஆக்கம் கொடுக்க வேண்டும். இன்று ஒரு பிரக்காவில் நூற்றுக்கு 85 சதவீதம் தங்களுடைய சுயதேவையை உற்பத்தியாகின்றது. இது மிகவும் பாராட்டப்படவேண்டிய விஷயம். ஆனால் இங்கே ஒரு விஷயத்தைக் குறிப்பிட விரும்புகிறேன். சுயதேவையை அந்தந்த பிரக்காக்கள் பூர்த்தி செய்து கொண்டபின்பு தன் பாக்கி, “மிச்சமிருக்கிறதை அவர்கள் வெளியிடக் கொண்டு எடுத்துப்போகவேண்டுமென்று அது இல்லாது இவர்களிடையே தேவைக்கே வேண்டியிருக்கும்போது அதை வெளியே அனுப்பிவிட்டு இவர்களுக்கு மில் துணி சப்ளை செய்யும் நிலை ஏற்படக்கூடாது. அகில இந்திய பாரத சர்க்கா சங்கம் கடர் உற்பத்தி அதிகமாக வேண்டும் என்பதற்காக, துணி நூல் நூற்கிறவர்களுக்குத்தான் என்ற வழக்கத்தை அமுலில் வைத்து இருக்கின்றது. நூல் கிட்டம் கொடுக்கின்றவர்களுக்குத்தான் கடர் துணி சர்க்கா சங்கத்தில் கொடுக்கப்பட்டு வருகிறது. இப்போது கடர் அபிவிருத்தி திட்ட பிரக்காக்களிலிருந்து அவர்களுடைய சுயதேவைக்கே மால் கடர் விற்பது நியாயமில்லை என்பதை பிரக்கா அபிவிருத்தி திட்ட மந்திரி அவர்கள் மனதில் வைத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென நான் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“வட ஜில்லாக்களில் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளின் அடக்காசமும், தாண்டவமும் சகிக்க முடியவில்லை; நெல் போரை கொடுத்துகிறார்கள்—தெருக்களைப் பொசுக்குகிறார்கள் என்று எனக்குமுன் பேசிய கனம் மெம்பர் அவர்கள் குறிப்பிட்டார்கள். அதே சீயச் செய்கைகள் தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவில் இப்போது தலை காட்டி தாண்டவமாடுகிறது என்பதை நான் ரூபகமூட்ட விரும்புகிறேன். தலைமும் கொலையும், கொள்ளையும் அதிகமாகிக்கொண்டேயிருக்கின்றன. தினமும் கொலையும் வந்து இவைகளை அடக்குவதற்குள் எல்லாம் நாசமாகி வருவதற்குள் வேறு தாலுகாவிற்கு ஒடிப்போய்விடுவார்கள். போலீசார் இவர்களை அடக்க தங்களாலானதைச் செய்தபோதிலும் அது அவர்களுடைய மாதிரம் தடுத்துவிட்டமுடியாது. எங்கள் தாலுகாவில் ஏற்பட்ட கம்யூனிஸ்டு கலவரத்தை ஊர்காப்புச் சங்கத்தை, ஏற்படுத்தி நாங்களுடன் கள் என்று கண்காணிக்க ஆரம்பித்தோம். அவர்களுடைய அடக்கத்தைக் குறைத்தோம். இப்போது கம்யூனிஸ்டு ஏனென்றவர்கள் எங்கள் தாலுகாவைவிட்டு அடுத்தடுத்த தாலுகாக்களுக்குச் சென்றுவிட்டார்கள். இதேமாதிரி ஒவ்வொரு தாலுகாவிலும் கிராமந்தோறும் ஊர்காப்புச் சங்கங்களை ஏற்படுத்தினால் கலவரமாக இந்த கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளையும் அடக்காசத்தைக் குறைத்து விடலாம். “ஊர் காப்புச் சங்கங்கள்”

[1st March 1950] [Sri A. Vedaratnam Pillai]

வெறும் சங்கங்கள் மாதிரி அல்ல. நகரங்களிலுள்ள ‘Home guard’ கள் என்று சொல்வதுபோல இந்த ஊர் காப்புச் சங்கங்களிலுள்ளவர்கள் தக்கபயிற்சி கொடுக்கப்படவேண்டும். அந்தந்த கிராமவாசிகள் களுக்கு தக்கபயிற்சி கொடுக்கப்படவேண்டும். அவரவர்கள் காப்பாற் எல்லோரையும் சேர்த்து அவரவர்கள் கிராமத்தை அவரவர்கள் காப்பாற் றிக்கொள்ளும் வகையில் தக்க பயிற்சி கொடுக்கவேண்டும். இந்த ‘Home guard’ களுக்குக் கூட நகரத்தில் ஆரம்பத்தில் பயிற்சி கொடுத்து விட்டு அப்புறம் நிறுத்திவிட்டார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு அதுமாதிரி இல்லாமல் அடிக்கடி பயிற்சி கொடுத்து அவர்களை உற்சாகப்படுத்தினால் வெகு சலப மாற கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளுடைய அட்டூழியங்களைத் தடுத்துவிடலாம். இவர்களுக்கு சரியான தக்க பயிற்சி கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருந்தால் வேலை நிறுத்த காலங்களில் (உதாரணமாக பஸ் ஸ்டரைக், டிராம் ஸ்டரைக்) இவர்கள் உதவியாக இருப்பார்கள் என்று அரசாங்கத்திற்குச் சுட்டிக்காட்ட விரும்புகிறேன்.

“இது போன்று விவசாயம் அபிவிருத்தி அடையும் விஷயத்தில் அரசாங்கம் முழு கவனமும் செலுத்தவில்லை என்று குறிப்பிட விரும்புகிறேன். குதிரை அபிவிருத்தி செய்வதற்காக, குதிரை பந்தயம் வேண்டுமென்று பந்தயக் குதிரைகளுக்குப் பரிசு கொடுக்கிறார்கள். அதைப் போலவே கிரிக்கெட் பந்தயத்தில் வெற்றி பெற்றவர்களுக்கும், மற்ற பந்தயங்களில் வெற்றி பெற்றவர்களுக்கும் பரிசு கொடுக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் விவசாயம் அபிவிருத்தி விஷயத்தில் மிகவும் உற்சாகம் காட்டுகிறவர்களுக்கு எந்த வித பரிசும் சர்க்கார் கொடுத்து உற்சாகம் காட்ட முன் வரவில்லை. யென்று சுட்டிக்காட்ட விரும்புகிறேன். நமது அரசாங்கத்தார் உணவைப் பெருக்கவேண்டுமென்ப பிரசாரம் செய்கிறார்கள். என்னுடைய தாலுகா வில் ஒருவர் கிலோயத்தில் இவ்வளவும் உலக ரிகார்டை காட்டினும் அதை உற்பத்தி செய்து அர்ப்பியிருக்கிறார். அதிகமாக உற்பத்திசெய்து காட்டி செய்துள்ள ஸ்டெயினைக்காட்டினும், அதிகமாக உற்பத்திசெய்து காட்டி யிருக்கிறார். அந்த உப்புமண் பிரதேசத்தில் அதாவது முத்துப்பேட்டையில் அவர் அவ்வளவு கண்டு முதல் செய்து காட்டியிருக்கிறார் என்றால் நல்ல நிலங்களில் உற்சாகத்துடன் விவசாயத்தில் ஈடுபட்டால் இதைவிட இன்னும் பெரிதாக, மூன்று மடங்கு உணவு தானியத்தைப் பெருக்கலாம் என்பது உண்மை. ஆதலால் அரசாங்கத்தார் மிகவும் உற்சாகமாக அதிகத் தானியம் கண்டு முதல் செய்து காட்டுகிறவர்களுக்கு வெகுமதியாக ஏதாவது ரிக கொடுக்க முன்வந்தால் இன்னும் எல்லோரும் விவசாயத்தில் உற்சாகமாக ஈடுபடுவார்கள். இத்தகைய ஏற்பாட்டின் மூலமாக நமது அரசாங்கம் எழும் விவசாயிகளுக்கு ஊக்கம் உண்டாக்கி, விவசாய அபிவிருத்திக்கு ஊக்கம் அளிக்கவேண்டுமென்று அரசாங்கத்தை நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.”

* SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Finance Minister seems to be very complacent after having presented a balanced budget. No doubt he could congratulate himself on the fact that he has been able to meet the demand on the State purse. But as a Congressman I want to ask him one question and that is whether the mere balancing of the budget has fulfilled our election pledges. Our election pledges are many. We have promised so many reliefs, we have said that we will make the villager flourish and that we will revise the land revenue policy. But I see nothing about these things in the budget. No doubt prohibition which we promised has been fulfilled. While referring to Excise Revenue, the Hon. Minister said that prohibition offences were on the increase and that effective steps should be taken to prevent them. There seems to be a common misconception that prohibition and prohibition offences have got something to do with each other.

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Prohibition stands on an absolutely different footing. We adopted prohibition in pursuance of the principle enunciated in the Tirukural for which our Finance Minister has taken a fancy:

‘நன்றே தரினும்
நடுவிகந்தாம் ஆக்கத்தை
அன்றே ஒழிய விடல்.’

It means: Whatever may be the good that may be derived from tainted money, that tainted money should be dropped and dropped immediately. Because offences are on the increase, we never want to go back on prohibition. I was surprised to hear the hon. Member from Mangalore, who belongs to the Congress Party, saying that we should give up prohibition and restore drink because we had not got adequate finances. Members of his way of thinking have not understood the real object in introducing prohibition. Prohibition may be one of the reasons which have gone to dwindle our revenues. But there is the alternative source of income in the General Sales Tax which has been described as ‘Kamadhenu’ by the Hon. Finance Minister. Sales-tax was introduced at the time of introducing prohibition. The public were definitely assured that the proceeds of the Sales-tax would go first to make up the loss due to prohibition and then towards the reduction of land-tax. But what we now see is that the old land revenue policy is continuing and a poor cultivator has got to pay the same rate of tax as a rich cultivator. The producer is not allowed to retain the produce that he produces in his own field. He is asked to hand it over to the Government at a price fixed by them according to their will and pleasure. The Hon. Finance Minister should have at least made an attempt in the direction of reducing the land-tax.

“There is nothing in the budget to enthuse the villager. He seems to be in the same old position. While we are spending a lot of money on towns and the conveniences of urban people, we are not spending enough on villages. I will give only one example. While the budget provides for Rs. 439 lakhs for communications, a magnanimous sum of Rs. 4½ lakhs has been provided for village roads! Yet the Finance Minister says that our rates of tax on motor vehicles are the highest in the whole of India and possibly apologetic over this heavy taxation. People who want to move comfortably in their cars need communications and they must be made to pay and pay through the nose. They cannot expect the poor cultivator to come to their aid and give relief in the tax on their motor vehicles.

“I have one or two suggestions regarding the improvement of villages. In my constituency, apart from big schemes for irrigation, there are two small schemes that have been pending with the Government for a number of years. There are two small rivers, Amaravati and Noyyal. They irrigate a certain extent of land and the surplus water is flowing waste. By constructing small bunds here and there, the surplus water could be conserved and

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utilized for irrigating new lands. I understand that an investigation of these schemes has been made about twenty years ago. Such small schemes will go to give immediate help to the villager, while big projects will take years to fructify though they also are quite necessary.

“I find that the lands irrigated by the High Level Channel in the Kulittalai taluk are taxed at a far higher rate than similar lands in the Tanjore district. Perhaps this disparity has escaped the notice of the Government. If there are any reasons for this disparity, I hope the Hon. Minister will reveal them in his reply.

“I now come to the vexed question of controls. All along I have been pleading for the abolition of controls. Most of the Members of this House have expressed their wish that controls should go. But from the budget speech I see that they have come to stay, the reason advanced being that they are necessary. Are controls intended to protect only the people in the towns or are they intended to be of equal benefit to the villagers also? What is it that is being done in the name of controls? As Mr. N. S. Varadachari pointed out, we take away from the marginal cultivator all the foodgrains that he produces and distribute them to the people of the towns so that they may not raise their voice against the Government. If the Government are really serious and want to feed every citizen of this State, it is up to them to take courage and say that no man shall sell or buy paddy except through a Government agency or keep stock in excess of a week's requirement. While the Government take away the paddy from villagers, they are not able to supply the villagers adequately and regularly through ration. I come from Lalgudi village which is an abundantly paddy-growing area. The poor Harijan inmates of the Lalgudi Hostel were not supplied with more than six ounces of rice when there was stock to last for three weeks to seven weeks in the towns. If the Government cannot supply the villagers with adequate ration, why should controls exist at all? If there is no effective procurement and if the agriculturists, especially the large producers, are left scot-free, there is accumulation of paddy and it results in blackmarket. If there is blackmarket, there cannot be an equitable distribution. Either controls should be lifted or the Government should see that all stocks of paddy or rice should go only to the Government granary and that everybody should take his requirement from that Government granary alone. As it is, controls are not effective. They operate to the detriment of the villagers and to the benefit of the townsmen. I refer to this point so that the Government may see that the villagers do not suffer at least in future. In some villages, no ration is supplied for weeks together. We call one area a statutory rationing area and another area a non-statutory rationing area. While we are very particular about supplying foodgrains to the townsmen, we are not equally particular about villagers beyond

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we think that the villagers can manage somehow. They have not got an organ through which to ventilate their grievances and that is why they are neglected.

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p.m.

"I now come, Sir, to the question of Harijan welfare. Sir, a sum of one crore of rupees has been set apart for Harijan uplift. But the Hon. Finance Minister seems to have laid it down that education is the only thing to which the Government should attach the greatest importance in the matter of Harijan uplift. I humbly beg to differ from him in this respect. Education by itself will not solve the problem of Harijans. The Harijan problem is a vast problem and as has been put down in the Constitution itself, it is only for ten years that we can give them all these special facilities, special privileges and special treatment. Education is not the real solution of the problem. It cannot be by merely giving them education that you can raise their standards. We have passed laws prohibiting discrimination being shown between Harijans and caste-Hindus, but these laws are observed more in their breach than in their observance. The people in the villages do not treat the Harijans in any way better than they had been doing in the past. Perhaps education can bring about a hundred Harijan Deputy Collectors or two hundred gazetted officers or even get all the Members of the Treasury Benches from the Harijan community. But would it really contribute to the solution of the real problem of the removal of untouchability? That is the question, I ask. If really the Government are interested and earnest about the removal of untouchability, it is no use merely concentrating their attention on the educational aspect of the problem. We should go deeper into the problem and see whether we would be able to educate the caste-Hindus in the villages and by even going to the extent of using force, if necessary, just as we are doing with the Communists, to make them desist from continuing this practice, and urging upon them that they cannot hereafter treat the Harijans as untouchables, that our country has become a Republic and that there cannot hereafter be any such distinction between Harijans and caste-Hindus and that there should be no such thing as untouchability in our midst. If we are not able to bring the people round to this idea, if we are not able to make the caste-Hindus cast off this idea of untouchability from their minds, there is no use of proceeding with this Harijan uplift movement and nothing that we can do would really bring about the emancipation of the Harijans. The question has been pertinently asked, 'Why go on spending such a lot of money on the uplift of Harijans alone. There are thousands of people in other communities who are as poor, as illiterate and as oppressed and helpless as the Harijans. There are the Christian converts from the Harijan community who are equally in need of assistance and help from the Government. Why not you extend to them the same facilities and hospitalities as you show to the Harijans alone?' Sir, my reply to such a question is this. It is not because that the Harijans are poor or illiterate that this amount is set apart and

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that these facilities and concessions are extended to them. The real intention and the underlying idea behind this Harijan movement is that this stigma of untouchability which has been attached to them for centuries together should be removed and we have to tell them and the people of this country that we have done a great wrong to them, that we have committed a great sin against them and that we should retrieve our sins by doing what we can by means of this one-crore fund. It is in that spirit that this Harijan problem will have to be looked at and it is in that light that we shall have to view how this one-crore fund, which we have set apart for Harijan uplift should be spent. Sir, out of the rupees one crore, set apart for this purpose, more than Rs. 50 lakhs have till now been spent on their education only. The Harijan Welfare Committee of which I had the honour to be a member had recommended that no part of this fund should be spent on educational activities alone of the Harijans and that the whole amount should be spent towards their social uplift and towards the betterment of their economic condition. The remaining Rs. 50 lakhs in that fund can be easily consumed by the Harijan schools by way of scholarships and boarding grants. I have no objection to this sum being spent on scholarships and boarding grants, but I want to emphasise that if our object is to root out the problem of untouchability, in the true sense of the word, it is not by merely giving education and scholarships and boarding grants to some of the Harijan boys that you can solve that problem. You must go deeper into the problem and try to raise up the Harijans in the villages who are now suffering under conditions of slavery and starvation and try to improve their economic conditions and narrow down the caste distinctions among the villagers and make the Harijans feel that they are also respectable members of the Hindu community, rather than attempt to produce a few graduates or nominate a few of them to the I.A.S. or make one or two of them as Secretaries to the Government or even as Ministers to adorn the Treasury Benches.

Now, Sir, coming to the subject of khadi, we have heard some hon. Members expressing doubts on the floor of this House, as to why we should have the khadi programme at all, when it is so costly as compared with the handloom cloth, and why khadi movement should exist at all. I was rather surprised to hear the hon. Member from Mangalore asking us why we should buy khadi when it is more costly than the handloom cloth. He argued that the handloom cloth was cheaper than khadi, that it is also a cottage industry where many people in the villages are employed, and he asked why it should not be given the same encouragement or even more encouragement than what is given to the khadi programme. I was at once tempted to put him this question, namely that if really the question is one of price, why should we choose handloom cloth at all, instead of mill cloth. The mill-cloth is much cheaper than handloom cloth. We can as well give up the handloom industry as well as the khadi industry altogether in preference to mill-manufactured cloth. Can we not do so, because

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mill-cloth is much cheaper than the others? Then what will become of the handloom industry? What will be the fate of millions of people in this country who have been engaged in these cottage industries for generations together? That is not the way to look at this question. It is the declared policy of the Government and it is the basic policy on which we stand and it is the programme on which we have been returned to this House. If we buy even a single yard of khadi, the money that we pay goes to feed the poorest of the poor in the villages, who for many months in the year have no work to do, and to the poor old men and women in the villages who have no other occupations in life and who are spending eight hours a day for earning this pittance of four to six annas a day. If we do not realize that, how are we going to get this huge revenue to run our Government and this huge machinery of administration. These people in the villages, who are the tillers of the soil and who are toiling throughout the year, are the very people who are producing our food and who are paying us the taxes to run our administration. Are they to be left in the lurch and are we to simply go on buying the mill-cloth and thereby make the mill-owners richer and richer? Hon. Members know that khadi is giving food to millions of the poorest of the people in the villages. Yet these friends ask why we should buy khadi? I therefore want those hon. Members to understand, when they criticise the khadi programme of the Government, that if they really want to do anything good to the people in our country for whose welfare we are sitting here as representatives, they must stand by khadi and support the khadi movement. Otherwise they have not understood the khadi movement. The Government should go on with their programme of khadi boldly and without any fear of the people who are opposed to it, because they have not understood what khadi stands for.

"Sir, some hon. Members have said that the Government's policy of prohibition has only resulted in budget deficits, that prohibition is not being successfully enforced, that illicit distillation is going on, and so on and so forth. Sir, if prohibition offences have increased, there are so many reasons for it and we must find out those reasons and try to tighten the laws and try to enforce them more rigorously. But, surely that is no reason why we should give up our prohibition policy altogether. If we are not able to put down the Communist menace, on that score, we do not say that we need have nothing to do with the Communists and that we may leave them scotfree. We do not say, that because there is still thieving in the country, and because there are still crimes committed by people, and the Police department is not able to put them down, we need not have the Police at all or that we should take away Section 379, and other sections from the Indian Penal Code. These people are simply confusing themselves and confusing the issues and make the mistake of thinking that because all these major policies and bigger things involve huge expenditure to Government, they should not be proceeded with. That is not the way to look at them. Financial considerations should not

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stand in the way of carrying out these big reforms and big policies. After all it is we who make our own finances, and it is we who ought to find out the necessary finances for carrying out such beneficial programmes. There is, as my hon. Friend, the Finance Minister, has said the Kamadhenu of the General Sales Tax and we can go on getting whatever revenue we want. But, what I want to say is, let it be to the benefit and advantage of the poor men in the villages and not be spent exclusively to the advantage of the townspeople."

* **SRI P. KAKKAN** :—“சபா நாயகர் அவர்களே! கனம் பொருள்கள் மந்திரி அவர்களால் சமர்ப்பிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கும் இந்த பட்ஜெட் நான் முழு மனதுடன் வரவேற்கின்றேன்.

“தலைவர் அவர்களே! நமது அரசாங்கத்தார் ஹரிஜன முன்னேற்றத் திற்கு செய்துவரும் சேவையை என்னோன்ற காங்கிரஸ் ஊழியர்கள் மனப்பூர்வமாக வரவேற்காமல் இருக்கமுடியாது என்று நிச்சயமாகச் சொல்லுகிறேன். ஆனால் அவர்கள் செய்யும் வேலை 16-ல் ஒரு பங்கு சொல்லுகிறேன். இன்னும் ஹரிஜன முன்னேற்றத் தான் என்று நான் சொல்லுகின்றேன். இன்னும் ஹரிஜன முன்னேற்றத் திற்கு செய்யவேண்டிய வேலைகள் அதிகம் இருக்கின்றன. அதைப் பார்த்துமே தற்போது செய்திருக்கின்ற வேலைகள் மிகச் சொற்பமாகும்.

“உதாரணமாக ஹரிஜன மக்கள் தற்போது குடி தண்ணீர் விஷயத்தில் பரும கொடிய கொடுமையைப் பார்த்துக்கொண்டும். கிராமங்களிலே இன்னும் பொதுக் கிணறுகளிலோ, குளங்களிலோ இந்த ஹரிஜன மக்கள் தண்ணீர் எடுக்கப்போனால் விரட்டியடிக்கிறார்கள். தண்ணீர் எடுக்கக்கூடாது என தூத்துக்குறிகள் என்பது கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கே நன்கு தெரியும். இந்தக் கொடுமை இன்னும் கிராமந்தரங்களில் நிறுத்தப்படவில்லை. தீண்டாதவர் தடை நிறுத்த மசோதாவை இந்த அசம்பலியில் நிறைவேற்றியிருக்கிறோம். ஆலையப் பிரவேச சட்டத்தையும் செய்திருக்கிறோம். இந்தச் சட்டங்களைல்லாம், நடை முறையில் பழக்கத்திற்கு வரவில்லை. என்ன காரியங்கள் செய்திருக்கிறோமென்ப பார்ச்சுவேண்டும். கிராம உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் அரசாங்கத்திற்கு உதவியாய் இல்லாமல் ஜாதி ஹிந்துக் களின் பேச்சைக் கேட்டுக்கொண்டு நியாயத்தை உணர்ந்து ஹரிஜன மக்களுக்கு உதவி செய்வது கிடையாது. சர்க்கார் ஹரிஜன முன்னேற்றத் திற்காக ஏற்படுத்தும் சட்டங்களை நிறைவேற்றி வைப்பதில் அக்கரை காட்டுவது கிடையாது. இன்றைக்கு இருக்கும் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் தங்கள் உதவியை உணர்ந்து நடந்துவந்தால் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு உதவி செய்ய உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் இல்லாது. அதிகாரிகளின் மனப்பான்மை மாறாத சட்டநிறைவேண்டியது இல்லை. அதிகாரிகளின் மனப்பான்மை மாறாத காரணத்தினாலேயே இன்று ஹரிஜன சகோதரர்கள் கிராமங்களிலே பரும கஷ்டம் கொஞ்ச நஞ்சமல்ல. ஆகையால் அரசாங்கத்தார் ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாக் களிலும் இருக்கின்ற ஹரி ஜனங்களுடைய நிலமையைப்பற்றி அந்தந்த ஜில்லா அதிகாரிகளிடமிருந்து ஆறு மாதத்திற்கு ஒரு முறையோ, மூன்று மாதத்திற்கு ஒரு முறையோ ரிப்போர்டுகளை வரவழைத்துத் தெரிந்துகொள்ள வேண்டும். அப்போதுதான் இந்த ஹரி ஜனங்களுடைய கஷ்டங்களை உணர்ந்து கொண்டு அவற்றை நிவர்த்திக்க சந்தர்ப்பம் ஏற்படும். அதை உடனே செய்யுமாறு சம்பந்தப்பட்ட மந்திரி அவர்களையும், மற்ற மந்திரி அவர்களையும் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“மற்றொன்று கைத்தொழில் விஷயமாக நமது அரசாங்கத்தார் பணத்தை ஒதுக்கியிருப்பதை நான் வரவேற்கிறேன்.

“குடியிருப்பு வீட்டு விஷயமாக அரசாங்கத்தார் இன்னும் அக்கரை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவில் எங்கு பார்த்தாலும் இப்போது ஹரிஜனங்கள் குடியிருக்கும் இடத்தை காலி செய்ய சொல்லி கட்டப்படுத்துகிறார்கள். “இந்த நிலம் எங்களுக்குச் சொந்தமாகும்—இங்கு நீ குடியிருப்பதன் மூலமாக உன்னுடையது ஆக்கிக்கொள்ள முடியாது” என்று பிரகடனத்தாரும், நிலச்சுவான்தாரர்களும் ஹரிஜனங்களை வெளியேற்றும்படி கஷ்டப்படுத்துகிறார்கள் என்பதை நீங்கள் அறிவீர்கள்.

[Sri P. Kakkan]

[1st March 1950]

மனிதன் தங்குவதற்குக்கூட, படுத்து உறங்குவதற்குக்கூட இடம் கிடையாது என்றால் அது உண்மைச் சுதந்திரமா என்று கேட்கிறேன். ஆகையால் அந்த இடத்தைவிட்டு ஹரிஜனங்களை வெளியேற்றும் கொடுமை நீடிக்காமல் லிருக்க அரசாங்கத்தார் தக்க நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கவேண்டும்.

“தங்களுடைய கஷ்டங்களை விளக்கி ரெவினியூ இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்களுக்கோ, தாசில்தாருக்கோ விண்ணப்பம் செய்துகொண்டாலும் பதிலே கிடையாது. நேரிடையாகச் சென்று, ‘ஐயா! எங்கள் நிலைமை மிக மோசமாக இருக்கிறது. நாங்கள் தங்கள் சமூகத்தில் தெரிவித்திருக்கிறோமே எங்களுக்கு நியாயம் கிடைக்க ஏதாவது வழி செய்யக்கூடாதா,’ என்று கேட்டால், ஏழை ஹரிஜனத்தானே என்ற எண்ணத்தில், ‘சரி சரி எல்லாம் பார்த்துச் செய்வோம்’ எனத் தெம்பாகச் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அரசாங்கத்தார் இனியும் இம்மாதிரி நடக்க விட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்காமல் உடனடியாக தக்க ஏற்பாடு செய்து அவர்களுக்கு ஒத்தாசை செய்யவேண்டும்.

“இப்போது பாருங்கள் எ, பி, சி என்ற வீடுகள் சர்க்கார் கட்டிக் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். வீடு கட்டி 5 ஆயிரம், 6 ஆயிரம் பணம் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். நான் சொல்லுகிறேன் ஏழை ஹரிஜனன் இன்று தங்குவதற்கு ‘குச்சு’ கூட கிடையாது. அரசாங்கத்தார் உடனடியாக அவர்களுக்கு இடம் கொடுக்கட்டும்—வீடு கட்ட பணம் கொடுக்கவேண்டாம்—மாட மாளிகை கட்டிக் கொடுக்கவேண்டாம். அரசாங்கத்தாரால் அளிக்கப்பட்ட அந்த இடத்தில் எனது ஹரிஜன சகோதரன் குச்சைக் கட்டிக்கொண்டு கவலையின்றி தங்குவான் என்று சொல்லுகின்றேன். இந்த விஷயத்தில் அரசாங்கம் தக்க கவனம் செலுத்தவேண்டுமென்று கேஞ்சிக்கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

“அடுத்தபடியாக அரசாங்கம் உணவு உற்பத்தி விஷயத்தில் அதிக கவனம் செலுத்தியிருக்கிறார்கள். அதை வரவேற்கின்றேன். இந்த நாட்டின் சுதந்திரத்திற்காக தியாகம் செய்து உயிர் நீத்த தியாகிகளின் குடும்பத்திற்கும், இதர தியாகிகளுக்கும் அரசாங்கத்தார் வீரமானியமாக நிலம் கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் அவ்வாறு கொடுக்கவேண்டிய நிலை என்று சிலர் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். நான் அதை எதிர்க்கின்றேன். வீரமானியம் கொடுத்த நிலங்களில் அந்த தியாகிகள் சாகுபடி செய்து இரண்டு வருஷங்களிலே எவ்வளவு உற்பத்தியைப் பெருக்கியிருக்கிறார்கள் என்று பார்த்தால் தெரியும். பிரிட்டிஷ் ஆதிக்க காலத்தில் கலெக்டர் பங்களாக்களில் சோளத்தைப் போட்டுவிட்டுக் கணக்கெடுத்தார்கள். ஆனால் அளந்து பார்த்தால் 9 படி, 2 மரக்கால் கூட தானியம் வந்திருக்காது. ஆனால் தியாகிகளுக்கு கொடுத்த வீர மானிய நிலத்தில் அவர்கள் இவ்வாண்டு அடித்துக் குவித்திருக்கும் நெல் கலம் ஆயிரக் கணக்கில் இருக்கின்றது என்பது தெரியும். ஆனால் இப்போது கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கும் வீரமானியம் அவர்களுக்கு 1959 வரையில் தான் இருக்கின்றது. அப்படியிருப்பினாலேயே அவர்கள் அங்கு கிணறு வெட்டுவது கிடையாது. மேலும் அந்த நிலங்களுக்கு ஆற்றுத் தண்ணீர் வேறு பாய்ச்சக்கூடாது என்று இருக்கிறது.

“ஆதலால் அரசாங்கத்தார் தியாகிகளுக்குக் கொடுத்திருக்கும் வீர மானியத்தை சாஸ்வதமாகச் செய்யவேண்டும். அப்படிச் செய்தால்தான் அவர்கள் அந்தந்த நிலங்களில் கிணறுகளை சொந்தச் செலவிலேயே வெட்டிக்கொண்டு அதிக உற்பத்தியைச் செய்வார்கள்; அது மட்டுமல்ல; ஆற்றுத் தண்ணீரைப் பாய்ச்சலாம் என்று சொன்னால் நஞ்சைப் பயிர்களையும் வித்து உற்பத்தியை அதிகரிக்கச் செய்வார்கள். மேலும் இந்த நிலத்தைச் சர்வே செய்யும்போது ஏழைத் தியாகிகளுக்குத் தான் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். பணமும், நிலமும் முன்பே அதிகமுடையவர்களுக்கு தியாகிகள் என்பதற்காக மேலும் நிலம் ஒதுக்கக்கூடாது என்பது என் அபிப்பிராயம். ஆகையால் உற்பத்தியை அதிகரிக்க தியாகிகளுக்கு கொடுத்த நிலத்தை சாஸ்வதமாக அவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென கேஞ்சிக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

“தொழில் வளர்ச்சிக்குத் தக்க ஆக்கம் கொடுப்பதன்மூலமே உற்பத்தியைப் பெருக்க முடியும். இது எல்லோரும் அறிந்த விஷயந்தான். அதற்காக நம்முடைய இந்திய சர்க்கார், விவசாயிகளின் உழைப்பை நிலைநிறுத்துவதற்குத் தக்க நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கவேண்டும்.

[Sri P. Kakkan]

[1st March 1950]

உயர்த்துவதையும் நோக்கமாகக் கொண்டு அதற்குத் தக்கவாறு, கூலி, வாரம் முதலியவைகளை நிர்ணயம் செய்ய ஒரு திட்டம் வகுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் திட்டம் என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயத்தில் ஒரு வருஷம், இரண்டு வருஷத்திற்குள் நடக்கக்கூடியதாகயில்லை. அவர்கள் என்ன திட்டம் வகுக்கப்போகிறார்கள் என்று பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருக்க முடியாது. நமது அரசாங்கத்தாரே ஜில்லாக்களின் தரத்திற்குத் தக்கவாறு வாரம், கூலி முதலியவைகளைத் தற்காலிகமாக நிர்ணயம் செய்தால்தான் அதிக உணவு உற்பத்தி செய்ய வகை ஏற்படும். அப்படி நிர்ணயம் செய்தால் தான் மிராசதாரர்களும், நிலச்சுவான்தார்களும் ஏழை ஹரிஜனங்களின் கூலியை ஒழுங்காக்கக் கொடுப்பார்கள்—ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய வாழ்க்கை நிலை யும் உயரும். அதே சமயத்தில் உற்பத்தியும் பெருகும் என்று நான் நினைக்கிறேன்.

“கல்வி விஷயமாக அரசாங்கத்தார் செய்துவரும் பொறுப்புமிக்க காரியங்களை நான் பாராட்டுகின்றேன். ஆனால் இன்றைக்கு பாடசாலை களிலும், கலாசாலைகளிலுமுள்ள மாணவர்களிடம் நம்முடைய நாடு சுதந்திரம் அடைந்திருக்கிறது—அதற்குத் தக்கவாறு நடந்துகொள்ளவேண்டுமென்ற உணர்வு ஏற்படவில்லை. அதுமட்டுமல்ல; நம் நாட்டுத் தலைவர் களை மதிக்கும் பண்பாடும் குறைந்து விட்டது. இதற்கு முக்கியக் காரணம் ஆசிரியர்கள் சரியான போதனையைக் கொடுக்கவில்லை. ‘சுந்திர நாட் டின் வருங்காலச் சிற்பிகள் குழந்தைகள் என்ற’ உணர்வு ஆசிரியர்களுக்கு இல்லாததே இந்த கெடுதிக்கு முக்கியக் காரணம். ஆகையால் இந்த ஆசிரியர்கள் மாணவர்களுக்கு சரியான போதனையை கொடுக்கும் முறையில் நமது கல்வி விஷயத்தில் அக்கரை செலுத்தினால் மாணவர்களுடைய இந்த மனப்பான்மையே மாறி நம்முடைய தேசத்திற்கு நன்மை ஏற்படுமென்று எண்ணுகிறேன்.

“ஆகவே இந்த நல்லதொரு பட்ஜெட்டை தயாரித்ததற்கு பொக்கிஷ மந்திரியை பாராட்டுவதுடன், என்னுடைய நன்றியை தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டு முடித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்.”

* SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad 4-45 p.m. that the Hon. the Finance Minister presented a budget which is well balanced. The *Hindu* in the editorial has stated that ‘the budgetary equilibrium, of the Government for maintaining which, the Finance Minister takes credit has been achieved at the cost of unbalanced budgets of thousands of tax-payers.’ In the same breath, Sir, the *Hindu* criticizes also the education policy of this Government. The Government have spent as a matter of fact Rs. 16,70,73,900 for education last year. It means that one-fifth of the amount spent by the Government in all directions has been spent for education alone. This year Rs. 11½ crores are being set apart for education. In 1832 when the first Reform Bill was introduced in England, the cry of the people was ‘let us educate our masters, and rulers so that may be able to rule the country on sound and efficient lines and bring prosperity to the country’. Accordingly, the Compulsory Education Bill was introduced, and to-day, in England, cent per cent of the population are literate. America, Japan and so many other countries on the face of the earth are cent per cent literate to-day, because they made education compulsory. Our unfortunate country, where only 12 per cent are literate, requires many proper steps to be taken to educate the public. The Central Advisory Board for Education in its report stated that it requires 20 lakhs of non-graduates for schools of all types and one lakh and eighty thousand graduates for High schools to make the whole country literate, and that an amount of

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Rs. 1,59,98,94,250 has to be spent, which cover a period of 35 years. Recently when the Adult Education Scheme was started by the Hon. Education Minister, the whole country took it up in right earnest, and started many schools. But in India, and especially in our Province when compulsory education is being tried by the Government, as well as the district boards, and when many schools are being opened, I had occasion to meet many District Educational Officers, and Deputy Inspectors of Schools who stated that people were not co-operating and the committees formed to devise ways and means to educate the children were not properly functioning. Therefore it is for the public to co-operate with the officials and see that education is success. In three years, viz., 1945-46 to 1948-1949, as many as 1,279 schools or on an average 420 schools a year have been opened, in our Province and the "Hindu" writes that at this stage it would take some decades to educate the country. But the Government spends more than fifth of the amount and, viz., 11½ crores of rupees spent in all directions, for education alone this year. Such priority is given to education. What is required is the co-operation of the public. What is required is that the workers should go to the countryside. Every public worker, and every legislator should go to the countryside. And preach to the people the value of education and then see that the public receive the benefit of education. My hon. Friend Sri L. N. Gopalaswami was stating that Harijan uplift should be given preference. I do agree with him. Harijans should be given free meal, free lodging and free scholarships, and a fairly big portion of the amount spent on education should be spent for Harijan uplift also. While agreeing with the hon. Member Sri L. N. Gopalaswami, one Member says priority for Harijan uplift, another for irrigation, and another for the taking over of estates by Government, and another for agricultural relief, and so on and so forth. Each is interlinked and interwoven with the other. The Government cannot ignore any department. I am glad that the Government are able to do all that they can. The other day when this House passed a resolution for conveying the thanks of this House to His Excellency the Governor for his address, some friends stated that the Ministers have no plan or programme when they go on tours. It is with supreme satisfaction that I say that the Hon. the Finance Minister from the 28th November to 15th December 1949 was touring in East Godavari, West Godavari and North and South Visakhapatnam districts. For three days I was with him. On one day alone he was able to visit 15 centres and at every centre hundreds and thousands of people gathered and presented him with addresses. The Hon. Minister replied in minute detail to every point that was raised in every address that was presented to him at every centre. I am glad to say that his speeches are still ringing in my ears. The construction of an anicut or reservoir over river Vamasadhara is the burning problem in my district. The Hon. Minister stated 'well; you will have your Vamasadhara; it is not finance that stands in the way; it is lack of technicians proper equipment and machinery and other things; otherwise you would have had it earlier.

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you will have it certainly'. The Hon. the Public Works Minister whom I happened to meet on the way back from Mackkund the other day told me that the Government would spend Rs. 1½ crores for minor irrigation works alone in Visakhapatnam district this year. It is a good thing indeed. He also stated that detailed investigation was going on and what is required is that one more gauge has to be taken this year and when the investigation was complete, we can have the Vamsadhara project. What the Finance Minister has stated has been corroborated by the Public Works Minister. Most of the income of the Madras Government, Mr. Speaker, Sir, is being spent for Rural Reconstruction, Development, Public Health, Industrial Planning and other useful schemes.

"I now come to Prohibition. When the hon. Mr. Prakasam was the Premier, Rajaji used to say 'well; Mr. Prakasam is introducing Prohibition only in eight districts; there are Rs. 30 crores in the reserve fund, and therefore Prohibition can be introduced in all districts of the Province all at once; it need not be introduced in instalments'. However, in 1946, Prohibition was introduced in eight districts and in 1947, it was introduced in eight more districts. Whenever an occasion arises, the Opposition comes forward and says 'we have already lost Rs. 17 crores and we are spending some three or four crores more on ameliorative measures, and it is all waste.' We the Congress people then stated that, as it was already introduced in 16 districts it had to be introduced in the remaining eight districts, and that it must be introduced. In the beginning of January 1948 the then Premier Hon. Sri Omandur Ramaswami Reddiar somehow wanted to postpone it, but we prevailed upon him to introduce it in the remaining nine districts, in spite of the advice of Sardar Patel and Pundit Nehru, and he introduced it accordingly and people were completely satisfied; and it was acclaimed from all quarters. There is no co-operation from the public. That is what the opposition says. But, Sir, when we go to firka and asked the firka development officers they say that Prohibition is a success, and that it is a wonderful and brilliant success. When we go to the Prohibition Officers, they say that it is a success. But we now hear of reports that it is not at all a success, because illicit distillation is going on on a wide scale. Some Congress workers who are working heart and soul, day and night to make Prohibition a success in our areas, are actually handing over the persons who indulge in illicit distillation to the Police. So many people say that it is all a waste. I say it is not a waste. If not this generation, at least the coming generations will have the benefit of this Prohibition, and people will be happy to know that this was the Government which introduced Prohibition. It will be a blessing to our children and coming generation. It is the most unfortunate thing that some people should come and say that it is all a waste. The Hon. the Prohibition Minister, who evinces very great interest in this campaign, is one of our Congress leaders. If the people co-operate with him, and Prohibition becomes a brilliant success,

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the success is not only his; it is the success of the Congress Government as well. Though Rs. 16 to Rs. 20 crores has been lost in this direction, still it is not a waste. We should be very happy to see that it is a brilliant success with the co-operation of the public in all directions.

"Now, Sir, I come to the Estates abolition affair. As many as 36 major estates have been taken over by the Government and some minor estates also were already taken over. But the important thing is almost all the estates should be immediately taken over. And then, Sir, the ryots in Pathapatnam taluk of Visakhapatnam say that rent reduction was not made on sound and proper lines and that they have also sent so many representations to the Hon. the Revenue Minister through their leaders to S. K. Chettur, I.C.S., and Members of the Revenue Board. They say that no justice has been done so far. I request the Hon. Minister for Revenue immediately go to these areas (if he has not already toured these areas) and hold enquiries himself first hand, and see that rent reduction is made on proper lines. Very big estates like Parlakimedi and Mandasa which have not yet been taken over should be taken over by the Government immediately. Unless these estates are taken over, the irrigation sources will all be left in a state of disrepair, and consequently the ryots will be hard hit."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has already taken 15 minutes. I will allow him five more minutes if he will finish his speech within that time, or he will continue his speech to-morrow."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—"I will continue my speech to-morrow, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I now adjourn the House till 11 a.m. to-morrow."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on the next day.

IV.—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE.

G.O. No. 192, L.A., dated 24th January 1950, ordering the stay of elections to the Panchayat Board, Sevrur (Coimbatore).

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, the 2nd March 1950.

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

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Exemption of essential articles from the levy of the general sales tax.

* 17 Q.—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government intend exempting articles of food and other essential articles from the levy of the general sales tax?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"No."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—"Is it not a fact that the Government of India are proposing to make a certain legislation to exempt the necessaries of food from the general sales tax?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"They have got the power under the Constitution to exempt certain articles and the State Governments have to fall in line in that case."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the Government of India make the rule next year prohibiting the Madras Government from levying sales tax on certain of the articles, what will be the net loss to the Government of Madras by way of loss in sales tax revenue?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"That is a different matter. It may be about a crore of rupees or even more. We have not yet estimated it. That is under Article 286 (2). But he is asking the question under Article 286 (3)."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister for Finance feels that there is any necessity for exempting certain essential articles from the operation of the General Sales Tax Act?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"For ten years they have been paying this tax and there is no need for any exemption just now."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—"May I enquire whether the incidence of sales tax on necessary articles really falls on the poor people and, if so, will the Government exempt these necessaries at least?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Obviously the hon. Member is asking for an opinion and not for any information."

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SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" May I know whether the wages given in kind such as giving paddy as wages for hand-pounding are taxable under the Sales Tax Act? If so, will the Government consider the desirability of exempting such wages from tax? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" It all depends on whether it will come under the definition of 'sales'—whether it is only wages or whether it is sale."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask whether there has been any communication between the Government of India and the Madras Government regarding exemptions of articles of food and if so, on what lines have approaches been made to this Government? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" They have issued a general circular letter to all the State Governments whether they can proceed to take action under Article 286 (3) and, as far as we could see, we have protested against that sort of exemption and Bombay and other Governments have also done so."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" Are the Government aware that the agriculturists who are giving their paddy to G.P.Os. (Grain Purchase Officers) are paying tax? If so, will the Government prevent it? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I think I will be answering another question on the same subject on one of these days."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" In view of the fact that the cost of living is very high and it is the declared policy of the Government to reduce the cost of living, will the Government consider the desirability of exempting these essential articles from general sales tax? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Not at present, Sir."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—" If the President of the Republic declares that these essential articles are to be exempted from sales tax, will not this Government willy-nilly be bound to follow his advice? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" That is again a legal question. Whether the President's action will have retrospective effect or not is again another question which has to be considered."

Sale of the holdings of the ryots for recovery of arrears of rent.

* 18 Q.—JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state the steps the Government propose to take to relieve the ryots in anam and such of the zamindari villages which have not been taken over by the Government yet, from sale of their holdings for recovery of arrears of rent for faslis prior to 1356?

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" The Government have already made provision for the grant of protection to the ryots in estate areas against sale of their holdings for arrears of rent due by them. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the Madras Tenants and Ryots Protection Act, 1946 (since re-enacted as Act XXIV of 1949)."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—" May I enquire whether under the provisions of the Zamindari Abolition Act, if the ryot is given option to pay the 1356 arrears within a certain period and if he pays it, he is exempted from the liability to pay arrears prior to that fasli? If that is so, is not that provision reduced to nullity because the Zamindari Abolition Act has not been applied to all zamindaris at present? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" He is evidently asking a legal opinion of the Ministers, Sir, and it cannot be given here."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" The Hon. Minister is a lawyer."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR, OF CHETTINAD:—" Sir with a view to help the inamdar not to collect harshly from the ryots, will the Government consider the advisability of not insisting on payments from inamdars where the harvest has failed? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" The Government want to help the people as much as possible and in such matters as this, I have asked the Board of Revenue to intervene and use its good offices to help these people."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that at least in Chittoor district inamdars have not received any rents whatsoever, even reduced rents, after the notifications have been issued under the Rent Reduction Act? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I take the information."

Elementary school teachers of the East Godavari District Board.

* 19 Q.—JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI (on behalf of Janab S. Muhammad Ismail): Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representations were made to him by the elementary school teachers of the East Godavari District Board, who were recently retrenched by the Board; and

(b) if so, what action the Government propose to take on their representations?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" (a) Yes.

"(b) No action was taken on the representation as the discharge of lower elementary grade teachers was in accordance with the rules framed by the Government."

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SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—“ May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware that the salary of the elementary school teacher is about half the salary of a chaprasi in the Government of India or a railway thoti? ” (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“ I do not know the pay of the railway thotis or chaprasis, but that does not arise from this question.”

The Minimum Wages Act.

* 20 Q.—JANAB MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI (on behalf of Janab S. Muhammad Ismail): Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether the Ministry of Labour, Government of India, have sent instructions to this Government to enforce the provisions of Minimum Wages Act and if so, to what class of industries and trade it is applicable in this Province? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ First part of the question.—Yes, Sir.

“ Second part of the question.—The Act is applicable to the thirteen kinds of employments mentioned in Parts I and II of the Schedule attached to the Act.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ May I know what steps the Government are taking to enforce the Minimum Wages Act, so far as agricultural labourers are concerned, from March 1950? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ I am afraid the hon. Member is not quite correct. If I remember aright, this question of agricultural wages comes up in 1951. This is my recollection. But every necessary step is being taken to see that we implement the Minimum Wages Act as early as possible. This was one of the subjects that was discussed at the recent Labour Ministers' Conference in Mysore and certain proposals have been put up by the various Provinces and States to the Government of India in the matter of this Act and we are awaiting final orders from the Government of India.”

DR. S. SUBRAHMANIAM:—“ May I know from the Government why they feel so helpless in enforcing not only the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act but also the awards made by the various Industrial Tribunals appointed by the Government for adjudication of labour disputes? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ I do not accept the assumption of the hon. Member that we are helpless. We can take care of ourselves.”

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ A separate question may be put.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ Why not he answer the question now, Sir? ”

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—“ Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister, may I know whether the agricultural labourers come under any of the categories? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ They come under Part II of the Schedule.”

DR. S. SUBRAHMANIAM:—“ May I know from the Government while they are considering to enforce the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, why they have not implemented the award made by the Industrial Tribunals in the motor vehicles workers' dispute where minimum wages have been fixed by the Tribunal? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ I may submit to you, Sir, that this does not arise out of the question.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ Let the hon. Member put a separate question.”

Conditions of Dramatic Art in Tamil areas.

* 21 Q.—SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state with reference to the answer given by him to question No. 53 on the 10th November 1949, whether the Government propose to appoint a committee to enquire into the conditions of Dramatic Art in Tamil areas?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“ The Government will consider the matter after the present Committee's Report has been received and examined by them.”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“ In view of the fact that the present committee will go into the question of only dramatic arts in Andhradeesa and that the dramatic art and certain companies are facing a difficult situation in Tamilnad and one company, Messrs. T.K.S. & Bros. has been closed in Madras City recently, will the Government consider that it is high time to appoint a committee to protect this dramatic art? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“ That is why I said that 'the Government will consider the matter after the present Committee's Report has been received and examined by them'. I understand the present committee's work is almost over.”

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR or CHETTINAD:—“ As it is very widely felt in Tamilnad that the Tamil dramatic art should be kept up, will the Hon. Minister for Education consider the desirability of appointing a separate committee to protect the Tamil dramatic art irrespective of the receipt of the report of the present committee? ”

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"No, Sir, the Government will consider this matter after the receipt of the report of that committee. I would suggest to the hon. Members like the hon. Gentleman who has put the question to try to use their influence to improve and remove the difficulties, if any, experienced by the dramatic art."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"May I tell the Hon. Minister and the Government that they will by now be fully aware of my activities and the activities of many members in this part of the country in favour of encouraging the Tamil drama? I may offer on this occasion to the Government my fullest services in an honorary capacity to help the committee in its future work."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"As I am fully aware that the present Committee is to go into the question of dramatic art in Andhra Desa only, may I know where is the difficulty in appointing a committee to examine the question of dramatic art in Tamilnad?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"We have already appointed a committee in relation to Telugu dramatic art. Let us see what the report of that committee is and whether we can adopt those things even without appointing a fresh committee in the case of the Tamil dramatic art. Further we have to see the usefulness of such committees, after the receipt of its report."

SRI T. K. T. N. R. TATACHARI:—"May I know whether the Government would appoint a committee to preserve the dramatic art in this House?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"It is a matter for the House Committee." (More laughter.)

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know whether Bharatha Natyam is also included within the scope of the reference of this 'art improvement committee' in the Andhra Desa?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I do not know that. The scope of the committee is to enquire into the conditions of Telugu dramatic art and whether Bharatha Natyam is included in that or not, I leave it to the interpretation of the hon. Member."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know why the Tamils should wait till the report of the Telugu Dramatic Art Committee is received?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"As I have already said, the conditions of improvement of one drama may equally apply to another. Perhaps the language may differ, but art cannot be much different. Anyhow we have to see whether the recommendations of that committee could be adopted to Tamil drama also without fresh committee. After all, the usefulness or otherwise of such committees should be looked into only after receipt of the report."

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SRI M. KUMARAN:—"Will the Government consider the advisability of enlarging the scope of the committee so as to cover all the four language areas of the Province?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"There is no necessity for enlarging the scope of the present committee as it has completed its work almost."

Plying of special buses to the All-India Khadi and Swadeshi Exhibition.

* 22 Q.—SRI M. KANNIAPPAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) the routes selected for plying 'special buses' to the All-India Khadi and Swadeshi Exhibition held at Teynampet;
- (b) the daily collection for each route so selected;
- (c) whether any special allowances were given to the staff (drivers and conductors) who worked the special buses; and
- (d) if so, what the amount of allowance granted to each driver and conductor was?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (a) The routes selected were—

- (1) Teynampet to Parrys.
- (2) Teynampet to Triplicane.
- (3) Teynampet to Mylapore.
- (4) Teynampet to Egmore.
- (5) Teynampet to Aminjikarai.
- (6) Teynampet to T' Nagar.

"(b) The Government consider that in accordance with commercial practice and in public interest, the information should not be given out.

"(c) & (d) The Government sanctioned an expenditure not exceeding Rs. 2,250, towards provision of light refreshments at a rate not exceeding 8 annas per head per day to the staff engaged on special buses run by the Government Bus Service, Madras City, in connexion with the All-India Khadi, Swadeshi and Industrial Exhibition at Teynampet and who worked overtime. No special allowances were given to the staff."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTI:—"In view of the fact that the workers worked for more than their 8-hours work, will the Government consider the possibility of paying the arrears of overtime allowance that is due to them?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We have given them light refreshments."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Inasmuch as these workers of the bus transport had to do overtime work during the

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period of the Exhibition, is it not necessary that they should have been paid overtime according to the schedule and under the rules for overtime work?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I am not quite sure whether they did overtime work. If they did more work, we shall certainly consider what should be done."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTI:—"Since the workers who have worked during those hours outside their daily hours of work, feel that the Government had enormous profits out of the special running of buses to the Exhibition and that they have been exploited by the Government, may I know whether the Government will reconsider the position and pay them the allowance that is due to them and remove the cause of such grievance?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"As I have already said, I am not quite sure whether it was in excess of the usual work allotted to them. If it is in excess, we shall certainly consider what could be done for them."

DR. S. SUBRAHMANYAM:—"Do not the Government feel that they should set up an example to other employers by paying overtime wages to these workers when extra hours have been worked by them?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Is the hon. Member quite sure whether they have worked overtime? I am not sure about it. Anyway I will examine whether they have worked overtime and see what could be done."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"Apart from the question of overtime, may we know if the total of the daily collections for these routes selected during the Exhibition days justify the Government's giving the workers something extra?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We cannot take each particular route. Some routes may be paying while some do not pay. We have to take the overall receipts and expenditure and any particular route should not be singled out."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"If no information can be furnished with reference to clause (b) of the question, may we at least know whether the running of buses on this special occasion resulted in good profits to the Government?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Though, of course, I do not have the figures with me now, the answer is 'Yes'."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Is it true that the department in their anxiety to earn as much money as possible withdrew buses from the usual routes causing a good deal of inconvenience to the passengers?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not agree that a good deal of inconvenience was caused to passengers."

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JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In view of the statement made by the Hon. Minister that the Government gave the workers something towards their tiffin or tea, I do not know under what category and what rule they gave this 6 annas or 8 annas. However, if they thought that these workers were overworking and deserved some consideration, they should have given them some bonus for the hard work that they have done."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not have the information whether they worked overtime."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister that the drivers and conductors were given tiffin, does it not imply that they did work overtime?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Not necessarily. It may be that they might have been working at inconvenient hours. In ordinary times, they need not be given any light refreshments."

SRI T. S. PATTABHIRAMAN:—"Suppose the workers prove that they worked overtime, will the Government give an assurance that they will be paid more wages?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We shall certainly consider the question. There is no question of giving an assurance. We shall consider the proposition."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that during the time the Exhibition was held the papers published a number of letters from those who were inconvenienced and that *The Hindu* also wrote a strong editorial about the inconvenience caused to the passengers?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Perhaps the letters had a salutary effect and immediately other buses were put on the routes."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know the total number of buses that were diverted from other routes to the Exhibition and the total number of gallons of petrol consumed by these buses?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I am afraid I do not have the information."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that during the days of the Exhibition, other passengers were being taken into the special buses on payment of higher fares such as 4 annas and 8 annas even for short distances even though these passengers who paid higher fares were not bound to the exhibition ground?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I suppose nobody forced them to get into these buses."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"I am telling from personal experience that other passengers were charged higher rates."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Whoever takes the Exhibition buses from any place to the exhibition ground has

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to pay the same fare. For the other buses there is the usual mileage rate. The hon. Member need not have taken the special bus."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Inasmuch as these people were called upon to do some special work and special rates were taken from the passengers, is it not necessary that the Government should have considered the need for paying them special wages on account of this special work done?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I am not quite sure if they have overworked . . ."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"But it is a special work."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not understand what is the speciality about it. I do not know if there is anything special or technical about the drivers and conductors taking the buses from some part of the City to the exhibition grounds."

SRI P. KANDASWAMY PILLAI:—"Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister that the workers were given some tiffin, is it possible to give each and every bus worker or conductor or driver his tiffin when he is doing his routine work?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It may be that they may have to work at odd hours and needed some light refreshments. I shall go into this question."

DR. S. SUBRAHMANYAM:—"If on enquiry the Government are satisfied that there has been overtime work by these workers, will the Government give us an assurance that they will be paid overtime fees?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I have already answered that question."

Absorption of the teachers of Pudukkottai State in Government service.

* 23 Q.—SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether all the teachers working in the Government Elementary and Secondary Schools in Pudukkottai State before merger have been absorbed in Government service; and

(b) if so, on what scales of pay?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" (a) No. . . ."

" (b) Does not arise."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I know the position of the elementary and secondary school teachers in the State?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Orders have already been issued for taking over all the schools outside the . . ."

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Pudukkottai Municipality by the District Board of Tiruchirappalli. The district board rates of pay will be paid to these teachers irrespective of what they were paid in the State. The Government rates of dearness allowance are given to them."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I know whether there is any difference in the scales of pay of the State before merger and the district board and whether any order has been issued to cover this difference to the benefit of the teachers?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"They are likely to get about one and a half times of what they were getting under the old State in the district board plus the additional dearness allowance at Government rates."

Zamindaris and other estates in the Krishna district taken over by the Government.

* 24 Q.—SRI A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to take possession of any zamindaris and other estates in the Krishna district before the end of fasli 1359;

(b) if so, which estates and when; and

(c) whether any instructions have been issued to the managers of the estates, which have been already taken possession of by the Government in the Krishna district, that all the arrears of rents due before the notifications should be collected immediately by attaching the properties of the ryots?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (a) & (b) The whole question of taking over the remaining estates in the State is engaging the attention of the Government."

" (c) No such instructions have been issued."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know whether the Government are aware that the managers are attaching the properties or threatening to attach the properties of ryots and coercing them to pay all the arrears, thinking that it is their duty to collect all the arrears, though the ryots have the option to pay the arrears for two years?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I have had no complaints about this. I would suggest to the hon. Member to bring to my notice any specific cases that he may have in his mind, and I shall examine them."

Alleged prevention of the Harijans from going through the thoroughfares of the village of Thakkellapadu.

* 25 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA (on behalf of Sri B. S. Murthi): Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state whether the Harijans of Thakkellapadu, a village about 10 miles from Ongole in Guntur district, are prevented from going through the thoroughfares of the village?

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THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"No."

11-30 a.m. SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I ask, Sir, what prompted the Government to say that the answer is in the negative?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"There is no truth in the allegation and so my answer was 'No'."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government appointed anybody to enquire into the allegation and if so, by whom it was enquired—whether it was enquired by the Hon. the Minister himself—or by anybody else and may I know whether the Hon. the Minister himself went into the allegation?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"The Collector conducted an enquiry and has submitted a report."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"As the Collectors are always inclined to support the Government, will the Government consider the desirability of constituting a committee to go into the matter, irrespective of the fact whether there is truth in the allegation or not?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"There is no need for constituting a committee. The hon. Member himself can go and satisfy himself that there is no obstruction and I am quite sure from the information that I got while in Guntur last, that there is no truth in the allegation and that everybody is allowed to pass through the throughfares."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"May I know, Sir, whether the recommendations of the District Harijan Welfare Officer have been accepted *in toto* by the District Collector on this point?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"The Collector has submitted his report and that shows evidently that either he should have gone and inspected the spot himself or he should have obtained information from the Welfare Officer."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—"In view of the large number of reports on this matter, do the Government seriously mean implementing the Act that they have passed or do they mean that the Act should not be observed?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"If specific cases of infringement are brought to the notice of the Government, the Government will certainly go into the question."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. the Minister went to the village proper or made an enquiry sitting at the headquarters of the district (Guntur) in a casual manner?"

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SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"So, Sir, am I to take it that the Hon. the Minister depended upon the reports of the officers and that his information was merely casual gathered from some people whom he came across and, therefore, of no value?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Minister has already answered the question."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Will the Government consider the desirability of entrusting the enquiry to higher authorities—like Collectors and others—whenever they receive complaints?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Minister has already said in his answer that the Collector submitted a report."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"The Hon. the Minister said that the Collector had submitted a report. But I want to know whether the Collector himself made an enquiry or caused it to be made by his subordinates. I think it would be better if the Collectors are asked personally to make enquiries."

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"How can we expect the Collectors to visit each place, when there are so many cases like this. If we expect them to do this work in this manner—to enquire into vague allegations that are made by certain individuals with motives and interests of their own, I do not think that any Government work can be done."

SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government believe in the reports given by the Caste Hindus and whether they are satisfied that the reports are correct and represent the true state of affairs?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Whenever the Government feel that there is something fishy about matters, they ask the Collectors to go and inspect particular areas and make personal enquiries. Only when the Government are not satisfied with the reports submitted by the Collectors, the Ministers inspect the places affected personally."

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

II.—GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1950-51—cont.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member, Sri G. Kumaraswami, will continue his speech."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday, I confined myself to a few observations on the general features of the budget with particular reference, of course, to a few incidents and instances relating to the Hon. the Ministers' tours and incidentally to Irrigation. I also dealt at length with Prohibition and Education. To-day I would like to deal with Harijan uplift. It is a most unfortunate thing, Sir, that though the

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Temple Entry Bill is there, the Caste Hindus are still in some places of the State causing great hindrance to the working of it. It is, therefore, necessary that the law should be enforced with more rigidity so that the Temple Entry Reform is made a complete success. In this connexion, I feel that more money should be spent towards Harijan uplift. No transfers from the Harijan Uplift Fund which is solely reserved for the advancement of the Harijans educationally and otherwise, should be allowed.

"I would like to deal next with some of the problems relating to my district. It was decided in 1949, when a token grant of Rs. 100 was made, that in view of the fact that the Visakhapatnam district was too heavy a charge for one Collector and District Magistrate, it should be bifurcated. But still, the proposals are not given effect to. In the interests of good administration, it is desirable that this should be given effect to immediately. I would like to add a word on the location of a college for North Visakhapatnam district at Srikakulam—but this I shall reserve for the occasion when voting on Education Demand takes place.

"I would like to say a few words on the formation of the Andhra Province. As desired by the Central Government, a unanimity of opinion on the issue has already been reached but we are yet to have the Province. Even now a statement is made in the Press that unanimity is absolutely necessary. The Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister are insisting on it. It is but desirable that our top-ranking leaders and Andhra legislators should tour the Andhra area and try to square up differences between Andhras in Rayalaseema and the Andhras in Coastal districts and arrive at an agreeable decision. In this connexion, I am reminded of the words which Gandhiji spoke at Berhampur on the 29th March 1921 at a big gathering appealing for unity and agreement among the Oriyas and Telugus. He said that if you Oriyas and Telugus sit with a fair mind, you can arrive at a settlement before the sun rises the next day. My earnest appeal to this House is that both the Tamils and Telugus should sit together for a frank discussion of this issue and arrive at a unanimous decision. If that takes place, a separate Andhra Province will, ere long, be knocking at our doors in spite of Sardar Patel and Pandit Nehru.

"Finally, Sir, I want to say a word or two on the provision relating to Irrigation. It is stated in the budget speech that about Rs. 579 lakhs were spent towards Well subsidies and that about a lakh of acres of land has been brought under cultivation. I feel that irrigation being an important problem, some long-range policies should have inspired this budget. I hope that at least when the next budget is presented evidence of such a policy will be found. Sir, I once more congratulate the Hon. the Minister for Finance for having presented a budget, which judged by all financial standards, is a sound and nice one."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the outset I wish to state that it is gratifying to find that the

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Hon. the Minister for Finance has not been 'lost' to this House by the formation of the Andhra Province, which would have prevented him from delivering his third budget speech. Let not, this observation of mine be taken to imply that I am opposed to the formation of the Andhra Province. Far from it; on the other hand, I have every sympathy for the Andhras and wish them every success. All that I desire to state is that we are gratified that the Hon. the Finance Minister, Mr. Gopala Reddi, is still with us in this House.

"The Hon. Minister is to be congratulated on his lucid delivery for he read his budget speech in deliberate and clear tones. But so far as the content of that speech is concerned, I cannot but express a sense of disappointment for it was not at all inspiring. The budget is a mere stand-still and humdrum budget with no long-range vision behind it, and contains nothing to inspire in the population of the State a hope for better times. Sir, when a budget is presented, we generally apply some yardstick to it to ascertain what advantage has been conferred thereby on the people. The budget has to show whether it contributes to the well-being of the population, how far medical relief is to be provided, how far illiteracy is to be eradicated, to what extent the homeless are being provided with shelter, the unemployed with employment and the like. Judged by these standards, I am afraid that the budget that the Hon. the Finance Minister has presented this year, is far from satisfactory.

"The people of this State are extremely disappointed because in the first place the Hon. the Finance Minister did not announce any relief from taxation. He adopts a complacent attitude and expects people to be thankful in being let off without any further taxation. But this by itself cannot satisfy the public, who are actually being crushed down with the weight of heavy imposts. The Hon. Minister has himself acknowledged that the tax burden on the people of this State is exceedingly heavy. He has mentioned in his speech that the rates of some of the taxes that are levied in this State—for example, the motor vehicles tax—are the highest in the whole of India and possibly in the whole world. Such being the case, should he not have come forward to give some relief to the tax-payer at least in respect of the motor vehicles tax as a gesture of good intentions?

"Last year, when the Hon. Minister presented the budget, he came forward with a formidable series of tax proposals which events later proved to be unnecessary as has been borne out by the revised estimates. The current year is expected to close with a surplus of 53 lakhs of rupees as against a budgeted surplus of 9.33 lakhs of rupees. As a matter of fact the surplus is much more when we take into account the 250 lakhs of rupees under State Trading Schemes, which have been credited to the capital account instead of being credited to the revenue account. It is obvious that this manipulation in accounting has been resorted to in order to make out a case for last year's additional taxation.

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15 "So far as this year is concerned, although there is no direct
n. increase of taxes, there can be no gain-saying the fact that the
people are subjected to indirect taxation because of the rise
in prices, for as prices rise, the sales-tax rises. The Government
were deriving 5 crores of rupees from the sales-tax in 1945-46.
To-day the revenue derived from sales-tax is 15 crores of rupees.
It is the people who pay this extra tax of Rs. 10 crores. So long
as prices are not pegged, it is incorrect to say that there is no
increase in taxation. The foremost task in India to-day is to
bring down the cost of living, but nothing is being done to achieve
this end. The Hon. Minister has balanced his budget by unbalancing
the budgets of thousands of tax-payers in this land.

"It should be realized that the taxation programme of a
country must be related to its national income. In a poor country
like India, we cannot follow the example of rich countries like
Britain and the United States of America in this regard. The
taxation structure of this country has been modelled on that of
the United Kingdom, which is the heaviest taxed country in the
whole world. The United States of America, the United Kingdom
and Canada are all highly advanced industrially and, therefore,
they cannot serve as a guide for present-day India in the matter
of taxation. If we have to frame our taxation structure on proper
lines, we should look to other young and enterprising countries
like Brazil and Argentina for a model, particularly the latter,
which has a predominantly agricultural economy like India.
It should be remembered that it is a wrong policy to raise public
revenues by depriving people of the essentials of life, and thereby
causing them much hardship and travail.

"Sir, when taxation is resorted to, steps should be taken to
see that it does not prove a burden to the poor. The salt tax
which has been abolished was one such tax for its incidence was
very small, the per capita tax being less than six annas a year.
I should like the Government of Madras to address the Central
Government to revive this tax and distribute the proceeds of the
same among the States in view of the fact that the reduction
of taxes announced in the Central Budget will have to be partly
borne by the States. The yield from the salt tax would be about
Rs. 12 crores per year and it would be a pity not to tap this
source of revenue. The abolition of the salt tax was a useful
political slogan against foreign domination but from a purely
economic point of view it is unsound.

"Sir, the Hon. the Finance Minister has often told us: 'You
ask me for amenities. How can I provide the same unless I
increase the taxes?' This statement betrays a lack of knowledge
of public finance, for there are many other sources that can be
explored in order to replenish the public Exchequer. For instance,
the Government can raise loans in the open market. This has
been the usual medium for financing Government enterprises.
In Britain and the United States of America, how did they finance
great wars and provide for their nation-building activities?
Not entirely through taxation for there is a limit to the tax.

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of the tax-payer to bear the burden of imposts. Government
loans have played a large part in providing the administration
with the necessary finances, and this source must be tapped by
the Hon. the Finance Minister of this State. I am glad to note
that the finances of this State are exceedingly sound. The Revenue
Reserve Fund continues to remain and the public debt is not
large. I find that the liabilities on the 31st of March 1951 are
estimated at 104 crores of rupees and the assets at 121 crores of
rupees. Such being the case, why should not the public investor
come forward and invest his money in bonds issued by this Govern-
ment, if the Government will infuse the requisite confidence in
him. It is lack of confidence in the administration that is driving
away the investor. The past pronouncements of the Government
in the matter of proprietary rights have made capital shy. It is
gratifying that there is a sobering down in regard to this matter in
the Central Government which is being reflected in the States.

"Another method whereby finances may be provided for nation-
building activities is by curtailing expenditure. We are sorry to
note that the Hon. the Finance Minister is adopting a non-possimus
attitude in this regard, for he said in his Budget speech that
retrenchment was out of question."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I said only no further
retrenchment."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"The retrenchment
that has been effected so far is very meagre and there is scope for
further retrenchment. I am sorry to note that the administration
of this country is being run on the same lines as when the British
were in power. We still have the same top-heavy administration,
against which the Congress used to clamour in the years past.
The inhabitants of this land who are mostly poor are not in a posi-
tion to contribute to this bloated administration. Having regard
to the finances of this country, there is need to reduce the expendi-
ture on general administration which has been steadily expanding
and has now reached its peak. The size of the bureaucracy should
be reduced and the supernumerary posts abolished. Another
method whereby retrenchment may be effected is by curtailing the
tours of the Hon. Ministers. (Interruption: 'The amount spent
is very small.') It may be very small, Sir, but little drops make
an ocean. The perennial tour of Ministers is a phenomenon that
is not found in Western Countries. In Europe, Ministers tour but
rarely and when they do, their movements are not noticed by the
public, nor are they regaled to big feasts for people have the
assurance that the administration will be fair and impartial. The
Government can also effect some economy by abandoning some of
their unremunerative schemes like the Firka Development Scheme.
The Publicity Department can also be scrapped and the publica-
tion of the *Madras Information* which is not serving much useful
purpose discontinued. I have adverted only to a few methods
whereby retrenchment can be effected. If the Government will
examine the question, they will find that the scope for effecting
savings is large.

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"Sir, notwithstanding the change that has occurred in it is regrettable that the old methods and manners current under the British bureaucracy still persist. The same red-tape and delays are predominant as in the past with much less efficiency. To-day as before with reference to every new proposal, large or small, that is brought forward by any department, the Finance Department has to make investigations and unless it passes through the sieve of the Finance Department, no scheme can see the light of day. In order to minimize the delay, that this procedure involves, I would suggest to the Government to make block grants to the departments as is being done by the Universities. The system of block grants would ensure a quicker method of disposal and would save much labour. Another suggestion that I should like to make to the Government is to have standing committees for every department, consisting partly of Members of the Legislature and partly of expert opinion from outside, the function of these committees being to give advice and assistance to the Ministers in the discharge of their duties. It is true that Cabinet Sub-Committees are formed from time to time to deal with various matters of importance, but the Ministers do not have the time to devote the necessary attention to the questions nor have they the expert knowledge in regard to all the matters that come up before them. Hence Standing Committee would serve a useful purpose.

"After having made some constructive suggestions, which the Hon. the Finance Minister asked us to do, I must now advert to the proposals that have been made in the budget for the amelioration of the lot of the people in the land. It is regrettable to find that the allotments made for Education and Public Health are very meagre. The Hon. the Finance Minister has tried to make out that what has been allotted for Education to-day is double of what was allotted for this purpose, four years ago, the amount of budget for Education being Rs. 10 crores now whereas it was Rs. 4½ crores in 1945-46. But he has to bear in mind the fact that the result that is achieved by spending Rs. 10 crores to-day is not much better than what was achieved by spending 4½ crores of rupees four years ago. As a matter of fact, the increase in the Education Budget is less the result of expansion than of the rise in prices. During the past three years the expansion has been only to the extent of 420 schools a year. If this is the pace that is to be maintained in the matter of educational progress, I wish to know from the Government how they will be able to implement Article 45 of the New Constitution which requires that the State should provide for elementary education within the next ten years for all children up till the age of 14. The pace has to be considerably increased if this is to be achieved, bearing in mind the fact that the increase in expenditure on Education has also to cope with the increasing population.

"Coming to medical relief, we find that relatively a small proportion of the State's revenues has been allotted for this purpose. It is only 4 crores of rupees, which means that only three

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in the rupee is being spent on public health and nine pies on medical relief. The apathy of the Government towards medical relief is notorious. Hence, almost every hospital presents the pathetic sight of men, women and children lying on the floor in the verandahs because of the paucity of accommodation. While the Government are so niggardly in the matter of making provision for the public health and for preventive and curative medicine, they are most generous to the Police and Jail departments. The fundamental duty of a Government, no doubt, is to maintain law and order. But it is surprising to find a national Government spending more on this item than was done by the foreigner. We feel that if the Government would take steps to improve the lot of the people and make available to them the elementary necessities of life—food, clothing and shelter—at fair prices, the subversive elements would find little scope for their activity. After all their promises to make this State a welfare State, is the Congress Government to allow this State to remain a mere Police State as it was under foreign domination?

"Another department that has not received adequate attention in the budget is the Agricultural department. The Central Government has informed this Government that after the end of 1951 no foodgrains would be imported into this country. Hence, unless more money is set apart for agriculture in this State and food production stepped up, the people of this State will soon find themselves in dire plight.

"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have adverted to just a few salient points. I shall have occasion to refer to other matters when dealing with the demands for grants.

"The Hon. the Finance Minister in the concluding portion 12 of his speech has appealed for constructive criticism. I wish to assure him that my observations have been actuated solely by constructive and not at all by destructive motives. I hope, he will take them in the light. After the advent of the new Republic in this land, the position of its inhabitants should be like that which obtained in ancient Rome, which has been described by Macaulay in the following lines:—

'Then none was for a party,
Then all were for the State.
Then the rich man helped the poor;
And the poor man loved the rich.'

That should be the ideal towards which we should all aim. I may assure the Hon. Minister that the Members on this side of the House will co-operate with him in all his constructive efforts to promote the well-being of the people of this State."

—SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Mr. Speaker, I have heard some of the speeches made in connexion with His Excellency the Governor's address and also some of the speeches made now. I must say very categorically that the

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Congress Government in this State has every reason to be proud of what they have achieved during the last three or four years. There are, of course, many things in which improvements must be made, but that is so in every human organization. We, as a party, have no reason to be sorry or unhappy for what we have achieved during the last few years. I do not want to recount many of the things we have done, because there are other people who will do it. Prohibition is one of those things of which the people have dreamed for centuries. It has been given to us to achieve it. There may be difficulties and loop-holes. But undeniably it has conferred a benefit on many millions of people in the Province. Nobody can deny this if he goes and sees them in the villages. It is true there is blackmarketing and the rich people want to make a profit out of it. So also there are vested interests who would like to profit by Prohibition also. These may require strong action, but nobody can deny that millions of people have been benefited by Prohibition.

"There are other fields also—Education and Irrigation. In Irrigation many projects have been taken up and it is not necessary now to recount many of the things which we have done. But there is such a lot more to be done. I take it that it is from this point of view many of the criticisms that have been made here have been made.

"Sir, there is one criticism that I would like to make. Having been in the Government for three years, I know how it works. I can, therefore, make the criticism very confidently. The way in which the Government work is, each department works in its own way and it depends upon the energy and the vision of the Minister concerned. The more energetic a Minister the more schemes he is able to prepare and get sanctioned. But there is one thing lacking and it must be made good if we want to get the full benefit for the expenditure we incur. We want a little more co-ordination. I have seen in many places one policy being adumbrated by one department and something directly opposite being done in another department. We talk of the encouragement of handloom industry. We sincerely talk about it, but we find on the other hand that the very counts that are required for the handlooms are exported and the handloom weavers do not get the yarn they need. We talk about encouraging cottage industries, but at the same time we do certain things which will try to kill those cottage industries. Take jaggery making. Recently an order was passed in Mathurai district compelling the cane-producers to sell them at a particular cost to the sugar mills. The result was there was a big agitation and a threat of satyagraha. But before things went too far the Government yielded and wisely. That is a cottage industry and we all know what profits are being made by jaggery making.

"Then with regard to food production, we want more food, but the ways adopted are such that they are against more food production. The harassment to which the small producer is

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subjected is something which only people on the spot can appreciate. Much has come to my knowledge during the last one year which I did not know in the previous years.

"We want food production, but I find all over the country the tanks are going into ruins. There is no rain and one of the reasons given for not having proper rains is the denudation of the forests. We must have a regular large-scale planning of reafforestation if we are to have regular rains as of old. What we want is a planning commission. Hon. Members would have heard that the Government of India are appointing a planning commission and that Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru will be the Chairman of the Commission. There is need for a planning commission. All the departments of the Government must be given an overall plan subject to which alone they must carry out their detailed plans. If we can have an exhaustive overall plan, I think we can get the best results. (At this stage the Deputy Speaker occupied the Chair.)

"We are all thinking about providing facilities for the poor man and rightly so. But I find in the budget speech delivered by the Hon. the Finance Minister, under Housing, that Rs. 45 lakhs were sanctioned as loans for the construction of 622 new houses and for the completion of 319 houses commenced in the previous years, making up a total of about 1,000 houses. The cost of a house is about Rs. 4,500 or Rs. 5,000. We have been saying and rightly so, that lakhs of people in this very City have no houses and are living on the pavements. But if we provide houses only for people who can afford to borrow Rs. 5,000, the provision will be only for the higher-middle class and rich people. I have heard that a rich mirasdar of Tanjore, a multi-millionaire with properties inside and outside this country, has applied for a loan of Rs. 15,000 for building a house. Ultimately, it is only this type of people who profit by many of the plans that we make. Let us have a plan from the point of view of the common man about whom there is much talk. Let it not be mere talking. Let it be something which we can implement. Let us have a plan of building houses for Rs. 1,000 or Rs. 500 which can be repaid in twenty instalments. This planning must be from the point of view of a philosophy which we will have to accept.

"My Hon. Friend, Mr. Gopala Reddi, expatiated on the Khadi Scheme. That scheme is not valuable merely from the point of view of the cloth that is produced, but from the point of view of the philosophy that underlies it. It stands for a philosophy of life which Gandhiji upheld and preached and which the Congress as a body has accepted. That philosophy is to help the cottage industries, help the poor man, help the smaller agriculturists and the smaller industries. No doubt, we want large-scale industries for defence purposes, but a country like ours in which capital is not large and where man-power is in plenty and is distributed in lakhs of villages, can be improved only by attention to small-scale industries. It is the Sarvodaya Economic Plan. Whatever is

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practicable in that plan can be adopted now and the rest may be considered in future. We must first think and plan and proceed ahead.

"Then there is one other matter which has not been properly attended to in the budget speech and that is the State Trading Schemes. I would like this House to understand what is being done in the State Trading Schemes. I find, Sir, in page 453 of the budget various State Trading Schemes given. Crores of rupees are being spent. I find an advance of Rs. 164 lakhs for one item. There are many other items also—rice, wheat and wheat products, millets, pulses and other grains, sugar, jaggery, groundnut, dehydrated sweet potatoes, potatoes, cotton seeds, gunnies, Government depots for rice and other things. In addition to these, we find purchase and distribution of paddy and other seeds, purchase and distribution of manure and iron and steel for agricultural implements, production and sale of malted foods, small-scale and cottage industries, hand-made paper, purchase and distribution of firewood, civil supplies transport units, supply of mill machinery spare parts, etc. These involve crores of rupees and I do not know how these crores of rupees are being administered. The Government of India have also been running a very big business concern, that is, the Railways. Many years ago, the revenue and expenditure relating to the railways were shown in the same budget. Then it was urged that the business transactions of the State must be separated from the main budget and separately accounted for. The result is that railway budgets are being presented and discussed separately from the main budget for the last so many years. Here also I want that procedure to be adopted. We do not now know what is being done with the crores of rupees that are being sunk in these transactions. From the Budget Memorandum I find that they are not even being brought to the accounts in the budget. In page 3 of the Memorandum it has been said: '(ii) State Trading Schemes

The net outlay anticipated in the Budget Estimate for 1949-50 as transferable to the Revenue Account was Rs. 47.73 lakhs. The Government have now decided that the transactions relating to the State Trading Schemes should remain in the capital account from the accounts of the current year until any scheme is wound up and the final results relating to it are known. Hence no amount is shown in the revised estimate as transferrable to the Revenue Account.' How is the Legislature to know anything about these things where the transactions run to 4, 5 or 6 crores of rupees? It is not proper. It is highly improper for any Government not to give the necessary details for this vast expenditure. The proper thing will be for the Finance Minister from the next year onwards to prepare a separate memorandum for these State Trading Schemes in addition to the other memoranda which are being supplied to us, so that the Legislature may have full facts about these matters.

"Madam, I do not want to take up much more of the time of the House except to say one thing more. The work done by the

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Government is not to be measured by the budgets and the accounts that are being shown here but by the contentment and the welfare of the people. Judged by that standard, unfortunately for various reasons, I cannot say that there is such a great satisfaction among the people. Even in the war years, there were certain things which the people could get and for which they did not suffer. Now the articles under control are so many—rice, sugar, iron and steel. I mention only a few of the essential things. The big people get whatever they want wherever they are. But for the common man, it is very difficult to get a fair deal. When powers are entrusted to petty officials the result is a great deal of corruption. I would like to ask whether anything could not be done to lessen these controls, so that there might be less of corruption. I speak entirely from the point of view of the poor man, the humble man, the poor agriculturist who is being harassed and the man-in-the-street who has to spend such a lot of his time in getting the controlled articles. If really we want to have contentment and satisfaction in these people, we must look at it from this point of view and see that there is as little of control as possible. By all means let us have control, but only to the extent to which it is absolutely necessary and nothing more. If that could be done, it will go a long way in bringing contentment among the people.

"There is one other matter, Madam, namely, Education, but I do not propose to talk about it just now because there may be another occasion for doing so when that demand is discussed. Now, I wish to refer to another subject, namely, the Sales Tax. No doubt, this tax has been yielding a great deal, but one of the principles of administration which has been accepted in all civilised countries is this. While you may collect the tax, you must be courteous in collecting it. While certainly what is due to the State must be paid, unnecessary hardship need not be imposed upon people who pay it. One of the unfortunate things in the collection of sales-tax is, while income-tax is paid by people who get an annual income of Rs. 3,000 and over, in the matter of sales-tax it is paid by the man who has a turn-over of Rs. 10,000 and more. At the present time any petty shop-keeper can have a turn-over of more than Rs. 10,000. He is an ordinary man; and cannot even dress well or go in a motor car. I have heard complaints many a time that these petty traders are put to great hardship; they are asked to appear at panchayat choultries and wayside stations and I understand that the officer who asks them to appear at these places never turns up at all for many days. That is how things are happening. Therefore, I think, strict orders should be issued in this respect. After all the people who pay these taxes are our masters and if they are not recognized to-day, that will have to be done tomorrow when adult franchise comes. At least there must be instructions to collect these taxes without unnecessary cruelties and discourtesies being imposed upon the people who pay them. This is something over which the popular Government should bestow a great deal of attention.

12-15 p.m.

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"I have nothing more to say at present, Madam, and whatever I have to say in respect of one or two other departments in which I am deeply interested, I shall deal with them when the discussion of those Demands comes up."

* JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Madam, I heard with rapt attention the beautiful speech of the hon. Gentleman Mr. Avinashilingam Chettiar. If he himself had only followed several of the principles, and the valuable advice which he has given to-day on the floor of this House, I am sure, Madam, Deputy Speaker, he will be still occupying the Treasury Benches. I stop at that."

"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I really do not know whether I should feel happy or unhappy when I see that the hon. Mr. Prakasam, that beloved of the millions of Andhras and his colleagues—I do not know whether I should call them his satellites or his adherents—have actually stolen the thunder from the Opposition. They have spoken with greater vigour and emphasis on several of the points which we have been emphasizing on the floor of this House ever since we have become the representatives of the people. You are aware, Madam, Deputy Speaker, the hon. Mr. Prakasam is the beloved of millions, as I have already put it. He is a man who has fought and sacrificed for the people and is the one member of this House who could speak with authority and he has spoken and I am sure those gentlemen sitting in the Treasury Benches will take several of his points into consideration and see that they put their house in order."

"Now with regard to the budget speech of the Hon. Gentleman, Mr. Gopala Reddi, who unfortunately is not here at present. I have got to say with great regret that his budget is a colourless and at very disappointing budget. I say colourless because it contains no vigorous policy, a policy that could economically and socially regenerate the people of this State. It is disappointing because it has not brought relief to the vast mass of poor people. To-day I am not speaking of the poor people, but I shall only refer to the millions of the lower middle class families in this Province who are actually grumbling, nay, Madam, Deputy Speaker, who are groaning under the crushing taxation, I mean the indirect taxation of this Government. Madam, Deputy Speaker, these are the points which the Cabinet ought to have considered. I say it is a budget which plays with figures; it is a budget which plays with heads of account just to make both ends meet and leaves in its wake a very gloomy prospect. The man-in-the-street has got a different yard-stick to measure the administration. His yard-stick is whether he is getting his food, whether he is getting his cloth and whether he is getting the necessities of life. So, when he measures with such a yard-stick, he will naturally say, 'Oh, you, our representatives, have not done your duty by the people.' The Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi has referred to several programmes of the Government and also to other important measures of amelioration."

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"First, I would like to refer to the Sales Tax itself to which several references have already been made by hon. Members of this House. The Hon. Finance Minister called the Sales Tax the 'Kamadhenu'. Madam Deputy Speaker, I am quite confident that that celestial animal will be fretting and fuming in its heavenly home when it is compared with the unholy inquisition that is, the sales tax, which is going in this state. I really do not understand whether the Cabinet of the Hon. Finance Minister understands the difficulties and the harassment with which those taxes are being collected. I say, Madam, these taxes are collected through the nose from the people and while collecting them no respect is shown to the vast trading communities in this province. They go and stand for hours on end at the doors of the Commercial Tax Officers and they are treated like outcasts. They are the people whom you call the golden eggs and is it not the duty and the responsibility of these officials to treat them with respect? This is how your Act is administered. I know several instances where the lower Commercial Tax Officers have taxed people unnecessarily, going against the very provisions of the rules framed under the Act. The Act is not properly administered and the Hon. Finance Minister calls this the Kamadhenu. I would have, on the other hand, welcomed, if he had said that the trade, commerce and the industry of this province are 'Kamadhenu'. If really this Government want to get more revenue they have got to attempt vigorous policies of regenerating and developing several of the industries, commerce and trades of this province. And, what has been done now, I ask the Hon. Minister for Industries. Of course, I am not saying anything against the present Minister for Industries, but I am asking his predecessors. Have they done anything to stabilise the industries in this province and in maintaining those industries and expanding them. If only we go through the records we will find that the conditions of the industries are going from bad to worse. I ask, whether the Government have looked into the accounts so that the several lakhs of rupees which they have given to the State-aided industries are being properly spent and whether those industries are to-day surviving and serving the people? I say they are not doing it. Everywhere we find industries going under, particularly the weaving industry in which I am deeply interested and I am proud to say that I belong to that weaving community. I refer to the hand-loom industry. To-day it is almost on its death-bed, because of the inefficiency of this Government, I should say, and because of the lack of any policy to re-habilitate that industry. I have on several occasions cried hoarse on the floor of this House that this is the prince of cottage industries in the province. The hon. Gentleman Mr. Avinashilingam Chettiyar and the hon. Gentleman Mr. L. N. Gopalaswami have advocated the Khadi policy and am not going to say anything about it except to say that if we are going to spend money on the Khadi policy why not spend money for an industry which has been existing in this province and in this country from time immemorial and has served the need of the people of the country and of the world. You are not doing

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anything. When I go through the speech of the Hon. Finance Minister what do I find? He says, let them join the co-operative societies; we give them loans for their shares and we are going to allot Rs. 75 for the purchase of yarn to each member. I ask the Hon. Minister who is sitting here whether all the members of the co-operative societies are to-day getting proper work, and have been supplied with yarn. They have not. Then why talk about co-operative societies. You can save this money and see that yarn is supplied at the lowest rate possible to the weavers who have not come within the fold of the co-operative organisation. Again, I ask whether the members of the co-operative weaver societies are the only real citizens of the State and whether the hand-loom weavers who are not members of the co-operative societies are not also citizens of the State? Therefore, is it not necessary for this Government to see that the help rendered covers these people as well.

“Madam Deputy Speaker, I do not want to say much about Prohibition, because there are abler people than me who have already spoken on it and abler men like Mr. Natesan and others are coming after me. But, I would ask the Hon. Minister for Prohibition, whether he knows that nearly 75,000 cases of whisky were landed in Pondicherry and disappeared over-night and when I sent a question about it to the Hon. Speaker and said that it must be answered on the floor of this House, I got a reply that it does not come within the purview or jurisdiction of the Hon. Minister for Prohibition. However, I ask whether the 75,000 cases of whisky simply dissolved into thin air or whether they crossed the borders of Pondicherry and entered into our State where there is supposed to be a Prohibition Act in operation. What have you done to prevent that. I am not talking about the cottage industry to which my hon. Friend, Mr. Koya, has already made reference, namely, illicit manufacture of toddy, but I would like to say this. The Act is not working properly. As a member belonging to the party which has stood strongly in support of the Prohibition policy of the Government, I feel sorry that the Act is not working properly. After all, what is the percentage of drunkards in this province? It is only 2 per cent. Then why should you sacrifice the interests of the 98 per cent of the population in order to save the lives or the fortunes of the 2 per cent of the population of the province? As I said before, the Act has hopelessly failed. So, it is better we retrace our steps. Let us not play the part of God in this world. As I have already stated in reply to His Excellency's Address, if you really want to regenerate the people, you have to organise a Moral Regeneration Department and raise the moral level of the people. What are the hon. Members sitting over there doing? Are they not feeling that it is an interference on the rights of the people? They have said, 'it is our article of faith!' The Hon. Finance Minister said, 'it is an article of faith of the present Government'. If they are the defenders of faith, it is for them to go into the streets of the province and talk to the people and hear what they are saying, and find out whether they are co-operating with the Government. Madam, Ministers go about the country and address the people.

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from platforms; they are issuing statements now and then, they have been speaking on the floor of this House—all for the co-operation of the people. But have they got the co-operation of the people? Why are the people not co-operating with them? Because the vast millions of the people do not get any benefit from the present rule. To-day they are actually starving; they are denied all their convenience and amenities; industry, trade and commerce do not get any help. So I ask, why not save that money and spend it for a better purpose.

“Madam, Deputy Speaker, as regards food, much has been said by previous speakers and more especially by my friend, Mr. Prakasam. I ask this Government whether they have implemented the decision of the Food Conference attended by all the Food Ministers of the country? Have they reduced by ten per cent the price of foodstuffs of this province? What action have they taken, I ask? No action has been taken. And so, the price of foodstuffs has been going up from day to day. If only every hon. Member in this house holds before him the cost of living index, he will see what havoc it is doing among the people of this province. That is what I have to say on this subject.

“Then, I proceed to transport. The cost of transport, Madam, has risen by six hundred per cent. Then one can imagine how it is reacting upon industry, trade and commerce. The tax on motor vehicles has gone up like anything. Whether the people have got the money, whether they have got the purchasing power, that is the question which Government here have to consider. No, they do not ask that question. They want just to balance the budget somehow, and that is why we see the hon. Finance Minister proclaiming in a triumphant voice that Government have come out of a nasty situation with flying colours. I ask, what is the policy of the Finance Minister? Does he want merely to satisfy his own conscience; does he want to pat his own back by declaring that he has been able to balance the budget? Is it not his duty to satisfy the millions of people, who are watching him day-in and day-out for an act of relief? After all, the Hon. Finance Minister will say, 'I am the representative of the people, you are not so, you represent only a party, you do not represent all shades of opinion.' and so on. That is a matter, Madam, into which I do not propose to go. My hon. Friend, Mr. Koya said yesterday that it is unchivalrous on the part of Government to indulge in that manner; and so I leave it at that. On the other hand, Madam, if at all we have been speaking on the floor of this House to-day, yesterday or since the beginning of this House, we have always spoken for the general good of the people. We have forgotten our own community and we have left them to the generosity of the majority community of this province. So let them do whatever they like with them. I ask hon. Members sitting here, now that we have all become citizens of a sovereign Indian republic, whether they have known exactly the condition of the people. Hon. Ministers have been touring the province and so they must have been seeing the people day after day. I

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fact I do not know how that time was spent by them. Was it merely spent in travelling, or in addressing people or merely in attending dinners and luncheons or was it spent in knowing how the people lived? If Government want to increase the revenue of the province they should first make arrangements to make people earn more. On the other hand what do we see now? Their earning capacity is going down and the cost of living index is going up, and there is general deterioration all round. There is a great landslide in the economic condition of the people. That being so, how can you ask the people to pay more? This morning I asked the Hon. Finance Minister how he came to the conclusion that the people would be able to pay the enhanced sales tax; and he said that for the last few years they have been paying it. Madam, does that mean that they should continue to pay this enhanced tax for another thousand years? No, it must stop; the limit of taxation has been reached; I think they have been calling this sales tax as 'Kamadhenu, Kamadhenu'. I do not know when the Kamadhenu would break down. The general elections are coming. The Hon. Finance Minister has been saying that in the whole province, the Congress party is the only party which can deliver the goods to the people. Unfortunately, those great men who built up that organisation, I do not know whether they are still there, except a few top leaders at that Centre. I ask whether all the Congressmen still have that ideal and whether they still feel that they are the representatives of the people, that they must work for them, they must sweat for them, and labour for them. If only that ideal is once again enthroned in the hearts of the Congressmen, I say, this Government can work wonders in the province. If the Minister says, 'my party is there; it is doing its duty,' I ask, why then are the Communists rising? Why is it there is so much discontent in the province? Why should there be that shooting in the Salem Central Jail? Madam, that is a blot on the good name of this administration. If this had happened in some other regime, the whole country would echo and re-echo with the horrors that have taken place in the Salem Central Jail. But a committee is inquiring into it and so I do not want to deal with it any further. But I do not know why the whole inquiry should be conducted *in camera*. Why should it not be open to the public. Madam, we stand by the Government in suppressing Communism. I as a member of my party stand for the suppression of the Communists. I will stand by Government to see that there is no party in the land which indulges in subversive activities. But at the same time when human beings are killed like animals, I cannot remain quiet. I cannot imagine how the Superintendent of the Central Jail thought fit to treat the prisoners worse than animals. When I read in the Press that my hon. Friend, Mr. Madhava Menon and his very good lady received hits from stones pelted by Communists during their tour in Ceylon. I felt very sorry for them. For, after all, my heart goes for him, not because he is the Minister for Law, but because it is for something else.

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"Madam, I do not criticize for the sake of criticism; I do not oppose for the sake of opposition. I speak what I sincerely feel, and so I have spoken what I have sincerely felt."

* Sri K. BHASHYAM:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, speaking on this budget, I ought to say in the first instance that the budget does not reveal any question of policy. It is merely an auditor's statement; it is merely an exhibition of figures by an accountant. It is not a speech or statement of one who is entrusted with the responsibility of Government of this Province, nor is it the statement of one who has realized his responsibility as one who is entrusted with the welfare and care of the lives of the people of this land."

"So far as taxation is concerned, I would like to point out one thing." There should be a limit to this taxation resorted to when there is no further expansion of revenue. I would like the Hon. Finance Minister to overhaul this system of taxation altogether. In the first place I would like to point out that the question of Land Revenue, which has been there for a long time, needs revision. The present system should go and a new system should be established. The present Land Revenue system, which has been in existence so long, has been given to us as a legacy from the days of Mogul Raj; it has been perpetuated by British Rule and handed over to us by them to-day. What is wanted to-day is a thorough revision of it. For every acre of land, nanja or punja, there should be a basic tax, say, five or six rupees for nanja land and two or three rupees for punja land. Over and above that, you can levy an additional tax according to the crop raised on it. This will give the State an increasing revenue with the increase in price of foodgrains, unlike the present system, where the revenue remains the same, even though the prices soar. Then, again, after the basic tax is levied, for the water supplied to raise crops, a certain rate of tax can be levied. In the case of commercial crops, Government can charge a rate of tax according to the value of the crop; and this tax can be regulated according to the income of the agriculturist. This suggestion is nothing new. It has been recommended long ago; only, Government have not looked into it. Then, in the case of all persons who own less than two or three acres of land, there may not be any taxation at all. I commend all these suggestions to the Government for consideration.

"Coming then to the question of sales tax I want to say one thing on it. True, it is an expanding tax; the more the people buy, the more they have to pay. But I am afraid, the officials who are engaged in the collection of the tax are not considerate towards the tax-payers, as they ought to. After all the person who pays the tax pays also for the salary of the officer who collects the tax. So we should be more courteous and also show much consideration for them. In the budget speech there is reference to the growth of revenue under General Sales Tax due to the tightening up in the machinery for assessment and collection.

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Does it mean that more pressure is being brought to bear upon the people or that the officers concerned are more careful in assessment and collection? Why I am feeling unhappy about the sales tax is this. While it is a good source of revenue, it will bring the Government into disrepute with the general mass of people unless all care is taken in the collection.

"One thing strikes me as anomalous in regard to sales tax. Government have exempted from the tax persons with an annual turnover of less than ten thousand rupees. But do not such persons collect sales tax from people who buy things from them? When they do not pay the tax, why should they collect it at all? I am pointing out this anomaly so that the Finance Minister may look into it for the purpose of rectification.

"Now I will say a few words about law and order. Everybody will certainly support the Government in the maintenance of law and order in the State. On the one side we hear blood-curdling stories of atrocities like assaults, murder, arson, burning of foodgrains and carrying away cattle committed by Communists in certain parts of the State and on the other side we hear stories of the atrocities committed by the Police in certain places. It is very difficult to find out which version is true. All I say is that in the present circumstances the Government should appoint a committee to enquire into the stories of excesses committed by the Police. I do not want an open enquiry, for the Police will be chary of divulging all the information they have got for the delectation of the public. A small committee could go into the matter and make a report. The report should be placed before the Assembly for scrutiny and criticism. This matter requires immediate attention, for I am told that in certain parts of the State the Government are blamed for all these matters. Complaints that these excesses are committed under the authority of the Government and under their very nose without their taking any action, should not be allowed to be made.

"I now turn to Communism. Communist trouble is on the increase in various parts of our State. When the Government of India were able to take Police action against the whole of the Hyderabad State and put down the Communists whose atrocities there were certainly one hundred times more than what they are in our State to-day, that our Government cannot control the Communists, is a thing which I cannot believe. If the Government have got grit, capacity and the necessary knowledge of things, they must take firm steps to stop these atrocities. I should like the Government to take very strong action with the help of some Members of the Assembly who are in a position to give such help. Plenty of details have been given by Messrs. A. Kaleswara Rao and T. Prakasam. Why should not the Government take their anger? These are critical days and the help of everybody in the House ought to be taken. Though the Government may not see eye to eye with the Members in certain matters, in matters of common interest and common goal the Government should take

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their advice. The co-operation of great leaders should be enlisted in dealing with the situation. The Government cannot escape responsibility by saying that they are doing all they can to meet the situation. That is a very weak way of explaining away the responsibility for meeting a serious situation.

"One thing which strikes a lawyer like me is the absence of any reference to the Administration of Justice in the budget speech. When there is no reference, it means that everything is going on smoothly, nicely and well. I would like to point out that the court-fee payable by litigants is high in certain matters and inadequate in certain other matters. The Court Fees Act has been on the Statute Book from the year 1877 and no radical revision has taken place. I think some time back there was a proposal to amend the Act. There is with the Government the big report of the late R. Satyamurti, who was Registrar of the High Court. From personal knowledge I can say that it was considered by the Department, the High Court, the Revenue Board and all the Collectors. The Minister in charge of the subject at the time of its consideration had offered his remarks on the various matters raised in that report. I do not see why the matter cannot be taken up now and pushed through. The Court Fees Act is an illogical Act; under it the incidence of tax is low in some cases and unduly high in other cases. It is necessary to so adjust the scale of fee as to bear a more equitable proportion to the value of the property involved. I can assure the Finance Minister that by such revision the finances of the Government will not suffer in any way; on the other hand it may even be possible to increase the revenue from this source.

"The most important problem facing the State is the food situation. Everybody is agreed that there is a critical situation. Hard times are ahead of us. Not only man, but Nature also is against us and there is famine ahead. Everybody is agreed that the situation has to be met by some drastic methods. The Government of India have promised some additional quota of food for this State, but that will not be enough. Madras is spending 3½ crores of rupees on food. I think every other State also must be spending a like amount, so much so that the amount spent by all the States in India will be about 50 crores of rupees. Adding to this the 27 crores of rupees spent by the Government of India, the total expenditure comes to 77 crores. As the Government of India's expenditure is likely to be even more, we may put the total expenditure at 100 crores of rupees. This amount is being spent in various ways. I suggest that a Food Board for the whole of India consisting of merchants must be established for importing from outside countries and supplying to the people foodgrains at the cheapest possible rate. This sum of 100 crores should be placed at its disposal. Our Food Minister must take up this matter with the Central Government. I think import by Government from various countries has not been a great success. Not only the question of price, but political and other issues

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between country and country are involved in it. It is necessary that this must be divorced from Statecraft and put on a commercial basis. The Food Board that I have suggested can be entrusted with this task. Whenever a serious food situation arises, the State Food Ministers are summoned to Delhi, they talk for two days and return no wiser. Even the Food Advisory Committee that is established here is no good. It indulges in pettifoggery and does not think of big policies for effectively implementing the Grow More Food Campaign or for getting food at a cheaper price.

"In view of the great importance of food, I will make one suggestion. There are 12 Ministers and 26 districts. If each Minister takes up two districts and concentrates his attention on more production in them and the work of all Ministers is co-ordinated at the Cabinet meetings, I think it will yield better results than many of the efforts that are now being made. The Ministers go on tour for a day or two for the specific purpose of opening a bridge here or a school, college or reading room there and return in haste. Such hasty tours are no good at all. Each Minister should tour the districts allotted to him intensively, get to know the people, persuade them to take more interest and grow more food. I submit this proposal for the careful consideration of the Cabinet.

"In the Grow More Food Campaign, lands which are wholly unfit for cultivation are reclaimed for the purpose of cultivation after spending a great deal of money. If there is no rain, the lands cannot be cultivated and the money spent on them is a waste. There are many plots of land, especially in the Tanjore district, which are fit for cultivation straightaway, and where water facilities are available. Such plots could be taken up for cultivation without spending money on reclaiming forest or other land.

"I will say one thing about agricultural facilities. It is not as if every district has got the same facilities for growing more food. Certain facilities will yield better results in some districts than in other districts. For instance, facilities like the supply of seeds, manure and agricultural implements will yield better results in the shape of more production in the Tanjore district than in some other district. By providing facilities in such areas, we can tide over the immediate crisis. Therefore there should be concentration on lands which are cultivable straightaway instead of on reclamation of lands which may prove to be unfit for cultivation at the end and on the provision of facilities in areas which will yield quicker results.

"On the question of co-ordination, I suggest that Food, Agriculture and Co-operation should be in the hands of one Minister. As these are allied subjects, there is no use in entrusting them to different Ministers. I am not blaming anybody or casting any aspersion when I say that it is rather inappropriate

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at the present juncture for a Minister without any previous experience to be in charge of such a responsible portfolio as Food. Food is all-important and the portfolio should be entrusted to a person who has great experience of administration, who can put our case before the Central Government effectively and persuasively, who can plan long-term policies and get aid for them from the Government of India.

"I do not like the Minister visiting Ceylon for studying fisheries. I do not know what he can understand. If an officer of the Fisheries Department is deputed to study the latest devices in fishing operations and so on, that will be more useful. The Minister's visit for such a purpose is, I think, wrong.

"There is another suggestion, Madam, that I should like to make before I close. Our Ministers, so far as we can judge from the things happening in the districts, have lost touch with the masses. They are not able to go to the people and convince them and really convert them to their views or persuade them to take up the grow-more-food campaign in the way in which they want or to enlist their co-operation in the various schemes which they have launched for producing more food. There are leaders in this province who wield great influence among the masses and for the present it comes to my mind that if only the Government request the hon. Mr. Prakasam, who has such a great influence in the Andhra districts to tour round those districts and exhort the people to co-operate with the Government in their grow more food schemes, I am sure Mr. Prakasam will gladly come to their help, and will tour round these districts and get into the heart of these people and make them take to these schemes with all enthusiasm and zeal and the Government would thereby get the best possible results out of their grow more food schemes. In the same way, so far as the Tamil districts are concerned, they must get the services of our revered leader Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar, whose influence is undoubtedly great in Tamil Nad. We cannot really allow his great abilities to rest nor can we afford to let him keep studying Upanishads and the Kural, when we want him badly at this hour of our crisis. The situation is too serious and we must enlist the services of these two great leaders, if we want to tide over this food crisis. There is a great need for the people to co-operate with the Government in their various schemes, and this co-operation cannot be got, unless an appeal is made by these great leaders direct to the masses in the country. That is all what I have got to say, so far as the food policy of the Government is concerned.

"Madam, let me just say one word with regard to this thorny question of education. The Government have taken credit that they have increased the grant under this item and have been saying that they are giving all sorts of encouragement to education, but I do not know whether they have done anything more than

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increasing the rate of dearness allowance to the teachers in aided schools and I do not know how far this allowance has really reached the persons. But whatever that be, there is another matter in connection with education that I want to refer just now. Recently a Commission was appointed by the Government of India known as the University Education Commission presided over by Dr. Radhakrishnan and that commission have already submitted their report and have made a number of recommendations in regard to University education. I do not know what the Government are going to do with regard to the recommendations made by them and how they are going to find the necessary money for implementing those recommendations. Lastly, Madam, so far as the Annamalai University is concerned, they have an Engineering College now working and I am glad to learn that the Government are going to give a grant of Rs. 2 to 3 lakhs for it. But I must submit, Madam, that the position of the Engineering College in the Annamalai University is far from satisfactory. There are not enough equipment and materials there, and there are also not enough qualified and trained lecturers, with the result that students who study there have to go to Bombay or to Bangalore for getting their practical training. Qualified lecturers do not go to that institution, because there are not enough prospects for them there. I suggest that the Government should appoint a small Commission or Committee to enquire into the condition of this College and to find out what the defects are and suggest remedies for putting that institution on a satisfactory basis.

"Now, Madam, let me say a word about prohibition. Of course, hon. Members of the Opposition and hon. Members belonging to the Independent Group have been crying hoarse about prohibition. They have been saying that simply because there are a number of cases of illicit distillation in the districts prohibition ought to go. I dispute that statement altogether. It was argued that there are only about 2 million drunkards in this Province and why such a huge sum should be spent on the enforcement of prohibition in order to free these people from the evil. This argument, it seems to me, is not at all sound. Take the case of the handloom weavers. They are only small in number, but all the same we want to help them by giving all the assistance we can. We do not neglect them, because they are only small in number as compared with the whole population. Similarly we must go to the rescue of these 2 million persons, and see to their welfare also, because they are also citizens of this country, as the other 48 millions of people. Therefore, to say that these 2 million people might be made moral wrecks, that they might remain drunkards throughout their life and get ruined, and that on their ruins we might build up a prosperous State, getting an annual revenue of Rs. 17 crores, is an argument which cannot be accepted, because it is immoral from every point of view.

"Madam, as regards the complaint that illicit distillation has become more or less a cottage industry, I must say that this is their

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usual cry, which has not much force in it. It is only the addicts who generally resort to this illicit distillation and their number in each village will not be very many. If therefore a census of all the ex-addicts in each village is taken and they are supplied with a sort of permit or quota of drink, that will stop any further illicit distillation, because their needs are satisfied. That is how we can stop this illicit distillation in the villages. I look at this question of prohibition, not from the point of view of the present generation, but from the point of view of drinks to the present generation. If we adopt this system of rationing of drinks to the present addicts, naturally they will be satisfied, but the next generation will not become drunkards and then total prohibition will be much more successful, and there will then be no drink in this province at all. It is how I view this policy of prohibition and therefore in the interests of the future generation at least, prohibition must go on and should not be stopped."

* SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I am very glad to congratulate my hon. Friend Mr. Gopala Reddi who has brought out a well-balanced budget for the year 1950-51. In congratulating him for presenting this nice budget, I must also bring to his notice some of the things that are going on in this State which require the best attention of the Government for rectification. Many of the hon. Members have spoken in favour of the abolition of controls and stressed on the necessity for an increase in the quantity of the rations supplied to the people. Madam, Deputy Speaker, I must tell the Government that if they really want to put down corruption and blackmarketing, now going on unchecked, they must increase the quantity of the rationed foodgrains so as to make them sufficient for every adult, who takes them. Under the present system only 8 ounces of rice is being supplied. This is absolutely insufficient for an adult, who does physical labour or who works in the field. I do not know how the Government came to fix this quantity for each individual. I think, the Government might have been misled by their officials or, they might have taken the total quantity of the imports of foodgrains and the quantity procured from this State and divided them among the people who were brought under the rationing system and by this method they might have arrived at this quantity. Whatever that be, I must say that unless they increase the rations, it will be impossible for them to do away with black-marketing and corruption. Nobody is now starving for want of food. Everybody gets what he requires, but he must get it from the blackmarket, because the ration given to him is not sufficient. On my enquiries into this matter from the consumers, and shop-keepers, I came to know that although there is not enough paddy or rice in the ration-shops, there is plenty of it available in the blackmarket. When I asked them how it was made available in blackmarkets, they said that after the usual quota was supplied, supplementary rations were applied for, and the extra rice so obtained, went into the blackmarket,

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I ask the Hon. Minister for Food whether he had at any time enquired how this thing has been going on, and how the Civil Supplies Department has been allowing such a thing. The Hon. Minister may not be an expert and may not know the details, in this matter. But is it not the duty of the Minister and of the Government to ask the Civil Supplies Commissioner or the Civil Supplies Department, how these things are going on and what steps they have taken to check these things? Apparently, these things are allowed by the Civil Supplies Department and by the District Supply officers deliberately in order to benefit certain people, who want to sell them in the blackmarket. I must say here that the Civil Supplies Department, as a whole, is corrupt. The Hon. Minister may ask, 'How are you going to prove it?'. Madam, this is a thing that is going on in broad daylight and everybody knows it. No evidence need be brought to the notice of the Hon. Ministers. If any of the Ministers will go out and inspect these offices *in cognito*, they may themselves know how corruption is going on and how blackmarketing is going on. In Krishna itself, which is a very great surplus district, people are not getting sufficient food and the Food Committee in the West Godavari district has passed a resolution and sent their recommendation to the Government that rationing should be introduced in all the panchayat areas of that district, because people are not able to get food in sufficient quantity even in the panchayat areas. Where is the paddy that has been produced in these two surplus districts? Why should the people in surplus districts suffer from want of food? Madam, in my own constituency, a person came to me from a village and told me that people will have to go to a shop six miles away from the village in order to get their rations. I do not know what system is in vogue in that village. But why should people be asked to go and get their rations from a shop which is six miles away, while there is a rice-mill within one mile of that village? When I asked him about it, he said that he did not know anything about it, but that it was the order of the District Supply Officer. Under this system a wholesale merchant is given a licence to sell rice to the people in certain areas. A man from Vadali has got to go to Mandavali which is six miles off and obtain his rations. Hon. Members may just imagine what an unnecessary hardship the poor people in the villages are put to by this system. I ask, why should these people be asked to walk about 12 miles daily to get their rations, when they could be asked to get the same from the rice mill which is within one mile of that village? This is the state of affairs even in a surplus taluk like Gudivada, where paddy is produced in plenty. Unless the Government lift the controls, it will not be possible for the Government to supply rations to the people in a satisfactory manner and the more they want to stick on to controls, the more will blackmarketing grow and the more will corruption become rampant. It is therefore better for the Government to remove controls altogether and thereby put down blackmarketing and corruption which are going on in the Civil Supplies Department.

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Now Madam, as regards the vexed question of the assignment of lands to the political sufferers as well as landless labourers and Harijans, my Hon. Friend Kala Venkata Rao, when he was the Revenue Minister, in reply to a question on the subject said that preference would be given to Harijans, even as against the political sufferers. I do not know what happened to this assurance given by him, after he had left the office. The other day my Hon. Friend Mr. Sitarama Reddi, the present Revenue Minister in reply to my question, said that preference would be given only to political sufferers and next only to them, the claims of the Harijans and landless labourers, will come. I do not know why the Government have changed their minds so soon and why they have come to such a decision as this. It is probably as a result of this decision, that a G.O. has been issued by the Government ousting the Harijans and landless labourers who were in possession of five and ten acres of land, and which they were cultivating themselves, up till now and giving them over to political sufferers. When I asked the Hon. Minister for Revenue this morning how they came to issue such a G.O., I was told that another G.O. has just been issued in which it has been said that Harijans and landless labourers who were already in occupation of lands temporarily should not be disturbed and such lands should be assigned to them, if there was no objection. I do not know whether this G.O. is in contravention of the previous G.O., but however the original G.O. was passed by the Government as a result of the decision of the Cabinet as a whole. When questions were again put on the very same subject yesterday, the Hon. Minister for Revenue gave an evasive answer and said that the Government were going to oust Harijans and landless labourers from the lands which they have encroached and hand over such lands to the political sufferers, because they had made great sacrifices for the country.

"For whom these political sufferers have sacrificed? Is it not for the sake of the country that they have sacrificed? Is it not for the sake of the country they all courted arrest and went to jail? Is it not for the sake of the country they faced the lathi charge? The Government should not take away the lands enjoyed and cultivated for the last 10 or 12 years by the Harijans and landless labourers. I must advise the Government that it is better to abolish the committee appointed by this Government for the distribution of lands to political sufferers. It is this committee which has done the mischief. On account of this committee many of the real sufferers could not get lands. I know this committee has been formed on the basis of certain groups. On account of these groups, the committee could not do any justice to Harijans. I may say that there are a few Harijan M.L.As. I want to ask this Government whether any Harijan M.L.A. has been given land. Twice on the floor of the House it was replied by the Hon. Minister that land was given to me. It is all false. I do not know why that answer was given. I told the Hon. Minister that no land was given to me,

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and that I did not want that land which was going to be given to me, because it was occupied by two Kammas who were landless labourers. I told them—they belong to my place—that though I was in the list, I did not want any land throwing out the people who were already in occupation of that land. It is the duty of this Government to see that the G.O. is withdrawn. If the Government do not withdraw the G.O., there will be bloodshed. I am telling from facts that bloodshed will result. What are the troubles of the communists? Communists are not the people doing all these things. It is not the communists who are breaking houses and looting property. It is only the poorer people in the name of the communists who are oppressed by the landlords with the help of the police, who do all these things. In Krishna district in 15 villages paddy heaps were burnt and people were murdered. Let the Government go and make enquiries. They are not communists who burnt houses and murdered people. Landless labourers who are oppressed by the landlords with the help of the police are now against the Government. The Harijans and the landless labourers could not tolerate any more the atrocities committed by the landlords with the help of the police and the Government. There is already a move in East Godavari, West Godavari and Krishna districts to start a satyagraha movement against this Government. I am telling them that they should not start this satyagraha movement if the Government promise that they will stop all these atrocities. Madam, I am trained under Mahatma Gandhi. I was trained in Satyagraha. I am a Congressman. I am a fighter for freedom. On account of the bad administration by this Government, people are suffering. Is it right on the part of the Government to leave the administration entirely in the hands of the police? It is the police who are doing all these things. Just now the hon. Member Mr. Bhashyam was saying 'I do not know if these atrocities are committed by the police or the communists.' People in the border of the Nizam's State and in the borders of the Krishna district are not communists. Are the police capturing the real communists? The communists are underground. Only innocent people are harassed by the police. In Yemanapalli, the house of one Harijan was raided by the police and the women were molested. They told all those things to me, as a Congressman. I asked them whether they were of the Communist party or the Congress. They told me that they were not communists. This is the case in many of the villages. From the newspapers, hon. Members would have seen how in Razole taluk, Ramarajulanka village, Harijan houses were burnt and Harijans were killed by communists. The lands enjoyed by the people of Ramarajulanka for the last 20 years on the alleged ground that they are communists have been taken away by the Government. Harijans were killed there. Congress committees say that they were not communists. A few Congress people say that they are communists. If they were communists how could they be killed by communists? They have been members of the Congress for 10 years and more. They made representations to

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the Provincial Congress Committee and to the Congress Government. The Provincial Congress Committee and the District Congress Committee certified that they are congressmen. In spite of that representation, this Congress Government were not pleased to restore the lands enjoyed by the people for the last 20 years. I ask, Madam, is this justice? This cannot be tolerated at all. We are giving too much importance to the communists by saying or accepting that all these actions of insecurity to social life are due to communist activities.

Now, I come to fisheries. The Government have issued an order to the effect that fishing rights should be leased to co-operative societies first and then to panchayats. In Eluru taluk, in the village from which Mr. Bapineedu comes, there is an Adi-Andhra co-operative society. Last year, in Koleru region four kodus were leased out to this society. They were said to be given to some other villagers. There were the Suryanarayana's group and Bapineedu's group. On account of these groups, the Harijans were deprived of the concessions given by this Government. I cannot tolerate this. We represented to the Hon. Minister for Revenue, but he could not be bold enough to do justice. There is one kodu which has been leased out to a multi-millionaire, who has got 6,000 acres of wet land and 86 lakhs of rupees in cash. One kodu which can be enjoyed by three or four villagers in the Kolleru region has been leased to Raghava Raju, the multi-millionaire. Last year and the year before last, I tried to get these fishing leases in favour of the Harijan co-operative society. But Mr. Kala Venkata Rao stated 'lie over', and the Hon. Mr. Sitarama Reddi had not the courage to do justice by taking away that lease from that multi-millionaire and giving it to three or four villagers. These are the things which are prevalent in the Government in the name of the Congress. I cannot agree to this. This Congress Government which are wedded to the policy of Mahatma Gandhi, which are wedded to the cause of serving Harijans, and which have removed untouchability, cannot do such things. If such things are brought to the notice of the Government, they must attend to them. They should not simply say 'I have forwarded your application to the Collector' or 'I have sent it to the Board of Revenue'. This is all nonsense. These departmental officers do not know things. They simply follow the rules.

What do we find in the administration—it is only communal rancour. Everywhere, the person who belongs to the Brahman community will have Brahmans, a Reddi will always have Reddis, and a Harijan will have Harijans. If we examine the favours done or licences issued by the various officers, we will see that 90 per cent of the people who got favours and licences will be persons belonging to that community to which that particular officer belongs. It is now high time for the Government and for the Congress leaders to put an end to this communalism. So long as it lasts here, it is not possible for us to march forward and bring light to the people under this Democratic Republic.

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"I now come to house-sites. The Hon. the Finance Minister has stated that 100 thousand house-sites have been given to the Harijans. Madam, this 100 thousand house-sites have been given to the Harijans for the last 30 years. This work began in 1921. For the last thirty years one lakh of house-sites were given. Per year it will be 3,333 or roughly 4,000 for the whole of the State. Every district per year gets only 133 house-sites. This means we are getting, on an average, house-sites for two villages per year. There are about one thousand villages in a district. At this rate it will take 500 years to provide house-sites for houseless Harijans in the State. I do not want this condition of things. I am thankful to the Government for what has been done to the Harijans. But I want to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that within two or three years every houseless Harijan should be given a house-site. The Hon. the Finance Minister stated that Rs. 92 lakhs have been provided in the Budget for 1950-51. It is all well and good. We all agree that help should be given to the Harijans. I do not exactly agree with the hon. Member Mr. Gopalaswami that more than education Harijans should be economically helped. Education is the most important thing, and that is why I attach so much importance to it. Education should be given greater importance. Besides education, every Harijan must be given a house-site free. No Harijan who is in occupation of Government land should be evicted. That is why I urge on Government that they should take vigorous steps and see that houseless Harijans are given house-sites and landless labourers are not evicted from the occupation of their lands.

"I now come to Prohibition. Madam, Prohibition is a boon to this State. Some hon. Friends have stated that for the sake of 3 per cent of the people who do not drink the Government are losing Rs. 17 crores. Madam, I put it otherwise. I know there is illicit distillation. But liquor or arrack produced illicitly can be obtained only by about 7 per cent. The rest of the people are not drinking. People who drink toddy would never get toddy. There is no illicit toddy manufacture. It is only liquor that is being used by the rich people. Effective control is required to check this evil of illicit distillation. The Hon. Minister for Prohibition should go into this matter and see that such illicit distillation is put an end to. I must tell him that success of Prohibition does not depend on officials. The officials do not have any public spirit. They do not have the popularity. Let the Ministers go out and call upon the public to co-operate with the Government. The public are willing to co-operate, but on account of the groups they are not coming forward. The Hon. Finance Minister stated that Prohibition was an article of faith. Madam, it was an article of faith, but it is not now an article of faith. If it is an article of faith, people would have helped the Government. People would have supported the Government. But, I ask where is the support from the people? Where is the support from the Congress committee? This was used as a weapon against the British Government to drive them away from India and get into power. This

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policy I object to. If it is an article of faith, let every one go and say that he will not allow any drunkard to remain in his village. Let them go and propagate these things in the villages. By this method, we will make Prohibition a great success. The Ministers should go to the interior villages and do propaganda and see that the measure becomes a success."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will finish his speech in two minutes."

SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Madam, if our Government want to do any service to our people, they must realise first their position. Members of the Cabinet are there not only as Ministers but as leaders of the nation and as representatives of the people. As representatives of the people and as leaders of the nation, is it not their duty to see that every one is happy? I ask the Government what are the plans that they are going to adopt to solve the problem of the poor? We say that we are spending lakhs of rupees on agriculture and on purchase of manures, etc. But the poor people when they are cultivating the poramboke lands, with food crops are penalized heavily. There is a specific Government Order in the matter not to penalize the food growers. This nonsense of penalizing the people who Grow More Food in Government lands is going on in this State. We are penalizing agricultural labourers who are cultivating Government lands."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will resume his seat. The House will now rise for lunch."

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

(Mr. Speaker in the Chair.)

* JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not know whether I should congratulate the Hon. Minister for Finance or sympathise with him. But I can compliment him for the simple reason that he has taken great pains to prepare his speech, read it and introduce the Budget in a very very complacent manner. He seems to have become resigned to his fate as it were. After all, when we see both his speech and the Budget Estimates for the coming year 1950-51, we can at once make out that it is a commonplace budget. No doubt there is not much deficit, according to the Hon. the Finance Minister. It is neither optimistic nor pessimistic. Therefore, we have to sympathise with him no doubt and there are certain limitations which are placed on the financial structure of this State by the Constitution Act itself and there are other circumstances also which are circumscribing the limit or rather the scope of the finances of this State. Therefore, the Finance Minister, in spite of his best intentions, has to act under handicaps and limitations. Within those handicaps and limitations, he has tried to do his best. (At this stage, Sri V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Chairman, occupied the Chair.) He has been honest enough to admit certain defects in the past budgets, specially

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in the matter of taxation of motor vehicles. He thinks that it is the highest not only in India but perhaps in the whole world. He relents by saying that he would do his best to see that the burden is reduced as far as possible. But in the matter of his 'kamadhenu', particularly on account of the restrictions placed by the Constitution with regard to the articles of food and clothing, he is rather pessimistic, and we also feel a bit pessimistic, but all the same we hope that we shall fight a legal battle with the Government of India if our resources in the matter of sales tax are going to be restricted.

articles of faith to which he has referred in his Budget speech.

"Now, Sir, I would like to say one or two words about the articles of faith with reference to khadi are rather curious. He says the scheme has been working satisfactorily. We do not know in what way it has been working satisfactorily. No facts or figures are given and as a business proposition, I think it has been not only not satisfactory but disappointing. After all, what is the percentage of the population that has taken to khadi? It may not even be half a per cent of the total population. Only 16 lakhs of yards of khadi were produced out of which 10 lakhs of yards were sold. How many people might have bought those 10 lakhs of yards of khadi, we do not know. At least we can find out that it is not at all a sound business proposition from the financial point of view, and the sooner this Government puts a stop to such a scheme the better in the interests of the common man whose name is brought in here. Only yesterday Mr. L. C. Pais, who is the Chairman of one of the first-class municipalities in this State, said definitely that khadi problem in South Kanara specially with reference to the municipal employees there, was not only unwelcome but unwanted definitely. He has quoted facts and figures to show that khadi is twice as much costly while at the same time it is not durable at all, and the menials and other employees of the municipality of Mangalore have protested against this strongly, in vehement terms, to the municipal council which is composed mostly of Congress representatives and has passed a resolution which was read out to the House by Mr. L. C. Pais yesterday. I am told now he has received an express telegram also reiterating and repeating that protest. I hope the Government and specially the Minister for Finance who is in charge of taxes and other financial matters would look into the matter and see the error of the ways of the Government in the matter of khadi. Whenever a circular is issued to the municipal bodies or to the local bodies—they are all only creatures of the Government under statute—it is nothing but an order in disguise, and these helpless local bodies find themselves unable to go against such circulars or instructions. But a time may come when they will refuse to carry out the advice or instructions as against the actual position within the areas of the local bodies. Therefore, the Government would do well to revise such circulars and see that the matter is not carried to absurd extremes. I would rather use that word 'absurd'. I would strongly

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request the Government to revise its policy in the matter of khadi. All right, as an article of faith, it may be confined to the Members of the Government and all the Members of the Party; let it not be enforced or rather forced on the people against their will. That should not be the policy with regard to popularization of khadi which will take centuries, not a few years, not during the lifetime of the present generation at any rate.

"The next thing I would wish to say with regard to the articles of faith is articles of faith we can have in regard to our God, religion and certain matters in life in which we believe. After all, it is a personal matter. Whether in the case of an individual or a group of individuals you cannot take it to any absurd length and say that 'we want to force or impose our will on others and make them believe in certain things'. That is not the proper policy to be pursued by a secular Government. Khadi is good by all means, I agree. Let it be made a sort of cottage industry wherever possible so that people may learn how to become self-sufficient in their villages if they think that khadi will be cheaper and more durable for their daily wear. That is a different matter altogether.

"With regard to 'kamadhenu', I feel sorry for his kamadhenu and so I sympathise with the Hon. Minister for Finance. Really I wish it were a real kamadhenu producing more and more so that we may milk the kamadhenu and get larger supplies of milk, but unfortunately we are placed in a very awkward situation with regard to it on account of the Constitution Act because it circumscribes the grazing-ground of the kamadhenu and naturally our Finance Minister will have to underfeed it and get lesser supply perhaps. Any way, he has just this morning during question hour, told us that it is a legal matter and perhaps he will question it in the Federal Court. I am glad to hear it from him.

"With regard to electricity schemes, they are giving more and more income according to the statement of the Finance Minister. I am really glad to see that the electricity schemes are becoming more and more remunerative from the financial point of view to the Government of this State. I have got a very serious complaint to make with regard to my own district in this matter. Only recently we were told that the supply of electricity from the hydro-electric works at Jog Falls in the Mysore State will be taken up and the lines will be laid and an agreement has been entered into with the Government of Mysore. But we have not heard about it any further. I do not know at what stage it is just at present. I would like to draw the attention of the Government to one fact and it is this. Our district gives a surplus of 7 lakhs of rupees every year. We do not want the Government to get a single pie from elsewhere to be spent on the electricity scheme in our district. Let them spend all the 7 lakhs every year for a period of ten years and complete the laying of lines for getting electric supply from the Jog Falls. That is possible. If they make a beginning now, I hope within a short time they will be able to finish it. There is no mention of this

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scheme at all anywhere and I do not know whether the Hon. Minister for Public Works would tell us something about it in the course of this Budget session. I do not want that they should take anybody's money or income from any other part of the State. I only request the Government to see that our surplus of 7 lakhs every year is spent there for that purpose. Let Government affect the finances of the Government anyway. That will not not take away the small 7 lakhs from our district and deprive us of the benefit of the whole scheme. The whole district can be electrified within the course of ten years. If the Hon. the Finance Minister wants any constructive criticism, here is a small point and he may give his best attention to it. I am really sorry for the kamadhenu and I hope that in his battle with the Government of India the Finance Minister will win, and I wish him success.

"The other dark and gloomy side of the picture is that the Centre is refusing to co-operate with our Government here in the matter of advancing of any loans or in continuing the substantial help that this Government was previously getting for post-war reconstruction schemes and the Grow More Food Campaign. That is really a very great handicap for our Government and I think all of us should join together and the public outside should agitate and strengthen the hands of our Government to see that the India Government helps us as it has been helping us during the past so many years. That is necessary because our resources are being limited by the India Government and at the same time it is refusing to give us anything either by way of loans or financial help for carrying out our post-war reconstruction schemes.

2.45 p.m. "It is really very pitiable that we are finding ourselves in a very tight corner regarding the finances of this Province. In his speech the Hon. Finance Minister has referred to the Motor Vehicles Tax. No doubt he says that he will see his way to reducing the tax when other sources of revenue are made available to this Government. I think he has to do that. Because it looks as if it were an inequitable taxation. When the tax is said to be the highest in the world, naturally, it leads to the inference and conclusion that the tax is inequitable. Therefore let the tax be evenly distributed. Let the rich pay more and let the poor pay less and less. No doubt in the case of sales-tax, the burden indirectly falls on the consumer. If I may say so, at the present moment, the masses have begun to complain that they are being indirectly taxed and they are being regimented along with the high cost of living. There are no indications of the cost of living or the level of prices coming down in the near future. There is another feeling among the masses, and the common man whose interests the Government, I believe, are supposed to protect. They think that their life is being regimented and these controls have become irksome to them. In addition to that they have to pay more for their articles of necessity by way of indirect taxes. In every bill they find commercial tax, or sales-tax, whatever it is, which they have to pay in addition to the cost of the articles which they may

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be purchasing. These are the things which go a long way in making this Government unpopular with the masses. Therefore I would request this Government to see that the burden of the poorer classes and the lower income group is lightened as far as possible. Let the rich people pay more and more. With regard to the Motor Vehicles tax, I would certainly say that it is a matter of great public utility and public convenience and all that. But we must see that the burden is lightened as much as possible. While talking on this matter, I would like to invite the attention of the Hon. Finance Minister who is also in charge of Motor Transport in the Province and the Government as a whole to the bus strike that is now going on in my own district. I am told that it has been resolved just a day or two back. I am also told that the award and the arbitrator will be different. I am told that they have resumed work pending the arbitration, and the workers have gone back to their duties. It may be so. After all it is only a temporary arrangement. It must be a permanent thing so that there will be no scope for any strike in future at any time. A strike like that which has lasted for more than a week has seriously inconvenienced all public activities. Courts were not functioning. Telegrams were being received by the presiding officer from clients that they were held up somewhere and that they could not reach the court on account of lack of transport facilities. That was the position in our district. Even mails were being carried late. Delivery of mails was late. All these things seriously affected public life of the community in the district of South Kanara. I wish the Government had taken earlier steps and had been more alert and vigilant in seeing that the award of the arbitrator had been implemented in time. Because that gave rise to all these troubles. I am told that the award is being disputed. Not only in this case, but in so many other cases in the world, awards are being disputed. Then where is the sanctity of the awards I do not see. At any rate I wish this Government will see to it that in future awards are respected by both sides. I think that will facilitate the smooth working of not only this Government, but also of the public life from day to day in our Province. Though these are small matters, they create so much of confusion and a very bad impression in the minds of the people who see only just what is before their eyes. They cannot see a long way and find out why this Government had not been going quickly and in time. It may be that the Government are slow in their schemes. It is quite possible. But the Government have to take decision after very deep consideration and deliberation and after examining all points of view. No doubt I quite agree that this sort of procedure may be necessary. But the Government, I find, have not taken adequate steps in time. They have allowed the award to remain there for more than a year or a year and a half without taking any steps to see that it is implemented. As the Chairman is calling my attention that my time is up, I would just conclude what I have to say on the general discussion and would confine my remarks to any token cuts, if I get an opportunity."

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* SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, I feel it my duty to appreciate the efforts of my Hon. Friend Mr. Gopala Reddi in presenting the Budget, balanced as it is. Knowing fully well the agitation in the country over taxation and the unrest that is prevailing, I know the Hon. Minister and the Cabinet thought of a few new schemes that are required at present. In his Budget speech, the Hon. Finance Minister made a reference to the services and sacrifices of Rajan Babu who happens to be the President of the Republic today. He also said that 'it is but fitting that the choice of the Nation for the first executive head under the new Constitution which is designed primarily to secure to all citizens justice, social, economic and political, should have fallen on the person under whose guidance it was framed'. He has specially mentioned economic and social justice that is required for the common man in this Union. But going through the Budget, Sir, I do not find that the budget has been based to give implementation of the various articles that have been attached there to give facilities either for the peasant or for the common man. We all expected after the Republic that certain improvements will be there in the budget so that those people who are in the lower strata of society can be elevated and given a right place in the society. Let me tell this House through you, Sir, that the directive principle clearly lays that the State shall endeavour to provide within a period of ten years from the commencement of this Constitution, for free and compulsory elementary education. Even article 46 says clearly that 'the State shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Unfortunately, I could not find any germ or point to meet the article that is enunciated in the Constitution. It may be that circumstances might not have allowed the present Cabinet to think of the articles that have been so well laid in the Constitution. But I may ask the Hon. Finance Minister to give us an assurance at least later by bringing a demand for the ameliorative measures. Coming to the very budget that have been placed before this House I am sorry to bring to the notice of this House how one crore of rupees have been set apart for the ameliorative measures of the Harijans has not been spent properly. I find that the budget provides for an expenditure of Rs. 93 lakhs. This 93 lakhs of rupees is taken up as follows. For education—54 lakhs; Communities eligible for help—7 lakhs and odd; ameliorative measures for Harijans—about 30 lakhs or so. It has been said and it has also been urged in this House that the amount spent for the Harijans is not for Harijans alone. In this House, not only myself, but some other Friends were agitating that the Harijan Welfare Department must cater for the Harijans and Harijans alone. At the same time they never wanted the Government to deviate from this policy for the help of other communities. What do we find in this budget. It is said communities eligible for help and Harijan Welfare. Mahatma Gandhi after seeing the real position of the Harijans gave the beautiful name, Harijan. But do we see the

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2nd March 1950] spirit in it now. I fail to see the spirit of Mahatma Gandhi in this budget. Again I find that Christian Padiris and some Christians feel that from the one crore of rupees they are not given anything. But this department also caters for the Christians. On page 296, it is said 'Converts' and 'non-Converts'. The name of Harijan has been lost. It is not the non-converts that come first, but the converts come first. Formerly when the electoral rolls were prepared, it was headed 'Muhammadans' and 'non-Muhammadans'; though the Hindus were predominantly the major community, their name was left out. Again, when we come to this Harijan Welfare, we find 'communities eligible for help' and also others. I would request the Government to make it clear whether it is the view of this Government to spend all the one crore of rupees for the amelioration of the Harijans or to mix it up with other people and say that at all times they have been spending for the Harijans, and it is for the other communities also that have been placed under the charge of the Harijan Welfare Department. As I said previously, Rs. 7,80,000 is being spent for communities that come under the category of 'eligible communities' such as Kallars, Maravars, Koravars, Yenadhis. I find that Rs. 54 lakhs have been spent on education and is put on this budget under Harijan Welfare. It has been made clear in the report of the Harijan Welfare Committee that was constituted by this Government where they have enumerated the various needs of Harijans and come to the conclusion that the help to be rendered to the rural areas is urgent. They say, 'we make the following recommendations for the immediate utilisation of the one crore of rupees allotted by the Government for Harijan Welfare work.

"Now, Sir, from the 93 lakhs of rupees that has been earmarked 3 p.m. for Harijan uplift, I find that 28 and odd lakhs of rupees has been taken away, leaving behind a balance of about 60 lakhs. Such a deviation goes against the pronounced conviction of the Government. It does not stand to justice. Then, in the few new measures that are sought to be taken up in the year 1951, I find that a provision of Rs. 39,000 has been made for street lighting in the Harijan colonies in the Madras City. It is admitted on all hands that ameliorative measures are urgently called for in the rural areas. Such being the case, I feel that this 39,000 rupees should be a charge on the Corporation of Madras for providing street lighting. The Rajah Saheb of Chettinad, speaking yesterday, questioned whether the amount earmarked for Harijan uplift had been rightly spent. I know, as a matter of fact, that the Director of Harijan Welfare is giving his earnest attention to the problem of ameliorating the conditions of the Harijans and I do not, therefore, think that we need question whether the amount is being spent in right ways. But I would impress upon the Government one thing! There should be no diversion from this fund for expenditure elsewhere. I find from the Budget Memorandum that has been supplied to us that the expenditure incurred by the Harijan Welfare Department includes expenditure on grants to

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provide educational institutions established solely for the communities eligible for help by that department and on the reclamation of Kallars, Enadis and Sugalis and Kuravars. So this department caters to the needs of not only the Harijans but also members of other communities that have been placed in its charge. Sir, in Article 45 of the Constitution, it is clearly stated that the State shall endeavour to provide, within a period of ten years for free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of fourteen years. It has been the agitation of my community for a long time that whatever that is spent on the education of the Harijans should not be mixed up with the Demand on Harijan Uplift as is done now.—Demand XXIII will explain what I mean. Again if we go into the early history of the Harijans, the Poona Pact clearly says, in clause 9,

கல்விக்கு என்று ஒதுக்கப்படும் இனங்களில் தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களுக்கு கல்விக்காக போதுமான தொகை ஒதுக்கப்படவேண்டும். Therefore, I make an appeal to the Government to see its way to provide special amenities for the education of the Harijans and not mix it up with this demand. My hon. Friend, Mr. Kurmayya was telling this House this morning that about 100,000 house sites have been given to the Harijans right from the days of Paddison when he started this department. According to the present budget, it would be possible to have only about 133 house sites in each district. At a time when the poor people are asking for food and housing, is it fair that we should allot a small sum to provide only 133 houses in every district? This is a matter which must receive the immediate attention of the Government because the Harijan cherries are so congested now. The earlier some arrangements are made in this regard, the better it would be.

“ Now, Sir, I come to the wonderful Government Order—on the assignment of lands No. 1523, dated 11th June 1949. After great agitation, I know, the Government reviewed the whole position and issued the order. The fact that the Harijans are economically very bad was rightly taken into account and the Order laid down that they should be given some lands so that they may cultivate them themselves and find their own food. This G.O. clearly says that lands should be given in the order of (1) Political sufferers, (2) ex-Servicemen and (3) Landless persons, including Harijans and backward classes. But fortunately or unfortunately, the Board of Revenue has issued instructions to the Collectors that no land can be assigned either to the ex-servicemen or the landless poor until and unless demands from the political sufferers have been completely met. Sir, you can see what an injustice this is. For instance, let us take the Nilgiris. There we have about 77 political sufferers and the Government Order states that each should be given 10 acres of land. If the Board's instructions are strictly followed, I am sure nothing will be left out for distribution to the ex-servicemen and others. I was astonished to find an order to this effect coming from the Revenue Department, when I went to the Collector's Office. Sir, this has caused the greatest disappointment in the minds of all the Harijans in this State. I do

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not think that even a single Harijan has been assigned land under the Government Order I have referred to. If the Government is really earnest to improve the economic lot of the Harijans, I suggest that the whole order should be recast in such a way as to provide lands for the Harijans and the landless poor wherever such lands are available. Sir, it has been the misfortune that the lands, over which the Harijans have been enjoying Swayam rights have been taken away and assigned to the political sufferers. The Government ought to have seen to it that no such Act was committed or in the alternative, must have provided the persons so deprived with other patches of land at least. But it was not done. The recent failure of the monsoons has hit the Harijans hard. It has added to their difficulties. Recently, Sir, about 1,000 Harijans in the Tiruchirappalli district, joined together and cultivated certain lands lying near the tank beds. But, unfortunately, the caste Hindus of the place began to raise a big cry and they sent in complaints against the Harijans with the result that the Local P.W.D. flooded the whole area. The whole work has gone to waste. This matter has been brought to the notice of the Hon. the Minister for Public Works (Mr. M. Bhaktavatsalam) and he is trying to do something to repair the situation. The earlier he does something, the better. In the matter of agricultural loan, I do not find justice has been done. As a matter of fact, agricultural loan is limited to eighty rupees and that too if adequate security is given. In these hard days, when we have to buy manures and other things at high costs, this amount is indeed very small. This matter also has been brought to the notice of the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture but so far no relief has been given. In the matter of fertilisers, I find from the speech that the Government have taken shares in the Always Fertilisers. But what is the position we see to-day? Some ten years ago, a bag of fertilisers—of 224 lb.—was costing Rs. 11, whereas to-day the same bag sells at about Rs. 40. What is the object of the Government in taking shares in these concerns when they cannot do anything to bring down the price level? I feel something must be done to get the prices lowered so that the poor people may be helped in their work. Again in the matter of procurement, nothing is left with the ryots—not even seeds—while the big mirasdars and landholders are left scot-free. I think it is high time that the rules relating to procurement were made clear so that the poor people can have at least a fair quantity for meeting their own requirements for seed purposes.

“ One word more before I close. Some of the hon. Members have criticized the Government in their Prohibition policy. But I may say that Prohibition has been a solace to the poor in this country. I think we have rightly followed the dictates of Mahatma Gandhi in this respect. If there is any trouble to-day in the working of the Act, it is due to the adjoining French territory on the south and the Mysore State on the west. If the Government of these States co-operate with us, I think the problem can be tackled with more ease. The present permit system is working rather

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badly. Some people—a certain category—enjoy the privilege of getting these permits. All this must go if we are to have total prohibition. Sir, as my time is up, I shall conclude, reserving my further remarks for the occasion when voting on Demands takes place."

SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL:—" கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, இந்த வருஷம் மூன்றாவது தடவையாக கனம் நிதி மந்திரியவர்கள் சமர்ப்பித்த வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தை மனப்பூர்வமாக ஆதரித்து, ஆனால் அதில் சில குறைகள் இருப்பதையும் நான் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ள ஆசைப்படுகிறேன். நம் நாட்டிற்கு குடியரசு வந்தபிறகு இப்பொழுது முதல் தடவையாக இந்த வரவு செலவு திட்டம் சமர்ப்பிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. துறைகளிலும் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டும் அல்லலுப்பட்டுக்கொண்டும் இருக்கின்றார்கள். அவைகளில் முக்யமானவைகள் உணவு பிரச்சனை, உடைபிரச்சனை. அடுத்தபடியாக நாட்டில் அமைதி என்பதே கொஞ்சமும் இல்லை. எங்கு பார்த்தாலும் ஊவு, எங்கு பார்த்தாலும் சச்சரவுகள், எங்கு பார்த்தாலும் கொலைகள், எங்கு பார்த்தாலும் எமாற்றங்கள், எங்கு பார்த்தாலும் **blackmarket**, இவ்வளவு விதமான தொந்தரவுகள் இருந்து கொண்டிருக்கும்பொழுது குடியரசு வந்தபிறகு இப்பொழுது கொண்டுவரப்பட்டிருக்கிற வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தின் மூலமாகவாவது ஒரு விமோசனம் ஏற்படும், என்றும், நல்ல கொள்கையும் (Policy), நல்ல காரியங்களையும் நிலைநாட்டுவார்களென்று கிராமாந்திரங்களிலுள்ள ஜனங்கள் எதிர்பார்த்தார்கள். ஆனால் நமது கனம் நிதி மந்திரி ஸ்ரீ கோபால் ரெட்டி அவர்கள் சமர்ப்பிக்கப்பட்ட வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தைப்பார்த்து திட்டத்தில் புதிதாக வரி இல்லை என்பது உண்மை. இந்த வரவு செலவு அதிகமாக உயர்த்தவில்லை என்பதும் உண்மை. இருக்கும் வரியையும் வரிகளை குறைக்கவில்லை என்பது ஜனங்களுக்கு மனதிற்கு கஷ்டமாக இருக்கிறது. மத்ய அரசாங்கத்தில் ஒரு சூசகமாகவாவது ஒரு சில குறைக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. குடியரசு ஸ்தாபனம் ஆனது என்பதன் அறி குறியாக உள்ளார்களில் அனுப்புகிற காட்டு, சவரங்களுக்கு அவர்கள் விலையை குறைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் நம்முடைய மாகாணத்தில் வரிகளை குறைப்பதற்கு நிதி மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கு ஒன்றுமே புலப்படவில்லை என்று தோன்றுகிறது. சாதாரணமாக வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தை சரிக் கட்டி இருக்கிறார்கள். இன்னும் பழைய நிலைமையிலேயே மாறுதல் இல்லாமல் சமர்ப்பிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஒரு விதமான புதுக்கொள்கையும் அதில் இல்லை என்று எனக்கு முன் பேசியவர்கள் எல்லோரும் எடுத்துக் கூறினார்கள். அதைத்தான் மறுபடியும் ஒவ்வொருவரும் எடுத்துக்கூற வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. அது உண்மையாக யிருப்பதால் திரும்ப திரும்ப ஒவ்வொருவரும் பேசவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. வரியை குறைக்க வேண்டுமென்றால் மோட்டார் கார்களுக்கு போடப்பட்டிருக்கும் வரியை குறைக்கலாம். இதையே கனம் நிதி மந்திரி அவர்கள் பேசிய காலத்திலும் கூட இந்த மாகாணத்தில் மற்ற எல்லா மாகாணங்களையும் விட, ஏன் உலகத்திலேயே, பார்க்கும் பொழுது மோட்டார் கார்களுக்கு அதிகமான வரியை நம் மாகாணத்தில்தான் கொடுத்து வருகிறார்கள் என்பதை எடுத்துப் பேசினார்கள். அதனால் சமார் மூன்று கோடி ரூபாய் வருமானம் மோட்டார் வரியில் கிடைக்கிறது.

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p.m.

"அடுத்தபடியாக நாம் குடிப்பழக்கத்தை ஒழித்ததனால் அதில் இழந்த ஒரு நிதிக்கு ஈடாக விற்பனை வரியை போட்டிருக்கிறோம். அவர்கள் குறிப்பிட்டது மாதிரி அது நமக்கு வாஸ்தவமாக ஒரு காமதேனுதான். இதை உத்தேசித்துதான் ஸ்ரீ இராஜகோபாலாச்சாரியார் அவர்கள் பிரதம் மந்திரியாக இருந்தபொழுது இதை எவ்வளவோ தீர்க்கமாக யோசித்து போட்டார்கள். இதை விரிக்கவேண்டுமானாலும் விரிக்கலாம், சுருக்க வேண்டுமானாலும் சுருக்கலாம். கன்குடி வரியில் 100-க்கு 10 பேர்கள்

[2nd March 1950] [Srimathi V. Lakshmi Ammal]

கொடுத்துவந்த வரியை விற்பனை வரியில் எல்லோரும் சமமாகக் கொடுத்து வருகிறோம். ஆகையினால்தான் இதை சரியான வரி என்று சொல்லுகிறோம். யோசனைபண்ணி நன்கு ஆராய்ச்சி செய்து போடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. வாஸ்தவமாக இது காமதேனுதான். இதை எதிர்ப்பது என்பது என் சம்பந்தப்பட்டவரையில் அர்த்தமற்றது என்று நான் எண்ணுகிறேன். கனம் வரதாசாரியார் சொன்ன பிரகாரம் இந்த வரியை நல்ல முறையில் வசூலிப்பது என்றிருந்தால் இன்னும் அதிகமான வரும்படி வருவதாக ஏற்படலாம். அடுத்தபடியாக முக்யமாக உணவு பண்டங்களுக்கு போடப்பட்டிருக்கும் வரிகளை எடுத்து விடலாம். ஆகையால் இப்பேர்ப்பட்ட வரி ஒரு காமதேனுதான்.

"அடுத்தபடியாக உணவு பிரச்சனையைப்பற்றி ஒன்றிரண்டு வார்த்தைகளைச் சொல்லுகிறேன். உணவு பிரச்சனை விஷயம் நாளுக்கு நாள் பார்க்கும் பொழுது இப்பொழுது இருக்கும் கொள்கை பிரகாரம் ஒரு நெருக்கடியான நிலைமைக்குதான் கொண்டுவந்துவிடும் என்று தோன்றுகிறது. உணவு பிரச்சனை சம்பந்தமாக உணவு பங்கீடு முறை மிகவும் சீர்கேடான நிலைமையில் இருக்கிறது. கிராமாந்திரங்களில் உணவு பங்கீடானது சரிவர நடக்கவில்லை என்பதை சர்க்காரே ஒப்புக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். அது எல்லோராலும் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளக்கூடியது. சாதாரணமாக பட்டண வாசங்களில் தான் 8 அவுன்ஸ், 10 அவுன்ஸ் என்று வைத்திருந்தால் ஒவ்வொருவருக்கும் வாரத்திற்கு வாரம் வீட்டில் எவ்வளவு நபர்கள் இருக்கின்றார்களோ அதற்குத்தக்கபடி உணவு சரிவர விநியோகிக்கப்படுகிறது. இவ்விதமான ஒரு கொள்கையை பட்டணங்களில் சரிவர நடந்து வரலாம். ஆனால் கிராமாந்திரங்களில் ஒரு செண்டு, ஐந்து செண்டு, ஒரு ஏக்கர், 1 ஏக்கர் என்று நிலம் வைத்துக்கொண்டிருப்பவர்களுக்கு உணவு பிரச்சனையை பார்க்கும் பொழுது அவர்களிடமிருந்து கொஞ்சம் இருப்பதையும் **procurement** செய்துவிடுகிறார்கள். பிறகு சாப்பாட்டிற்குக்கூட இல்லாமல் போய்விடுகிறது. அவர்களுக்கு ரேஷன் கார்டும் கிடைப்பதில்லை. எனக்கு முன்பு பேசிய கனம் முனிசாமி பிள்ளை அவர்கள் குறிப்பிட்ட பிரகாரம் கிராமாந்திரங்களில் தான்யங்களை எடுத்துக்கொண்டுபோன பிற்பாடு அறுவடையான ஒரு மாதத்திற்கு பிறகு **A cardholder, B cardholder, C cardholder** எல்லாருக்கும் அரிசி கிடைக்காமலிருக்கிறது. இன்னும் ரேஷன் கடைகளில் அரிசி வாங்கப்போனால் இந்தவாரம் கிடையாது அடுத்த வாரம் வாருங்கள் என்றும் சொல்லி விடுகிறார்கள். இந்த நிலைமையில் அந்த வாரத்தில் என்ன செய்வார்கள் என்பதை யோசித்துப் பார்க்க வேண்டும். இன்னும் ஒரு கிராமத்திலிருந்து மற்றொரு கிராமத்திற்கு போவதற்கு ஏற்பட்ட சிலவையும் சேர்த்துப் போடுவதில் 8 அவுன்ஸ்கூட கொடுக்க முடியாமல் 6 அவுன்ஸ், 4 அவுன்ஸ்தான் கொடுக்கமுடிகிறது. அதேகம் கிராமங்களில் அதைக்கூட கொடுக்காமல் அடுத்தவாரம் வாருங்கள் என்று சொல்லி விடுகிறார்கள். இந்நிலைமையில் கிராமவாசிகள் அப்படியே போய்விடுகிறார்கள். ஒவ்வொரு வாரமும் அரசி கிடைக்காவிட்டால் அவர்கள் என்ன செய்வார்கள். இவைகளை யெல்லாம் கவர்ன்மெண்டினிடமும், அதிகாரிகளிடமும் உணவு கமிட்டிகளினிடத்திலும் சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. எவ்வளவு சொல்லியும் இதற்கு இன்னும் ஒரு விமோசனமும் ஏற்படவில்லை. இது நடந்துகொண்டே இருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் இந்த கிராமாந்திரங்களில் இருக்கின்ற உணவு பங்கீடு ரேஷனை அடியோடு எடுத்துவிட முன்வர வேண்டுமென்பதாக இதற்கு முன் நான் ஒரு தடவை பேசி இருக்கிறேன். இதை எல்லோரும் வரவேற்பார்கள். இப்பவும் சொல்லுகிறேன் அதைப்பற்றி இந்தத் தடவையாகிலும் சவனிப்பார்கள் என்று நினைத்தேன். இந்த மாதிரியான உணவு பங்கீட்டு முறையை பட்டணங்களில் மீர்த்திரம் அதாவது **Statutory area**-களில் மாதிரிம்தான் வைத்துக் கொள்ளவேண்டும். கிராமங்களில் எடுத்துவிடவேண்டும். ஒரு **district**-லிருந்து மற்றொரு **district** க்கு சாதாரணமாக போகும்படி அனுமதித்து அவர்களுடைய ரேஷன் முன்றலையும் எடுத்துவிடவேண்டுமென்பதாக தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அப்படி இல்லாமல் போனால் ஜனங்கள் மிகவும் கஷ்டப்படுவார்கள். இப்பொழுது பருவ மழையிலல்லாமல் பயிர்கள் எல்லாம் ரொம்பவும் தீயந்துபோய்விட்டன. எல்லா இடங்களிலும்

[Srimathi V. Lakshmi Ammal] [2nd March 1950]

பயிர் வாடி தீய்ந்துவிட்டன. இப்பொழுது சில இடங்களில் அறுவடை செய்யலாம் என்றிருந்தவர்களுக்கு கொஞ்சம் மழை பெய்திருப்பதால் கொஞ்சம் கெடுதல் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அந்த இடங்களில் சுமார் 50 சத விகிதம் அறுவடையாகக்கூடியதாக இருந்தது. இப்பொழுது 25 சத விகிதம் அகப்படுவதுகூட கஷ்டமாக இருக்கும் என்று தோன்றுகிறது. இப்பொழுது procurement-ஐ ஆரம்பித்துவிட்டார்கள். எங்கள் தாலுகாவில் இவ் வருஷம் 27,000 கோட்டை தானியம் target கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த பூவில் தான் ஜனங்கள் அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய ஒரு வருஷ சாப் பாட்டிற்கு நெல் வைத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். ஆனால் இவ்வருஷம் விளையும் தானியம் பாதி தீய்ந்துபோய் வினேய குறைவாய் இருப்பதால் procurement-ல் நிலசலான்களுக்கும், விவசாயிகளுக்கும் கஷ்டங்கள் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. கவர்ன்மெண்டு அதிகாரிகள் போட்டிருக்கும் கணக்கு அதிகமாக இருக்கிறது. அதனால் கிராமாந்திரங்களில் எவ்வளவு தூரம் சங்கடங்கள் ஏற்படப்போகின்றனவோ தெரியவில்லை என்று எல்லோரும் ஐயப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள்.

“அடுத்தபடியாக, ஜனங்களுக்கு உணவு பிரச்சனை ஒரு புரமிருக்க மற்றொரு புரத்தில் நெசவுகாரர்கள் படும் கஷ்டம் சொல்லமுடியாது. இந்த மாகாணத்தில் சுமார் ஐந்து லட்சம் நெசவுகாரர்கள் இருக்கிறார்களென்று கணக்கிடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. எங்களுடய தாலுகாவிலும் அநேக ஆயிரம் நெசவுகாரர்கள் ரொம்பவும் கஷ்டத்திலிருந்து கொண்டிருக்கின்றார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு சர்க்கார் எந்த விதமான முறையில் செளகரியம் செய்யப் போகிறார்களோ தெரியவில்லை. அவர்கள் கூட்டுறவு சங்கங்களில் சேர்ந்து நூல் வாங்குவதற்குப் பண உதவி செய்யப் போவதாக சர்க்காரிலிருந்து அறிக்கை வந்திருக்கிறது. அது எவ்வளவு தூரம் அவர்களுக்கு கூலமாக இருக்கும் என்பது தெரியவேண்டும். இதுவரையில் கூட்டுறவு சங்கங்களில் சேர்ந்திருக்கும் மெம்பர்களுக்கு ஒரு கட்டு நூல் இரண்டு ரூவிலே செய்தால் அவர்களுக்கு ஒரு கட்டுக்கு ரூ. 6 வீதம் 2 கட்டுக்கு போரும்? இன்னும் எங்கு பார்த்தாலும் மில்களில் **strikes**-கள் ஏற்படுகின்றன. இந்த நிலைமையில் சர்க்கார் எந்த முறையை கையாண்டு நெசவுகாரர்களுக்கு இருக்கும் கஷ்டங்களை தீர்க்கப்போகிறார்கள் என்பது எனக்குத் தெரியவில்லை.

“அடுத்தபடியாக பாசன வசதிகள். பாசன வசதிக்காக கணக்குகள் கொடுக்கப்பட்டுவருகிறது. எங்கு பார்த்தாலும் மந்திரிகள் பாசன வசதி செய்யப்போவதைப்பற்றி நிறைய பேசி வருகிறார்கள். பட்ஜெட்டில் கணக்கிட்ட தொகையைப் பார்த்தாலும் எவ்வளவோ அதிகமாக ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருப்பதாகவும் காணப்படுகிறது. 1945-46-ம் வருஷத்திலிருந்து 1948-49-ம் வருஷம் வரையிலும் பாசன வசதிகளுக்கும், ரிப்பேர்சுக்கும் சுமார் 5½ கோடி ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருப்பதாக வாஷிங்டன் பிஸினஸ் ரிப்போர்ட்டுகளில் குறிப்பிடப்பட்டுள்ளது. ஆனால் அதில் எவ்வளவு சிலைவு திட்டத்தில் கண்பப் பார்த்தால் இந்த 4.5 வருஷங்களாக 229 லட்ச ரூபாய் 17,000 டன் அரிசி வருவதாக கணக்கிடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இந்த முக்கியமான வேலை இம்மாதிரி போய்க்கொண்டிருந்தால் அதாவது உணவு உற்பத்தியை அதிகரிக்க ஏற்படும். பாசன வசதிகளுக்கு இந்த சமயத்தில் எந்தவிற வேறு எல்லா வேலைகளை குறைத்துக்கொள்ளலாம். அப்படிக்கில்லாமல் போனால் எந்தக் காலத்தில் இந்த மராமத்துகளை சரிவர அப்படிக்கில்லாமல் என்னபது எனக்குப் புலப்படவில்லை. குளங்களை யெல்லாம் ரிபேர் செய்வதற்காக, அதாவது Tank Restoration Scheme என்று ரிபேர் திட்டம் அமைத்து அதற்கு எஸ்டிமேட் தயார் செய்து அதற்கென்று பட்ஜெட் கோடி ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கி அதையும் ஐந்து வருஷங்களில் பூர்த்தி செய்வதாகவும் கணக்கில் காட்டப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. வாஸ்தவத்தில் அது வெகு கடினமான

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தோஷமாகவே இருக்கிறது. ஆனால் இந்த வேலைக்காக சென்ற வருஷம் 35 லட்ச ரூபாய் சிலவு செய்திருப்பதாக தெரிகிறது. இந்த வருஷமும் 85 லட்சம் ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கியிருப்பதாகவும் தெரிகிறது. இந்த முறையில் அதாவது நத்தை ஊறுவதுபோல் போய்க்கொண்டிருந்தால் இந்த ஐந்து வருஷங்களில் இந்த பத்து கோடி ரூபாயை எப்படி சிலவிடமுடியும் என் பதும் அவ்வளவு குளங்களுக்கும் வேலைகளை நிறைவேற்றப்பட்டு எப்படி ரிப்பேர் செய்யமுடியும் என்பதும் எனக்குத் தெரியவில்லை.

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“அடுத்தபடியாக இந்த வருஷ வரவு சிலவு திட்டத்தில் எங்கள் மணி முக்தார் நிதி dam சம்பந்தமாக ஒன்றும் காணப்படவில்லை. இந்த மணி முக்தார் dam கட்டினால் தாம்பரவாணி பாசனம் சரியாக விளையும் என்றும் உபரி 15,000 ஏக்கர் நிலம் தரிசாகக் கிடப்பதை இருபேராக சாகு படியும் கொணரவரலாம் என்றும் சுமார் 45,000 கோட்டை படிக்கு கொணரவரலாம் அதிகமாக உற்பத்தி செய்யலாம். திட்டம் போட உணவு தானியத்தை அதிகமாக உற்பத்தி செய்தார்கள். மறு படிருக்கிறது. கவர்ன்மெண்டு ஒரு எஸ்டிமேட் தயார் செய்தார்கள். ஏற்பாடு வேறுவிதமான முறையில் பிற்பாடு எஸ்டிமேட் தயார் செய்ய தெரியவில்லை. இந்த வரவு சிலவு திட்டத்தில் அதற்கென்று ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கவில்லை. அந்த திட்டத்தையும் இந்த வருஷம் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப் பட்டமாட்டாது என்பதாகத் தோன்றுகிறது. உணப் பிரச்சனை நெருக்கடியாக இருக்கும் இந்த சமயத்தில் இந்த மாதிரி லேசாக உள்ள அதாவது ஒரு கோடி இரண்டு கோடி ரூபாயில் செய்யக்கூடிய சிறிய திட்டங்களை ஒரு கோடி இரண்டு வேண்டிய சிரத்தை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் ரொம்ப நிறைவேற்றுவதற்கு வேண்டிய சிரத்தை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் ரொம்பவும் அனுசூலம் ஏற்படும். இம்மாதிரியான வேலைகளை உடனடியாக எடுத்துக்கொண்டு நிறைவேற்றுவது கவர்ன்மெண்டாரின் கடமை என்பதை அவர்கள் உணரவில்லை என்பதாக நான் தேரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

[illegible]

தற்குக் கவனம் செலுத்தப்படுமா? இதைப்பற்றி 1946-
“அடுத்தபடியாக படிப்பு விஷயம். இந்த விஷயத்தைப்பற்றி 1946-
47-ம் வருஷத்திலிருந்து கணக்கிடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதில் ஆயிரக்கணக்
கான பள்ளி ஸ்தாபனங்கள் இருப்பதாகவும் அதில் சில லக்ஷக்கணக்
கான பேர்கள் படிப்பதாகவும் சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. கல்வி இடமாண்டு
வரும் காலத்தில் அதைப்பற்றி சில வார்த்தைகளைச் சொல்லுகிறேன்.
ஆனால் கல்வி விஷயத்தில், ஒருவிதமான முற்போக்கும் ஏற்படவில்லை.
புதிதான் அவிநாசிலிங்கம் செட்டியார் கல்வி மந்திரியாக இருந்த காலத்

[Srimathi V. Lakshmi Ammal] [2nd March 1950]

தில் மிகவும் பாபரப்புடன் இந்த **Basic Education**-ஐ அவ்வளவு ஆவனவுடன் நிறுவினதால்தான் அதை இப்பொழுது நாம் எடுத்து சொல்லி பெருமையாக பேச முடிகிறது. நல்லவேளையாக அதை நல்ல முறையில் நடத்திக்கொண்டு வருவதற்கு சந்தோஷமடைய வேண்டும். அடித்தபடியாக ஹிந்தியை **University**-ல் வைக்கப்படுவதாக அறிந்து சந்தோஷப்படுகிறேன். **Basic Education** இருக்கும் இடத்திலும் **Firka development** இருக்கும் இடத்திலும் ஏன் கட்டாயக் கல்வியை புத்தகக் கூடாது என்று கேட்கிறேன். ஒவ்வொரு **Firka development** நடக்கும் இடங்களிலும் இதை ஒரு **Model**-ஆக ஏன் செய்யக்கூடாது என்பதாக நான் கேட்கிறேன். இந்த மாதிரியான புதுக் கொள்கைகளை புத்தகமல்ல வருஷா வருஷம் நடந்துகொண்டு வருவதை சரிக்கட்டி பழையமாதிரியிலேயே தயாரித் தோன்றவில்லை. ஸ்ரீ இராஜகோபாலாச்சாரியார் பிரதம மந்திரியாக இருந்து 1937-ம் வருஷம் முதல் முதலாக வரவு சிலவு திட்டத்தை சமர்ப்பித்து பேசிய போது அவர் சொன்ன பிரச்சங்கத்தில் தாம் நூறு வருஷம் ஆட்சி செய்ய வேண்டியிருந்தால் எப்படி அதற்கு திட்டம் அமைக்கவேண்டுமோ அப் படி அமைத்திருப்பதாயும், ஆனால் மறுநாளே இராஜநாமா செய்ய வேண்டியிருந்தாலும் இராஜநாமா செய்வதற்கும் தயாராக இருப்பதாக திட்டம் பொறுப்புடன் தயார் செய்யப்பட்டது. ஆனால் இப்பொழுது தயார் செய்திருக்கிற முறையைப் பார்த்தால் எந்த விதத்திலும் பொறுப்பு வாய்ந்ததாகத் தெரியவில்லை. ஏதோ இன்று அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்தி விட்டு அடுத்த நிமிஷம் போய் விடுவதாக இருப்பதுபோல் தோன்றுகிறது. இப்படிச் செய்வது ஒரு பொறுப்பு வாய்ந்தவர்கள் செய்கிற மாதிரி ஆகுமா?

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“இன்னும் ஒரு விஷயத்தைமட்டில் சொல்லி விடுகிறேன். அதற்கு கனம் சபா நாயகர் இரண்டு நிமிஷங்கள் கொடுத்து உதவ வேண்டுகிறேன். இப்பொழுது இருக்கக்கூடிய இந்த வகுப்பு பிரதிநிதித்வம் என்பது இந்த மாகாணத்தில் தான் இருக்கிறது. வேறு எந்த மாகாணத்திலும் கிடையாது. இந்த **Communal G.O.** என்பது வேறு எங்குமே கிடையாது. அங்கெல்லாம் வேறு விதமான **Communalism** தான் இருக்கிறது. அதாவது ஹிந்து முஸ்லீம்களுக்குள் இருக்கின்றன. ஆனால் அதிர்ஷ்ட வசமாக நம் மாகாணத்தில் நாம் முஸ்லீம்களுடன் சகோதரர்களைப் போல் இருந்து வருகிறோம். இவ்விதமாயிருக்கும் பொழுது நாம் நம்மிடையே ஒரு **Communalism**-ஐ புகுத்தி அதாவது வகுப்பு பிரதிநிதித்வத்தை உண்டுபண்ணி அதன் மூலமாக நாட்டில் அநேகம் குழப்பங்களை உண்டுபண்ணிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறோம். இந்த வகுப்பு துவேஷத்தை உண்டுபண்ணக்கூடிய இந்த **Communal G.O.** என்பது சென்ற 30 வருஷகாலமாக இருந்து கொண்டிருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது அந்த **Communal G.O.**-ஐ ஒழிக்கவேண்டும். இதைப்பற்றி பண்டித நேருகூட அடிக்கடி வற்புறுத்திக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். அப்படி இருந்தும் அதை இன்னும் காதில் வாங்கிக் கொள்ளவில்லை. இப்பொழுது புதிதாக செய்யப்பட்ட குடியரசு சட்டத்தில்கூட ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு புதிதாக திறகுதான் தனித் தொகுதி கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. 10 வருஷத் பிற்போக்காக உள்ள ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குக்கூட பத்து வருஷம்தான் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதற்குமேல் கிடையாது என்றும் கூறப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆனால் மிகவும் முற்போக்காக உள்ளவர்களுக்கு 30 வருஷகாலமாக கொடுக்கப்பட்டு அவர்கள் எவ்வளவோ முன்னேற்ற மடைந்திருக்கிறார்கள். 30 வருஷம் இருந்தது போதும் இனிமேல் இருக்கவேண்டியது அவசிய மில்லை. இதை இங்கிலீஷில்கூட சொல்வது உண்டு. அதாவது ‘**This is high time to take it.**’ இந்த **Communal G.O.** இருக்கும்வரையும் குழப்பமும் சச்சரவும் ஒருவரை ஒருவர் எந்த சமயத்தி் கொண்டேதானிருக்கும். சகோதரத்வமாக இருக்கும் முறை மாறிவிடும். ஆகையால் இந்த **Communal G.O.**-வை அடியோடு ஒழிப்பதற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டும். இந்த புதிய குடியரசு சட்டம் வந்த பிறகு இதை வைத்திருப்பது அவமானம். இப்பொழுது புதிய அரசியல் சட்டம் வந்த

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திருப்பதனால் இந்த பழைய **Communal G.O.** அழகிப்போனதாகக் கருதி அதை எடுத்துவிடவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு நிதி மந்திரி கொண்டுவந்த வரவு சிலவு திட்டத்தை ஆதரிக்கிறேன்.”

* **JANAB MAHIN SCHAMNAD**:—“Sir, we have got a splendid budget this year and we have got a splendid Government also ! We have a people's Government but the Government are indifferent to the public and the difficulties of the people. They don't hear their complaints and redress their grievances. If they make any complaint they don't take any action and the complainants have to wait indefinitely for orders. No enquiry is held on the allegations made. The complaint is not even sent to the concerned department for enquiry. When it is sent to the concerned department for remarks, it takes years before they are returned to the Government and sometimes it is lost in transit.

“In 1947, the Police in Kasaragod station in South Kanara district concocted a theft case against Bedri Muhammed Haji at the instigation of his enemies, arrested and charged him before the Magistrate and seized paddy and straw from him. The Magistrate tried the case and found it to be false. He acquitted the accused and ordered that the property should be returned to the accused. The Police returned only the paddy and not the straw, because it was fed to their cattle. But the Police reported that the straw had decayed. So, on account of the negligence of the Police the man lost his straw and he also suffered on account of the harassment by the Police. He could not also get the value of the straw that was reported decayed. The Police committed an injustice in arresting the man, concocting a case against him and made him suffer a loss in not returning the straw to him. As he did not get any relief from the local authorities he sent a complaint to the Government in 1948 through the local M.L.A. No action was taken on this also and the party did not get any order. In 1949 he sent another complaint with the request that the complaint may be sent to the anti-corruption department for enquiry. No action was taken on this also. He intends sending a third complaint in 1950 also. I discussed this subject in the budget discussion in 1948 and in 1949. I have to discuss this again this year also for there was no response from the Government in this case. If the Government did not attend to the complaints and grievances and difficulties of the people, what is the use of having a popular Government? Now, the people could only make a complaint to the Ministers. They cannot come all the way to Madras and interview and speak to the Ministers personally. Even if the Ministers go to the districts they live far away from the town and beyond the reach of the poor people. They are not in a position to engage aeroplanes and motor cars to go to the places where the Ministers reside. Of course, I express what the people say, because I am bound to convey to the Government what I hear from the people. If the Government are indifferent, to the people and do not redress their grievances the people will be disheartened and they will take the extreme course. This is the reason why the Government are becoming unpopular.

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"Regarding the Police, they are the custodian of law and order. Now they have become very slack and do not take any interest in investigation. Their important function is investigation and protection of property and lives. If any complaint is made to them about theft, they do not go to the scene of offence immediately and investigate into the matter. They go to the place after a week or so after the stolen property has disappeared and they do not make proper investigations. In January last I reported to the Police about a theft case from the garden of one Abdul Khader. I also reported that the arecanuts suspected to have been stolen were found in a neighbouring shop. Even then the Police never went to the scene of offence to investigate. I sent a complaint to the Circle Inspector and again to the District Superintendent of Police. The Police went to the scene of offence after a week after the property disappeared. If they had gone there earlier there was a chance for detection of the theft. In old times the Police Officers took up the investigation immediately and continued to investigate into the case until they detected it or all the hopes of detection were lost. The present Police Officers simply mark time until the end of the year and receive their pay."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"You are not arrested."

JANAB MAHIN SCHAMNAD:—"I was not arrested."

MR. CHAIRMAN (Sri V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar):—"The hon. Member may continue his speech."

* JANAB MAHIN SCHAMNAD:—"Now, about the popular Government, our present Government is a Congress Government. They are supported by all parties. But the Congressmen do not co-operate with other parties. They keep aloof and do not consider them as their own people. If all parties co-operate with one another it will be for the good of the administration. It will be very difficult to conduct the administration without the co-operation of other parties. The Congressmen think that their own men should be the members in all committees and none from other parties. In the Legislative Assembly members of all parties are taken in all committees. This example, Congressmen in other places do not follow. The Congressmen do not allow members of other parties to stand for any election. There are Congressmen in district boards, local boards and everywhere. This behaviour of the Congressmen makes them unpopular and also their Government unpopular. Now this is the reason why people hate the Congressmen and sympathise with the Communists."

"Regarding Grow More Food Campaign, Government talk much about this campaign and the district food committees and the taluk food committees. Everything is on paper, but no real work is done. People grow no food crops. They grow betel leaves, plantains and such other non-food crops. Even when the lands have been specifically leased out for growing food crops, the tenants grow only non-food crops, in spite of protests from

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the landlords. To prevent them from doing so, the landlords have to file suits in Courts against the tenants to surrender the property. The Courts would take two or three years to dispose of the cases. By that time there will be no necessity for growing more food. Unless the Government takes stringent measures to prevent the tenants and other people from growing non-food crops in paddy fields, the scheme will be a failure.

"Regarding education, I have to say that the present system of education has become a source of harm to the students, because in the School Final class the medium of instruction is the local vernacular and all the subjects are taught through the medium of the local vernacular. Only the English text is taught in English. The knowledge of English of the students is very poor and they are not able to write four lines in English without grammatical or spelling mistakes. They have had no practice in English. When they go to the Intermediate class, all the subjects are taught in English and they are not able to follow the instruction there. Many students who join the intermediate class leave the college as they are not able to follow the instruction. Therefore, as long as the subjects in the Intermediate class are taught in English, the subjects in the School Final class also should be taught in English. Otherwise they will not be able to continue their studies in the higher classes."

"Regarding the Non-Gazetted Officers, the Government have not treated them even now properly. They have said several times in several places that they would reward the officers who did not take part in the strike and give them an extra increment. But no increment has been given to them. If the Government do not keep up what they have said, the Non-Gazetted Officers will have no confidence in the Government and will have no respect for the officers. I appeal to the Government to keep up their dignity and maintain what they have said and reward the Non-Gazetted Officers who did not take part in the general strike by giving them an extra increment."

* SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—"Mr. Chairman, if the soundness of the budget is to be judged by there being no provision for further taxation, the Finance Minister may deserve some congratulations from me, though I am not usually in the habit of congratulating particularly Finance Ministers. But any Finance Minister can prepare a budget without making provision for further taxation by cutting down the ordinary expenditure on one side and the necessary development expenditure on the other side. (At this stage, Mr. Speaker took the Chair.) I see the Hon. Minister for Prohibition coming in. I have been waiting for him. A number of members have spoken about prohibition. There may be a few people who probably gloat over the idea that we are all taking the Minister for Prohibition to task. I sincerely believe that prohibition ought to be introduced throughout the country. If to-day this State claims to be in advance of others in introducing

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welfare measures, it is really on account of the prohibition that we have introduced. But if prohibition cannot be enforced properly and if illicit distillation is allowed to go on as it is, I would rather scrap the whole thing. It is not for the benefit of the country if we allow illicit distillation to go on in the manner it is being allowed. I do not mind its being a cottage industry if it is a useful industry. At any rate before the introduction of prohibition, people who wanted to drink were getting a fairly good drink, although I had a friend of mine in this House who came from South Kanara and who is now no longer alive, who wanted to have a better quality of liquor. In this illicit distillation, all sorts of barks are used. The thumana (babul) bark which was used before is no longer available. Margosa bark and other barks are used and even some poisonous drugs are being introduced. People have brought this to my notice. It is harmful to the health of the people to take this sort of illicit arrack. To-day this illicit drink can be easily manufactured in the homes. So the women and children who were not accustomed to drink are getting these drinks. That is the state of affairs. I do not deny that there are a number of people who were addicted to drink are not drinking to-day and that there are a number of areas where there is no drink. I give credit for that. But so far as I am aware, in the areas of which I can claim some acquaintance, if not more than the Hon. Minister for Prohibition, in the whole of the Ceded districts and portions of Chittoor. (Interruption.) It may be denied but the country knows it and the people know it."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let not the hon. Member use the word 'you' as it would mean the Chair and also let the hon. Member not address the Minister direct."

SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—"In the districts from which the Hon. Minister for Prohibition hails and in which he has been going about recently, petitions have been presented to him in villages, and everywhere complaining that illicit distillation was going on. In my own district a lot of it is going on. Similarly in Kurnool which is bordering my village. Therefore I say that if the Minister and the Cabinet feel that they cannot properly enforce prohibition, let them scrap it. I am not very much worried about finance as I often said. If the poor man has more money because he does not drink and if richer people are not available to be taxed, I do not mind taxing even the poor for the sake of putting an end to drink. But so long as illicit distillation goes on at the rate at which it goes on now, I think it is a dangerous thing. What is it that made the experiment of prohibition fail in that great country of the United States? It is the bootlegger, the capitalist who invested his money in illicit distillation, who was ultimately responsible for the failure of the experiment there. I am now glad to find that a number of States have introduced prohibition there by local option. So, if we cannot prevent this illicit distillation to-day, immediately or as soon as possible, a time will come when a similar state of affairs as happened in

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America will prevail here also and it would be very difficult to enforce prohibition later on. There are two classes of the people who are making money. One is the capitalist who makes a lot of money here not because he is not able to make a living otherwise, but because he is keen on making a lot of money easily out of illicit distillation. There are a few such persons and their number is on the increase. The other class is the really poor man, the man on whom the capitalist depends for getting his drink manufactured. He prepares the drink either for the capitalist or on his own account. He can make two or three rupees a day easily while the wages of an agricultural labourer is only one rupee or so. Once I wanted to lease out some of my lands in my village. They told me that unless illicit distillation was put down they could not take a lease of our lands because labour was not available. Labour was engaged on illicit distillation for high wages and it was not available for agriculture. That is the fact in a number of places. I am speaking from personal experience, not as a drunkard. I have spoken to many drunkards and I have known many drunkards. Therefore if illicit distillation cannot be prevented, let us go back. Prohibition is only a directive principle in the Constitution. It is not necessary to change the Constitution. Rather than allowing illicit distillation to go on and harming the people—not only the adults, but women and children also—let us go back. It was not the case before.

"I shall now say a few words about controls and I shall confine myself to food controls. I know there is a difference of opinion on this subject in this House. I believe that the majority of hon. Members agree with me that food controls ought to go. If really there is need to supply the poor people with the food-stuffs they want at a cost they can afford to pay, something must be done. But not in this way. What is the rationale underlying the idea of food control and rationing? We are supposed not to have in this country enough food for all of us in the way we used to have before. But to my knowledge, barring certain exceptions which are confined more or less to the big towns, those of us who can afford to buy at any price to-day are getting that amount of food and eating that amount. Then where does this control and rationing come in? I can understand a country like Britain where they have a fairly high sense of citizenship and where they import a large amount of food from other countries and where they can easily control these things having these control measures. But in this country where every village produces its own food, it is otherwise where 16 ounces have been fixed for the manual labourer, I have to give 45 ounces for my farm-servants. If I do not give it, he will not work and cannot work. That is the state of affairs, and as every one here knows that those who can afford are to-day getting as much of food as they were accustomed to eat before. Such being the case, what is the use of this rationing system? This rationing system is supposed to be introduced for the purpose of helping the poorer classes. If we go into details, so far as these poorer classes are concerned—I mean people living in the villages and

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not in towns—most of the villagers do cultivate some food-stuff or other and most of the people employed in agricultural labour are trying and helping to produce more food. In most parts of the country the wages are paid to the agricultural labourers in kind. Are they getting as wages less of foodgrains as they were getting before? No. Even though the prices shot up, the wages in kind remain stationary, while in places where money wages are paid, it has proportionately gone up. While it was 3 annas or so before, now it is Re. 1, Re. 1-4-0 and even Rs. 1-8-0. But, so far as the agricultural labour is concerned, I mean those who produce food is concerned, they are not in any way worse off than before. I do not say their standard of life should not be improved but they are not affected by the de-control of food, and the people who do not actually get their wages in kind, are people who do not work in farms, but they are only very few.

"Of course, the towns people get their ration and I know the ration supplied to them is not at all sufficient. Whenever I come to Madras, in my walks I meet the Harijans who are working in the Corporation of Madras, others say their ration is not sufficient even for three days in the week and for the rest of the four days they have to manage somehow or other. I see again head-loads of rice are everyday coming in to Madras. That is the state of affairs. Really something ought to be done for the people who really suffer. I refer to the permanent but small income people and the lower-paid officials. I think some measure should be devised in order to help such people. Some time ago in this very House I made a suggestion to the Executive Council of those days, I think it was in 1924-25, that the salaries that we were paying to our officials ought to be on a varying scale depending on the cost of the necessities of life. If that had been attempted and done, there would not be any trouble for them at all. At any rate, the salary which the lower paid staff were getting would have gone up in proportion to the rise in prices. But the Executive Councillor of that day, I think it was Mr. Todhunter, told me that it was not easy to work, though the suggestion was good. The difficulty perhaps in those days was there were no index figures to be guided by. I hope the Government will make provision for the lower-paid officials as they are only very few in number. There is no use of keeping the controls for the sake of these people alone, because controls have not satisfied any one; neither the rich nor the poor; neither the agricultural labourers nor the farmer. It has satisfied only a handful of men, perhaps some officials. I do not say that of the officials here, but I am sure some of the officials in the mufassal get the best of things and at a very cheap cost, if not free. I ask, Sir, if it has not satisfied anybody, why should it be there at all?

"Then, Sir, what is the amount of money that is being spent on the rationing staff? Instead of spending this money on the ration staff, I would suggest that it may be spent for helping the class whom I want to help. There is also the question as to how

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[Sri K. Koti Reddi]

much is being wasted in regard to foodstuffs. Does the Government know how much is spoiled or wasted? For instance, I may tell the Hon. Minister that the cholam that is available in the stores in my village has been there for the last 15 or 20 days because nobody takes it and I myself had to get from other sources for my farm-servants. Of course, I do not find fault with the Government and as an agriculturist myself, I can say, that it is very difficult to preserve, particularly cholam and kambu. Sometimes they get spoiled if they are not carefully looked into. When such is the case, it is not possible to expect the Government to make proper provision to keep them in a healthy and sound condition. That is why so much of the foodstuff is wasted. Sometimes because they are not able to keep it without being spoiled, these store-keepers have to sell it away at a loss and make up in other ways. This is what is actually happening. When such is the state of affairs, what is the use of continuing these controls? I have for consideration a scheme of mine, but I do not want to give it out now and after all what is the good of it, when the Hon. Minister concerned is not here. I personally think that I can put forward the suggestion some time later to best advantage. Perhaps the difficulty of the Government will be they will hesitate to take risks in the matter. The second difficulty is the trouble with the Government of India. I think if our friends put it up before the Government of India, I know the Government of India, especially the Food Minister may not take it up, because they are all politicians who know next to nothing about actual cultivation and things of that kind. If really they know the actual conditions in regard to the continuance of these controls, I am sure it will be done away with.

"Well, Sir, I have a number of other things on which I would like to speak, but for want of time I will not deal with them but take another opportunity during the detailed discussion of the Budget when the respective Demands come up for discussion. But, however, I would like briefly to refer to one or two matters before I sit down.

"First of all there is the question of remission which is supposed to be granted for the flood-affected areas. I know the Hon. Mr. Sanjiva Reddi and I believe the Hon. Mr. Sitarama Reddi also was there along with me when we discussed certain things, but I do not think any provision—I understand no provision at all—has been made for giving remission to the flood-affected areas. After all the area may not be large. As a result of the overflow of Pennar and Kundu a number of fields got spoiled, and crops, for instance, paddy, onions, turmeric, worth lakhs and lakhs had been lost. Even the ordinary remission which is usually given in such cases has not been given to these areas and I want to know why it was not given while it is given to other flood-affected districts. Of course, it is not a question of competition but it should be given to these areas also where it is also absolutely necessary."

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JANAB MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is very difficult for me to say whether I should congratulate the Hon. Finance Minister or not for the speech he has made. For one thing, it is a very short one compared with the speeches he made during previous years. At the same time, whether it is sweet and helpful, it is a different matter, but he takes credit for having balanced the Budget. If this is the end of it all, the Hon. Finance Minister might thank himself. But, the functions of a Finance Minister are not merely to see that he earns some money and spends it within limits. On the other hand, he should earn more and spend within limits. I find, at the end of his Budget speech, the Hon. Finance Minister has derived satisfaction in this way:

* To keep the existing inflationary tendencies in check, it is necessary that we should maintain budgetary equilibrium as far as possible and it is an attribute to the essential soundness of the finances of this State that without violence to this principle and with a very much reduced scale of assistance from the Centre, it has been possible to provide for some expansion of developmental activities, particularly in the important spheres of education, medical relief, water-supply and improvement of communications.

In my opinion, Sir, the claim that he has made is not well founded. The Budget, on the whole, is a very disappointing one. I do not want to say, as some hon. Members have said, it is a school boy's additions and subtractions, being a sum given to him not in his examination hall but in his school room. Whatever that may be, I find, it is a stale insipid speech and at least his previous Budget speeches were colourful and flowery or rather bordering on artistic lines. His present one is devoid of all these things and devoid of all essentials of a good Finance Minister's speech. Be that as it may, what we are more concerned with in the general discussion on the Budget is not so much to dilate upon the details thereof, but to deal with the general conditions in the country, and how far during the past year of this Government's regime, they have established security of life and property. The Budget is after all a forecast of what the Government are going to do in the future years and how far the financial activities of the Government are going to restore the lost confidence of the people. The purpose of the general discussion of the Budget is to focus attention of the Government on what they will do in the coming financial year to restore the lost confidence among the people. Sir, it is not myself alone that says that. Persons who belong to the party in power say that. The very Congressmen who have suffered for the country in the past, who have strove hard in the cause of freedom, men who have gone to jail for that and suffered hardship, those persons say that. The common man says that, and these are their very words: 'we have no confidence in the present Government.' Why is that so? So far as I am aware, two things have contributed to this sort of feeling. The first is the maintenance of law and order, more especially in those districts bordering the Nizam's Dominions, like Krishna, the Godavaris and Guntur districts. There, there is no security at all for life and property, not only from the hands of the Communists but also from the hands of the Police!"

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SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"More from the hands of the Police."

JANAB MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—"Sir, I have been asked specially by members of the Bar Association of Vijayavada and also by the public to voice their views on the floor of this House. They have given me two or three petitions they sent to the Government, copies of which they have sent to the Prime Minister of India. And the petitioners have received an endorsement from the Prime Minister that those petitions have been sent to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras for appropriate action. But appropriate action has not yet been taken. I shall submit copy of that petition to the concerned Minister, if necessary. I know the Government are not responsible for what the Communists as such are doing. But the question is whether they have taken adequate steps, and if so, whether they are adequate enough. The common man does not care to inquire whether the Government have taken adequate steps. But what he wants to know is whether his life and property is safe every day. Every day all sorts of rumours are afloat in the country. People want to know the correct state of affairs; whether the men, women and children in the border areas are safe; whether their property is safe; whether their houses are safe or whether they had been burnt by the Communists overnight, and all that. We read in the papers that this Government along with the Government of the Nizam's Dominions had been conferring on the steps to be taken; and then it was given out in the papers that some steps had been taken. I am aware that the military also had been sent from the other side; but not from this side. The point I would like to make is that Government should go into this matter more deeply. If certain people are safe in the border areas, it is not because of your own account, but because they have been spared by the Communists. It is high time Government restore confidence in the people. They should not think, that if they are fated to die they will die; that is not the way one should think of the matter.

"The second thing that has contributed to the present state of affairs is that the seasonal conditions had been very bad. This year, people in my district of Krishna feel miserable. The Krishna district has all along been a surplus district. I think it has contributed every year one lakh of tons of rice to the rest of the province. But now, there is not even rice for its own consumption. At present one bag of rice in my district is selling at Rs. 25. In the past I have heard that the mill-owners would offer only a price less than the price fixed by Government. But now it is far above that price. I want Government should restore confidence among the people about the safety of their lives and property. Sir, I do not want to use very hard words on this subject. Almost every villager says to-day that he has no confidence in the Government; and so it is for the Government to restore that confidence. It is time the Executive takes up that matter.

"Then another thing I want to say is this: it has been given out that from 1951 India should be self-sufficient in food. I am

[Sri G. Sanyasi Rao] [2nd March 1950]

తెచ్చి ప్రజలు సంతోషిస్తారు. అనేక సంవత్సరాలలో ఇప్పటివరకు కూడా ఈ అంచనాకు estimate చే ప్రాతికార్యము. తెలుగు estimate లు sanction చేసి ఈ అంచనాకు చూడాలి కాలంలో తొలగిపోయింది—పనులను ప్రార్థించే వారి వచ్చే సంవత్సరమునా వంటివనిగా వండిపోయింది. ఇతర చేసినట్లుంటే ప్రభుత్వంవారు grow more food కు ఎవరూ grow less food కు వోహదమిచ్చిన వారగుతారు. కాబట్టి తాత్కాలికంగా వైస్ experience ఉన్న staff ను ఈ అంచనా సేవలు వాటిని చేసి వసులను ప్రార్థించేయించ వలసిందని మంత్రిగారికి జ్ఞాపకము చేస్తున్నాను.

“Prohibition విషయం గురించి, ప్రతిపక్ష సభ్యులు మనవార్తల వారు కొందరు విమర్శించి ఇవి కాల సంవత్సరాలలో విఫలమైపోయిందని తెలియజేస్తారు. ఇటువంటి విమర్శ ప్రతిపక్షంవారు చేస్తున్నారంటే ఎందువలననో అర్థం చేసుకోగలము గాని స్వయంవారు చేస్తున్నారంటే నాకు నల్ల వర్షంంది. మధ్యవార మనెట్టువంటి ఈ దురలవాటు ఈ దేశంలో ఉన్న తాళం కాలంనాటినుంచి, తండ్రిల కాలంనుంచే కాకుండా రామాయణ, వగైరా పురాణకాలంలో నుంచి కూడా ఉన్నది. అనేక వేల సంవత్సరాల నుంచి ఉన్నటువంటి దురలవాటును ఒక్క సంవత్సరంలో మాన్పడం సాధ్యంకాదు. రాష్ట్రం మొత్తమునూ ప్రార్థించుచున్న విషయము అమలుపరచి ఒక సంవత్సరం వైస్ మాత్రమే అయినది. ఇంక స్వల్పకాలంలో మాత్రమే ప్రార్థించి అరికట్టడం కష్టం. కొన్ని కొన్ని సంవత్సరాలలో అమలుపరచవచ్చును. అంతమాత్రం చేత Prohibition fail అయినదని అనటానికి నీలులేదు. కాంగ్రెసు పార్టీసభ్యులే ఈ విధంగా విమర్శిస్తుంటే, ప్రభుత్వాని విమర్శించుకుంటుంటే, ఇతర పార్టీలవారు, కమ్యూనిస్టులు, ప్రోషియన్లు—ఈ విమర్శలను అవకాశంగా తీసుకొని కాంగ్రెసు ప్రభుత్వాని నిందిస్తున్నారు. మంత్రివర్గములోని వారికి తమకు ఉన్నటువంటి వ్యక్తిగత ఆధిపత్యం వేరొకటి ఉన్నది. విమర్శన చేయడం మంచిదిగాదు. ప్రభుత్వమువారు అమలుచేస్తున్న విధానంలో లోటుపాట్లంటే వాటిని ఈ విధంగా సకరించివేస్తుంటే వాగుంటుందని తెలుస్తున్నది. కాని ఆ లోటుపాట్లను పెద్దవిజేసి మంత్రివర్గమువారిని నిందించడం సమీకారము. శ్రీ ప్రకాశంగారు ఈ Prohibition Department త్రాగుబోతులచేత నశుకమయిపోయిందని అన్నారు. 1946 లో ఈ రాష్ట్రంలో Prohibition వారు ప్రధానమంత్రిగా ఉన్నప్పుడే మరల ప్రారంభించబడింది. ఈ Department లోని ఉద్యోగులు త్రాగుబోతులైనట్లుంటే వారే అప్పుడు ఎందుకు తగిన శ్రద్ధలేమీకాని వారిని తొలగించలేదని అడుగుతున్నాను మంత్రివర్గమువారిలో సరిపడనందున వారిని విమర్శించడం వాగుగ లేదు.

“నిర్వహణ శ్రీ కాశీశ్వరరావుగారు మాట్లాడుతున్నప్పుడు Inspector-General of Police గా ఒక ఆర్డరుని నియమించినట్లుంటే ఆర్డరు ద్వారా కమ్యూనిస్టు ప్రమాదం తగ్గుతుందని చెప్పినారు. వారి ఆధిపత్యంలో నేను విశ్వసించను. ఆర్డరు ద్వారా కమ్యూనిస్టు ప్రమాదము ఆర్డరుకాస్తే వస్తేనే కాని తగ్గుదు అప్పుడు కాని మనము కమ్యూనిస్టులను అరికట్టాలము. ఒక ఆర్డరుని Inspector-General of Police గా చేసినంతమాత్రంచేత ప్రజలలో ప్రోత్సాహము కలిగించలేము, ఆర్డరుకాస్తే తగ్గుతు ప్రజలు సంతోషించినాడే ఏ ఇతర పార్టీలవారుగానీ అర్థమవు చేయలేదు. కాబట్టి మన మందరము కలిసి ఆర్డరుకాస్తే సరిపాటునకు ముందుగా ప్రయత్నము చేయాలి. కాబట్టి ఆర్డరుని Inspector-General గా చేసినంతమాత్రముచేత కమ్యూనిస్టు ప్రమాదము తగ్గుతుందని తెలుస్తుంది అర్థం కనిపించడంలేదు.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“On a point of personal explanation, Sir.”

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MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member is not yielding.”

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—“On a point of order, Sir. May I know whether a Member can misquote another Member and comment on it?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I do not know whether he has misquoted. But he should not misquote.”

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—“The hon. Member says that Sri A. Kaleswara Rao in his speech wanted an Andhra Inspector-General of Police to be appointed to check the Communist activities. Sri Kaleswara Rao never said that and he himself denies it.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Then it is for Sri Kaleswara Rao to offer a personal explanation, and not for Sri B. S. Murthi.”

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—“Is it a point of order?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“It is not a point of order.”

SRI G. SANYASI RAO:—“నేను కాశీశ్వర రావుగారు చెప్పినది సరికాదే విన్నాను. ఆ విషయాన్నే తెలియజేస్తున్నాను.”

“శ్రీ ప్రకాశంగారు మాట్లాడుతున్నప్పుడు గోపాలరెడ్డిగారిని ఉద్దేశించి ‘ఈ కమ్యూనిస్టుల కాల ఉన్నవంటి, అందులో ఎవరో అక్కారే కావాలనే, మీరు Cabinet లో ఇక్కడ ఉండడం నాకు ఇష్టంలేదు’ అని అన్నారు. గోపాల రెడ్డిగారు మంత్రివర్గంలో ఉండడము వారి ఇష్టప్రకారంగాదు. ప్రతివారు మంత్రిగా అవతరించి కొరవడవచ్చును. మాటలనుసరించి నాకు కూడా మంత్రి అవతరించని ఉన్నది. కాని అవడం ఎలాగ, ఎవరో కొందరు మాత్రమే మంత్రులు కాగలరు. కాబట్టి మంత్రులను అవతరించగా విమర్శించక వారికి సహకరించవలసి కొరుతున్నాను.

“కూర్మగోదావరి జిల్లాలోని అమలాపురం, రాజోలు తాలూకాలలో మండ గాలు జరుగుతున్నాయని నేను విన్నాను. ఈ విషయన దరంతాలు వరగకుండా మాజీతం ప్రభుత్వమువారిలో నాయకులగుతున్నవారు కూడా వారికి అవకాశం లేదని అనకుండా ఆ ప్రాంతాలకు వెళ్లి చూడాలిగాని ఎవరో ప్రోషియన్లు అయిన అన్న ప్రార్థయ్యగారు ఇచ్చిన కరకృత్యాన్ని అధారంగా చేసుకొని ప్రభుత్వాన్ని విమర్శించడం వాగుండలేదు. ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఒక కమిటీని వేసికొని, ప్రధానమంత్రిగారు స్వయంకముగా గాని వివిధ గ్రామాలలో మండగాలు జరిగాయో అక్కడకు వెళ్లి గ్రామముల కష్టములను తెలుసుకొని పోలీసులు ఏమైనా అక్రమాలు చేసినట్లు రుజువు చేయిస్తే వారిని ప్రభుత్వంవారే దిండిమీద నేయటే గాకుండా అమలుపరచాలని తెలుసుకోవడం మంచివలెను.

“కూర్మగోదావరి జిల్లాలోని అమలాపురం, రాజోలు తాలూకాలలో మండ గాలు జరుగుతున్నాయని నేను విన్నాను. ఈ విషయన దరంతాలు వరగకుండా మాజీతం ప్రభుత్వమువారిలో నాయకులగుతున్నవారు కూడా వారికి అవకాశం లేదని అనకుండా ఆ ప్రాంతాలకు వెళ్లి చూడాలిగాని ఎవరో ప్రోషియన్లు అయిన అన్న ప్రార్థయ్యగారు ఇచ్చిన కరకృత్యాన్ని అధారంగా చేసుకొని ప్రభుత్వాన్ని విమర్శించడం వాగుండలేదు. ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఒక కమిటీని వేసికొని, ప్రధానమంత్రిగారు స్వయంకముగా గాని వివిధ గ్రామాలలో మండగాలు జరిగాయో అక్కడకు వెళ్లి గ్రామముల కష్టములను తెలుసుకొని పోలీసులు ఏమైనా అక్రమాలు చేసినట్లు రుజువు చేయిస్తే వారిని ప్రభుత్వంవారే దిండిమీద నేయటే గాకుండా అమలుపరచాలని తెలుసుకోవడం మంచివలెను.

[Sri G. Sanyasi Rao] [2nd March 1950]

లోని ప్రజలు ఈ కంట్రోలుకు ఇష్టపడుతున్నారా లేదా అనే విషయాన్ని గమనించి అవసరమైతే కేంద్ర ప్రభుత్వంవారికి వాసి వారిని పిప్పించి కంట్రోలులు తొలగించడం సేవదని కోరుతున్నాను. కంట్రోలువల్ల ఆహార పరిపాలనవల్ల ప్రజలలో చాలా అసంతృప్తి కలుగుతోంది. ఉద్యోగులలో లంచగొండితనము ప్రబలిపోతోంది. ఈ నాడు ఈ కంట్రోలు డిపార్టుమెంటులోని F.S.O. ఉద్యోగులకు వారి జీతాలతో నిమిత్తంలేకుండా ఉన్నది. జీతంలేకుండానైనా వారు పనిచేయడానికి సిద్ధంగా ఉన్నారు. అంటే లంచగొండితనము ఏ విధంగా ఉన్నదో గ్రహించగోరూను.

“ఈ మధ్య ఆహారభాగామయ్యలగు శ్రీ రోడ్ విజ్ఞోరియా గారు మా జిల్లాలో పర్యటనచేసినపుడు వారికి మాజిల్లాకు ప్రక్కన ఉన్న surplus district అయిన మంట్రీ కూర్మగోవావరి జిల్లానుకలిపి ఒక zone గా ఏర్పాటుచేయవలసినదని తెలియజేసినాము. మేమంకరము శ్రీ తేన్నేటి విశ్వనాథం గారు వారు మరొకపక్షమువారిని అనుకోకుండా సలహాయించినట్లు, మా జిల్లా ఆహారకమిటీలో ఈ విషయాన్ని గురించి చర్చించి విక్రగ్రి వంగా అంగీకరించి మంత్రిగారికి మా అభిప్రాయాన్ని అమలుజరుపవలసినదిగా కోరి నాము. కూర్మగోవావరి జిల్లా ఆహార కమిటీవారు కూడా ఈ విషయాన్ని చర్చించి చూచి తీర్మానంతో విక్రగ్రివముగా వికీభవించినారనికూడా విన్నాము. కాని ప్రభుత్వం వారు మా తీర్మానములపై ఎటువంటి చర్య తీసుకొనట్లు కన్పించడంలేదు. ఆహార కమిటీలయొక్క విక్రగ్రివ తీర్మానాలను అమోదించకపోతే ఆ కమిటీలయొక్క అవసరము తీర్మాతములేదు. కాబట్టి ఈ విషయాన్ని మంత్రిగారు తిరిగి పరిశీలనచేసి మా విశ్వాసపట్నం జిల్లా ప్రజలకు సహాయపడగోరూను.

“ఇప్పుడు జిల్లాలో supply department ఉద్యోగులు అనేక అన్యాయాలు చేస్తున్నారు. Corruption హెచ్చు అయిపోతోంది. Blackmarket అనాటికా నాడు తెలిసిపోతోంది. ప్రజలు అధికమైన ధరలకు ఆహారభాగామయ్యల కొనుక్కోనలేక పోతున్నారు. Blackmarket case లను పట్టుకొన్న ఉద్యోగులు నేరస్తులను సరిగా శిక్షించుటలేదు. ఈ కేసుల విషయంలో అనేక ఆక్షమాలు జరుగుతున్నాయి. గత సంవత్సరము వాతాలూకాలో Assistant Collector గారు పట్టుకొన్న ఒక blackmarket case యంతవరకుకూడ file చేయబడలేదు. బండ్రాళ్ల స్టేట్ మెంట్లు ఇచ్చినా, కొనుక్కొన్న వారు కూడ స్టేట్ మెంట్లు ఇచ్చినా Assistant Collector గారు పట్టుకొన్న వ్యక్తికూడ ఈ కేసు ఇంతవరకు file చేయబడలేదంటే స్థానిక ఉద్యోగులు ఎంత అలక్ష్యముచేస్తున్నారో ప్రభుత్వంవారు గుర్తించాలి. ఇంచేకాకుండా కొన్ని సందర్భాలలో పట్టుకొని C.I.D. department వారుకూడ కొన్ని కేసులను వదలి వేస్తున్నారు. ఈ మధ్యన C.I.D. department ఉద్యోగులు మా కాటాకాలాని “పూడి మడక” అనే గ్రామంవద్ద భాస్కరం దొంగతనంగా తీసుకొనిపోయ్యే బండ్రాళ్లను పట్టుకొన్నారు. కాని 4, 5 బస్తాల భాగామయ్య బండ్రాళ్లకు స్వల్ప డబ్బుతీసుకొని అమ్ముకొన్నారు. ‘కంచయ్య చేను మేస్తున్నట్లు’ ఈ C.I.D. ఉద్యోగులు ప్రవర్తిస్తుంటే దేశంలో blackmarket గాని, లంచగొండితనముగాని ఏ విధంగా ప్రభుత్వంవారు అరికట్టకలరే నాకేమియు జోధపడుటలేదు. కాబట్టి Police department వారు, Supply department వారు, C.I.D. department వారు ఇకముందైన తగినంత శ్రద్ధతీసుకొనునట్లు చేయవలసిన ప్రభుత్వంవారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

“ఇప్పుడు ప్రభుత్వంవారు వ్యవసాయదారులు అధికాహారోత్పత్తి చేయవలసిన వెళ్లుతున్నారు. అధికాహారోత్పత్తి చేయటానికి రైతుకు పశుసహాయము ఎంతో కావలసియున్నది. Government వారు పనిచేయిస్తున్న tractor లు, bull dozer లు

[Sri G. Sanyasi Rao] [2nd March 1950]

వది ఎకరాలు, ఐదు ఎకరాలు, రెండు ఎకరాలు గలిగిన చిన్న రైతులకుగాని, పల్లెటూరు యాములకుగాని ఏ మాత్రము ఉపకరించవు. మన దేశంలో ఉండే రైతులలో చాలా భాగం చిన్న చిన్న రైతులే. వారికి తగినంత పశు సహాయము ఉంటేనే గాని వక్కా వ్యవసాయముచేయలేరు. పశువులయొక్క ఆరోగ్యముమీదనే రైతులు ఆధారపడి ఉంటారు. కాబట్టి రాష్ట్రములో పశువైద్యశాలలు ఎక్కడగా ఏర్పాటుచేయవలెను. హెచ్చుపశువైద్యశాలలు ఏర్పాటుచేయటము veterinary doctor లు లేరని అంటున్నారు. ఇటువంటి అభ్యంతరం లేకుండుటకుగాను కొత్తగా Veterinary College ఒకదానిని స్థాపించిఅయినా తగినంతమంది డాక్టర్లను తయారుచేయించగోరుతాను.

“ఈ Budget లో కొత్త పన్నులు విధించ తలపెట్టినందుకు శ్రీ గోపాల రెడ్డిగారిని అభినందిస్తున్నాను.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“On a point of personal explanation, Sir. I only wanted a separate Inspector-General of Police for the Andhra districts. I never said that he should be an Andhra or Tamilian or Malayalee. Probably the hon. Member, Sri G. Sanyasi Rao, has misunderstood me.”

* SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, a time there was when foreign administrators were content with presenting a budget full of figures on the plus side and the minus side. But with the advent of freedom and the integration of various States in this country of Bharatmata, we expect the Hon. Finance Minister to present us in the budget a human document reflecting the various phases of the life of the people in the State. I would have expected him to point out in his speech how the various monetary proposals and the sums he has provided in the budget react on the life of the people, the position about unemployment, the cost of living, the problem of poverty and the income of the citizens of the Madras State. Reference to any of these subjects is completely absent in the budget speech that has been delivered. Probably the plausible excuse may be that in an integrated India such problems cannot be studied in isolation with respect to one State or other. To my mind, it does not seem to be a sufficient excuse for not giving an overall picture.

“I will first deal with the most important problem that is facing the Madras State to-day, namely, the food crisis. I am afraid there has not been a proper appreciation of this problem. Even our top-rank leaders have made very serious pronouncements that no food will be imported from the year 1951 and that the various States must stand on their own legs in this regard. Production, more production and still more production is the panacea they prescribe for fighting inflation, food crisis, unemployment and the problem of poverty. But there is absent that psychological background which alone can induce the farmer to produce more and more. With the mounting cost of cultivation, with the price of cattle beyond the reach of the ordinary ten-rupee kist-paying cultivator, with the difficulty in securing manure and agricultural implements, the farmer is in a bad predicament. At the same time, he sees that the life of a town or city dweller is a string of gaiety and, if I may say so, easy and cushioned as against the

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drab life that he is leading exposed to inclement weather and various risks. Yet what little he produces is taken away from him to feed the population in the towns and cities which has shown a phenomenal rise. Take for instance the City of Madras. I believe its present population is sixteen lakhs as against six lakhs about ten years ago. What is the reason for this phenomenal rise? The city offers a pleasant, more interesting and easy-going life with all its cinema shows and the string of exhibitions, festivals, carnivals and tattoos, races, cinemas and fairs. These entertainments draw people away from villages and I do not see why the villager should be expected to put in more and more hard work on the land for the purpose of feeding the lazy millions inhabiting our towns and cities. I think our leaders must make an attempt by giving moral and financial support to make the village life more varied, a life in which a person can take some interest and enjoy a few amenities. Till this psychological change is effected and his morale is strengthened, the villager will have no incentive to work hard and I think the food crisis cannot be solved. I am not a killer of joy and I do not attack city life or town life as such. But there is this glaring contrast between village life and urban life and the villagers are deserting the villages and resorting to cities and towns. This exodus from villages to towns should be stopped as early as possible.

"What has been done to provide the villager with proper homes? It is said that a provision of one crore of rupees has been made, that six hundred houses have already been built and that four hundred more houses will be built through house building co-operative societies. For whom do these buildings cater for? Not for the poor people and the peasants not even for the middle classes but for the higher middle classes. The housing schemes have totally failed to meet the situation and lakhs and lakhs of people are homeless and without shelter, and the Madras Government cannot take pride in saying that they have built six hundred houses and are going to build four hundred houses more. For whose needs are the houses in Gandhinagar and Shenoyanagar built?—Cheap houses are only few and the costly houses are more. I submit that we have totally failed to solve both the food problem and the housing problem by our policy of inanition and vacillation.

"Take the condition of agriculturists. They are practically starving except in those districts which have had some benefit of the monsoon. Ten-rupee kist-paying agriculturists form ninety per cent of the agricultural population of this State. These agriculturists have invested what little they had on ploughing the land for second crop and on purchasing seeds, manure, etc. The north-east monsoon has completely failed in most parts of the Tamil Nad and the investment made in the hope of getting a second crop has become a dead letter. The cost of cultivation must be about 80 or 90 rupees per acre. Having spent all that they had and with the total loss that they had incurred, they have

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nothing for sustenance till the break of the monsoon several months ahead and the raising of a new crop. The Government have started kist collection. The remission of 75 lakhs of rupees that the Government have announced is no solution to this problem at all. I very much wish that the Government do something to give an assured income and sufficient work to earn a living to the agriculturists whom we call the backbone of country and who maintains the equilibrium of our village economy. One of the ways of doing that will be to start a crop insurance scheme.

"With regard to middle classes also, the difficulty of obtaining a proper house and the rise in cost of foodstuffs are there in all its ugly prominence. Eighteen months ago the Finance Minister of the Government of India said that there were clear indications that the cost of foodstuffs would go down. Even at that time we thought that his forecast would prove a failure and time has shown that it has been so. The only consolation which has been offered by the Finance Minister is that devaluation has not affected the prices as much as in other countries which have devalued their currency."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will continue his speech to-morrow."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, the 3rd March 1950.

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

I.—SWEARING-IN OF A MEMBER.

Sri Kala Venkata Rao was sworn in.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

The Madras Cane-Jaggery Movement Control Order.

* 25-A Q.—SRI B. SATYANARAYANARAJU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) the circumstances that forced the Government to issue the Madras Cane-Jaggery Movement Control Order, dated 24th February 1950; and

(b) the measures the Government propose to take to ensure that the interests of the sugar-cane growers are protected?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“(a) The Government have been constrained to issue the order with a view to arrest the soaring price of cane-jaggery and to bring down the prices to a reasonable level and also with a view to encourage the production of more sugar by making available for crushing sugarcane, which was being diverted for conversion into jaggery.

“(b) The interests of the sugarcane growers have been adequately protected by limiting the restrictions on the export of jaggery movements by rail alone by confining even these restrictions only to exports outside the State. Thus the movements of cane-jaggery within the State are entirely free and unrestricted and movements of cane-jaggery outside the State by road, sea and river are also unrestricted. Even as regards the movements of cane-jaggery by rail outside the State, such movements will be allowed by the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras or his nominee to the extent possible taking into account the quantity of cane required for crushing by the sugar factories and the interests of jaggery consumers in the State.”

SRI B. SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—“Is it not the duty of the Government to arrange for more wagons to send the jaggery from the Visakhapatnam district?”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“I think, Sir, that the movement is being arranged in the normal course.”

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RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Sir, in view of the necessity to keep the price level of sugar, is it not necessary on the part of the Government to align particular areas wherefrom the sugar-cane has necessarily to be delivered to the sugar mills, as it is the duty of the Government to see that the sugar mills are also run for the benefit of the people?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"It is exactly to meet the situation, Sir, that this order has been issued."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"May I know Sir, what steps the Government have taken against the non-compliance of these Government orders, by the sugar-cane growers who have grown sugar-cane round about the Kodaikanal area?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"That is a separate matter Sir; but that matter, so far as I understand, has already been settled to the satisfaction of both the sugar-cane growers and the sugar factories."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Does the Hon. Minister realise that in view of the high price of jaggery, the black-market price of sugar is going up higher and higher?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"It may be so, Sir."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know, Sir, whether this Madras Cane-Jaggery Movement Control Order, dated 24th February 1950 has produced any good results within this one week?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"We have not received any report so far, Sir, from the District Collectors in regard to this matter, and I think, Sir, it is too early to say anything about it."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I know, Sir, with reference to the answer to the second part of this question, whether there were any complaints from the sugar mills situated in that area that they were not having plenty of supply of sugar-cane, necessitating the Government to issue this order?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"Yes, Sir. Representations were made by the sugar-mills both to this Government and to the Government of India."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister, what is the proportion of the sugar-cane that is required for the Mill in Anakapalle in relation to the total production of sugar-cane in that area?"

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

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—"May I know, Sir, what are the reasons that prompted the Government to go to the rescue of these mill-owners to the utter neglect of the cane-growers in the villages around the mill areas?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"It is because, Sir, people have been crying for more sugar in this Province

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and because of the fact that we have to depend upon the import of sugar from outside the Province to meet our requirements, and these prompted us to take this step to conserve all the sugar-cane produced in this Province and to manufacture sugar therefrom."

JANAB M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM:—"Is it the intention of the Government to protect the sugar industry by these measures?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"It is the intention of the Government to protect everybody engaged in the industry, viz., the cane-growers as well as the sugar factories, Sir."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that the interests of the sugar-cane growers have been sufficiently protected by the Sugar Control Act already in force?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"It is in accordance with that Act, and the rules made thereunder, that these orders have now been issued."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"May I know, Sir, what is the necessity to issue this Cane-Jaggery Movement Control Order, after a settlement has been effected between the sugar factories and cane-growers in the Kodaikanal road area?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"Sir, this has come about on account of the troubles in the Anakapalle area."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Is it not advisable, Sir, to decontrol sugar and remove informal rationing in order that the price of jaggery may go down?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"It is a matter entirely for the Government of India."

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Is it not within the purview of the Government of Madras to have or not to have informal rationing, which is now prevailing in the Madras City and in certain other areas also in this Province?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"Whatever is given to this Province from the Central pool, has to be distributed equitably among the people in this Province and the present arrangements have been made only with the approval of the Government of India."

SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—"May I know, Sir, why the sugar-cane growers should suffer for the sake of sugar-eaters?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"It is not so, Sir. The present order is intended to protect the interests of all concerned, namely the sugar-cane growers, the sugar factories and the consumers of sugar."

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SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“ If the price which the sugarcane growers are now getting for their sugarcane is less than what they were ordinarily getting before the issue of this order, is it not a case of their suffering for the sake of sugar-eaters? ”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“ In the interests of the consumers themselves, they must try to reduce the price of sugar and get less profit than what they were getting before.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“ Is it not the duty of the Government to protect the natural rights of the villagers to manufacture jaggery as a cottage industry? ”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“ Their interests are also protected, Sir, in proportion to the interests of the general public.”

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—“ May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister is aware that the Anakapalle Market deals with jaggery worth about Rs. 2 crores, and that it has been artificially brought down, so as to enable a few people to corner the entire stock in the market? ”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“ I do not think so, Sir, because under these orders, the movement of sugarcane and jaggery will be watched and naturally there will be restrictions on hoarding, even though people might attempt to do so.”

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—“ May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister is aware that a factory which is very near that area, namely the Tumpala Factory is not working at all and that no sugarcane is needed there? ”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“ I have no information, Sir.”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“ Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister to the supplementary questions, is it not a fact, Sir, that this order was issued only to protect the interests of the mill-owners? ”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“ I have already said, Sir, that this order was issued to protect the interests of the sugar mill-owners, cane-growers and also the general public who are suffering from want of adequate supply of sugar. As this province is a deficit one even with regard to sugar and as we have to depend upon the allotment of sugar from the Central pool, we have taken steps, by means of this order, to see that sugar-factories do not suffer from want of an adequate supply of cane, so that they may produce more sugar and supply it to the general public, and thereby bring down the price of sugar.”

SRI T. S. PATTABHIRAMAN:—“ Is it not a fact, Sir, that the prices of jaggery and brown-sugar are going up daily and as

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a consequence, the poorer classes of people are suffering very much and that it is only to protect their interests that the movement of jaggery has been prohibited under this order? ”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“ Yes, Sir.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“ Has the Hon. Minister taken into consideration, while seeking to protect the interests of this cottage industry, and those of the sugar-factories, the extensive damage which the sugarcane crop has suffered on account of the recent cyclones? ”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“ I have no information, Sir.”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I know, Sir, whether the Government have made any calculation as regards the internal consumption of jaggery district-war in this State, and if so, may I know whether they would take this House into confidence and inform the House as to the quantity of jaggery that has been permitted for export outside this State? ”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“ There is provision, Sir, for permission being granted for jaggery, being exported outside this State, after the local demands are completely met.”

SRI G. NARASIMHA RAO:—“ Sir, at the time of the passing of the order, have the Government taken into consideration what stock or what quantity of jaggery is available at the Anakapalle market, and have the Government passed this order only after getting this information or before? ”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“ Everything was taken into consideration before this order was passed.”

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—“ Sir, is the Hon. Minister aware that in almost all the villages the dealers get sufficient quantity for all the people in the village, and do not distribute it to the poor classes? May I know whether this order will help the villagers to get adequate quantities of sugar and at the same time help the sugarcane-growers.”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“ As I have already stated, it is going to help not only the sugarcane-grower but it will help the people to get sugar at reduced prices.”

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—“ Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that in Madras City sugar is sold at Rs. 2-8-0 or 2-12-0 per viss? ”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“ I am aware of only one price in the City and that is the controlled price.”

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—“ Sir, will the Hon. Minister make enquiries and satisfy himself whether my question is baseless or well-founded? I cannot say anything more on this at present? ”

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THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"We will make enquiries."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware, Sir, that in our parts of the country near about Anakapalle, after meeting the agricultural expenses and meeting the kist payable either to the landlord or the Government, the villager who produces sugarcane depends upon the sugarcane and jaggery to meet his yearly expenses and living?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"What has been going on for the last so many years may go on now also. But at present the reason for the enforcement of this order is the difficulty in getting the necessary quantity of cane for the factories. We are short of sugar and naturally we must see that the factories are kept going to have more sugar. We have also requested the Government of India to meet our deficit."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Sir, as a result of this order, may I know whether the production of sugar in this State has increased, and, if so, how much and in what form?"

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

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that when last year the Government fixed the control price at Rs. 54 per ton, the mill owners refused to buy and they exploited the weakness of the growers, and ultimately took the sugarcane at Rs. 34 per ton, which resulted in a loss of several lakhs of rupees to the poor growers?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"I have no information."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—"May I know what are the special qualities of this white sugar over jaggery to make the Government take all this trouble and put the villagers to a great loss?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"It is because of the general cry for the commodity."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that all the actions which this Government have taken in order to give protection to the sugar industry and the sugarcane-growers in this State, have been negatived by the abandonment of protective tariff to sugar industry by the Central Government?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"It is a general policy followed by the Central Government in the interests of all the States in the country. I am not able to give the exact reasons which prompted the Central Government to act in the manner they did."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Has the stock position at the various centres where jaggery is usually produced,

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been taken into account, and, if so, may I ask whether the Government realize that the publication of the stock position will restore confidence in the public and will prevent the shooting up of prices of jaggery?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"It is always kept in mind when supplies are asked from different centres."

SRI B. SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—"Is it not the duty of the Government to send their Food Secretary to Anakapalle market to study the situation? Why don't the Government try to modify the Government Order even now?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"The local authorities are always there to watch the situation and report to the Government."

Assignment of lands to political sufferers.

* 26 Q.—SRI B. S. MURTHI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of political sufferers who applied for land;
- (b) the number of those whose requests were granted;
- (c) the extent of area granted;
- (d) whether any land already under the enjoyment of Harijans was taken away from them for giving it to political sufferers; and
- (e) if the answer to (d) is in the affirmative, what the extent of such lands and the districts concerned are?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (a) 20,640.—

" (b) 3,612 political sufferers were granted lands up to the end of November 1949.

" (c) The Government have not got the information.

" (d) & (e) Some petitions were received from Harijans and landless poor persons that their lands were being taken away for assignment to political sufferers. According to the instructions issued by Government lands in the occupation of landless poor persons should be assigned to them if such assignment is not objectionable. They should not be taken away from them for being granted to political sufferers. The petitions were therefore sent to the Collector of the district concerned for disposal in accordance with the instructions of the Government."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware that lands that were already in possession of Harijans and brought under cultivation by Harijans have already been taken away from them and assigned to political sufferers, and that their petitions have been rejected by the Government?"

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I have already given the necessary information that I have with me on the subject."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that lands belonging to others are being taken away forcibly and illegally, to be given to political sufferers?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"No illegal action has been taken. If any land has been taken away, it must have been taken away after it satisfied the order that has been issued. I can assure the hon. Member that I have not come across cases of force being used by anybody in the matter."

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Sir, are the Government aware that certain people have taken advantage of the Government Order that was recently issued by the Government on the assignment of lands, and have occupied lands afresh thereby leading to the cancellation of the assignment temporarily made in favour of the political sufferers?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Such things also have come to my notice."

SRI T. S. PATTABHIRAMAN:—"May I know, Sir, what is the policy of the Government when the land owner is a Harijan and he has got 100 or 50 acres of wet land and another 50 acres poramboke land? I want to know whether the Government will give him preference just because he is a Harijan and that his land will not be taken away and given to landless men of other communities?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"As I have already stated, this Government Order will apply only to landless and poorer people. Whatever community he may belong to, if he had adequate lands, the land that he has encroached upon will be taken away from him."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—"I rise on a point of order, Sir. This question relating to assignment of lands to political sufferers is repeated *ad nauseam* every day. Is there no rule by which the Hon. Speaker can rule out such questions?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"If it is a repetition I will rule it out. It is not the same question that was put before. Let the hon. Member refer to the earlier proceedings."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Government are prepared to appoint a special officer to go into the whole question and see whether any injustice has been done to the landless poor according to the G.O. No. 1523, dated 6th November 1949, and once for all solve the problem by seeing that lands which have been brought under cultivation by the sweat and toil of Harijans are not unjustly taken away from them?"

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"There is absolutely no need for a special officer. We know how to take care of them. If cases of injustice are brought to my notice, I give the assurance that they will duly be examined and protection will be given."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, what are the causes for such delays when the question has been hanging fire for the last three years? What are the causes that are responsible for the political sufferers getting such scanty amount of land. Only a few people get lands, and a great number of people have not been assigned any lands."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Sir, so far as I have been able to analyse, the difficulties are that there are not enough lands of the type that is wanted by the political sufferers. Even the lands that are available are sometimes occupied by somebody under the Grow More Food campaign or some other person who has encroached upon the land. It takes some time before we can evict the encroachment and assign the land to political sufferers. Even after assignment certain objections are received from the village communities saying that the assigned lands are absolutely needed for the benefit of the village community. In such cases the Government have to make enquiries whether, in the interests of the village community, the land can be assigned or not. So, there are several problems like that. I can assure the hon. Member that we have been instructing and we continue to instruct the district authorities to see that this subject is disposed of as speedily as possible."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Sir, as the Harijans have spent large amounts of money in bringing the lands under cultivation, may I know whether the Government have issued any instructions to the concerned Collectors either to pay compensation or to give land in exchange?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Sir, it is not only the Harijan, but everybody that reclaims land, has necessarily to spend a lot of money to bring the land under cultivation. It is not a question of Harijans alone spending a lot of money. As I have already stated, the Government Order applies to all people who are supposed to be eligible for assignment of land. Under the Government Order certain people have been given priority over others. There is no question of any particular class of people being protected against other classes of people."

Appointments to the posts of bus drivers, conductors, etc., in the Government Transport.

* 27 Q.—SRI M. KANNIAPPAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the number of appointments made from 1st January 1949 to 31st December 1949 for the posts of bus drivers, conductors and checking inspectors in the Government Transport;

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(b) the number of Tamilians, Andhras and Malayalees selected to such posts; and

(c) the total strength of drivers, conductors, and checking inspectors and the number of Tamilians, Andhras and Malayalees at present in the Government Transport Department?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“(a) & (b) The information required is furnished below:—

	Tamilians.	Andhras.	Malayalees.	Others.	Total.
Checking Inspectors ..	2	..	1	..	3
Drivers ..	52	4	..	18	85
Conductors ..	109	11	11	19	150
	163	15	29	37	244

“(c) The information required is given below:—

	Tamilians.	Andhras.	Malayalees.	Others.	Total.
Drivers ..	519	19	83	82	703
Conductors ..	445	32	88	57	622
Checking Inspectors and Time-Keepers. }	108	4	19	34	165
	1,072	55	190	173	1,490

11-30 a.m. SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே! தயவு செய்து கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களுடைய விடை நன்றி அறிக்கையாக இருப்பதால் அதைத் தமிழில் சொல்லுமாறு கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“நம்பர்களை எல்லாம் தமிழில் சொல்ல சொல்லுகிறீர்களா?”

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—“மொத்த மலையாளிகள், ஆந்திரர்கள், எவ்வளவு என்பதை மட்டும் தமிழில் சொல்லவேண்டும்.”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“மொத்தத்தில் தமிழர்கள் 1,072, ஆந்திரர்கள் 55, மலையாளிகள் 190, மற்றவர்கள் 173, ஆகமொத்தம் 1,490.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Out of so many jobs given in the Transport Department, why only 55 Andhras have been selected?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Sir, I do not know what the reason is; perhaps it was due to non-availability. Apart from that, there is a gentleman's agreement that conductors and drivers of the displaced operators should be given preference by the Transport Department and we have kept that promise scrupulously and all those people who produced certificates from the displaced operators were given preference.”

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“May I know what is the number of employees under the old bus-owners and the percentage of them employed in these various departments after nationalization?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“I want notice, Sir. A separate question may be put.”

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—“May I know the number of women in these 1,490 jobs?”

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“I do not know whether apart from the 8 women conductors, there are any women. I do not know if in the ministerial staff there are any women employees.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“May I know whether the personnel of the selection committee consists of Tamilians or Andhras?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Under a Government Order issued on 5th February 1948, all non-gazetted appointments in the department after nationalization should be made by the Transport Commissioner, subject to the condition that appointments to non-gazetted posts carrying a basic pay of Rs. 100 and above shall be made by a committee consisting of the Home Secretary, the Transport Commissioner and the Deputy Transport Commissioner.”

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—“May I know what percentage of ex-servicemen have been taken in service in the 1,490 jobs just now mentioned?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“I have no information.”

SRI T. S. PATTABHIRAMAN:—“Do not the figures given by the Hon. Minister confirm that Madras belongs to the Tamilians and Tamilians only, Sir?” (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—“It does not arise out of this question.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Does not the Hon. Minister realize the absurdity of recruiting, specially to menial and such other jobs on the basis of Tamilians, Malayalees, Andhras and all that after the installation of the Indian Republic on January 26, 1950?” (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“We are not making any recruitment on that basis. Some facts were asked for and I have furnished the information.”

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—“In the case of new appointments arising, will the Hon. Minister give an assurance that more Andhras will be taken into these jobs?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“The Transport Commissioner is an Andhra himself and he will certainly look into the matter.”

DR. S. SUBRAHMANYAM:—“The Home Secretary is also an Andhra.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“The Home Secretary will come in only for jobs above Rs. 100. Ordinarily these things are dealt with by the Transport Commissioner who in his turn delegates his power either to the Deputy Transport Commissioner or to the Transport Officer, and I think they

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will look into the matter. They themselves have furnished the figures and if there is any inequity, they will certainly look into the matter."

SRI PYDAH VENKATANARAYANA:—"We have an Andhra in the concerned Hon. Minister but doing nothing. So, what is the use even if we have the Commissioner or the Secretary an Andhra?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I suppose the hon. Member does not suggest that I should interfere in these appointments. It must be left to the departmental heads themselves." (A voice: 'Hear, hear'.)

DR. S. SUBRAHMANYAM:—"Is it the policy of the Government to recruit more Andhras just to say that the Andhras form part of the population of this City?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"After all, in these services there must be a sort of equal distribution and if there is any large deficiency and if people are available and coming up to the standards, they may also be selected."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"Who are the 'others' mentioned by the Hon. Minister?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Others' are those who are non-Tamilians, non-Andhras and non-Malayalees."

Plan-marked channels in Tirunelveli taluk.

* 28 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member Sri D. Dorairaja Pandian is not in his place. The answer will be printed in the proceedings."

SRI D. DORAIRAJA PANDIAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in No. 13, Pallikottai village, Tirunelveli taluk, Tirunelveli district, plan-marked channels supplying water to the ayacut (nanja lands) have been obliterated and diverted in the year 1942 and thus affected the customary water-supply to the lower-down ayacut lands;

(b) whether it is a fact that the District Collector in his Proceedings D.Dis. No. 4650/43, dated 8th May 1944 passed orders for taking steps at once under the Land Encroachment Act in respect of such diversion of plan-marked channels; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the said order of the Collector has not been given effect to till this date?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answers given on the floor of the Legislative Assembly on 18th March 1949 to question Nos. 939 and 941 (starred). The particulars furnished in the answers referred to above, cover the points raised by the hon. Member in the present question. The hon. Member is in

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this connection informed that the Government are still considering the suggestion for providing suitable safeguards to ensure that the ayacut lands in the eastern block of the Pallamadai tank get their full supply of water first, before any dry irrigation is allowed."

Agricultural College for the Ceded Districts.

* 29 Q.—SRI B. S. MURTHI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to shift the Bapatla Agricultural College to the Ceded Districts; and

(b) whether the Government are contemplating to establish an Agricultural College for the Ceded Districts?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" (a) & (b) The answer is in the negative."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Are the Government aware that for several years the people of Ceded Districts have been requesting the Government to have an Agricultural College entirely for the use of the students of Ceded Districts?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The Bapatla Agricultural College satisfies the needs of both the Ceded Districts and the Circars."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"As Chittoor district is far away from Guntur and the needs of the Ceded Districts are not served as the Hon. Minister thinks, will the Government consider the desirability of opening one college for the entire Ceded Districts?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The two existing colleges are producing enough number of agricultural graduates and there is no need to have another college just at present; nor do our finances permit the opening of another college."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"As the college is not producing enough number of agricultural graduates from the Ceded Districts, will the Government consider the desirability of opening one college for this purpose?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"In the admissions made to the college, a quota is fixed for each district."

Changing of the name of Tiruturaipundi.

* 30 Q.—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the public of Tiruturaipundi, Tanjore district, to change its name;

(b) if so, what it is; and

(c) whether the Government have come to a conclusion in this matter and if so, what it is?

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“(a) to (c) No representation was received from the public of Tiruthurai-pundi to change the name of the place. The Government however received copy of a letter addressed to the Executive Officer, Panchayat Board, Tiruthurai-pundi, by one Sri T. A. Mahadeva Ayyar requesting that the name of Tiruthurai-pundi might be changed into ‘Vilvaranyam’. The Government considered that no change was called for and observed that the Tamil spelling of the town was a little while ago changed from திருத்தரைப்புண்டி to திருத்தறைப்புண்டி.”

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—“May I know what is the difficulty in changing the name into ‘Vilvaranyam’?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“It is a new name and it was thought unnecessary to change it.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“May I know who suggests to the Government the alterations of these names, for instance, Madura into Mathurai and Vizagapatam into Visakhapatnam?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Some of the local people and people interested in seeing that names which have been corrupted are spelt correctly (laughter) make representations and if the Government feel that it is necessary to change them, they do so.”

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—“Are the Government aware that the changed name that the Government have proposed now is not correct Tamil spelling? And so, will the Government consider the desirability of changing the name into திருத்தறைப்புண்டி?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I confess that I do not know so much of Tamil as to understand the difference between the present one and the suggestion made by the hon. Member. I suggest to the hon. Member that he may write to the Government about it. But I take it that it has been examined and what has been done is sufficiently correct.”

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—“Is it a fact that Tiruthurai-pundi is abundant with vilva trees, the leaves of which are used for worshipping God Siva?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“What has that worshipping to do with this question? How is it possible for the Hon. Minister to know whether the vilva leaves are used for worship? How does it arise from this question?”

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—“They want the name to be changed into ‘Vilvaranyam’. So, I thought it was necessary to know whether that place was abundant with vilva trees.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is whether Tiruthurai-pundi contains vilva trees and vilva leaves are used for *archana* to Siva. If the Hon. Minister can answer, I have no objection.”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“With my association with Lingayats I know the importance of vilva leaves

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for the worship of Easwara, but I do not know whether there is an abundance of that particular tree in that particular place. I take the information.”

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—“Is the Hon. Minister aware that ‘vilva’ does not occur in Sanskrit and it is only a contamination of the word ‘bilva’?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I take the information.”

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—“May I ask what is the policy adopted by the Government for the change of names?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I have nothing more to add to what I have already said about this matter.”

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

III.—GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1950-51—cont.

MR. SPEAKER:—“Next item in the Agenda. Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar who was speaking yesterday will continue his speech.”

* SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Sir, I was speaking yesterday about the increased provision in respect of irrigation and re-introduction of the well subsidy scheme, etc. But that alone will not be sufficient to increase the production of food in our State unless, as I said, the honest toiler is placed on a par with the man in the City, so far as amenities for the enjoyment of life are concerned.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member has taken ten minutes yesterday.”

* SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“I shall finish within 10 minutes. Sir, may I also ask whether the Government have studied another aspect of the question, namely, that the go-easy ways of life in the towns and cities are becoming very infectious and are slowly spreading not only among the students but also among the labourers, officials and the peasants who have to raise production by putting forth hard work. I also want to ask whether Government have noticed that their policy of pampering with the towns has resulted in the denuding of villages of active, young and vigorous manhood. I would make the suggestion that with regard to the food question, minimum procurement may be made sufficient only for the purpose of supplying the ration to persons employed in essential services, and with regard to others, they must be allowed to adjust for themselves. I would also like to suggest that to revitalize the villages, one term that should be introduced into the contract of service with new entrants into the Government service must be as part of their service agreement that they should settle down in their villages or native places after they have retired from Government service.

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11-45 a.m. "Talking of food production, I would urge upon the Minister in charge of Electricity to expand electricity to rural areas and this matter should receive topmost priority before supplies are made for other purposes. With regard to animal husbandry, I would ask that the Minister should have a definite plan of say five years or 10 years to provide both in cities and villages good milch cows. Also they may provide hefty draught bulls for the purpose of lifting water for irrigation. After the ravages and inroads on the forests by war-time needs, I must say they have not received that amount of attention which one would like to see. We would like to know what new schemes of afforestation have been taken and the areas that have been added. Much more work has to be done so as to provide sufficient timber not only for agricultural purposes, but also for building purposes. Timber could also be used for providing the middle-class people with utility furniture in their homes in villages.

"Next to the question of food, it seems to me that the question of preservation of law and order comes in importance. In this case, there has been a general deterioration in the citizen's respect for law and order. We are no doubt satisfied that the Government have introduced the great reform in the separation of the executive from the judiciary. It is a very great reform and a step in the right direction. Its expansion in the coming year is really welcome. With regard to the police, I would urge, as I urged last year, that our Police must be modernised. They must be clothed more rationally, given better arms. They must be more mobility. They must be given cycles and motor cycles, because, the more the mobiled force, the better will be the protection in the country. While it is impossible to organize a Police unit in every village, the Government must encourage the formation of oorkappu sangams in the different villages. All encouragement should be given to the villagers to be self-reliant. Self-help should be the basis of affording protection and safety to them. Freer grant of arms for honest citizens must be the rule.

"With regard to Prohibition, the enforcement of which is now entrusted with the Police, I would suggest that, as there has been a lot of complaints about the unsuccessful enforcement of the Prohibition policy, the Prohibition Minister may also be placed in charge of the portfolio of Police. Prohibition is an article of faith with the party in power and therefore it has got to be enforced vigorously and properly. So also, bus transport may also be entrusted to the Police department, as the Regional Transport Officer is not capable of enforcing the proper running of buses or prevent over-loading and irregular running of buses.

"There is another cognate matter, and that is jail reform. We have been in jail and we know what is to be looked into. There is no doubt that, because of the balanced diet and regular life in the jails, the physical health of the prisoners may be all right. But the mental health is totally neglected. The prisoner becomes an automaton and I have learnt it from the highest jail

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authorities both in our State and the neighbouring States that routine of a prisoner's life converts him into a social introvert and an outcaste in society who cannot take his rightful place in the community. The giving of butter milk is only a symbolic gesture. It is very necessary that the mental health of the prisoners should be kept high. I would even urge upon the Government to appoint a committee for the purpose of effecting jail reforms at an early date. Other countries are moving in the direction of prison without bars.

"With regard to the cottage industries, I may say that we have successfully killed one cottage industry and that is hand-pounding industry. We have experts from other places to advise on improving the milling of our paddy. But all that would not be sufficient in an emergency like the present. The Madras Government, who have taken credit to introduce Prohibition and have been a pioneer in the Firka Development Department, must likewise as an emergency measure stop the working of all rice mills for some time so that the people could adjust their affairs themselves. Then the whole cottage industry of hand-pounding will begin to thrive. This will also go to relieve the food deficiency by over 60 per cent. Our improved methods of milling, I am old, will increase our food supply by six lakhs of tons. That is the figure given. I may also suggest that it will also effect economy, in the matter of provision of funds for food subsidies and procurement charges and all that, which is a very big sum. I think about 4½ crores of rupees have been spent for procurement and rationing alone in the past three years.

"Next, coming to the City of Madras, we have got the perennial question of the Cooum river which passes through the City of Madras. Most of the hon. Members of the Legislature are also living in the Government House hostel situate on its banks. If only this river could be kept in good condition, it would have been a paradise. Unfortunately, the Cooum river, which is within the Corporation of Madras, has been completely neglected and what should have been a great piece of amenity to the citizens of this great City, is an eye-sore and a source of nuisance and ill-health. Similarly, the foreshore of the Beach in the City is a joy of the millions in the City and a great pride to the State. The huts that are popping upon the foreshore should be cleared and the place should be kept as an ideal place of recreation and indiscriminate use of the place should be prohibited.

"I would urge upon the Minister for Public Works that he must pay attention to inland canal navigation. This has not received that much of encouragement which it should. Navigation through the Buckingham Canal should be improved.

"The Hon. Finance Minister wanted certain suggestions to improve our finances. I would say that economy is one of the methods to be adopted. The report of the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee has not seen the light of the day and this House did not have an opportunity of discussing that report

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and considering it. Secondly, there is the question of the nationalization of bus transport. Having had the experience of the successful working of the bus transport in the City, the previous Minister who was in charge of the bus transport had been adumbrating his policy in this House that within five years, nationalization of bus transport will be expanded throughout the Province. But we have no indication of the same in the budget.

"I would suggest that there can be a tax upon bullock carts used for commercial purposes and not on ones used for agricultural purposes. Even now in municipalities, fees are rightfully or wrongfully collected on bullock carts entering them. Let there be a provincial tax of a rupee or two per cart. It may add to the coffers of the Government to the tune of a million rupees.

"Regarding the Kamadhenu referred to by the Hon. Finance Minister, let it not be utilized only for giving money to the Government. Let it also give the masses more food and better life. I think that a strong and virile leadership, which not only preaches but also practises austerity, would go a long way in raising the moral stature of the masses of this country."

* JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, when I was listening to the speeches of the Members of my party as well as Mr. Prakasam and some others of the Congress party, I was really pained to hear that Member after Member criticized and condemned my esteemed friend Hon. Sri Gopala Reddi. I really ask them what is it that they expect from Hon. Sri Gopala Reddi? We know his shortcomings."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let the hon. Member not be personal in his remarks."

* JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"We know that the Finance Minister will not take things seriously. It is very difficult for Members on the opposite side particularly, to confront the Finance Minister in anything because he will immediately jump up and ask 'What are your achievements?' Even when he goes to public meetings and if some defects of the Government are pointed out to him, he asks the public immediately 'What are your achievements?'. Some time later he may even address the Chair and ask 'What are your achievements, Mr. Speaker?'"

MR. SPEAKER:—"He will not."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"He may, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If he does that, I am here to check him." (Laughter.)

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"With this introduction, I will proceed with my remarks. I must say that the conditions in this Province are becoming day by day very difficult. The Finance Minister should have a full grasp of the problems facing the Province and he should do his best to meet the situation. The Hon. Finance Minister is trying to attack Members of the

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Opposition and thus sidetrack the real issues. This sort of attack is not going to change public opinion. The Hon. Ministers have been there for the last three or four years. The public look to them and not to me. They look to me only to represent and reflect what they feel. That is all and there is nothing more and nothing less. The Hon. Ministers have to take stock of the situation and do their duty. Several Members from various parties and places have spoken about the present situation and the heavy incidence of taxation in this Province. It has already reached the maximum. The purchasing power of the public has been going down and there seems to be no check over it. The income *per capita* is lower than what it was before the War. These are some of the many difficulties. People look to the Hon. Finance Minister and the Hon. Chief Minister for relief, which must be given without delay. The Government should understand the problems of the public. Therefore I ask the Members of this Government and particularly the Hon. Finance Minister to take a proper perspective of the situation and do the needful, as early as possible.

"The Hon. Finance Minister on page 9 of his speech says that 'it has been more than made up by the increase in the general standard of living of the poorer people.' I do not know what made him put this sentence in the budget speech. Can he boldly say before this House that the general standard of living has been increased? It is no use saying anything and everything because these things come in cold print and there should be some seriousness about such statements. Sir, it is never my purpose to attack the Government just because we are in the Opposition. It is not so. Whenever we feel that there is some defect and it should be rectified, whatever be its worth, we have to openly refer to them. I know that the Government have got to their credit many things. Since the Congress Ministry came into power, they have paid attention to the food problem in the State. They were always anxious to see that there was enough food. Unfortunately it happened that Nature was against us. All the same, it was the anxiety of the Government to see that the people in those parts got enough foodgrains. I congratulate the Government for what they have been doing in this regard.

"Also in the matter of electricity and its application to irrigation, something substantial has been done. Even the worst opponent of the Congress will accept that. It should not be merely taken to mean that I am paying encomiums to Hon. Mr. Bhaktavatsalam, whom I regard as the senior Member of the Cabinet as he has continued to be in the Cabinet from the beginning. I really feel that something substantial has been done in this matter.

"Again with regard to maintenance of law and order, it may be said that the Government have set up a good record about which every citizen should be grateful. Unfortunately, even there we have received a lot of complaints including some from Mr. Prakasam that there have been considerable Police excesses in the Andhra districts.

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19 noon. "Sir, I said the Government have set up a good record and that the people feel proud of this achievement. When I say this, I also feel that it is time that the Government should make maintenance of law and order their special responsibility. It should be the responsibility, the personal responsibility of the Hon. the Chief Minister, because the people of this State must be assured of protection against subversive forces. Again, when law and order are maintained, the Government should see that no excesses are committed. There should be a check at a certain stage when force is used. Otherwise, what will be the result? The result will be incidents like the unfortunate one to which reference has been made by several hon. Members—the Salem Jail. I do not want to dilate upon it and take up the time of the House. I would only say this much. It is not a mere Press report that gave the news that such a tragedy had taken place. It has been admitted by the Government themselves in a Press Note that 22 persons were killed and about 100 injured as a result of the shooting. Sir, I was fancying how this news would have been received in the hearths and homes of those who are dearer and nearer to these prisoners who were killed. They were shot down not in an open place, not in a public street, but within the precincts of Salem Jail. Can a Government ever feel happy over such an action by the jail authorities? The Government are a responsible Government. Can the Ministers belonging to that Government remain complacent over this? I do not want to make or level any charge against the Hon. the Law Minister for the happenings in Salem because I know he has been busy with too many portfolios. All that I want to say is, whenever we asked for a general enquiry into similar happenings in Vellore and Cuddalore jails so that their causes could be found out and matters set right, the Hon. the Minister for Jails stood up and said 'I refuse to order an enquiry'. Despite repeated requests for such an enquiry from all parts of the House, the Government have allowed things to take their own course. Such things and attitude could have been understood in the days of the British bureaucracy when the Englishman like Tottenham were acting in a similar manner in the Central Assembly. But, now, we are having a democratic Government and if they truly realize their responsibilities as enunciated in the New Constitution, they will know the value of life.

"Coming next to taxation, Sir, I would like to state that the burden of taxation and the difficulties of the people are on the increase. I do not say it is entirely due to the present policy of the Government. It is partially due to the bad policies adopted by the Government and partially to other reasons. In this connexion, I would like to impress upon the Hon. the Finance Minister that he should shape his policies in such a way that when he lays down his office, he must be in a position to say with a sense of pride, 'I have done so much'. I request Hon. Sri Gopala Reddi for whom I have always a special love and a special affection (laughter) to do accordingly. But, on the other hand, whenever we put well-meaning questions like, 'what are your achievements',

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he retorts, 'What are your achievements?' If we ask whether the Government really believe in democracy—which their actions bear out they do not—he hits back saying, 'do you believe in democracy'. Sir, I am a young man who believes in hitting others and receiving the hit back and withstanding it. This is a question in which not only I but many others are interested. Let me now make a reference to what the leading papers in the Madras City have said—I mean *The Hindu* and *The Mail*—about the Budget proposals and the speech of Hon. Finance Minister on His Excellency the Governor's address. They have criticized the Government for having brought about the present state of affairs. One of the papers even went to the extent of asking the Finance Minister to resign if he cannot reply properly to the debate without excitement. Of course, some of the Hon. Ministers do not read newspapers. If my Hon. Friend, the Finance Minister, has not read these papers, here I have got copies and I can hand them over to him for his perusal."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Save yourself the trouble."

* JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"You cannot shut yourself out from these reports. You cannot sit in a closed room. (Laughter.) After all public opinion must be heeded to. Public opinion will assert itself ultimately, whether you care for it to-day or not. Sir, often elections are dragged in here by the Hon. the Leader of the House. Elections, I know, can be won by adopting nefarious means also. Elections can be manoeuvred. So, success at the elections cannot be taken as the only standard to judge the popularity of the Government. For my part, I am sensible enough to believe that we cannot form the Government in this State where the majority of the inhabitants are Hindus. I want only the goodwill, the support, sympathy and co-operation of our Hindu brethren here—the majority community. I want that cordial relationship should exist between the Hindus and the Muslims of this State. I want that the Muslims should understand the Hindus and the Hindus should understand the Muslims. It is in that spirit we work. The people are not concerned to-day with Pakistan or the Muslim League. They want that peace and goodwill should mark our relationships. When such is the position to-day, to bring in such matters as Pakistan and League while we discuss subjects like taxation, is to side-track the main issue. The people are vitally interested in this question. Sir, again, our loyalty to the people and our loyalty to the leader and conception of democracy are questioned whenever we raise our voice. I shall give only one instance to show how far the Leader of the House himself has been loyal to his party and to his leader. I do not want to say anything about what happened when Mr. Prakasam was the Premier. Last year, when some trouble was brewing for the former Premier Mr. Omandur Ramaswami Reddiar with whom our Leader of the House had worked so closely and intimately for two years, had he the courage or the intention to tell him, 'let the

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other M.L.As. do what they like, I shall stand by you and stand or fall with you'. No, whenever we put questions relating to the change in the Ministry, they were cast aside with the remark that they were all one party and would do things as they liked and no one outside need question them. Now, what did he do actually? He politely told Mr. Reddiar 'Your term is over, you can go to Omandur, and I am coming under the new Ministry to be formed by Mr. Kumaraswami Raja'. (Laughter.) The Hon. the Chief Minister is smiling. I may tell him also where his place will be when his turn comes. (Laughter.) A time may come for him also when he may have to quit the Treasury Bench and it will be no surprise, if he is told by Mr. Gopala Reddi and other Ministers 'Well, your time is up; your place is Rajapalayam and not here'. (Laughter.) I ask you, Sir, whether this is loyalty, whether this is democracy. In these circumstances, no one can imagine that the present Members on the Treasury Benches will remain there for long. We have seen many changes in the Ministry in the last few years—both before and after Independence. This does not do any credit to the Province. So, I would request the Ministry to see that when they lay down their office, they leave behind healthy and honourable conventions for posterity to copy. Let not people in the year 1960 laugh and say 'this is what happened in 1950 and before'.

"With regard to the several charges made by the Hon. the Leader of the House against us, Sir, I do not want to convert this Assembly into a forum for the Muslim League. If the Leader of the House can arrange for a debate elsewhere I am game for it. (Laughter.) About the general aspects of the budget, several hon. Members have spoken before me and many others are going to follow in the next two days, and I do not want to speak on those now.

"Sir, I understand that our presence here and our observations are not palatable to the Government—to the Members of the party in power. I may tell them that circumstances have brought us here and perhaps this may be the first and the last time, we are Members of the Assembly. The Congress party has said there is no alternative to-day to Congress Government even if fresh elections are held. Why, then, Sir, the Hon. the Leader of the House should ask us to fight the elections again and try our hand there to oust his party from power? Why should he think that his party alone represents the people? I, for my part, claim that when I speak, I speak not only for the particular constituency I represent or for Muslims alone but on behalf of the people as a whole. Whenever we point to differences that exist in the party in power, we do so not with a view to exploiting them so that we can gain some advantage but with a view to enabling the Government to help to close up their ranks. Sir, I was pained to hear the sweeping remarks often made by the Leader of the House when we talk of differences in their camp. As I said he has been charging us that we are out to exploit. Probably he has forgotten those days

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when he was away from the Treasury Bench—during Mr. Prakasam's regime—when, brilliant as he is, according to his own conception (laughter) he himself used to exploit the differences existing in his party. I remember how he, with the help of the Opposition—particularly of my hon. Friend Mr. Salam—used to create embarrassing situations for the Premier, Mr. Prakasam.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member need not say anything about what has taken place privately."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not think the hon. Member is fair to me."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"If he feels I am not fair to him, I am only sorry. I am just telling him how he acted when he was not a Member of the Government. Sir, you must sympathize with me."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I do sympathize with hon. Member. What I say is, let not what took place in private be revealed."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I would like to make my position clear. Sir, I do not remember having made any personal charge against anybody. I have only attacked the League, and that too this way. The members of the Muslim League asked repeatedly 'What is your achievement?' and I replied in my turn 'What is your achievement?'. They further asked 'Do you believe in democracy?', and I put the same question to them."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Sir, believe me, I would be the last man to say anything that would displease the Hon. Gentleman, Mr. Gopala Reddi. (Laughter.) I want to be very polite to him and I feel that I am even now polite and restrained in my language. (Loud laughter.) I would refer to one thing, Sir, before I close; and that is the selection of candidates to the Central Parliament. Sir, people hold different views and it does not matter to us if we are not consulted in the selection of candidates. This is a very important matter and whoever makes the selection—whether it is the Hon. the Chief Minister or the Finance Minister or any one else—he must satisfy the public. I have seen criticisms in the Press—condemnations in the Press—of the way and manner in which selections had been made. Leading newspapers in the City *The Hindu*, Tamil papers and even *Swatantra* came out with protests against the way candidates were selected. The selection provoked protests from many eminent men who have been Members of the Central Assembly. There were many deserving aspirants to Membership who were overlooked. When I asked the Finance Minister whether it was right to make such a selection, he said, 'I prefer "show boys" to "tom boys" like Raza Khan'."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not think I have said anything like that."

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JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"I stand by every word I have said. If he could take a copy of the official proceedings and see . . ."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Yes. It is there. The hon. Member is correct."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"The Hon. the Leader of the House did say that he would prefer 'show boys' to 'tom boys.' I do not like to go into further detail and I would make a present of the show boys to the drummer boy of the Congress party—Mr. Gopala Reddi."

"Sir, whatever the Government may feel, the fact remains that the difficulties of the people are increasing. Public opinion cannot be judged by sitting within the four walls of the Secretariat or even by the speeches in this House. We must know what the people in the Province feel and talk . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member's time is up."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Sir, I shall presently close. I understand the difficulties of the Government. Before they attempt any solution, they must find out how these problems have arisen. If they themselves cannot do it, let them seek the advice and opinion of experts and do the needful. It is already late but not too late. If the Government have the determination to do it, let them take it up in right earnest now. It is my fervent hope that the Madras Government, with the co-operation of all the sections of the community and with the guidance of our Chief Minister, who is a very nice gentleman, will rise to the occasion and deliver the goods."

* SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"History's current is sweeping us into the future and the illusion that security is dependent upon the absence of change is perhaps the most dangerous form of imbalance which plagues the minds of men."

"This is the verdict of one of those people, Sir, who made a great study of the post-war world situation and Mr. Fosdick made this statement. Therefore, Sir, we are not afraid of the big changes that have come over this country and are going to come in the future as in the past. The highest quality of statesmanship, when one wants to bring about changes, is the ability to achieve the necessary changes without frightening anyone, to proceed by compromise, to be in fact continuously aware of the limits set upon him. In this setting, Sir, let us examine what we have done. By we, I mean, the Congress and the various Government administrations in the Provinces and in the Centre who are running the country. Social change is not only desirable but absolutely necessary. We do not identify every change with Communism and get frightened or frighten others."

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"The Budget is one of the most important documents which is presented to the Legislature each year. It forestalls the necessary changes in the finances of the country. It also envisages changes in the economic set-up which the Government of the day are obliged to bring about. August 15, 1947 represents the dawn of a major political change and in its train have followed equally important economic changes in this country. Roughly the economic situation that preceded August 15, 1947 was this. There was expansion of currency due to the stress of war and it resulted in inflation. In order to check this the British Government took a number of steps which included commodity controls, rationing of goods, heavy taxation, borrowing and encouragement of small savings. All these measures have helped to stem the intensity of inflation even before the Congress took up office. After the war there was relaxation of controls. But due to the fact that increased inflation and increased currency circulation had spread themselves in the rural areas of this country, it was not possible to mobilise the savings and pool them and invest them in the industrial regeneration of the country. In this situation, the partition came and further intensified the difficulties of the administration. The food situation went out of control and certain necessary raw materials were in short supply in India. Added to this there was mass migration of refugees into India as well as into Pakistan. Therefore, there was complete disturbance in the economic set-up which by itself was already in a bad condition. The result was there was a further increase in taxation; there was a withdrawal of the food controls and food also was against us. During the last two or three years there was a general failure of crops. All these things have brought in a situation which made it difficult for the Government to manage the economic set-up in the desirable way. The wholesale price index which stood at 302 in November 1947 went up to 392 in 1948, the result being depression in stocks and stringency in money market. It also resulted in the increase of the cost of living and a lot of labour unrest. This led to a rise in the production costs and consequent decrease in exports as people in the other countries will purchase only from the cheapest market possible. Necessarily there was general fall in the overall industrial production in this country. The Government had to face this situation and took stringent measures to rehabilitate the economy of the country through a number of measures, namely, the collection of the evaded income-tax from the blackmarketer, the encouragement of small savings which brought in . . ."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"The hon. Member is making a speech more connected with the Central Government finances. May I know why the hon. Member is making such a speech?"

* SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Mr. Nagappa is junior to me by a number of years in age as well as in politics. If he does not know the setting of the budget, let him come to me, I will teach him. (Hear, hear.) The finances of the Central

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Government and the Budget of the Province are reflected in each other. Unless he wants to invite the Dravida Kazhakam party and create a separate dominion for the south, the finances of the Central Government will be reflected in the Budget of the Provincial Government. So long as we want to be here, so long as the present party is in power . . . (Interruption by Sri B. S. Murthi.) I know whom to approach and how to get work done. Sri B. S. Murthy is also young and requires a little teaching now and then."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"You also require."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let the hon. Member continue."

* SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Mr. Murthy might excel in poetry but not in politics. Then, Sir, the Government have taken a number of measures to curtail state expenditure, reimposed food controls, increased the excise duty on superfine cloth and took a large number of other measures that helped to decrease the pressure of inflation. Certain quick results followed on account of these measures, namely, the wholesale price index has gone down, labour unrest decreased and there is increase in production in certain commodities, like coal, cement, etc. But unfortunately the balance of trade was against this country. Till very recently there was a large decrease in the total of the sterling balances on which we relied for the industrial regeneration of the country by the purchase of capital goods.

"There was a cold economic war with Pakistan due to the recent differences about devaluation. This is the set-up with which we are faced now and let us judge our budget on the basis of this economic set-up. Before I go into the question, I would like to inform you, Sir, that the Congress party which is responsible for running the Governments of the day in this country is not keeping quiet regarding the improvement of the standard of the common man. You know its economic programme. As soon as the Congress took power, the All-India Congress Committee appointed an economic committee to draw up an economic programme for the economic development of the country. This was headed by our beloved Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. This committee has given us a definite programme. You have to judge the achievements of the Government by what the Congress has done in collaboration with the Governments in the country. The report of the economic committee sought the establishment of real democracy in the country and a society based on social justice and equality. Such a society must provide for each man and woman with equality of opportunity and freedom to work for the unfettered development of his or her personality. The social structure should provide an alternative to the acquisitive economy of private capitalism and the regimentation of a totalitarian state. (Interruption.) My hon. Friend Mr. B. S. Murthy feels that there is no scope for the development of personality. So long as you are there, Sir, and as long as I am here representing the Congress,

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either Mr. B. S. Murthy should obey the decisions of the Congress or he must prefer to walk out of the organization and try to formulate his own ideology. (Hear, hear.) The committee recommended the formation of a permanent central planning commission, a commission to review the present tax structure, amend it and through a scheme of taxation, implement the programme; and scrutinize the complexion of our foreign trade. Consistent efforts could not be made in this direction on account of the fact that the Government were faced with many difficulties which I have already enumerated. The difficulties are being overcome, though slowly. The Congress Working Committee again took up the question as you are aware, and in the month of January 1950 passed a resolution requesting the Government of India to appoint a planning commission and asked the Provincial Governments to co-operate with that planning commission so that something immediate and something objective might be achieved in this country. The Congress Working Committee wants the planning committee to have the following objectives, namely, the establishment of a just order of society, progressive increase in the standard of living through an expanding volume of production, best utilization of resources, improvement in skill by suitable technical training and education and regional and national self-sufficiency. The Government, I am very glad to state, appointed only two days ago the National Planning Committee with our beloved Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru at its head. With his ideology and practical experience during the period he has been our Prime Minister, I am perfectly certain that the committee will be able to plan the proper utilization of the economic resources of the country. The plan will not only be a great achievement but our *magnum opus*. It will be our proud privilege that on the day of laying down office, the plan will mark the greatest achievement of any political party in any country and then perhaps Mr. Raza Khan will be satisfied.

"Well, Sir, we did not keep quiet with that. We followed it up with the appointment of a small committee of the Working Committee and that committee has been charged with the immediate object of creating a plan so that we can achieve some things with regard to the scarcities facing us in this country, mind, not years later, but immediately during the course of the next twelve months. This committee has promised to produce its report in 45 days. I do hope that by the middle of April, the committee will be able to place before the country and the Government a practical plan to meet the situation now prevailing in the country and come to the aid of the common man who is really suffering from scarcity and other things.

"Then, Sir, I must say that the Madras Budget of this year reflects the position which I have just now explained, both the economic situation and the objectives of the Congress and the way in which we want to solve these problems. I must congratulate the Hon. Finance Minister for having brought into being a budget

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which can be called a welfare budget. I can show this by figures. Under education in 1945-46 we were spending 4½ crores. We have now provided for 11.5 crores this year. Under Public Health it has increased to 4 crores from 2.34 crores. It was 97 lakhs in 1945-46 under irrigation and this year a provision has been made for 7.12 crores. The total provision under Harijan welfare was 30 lakhs in 1945-46. Now there is a provision of 90 lakhs this year. This is a substantial improvement, Sir, and with the improvement in our revenue, I do hope we will be able to increase the welfare services of the State, to such an extent that there will be no resemblance between the police state before 1947 and the present welfare state that we are bringing into being.

"Then, Sir, I do not want to take the time of the House because many Members will be speaking about the pros and cons and the effect of the Budget. Before I close, Sir, I want to mention about one thing only and that is about the Andhra Province in which I have very much interest personally and also as an Andhra. It is very unfortunate, Sir, due to circumstances beyond our control we have not been able to achieve this on 26th January 1950. It pains us really and personally speaking I do not feel that there is any justification for the postponement of the formation of the province. Sometimes it was felt that it will be a moth-eaten province that was being evolved. But I do feel that if you want to create a province according to the conditions imposed on us by the Government of India and the Working Committee it is beyond the capacity of any one, big or small, to bring into being that province except by compromise.

1-10 a.m. "Sir, even yesterday, the Hon. Sardar Vallabhai Patel in answering a question in Parliament said that agreement in Madras was absolutely necessary. If we want an agreement, while we can press some of our claims, we cannot press them to their logical conclusion and thus lose the province. We must be reasonable and sit round a table and come to some conclusion. Even to-day the problem is not insoluble if we continue our efforts. With the good will that is prevailing between us, it will be possible to arrive at a compromise formula which the Government of India dare not reject. I appeal through you to the Treasury Benches to take such steps as they deem necessary to push on with the work of creating a separate province and satisfy the Government of India about the conditions imposed for the creation of the province. I am certain that every member of this House will stand behind the Government in order to achieve the object which is dear to one and all of us.

"Then Sir, there is some mention made both in the press and on the platform and also on the floor of the House about the Communist party. Everybody knows that these gentlemen who call themselves Communists rely upon violence not only to bring about a change in the order of society but also in the matters of civil administration. It is very unfortunate that these gentlemen who started this game early in 1946 have been continuing this

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all these three years, in a manner in which any citizen of this country must feel ashamed. It is true that the whole thing has been brought under control. Nobody can deny it except for political reasons. It exists in certain areas on the Hyderabad border, sometimes in Malabar and now in the jails. It is very sorrowful for me, as one who has suffered for the cause of the country and for the establishment of civil liberties, to see that persons are shot dead in the jail. But while we cannot justify the shooting of these persons, I must say that there were extenuating circumstances. Both the hands of the jailor were broken and his head received a gashing wound. Perhaps, I do not know whether I may come to any conclusion now about these things, because a non-official committee of illustrious persons is enquiring into the incident and it will give its judgment. I can only appeal to the Communist friends in jail from here. Let them do at least one thing. We do not feel happy to keep them in jail. But once they eschew violence and violent methods either to change the order of society or the administrative set-up not only will we let them out of the jail, but we will give them free scope as for any other citizen to propagate what they want to teach the people through non-violent means. That is the best offer that the Congress can make to them.

"Then, Sir, Mr. Raza Khan raised the question of public opinion and said that elections were not the test. I should like to tell him that there is no other laboratory test known to man except the ballot box through which alone public opinion can be ascertained. Mr. Raza Khan cannot show any other method of ascertaining public opinion which is based on democracy and which will protect democracy. I think, Sir, Mr. Raza Khan is a believer in democracy and he should place his faith in the ballot box and nothing else. I am certain that that gentleman will also come in the open, preach his ideology, try to convert people to his way of thinking and take his proper place on the treasury benches. Nobody can prevent anyone else in this country from taking his place on the treasury benches. But there are ways and means for it. Mere criticism will not hurt anybody here or remove anyone from the treasury benches. The only way is the test of the ballot. If any man, whether he belongs to the Congress party or otherwise, wants to test the excellence of his own view, the only way is to go to the country and then change the Government or the party in power. There is no other course. Any other method will not speak well of the persons or their policy or their loyalty.

"Then, I would request the hon. Members of the Muslim League to dissolve their party for two reasons. One is, that if they want to have the new elections on the basis of communal electorate, the new constitution does not provide for it. They must come to the joint electorate. The only way is to join the Congress and stand for election. They cannot stand for election on a religious ideology as different from an economic ideology. I invite them to join the Congress as honest gentlemen. If they

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differ from the ideology of the Congress, they can form another party and challenge the Congress at the polls. I will then feel sorry to miss Mr. Raza Khan in the next Assembly unless he prefers to change his ideology meanwhile. He wants to be here as much as I want to be here. I make an open offer to him and to every non-Congress member of this House to join the Congress party. It is the real party in the country, it is the party of the common man, the party that protects the common man, and the party that will live or die with the common man. Anybody who wants to challenge the will of that party must go to the wall.

"I thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, for having given me an opportunity to speak on this occasion and I take this opportunity of congratulating once again the Hon. the Finance Minister. I will leave further criticism to the bubbling enthusiasm of Mr. Natesan, who once belonged to us and now seeks to oppose us."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—"Sir, I had not intended to refer to Mr. Kala Venkata Rao's speech, but he has drawn my name as one who once belonged to the Congress and then left it. May I tell him, Sir, that I was very loyal as long as I was in the Congress Party? Nobody can question my loyalty. But when I found that things were all bad in the organization—in the local organization and not in the central organization—I left it. (At this stage the Deputy Speaker occupied the Chair.)

"Madam, I had to contest an election as an independent candidate and I defeated the Congress candidate. (An hon. Member: 'In the Merchants' Constituency.') Yes, in the Merchants' Constituency. Even if it was by one vote, it is significant, because the whole Congress organization was behind the Congress candidate whom I was able to defeat. I do not believe in balloting. Balloting is a sort of gamble. It is possible for a Congressman to be returned. But you find that the merchants who were at the back of the Congress and who financed the Congress in the prewar days when the Congress was fighting against the Britisher—even they—were definitely against the Congress, if the election result is to be taken as a guide.

"Madam, so far as the budget is concerned, there is nothing much to say about it. As so many hon. Members have pointed out, it is a question of juggling with figures. Let the administrative side of the Government Secretariat take charge of that. But I certainly take exception to the way in which the Hon. the Finance Minister has wound up his budget speech. He hopes that all Members of the House will help the Government by constructive criticism only, appreciating the limitations within which the Government have to function and their achievements, without unduly magnifying the things that still remain to be done. Evidently he does not want any criticism. This is an insult to the intelligence of the hon. Members of this House. The Hon. Minister wants constructive criticism. When everything is destructive, where is room for constructive criticism? We are most dissatisfied with the manner in which the Government are going on. In spite of

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the fact that Mr. Kala Venkata Rao—whom I now miss in the House—talked about the Congress party as the only party which stands for the common man, I ask, Sir, is the common man having his food today? (Some hon. Members: 'Surely'.) You ought to be ashamed of saying so if I may use the words of Mr. Prakasam. I know that my gardener has not had any food for two days and many like him are starving. (An hon. Member: 'Where are they starving?') Madam, let me have my say. I wish you control these gentlemen whom I consider to be an unthinking majority here. They will not think. When I say people are starving, I really mean it. I am talking with a sense of responsibility. (An hon. Member: 'Give figures.') I am not going to bother about figures. Figures can be easily given. I know my gardener is not able to get the food he requires for two days in the week. (An hon. Member: 'Why don't you give him?') I can give him and I propose to give him, but why are you here as a Government? What does your budget say? The same old slogan of 'no money'. The Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi broadcasts from the All India Radio, 'Ladies and Gentlemen, we have introduced prohibition, so we have no money and we expect you to pay more taxes.' He goes to the local bodies and says: 'Gentlemen, we have introduced prohibition; we have no money; please do not come forward with requests for grants; you please find the money yourself.' He wants the people to find the money themselves. He admits that the rates and taxes here are highest in India, if not in the whole world, but he expects money from other sources to be made available to the Government. What are the other sources that we have got? If the Government of India remove the sales-tax on grains and a number of other items, what would we get from that source?

"Then, Madam, so much is said about the Grow More Food Campaign. The whole thing is only on paper. 'What effect has it produced all these three years?' Of course many propaganda vans are working, but they are merely the old war propaganda vans going about in the name of the Grow More Food Campaign. There is no food grown anywhere. Why should not the Government try experiments on soil for producing three times the crop, as is done in foreign countries? Two years ago, they said that we have no grains and that we should cultivate sweet potatoes. What has happened to the sweet potatoes? They have forgotten the sweet potatoes. They advised us to take wheat, but for the last two weeks no wheat is available. And yet these Congress people say that they care for the common man.

"Then what about taxation? It is the heaviest. They have increased the motor vehicles tax and the sales tax has been increased from 3 pies to 4½ pies—an increase of 50 per cent. They have increased the surcharge on electricity. When the Minister came forward with a sales tax on electricity, there was an uproar and people said that it should be supplied cheaply. But now they have put a surcharge on electricity and all of us who

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are paying electric bills are paying it though we do not know it. (Interruption.) You do not know, because somebody else is earning for you."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"Is the hon. Member referring to me when he says that 'somebody else is earning for you'?"

SRI P. NATESAN:—"No I did not refer to you, Madam. You are earning for yourself as Deputy Speaker. In that capacity you are earning a big salary."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"Please come to the point."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"I have been coming to the point. Unfortunately there has been some diversion. People are paying a surcharge on electricity without knowing what it is. I am sure the Hon. Minister also does not know what the implication of a surcharge is. Anyhow people are paying 10 per cent more than before for electricity. As regards sales tax, which is said to be the kamadhenu, it is slowly drying up. With regard to retrenchment, the Government appointed a retrenchment, and reorganization committee, but now they have quietly come down and said that it is absolutely out of question to give effect to their recommendations. Then why waste time and waste money on the members of the Committee for their travelling, sitting, making enquiries, writing notes and so on, if the Government are not going to follow the recommendations of the Committee?"

12-45 p.m. "I do not want the Government to follow all the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee, except to say there must have been a lot of points on which they should have been sitting, examining and writing reports, but all this has been practically thrown into the waste paper basket."

"Now, the Hon. Finance Minister says that the expenditure on Police and Jails has been steadily going up on account of the general unrest amongst the various sections of the community. I ask, why should there be general unrest if they are really fed, clothed and housed? I cannot really understand it."

"Then, Madam, there is provision for medical relief. What is that provision, I do not understand. Of course, Mr. Kala Venkata Rao read figures. You say that 200 lakhs is a big thing, but actually what is the position? If you go to the General Hospital in this Presidency town itself, or to the Tuberculosis Hospital, or to the Kasturba Hospital which was formerly called the Gosha Hospital, you will find there is absolutely no accommodation and the sick, wounded and maimed are lying on the floor. What is the good of your saying, we have provided money and when you are not able to do anything in the Presidency town of Madras, how are you able to do it throughout the country. I ask, why could you not afford it? Otherwise, what are you here for if you are not able to run the hospitals for the sake of the people;

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especially when you say, we are here for the common good of the common man. There is no common good and there is no common man here."

"Again, when I see the Well Subsidy Scheme, I find an additional extent of 108,000 acres of land has been brought under cultivation, but it does not say anything in terms of rice produced from them. If the figures are correct, I do not see any reason why we have to starve! And, we need not go to the Government of India and ask for subsidies or anything like that. Will the Hon. Finance Minister at least now tell us what these additional acres of land have brought us? If he says that so many tons of rice have come to in addition, that would have been satisfactory. Why could he not say it, I could not understand."

"Then I am sorry to refer to this wonderful scheme of Khadi. This Khadi is a fad amongst the Congressmen. In fact, some of the Congressmen themselves have disputed this and even here it is the general tax-payer's money. After all, we are not interested in Khadi at all. These gentlemen, once they happen to be in power want to give 1,000 charkas for each firka and they have selected for this purpose 19 firkas. That means 19,000 charkas have to be made to-morrow. And, who is going to get this business? Somebody will produce these charkas and they will generally disappear and the Government party will have the satisfaction of saying, Oh! we have introduced khaddar. And, what is this khaddar for? It had no doubt a political significance during the war days. Mahatma Gandhi wanted to use it against the foreigner. (Interruption.) Because you are in a large majority I have to shout."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"They will not be allowed to shout either."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—"Well, Madam, if they feel like this, what is the good of a handful of people sitting here? Did you go to the polls, I ask, on the basis of introducing khaddar at the tax-payers' cost. (Interruption: 'No, no.') Let me say, Madam, what I have got to say. I am the man who is qualified to interpret Mahatmajji because we people are the real followers of the Mahatma and not you here, and everything we do we do loyally and honestly and there is no corruption on our side."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member should not imply that there is no honesty or anything like that with the Congressmen."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—"I simply said, Madam, there is no corruption on our side. I said, I am loyal, Madam, and is it wrong in my saying that?"

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"I heard the hon. Member saying, I am the man and not you and so on. I would ask the hon. Member to stop there."

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* SRI P. NATESAN:—"Yes, Madam. You know from the public utterances and the utterances of the Hon. Prime Minister and the Hon. Deputy Prime Minister of India that there is plenty of corruption in the Congress Party."

DR. S. SUBRAMANIAM:—"Not in the Congress Party. Who corrupts them?"

SRI P. NATESAN:—"It is the devil that corrupts them and I am not one of those devils."

"Then, Madam, coming to the Investment Corporation, I find that out of 2 crores they have paid half and made provision in the Budget for the other half, but I do not know how the balance of shares is going to come forward. Government have subscribed Rs. 102 lakhs in that Corporation. We do not know what this Corporation has done so far though it has been in existence for the last 10 months or so. It would have been useful if the Finance Minister had given an indication of what has been done."

"Then, Madam, what is it you have done for the country? You have introduced Prohibition in the State. But, you dare not flout the Government of India. The Government are giving permits to the military. What is the difference between me and those people? You dare not refuse permits to people in the army."

"In regard to illicit distillation, every Congressman, from Mr. Prakasam downwards, has been complaining about it. What is the use of talking about such laws when you cannot check this illicit distillation? It has been admitted in the Administration Report itself that even Congressmen will not co-operate in this matter. When everything is like this, when the Congress officials themselves are not co-operating, when the organization itself is not co-operating—and there is no public opinion in favour of it—you come forward and say, the entire masses are behind you. I want to know which is correct; whether the masses are behind you or the organization is behind you? If your organization is behind you then why not you say that everything is all right. In fact, can you say that every hon. Member of this House representing the constituencies, for instance, is doing real propaganda. I understand that there is so much of illicit distillation going on in Salem, North Arcot and also in Anantapur, but what is your Congress organization doing to prevent this? I cannot understand what they are doing. Why not they do propaganda so that this illicit distillation is put an end to. (Interruption: 'It is there for a long time.') Yes, it has been there for a long time; no doubt. As Mr. Koti Reddi pointed out yesterday, even women and children have now taken to drink. He was the ex-Minister for Prohibition. Then there was another ex-Minister of this House, Mr. S. Ramanathan, who is reported to have said according to newspapers that the Act was a failure. (Interruption: 'Do not talk about election. I will be furious if

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you talk of election.') Madam, Mr. O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar when he was Premier and also Mr. Prakasam, wanted to go slow with Prohibition. The Assembly Party would not agree. Here the leader of the party does not lead. He is led by the followers. Everywhere you go you talk of some principle. I say it is a misplaced principle. Wherever the Hon. Finance Minister goes, he starts with Prohibition and talks about taxation. Unless you stop talking on Prohibition, I propose dealing with Prohibition. He talks about want of money and so on and I want to give a reply to him. Why are you finding yourself in a mess to-day? Even the local nationalist paper, the Hindu, and most of the Congress papers have said the Government must not go on with this fad any longer. It is now time to cry halt. All the shouting I am making in spite of the Congress majority here is because I want the Hon. Finance Minister to see if he could relax his policy in certain cases and get a little more money to spend on other things. (Interruption.) I may tell you, if you go to the country on Prohibition and Khaddar let us see whether you get returned here. What is the good of talking here and saying you have got the masses behind you. You asked the people to put their votes in the yellow box and they did. Then it was a fight with the Britisher. They are all raw people and absolutely illiterate and they could be easily shepherded and so you got their votes. You are now in a majority. Good luck for you. But, a time will come for different political parties to come; it may be only a question of time; may be five or ten years. What is your credit or what is your achievement? After all, you are a big organization; nobody denies that; and you are a full-fledged political party which nobody denies. You are put in power to fight for the freedom of the country and the freedom is come. It is now your business to change your ideas and identify yourselves with the others. Pandit Jawaharlal says: 'go and identify yourselves with the masses. Do not sit here and ride the high horse.' But, you people think that because you have a majority you can do anything and flout anything. Why not the Hon. Finance Minister take the assistance of the Opposition? Is there any wonder in being a Congressman? It is our country to-day. What is it you do to initiate any programme? Are you going merely to sit down and write about the Prohibition policy? Unless you instil in the minds of the young men in the country the real purpose for which freedom has been obtained, it cannot be retained for long. But what is it you are doing? While Western countries are making hydrogen bombs and atom bombs you are talking of spinning or khadi. What is the use of all this? Unless you also get arms you will be destroyed. If you want to encourage Khadi, float a limited company with 10 lakhs of rupees and manufacture Khadi with the help of Congressmen. But, I am only taking exception to the general tax payers' money being spent on Khadi."

"Madam, look at the Englishman. He came to this country and now he has gone away and a few of them are now serving the country. But, what are you doing and how are the servants

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of the Government serving the country? I have heard that every time you talk of the common man and you are living for the Congressmen. (Interruption: 'You are talking for the merchants.') I am not talking about the merchants. It is silly to suggest I am a merchant, Madam. If I am a merchant, am I not a human being and an Indian? This Congress organization has got such a type of material that even the greatest of leaders are ashamed of it. Madam, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Sardar Patel have been giving the advice everywhere to the Congress fellows: 'do not think too much of yourselves, mix up with the general public and get to know what they require' and so on. But, here our friends say, you are a merchant, this and that."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Quoting scriptures."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Devil will quote. I cannot. Madam, that is the way they are doing things, but public opinion is quite different. The other day the Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi said 'Dr. Subbarayan has vacated his seat, put up your man if you like.' You want everything for yourself. Previously the Justice Party was like this and then you people came by displacing them and somebody else will come and displace you. You have always got to listen to other people, you listen to us; if you listen to Congressmen they will mislead you. If your party says anything the leader has merely to follow it."

"There is nothing more, Madam, for me to say except that I wish the Hon. Finance Minister takes our criticisms a little more seriously and gives us also some regard and respect for all the trouble we take on behalf of the millions of the people of this country."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

(After lunch—3 p.m.)

(With Deputy Speaker in the Chair.)

* SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I wish to touch upon a few points in my speech. What I would like to say first is that so far as the budget is concerned, if it were an ordinary year after the recent coming into power of a new Ministry, I could have understood a budget of this sort. But knowing that only a month back a Republic has been established with high ideals in this country, and that in about a year's time we have promised to go to the polls to seek the votes of all adults, I wish to judge this budget from this point of view, and see whether there is anything to enthuse ourselves over it."

"I first take the point, Madam, which has been troubling my district in the last week, which concerns Government, and particularly the Hon. Minister for Transport, and the Hon. Minister for Labour, whom I do not see on the benches here. Madam, I never meddled with Labour till now, because it is a very

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difficult problem. People should have to devote all their time to it. And one should not exploit labour for political purposes, whether Congress, Socialist or Communist; and therefore, I stood out of it. But things happened a week ago in my district, which I shall describe to this House to show how Government are themselves leading this Province to a state of chaos ready for the Communists to take up. I can never understand why they should do so. I would request hon. Members to imagine a district, which is ordinarily peaceful, having no bus service whatsoever for one whole week from one end of the district to the other, except for one town service in the town of Mangalore, all because the workers demanded of their employers to carry out the terms of the award given by the Industrial Tribunal which has been accepted by the Government but which the employers have failed to implement for nearly two years now. During the strike, people in the district were asking whether there was a Government functioning in Madras and whether there was any administration functioning at all. And what happened? In the course of that one week, people were helpless. Even the lorries that used to transport goods ceased to ply. In the town of Mangalore the taxis went on strike for a day and even the scavengers during the last two days struck work in sympathy. Workers in the printing presses struck work; dock and Bunder labourers numbering about two thousand also went on a sympathetic strike. Now, whose fault is it that such a thing happened? With great respect, I would place it on Government. For nearly two years, there is an award given by the Industrial Tribunal left unimplemented. The Government Order accepting the award was passed so early as April 1948. I have gone through the award. Before holding the inquiry the Judge gave notice to all parties concerned. Those who object to it now should have placed their case before the tribunal instead of objecting later. On the whole I can say, it is a fair award that has been given. Barring one company, in my district, all the other concerns never respected this award."

DR. S. SUBRAMANIAM:—"It is so in all districts!"

* SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"Madam, I am told it is so elsewhere."

"This is just where Government have not done their duty for labour. I have seen a copy of a memorandum presented by the workers to the Hon. Minister for Transport and separately also to Hon. Minister for Labour so long ago as November 1948 submitting that only one company had respected the award, while all others had not. The hours of working for drivers are too long in some bus services. From morning 4 or 5 a.m. till 7 or 8 at night, they have to work. Their conditions are very hard. At the time of the award the level of living index was about 300 whereas to-day it is about 400. I have gone through the award from the beginning to the end. All I can say about it is that on the whole it has taken a fair view of the matter though in some respects I wish the matter had been examined in greater depth and detail."

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If the award was wrong, Government should have cancelled the award. I am told, many concerns in the Province knowing that Government will not interfere, have not taken any action to implement the awards.

"One motor transport company in my district, the C.P.C. company, is a very powerful one. They have their own grievances. I do admit, that conditions in my district for the employers are a little different from those of the bus companies in many other districts. There are a number of ferries to be crossed to go from one place to another and a bus company has to put many more buses on a single route, whereas in the East Coast, a company can run a single bus in two or three districts. To take a concrete case, the distance from Mangalore to Udupi is only 36 miles, but a company has to put four or five buses in the route as there are four ferries to be crossed.

"But still when an opportunity was given to all concerned to appear before the Industrial Tribunal and when an award has been given, it is the duty of the Government to see that it is respected. Though the Government Order accepting the award was passed as early as April 1948, it has not been respected.

"There is an union in Mangalore, only one of its kind with more than a thousand workers, a regular union which has been recognized. Congressmen have been helping and advising it. The union and the District Congress Committee have been petitioning Government to implement the award repeatedly. They have got sick of this business of petitioning as they have got no relief. Does it take fifteen and twenty months for Government to move in the matter?

"What happened next? A labour organizer, one Mr. DeMello, came from Bombay, and he prepared these workers for a strike in one or two months. Congressmen were helpless, because they did not get any remedy from Government. The employers were confident that Government would not ask them to implement the award. It would not do for Government to profess sympathy for labour and sit quiet without translating that sympathy into action. If they think that the award is wrong, let them say so. They have not done anything of the sort. All petitioning so far has been unavailing.

"So Socialists and Communists accelerated the pace and brought about the strike. The registered union was helpless. In the course of the strike more than a hundred workers were arrested in a week, and the Deputy Inspector-General came on the scene to break the strike. If it had been the British Government, and not the Congress Government, the Malabar Special Police would have smashed up the heads of the workers easily in order to keep law and order in the town. And the same was ready to be repeated now also. Madam, if this is the sort of people's Government we have, where people cannot go about for one week in the district, it is a humiliation of the worst type for us. Some of the

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Congressmen in the town asked me to intervene, and I told them I had little control over this Government. After some time and after the strike had lasted a full week the union people came to me for advice. The situation was that the Police were ready to break the strike and run the services. Dr. Mallayya and myself and other friends asked them to be patient for a while and told them that having waited for nearly two years now they could well wait for a month more. The Deputy Inspector-General of Police was also very helpful.

"Madam, if the award is worthless, let them scrap it. Let the Hon. Minister for Transport appoint an arbitrator to enquire who will have the confidence of both the employers and workers.

"Here, I am sorry, I have to say one thing, but I cannot help saying it. If an Hon. Minister visits our place this company, the C.P.C., is there ready to place a car at his disposal in the railway station to take him even for a whole week throughout the district. If it is only one Minister, Madam, I would not have minded it. But Minister after Minister is doing this. It is a humiliation to see it. Are there not taxis in Mangalore? Why should they go in the cars of one big company like this? What confidence will the thousands of motor workers have in the Ministry if they do so? Then, why should they go and stay in the Mirajkar bungalow? There is an excellent Public Works Department bungalow at Mangalore. It commands a nice view. The charge for a stay there is only Rs. 1-8-0 or Rs. 2 per day. Why can't they go and stay there? Why should they go and stay in the private bungalow, where some private individuals are meeting the entire expense of their stay? It is this sort of thing which makes people think that the Congress Government is a Government of the capitalists. Let them stay in the Public Works Department bungalow; and let them show the Congress Ministry has not become identified with capitalists. Let them show it is a Congress Ministry which is wedded to the welfare of the common people. Madam, you will permit me to say this also: This bus company whose car is being so freely used by our Ministers has not paid a quarter of an anna to the Gandhi Memorial Fund. Let Dr. Mallayya, who is here, contradict me if I am wrong. And that is the sort of people with whom our Ministers are so fond of staying and keeping company every time they come to Mangalore. In this, however, our Ministers are not alone. Two of the Central Ministers who came to our district have done the same thing.

"I shall come back to the strike. I have asked the workers to wait for some time more, having waited for so long. Now, Madam, the award has been given by a retired District Judge and Government have accepted it and have not the Government the duty to see that the award is enforced? I beg of them here on the floor of the House, as I do not want to go and beg at their door-steps, that this is a matter of great public concern and that immediate steps should be taken to enforce the award without

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further delay. By not doing so, Government have forfeited the sympathy of the workers and the public in my district. If they think that the award is wrong, let them scrap it; if they think it is proper they are in duty bound to enforce it. This is a matter which extends to the whole of the Province, where thousands of workers are involved. If the existing legislation is defective, let Government get a new labour Bill at once and get it passed. Any number of Public Safety Bills are got here by Government and passed at a moment's notice, why not then a Bill to protect labour which is equally important? I want that something should be done immediately. Otherwise other people will take charge of these workers, and they will certainly not be of the Congress type."

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SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"The Government are whittling down the laws that have already been passed."

* SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"That is exactly my grievance."

"Next I will deal with the question of tenancy reform. I do not think these Ministers have got any idea of going to the polls; if they have, they will not conduct themselves in the manner they are doing. Five years ago, we promised in our election programme that we would legislate for security of tenure and fair rent to the tenants. What has been done? Nothing at all. In June 1946, the first Congress Government of this State after the last election appointed a Special Officer, Sri Raghavendra Rao, to report on the conditions of tenancy in the whole State. The report was submitted in about August 1947. Sri Kala Venkata Rao was good enough to give me a copy and I have gone through it. I do not think that report has been placed on the table of this House. Then there is the report of the Agrarian Reforms Committee. I was not present in the House during the debate on the Governor's address. I read in the papers then that the Government want to appoint a committee to go into this question. I think they are banking too much on the fair name of the Congress. Probably they will bring big men from Delhi to canvas for the coming election. The tenants are not going to believe them any longer. What they want is occupancy right. I am not thinking of liquidating the landlord, and I do not want to make the middle-class landlords who own two, three or four acres of land into paupers and turn them out into the streets as Communism would do. Food and other connected problems can never be solved unless we guarantee security of tenure and fair rent to the cultivators. We do not want any committee at all; there is enough material. What we want is the will to do the thing. People know that the Government do not mean business in appointing a committee. Conditions are very serious in Malabar particularly. The Government might have subdued some of the tenant classes there who were influenced by the Communists with the aid of the Malabar Special Police. These friends are ready to come to our rescue everywhere. But

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the tenants cannot be suppressed by such means for all time. I have myself travelled a distance of thirty miles between two towns—I forget their names now—in the Tanjore district. The landlords there could not go from one place to another even in broad day light as they were so afraid of the Harijan tenants. No doubt, the tenants have been suppressed. But the Government have not solved the problem at all, though three years have gone by. This sort of wasting time will simply drag down the name of the Congress. Either the Ministers mean business by the masses of the country, or they do not. If they do not, it is time for some of us to vacate and leave it to others to exploit the name of the Congress for their own purposes. I, therefore, beg of you, Madam, to advise this Government, if it is within your power, that this is not the way of doing things and dragging on five issues for years, and then talk of *Satyameva Jayate*. I agree with the precept in the *Tirukkural* quoted at the end of the speech of my Hon. Friend the Finance Minister. But nobody can be fooled by these words. What people want is action; they want something to be done. I have read a book written by Fritz Sternberg long before the Kuomintang and the Chiang-Kai-Shek regime fell in China. He wrote that that Government depended upon landlords and feudalism and that there was no use in pouring American money on that Government as they were bound to collapse. The condition in our country is very nearly the same. A few people at the top may be talking of Ahimsa and Mahatma Gandhi thinking all the time that Gandhiji is the monopoly of a few of them.

"I see nothing in this budget to inspire some hope. The Republican Constitution speaks of social equality, fraternity and other fine words. Nobody is going to be duped by words now. What steps are the Government going to take during the next one year before they go to the polls to alleviate the sufferings of the tenants who have nothing to eat and who have no houses? Tenants in my district, be it said to the shame of this Government, are not allowed to keep for their sustenance what they grow upon the lands they cultivate. After two years of petitioning the Government were recently pleased to allow them to keep eight ounces of rice, not twelve ounces or sixteen ounces. A labourer in the coffee plantations gets twelve ounces, but the cultivator, this underdog on the field, is not allowed to keep more than eight ounces. Is this the Government of the masses, I ask? How can masses have sympathy for them? There may be a few people with vested interests who give dinners to them wherever they go. But that does not mean that the masses are with them.

"Lastly I will speak about the Communal Government Order. If a majority of our friends want it, they have every right to do what they like, but they cannot call it by the name of the Congress. To continue this Communal Government Order is, in my humble opinion, not in consonance with the Constitution to which we have taken an oath. Article 16 of the Constitution

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says that there shall be equal opportunities for all and it allows reservation for backward classes if need be. Personally I wish that no son of mine ever gets into Government service because there is no reward for merit, and one's merit depends upon one's ability to catch hold of friends or superiors to get promotion over the heads of others. It is a life of perpetual misery and disappointment. By all means, reserve seats for backward classes. But I cannot reconcile myself to this pigeon-hole business of one out of twelve, two out of twelve and so on for almost each and every community. That is not the spirit of the Constitution. We are not going to file a petition in the Supreme Court and wait for the result for years. I can understand the continuance of the Communal Government Order as long as the Government of India Act, 1935, was in force, an Act framed by our British administrators. But here we have ourselves made this Constitution and it says that all shall have equal opportunities. If there is a war, my sons will have to fight as much as the sons of anybody else. The Government do not raise an army or adopt conscription on the principle of the communal ratio. It has been said by Swami Vivekananda that a nation which has no vision shall perish. Our Friends of the Ministry here have no vision at all. They will destroy themselves, and more they will destroy the nation also by these methods. In a free country Government service is not and should not be the be-all of life. There can be ever so many fields for employment. Agriculture and industries can be developed. But what have we in the budget here? A mention of the Industrial Investment Corporation and provision for it are being repeated in the budget year after year. Except for that, I see little else in the Industries budget of this year. It is a poor prospect for our people.

"This is a budget which neglects the fundamentals of the future of our people and simply revels in figures. It is not a budget at all; it is a piece of arithmetic. Our Constitution guarantees equality of opportunity in matters of public employment and provides for reservation of appointments or posts for those who are backward on account of social disabilities. For heaven's sake, scrap this Communal Government Order for the good of the future of this State and the country as a whole. If the Government and the majority of the Congress Party persist in this communal business and are prepared to be unjust and violate even the fundamentals of the Constitution, I regret, I shall have to separate from them, but that will be on issues on which I feel so strongly and conscientiously."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"Hereafter the time allowed to each Member will be limited to fifteen minutes."

MR. W. J. FERNANDEZ:—"Madam Deputy Speaker, all things considered, one must acknowledge that our graceful Finance Minister has made a fairly good job of a rather difficult and menial task, namely, that of presenting a budget which should

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be generally acceptable in spite of the very serious limitations by which he is beset consequent on his having foregone a very large slice of the revenues of this State owing to a policy into which he was goaded by the party behind him. I, therefore, join hands with the other Members of this House in complementing the Finance Minister on his giving what I consider to be a good account of his stewardship as the Minister in charge of the finances of this State.

"A very consoling feature in the budget speech is the announcement of the recent decision of the Government to introduce a scheme of combined pension, provident fund and insurance in place of the existing pension system for future entrants to Government service with option to all existing Government servants without any substantive appointments and for permanent Government servants with a service of less than ten years to come under the new scheme. This reform is long overdue. The existing pension system is an anachronism in these days when the world is moving rather fast. Whatever its advantages might have been in the past, it is nothing but a gamble in which the Government come out victorious practically all along the line. The average span of human life grows shorter as years roll by. Few Government servants live long enough to enjoy for any appreciable length of time the pension which they have earned after twenty-five or thirty years of loyal and faithful service to Government. Instances are not wanting wherein Government servants die in harness leaving their families practically stranded. The pension system is, in my opinion, morally wrong. As I said, it is a gamble, a purely one-sided gamble all to the benefit of the Government. Therefore, I am glad that the Government have been prudent enough to depart from that system and introduce the new system. I only appeal to the Government to go the whole hog and abolish the pension system altogether or, at any rate, keep that in mind as an ideal to be aimed at and given effect to as early as possible."

"Madam, one looks through the pages of this budget in vain for any vigorous policy of the Government in regard to the food problem. That is the burning question of the day and it seems to me that it should receive the constant, active and vigilant consideration of the Government. Without attempting to cast any aspersions on anybody, let me state that I cannot understand how this important portfolio, which has hitherto been in the hands of a senior Member of the Treasury Bench, and which was a source of constant headache to him, came to be thrust upon a junior-most Member in the Ministry, who has had no experience of it before. To my mind, that is a portfolio that should be tackled by the Chief Minister, because it is only he who can carry more weight with the Government of India than any of his colleagues in the Treasury Bench, and because a little neglect of it would possibly result in an all-round famine in the country. Nothing can create more discontent or dissatisfaction

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against the administration than a hungry stomach and with the ever-soaring prices of the very essential articles of food, life has become more and more miserable and the struggle for existence has become more and more acute. Those who are well-placed in life and those who have a fair share of the good things of the world will not feel the pinch and will not be able to understand the difficulties of the poor. But what is the fate of the poor people, who have only limited means in life and who are unable to make their ends meet, and who have to go with one meal a day? Their's is a miserable lot. I do not say that they are actually starving, but certainly they are underfed. Even if food is available, they cannot afford to buy it with their limited income, because of the costliness of every article of food. This is a most important problem which should be tackled by the Government boldly and without any delay. The Government should devise ways and means of bringing down the prices of the articles of food and other necessities of life, by controlling the prices, if necessary, and thus make them available for even the poorest man, and make his life worth living. If necessary, I would appeal to the Hon. Finance Minister to dispense with the levy of sales-tax on foodstuffs. He may, perhaps, lose a fairly big slice of his revenue thereby, but there are ways and means by which this loss could be made good. May I, with your permission, Madam, indicate two methods by which a good deal of savings could be effected. But I am afraid, they will not find favour with the Hon. Minister for Finance. The first is retrenchment in expenditure on establishments, and on contingent charges in the various departments. The second one is a little modification of the Prohibition policy of the Government. I see my hon. Friend, Mr. N. S. Varadachari, smiling at my suggestions. Perhaps, the Government are justified in holding that there is absolutely no further scope for retrenchment on the lines indicated by the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee. But, when we find that people are struggling in life without being able to make both ends meet, on the one side, and on the other people starving and suffering from want of food and other necessities of life, is it not the duty of the Government to come to their rescue by reducing their expenditure on administration, by relieving the burden of tax on the people and by cutting their coat according to their cloth? Let them boldly come forward and say, 'We will impose a 12½ per cent cut in the budget provision that we have made in respect of all the departments of the Government. These departments must manage within that budget provision'. Suppose such an announcement is made; suppose such an order is issued to all the various departments of the Government, what will be the result? Perhaps, some departments would raise an uproar; there would be a great hue and cry in some other departments; some will complain that the efficiency of the department would suffer. But, do not mind these things; you turn a deaf-ear to all these cries. Do not give them a single pie more, and wait for a year. And at the end of the year, I am sure, you will

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be surprised to find, that those departments have got on very well indeed, without their efficiency in any way being impaired. Madam, I have been myself a Government servant for 27 years and I know how things are going on and I can speak on that subject with some authority. If you go into an office and examine every item of expenditure, you will find that there is some unnecessary expenditure or some unnecessary waste or other. You will find that some stationery is wasted; or some contingent charges incurred on items, on which no charges need have been incurred. If you cut out these unnecessary wastes and unnecessary items of expenditure, I am sure, you could save a lot in the course of a year. I suggest, Madam, that the Government should appoint some experienced Government officials to go round the various offices, and make enquiries as to the lines on which expenditure could be cut down and wastes could be avoided. By that way, you will find that there is much scope for retrenchment. Let the Government adopt a bold policy. Let them not heed to the protests of the departments; let them boldly impose a 12½ per cent cut and see the effect of it at the end of the year. I am sure the administration will not come to a stand-still. Perhaps, there will be some delay, but that delay is not going to paralyse the Government. Let them show to the people that they are sincere to help them and that they are trying their best to cut their expenditure wherever possible, and this would give the people some satisfaction.

"My second suggestion is that the Government should modify their Prohibition policy. Now, let me straightaway say that I am not an advocate of drink. I do not drink myself, nor do I advocate it for others. But at the same time, I hold, unlike others, that there is nothing wrong and nothing harmful in drink, provided you do not go to the extreme. The Government have tried their policy of total Prohibition, because they wanted to save the masses who are addicted to this evil, from their misery. They have attempted to do something in which they cannot succeed without the complete co-operation of the people. You cannot by simply closing down the toddy shops or by taking away the pot of toddy that is placed before a person, prevent him from drinking or advise him, 'You should not drink'. That is impossible. That man who has been drinking all along and has become a slave to it, will find some means to satisfy his craving for drink and will drink something else, if he could not get his pot of toddy, and ruin his health and ruin himself. That is what is happening at present. After three years of the working of this Prohibition policy, what is the testimony of people who are in a position to speak on it and who have actually been administering the Prohibition Act? They say that illicit distillation has been going on in almost every village and that it has become more or less a cottage industry. The Government proclaimed not only in this House, but also from every house-top that Prohibition must succeed in this country and that if it could not succeed in this country, it could not succeed anywhere else. Now after three years, what

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do we see? Prohibition has actually failed. What is the reason for it? Because you have not got the materials necessary for it nor have you prepared the necessary background. People who are drinking are not sufficiently educated and most of them have no education at all. They come from the lowest and poorest classes of the society and they have not developed their standard of morality or their character or their minds to such an extent that when you say, 'Do not drink; it will ruin you, ruin your health, ruin your family and ruin everything', they cannot really understand and appreciate what you say, and they turn a deaf ear to your words. They have got into the habit of drink and, however much you may try, you cannot change their habit. So long as you have no direct influence over the masses, and so long as they remain uneducated and undisciplined, you will never be able to eradicate this drink evil from this land, and illicit distillation will go on and if you want to prevent it, you must make all the 50 million people in this Province policemen and C.I.D.s. to watch and report those things. Madam, it takes one's breath away when one hears in this House, Member after Member, not only those belonging to the Opposition, but even Members belonging to the Congress Benches, standing up and saying that illicit distillation has become a cottage industry in the villages. How is it possible for it to flourish like a cottage industry when the Government have been spending so much on the enforcement of Prohibition and when they have appointed so many police and Prohibition officers to watch and punish those who commit such offences? Unless these officers have either been conniving at it or have themselves become parties to the affair, it is impossible to see how illicit distillation can go on to such an extent and I cannot find any other explanation for it. If they had been doing their duties loyally and faithfully, these things would not have happened. More than that, it shows that people are not also generally interested in the Prohibition policy of the Government and that they are not showing their earnestness to co-operate with the Government to eradicate this evil. As I have already said, without the active co-operation of the people, you cannot eradicate this drink evil. Under these circumstances, I earnestly ask, Is it not better to lift the ban and adopt some sort of modification in the Prohibition policy of the Government? Why not let those addicts have their pot of toddy? Why not ration toddy and allow them to have a small quantity of it, so as not to make them drunk to the point of intoxication? I say, Madam, drinking a small quantity of toddy is not harmful, and I think, it is better than letting these people drink some crude and illicit varieties of drink which poison their whole system, ruin their health and kill them ultimately. I think, Madam, that the Government would be serving these addicts better if they save them from the present pitiable plight to which they have been driven to, by giving them some innocuous drink which they had before, and by limiting its quantity. Thereby, the Government would be able to save the huge revenue which they have

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now lost on account of their Prohibition policy, and which could be utilized for more useful purposes. Madam, people talk of this revenue as tainted money. For that matter, Madam, a great portion of the money which is now in the Revenue Reserve Fund is tainted money, because it is a fund made up out of savings from the excise revenue in the past. If you do not want the tainted money, then you must fritter away this Revenue Reserve Fund. You should not use it for any purposes connected with the Government, because two-thirds of this fund has been made up out of savings from the tainted source. Are you doing like that? Therefore, the excise revenue is no more tainted money than any other revenue from any other source. After all, Madam, as I have said just now, drink in limited quantity, is not an evil by itself. At any rate, it is no more an evil than racing. But, for that matter, Madam, even racing too cannot be deemed to be an evil, so long as you do not bet. You can go to the race-course, watch the races and enjoy the amusement of it; there is nothing wrong about it. But, the moment you put your money on betting, you get into that evil. In the same way, Madam, drink, if it goes beyond a certain limit only is wrong and an evil. Till then it is harmless. On the other hand, it solves your problems in finding funds to some extent.

"Madam, I make these two suggestions for what they are worth. I know they will not be palatable. Anyway, I have suggested them and I hope that the Government will consider the ways and means of relieving the tense situation which exists in the country at present because of the difficulties in getting the necessities of life within the means at the command of the people."

* SRI T. K. T. N. R. TATACHARI:—"Madam Deputy Speaker, the budget is, of course, necessarily a dull and drawl affair, because one usually finds that the budget is not very interesting, after all. But still there are certain good points in it which we cannot fail to appreciate. Madam, many of those defects which have been pointed out by hon. Members who have preceded me and the lots of criticisms that have been levelled against the Government, seem to have been made to no purpose. Of course, the Government have been blamed for lax administration of laws, lax administration of the police and for several other things. But you have got to see that they are dealing with very extraordinary situations. It is natural that at the beginning of self-government with the dawn of an Independent Republic, every country is bound to be beset with ever so many puzzles and ever so many difficulties and I should say that the Government have been very well managing the situation all the same."

"In politics there will always be times when people can get at some things, to denounce shortcomings. I can only refer to the last paragraph of the preface by Dickens to Pickwick papers to show that there will be always room for people to say that judges of the town and the country have got to shake hands with justice

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and common sense every morning; there will also be room to say that poor laws do not reach the poor at all; and there will be room for people to say that the Government are a set of people who keep their jobbing by playing on little fiddles going for a dance or death. So long as human nature continues to be what it is, we cannot expect perfection. We have only got to judge the Government by their honest attempts at perfect administration and not go on harping on one or two defects and generalise them as the major defects. Hon. Members have spoken very wildly. For instance, Mr. Prakasam, like the village schoolmaster, could argue still, though vanquished. He has been saying that there has been no sort of relief given to the flood-affected areas, and there is the Communist menace in Andhra and so on and so forth. These are all names with which people usually conjure ill-feeling towards the Government. Mr. Kaleswara Rao also dealt with the Andhra Province failing all the while to understand that he was one of those who effectively opposed it. At one time he welcomed the Rayalaseema opposition to it. Now it is an insignificant thing which Government should have surmounted. Then he spoke about the police. He said that the police had not been doing their duties properly. He has been very charitable to the local police. But he says generally the police have been cruel to the people. In that area there is an extraordinary situation. We get the picture that the Communists beat the people and also the police beat the people. It is just the type of story we hear. If the Government do not allow anything to be done, the complaint comes that the Government are inefficient. These criticisms have got to be seen in the light of events which occurred during these two or three years. I do not wish to say much about this now.

"Hon. Friends have referred also to communalism. I think the less said about it the better for us. I only wish that if ever a charge is levelled against anybody, I welcome the charge of communalism. If really there is any one who could be so large-hearted as to extend his patronage to an entire community, it is a thing to be worshipped. After all we have seen charges of communalism at various stages in the development of this country in the old days. Even to-day there are people talking about this. I think the less we talk about it the more good we will be doing to the people. After all there can be nobody who can be entirely free from it. I am sorry to say that in my opinion it will never go on for long if we progress properly. (Janab N. Muhammad Anwar: 'A very wise saying'.) Hon. Members and leaders from our side itself always believe that after them there will only be the deluge, and without them there can be no good. Psychocomplexes exhibited by a disgruntled or displaced politician are far worse than those exhibited by a disappointed lover. I am sorry to say that without regard to discipline people have been indulging in adverse criticism of the Government which they themselves have formed. They have even gone to the extent of saying 'I never wanted you to be there.' Left to everybody,

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nobody would want any other person to be there. But the fact is that the Ministers are there not because we want or we do not want them to be there, but because they have got the strength to be there. An hon. Member has said that the Prohibition Minister has been trained under his great leadership. I only wish that God save him from the effects of that training. (Janab N. Muhammad Anwar: 'Ingratitude'.)

"The budget has got several good things. I wish the Government had included something more for Chittoor district in the matter of irrigation. There are only two projects which will not come into shape or existence for at least some 10 years to come. I wish they had taken up the Swarnamukhi project which had been investigated. I do not know for what reasons the Government have not included that project in the budget.

"Now, as regards retrenchment there is a lot to be said about the way the officers are posted for duties. For instance a very eminent official was telling me that he went to a zamindari taluk where he saw a Revenue Deputy Tahsildar who had no work. Like this there is duplication of posts. In many taluks there are the Loans Deputy Tahsildar, the Revenue Deputy Tahsildar, the Wells Deputy Tahsildar and the Taluk Supply Officer, each running against the other and delaying the work, because of the extent of jurisdiction. It will be well to post a person for a few firkas and give all the work to him so that he may have greater contact with the people, and there will also be less number of people engaged in these posts transferred by out of the way promotions of Tahsildars or Deputy Tahsildars. I have cited only one instance. There may be other cases also. The Government have to examine and see that things are done quicker and cheaper, spending less on services.

"I now come to medical relief, which is one of the most important things. We expected more for the development of mofussil hospitals. In my own constituency in Kalahasti, there is a hospital. I wish it never existed there, because the taluk has no communications worth the name. People come from distances of 25 miles in carts and find that they have no accommodation in the hospital. Ultimately, they think that the doctor wantonly does not give them accommodation. There has been a lot of quarrels on this. Recently two compounders knocked out each other's teeth, and the case is now under enquiry. One man wanted to give accommodation to his person and the other person wanted to give accommodation to somebody else. It is practically the only hospital for the whole taluk. It would be well to abolish it if the Government cannot expand it. Just like this there are many hospitals in the mofussil which need development and expansion.

"The Hon. Finance Minister has stated that the loss due to the introduction of Prohibition has been greatly covered up by the increase in income-tax, sales tax and motor vehicles tax. Of

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about it. The whole matter has been kept in cold storage. Whenever we go after coming to Madras, the people ask us 'what happened to the legislation?'. You may be aware, Madam, that the records of the suits that were pending in the Courts in the year 1946 are crumbling to pieces. Some of the records are certain bundles of old paper because you may be aware that the cases have to be taken up every three months or six months and whenever the tenant makes a deposit the court has to adjourn the hearing of the suit to some other date. In that way, they were handling these papers with the result they have been reduced to a bundle of old waste paper. I do not know how long this Government are going to wait.

"Again, Madam, this has become one of the best opportunities for some of the interested political parties, say the Communists, to carry on a propaganda against the Government as well as the landlords. Now they say that this Government are really colluding with the landlords in Malabar and that therefore they do not want to have any legislation on tenancy. This is one form of propaganda that has been carried on in Malabar and the innocent and poor people believe in it.

"Madam, I should even suggest that it is the policy of the Government that has been responsible for the growth of the Communist activity in this State. I may be pardoned for this statement but at the same time, I would urge that it is their indifferent policy that is more responsible for the progress of the Communist propaganda in this State than the propaganda of the Communists themselves. The Government do not attend to the immediate needs of the people and even if representations are made, it takes a lot of time for this Government to awake from slackness and inadvertence, with the result that the Communists make a great job out of it. They say that this Government is the Government of the landlords. Again for this, they give examples, as quoted by Mr. Karanth, like certain places in South Kanara where, whenever the Ministers go, they take their dinner and lodging. As far as Malabar also is concerned, there are certain places which every Minister has earmarked for his halt. He may not give the exact name of the place where he will be going, dining or halting but there are certain earmarked places where every Minister will go. The Communists make capital out of this. I do not mean Communists alone, but all interested persons who want to see that this Government are brought into ridicule in the eyes of the general public. Therefore, I would request the Hon. Ministers to desist—I do not mean that they need not travel at all—from going to these places and creating an impression in the people that they are with the landlords and not with the people.

"One more point and I finish. That is with regard to the retrenchment in the services. Many a Member has spoken about this but I would add one thing more and that is that there is a

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general impression on the part of the public that a general retrenchment will be advisable in the matter of the administration of the various controls and if these controls are removed a large part of the expenses can be saved. The people believe that it is to retain these officials that the controls are even now continued. Therefore, I would make a request that the Government may revise their policy with regard to the controls of the various commodities and the officials who are now dealing with these matters may be asked to go to some other department. These controls are not wanted by the people and they speak more against these controls than really appreciating them. It will be said that these controls are necessary for the general administration and welfare of the people and equitable distribution of the available materials. But the market is there. It will get itself adjusted after some time and we may feel the difficulty only for a very short time. With these remarks, Madam, I close."

DR. S. SUBRAHMANIAM:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, with a devastating cyclone in the Northern Circars and the failure of the monsoon in the south, the Hon. the Finance Minister deserves to be congratulated on producing a balanced budget. But while doing so, I feel that I have got to say one or two things which, I find, have been omitted in the budget. Coming as I do from the Ramnad district, which is a very poor district in many ways, poor in communications and poor in every other item which makes life pleasant, we have been demanding certain facilities for this district, and the Hon. Minister for Public Works while answering one of the questions, said sometime back that he would constitute a Development Board for the Ramnad district as the one that has been constituted for the Ceded districts and try to see whether the Government could do anything for this district. This district has been entirely depending upon the rains. We have had no sources of irrigation, we have had no accessible communications in the district, and as such I ask the Finance Member or rather make a special plea to him to see whether he cannot do something for our district by constituting a Development Board shortly and at a very early date and find out what are the requirements which go to make the life of the people in this district happy.

"Coming to prohibition about which many Members of the Opposition have spoken and said that it had been a failure, I would like to give a few points which I have been able to extract from the administration of the Abkari and Excise Department during the last many years. In fact, many of you may not know that illicit distillation has been there for years together. In fact, Salem, North Arcot and the border districts of Coimbatore district have had illicit distillation from time immemorial. I know this because my father was in that department and I have had occasion to know what it is. I will give you a few statistics. In 1928-29, the number of cases of illicit distillation of arrack detected and convicted was 2,699 and the number of cases of illicit toddy

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tapping was 8,535. In 1931-32 the figures were 3,301 cases and 8,598 cases respectively. After another two years, we come to 1933-34. Then the figures were 5,239 cases and 8,957 cases respectively. Coming to as late as 1935-36, just on the eve of prohibition introduced by Mr. Rajagopalachari, we find in 1937 there were as many as 5,715 cases of illicit distillation of arrack convicted in the Presidency and 9,824 cases of illicit toddy tapping. This does not include offences like the opium and ganja offences. The total number of offences for the whole presidency started with 19,628 in 1928-29 and increased to 20,229 in 1932-33 and 24,736 in 1935-36. I would ask the hon. Gentlemen on the Opposition side to remember that even in the days when the Abkari Department was an administrative unit and when they had to administer the toddy, arrack and other shops, with very little time for detection, they detected so many cases. Is it any wonder than that when they have no other work but preventive duty alone they can concentrate all their attention and might on the detection of illicit manufacture of spirit and illicit tapping and is it any wonder that they have been able to detect a large number of cases? People have never been crying hoarse nor have they been criticizing the Government in the days before the introduction of prohibition that illicit distillation of arrack and illicit tapping of toddy are there and Government must be more vigilant.

4-15 p.m. "As we have introduced complete and total Prohibition, there has been some agitation from some interested parties that it should be scrapped. These people want that the old days must be brought back so that they may reap a very good harvest at the expense of the poor people of this Presidency. Well, I can tell you friends that so long as the Congress party is in power and so long as the poor man has got his vote, you can take it from me that no other party can come and run the Government saying that they will bring back the old state of affairs and completely scrap Prohibition introduced by the Congress. In fact during the recent District Board elections in the Ramnad district this stunt was played by the Socialist party who said, 'we will bring back the toddy shops and we will bring back the arrack shop and we will scrap the Prohibition policy.' What did they get? The result was they all lost their deposits. So take it from me that so long as the poor man has got a voice in the administration of the State and so long as he has got a rightful place in the electorate, no other party can come into Government by scraping Prohibition, which is an article of faith with the Congress party which has as its primary aim the amelioration of the poor."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"Why are you so spirited?"

DR. S. SUBRAHMANYAM:—"That is all right. Please keep quiet. Again I find that including the Finance Minister, people

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have been always saying that we have lost Rs. 10 crores by the introduction of Prohibition. But I must say that we have not lost anything by its introduction. When Sri Rajagopalachari first introduced Prohibition and Sales Tax he definitely made it clear that the sales tax was intended only to make up the loss in the excise revenue. So what we have lost in the excise revenue we have made up by the proceeds of the sales tax. So I wish to tell the Finance Minister that we have not lost anything. We have said deliberately that we were throwing away the excise revenue and introducing another tax in its place. So to-day 16 or 17 crores of rupees we are getting by way of sales tax. Again this sales tax has been attacked by some members as it is hitting the poor people very hard. Coming as I do from village parts, we have been able to ascertain the incidence of this tax on some of the poor and middle class people. I find that the incidence of sales tax on a man who gets Rs. 100 works out to be roughly Re. 1 per month. If there was any doubt about this I would ask the Government to constitute a committee of economists to go into the incidence of sales tax on the middle and lower middle class people. That is the only way by which this agitation can be stopped."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Even if it is Rs. 15 crores, it is only Rs. 3 per capita."

DR. S. SUBRAHMANYAM:—"You are only substantiating and strengthening my statement."

"Coming to controls, Madam, well, I am one with others that these controls should go. The towns people do not know the horrible effect and the depressing effect on the minds of the ordinary individual which these controls have created. Take the case of an ordinary agriculturist. Suppose he is cultivating paddy and he has to harvest it at the harvest time. Well, he has to get the permit for harvesting the same. He has to go to the Tahsildar and tell him that the paddy is ready for harvest and ask him to come and inspect and make the cropcutting estimate. The poor agriculturist can harvest the paddy only after the official inspects the field. The tragedy of the whole thing is, in the Ramnad district during the heavy rains recently, in a few places which yielded good amount of paddy, on account of the officials not visiting the field in time and permitting the harvest, the whole thing had gone to waste as seedlings. So far as the mofussal and the villages are concerned, these controls—whether of food or any other thing—should be taken away and the villagers must be left to their sweet will and pleasure. Take the case of the Tanjore district. It can supply all the municipalities in the southern districts and rationing of food can be confined to the municipalities of the southern districts. Coming to sugar control, it is better it is removed straightaway. In this connection I want to say one thing. Some years ago, I think Mr. Kosalram may be able to corroborate me, we had a sugar factory in Kulasekharapatnam near Tiruchendur. Messrs. Parry & Co., were running it. There sugar was prepared from

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palmyrah jaggery. We have co-operative societies which make palmyrah jaggery. I do not know what they are doing with it. If all these societies can join together and take up the production of sugar from palmyrah jaggery, it would be very nice. If private enterprises such as these do not come forward to take up this work, I would ask the Government to take up this and manufacture sugar which was formerly done by Messrs. Parry & Co., successfully. I do not know why they have closed it. If the Government are interested they can communicate with Messrs Parry & Co., and ascertain why they stopped working that factory, and if possible let them revive it. It is a good developing cottage industry. When once it is found that there is a good scope for selling this and there is a good market, naturally plenty of sugar from palmyrah jaggery could be manufactured. The cottage industry will also thrive well and if the work is done under the auspices of co-operative societies, the members of these societies will also make enormous profits out of it.

"Coming to Labour, I am very sorry we have not got a good Labour Minister. If I have got any complaint about this Government, it is only that the Labour Minister is himself a capitalist. He has been a Director in so many companies before he became the Minister. So I do not know how he can have very much sympathy towards labour."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"That is not a disqualification to be a Minister. The hon. Member should not make personal references like that."

DR. S. SUBRAHMANYAM:—"Well, thank you, Madam. Anyway, the labourers are very much dissatisfied with the administration of the Labour department."

"With regard to the problem of motor transport, we have got some problem in the Ramnad district. There I happen to be the President of the Workers' Union and we have given notice of a strike. The Labour officer was there to conciliate in the matter and we agreed to his conciliation. But though he has been at the job for the past two months or so, nothing has been done. The labourers are becoming restive and the police in those parts are very glad that the labour union is fortunately in the hands of congressmen, as otherwise the situation may take a rather ugly turn if it went out of the hands of congressmen. I would only ask the Labour Minister to wake up and treat the labour fairly and squarely in this matter. The labour award on motor transport was published as a Government Order on April 29, 1948 and it is roughly two years now. Yet nothing has been implemented. One or two cases have been prosecuted. What is the result? The fine is something like Rs. 200 or so which the motor transport proprietor easily pays and escapes. What I would suggest to the Government is that they should include a penal provision by which the licence of the proprietor to run the buses in the prescribed routes should be cancelled if he did not implement the award. In such cases the workers

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involved in the company should be allowed to form themselves into a co-operative society and given facilities to run the transport company as such. I hope the Government will agree to this proposition.

"Coming to the housing of the poor people, well we have got house-building societies. Unfortunately, my experience of these house-building co-operative societies and the way in which the Government have been treating these societies is a very sad one. I happen to be the president of one of these societies, and for the last two or three years I find that the administration of this particular department is anything but satisfactory. Two notifications have been made. We have been repeatedly requesting them to hand over the property. The members are very restive. They don't believe that the Government can act quickly in this matter. That is the position in which we are finding ourselves. There has been so much agitation that these house-building co-operative societies are having a step-motherly treatment. So far as the Government are concerned, I would suggest that in addition to building small houses for middle classes, small houses of the value of Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 2,000 may be built for the lower middle classes in all district headquarters by the Government in order to relieve the congestion in places like Mathurai, Tiruchirappalli, Tirunelveli and Tanjore. Just outside the municipal limits in these places, we have lot of waste lands. The Government can build houses in these places and I am sure that this can be made into a paying proposition."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"Madam Deputy Speaker, as I rise I wonder whether I should speak at all. For ever since that remarkable utterance which the Hon. Finance Minister had made and ever since for all his sins of omission and commission—probably of remission and emission too—he laid the blame at our doors, I thought no useful purpose will be served by my placing him in jitters any longer. That is a curious malady, Madam, and for that there seems to be no remedy. For anything and everything they look round for scapegoats without rectifying their own faults, without admitting their own errors and without acknowledging with gratitude what they should rightly owe to us for pointing out their errors. But one thing, Madam. Even the Finance Minister will concede that it has not been our privilege to hit him from the back and below, as that privilege to-day is exclusively enjoyed by the hon. ladies and gentlemen opposite who are giving him no peace, no quarter and no happiness. Therefore I wish to bring to his notice now in what esteem and in what reputation, in what pride and regard this Ministry is being held by the ladies, and gentlemen who have the honour still to belong to the party that is in power to-day."

"Let me take up the first charge against this Government. After all, Madam Deputy Speaker, a Government are to govern, and the primary duty of a Government is to guarantee the security

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of person and property. In that very fundamental and elementary act of duty that a State has to render to its citizens, this Government have failed and failed miserably. Here it is the veteran Andhra Kesari himself who has sat in judgment against this ministry with regard to the state of security that exists in the Circars, of which I should rightly say and even the ministry will concede, that the Andhra Kesari is the undisputed hero. I am sure his verdict will be acknowledged that there is no peace in that part of our State. Madam Deputy Speaker, you yourself will verify his statement coming as you do from those parts."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may leave me alone."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"All right, Madam, I shall leave you alone now that you are honourably placed. What is it that Mr. Prakasam has said? He has said that there is anarchy there. That, I believe, is a most serious charge against the Government as it means that the Government have not the capacity, have not the competence and have not the efficiency to administer the elementary act of service for which a Government are appointed. Not only hon. Prakasam, even hon. Raghavayya has spoken about this. He went one step further. He discovered in the neglect of the Circars, a lethargy on the part of the Tamilians; and that, I am afraid, is a cancer that would eat up the very vitals of society. Let the Government arise and awake. Otherwise they will be wiped out because that is a disease which is already doing havoc to our people."

4-30 p.m. There will be no harmony in this State if these diseases are not checked—these diseases of linguism and lingoism. Now, indeed, one gentleman was telling me this morning—and it was an hon. Member of the Congress party 'Is it Swaraj or is it Ram Raj or is it Kamraj (laughter) that we are having to-day?' It looks as though the blind are leading the blind. Madam, the people are losing faith every day in the Government. The popularity of the Government is diminishing. I am surprised at the way in which the Hon. the Leader of the House is conducting himself on the Treasury Bench, with so much apathy, so much indifference, so much nonchalance and so much impertinence. He does not care for public criticism. In the Budget speech, he has cited scriptures and has gone back to the days of antiquity. He has quoted Tirukural, 'Tread humbly, but resolutely, unmindful of pain, the path of common good.' Characteristic of himself, he has discovered that phrase, 'unmindful of pain'. Probably this discovery accounts for his remaining unmindful of the tragedy (pain) that took place recently in the Circars when the cyclones and floods devastated life and property there. He has not a word of sympathy for the victims in his Budget speech which he so carefully prepared and beautifully read out. Nor has he a word to say on the atrocities that are committed in that part of the State where, it is admitted, anarchy prevails. So much about point one. (Laughter.)

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"Now I come to point number two (laughter), and that is that the Government have failed in the discharge of the responsibility of maintaining law and order. Madam, may I say here that integrity should be at the very roots of every problem of State organization and administration? The hon. Member, Mr. Raghavayya, than whom there can be no better expert on matters of black-marketing (laughter), has brought to the notice of the House several loopholes in the administration. I do not know if he has discovered them only now. And my hon. Friend, Mr. N. S. Varadachari has made a charge against the Government that corruption and black-marketing are rampant in this State. In other words, they have discovered a hole in the ship of State. Madam, you know, when the captain and the crew themselves start picking holes in that ship, woe unto the ship and woe unto her captain and the crew. What is it that the hon. Mr. Raghavayya has stated? He says and rightly too that interference in the administration at the Ministerial level has become the order of the day to such a degree that the Hon. the Ministers issue permits and licences to proved black-marketers. I do not want to substantiate the charges which an hon. backbencher has brought against his party. It is the greatest curse if the Government allow corruption to be so rampant and extend patronage to even proved blackmarketers."

Madam, I must now come to point number three (laughter). I am referring to the general policies the Government have been adopting since they came into office. I have been repeatedly saying on the floor of the House that even in madness there must be a method. Even in budgeting there must be a clear-cut policy. But what is it that we see in it? We are not able to see anything in it that can be termed sound policy. Not even my old Friend, Mr. Prakasam, believes there is anything in it! One of the veteran Members of the House, Mr. N. S. Varadachari, has rightly summed up the achievements of the Government thus: 'Few policies wisely executed, many bad policies which ought to go at once with the net result that there is no policy at all.' That is the record of a Government who say that they are implementing their pledges to the electorate. Here is a reputed critic of the Government who has said that there is no policy at all for this Government."

"Now, Madam, I come to point number four." (Laughter.)

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"On a point of order, Madam, can an hon. Member attribute to another things which he has not stated at all? I remember, the hon. Gentleman opposite, has just attributed, a few minutes ago, to me certain observations on corruption and blackmarketing. I would ask him to take the official record of my speech and read it and see if he can substantiate his statement. Otherwise, he will have to withdraw that statement."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"I am thankful to the hon. Member. I would refer him to the matter that appears in cold print in 'The Hindu'."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"That cannot be taken as a record for official purposes."

[3rd March 1950]

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will refer to the official proceedings and if he finds what he states is not true, he will withdraw his remarks."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"Thank you very much, Madam. But, ever since the Hon. the Finance Minister's devastating remarks, which he made the other day in condemnation of our party, I was feeling why I should attend the Assembly at all. So, I was not privileged to be here when my hon. Friend spoke and I could only read in the papers what he had spoken."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"I would request the hon. Gentleman to read my speech. Only a portion of his statement is correct and not the whole . . ."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member, Mr. N. S. Varadachari will wait till the official report is ready. If there is anything found wrong with his quotation, then the hon. Mr. Anwar will certainly withdraw his remarks."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"I am again thankful to you, Madam. Now, I do not know where Prohibition is in my notes . . ." (Laughter.)

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has only three minutes more."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"After all, I am referring to the hon. Gentleman, Mr. N. S. Varadachari (laughter) who has, I think, made mention about pawn shops, etc., when he spoke on Prohibition . . ."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"When the hon. Member is not sure of his ground, it is not safe to speak."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"Why? I am sure of my ground. I am a prohibitionist. I speak things sobar!"

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"May I request my hon. Friend, through you, Madam, to read the transcript of my speech which I have just corrected and handed over to the office. I have gone through the whole matter carefully and have not made any alterations except correcting a few grammatical mistakes. The hon. Member can see that I spoke not a word on corruption and black-marketing, although I have spoken on many other matters, like Prohibition policy, Food policy, Public Health policy, and so on."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"I am very glad, Madam, that the hon. Mr. Varadachari is in his usual spirit (laughter) and he said that . . ."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"But he must withdraw his remarks."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member must withdraw his statement when it is denied, especially as he was not present in the House when the speech he refers to was made."

[3rd March 1950]

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"I hypothetically withdraw." (Laughter.)

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is wasting his time. He must withdraw his remarks."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"I withdraw, though the Government do not intend withdrawing their Prohibition policy. (Laughter.) Now, again I must refer to my hon. Friend, Mr. Varadachari . . ." (Laughter.)

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member was not present in the House when the speech he refers to was made, and so he is likely to commit mistakes if he tries to quote from that speech. So, it would be better if he says what his views are."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"Now, that the hon. Member is physically present here (laughter) he has got the privilege and the right to challenge me if I misquote him. He has said that the Government have succumbed to vested interests. With regard to the transport policy, I am sure he will acknowledge as correct that portion of his speech if I read it out." (Sri N. S. Varadachari: "Oh, yes.")

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member's time is up."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"There have been so many interruptions and interludes . . ."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member himself has invited all this. Mr. Kosalram will speak now."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"கனம் தலைவி அவர்களே! இப்பொழுது நமது நிதி மந்திரி அவர்களால் சமர்ப்பிக்கப்பட்டுள்ள இந்த பட்ஜெட் ஆதரவுக்குள்ளே. அத்துடன் தமது பேச்சில் ஜனவரி 26 தேதிக்கு முன்னால் கனம் நண்பர் கோபால ரெட்டி அவர்கள், "நான் இரண்டு அசாங்கத்திற்கு பட்ஜெட் தயாரிக்க வேண்டியிருக்கும் 26 தேதிக்குப் பின்னால், இரண்டு அசாங்கமாக இருப்போம்" என்று சொன்னார்கள். இப்போது நண்பர் காளா வெங்கட் ராவ் பேசும்பொழுது, "மிகவும் வருந்துகின்றேன், ஆந்திர மாகாணம் ஏற்படாததுபற்றி," என்றார்கள். ஆந்திர மாகாணம் ஏற்படாதது பற்றி அவரை விட மிகவும் வருத்தமடைக்கூடிய வர்கள் தமிழர்கள்தான் எனச் சொல்லுகிறேன். ஆந்திர மாகாணம் ஏற்படாததின் விளைவாக இன்று இந்த அசாங்கத்தில், இந்தச் சட்ட சபை ஏற்படாததின் விளைவாக இன்று இந்த அசாங்கத்தில், இந்தச் சட்ட சபையில் பேச்சுக்கும், விவாதங்களுக்கும் சிக்க முடியாத நிலைமையில் போய்க் கொண்டிருக்கிறது என்பதை நாம் கண்கூடாகப் பார்க்கிறோம். ஒருவருக்கொருவருக்கிடையே நிலைமைக்குக்கூட வந்து விட்டது. அவர்கள் கொருவர் குத்திக்கொள்ளும் நிலைமைக்குக்கூட வந்து விட்டது. அவர்கள் இங்கிருந்து போய்விட்டால் அதிகம் சந்தோஷப்படக்கூடியவர்கள் தமிழர்கள் தான்."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"பிரியவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுங்கள்."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"இம்மாகாணத்திலிருந்து புதிய புரட்சிவாதி மாகாணம் பிரியப்படுவதைத்தான் நான் குறிப்பிடுகின்றேன். இந்தக் கொள்கைவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னால், இது தான் அர்த்தம்."

[Sri K. T. Kosalram]

[3rd March 1950

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“ இந்த நிலைமையில் எனக்கு முன் பேசிய பல நண்பர்கள் பல விஷயங் களைப்பற்றிச் சொன்னார்கள். இதில் முக்கியமாக எல்லோரும் பேசியதில் இப்போதுள்ள Communal G.O.-வை எடுத்துவிடவேண்டுமென்று மீண் டும், மீண்டும் பேசியிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த Communal G.O. ஸ் ராஜ்கோ பாலாச்சாரியார் அவர்கள் இம்மாகாண பிரதம மந்திரியாய் இருந்த காலத் திலும் இருந்தது. நண்பர் ஸ் பிரகாசம் பிரதமராய் இருந்தபோதும் இருந்தது. நண்பர் ஸ் விஸ்வநாதம் பார்லிமெண்டு செக்ரடரியாக இருந் தார்கள் அப்போதுமிருந்தது.”

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—“ May I know, what the hon. Member is saying about me.”

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"I was saying that when Sri Viswanatham was the Chief Parliamentary Secretary, at that time also the communal G.O. was in force. (Laughter.) I suppose the hon. Member understands now."

“அந்த நிலைமையில் யார் அந்த Communal G.O. வேண்டுமென்று சொன்னார்களோ அவர்களே இப்போது எடுத்துவிடவேண்டுமென்று சொல்வது சரியல்ல. மைனாரிட்டி வகுப்பார்களே இனிமேல் இதை G.O. வேண்டாமென்று சொல்லவேண்டும். அப்பொழுதுதான் இதை எடுக்கலாமெய்யென்றிய இப்போது அதை எடுத்துவிடுவது என்பது பொருத்தமற்றது.

“நண்பர் ஸ்ரீ கரந்த் சொன்னார்கள், ‘என்னுடைய பிள்ளைகள் யாரும் அரசாங்க ஆதரவில் இல்லையென்று’ நான் சொல்லுகின்றேன். ‘என்னுடைய குடும்பத்தில் யாருமே அரசாங்க உத்தியோகத்தில் இல்லையென்று’ அதனால்தான், அவரவர்களுடைய விசிதாசாரத்திற்குத் தக்கபடி அரசாங்கத்தில் அவர்கள் இடம் பெறும் காலம் வரை இந்த G.O. இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுவார்கள்’ இந்த Communal G.O. வேண்டாமென்று குறிப்பாக Backward Community-க்காக இடம் ஒதுக்கியிருக்கிறோம். ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கும் இடத்திற்கு அதிகமாகவே இப்போது அபிவிருத்திகள் வந்து கொண்டிருக்கின்றது. இன்னும் கொஞ்ச காலத்தில் இவ்வாறு இடம் ஒதுக்கவேண்டியதே இல்லை என்று அவர்களை சொல்லுவதற்கு முன் வந்து விடுவார்கள். தற்போது, எல்லோரையும் விட யார் அரசாங்கத்தில் அதிகமாக இடம் பெற்றிருக்கிறார்கள் என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறதோ அவர்களை எடுத்துவிடவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னால் அர்த்தமில்லாமல் போய் விடும். உண்மையில் நாங்கள் சொல்லவேண்டும், இந்த G.O. இருக்கவேண்டியதில்லையென்று. கணம் ஸ்ரீ பாஷ்யமும், வரதாச்சாரியும், ‘எங்களைப்போல மற்றவர்களும் அவர்களுடைய விசிதாசாரத்திற்குத் தக்கபடி அரசாங்கத்தில் இடம் பெறும் மட்டும் நாங்கள் சும்மாய் இருக்கின்றோமென்று சொன்னார்கள்’. அதை நான் மகிழ்ச்சியுடன் வரவேற்கின்றேன். அவரவர்களுடைய விசிதாசாரத்திற்குத் தக்கபடி அவர்கள் இடம் பெற்று விட்டால் இந்த G.O.-வுக்கு இடமே யில்லாதபடி தானாக அழிந்து போய் விடும்.

“அடுத்தபடியாக நண்பர் ஸ்ரீ ராகவய்யா அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள், ‘ஆந்திராவில் நடக்கும் கலவரங்களையும், குழப்பங்களையும் அடக்க ஆந்திராவுக்கு ஒரு ஸ்பெஷல் ஐ.ஜி. வேண்டுமென்று’ ஆனால் நண்பர் ஸ்ரீ சர்மையா அவர்கள் ‘காங்கிரஸ்காரர்களிடையே group-ல் சண்டைகள் முற்றி வருகின்றது. ஒருவருக்கொருவர் நம்பிக்கையில்லாமல் இவர்களை முற்றி வரத்தை உணர்பண்ணுகிறார்கள்’ என்று சொன்னார்கள். இவர்களை கைநிழைமையினாலேயே இன்று கலவரம் ஏற்படுகின்றது. அப்பேர்ப்பட்ட கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் பொறுப்பாளியல்ல என்றும் சொல்லப்படுகின்றது. தவிர இதற்குத் திரி ஆந்திர தேசத்தின் நிலைமை மிகப் பரிதாபகமானதாக இருக்கின்றதென்பதொழிய போலீஸாரைக் குறை சொல்வதினால் எந்த விதமான நிலைமையும் சரியாய்ப் போய்விடாதென்று நினைக்கின்றேன்.

அடுத்தபடியாக நண்பர் கனம் ஸ்ரீ கோபால ரெட்டி அவர்களைப் போது சமர்ப்பித்திருக்கும் பட்டியலைப்பற்றி சொல்லிக்கொள்ளப் பின்பு

3rd March 1950]

[Sri K. T. Kosalram]

படுகின்றேன். அவர்கள் 'deficit' பட்ஜெட்டாக சமர்ப்பித்திருக்கிறார்கள். பஸ் ஸ்டேட்கள் சென்னை மாகாணத்தோடு சேர்க்கப்பட்டபடியால், அவைகளின் செலவும் வருமானத்தைவிட அதிகமாக இருப்பதால் 37 லக்ஷம் ரூபாய் 'deficit' ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதைப்பற்றி ஒன்றும் பரவாயில்லை. ஆனால் மொத்தத்தில் உப்பு சப்பற்ற பட்ஜெட்டென்று சொல்லவேண்டும். இம்மாகாணத்தில் எத்தனையோவிதமான குறைகளிருக்கின்றன. 'மக்களின் வாழ்க்கை நிலையும் உயரவேண்டும்—எந்த விதமான புதிய வரியும் போடக்கூடாது' என்று நான் சொல்லவில்லை. அரசாங்கத்தின் வருமானம் அதிகரித்தால்தான் நாட்டின் செல்வ நிலையை உயர்த்த முடியும். எந்தெந்த விதங்களில் வருமானத்தை அதிகப்படுத்தலாமென்று நான் சொல்லுகின்றேன். நண்பர் ஸ்ரீ வரதாச்சாரியார் அவர்கள் பஸ் சர்வீஸ்களை யெல்லாம் தேசியமாக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னதை நான் வரவேற்கிறேன். City Transport-ஐ தேசியமாக்கினதால் சென்ற வருஷம் 15 லக்ஷ ரூபாய் இந்த City-யில் மட்டும் வருமானம் கிடைத்திருக்கிறது. இந்த வருஷத்தில் 4 லக்ஷம் ரூபாய்தான் வருமானம் வருமென்று சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இதன் காரணம் தெரியவில்லை. இந்த City-யில் மட்டும் 15 லக்ஷம் ரூபாய் வருமானம் வரும்போது நமது மாகாணம் முழுவதிலுமுள்ள பஸ் சர்வீஸ்களையெல்லாம் எடுத்து சர்க்காரே நடத்தினால் 10 கோடி ரூபாய் வருமானம் வரும். பத்து கோடி ரூபாய் வருமானம் வரக்கூடிய பஸ் சர்வீஸ்களை சில முதலாளிகளுக்காக பயந்து கொண்டு தேசியமாக்காவிட்டால் அதைப்பற்றி நான் என்ன சொல்வது என்று புரியவில்லை. இப்பொழுது கவர்ன்மெண்டு ஊழியர்கள் எல்லோரும் Insurance பண்ணிக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்ற திட்டம் வந்திருக்கிறது. அதை வரவேற்கின்றேன். அவர்களுக்கு அரசாங்கம் எவ்வளவு கொடுக்கிறது என்பதைப் பார்க்கும்போது ஒரு விதத்தில் குறைவாயிருக்கிறது. ஆனால் அரசாங்கத்திற்கு அதனால் வருமானம் வருகின்றதா என்று பார்க்கவேண்டும். இப்போது மோட்டார் பஸ்களெல்லாம் third party கட்டாய இன்ஷூரன்ஸ் செய்யவேண்டும். Third party இன்ஷூரன்ஸ் செய்வதன் மூலம் Private company களுக்கு போகின்றது வருமானம். ஆகவே சர்க்கார் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களையும் மோட்டார்சர்க்காரர்களையும் அவர்கள யெல்லாம் சர்க்கார் இன்ஷூரன்ஸ் கார்ப்பரேஷன் மூலமாக இன்சூர் செய்யச் சொன்னால் இரண்டு கோடி ரூபாய் வருமானம் வரும் என்று சொல்லுகிறேன். இந்த சமயத்தில் நிதி மந்திரி அவர்கள் இங்கில்லை. இல்லாவிட்டாலும் அவர்கள் இதை கவனிப்பார்களென்று நம்புகிறேன். அவர்கள் முன்பே இதை செய்திருக்கவேண்டும். ஆனால் அதை செய்யவில்லை.

மும். ஆனால் அதை செய்யவில்லை.

“ அடுத்தாற்போல் மராமத்திலாகா மந்திரி அவர்கள் இங்கிலாந்தில் இருக்கிறார்கள். இப்போது பாசன, டாம் வசதிகளுக்காக ஆந்திர தேசத் திற்குத் தான் அதிகத் தொகை ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. எதை எடுத்தா லும் ஆந்திர தேசத்திற்குத் தான் அதிகப் பணம் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. நான் ஆந்திரர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கக்கூடாது என்று சொல்லவில்லை. தாரா னான் ஆந்திரர்களுக்கு உதவி செய்யட்டும். தமிழ் நாடு வேறு, ஆந்திர நாடு னாமாக கொடுத்து உதவி செய்யட்டும். தமிழ் நாடு வேறு, ஆந்திர நாடு வேறு என்று நான் கருதவில்லை. அவர்கள் அடிக்கடிப் பிரித்துச் சொன்னதால்தான் நான் அதைத் திருப்பிச் சொல்லவேண்டி யிருக்கிறது.

மந்திரி அவர்கள் priority

யிருக்கிறது.

“ எந்த திட்டங்களுக்கு மராமத்திலாகா மந்திரி அவர்கள் priority கொடுக்கிறார்களென்றால் Finance Department எந்தத்திட்டங்களுக்கு முக்கியத்துவம் கொடுக்கிறதோ அதைத்தான் முதலில் எடுத்துக்கொள்ள முடியும். இப்பொழுது நிதி இலாகாவானது கனம் கோபால் ரெட்டியாடிகளின் தலைமையின் கீழ் இருப்பதினாலேயே இந்த வித குறைகள் ஏற்படுகின்றன. அதற்கு ஒன்று சொல்லுகின்றேன். இன்று எல்லா Departmentsகளின் Headகளையெல்லாம் சேர்த்து ஒரு கமிட்டியை ஏற்படுத்தி இந்தக் கமிட்டி எந்த திட்டத்தை முதலில் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகின்றதோ அதன்படித்தான் எந்தத் திட்டங்களுக்கும் priority கொடுக்கவேண்டும். அதை விட்டு Finance Department எல்லாம், அது கணக்குப் பார்த்து கொடுக்கும் திட்டத்திற்கு மாத்திரம்

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முக்கியம் கொடுக்கக்கூடாது. எல்லா Departmentகளின் Headகளை எல்லாம் சேர்ந்து, தேசத்தினுடைய நன்மையைக் கருத்தில் கொண்டு எந்த திட்டத்தை முதலில் எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் நல்லது. எந்தத் திட்டத்தைக் கொஞ்ச நாள் தள்ளிப் போடலாம்—எந்தத் திட்டத்தினால் அதிக நன்மை ஏற்படும்—என்னென்ன நன்மைகள் ஏற்படும் என்று ஆராய்ந்து முடிவு செய்யும் திட்டங்களுக்கே முதல் priority கொடுத்து அவைகளை நிறைவேற்றவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“அடுத்தபடியாக Cottage industryஐ அபிவிருத்தி செய்வதற்காக ஜப்பானிலிருந்து advisorsகளை அழைத்திருப்பதை நான் வரவேற்கின்றேன். ஆனால் அவர்களை மட்டும் கொண்டு வருவது போதாது. நாரவே, ஸ்லீடன் முதலிய நாடுகள் Cottage industry-ல் வெகுவாக முன்னேறியிருக்கக்கூடிய நாடுகள். அங்கிருந்தும் சில advisorsகளைக் கொண்டுவரவேண்டும். அவர்களைக் கொண்டு வந்தால் மட்டும் போதாது. ஒரு Department-க்கும், மற்றொரு Department-க்கும் இப்போது co-operation இல்லாமலிருக்கின்றது. கைத்தொழில் வளர்ச்சிக்கு மின்சாரம் வேண்டுமென்றால் மின்சார இலாகா மறுத்து விடுகிறது. இம்மாதிரி ஒரு இலாகாவிற்கும் மற்றொரு இலாகாவிற்கும் ஒத்துழைப்பு இல்லாமலிருக்கின்றதை போக்க கைத்தொழில் மந்திரியும், மற்றவர்களும் முயற்சிக்க வேண்டும்.

“அரசாங்கம் என்னென்ன ஏற்பாடு, திட்டங்களெல்லாம் போடுகின்றதோ அதை மக்களுக்கு தெரிவிப்பதற்காக Information Department ஒன்றிருக்கிறது. அந்த இலாகாவிற்கு மாதந்திரம் 5 லட்சத்து 26 ஆயிரம் ரூபாய் செலவழிக்கப்படுகிறது. அந்த இலாகாவானது உண்மையில் அரசாங்கத்தின் ஏற்பாடுகளையும், திட்டங்களையும் கிராமாதிரங்களிலுள்ள மக்கள் எல்லோரும் அறியும்படி செய்கின்றதா என்றால் இல்லையெனத்தான் சொல்லவேண்டும். இந்த 5,26,000 ரூபாயும் அதி காரிகளுடைய சம்பளத்திற்காக மட்டும் கொடுக்கப்படுகிறது. இந்த நிலைமையில் பணத்தை வீணாக விரயம் செய்யாமல் அரசாங்கம் உண்மையில் என்னென்ன மக்கள் நன்மைக்காகச் செய்கின்றன—மக்கள் எப்படி அரசாங்கத்துடன் ஒத்துழைக்க வேண்டும் என்பதையெல்லாம் கிராம மக்களுக்குத் தெரியப்படுத்தும் Information Department ஆக இயங்கவேண்டும்.

“அடுத்தபடியாக ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு Land Acquisition Department மூலம் இதுவரை 400 வீடுகள் தான் ஆகியிருக்கிறது. இந்த Department-ல் 26 டிப்டி தாசில்தார்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுடைய சம்பளம் மாத் திரம் ஒரு லட்சம் ரூபாய் சம்பளத்தைக் கொடுக்கின்றோமே தவிர அதற்குத் தக்க வேலை நடக்கவில்லை. இந்த சம்பளமாகக் கொடுக்கக் கூடிய பணத்தை ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குப் பிரித்துக் கொடுத்தாலேயே இதை போல இரண்டு மடங்கு வீடுகள் சொந்தமாக்கிக் கொள்ளலாம். இந்த நிலைமையில் இந்த Department வேலை நடக்கக்கூடாது.

“இன்னும் prohibition-ஐப்பற்றி பல நண்பர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். நானும் குறிப்பாக ஒன்று சொல்ல விரும்புகின்றேன். இதற்கு முன்னால் எக்ஸைஸ் Department-ல் வேலை செய்தவர்களையே இந்த Prohibition Department-ல் வேலை செய்யும்படி வைத்துக்கொள்ளும் வரையும் இந்த புகார்கள் இருந்துகொண்டேதானிருக்கும். இந்த Prohibition-ல் நம் பிக்கையுள்ள அதிகாரிகளை நியமித்து வேலை நடத்தினால்தான் இந்த இலாகா சரிவர வேலை நடக்குமென நான் சொல்லுகின்றேன்.”

SRI PYDAH VENKATANARAYANA:—“Madam, Deputy Speaker, the budget is no doubt a very well balanced budget. It does not mean that it is a progressive one. We are happy there are no proposals for fresh taxation next year. We are also sorry that there is absolutely no relief from the existing heavy taxation. On the whole the budget is a sound one and I congratulate the Hon. the Finance Minister on his presentation of such a budget to this House.

[Sri Pydah Venkatanarayana]

“I want to say a word about the Communist atrocities. Their inhuman and violent activities are on the increase and unless the Government take immediate, proper and effective steps to put down all such activities there will absolutely be no safety of person and property. The recent incident which occurred in the State of Hyderabad is a horrible one. The Hon. the Deputy Prime Minister of India, Sardar Patel, recently stated that the Central Government have been consulting the Government of the Madras State from time to time in putting down the Communist activities in Hyderabad State.

“In regard to controls, these are still in existence in this State and in other States of our country. Due to the imposition of these controls, the commodities go underground and there is scarcity of materials and consequent high prices. There is blackmarketing on the part of the producers and the merchant and official corruption is rampant. The officers who administer the controls should be properly controlled by the Ministers. Until that is done, controls will be of no use. Take for instance, the sugar position in our State and in the whole country, before the sugar was seized. It was available in plenty, of course, at a cost about 20 per cent higher than the scheduled price. To-day, it is more than 200 per cent higher and yet the commodity is not available. Why should not this Government bring all these facts to the notice of the Central Government and advise them to do away with all controls altogether? That does not mean that they should do it as was done on the previous occasion. Lifting of control means not only in respect of prices. There should be free movement of commodities also within our State and within the country.

“As regards the Andhra Province, many of us thought that the separate province would be constituted before India became a Republic. There was unanimity of opinion in respect of its constitution, not only among Andhra leaders but among others as well. Of course, there are differences on details and all that, which are inevitable. However, I hope the Andhra Province can be achieved very early.

“As regards co-operative housing, I am sure the Government have committed a blunder in launching a scheme of constructing houses costing Rs. 15 to 50 thousand. The houses are palatial ones and people who can afford to pay for them can look after themselves. The Government need not go to their rescue. For the middle-class and the lower middle-class people, the Government would have done well in constructing houses costing Rs. 2 to 5 thousand. Even now it is not too late. I hope the Government would consider that aspect of the question.

“As regards Prohibition, Madam, it is a very ameliorative measure and nobody is sorry for the loss of revenue it has entailed. But we must stop this illicit distillation and unauthorized sales that have been going on in several places as if they have been licensed. In several places, every house is a bar and I am sorry to say that the administration of this department is not very

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effective and efficient. There is absolutely no use of losing such a large revenue on this account unless there is corresponding advantage achieved by effective administration of the department.

“As regards income-tax, it seems that the Central Government get a revenue of Rs. 180 crores, but the divisible pool for the States is only Rs. 108 crores. Our quota is 18 per cent and it will now be reduced to 17½ per cent. The Finance Minister in consultation with other Finance Ministers should see that the divisible pool is increased from 60 to 70 per cent. I would like to know whether it is not possible to increase the divisible pool beyond 108 crores as the total income of the Central Government from this is Rs. 180 crores. This is necessary in view of the fact that the Central Government, next year or year after next, may prohibit the levy of sales tax on some of the essential commodities and this Government may lose one or two crores of rupees under that head.

“As regards devaluation, Madam, our Finance Minister has stated that it has helped our export position so that we are now earning more dollars and sterling. That might be so as regards the country's external economy. But the consumers have to pay more on account of devaluation. In that way the internal economy is dislocated. People have to pay more than what they were paying before devaluation.

“As regards the Medical department, every hospital in the State is overcrowded. If a hospital has 200 beds, there are 300 patients and many of them are made to lie on the verandahs and on mats on the floor. This also must be attended to by the Government. Once again, Madam, I congratulate the Hon. the Finance Minister on the presentation of this budget and I hope he will try and rectify the mistakes which have been pointed out.”

*SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—“Madam, Deputy Speaker, I am sorry I am not in a position as I hoped to congratulate the Hon. the Finance Minister on the budget which he has presented. The whole of the budget speech of the Hon. the Finance Minister from the beginning to the end is absolutely prosaic, except perhaps for the quotation made in the end from an old Tamil poet by this ex-student of Shantiniketan. The Hon. Finance Minister takes credit for the fact that there is no proposal for fresh taxation in this year's budget. We are really glad that we have not got the unseemly and unnecessary proposals that we had last year which have done sufficient harm to the Congress Party in the country. At least he has saved us from the ugly position in which we were placed last year. If there is no proposal for fresh taxation, I ask him, with great respect: Does this budget look like the budget of a free Republican country? Is there anything that makes the common man understand that he is living in a free India? Of course, he will turn round and say: ‘I make proposals for fresh taxation, but you oppose them; you want ameliorative measures to help the toiling millions of the country; how can we give effect to them?’ I ask, Sir, in all seriousness—

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‘Have the Government till this date seriously considered the question of retrenchment in order to find money for ameliorative measures to help the poor millions of this country.’ The question of retrenchment has not been touched at all. If they have done anything, in the name of retrenchment, they have reduced a number of peons, process-servers, attenders and totis and also reduced the pay given to these poor people. No earnest attempt has been made at the retrenchment of unnecessary departments and institutions which have been in existence for so many years in the country. What is the necessity for the fifth wheel of the coach, the Board of Revenue? It has been in existence during the British regime as a safe place for fossilized bureaucrats. Why do you want to continue the unnecessary institutions? There are many States in our country where there are no Revenue Boards. These Revenue Boards are a check and counter-check on the good proposals emanating from the Ministry. Is it not time to abolish this and find money for other important purposes?

“There are many post office departments. There is for instance the Divisional Inspector of Schools in the Education Department. These offices exist for the purpose of putting obstacles in the path of good proposals. After the separation of the Judiciary and the Executive, what is the necessity for Sub-Collectors? Between the Tahsildars and the Collectors, we do not want these post offices to stand in the way and obstruct. I request the Hon. the Finance Minister to seriously think over this and make suitable retrenchments in the administration of the country. Let him begin from the top and not from the bottom.

“We have now passed the Panchayat Bill. The Hon. Minister for Local Administration was in a hurry to have it passed before the 26th January 1950. But now, perhaps it will come here again with some minor amendments to suit the new Constitution of the country. Have we made any provision for giving effect to that Bill in this budget? If not, why have you passed that Bill? It is one of the important Bills for which we have taken credit. It is intended to make the villages some sort of republic in the Republic of India. We want money for these village republics. Is it not the duty of the Government to make provision for putting this Bill into effect? It is a mockery, Sir, to pass some legislation without having any idea of putting it into effect. I really resent the attitude of the Treasury Bench that they should pass any amount of legislation without any idea of putting them into effect.

“Many hon. Members have been saying that Prohibition is a failure. I agree with the Hon. the Finance Minister that Prohibition is an article of faith with us and that we must give effect to it. It has been given to us by our great leader and it is our duty so long as we run the administration of the country to give effect to it. It is not a failure. The ordinary villager has really accepted the Prohibition policy. But there are some people in high ranks in Government service who openly violate Prohibition laws. When

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the matter is brought to the notice of the Government, the Government do not take action. I will give one instance. In my district there was a Circle Inspector of Police by name M. Govindan. He openly flouted the Prohibition law. He drank openly and he encouraged illicit distillation. My Taluk Congress Committee noted these things and that responsible organization passed a unanimous resolution requesting the Government to take action against the Inspector. The Government had an enquiry conducted through the District Superintendent of Police. The Taluk Congress Committee gave evidence, ample evidence, sufficient to convict him in a court of law. What was the result? The whole thing is there. The Hon. Minister winks at these open violations of Prohibition law by the Government's own officers. That gentleman is still in service and is probably promoted because he flouted the public opinion. These Police officers flout your own laws and bring discredit on your own head. (Interruption.) I hear a murmur from the Hon. Minister, 'No sufficient evidence'. The Hon. Minister from Malabar, my friend and colleague and leader, says that evidence is not sufficient. I know a bit of law. I may even claim to be a better lawyer than many lawyers on the Treasury Benches. I can say that the evidence is sufficient. I can challenge the Government to have a regular trial in a court of law. The Taluk Congress Committee will prove to the hilt all the charges made against this officer. When a responsible organization takes up this attitude, is it not the duty of the Government to take action? (Interruption.) My friend suggests that I may resign as a protest. If that is the only remedy available, I will take that remedy as a last resort.

"I will say something about the budget. The question is: Can we give decent administration to the country, can we make the villagers understand that it is their own Government? Do they feel that the Government is run for them and by them and for their own good? The Police department is essential for us. We are living in trying times. There is the Communist menace. I am one of those who have helped the Government to pass many extraordinary legislations against the Communists. I am reputed to be an anti-Communist. I am prepared to help the Government to take any action against the Communists. But, in the name of suppressing Communism, if you let loose the Police forces in an area to carry on hunting operations in the villages, to trouble and harass the villagers, we cannot accept it. I should say that in Malabar district it is going too far. My great leader, a person respected throughout the country, greater than any other leader in Malabar, Sri Kelappan, who was the President of the Kerala Provincial Congress Committee, had to resign in disgust at the methods of administration of this Government in my district. The poor villagers have been crying for justice and we, the members of the Congress organization, are not able to help the villagers against the atrocities committed by the Police. When representations are made to the Hon. Minister, nothing is done. The Law Minister comes to my village every third day. Our

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Ministers form a tourist Ministry. They are always moving. Read any newspaper and you will find that one Minister goes north and another goes south and so on. The Law Minister goes even to Ceylon. In spite of all this, things are going on like this.

"Now, I will give one or two instances. A poor Harijan who lives very near Pattambi in my taluk had a complaint against the local Police Sub-Inspector and he had put in a petition against him to the District Superintendent of Police. The poor Harijan knows nothing about Communism and he is not a Communist. The village headman certified that he was not a Communist and he also said there was no Communism in the village. In spite of all that, the Sub-Inspector of Police went to the man with a large force of the Malabar Special Police, caught hold of him, belaboured him and took him to the Police station and there gave him a sound thrashing. The third day he was let off. I ask whether we Congressmen, who are the disciples of the greatest man, Mahatma Gandhi, who was practically ruling the country and was always thinking of the uplift of the Harijans, are seeing to it that the poor Harijans live a life of safety and peace in this country. In fact, Mahatmaji wanted that the first President of the Indian Republic should be a Harijan and his soul will certainly rebel if he were alive to-day and heard of such incidents and would not shut his eyes against such atrocities being committed. Yes, the Sub-Inspector thinks that his pride is wounded. 5-15 p.m.

"There is another instance of an old Nambudiri Brahmin. You know, Madam, the Nambudiris are a conservative and orthodox people and there is no Communism with them generally. He is 65 years old and absolutely orthodox and conservative; he has no political opinion; he wakes up early in the morning, goes on with his prayer till mid-day and after prayer goes for his meal. One day the poor Nambudiri was surrounded by a Malabar Special Police force and he was arrested and brought to the Police station. There he refused to take anything till he had his morning bath and had his usual prayer. He was arrested, why? Not because he was a Communist but because he had the audacity to stand surety to another person. That person had been arrested not in connection with the Communist menace but under the ordinary provisions of the Indian Penal Code. The Sub-Inspector was enraged at this ordinary man, the Nambudiri, and he was arrested and then he was let on bail. That was the nature of the arrests that are made by the Police people there. As a matter of fact, I have known people having been arrested during the Martial Law days and even then the arrests were not of this type. I was in the midst then of the rebel area and I have seen several of the atrocities committed by the Police people, but I have not seen or heard of any Police officer arresting a man because he had the courage to stand surety to another person. Even under the British rule, they had not gone down to this extent. Of course, we must take all action against the Communist menace; and if it

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is allowed to go on unchecked it will spread to other parts of the country. I am glad the Government have taken some action but that action should not outrage the feelings of ordinary persons. The Police there are not the people who fight the Communists but they are the people who create millions of enemies for you.

"Then there is the next election coming on. The poorest of the people believe that the British Government were brought down not only by the organized strength of the Congress but by the poorest millions. The Congress Government will go down if you carry on with such atrocities in the name of administration. (At this stage, the Hon. Speaker occupied the Chair.)

"Sir, I am glad the Speaker himself has come to occupy the Chair now. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been till now referring to the case of a poor Harijan of my place who was ill-treated by the Police, but not because he was a Communist. Sir, in Malabar I used to carry on propaganda saying 'Look at the Madras Legislative Assembly; it is presided over by a distinguished Harijan.' So, Sir, how can we face the Harijans when they are ill-treated like this by the Police, even when they are not Communists. I, therefore, appeal to the Government to seriously realize that it is their duty to curb the atrocities of the Police. Of course, you cannot repress a political party by force. The Communist Party cannot be repressed by force either, though you may do something against them.

"Then, Sir, my hon. Friends on the other side referred to the Malabar Tenancy legislation. It has an unfortunate history behind it. Ever since the Congress Ministry started to function in this Province, we have been carrying on agitation for the reform of the Malabar Tenancy Law. The Kerala Congress Committee submitted a draft report and that report was accepted by all the parties in Malabar, the Congress, the Muslim League, the Socialists and even the Communists. There was propaganda throughout the district that the Government should bring in an amending Bill on the basis of that report. I think two of the Hon. Ministers travelled from the City of Madras to Malabar—the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon and Mr. Kala Venkata Rao—and we had a conference at which we discussed the question threadbare. Where is the Bill? We did not see it again. Almost every time the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon visited Malabar he was making promises that a Bill would be introduced in the Assembly."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member's time is up."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"I am closing, Sir, in a minute. Though he has been making sweet promises that a legislation would be introduced immediately, nothing has so far happened.

"Lastly, Sir, I wish to make a request to my Muslim League friends. Let them not think of any communal party in the Republic. Of course, when my own party is following the communal rotation, how can I ask my Muslim friends not to think of

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it. Mr. Speaker, I am sore to see that this Government is nothing but the old Justice Party with the khadi on but without the capacity of the Justice Party."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"Sir, in view of the large number of members who want to take part in the discussion and there are many matters to be discussed, I suggest we sit till 7-30 p.m. to-day and to-morrow. I understand that in Bombay and other provinces they sit till late in the night."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have no objection, but I would like to know the views of the Hon. Leader of the House on this matter."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"So far as to-morrow is concerned, hon. Members may sit till 5 o'clock and the Ministers may be called upon to reply at 5 o'clock."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think we can sit till 7 o'clock to-morrow, being the last day of the general discussion on the budget. At 6 o'clock, the Ministers will be called upon to reply. But, I wish to know how many Ministers want to take part in the debate."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The Hon. Chief Minister, myself and the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon."

MR. SPEAKER:—"So, I shall call upon the Chief Minister at 6 o'clock, then the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon and after that at 7 o'clock I shall call upon the Hon. Leader of the House."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"All right, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"In that case we may have to sit till 8 o'clock to-morrow but to-day it is not possible to sit late."

SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"Sir, some of us have booked our return to-morrow and if we are not here it should not be taken as an act of discourtesy, because at 6 o'clock we have to leave."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Now, we have got only 7 minutes more and if any hon. Member wants to finish within those 7 minutes, he may do so."

* SRI K. LINGA RAJU:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not want that my time should be reduced. Thanks are due to the Hon. Finance Minister for having introduced the Budget without any new taxation. But, the way in which he has been depicted by the famous cartoonist Shanker in his weekly as running after a married couple for a share of the dowry, I thought he would give some such romantic taxation surprises. But, I hope he will not come forward with any taxation proposals in the middle of the year or with a supplementary budget running to crores of rupees.

"Then, Sir, within the short time at my disposal I do not want to go into many of the subjects except the question of the Andhra Province and the question of the Ramapadasagar Project which

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used to be referred to in this House very often do not seem to have received much attention this year. Of course, Ramapadasagar Project remains now as the Utopia of some scientific minds.

"In regard to the Andhra Province issue, I am glad to have the assurance from my Friend, Mr. Kala Venkata Rao, that it can still be achieved after a deliberation across the table. I only wish that that deliberation and negotiation will be honourable and will not be a surrender. In the meanwhile, I would like to request the Treasury Bench not to indulge in cheap humour as it was done in the other House, where the Hon. Dr. Rajan was referring to it in such a language that makes the average Andhra deeply hurt."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member should not refer to what has taken place in the other House because it is likely to be misunderstood. So, let him not do it."

SRI K. LINGA RAJU:—"I am sorry, Sir, for Hon. Dr. Rajan who is perhaps thinking of exchanging his profession to that of an undertaker. He is a doctor and he wants to take the place of an undertaker, while it is the undertaker who usually follows the doctor. I only wish to request the Treasury Bench and other members who are making references to the Andhra Province to be a little more careful in their language.

"Then I would like to refer to one or two points within the short time at my disposal, and in particular to the Police atrocities to which I made a reference in connection with the Governor's speech. I made reference to the excesses committed by the Police and in particular to the case of a woman who was raped in the open street by a Police officer. I also gave a report of this incident to the Hon. Chief Minister. I am very sorry that people cannot have confidence in the administration if such officers are not punished properly. I, therefore, wish to appeal to the Treasury Bench that in these matters they should take speedy action and see that the public confidence is restored. Wherever such atrocities are committed what they say is, there is Communist trouble. My hon. Friend Mr. Kala Venkata Rao was referring to the Communist trouble elsewhere. Of course everywhere there is the Communist menace, and people are driven into the Communists' fold on account of the excesses committed by the Police. In some cases, the aristocracy is given a free hand to function in conjunction with the Police force. I request the Government, in view of the coming elections, to see that they do not lose the confidence of the people on account of these things. Perhaps they think that the Communists are underground and are not to be seen now, they should not be allowed to get the sympathy of the people in any case.

"Then, Sir, within the one minute at my disposal I would like to refer to one other matter and that is in regard to the interference in administrative matters by big men, whether they be influential M.L.As. or officials or Ministers. There is something talked of

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very badly about the premature retirement of Col. Bhatia. It is for the Government to contradict what people say. It is said that the transfer of a lady doctor is primarily responsible for his premature retirement. Col. Bhatia is a very greatly respected officer of this Province and it is not desirable that we should lose his services prematurely. I, therefore, request the Government to see that such impressions in the public mind are removed.

"One word, Sir, before I conclude. The question of Prohibition is referred to. I think Prohibition is success so far as the people are concerned. If we see officers of the Government, say a Member of the Board of Revenue, coming on inspection and opening a bottle in the presence of hundreds of people, it is something which we cannot stand. On another occasion with the connivance of the Prohibition staff, I have been informed, small syndicates have been formed round about towns. But, what I say is, round about the towns, illicit distillation is going on with the connivance of the Police and the Prohibition staff. I have known of one instance where a batch of people were sent to jail in rotation and the Prohibition officer is asked to revognize that offence. When one member of the batch goes to jail his family is being maintained by the other members. So, if the whole lot of the villagers are sent to jail, it does not matter because they get a bigger amount even though they go to jail. The officers are involved in this and that is my complaint. So, if I speak of Prohibition on this occasion, it is only to request the Government that in enforcing their measures they should see the co-operation of the Congressmen. I think references have been made that Congressmen are not co-operating. I say it is not correct, but wherever our co-operation is offered, it is not generally taken by the Prohibition staff. That is the thing. So, it has to be looked into by the Government."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Saturday, the 4th March 1950.

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

I.—STATEMENT *RE* DERAILMENT OF THE CALCUTTA MAIL.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“ Sir, before the business on the agenda is taken up I shall make a statement on the railway disaster.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ The Hon. Minister can make it after the question hour.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“ With your permission I shall make the statement even now, Sir, as the House may be anxious to know the details about it.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ I shall allow this, provided it is not made a precedent in future.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“ This is the wireless message received from the D.I.G. from the scene of occurrence—

‘ Calcutta Mail derailed 48th mile between Tada and Sullurpet 11-25 last night. Out of eleven carriages, the engine and first bogie capsized. The first bogie turned over completely and smashed. Four other bogies also capsized. All others except the last are off the track. So far known, 5 died and 41 injured, 5 of them seriously. Superintendent, Railway Police, travelling in the first bogie injured. Ramakrishna Raju, Chairman, Legislative Council, also injured. Both not serious. Clear case of sabotage by removal of fishplates. All injured removed to Sullurpet hospital. All relief arrangements made. D.I.G. (Northern Range) camping Tada. He is on the spot from 1 a.m. District Magistrate, Nellore, and District Superintendent of Police arrived. Investigation proceeding. Message is sent from the scene of occurrence.’

“ Sir, this is the message we have received. And I have also seen Sri Ramakrishna Raju. He is in Madras now. He reached Madras at 10 a.m. to-day. He has received some injuries on his legs; they are not serious. I may also add, Messrs. Pydha Venkatanarayana, Linga Raju, Sanyasi Rao, and Kala Venkata Rao, all of whom travelled by that train, are all safe.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ I have already stated that this should not be made a precedent. I have allowed the statement to be made now as several M.L.As. travelled by that train.

“ We shall now take up the first item of business on the agenda, namely, Questions and Answers.”

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II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Sales tax assessment on paddy and rice sold by the producers in the Tanjore district.

* 31 Q.—JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID (on behalf of Janab M. A. Muhammad Ibrahim): Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in Tanjore district, the producers of paddy and rice are assessed under the General Sales Tax Act for their direct supply of these articles to the Government purchasing officers; and

(b) if so, whether the Government countenance such assessments?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“(a) & (b) It was brought to the notice of the Government that producers in Tanjore district who sold paddy and rice to the District Supply Officer, Tanjore, were asked to pay sales tax in respect of such sales. The Government called for a report on the subject from the local officers. The report which has been received is under examination.”

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—“Is it not a fact that the exemption of paddy sales by producers directly to the District Supply Officer from the operation of the Sales Tax Act, helps procurement, and therefore, will the Government favourably consider the representation sent by the producers?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“No, I am sorry, I cannot. The point for consideration is, while the first sale of agricultural produce is always exempt from taxation, whether it includes the sale of paddy by producers direct to the District Supply Officer.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“May I enquire, whether it is not a fact that in all districts producers are always exempt from sales tax?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“First sales by the agriculturists are never taxed.”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“If the first sales of agriculturists are not taxed, why should the producers who supply to the procurement officers direct be taxed, and so will Government issue instructions to see that the rules already framed are strictly adhered to?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Sir, this is a peculiar point. The price fixed for the paddy includes also the sales tax, because they normally expect one change of hands to take place. But here the producers directly sell to the District Supply Officer, and so the point for consideration is whether the price fixed for the produce given which includes sales

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tax also must be taken by the Government, or the sales tax, —wherever it is collected legally or illegally—should be allowed to be retained by the producer.”

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—“May I know, when all these years the producers have not been asked to pay sales tax, why should that tax be collected now from them?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Previously, producers were not giving paddy directly to the District Supply Officer; they were selling to the wholesale licensees, and Government were collecting the sales tax from them. But now when the producer himself sells to the District Supply Officer direct the question is whether the sales tax should not be collected from the producer.”

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—“When it is admitted that first sales should be exempt from sales tax, where does the question of levy of sales tax arise, why not issue straightaway a notification that no sales tax should be levied in such case?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“The price received by the producer is inclusive of the sales tax: and since he has received a price conclusive of the sales tax: the question arises whether he should not be asked to pay the sales tax.”

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—“Is it not a fact, Sir, that the agents of the wholesale licensees would offer only a lower price against the controlled price or village-site price fixed by the Government?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“We hear occasionally reports to that effect.”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“Sir, the Hon. Finance Minister in one of his replies said that this tax is being collected illegally. May I know whether Government will consider this exemption favourably or not?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“The price received by the producer is inclusive of the sales tax. That means, he receives the price of paddy, say Rs. X plus the sales tax. When that is being given to the producer, the producer is not entitled to receive the sales tax; he has no right to keep it to himself; he has to give it over to Government; so, that matter is under the consideration of the Government.”

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—“May I inquire whether Government have modified the Sales Tax Act recently?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“No, Sir.”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“In that case, will the Hon. Minister send more regular instructions to give a definite price for the paddy of the producers apart from the sales tax, instead of asking the officers to collect the sales tax on the plea that the price paid includes sales tax?”

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is all the same whether I take it separately or collectively."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In view of the various complications which arise in the administration of the Sales Tax Act, may I suggest to the Government to publish a brochure in various languages giving producers and others information from time to time as to what exactly the regular tax they have to pay is, how it is levied, who has to pay it, and how much he has to pay; may I know whether this will be vouchsafed?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We have appointed a special officer to prepare a Sales Tax Manual, and the manual will be ready very soon; at least the first portion of it will be published very soon; therein all these details will be given."

JANAB K. M. SEETHI:—"May I inquire whether the sales tax included in the price paid is not repayable to the purchaser if it is not to be collected according to the rules without being appropriated by the Government?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"That is not given to the purchaser, because he is not taking that price from the producer."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Sir, the Hon. Minister assumes that the price received by the producer includes sales tax also. My contention is because there is a monopolistic procurement system, the agents of the licensees offer the producers only a lower price, in fact, much below the controlled price, and so, where does the question of price including sales tax arise?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is common knowledge that merchants offer a lower price than that fixed by Government. The producer is foregoing his price to that extent. The Food Department fixes some price; that is inclusive of the sales tax, and therefore they are taking it from the producer when he sells his produce directly to the District Supply Officer."

JANAB M. S. ATAULLAH:—"The Hon. Minister has been saying that at one point there is no sales tax, and does he not confuse the issue when again he says it is included in the first sale itself and therefore a sales tax is collected? How does he justify it?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"While fixing the price of paddy, the Government assume that it will be sold to the wholesale merchants and they fix a price which is inclusive of the sales tax. Now when the producer sells to the District Supply Officer direct, the producer should get only the price fixed for that."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"May I know whether the Government have previously received a deputation on the subject from the people of Tanjore?"

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Yes, I have called for a report from the local officer, and I said, that the Government are examining the question."

Allotment of foodgrains to this State for the current year.

* 32 Q.—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) the quantities of rice and other grains that have been promised to be allotted to this State by the Government of India for the current year;

(b) the anticipated deficit in rice and other foodgrains in the year 1950 in this State consequent on the failure of the monsoon in the Southern districts and the recent cyclone in the Circars; and

(c) the measures this Government propose to adopt to meet the food shortage in this State?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" (a) The Government of India have not yet officially communicated the ceiling import quota to this State for the current year but this State has however been given to understand that the quota for the current year will be 3 lakhs tons of all foodgrains.

" (b) The anticipated deficit in the State for the current year has been roughly estimated at 8 lakhs tons of foodgrains.

" (c) The Government of India have been approached for additional allotments and they are considering the question."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"The Hon. Minister stated that the anticipated deficit in this State for the current year has been roughly estimated at 8 lakhs of tons of foodgrains, and that they are going to get a quota of three lakhs from the Government of India. May I know how does he propose to meet the remaining five lakhs deficit?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"We have again approached the Government of India for further allotment, and they are considering the matter. We hope to get further allotment from the Government of India."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister has seen the statement of the Food Minister of the Government of India that the total loss caused by storage in Government godowns is more than the overall deficit in the country?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"I have not read that particular statement made by the Food Minister of the Government of India. But whatever we can do to reduce that loss in our own godowns is being attended to."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Sir, recently the Director-General of Food was here and had a conference with the Ministers and some other officers; may I know what is the outcome of that conference?"

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THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"There was no regular conference with him; but we had interviews with him; and we discussed certain matters with him after he toured some of the Southern districts. The one thing he assured us was that the 12 ounces of food which we are now giving in the ration shops will not be reduced, and to that extent the Government of India will come to our help. That is one point on which he has given assurance."

11-15 a.m. SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the Government have considered improved methods of milling and the encouragement of hand-pounding as one of the means to bridge the gap between our requirement and the availability?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"Hand-pounding is being encouraged wherever possible, especially in the Firka Development areas. With a view to stop further milling, Government have passed orders that no new licence should be issued to rice mills."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Is it a fact that by adopting improved method of milling paddy, a saving to the extent of six lakhs of tons could be effected and, if so, whether this Government have taken any steps in that direction?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"The Food Adviser to the Government of India, Sri Varma, was here some time ago. He inspected some of the mills and made some suggestions for the adoption of improved methods. If his suggestions are adopted all over the country, we hope to save one lakh of tons and not six lakhs of tons."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—"Is it a fact that, in spite of the failure of the monsoon and the cyclone havoc, the Government have fixed the procurement target for this year higher than that for last year?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"No, Sir. that is not the case everywhere. Wherever the agents could not procure at the old rates and wherever representations were made and seasonal conditions were bad, the quota fixed for this year is less than that of last year."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"In case the Government of India are not in a position to comply with our request for more food, have the Government taken any steps to meet the deficit in the current year?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"Besides the additional produce we expect from the Grow More Food Campaign, we are trying to save by minimising wastage due to shortage and other causes, by improved methods of milling, by propaganda for non-rice canteens and by similar steps, so that the overall food position may not deteriorate."

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JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"In order to meet the food shortage, may I know whether this Government intend to implement the miss-a-meal programme of the Government of India which the Ministers of the Bombay Government have adopted?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"The Government are of opinion that no useful purpose will be served by their taking up the question themselves. So they have left the matter entirely to non-official agencies."

JANAB MOHAMED RAFAEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI:—"Have the Government any information to lay on the table of the House regarding the production of synthetic rice and as to how far it will help to alleviate the present distress?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"Synthetic rice is still in the experimental stage. If the experiment succeeds, it is hoped that that will give some relief."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I know whether it is as a result of this experiment that we are getting in the Government House Hostel rice which has got the quality of rubber?" (Laughter.)

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Is it a fact that the Food Adviser to the Government of India suggested an increase in price to enable more procurement?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"No, Sir. On the other hand, the Government of India want us to reduce the price as much as possible."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know what happened to the sweet-potato experiment that was conducted by the Government a couple of years ago?"

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether in the present state of affairs it will be possible to give sixteen ounces of ration to labourers as has been decided by the Government?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"Yes, that is being continued."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"In connexion with the steps for meeting the deficit, may I know whether the Government have considered the possibility of growing paddy in the Agency Tracts where large areas of very good land are available?"

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I know what the outturn in the mills is whether the Government get 69 bags of rice for 100 bags of paddy or up to 73 or 76 bags?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"I have not got the figures with me just now. The recommendation of Sri Varma, Food Adviser to the Government of India, is to increase the outturn by 1 or 2 per cent."

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SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“Is the Hon. Minister aware that rice cards are being changed to millet or mixed diet cards on a large scale, particularly in dry areas like Kurnool and Cuddapah, and that this has led to a lot of discontent and corruption and, if so, what steps does he propose to take to check this?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member may put a separate question.”

Trade disputes referred to the Industrial Tribunals.

* 33 Q.—SRI B. S. MURTHI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state the number of trade disputes referred to the Industrial Tribunals in the year ending with 15th December 1949?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Eighty-six.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“How many of these 86 cases have been settled amicably and how many are pending settlement?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Cases are referred to the Industrial Tribunals because there is no amicable settlement.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“The latter portion of my question has not been answered.”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Such cases as could not be amicably settled have been referred to the Industrial Tribunals and their number for the year ending with December 15, 1949, is 86.”

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—“In how many of them awards have been passed?”

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

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—“May I know the number of disputes referred to the Government and how many of them have been attended to by the Minister himself?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“The Minister himself does not attend to the disputes. There are Industrial Tribunals constituted for the purpose. The Minister only refers the disputes to the Tribunals.”

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—“Is the Hon. Minister aware that his predecessor was taking a keen interest in calling the parties concerned, trying to compose their differences and thus effecting a settlement without referring the disputes to Industrial Tribunals?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I shall certainly convey the compliment of the hon. Member to my predecessor.”

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Qualifications for the Assistant Industrial Engineer, etc., in the Industries Department.

* 34 Q.—JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID (on behalf of Janab M. A. Muhammad Ibrahim): Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) the requisite minimum qualifications for direct recruitment to the posts of Assistant Industrial Engineer and Heads of Mechanical Engineering Section in the Polytechnics;

(b) the respective scales of pay thereof; and

(c) whether there are vacancies still in either of these posts?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. Minister for Industries):—“(a) The requisite minimum qualifications for direct recruitment to the post of the Assistant Industrial Engineer—

(1) A degree in Mechanical Engineering of a University in the Province or a Diploma in Mechanical Engineering of the College of Engineering, Guindy; and

(2) Practical experience for a period of not less than three years in the erection and maintenance of power installations and industrial machinery or the conduct of pumping and boring operations.

Requisite minimum qualification for direct recruitment to the posts of Heads of Mechanical Engineering Section in the Polytechnics—A degree in Mechanical Engineering or Technology of a University in the Province followed by practical experience for five years.

“(b) Scale of pay for the post of Assistant Industrial Engineer.—Rs. 260—30/2—380—40/2—500.

Scale of pay for the post of Head of the Mechanical Engineering Section.—Rs. 230—30/2—410.

“(c) There are no vacancies in the post of the Assistant Industrial Engineer. There are altogether six posts of Head of Mechanical Engineering Section of which five are held by candidates appointed under the emergency provisions while one post is vacant.

Action is being taken to make regular appointments to all the six posts in consultation with the Madras Public Service Commission.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Is it a fact that due to want of technically trained hands, the opening of a polytechnic school in Kurnool has been postponed?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I should like to have notice.”

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—“When the qualifications prescribed for Assistant Industrial Engineers and the Heads of

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Mechanical Engineering Section in Polytechnics are almost the same, why should there be any difference in the scales of pay between these two posts?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I cannot explain the rationale behind it. I take it that those who were responsible for fixing the salary must have gone into the question thoroughly and fixed the scales."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"In making regular appointments to these posts, will the Public Service Commission be given complete freedom and the posts advertised as usual?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The hon. Member knows the usual procedure adopted by the Public Service Commission and there will be no departure from it in respect of these posts."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Is it not a fact that qualified persons are not offering themselves for service as Heads of Mechanical Engineering Section in Polytechnics because their scale of pay is lower than that of Assistant Industrial Engineers?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I take the information."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—"May I know whether the present incumbents are fully qualified?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I take it to be so."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"May I know whether any representation about the scales of salary has been made to the Hon. Minister by the staff of the polytechnic at Kakinada?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I am not aware of it. I should like to have notice."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Since the opening of a polytechnic school in Kurnool has been postponed for a long time, will the Government see that it is opened as soon as technical hands are available?"

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Will the Government consider the advisability of revising their policy at least to the limited extent of attracting the best talent for polytechnics by recruiting people on a contract basis for a limited number of years on good salary?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"It seems to be a very good suggestion."

New District Harijan Welfare Officers.

* 35 Q.—SRI B. S. MURTHI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) the authority controlling the work of the New District Harijan Welfare Officers;

(b) whether any extra staff has been given to them; and

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(c) whether any extra facilities have been provided to them to expedite the work of sanctioning house-sites, etc.?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—" (a) The Collectors of the districts concerned.

" (b) Yes.

" (c) No."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know, Sir, how many Deputy Collectors have been newly appointed as District Harijan Welfare Officers and the names of the districts in which these officers have been posted?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Nine Deputy Collectors have been appointed, Sir, and one among them has been appointed as the Deputy Director of Harijan Welfare. The names of the districts to which they have been posted are, Malabar, Tirunelveli, Ramnad, Tanjore, Chingleput, East Godavari, Krishna and Guntur."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Where new District Welfare Officers have not been appointed, may I know, Sir, what arrangements have been made to expedite the work?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"We have asked the Director of Harijan Welfare to suggest methods of easily acquiring house-sites for these people, without amending the Land Acquisition Act and thus we are trying to avoid the cumbersome process involved in it."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that because the Government have not issued definite and proper instructions to the District Officers in the matter of expediting the work of sanctioning house-sites, there has been so much delay, and if so, will the Government consider the desirability of issuing, now at least, definite and proper instructions in the matter?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Instructions have already been issued in the matter, Sir, and those who are newly appointed will be reminded of them."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Will the Government consider the desirability of appointing a District Harijan Welfare Officer for the Visakhapatnam district, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"We shall consider the question, Sir."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Now that the Government have begun to give a fillip to the Harijan Welfare work, may I know whether the Government will consider the desirability of appointing District Welfare Officers of the grade of Deputy Collectors for all districts?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Hitherto Deputy Tahsildars were in charge of this work. In some of the districts Tahsildars have been put in charge of this work and now we have appointed eight Deputy Collectors in eight

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districts to look after Harijan Welfare, and we are watching the progress and if in course of time, we find that the work done by the Deputy Collectors are encouraging, we will think of appointing more Deputy Collectors in the other districts also."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"While eight Deputy Collectors have been appointed as District Harijan Welfare Officers for eight districts, may I know why no Deputy Collector has been posted to Rayalaseema and why it has been totally ignored?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"We took into consideration so many factors, and then only we came to the decision as to the districts to which these eight Deputy Collectors should be posted. If the hon. Member puts a separate question, I will give him the answer as to why no Deputy Collector was posted to the Rayalaseema."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"May I know, Sir, how many of these eight Deputy Collectors belong to the Harijan community?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Three of them belong to the Harijan community, Sir."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"May I know, Sir, how many house-sites have been acquired after these officers have taken charge of the work?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Sir, I just now said that these officers took charge only two months ago and they have been doing their best to expedite the work as quickly as possible, and I am quite sure that they will be able to acquire as many house-sites as possible within another five or six months."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that this programme of the acquisition of house-sites for Harijans has not progressed rapidly, because of the fact that enough funds have not been placed at the disposal of these officers, in spite of the fact that the Government have set apart Rs. 1 crore for Harijan uplift?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"We cannot utilize this fund for the purpose of acquiring house-sites for Harijans, Sir. The Government have got to be guided by the recommendations of the Harijan Welfare Committee, in regard to this matter."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that it is because enough facilities and enough staff have not been given to the Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars, that the progress in the matter of acquisition of house-sites for Harijans has been slow, and if so, will the Government consider the desirability of providing greater staff and greater facilities to them?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"As and when the Government felt that there was a necessity for increasing the staff, they have sanctioned additional staff, Sir."

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SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government will consider the desirability and the necessity for making the Director of Harijan Welfare directly to be in charge of the work that is now being carried on by these District Harijan Welfare Officers, both in the matter of distribution of funds to the Harijan hostels and the acquisition of house-sites for Harijans?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Sir, in matters of policy, the District Harijan Welfare Officers are guided by the advice and directions of the Director of Harijan Welfare, but in the matter of control, they are under the District Collectors. It is not desirable to make any changes in this system."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I know, Sir, whether the funds intended for the acquisition of house-sites for Harijans should be spent only for acquiring house-sites in the rural areas or whether their benefits cannot be extended to the municipal areas as well because Harijans in the municipal areas are just as good Harijans as those in rural areas?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"The fund is intended for being spent in the rural areas only, Sir."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister that he has called for suggestions from the Director of Harijan Welfare as to the additional staff required in the districts, may I inform the Hon. Minister that it is only for want of additional staff in these districts that the work is being delayed, and that being the case, will the Government consider the necessity for sanctioning more staff in these districts as early as possible?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"In districts where the Collectors have reported that the work had become heavy, we have certainly given additional staff, Sir, and the same policy will be continued."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"In view of the fact that it is the policy of the Government to entrust the ameliorative work of Harijans and backward communities, only to officers belonging to those communities, may I know how many of these eight Deputy Collectors who are appointed as District Harijan Welfare Officers, belong to the Harijan or backward communities, and will the Government in the future also appoint only members of the backward communities as District Harijan Officers?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Three out of the eight District Harijan Officers belong to the backward communities, Sir."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that other departmental officers, particularly officers of the Revenue and Police departments are not co-operating with the District Harijan Welfare Officers?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"I have no information, Sir."

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SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN :—“ As the existing staff is not sufficient, will the Government consider the desirability of appointing Special Revenue Inspectors for each and every taluk to expedite the work? ”

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—“ It is possible to appoint one Revenue Inspector for every district, but not for every taluk, Sir.”

SRI K. RAGHAVAN :—“ May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister is aware that the District Harijan Officer who has been posted to Malabar has not taken charge yet? ”

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—“ Yes, Sir.”

SRI P. KAKKAN :—“ May I ask the Hon. Minister whether the Government would consider the desirability of keeping a Government jeep at the disposal of the District Harijan Officers, in order to enable them to carry out their work quickly and efficiently? ”

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—“ In view of the financial stringency, the Government are not in a position to consider the suggestion, Sir.”

Mulliyar Irrigation in Tiruturaipundi taluk.

* 36 Q.—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the progress made in extending Mulliyar Irrigation in Tiruturaipundi taluk, Tanjore district;

(b) the number of acres that can be irrigated through the extension so far made and when the irrigation is expected to be commenced;

(c) whether any further extension of irrigation will be made in the coming year;

(d) if so, what the estimate is and how many acres are expected to be irrigated out of the proposed extension;

(e) whether there is any drainage scheme pending to be executed in Tanjore district; and

(f) if so, what they are and when they would be executed?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—“ (a) The cost of the works alone (exclusive of direct and indirect charges) sanctioned for this purpose comes to Rs. 70,000, out of which work to an extent of Rs. 24,900 has already been done. Works still to be done include excavation of a portion of the channel, construction of an undertunnel and a portion of the masonry, and fixing up of shutters to the regulators across Mulliyar. These works are expected to be completed by the end of the closure period in 1950.

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“ (b) An extent of 1,128 acres of dry and manavari lands can be brought under cultivation by the execution of this scheme. This extent is expected to be brought under irrigation in the coming irrigation season.

“ (c) & (d) Further extension of irrigation is not possible in the coming year. There is however a proposal to extend irrigation facilities to an extent of 1,225.76 acres by supplying water from the Mulliyar to the Thankottagameri. Detailed proposals for this scheme are awaited from the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.

“ (e) & (f) Out of the 12 key drainage schemes sanctioned for execution, only one scheme, viz., improvements to Singara-vodigal is pending execution. This is expected to be completed by the end of 1951 closure period.”

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI :—“ May I know, Sir, what happened to the pumping scheme of Mulliyar, whether the Government are proceeding with the work, and if so what amount has been allotted for that work? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—“ I should like to have notice, Sir.”

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI :—“ May I know, whether the Government will examine the question of giving irrigation facilities to the 60,000 acres of rain-fed nanja land in that area? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—“ Again I should like to have notice, Sir.”

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

III.—LIST OF SPEAKERS FOR DEBATE.

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, some time ago, you were pleased to state that in choosing members to speak on the floor of the House, from the lists supplied by the Whips of the various parties, you would use your discretion. Sir, I belong to the Congress Party and I would like to bring to your notice that the duly elected Chief Whip of the Party is Mr. R. Venkata Reddi. I have found out that he has included my name in the list of members who wanted to speak on this debate yesterday and the day before, but my name has not been called. I want to know, Sir, whether you have been pleased to accept the list supplied by some others like Sri Bapineedu also will select members from that list alone to take part in these debates and if that were so, may I know whether that would be quite right and whether it would be doing justice to us, if you choose members from the list supplied by members other than the Chief Whip of our Party? ”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ I know nothing about this matter. The Hon. Leader of the House informed me that the hon. Mr. Bapineedu was the Government Whip and I have also received a Government Order to that effect. Regarding the matter of the selection of Members to speak, as I have already told the House, I am not bound to call the names from the lists supplied to me by the Party Whips. I use my own discretion in the matter. Because the

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Party Whips are helping me in the matter by furnishing me with the lists of members who want to take part in the debate after consultation with the respective members, I am calling the names of members from the list given to me by Mr. Bapineedu. At the same time, I remember very well that the hon. Mr. T. Viswanatham has written to me once, saying that he should be called independently, whether his name has been included or not in the list furnished by Mr. Bapineedu, and as I have said, I am using my entire discretion in the matter of selection of members to speak, independently of these lists."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Sir, the Chief Whip of the Congress Party, who has been duly elected as such, is my hon. Friend, Mr. R. Venkata Reddi and it is but proper that it is he who should supply the list of members from Congress Party who intend to speak to the Hon. Speaker."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I do not know what has taken place in the Congress Party. But as I have already said, the Hon. Leader of the House has informed me that Mr. Bapineedu was the Government Whip."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, I might submit, that it is not a question of my informing you as to who is the Government Whip. There is a definite G.O. issued on the subject, which has also been communicated to you, Sir. Whatever that be, Sir, I think it is better that we adopt a definite convention in this matter and decide how far the party whips should be utilised for the conduct of the proceedings of the House and how Members should approach the Hon. Speaker in the matter of calling their names to speak."

MR. SPEAKER:—"But the point is that the hon. Mr. T. Viswanatham says that the hon. Mr. Venkata Reddi is the Chief Whip of the Congress Party."

11-45 a.m. THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The hon. Member Mr. Venkata Reddi is the Chief Whip of the Congress Party. I want to know whether the Chair is going to adopt the names nominated by the party whips. How far should the party Whips co-ordinate the work of the Government Whip? A convention in these matters should be adopted. If you are pleased, a conference may be called in your room where all these matters could be settled."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have no objection."

SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"I hope you will be pleased to examine also the question whether there can be a Government Whip apart from the party whip. So far as we are aware, the party elected Mr. Venkata Reddi more than a year ago as the Chief Whip. There is a Government Whip holding an office of profit or allowance. I say it is very wrong. Further, under the New Constitution, under Articles 191 and 192, if I remember right, any person occupying a place of profit ceases to have his seat, and he will

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lose his seat. This is an important matter. If Mr. Bapineedu is getting Rs. 150, it is a post of profit and nothing else. He loses his seat altogether. I hope this question will also be examined."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Hon. Members are getting their salaries at the rate of Rs. 150 per mensem. It does not mean that their seats are forfeited. Mr. Bapineedu is not getting any profit. He is getting a conveyance allowance. He has to arrange for Select Committees and he has to do the work of the Government. There is a definite Government Order in the matter. The hon. Member may look into the Government Order. Apart from this, what are the functions of the Government Whip, vis-a-vis, the party whips? I am not speaking merely of the Chief Whip of the Congress Party but of all Whips of the various parties. These should be decided and a definite convention may be adopted in this House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The word 'Whip' is a metaphor borrowed from the hunting field and its parliamentary application can be traced to Edmund Burke. In 1769 there was a disputed election between Luttrell and Wilkes. The House expelled Wilkes and a debate arose in Parliament. The Government sent letters to the members to attend in large numbers. At that time, Edmund Burke who was a member told the House that the Government were whipping in the members. From that time the officers of parties who are responsible for the attendance of the members came to be called as Whips. Here I may quote from May's Parliamentary Practice. He says—

"Inside the House each party has a fairly elaborate organization, presided over by officials who are Members of the House and staffed by subordinate officials who are not members. The officers or Whips of the party in office consist of the Chief Whip who holds the official position of parliamentary or patronage secretary to the Treasury, three officers of the House, and five lords of the Treasury with the addition of two or three Members who act as assistant Whips and who are unpaid."

"The efficient and smooth running of the parliamentary machine depends largely upon the Whips. Certain duties are common to Whips of all parties, but by far the most important duties devolve upon the Government Chief Whip. He is concerned with mapping out the time of the session; for applying in detail the Government's programme of business; for estimating the time likely to be required for each item, and for arranging the business of the individual sitting."

"In carrying out his duties, he is directly responsible to the Prime Minister, as Leader of the House. It is also part of his duties to advise the Government on parliamentary business and procedure, and to maintain a close liaison with Ministers in regard to parliamentary business which affects their departments. He, together with the Chief Whips of other parties, constitutes what is known as the 'usual channels', through which communications pass as to business arrangements and other matters which concern the convenience of Members as a whole."

[Mr. Speaker]

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I shall call for a conference in my room. The whole matter can then be discussed and settled.

"Now, I pass on to the next item in the agenda."

IV.—GOVERNMENT MOTION.

MOTION UNDER SUB-RULE (3) OF RULE 22 OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY RULES.

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

that the Demands for grants for the year 1950-51 in the Notice, dated the 20th February 1950, be, under sub-rule (3) of rule 22 of the Madras Assembly Rules, re-arranged in the order as set out below:—

1 Demand	XXIX—Famine.
2 "	XXVIII—Electricity.
3 "	XXIII—Labour including Factories and Harijan Uplift.
4 "	XXI—Industries.
5 "	XVII—Public Health.
6 "	XVI—Medical.
7 "	XVIII—Agriculture.
8 "	XIX—Veterinary.
9 "	XX—Co-operation.
10 "	II—Excise.
11 "	VI—Motor Vehicles Acts
12 "	VII—General Sales Tax and other Taxes and Duties.
13 "	VIII—Irrigation.
14 "	XIII—Jails.
15 "	XIV—Police.
16 "	XI—District Administration and Miscellaneous.
17 "	IX—Heads of States, Ministers and Headquarters Staff.
18 "	X—Legislative Bodies.
19 "	XV—Education.
20 "	XXXIV—Payment of Compensation to Landholders on the Abolition of the Zamindari System.
21 "	XXX—Pension.
22 "	XLI—Capital Outlay on Schemes of State Trading.

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23 Demand	XXXVI—Capital Outlay on Industrial Development.
24 "	XXXIX—Capital Outlay on Road Transport Schemes.
25 "	IV—Forest.
26 "	I—Land Revenue.
27 "	XII—Administration of Justice.
28 "	III—Stamps.
29 "	V—Registration.
30 "	XXII—Cinchona and Fisheries.
31 "	XXIV—Miscellaneous Departments.
32 "	XXV—Civil Works—Works.
33 "	XXVI—Civil Works—Establishments and Tools and Plant.
34 "	XXVII—Civil Works—Grants-in-aid.
35 "	XXXI—Stationery and Printing.
36 "	XXXII—Miscellaneous.
37 "	XXXIII—Road Transport Schemes—Working Expenses.
38 "	XXXV—Capital Outlay on Irrigation.
39 "	XXXVII—Capital Outlay on Civil Works.
40 "	XXXVIII—Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes.
41 "	XL—Commutated Value of Pensions.
42 "	XLII—Interest—Free Advances.
43 "	XLIII—Loans and Advances bearing interest.

"This re-arrangement has been made in consultation with the leaders of parties, and it may be approved."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Sir, I just wish to know what time is to be allotted to each Demand."

MR. SPEAKER:—"In consultation with leaders of parties we have come to certain conclusions. The hon. Lady Member may refer to the leader of her party."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Have different periods been allotted?"

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MR. SPEAKER:—"Yes. It has been done in consultation with the Leader of the Opposition and other leaders of parties. The question is—

‘that the Demands for grants for the year 1950-51 in the Notice, dated the 20th February 1950, be, under sub-rule (3) of rule 22 of the Madras Assembly Rules, re-arranged in the order as set out below:—

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|----------|--|
| 1 Demand | XXIX—Famine. |
| 2 „ | XXVIII—Electricity. |
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| 4 „ | XXI—Industries. |
| 5 „ | XVII—Public Health. |
| 6 „ | XVI—Medical. |
| 7 „ | XVIII—Agriculture. |
| 8 „ | XIX—Veterinary. |
| 9 „ | XX—Co-operation. |
| 10 „ | II—Excise. |
| 11 „ | VI—Motor Vehicles Acts. |
| 12 „ | VII—General Sales Tax and other Taxes and Duties. |
| 13 „ | VIII—Irrigation. |
| 14 „ | XIII—Jails. |
| 15 „ | XIV—Police. |
| 16 „ | XI—District Administration and Miscellaneous. |
| 17 „ | IX—Heads of States, Ministers and Headquarters Staff. |
| 18 „ | X—Legislative Bodies. |
| 19 „ | XV—Education. |
| 20 „ | XXXIV—Payment of Compensation to Landholders on the Abolition of the Zamindari System. |
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[Mr. Speaker]

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| 27 „ | XII—Administration of Justice. |
| 28 „ | III—Stamps. |
| 29 „ | V—Registration. |
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| 38 „ | XXXV—Capital Outlay on Irrigation. |
| 39 „ | XXXVII—Capital Outlay on Civil Works. |
| 40 „ | XXXVIII—Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes. |
| 41 „ | XL—Commuted value of Pensions. |
| 42 „ | XLII—Interest-free Advances. |
| 43 „ | XLIII—Loans and advances bearing interest.” |

The motion was carried.

V.—GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR
1950-51—cont.

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, speaking on the budget that has been presented to us by the Finance Minister, I cannot but state that our Finance Minister will not have done better than what he has done in the circumstances in which we are placed. This is the first budget, as he has himself stated, that is presented to this House after the inauguration of the Republic. The New Constitution is so arranged as to give larger powers to the Centre and take away some powers which the States enjoyed prior to the inauguration of the Constitution. I agree for purposes of defence, and maintenance of peace and order, the Centre should be strong. I am afraid that even with regard to financial matters, the Constitution gives more powers to the Centre to take away the rights which the States have

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been enjoying for so long. The Hon. the Finance Minister has stated that this will not adversely affect our budget. Rupees one crore that we would lose from sales tax as a result of Article 286 of the New Constitution is not going to be a loss to us this year. However, it cannot be forgotten that it is an inroad into the financial autonomy of our State. The Union Government has taken away this right to some extent at least. Ours is a sovereign democratic republic and all the States now functioning will function under this republic. We know that our country is a member of the Commonwealth of Nations. Whatever people might say with regard to the incongruity of such a position, I for one would welcome the continuance of this republic in the Commonwealth. For there are many advantages which will accrue to the States and the Union Government, even in peace conditions. I shall now refer to the burning question of constitution of linguistic provinces.

"An attempt was recently made by the protagonists of the Andhra Province for the creation of that Province. Fortunately or unfortunately, the Government of India has not thought it fit, for various reasons mentioned by them, to create that Province immediately. While I recognize the need for giving opportunities for various people speaking various languages in our Province to have their autonomy by the creation of separate linguistic provinces, I must here point out that by such divisions we will be losing the important position which this State is occupying at present in the country. Our State will be divided into so many small units. The small units individually occupy a far less important position in the country. To that extent we will be losing the importance which we are occupying to-day, so far as our relations with the Government of India are concerned. I would therefore suggest that we should remember the important position which we are occupying to-day in the country. On this issue of the creation of separate linguistic Provinces, unfortunately, bitterness is sought to be created. There is no need for any bitterness on this account. For, it is just possible for friends to part company for very good reasons in a peaceful and orderly manner. There is no need whatsoever for my Tamilian friends to feel that the Andhras are here a burden or the Andhra friends to feel that the Tamilians do not want them. Such a feeling is certainly not welcome. On the other hand every effort should be made to see that that kind of bitterness does not prevail and that does not affect the administration. Whatever may be the reasons for their desire to have a separate Province on linguistic basis, it is necessary that we should give more and more attention to the position that our State occupies to-day in our country.

12 noon. "There are certain areas in the State such as the Ceded districts or Rayalaseema as it is also called, which are neglected and which require particular attention on the part of the Government. In order to remove the grievances of the people belonging to various language areas and particularly the backward areas, the Government should give the necessary attention to the requirements of those people, financial and otherwise. Particularly the

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Ceded districts require more attention in the matter of cultivation and irrigation. In all these matters, it will not suffice if large sums of money are allocated on paper alone for the development of those areas. It is necessary to see that the amounts that are allotted are also spent. In the budget we find large sums of money allotted for some irrigational projects particularly in the undeveloped areas of the Ceded districts. It will be a very important duty of the Government to pay more and more attention for the development of these backward areas in our State. (At this stage, Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin, Chairman, took the Chair.)

"Next, I would like to refer to the food position in this State. Both the Hon. Minister for Finance and the Food Minister have referred already to the present food position in our State. We are undoubtedly placed in a very difficult situation in that respect. We have found that not only the Government of the State but the Government of the country have also taken every step to improve the food position in the State. We have known that the food shortage is so great that even in spite of the efforts made by our Government to procure foodgrains to the largest possible extent, they are not able to meet the deficit. The 3 lakhs of tons that are available from the Government of India to meet the deficit will not suffice and unless the India Government is prepared to give to the State as much as 6 or 9 lakhs of tons, we will not be able to tide over the crisis. The Government of India have given some help but that is not enough. Even though they have known that our State is suffering from want of sufficient food, they have decided on a two-pronged policy. One is a long-range policy of increasing the production of foodgrains, so far as this State is concerned. While undertaking to improve the food position, they have at the same time decided to cut short the import of food by 50 per cent. I wish the Government of Madras had apprised the Government of India in strong terms and in a most effective manner that they would be pursuing a very wrong policy if they persisted in cutting down the quota of foodgrains that was available from them by means of imports.

"So far as methods adopted for growing more food are concerned, I am afraid, Madam, we are following a very wrong policy. It is better that instead of importing more food from outside, we improve the production of foodgrains in our State. If even a certain portion of the large sums of money that we have spent on importing foodgrains, had been spent on growing more food in our State, it would have had a lasting effect on the food position in our State. It is necessary that we should improve production by importing large number of tractors and adopting improved methods of cultivation. The landowner or agriculturist should be given encouragement by the grant of bonuses and also should be given inducements so that he can keep himself engaged in increasing production of foodgrains.

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"Coming to the question of controls, of course, we all agree that to a very large extent controls should continue but at the same time I feel the time has come when we should examine the question of decontrolling some of the articles. For instance, the distribution of cloth is being controlled even to-day and it seems to me anomalous to continue the control while the production of cloth has increased.

"Coming to the taxation policy of the Government, I wish the Finance Minister had not launched upon the various measures of taxation which he did last year. From what he himself has stated in his budget speech, the additional taxes were not necessary and he need not have created the economic chaos that he did in spite of protests and warnings by Members of this House that there was no need for additional taxation. He has now found that on account of some mistakes in the financial arrangement of putting some amount from the revenue head to the capital head, he had to anticipate a deficit to be made up by fresh taxation. On account of our having lost a large sum of revenue by the introduction of Prohibition and also in view of the Government of India now coming forward to interfere with the right of the State so far as Sale Tax is concerned, we find that our financial position is going from bad to worse. Therefore, it is necessary that our Government should think of other means of improving our financial position. The Finance Minister calls the Sales Tax a 'Kamadhenu' and thinks that this is a perpetual source of revenue. It was the resourceful mind of our ex-Prime Minister Rajaji that was responsible for this source of revenue for our Government, when we had lost so much of revenue on prohibition. From the experience that the Finance Minister has so far got in the administration of the Sales Tax Act in our State, he would have found that it is not one, two or three pies in the rupee that the consumer is paying as sales tax but he is to-day paying not less than 9 pies on the average in a rupee. Not only is sales tax paid once, twice or thrice but it is paid even on the sales tax itself. These anomalies and vagaries should be examined by the Finance Minister and removed and the principle that sales tax should be levied at the first source of sale should be adhered to.

"So far as the educational policy of the Government is concerned, I am afraid that we have not yet taken the matter up seriously. We have now adopted the system of adult franchise for the elections that are going to come off in a year or two. The electors should be educated at least to some extent. They ought to realize what they are going to do, what class of people they are going to elect as their representatives to the Legislatures and what exactly will be the views that they would like to represent through their representatives in the Legislatures. Unless and until these voters know what they are doing, the chaos that exists to-day will increase manifold and then the democratic parliamentary system of administration will become a farce. So it is very necessary that the liquidation of illiteracy should be speeded up

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as far as possible. I see that as much as ten crores of rupees are provided in the budget for education. But one has to examine whether the money allotted out of it for training of teachers and for elementary education is enough. A good deal more has to be allotted.

"We have to appoint teachers on a large scale as we have to liquidate illiteracy in 5 years. I do not think that considering the way in which we are proceeding we will be able to complete this work within a period of 5 years. 12-15 p.m.

"So far as the Universities are concerned, I am afraid that the Government of Madras is following a rather step-motherly attitude. So far as the Madras University is concerned, I may say that practically the *status quo* is continuing. For the last so many years, the help and aid that the Government has been giving to the Madras University has remained static and no improvement has been made. Possibly the Government of Madras might come forward and say that there was no demand from the Madras University. Of course on a previous occasion when the Hon. Sri Avinashilingam Chettiar was there as Education Minister, he made a statement that there was no request from the Madras University. On the other hand, subsequently we found that was not a correct statement, and an application was made by the Madras University for further sums of money. I understand that this year whatever has been asked for has been given, thanks to the present Minister for Education. I do realize that there has been a change for the good and I am sure that the present Minister is very anxious to give and help the University. So we may find that other demands from the University will be made very soon."

CHAIRMAN (Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin):—"The hon. Member has got only three minutes. That would make on the whole thirty minutes for the hon. Member."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I think in these three minutes I should refer to the very thorny question to which my Hon. Friend, the Finance Minister in season and out of season refers in the House when he finds that he has more time at his disposal than what should be allotted to him necessarily. Of course, I would request him at least now to give up perpetuating the two-nation theory. He should realize more than anybody else that it is he and I and so many others that tried to accuse the British Government for the policy of divide and rule. Also we thought that if there was any necessity for recognizing the two different sets of people and two communities or two nations, it was, even according to him necessitated by the British policy of divide and rule. Now that the British are no more the divide and rule policy ought to have been given up along with the Britisher. I ask why should we, under the democratic Republic try to perpetuate that policy by not only talking of two nations, but acting as two nations and multi nations. The time has come when all

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of us including the Hon. Finance Minister should give up that idea and not even talk about it and create bitterness in the minds of the people. (Interruption.) I am not provoking. Nobody is provoking. On the other hand, my Hon. Friend unnecessarily took that question up the other day. Of course I realize and I am sure Hon. Ministers will also realize that there is difference in debate. There is difference of not only opinion, but also difference in the manner of asking questions and also in answering them between those in the Opposition and those in the Treasury Benches. Of course, the Treasury Benches are not seats of beds of roses. They are spread with thorns. The Hon. Ministers should endeavour to turn these bed of thorns into a bed of roses, instead of all the time thinking of the thorns. They should take things seriously and not deal with such important things in a light-hearted manner. After all the responsibilities of the Ministers are great and they are gentlemen who have to put up with even strong remarks made by some of the members. They would not be members of the Government in the real sense if they bring themselves to the same level as the Opposition. If they feel that they should also talk in the same manner as the members of the Opposition, then they lose the difference that should exist between them and the Opposition. Therefore, in the interests of the country, in the interests of equanimity, equity, harmony and goodwill among the various classes of people that live in this country, I appeal not only to members on my side but the other side also, particularly to the Hon. Finance Minister, not to indulge in such attacks and criticisms of parties and others but instead answer to questions that are raised by the Members in this House. Thank you, Madam."

SRIMATHI RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Madam, I must confess even at the very outset that there is nothing melodramatic about the budget introduced by the Hon. Finance Minister. There is nothing sensational too about it. At the same time, the budget time affords an occasion for Members to say what they feel about the budget and the policies adumbrated by the Government Members and the programmes introduced by them. The Members are privileged therefore to criticise not merely the programmes or whatever is contained in the budget, but the executive actions of the Government as well. It therefore means that the Government members have got to take the criticisms in the spirit in which they are offered. The other day, Madam, the Finance Minister when he was replying to the debate on the Governor's Address maintained a rather supercilious attitude and assuming a pontifical air asked the Opposition Members what they had done. The remark was meant in particular for my Friend, Mr. Raza Khan. He might belong to the Opposition, yet it ill becomes of the Government to take a supercilious attitude. It is not for the Government to ask the Opposition Members what they have done. In fact, the Opposition Members have got a right to ask the Government Members what they have been able to do in the interests of the people of the Province. Now, what does

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the man in the street or the common man, for whom so much of solicitude is expressed, want at the present time? He wants that his elementary needs to be met by the Government. He wants the necessities of life to be given to him. He wants food. He wants raiments and shelter. Perhaps it is not an exaggeration if I bring pointed attention to the members of the sullen despair that has overtaken the public at large, because, wherever he goes he has to find ways and means of seeking his livelihood. Because, there is so much of unemployment in the country and the purchasing power of the common man has gone down immensely. He has to find food for himself and his family. Therefore, it is appropriate for the Government, instead of meandering into sidetracks, to face the issue and to face the music and take the criticisms of the Opposition in the right spirit. Instead of that, the Hon. Minister straightaway asked the member—he may belong to the Opposition—what are his achievements. The Opposition Members are bound to be harsh, and for the matter of that, members on our own side are also bound to be harsher still and level criticisms in a more severe fashion. Therefore, it ill becomes the Government Members to take offence at what the members might say.

"Apart from this, I have found on several occasions, in answering the interpellations the Ministers adopt a rather flip-pant attitude, particularly, when it is a question relating to women and their interests in particular. Of course, I can appreciate that there should be some humour about the Ministers, not that I denounce their facetious propensity. At the same time the Members of the House expect a sort of dignified answer from the Government Members.

"Talking of the ideals adumbrated in the Constitution, I am afraid I have got to refer to the Governor's Address in which mention has been made about this. The ideals as mentioned in the Constitution are no doubt very pleasing and high-sounding. I ask the Government members how far they have been able to implement these ideals. The Governor further appealed to the public at large and the masses to buttress the Government in whatever they might do.

"Now, I ask the Government Members, in what way they have been able to implement the ideals adumbrated in the Constitution so as to instil confidence in the public.

"I would like to refer to one particular policy of the Govern-¹²⁻³⁰ment. I have repeated it on several occasions and I do not mind p.m. repeating it *ad nauseam*, though it might offend the Government Members, and that is the virus of the communal G.O. Several Members have referred to the immense harm that this communal G.O. has done to the people, to the society in particular. I feel that so long as this G.O. is there, there can be no peace. And I assure you, Madam, there can be no order, no progress in the country even though the Congress Government is stated to work to that end. The other day, the Hon. the Finance

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Minister said that he was going to modify the G.O. I do not believe in half-way measures. I do not believe in measures being half-hearted and doing things in dribblets. I want the communal G.O. to go away at once. It should be cancelled straight-away. It is true that the minorities would want its perpetuation. I know there can be no unanimity of opinion on this matter. Therefore, it would not do if the Government say—as the Hon. the Finance Minister said the other day—that unless the minorities come forward and say ‘we shall not have this G.O.’ they will not do away with it. There can never be a unanimity of opinion regarding this. Further, Madam, this is something like the pernicious evil of separate electorates. I ask of the Government Members how and on what principle the separate electorates were done away with. They did away with separate electorates because the Constitution made them feel that it was a very bad thing not only for the society but the entire community, and would work great harm on the whole country. So, Madam, steps should be taken not to modify it but to cancel it altogether. If I remember aright, I think the G.O. is only an executive order promulgated at a time when perhaps the Justice party felt that there was a justification for it. What justification is there now for its perpetuation? It has been stated unequivocally and categorically in the Constitution that there ought to be no discrimination whatsoever. Article 17 (2) relating to the Fundamental Rights in the Constitution says there can be no discrimination in respect of religion, caste or group or sex. When such is the case, I do not see why the Government should be hesitant about this and put forward all sorts of reasons and pretexts like the one I have stated already, viz., that the minority communities would not want the cancellation of the G.O. As I said, there can be no agreement on this question. For instance, my hon. Friend, Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai would not like the G.O. to be done away with. But, all the same, it must go because it is not in harmony with the Constitution and much less is it in accordance with the letter and spirit of it. Therefore, I do not mind repeating the same thing and agitating for the abolition of distinctions in the matter of recruitment. I have expressed this opinion not only on the floor of this House but I make use of every manner of forum outside to speak against this.”

CHAIRMAN (Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin):—“The hon. Member has three more minutes.”

SRIMATHI RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI:—“Coming next to the Budget proper, I feel it my duty to refer to the high incidence of taxation obtaining in our country. My eye sight is very bad and I cannot read. Any way for the benefit of the House, I would like to refer to two pamphlets issued by the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta, which I received by post and which I had the pleasure of going through—particularly that portion which relates to the high incidence of taxation in this country. It is stated in the pamphlets that the national savings in our country

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are very low in proportion to the high percentage of population and, therefore, the financial policy of the Government has got to be adjusted according to the saving capacity of or the margin of saving by the people. But I feel that this has not been done in our State. As a student of political economy I am entitled to refer to this high incidence of taxation and I agree with what is stated in the pamphlet that our financial measures have got to be adjusted according to the margin of savings on the part of the people. According to the same pamphlet, our *per capita* income per annum is 206 rupees whereas in the United States of America it stands as high as 7,000. And according to Dr. Natarajan's pamphlet on the finances of this State we pay as much as 66 per cent towards taxation. Therefore, I appeal to the Hon. the Finance Minister to see that the incidence of taxation is reduced and the purchasing power of the people is raised. And this can only be done by developing the economic resources of the country. Madam, I have many more points to speak about but as you said I had only three more minutes, I shall finish my speech with this appeal that the taxation burden on the people of this State should be reduced so that the common man might feel contented, might feel satisfied that he is living with a certain amount of security and in a state of prosperity.”

JANAB K. M. SEETHI:—“Madam, the Budget presented by the Hon. the Finance Minister does not call for any special praise or special blame in that it does not contain anything very remarkable for the credit of the Government. It simply gives an enumeration of the receipts and expenditure and it does not attempt an enunciation of any sound policy which the Government has for the future, either legislative, economic or political. I for one, however, should be thankful to the Hon. the Finance Minister for the small mercies he has shown in that he has not carried into effect the threat of additional taxation which he announced last year. One cannot help remarking that the Finance Minister has not been able to give us any kind of relief from the existing burden of taxation of which every citizen in every nook and corner of the State is complaining.

“Madam much has been said about the policy of Prohibition in this State. I for one have been consistently supporting the Government in having taken up this wise and most remarkable ameliorative measure. The plea from certain quarters that since Prohibition has failed in certain places it should be given up or it should be relaxed or modified is one which, in my humble opinion, should not be accepted by the Government. The reasons for the failure of Prohibition in certain places, if they are carefully enquired into, will be found to be entirely due to the failure of the Government to enforce this great reform properly. In fact, the Government seem to be half-hearted about this reform. The Hon. the Minister for Prohibition himself is reported to have spoken in different places owning failure of Prohibition in certain districts. That is a very very despairing, discouraging and

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unwise attitude on the part of the Head of the Administration who is to see that it succeeds, instead of being apologetic about having introduced the reform and enumerating the places where it has failed. He should go about with the spirit and zeal of a missionary and create enthusiasm in the minds of the public so that they may help the Government to make the reform a success. The indiscriminate issue of licences to persons without looking into the question as to whether the applicants are *bona fide* people or not is the greatest blunder committed by the Government and this has gone a long way in interfering with the success of the scheme. The Government have to reduce the number of licences they have already issued and should refrain from issuing further licences to applicants without looking into their genuine needs. Then, the officers employed for its enforcement have to be told that in the event of their failure to enforce the reform, very severe punishment will be meted out, so that they may be kept reminded of their duties. Exemplary punishment should also be given to those officers who fail to discharge their duties. Then there is the question of propaganda. This question is one which the Government have always neglected. There must be all round propaganda in the State in favour of Prohibition. In this connexion, I am very glad to notice the announcement made by the Hon. the Minister for Public Works (Mr. Bhaktavatsalam) that there is going to be a propaganda drive. If such a drive is attempted by the Government, I am sure, it will have a salutary effect and there will be an occasion then for the public to co-operate with the officers in making Prohibition a thorough success, which is the proclaimed aim of the Government.

"Next, Madam, with regard to the Grow More Food campaign, I would like to make one submission. That is that the money earmarked by the Government for purposes of Grow More Food should be utilized for that purpose only. It is by seeing that the money is rightly and properly spent on those purposes that the success of the scheme depends. In the matter of sinking wells and other private enterprises, I have known cases where the money taken by the ryots is not properly utilized. Several lakhs of rupees have been advanced by the Government for this purpose and this amount has not been properly spent. This is a matter in which the Government should observe more caution and pay more attention to see the amounts disbursed are rightly utilized.

"Madam, I have to refer to the most unsatisfactory working of the producer-cum-consumer societies in some districts like Malabar. Much has been said about the very unsatisfactory working of these societies and even Congressmen and Congress committees have passed resolutions condemning the various irregularities, illegalities, mismanagement, and various misdeeds of which the persons placed in charge of these societies are guilty.

2-45 p.m. "The recent orders of the Government that the employees of the societies should not be members of political parties is a very

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healthy order. It should be strictly enforced. In this connexion I have also to make a suggestion in respect of societies which are accused of mismanagement, irregularities and misappropriation of funds and various other misdeeds. The appointment of executive officers by the Government will be a very healthy measure which can be thought of, just as in the case of municipalities and panchayats. The appointment of executive officers in the case of mismanaged societies might help in my opinion to better the present state of affairs.

"Then, with reference to the poverty and problem of beggars, in the province, I find no serious attempt has been made by the Government to penalize begging by able bodied persons or the provision of poor homes in various parts of the State. It is very essential and necessary that poor homes should be established in numerous centres for helping these helpless destitutes roaming about asking for alms. In the case of those who do not deserve the help there should be strict legislation penalising begging which has become a nuisance in all public places.

"About the Firka Development Department and its activities, I have to submit that it has proved a white elephant. It is serving no useful purpose, except the purpose of duplication of officers. Instead of creating a separate department and a separate set of officers, the amount earmarked for the purpose might better be entrusted to the existing officers, among whom in fact there are more experts for doing this work. It looks as though the posts are created and given to them more as a reward for their Congress activities rather than as duties entrusted to expert hands who can do useful work in Firka development.

"In the case of backward communities, I have to make a complaint that sufficient funds have not been set apart for their development and advancement. No doubt I appreciate the action of the Government in having set apart a big amount for Harijan welfare and education. We do not grudge this. More funds have to be utilized and set apart for Harijan welfare. At the same time the welfare of communities like the Muslims and especially the backward sections of the community, like Moplahs, who are termed as backward community by the Government in their documents, should be paid more attention and more funds should be set apart for their educational advancement. Only very meagre attention has been paid to the welfare of these sections and communities.

"Let me say a few words with reference to the political activity of the Government. They seem to be of a totalitarian mental frame and do not want to tolerate the existence of any other political party in this country. The Hon. Finance Minister has been challenging all and sundry including the Members sitting opposite to him to give him an account of their services and has been making a comparison with the valuable services rendered by him and his party to this country. I am not speaking in a spirit of bandying words with him or in a bravado spirit. I may tell him

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that he is just fighting with weapons and implements which cannot be said to be quite worthy of the office which he holds and the responsibility which he has to shoulder. In fact, when he asked the Muslim League Party about their political achievements, he forgets the fact that the Muslim League Political Party had not the opportunity, of being trusted with the responsibility of manning the affairs of the State. It has been the monopoly of the Congress all this time to fill the Treasury Bench and be in charge of the Government. In the absence of an opportunity being given to the Muslim League Party, there is no point in asking them what their achievements are. If it is a question directed against them with reference to their non-official achievements, I may tell him that the Muslim League, ever since the League came into existence, has been always working in the direction of the welfare of the people and in all the villages for the past ten years they have always been helpful to the public whenever there were food scarcity and disturbances in villages. They have always done what they can for the amelioration of the condition of these people. They have done their very best to preserve, peace and law and order in the villages. But for their co-operation, in certain parts of the State, it would not have been possible for the authorities to preserve law and order. In this state of things, it is unfair on the part of the Members of the Treasury Bench to ask the Muslim League members to show their record of service.

“With regard to the appeal made by my hon. Friend, Sri Kala Venkata Rao that the Muslim League political party should be wound up—it should be dissolved—I may tell him that he should at least credit us with the minimum amount of loyalty to the constituencies which have returned us. It is not for winding up the Muslim League that we have been sent here but to keep the Muslim League political party. Mr. Kala Venkata Rao forgets the fact that it is not a case of our going to the wall, it is the Congress that went to the wall, when the electorate voted against them and we were returned after defeating the Congress hollow. We are sitting here as the members of the party which sent us here. It is unfair to ask us to scrap and dissolve the party and betray the confidence that was placed in us by the electorates, by the Muslim League party. Let them tell us why we should dissolve the party. But that has not been said and Mr. Kala Venkata Rao was telling ‘If you do not join the Congress you have no future. You cannot come here’. Was not the Congress out of office for the seven years from 1939 to 1946? During that period, I think, they had the greatest achievements which they can think of. After all sitting in this Legislature subjecting oneself to the humiliation of being challenged every now and then is not the thing we are aiming at. We do not want it. In fact, in the new order of things, the existence of the Muslim League has become extremely necessary. I request my friends on the other side to go into the problem free from passion and prejudice. After all, there are minorities based on religion and separate culture in this land and the existence of such minorities is assumed and

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postulated by the framers of the Constitution. It is for that reason that they have enacted sections 15, 19, 29 and 30 of the Constitution. There, sufficient safeguard and protection are given to minorities based on religion and the right of free association also is given to any set of people who want to form such union. Clause 15 of the Constitution states that the State shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them and so many other things. My point is that the fact that such a section had to be enacted makes it absolutely clear that there are sections of people who follow separate religion, separate races, caste and sex and who have certain special interests to be safeguarded also. In sections 29 and 30 of the Constitution it has to be remembered the question of minority has again been emphasised, namely:

‘Any section of the citizens residing in the territory of India or any part thereof having a distinct language, script or culture of its own shall have the right to conserve the same.’

The conservation of the culture and the language of a section of people is thereby safeguarded. And according to section 30—

‘All minorities, whether based on religion or language, shall have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice. The State shall not, in granting aid to educational institutions, discriminate against any educational institution on the ground that it is under the management of a minority, whether based on religion or language.’

Then in the definition of fundamental rights, the right of free association by a section of people is also given. What I mean to say is this. These sections make it absolutely clear that there are certain minorities which have their own culture, language and special interests to be preserved. Does it not stand to reason that these communities in exercise of the fundamental rights shall be at liberty to form associations of their own to preserve the rights. The fact that these associations or unions happen to be manned by members of a particular religious ideology does not make it any the less a political body. In fact the Congress organization may be considered in this connexion. A vast majority of the members of the Congress are people belonging to a religion which has a particular ideology. But for that reason the Congress does not cease to be any the less a political party. In the same way the Muslim League is a political body. The only difficulty is that it has only Muslims as its members. How does it make the League any the less political because the members of that body happen to be Muslims. If that is so, the Congress with a vast majority of Hindus who follow a particular ideology should also cease to be a political party. In fact it is not for the protection of the rituals of the Islamic religion that the Muslim League was formed. It has a right to political association. It has worked as such and will continue to work as such.

“In this connexion, Madam, I would respectfully invite the attention of the hon. Members sitting on the other side to the existence of the Scheduled Castes Federation and the position which Dr. Ambedkar is occupying in the Central Government. It must be remembered that Dr. Ambedkar is not a Congressman,

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is not even a member of the Congress organization. I speak subject to correction. He continues to be a member of the Scheduled Castes Federation. This has the right to political association. This can be called a communal organization as the Muslim League. Yet the Congress Government has been able to take him as Law Member. Take the case of Shyama Prasad Mukerjee. He is one of the followers of the Hindu Maha Sabha. He has not resigned his membership from the Hindu Maha Sabha though he was reported to have resigned his Presidentship. He continues to be a Minister of the Central Government. Nobody asked the Hindu Maha Sabha to be wound up and talked of Dr. Mukerjee being sent away or Dr. Ambedkar being sent away from the Central Government. Dr. Ambedkar continues to be the force behind the Scheduled Castes Federation. Even the other day he was asking his community to keep up the Federation as a political body as they had special interests to be safeguarded. In this State we are a community and should not be discriminated. We have a right to be an organized body safeguarding those interests that are to be protected. We will always plead for an organized existence. Just as the Scheduled Castes Federation and the representatives of that organization should be taken into the Government of this Bharat and this State also they should develop a mental frame when they will be able to take representatives of other communities such as the Muslim League also into their fold instead of Members on the other side calling upon us to dissolve the party. Let that attitude change and God willing the state of things in this State will change for the better and there will be peace and happiness and communal unity and harmony in this State."

CHAIRMAN (Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin):—"As there are a number of speakers to-day and to-day is the last day, I fix 10 minutes for each speaker."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Madam, Chairman, gone are the days when Members of the Legislature could have ample time for a general discussion on the budget. Months are taken by the Government to frame their budget, but the Members are not given sufficient time for detailed discussion. I do not blame anyone. Many have to speak and perhaps this is the price we have to pay for democracy. In the ten minutes time that is given to me what is it that I can say? It is impossible to say anything on the fiscal policy, on the industrial policy, on the irrigation policy and projects besides other matters of a political nature on which other hon. Members have dilated. Madam, with that great handicap, I am rather nervous and I do not know at what point to begin and at what point to end. But I will be untrue to myself if I do not draw the attention of the Government to certain things that are happening in the Province and the reactions among the people to the policies and programmes pursued by the Government during the last year.

"Madam, some hon. Members talked yesterday about the Congress discipline. They talked about all sorts of matters and

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made some cheap jibes at one of the most revered leaders, a leader whose word is law to millions in Andhra Desa. They made some cheap jibes at Mr. Prakasam. Who passed those remarks—persons who were primarily responsible for upsetting all discipline in the Congress organization throughout Andhra Desa. Even here on the floor of this House, Madam, immediately after question time, you might have heard how the Chief Whip of the Party has been superseded by the Ministerialists, in function, if not in law. Persons doing things of that type made cheap jibes at respected leaders. It is no good. I have also materials to speak against them. But I shall not retaliate. I shall not increase the anger or the rancour or the disputes. I have to tell them humbly and respectfully that this is not the way to restore peace and harmony in our ranks.

"Madam, last time when I was speaking on the Services, I drew the attention of the Hon. the Leader of the House to the great deficiency of Andhra personnel in the services. Yesterday the General Secretary of the Indian National Congress gave an assurance that the question of Andhra Province had not been abandoned or dead and buried but that it would be formed soon provided certain agreements were arrived at here. Then Pandit Nehruji and Patelji would put their seal of assent. If the province is to come, the problem of personnel will stare the Government in the face. All the steps necessary to increase the Andhra personnel should be taken in time. Someone may ask, 'How is it that this gentleman asks for an increase in the Andhra personnel while at the same time he talks of the cancellation or modification of the communal Government Order?' There is some little confusion in that thought process. The Congress has not asked for and the Legislature has not given assent to the division of the Province into communal states. Only when communal states are to be formed will the communal Government Order have a place in this country. The Working Committee of the Congress and the Legislature have approved the idea of the formation of states based on language. If that is so, it becomes logical, necessary and essential that the services also must be manned predominantly, if not entirely, by persons who come from those areas concerned. That is my answer to the question and in the short time at my disposal, I am not sure that I can satisfy them completely.

"The Hon. the Leader of the House, in an almost old fashioned way said, 'If Andhras had come out successful in the examinations, they would have been appointed.' That was the argument of thirty years ago. I know several cases where Andhras came out first or second in rank, but have been superseded in favour of persons who came in the *n*th rank. One gentleman came out second in rank in the examination, but he is still in the rank of an Executive Engineer, while another gentleman, an Ayyangar—I am sorry to have to use these terminologies in spite of my desire not to use them—who was placed behind this gentleman who is an Andhra, has become the Principal of the Anantapur Engineering College, a post which is of the grade of a Superintending Engineer.

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The Hon. the Leader of the House said that it was due to failure of Andhras to get high marks. Now there are five Deputy Chief Engineers here at the headquarters. Is it on the basis of marks that it happens that all these five gentlemen have come from areas other than the Telugu area? If Andhras are complaining that their projects are neglected, it is high time that the Hon. the Leader of the House looks into these matters and sees that at least two Andhras are appointed as Deputy Chief Engineers. There is the case of another gentleman, who came out with a first class in the examination and who was deputed by this very Government for foreign studies. But chance after chance, he was superseded in favour of non-Telugu gentlemen. I pass this information on to the Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi. It is not right for me to give names. It might be that he is helpless in certain matters in this big machine of the Government. But instead of telling us the difficulties, he should not in a light-hearted way say that Andhras do not come up well in the examinations. That was responsible for the wave of anger against Mr. Gopala Reddi in the Andhra area. Let us have a combined examination for all the sections of the people, with neutral examiners. You will then get as many Andhras and double the number of Andhras that are required, whatever may be the competitive test you impose. Let not the Hon. the Leader of the House, even as a matter of joke, repeat such arguments. I tell him this because I like that gentleman. (Laughter.)

"I submit also that the Government should divest themselves of the power of patronage. Let them leave selections to the Public Service Commission and other tribunals. Let not the Government have even the reserve power. That is responsible for spoiling the reputation of the Congress. The Government may interfere in one case, but their reputation goes with that. With it the reputation of the entire Congress organization also goes. I am voicing the feelings of the entire population of the area to which I belong. Their reputation is being spoiled by the exercise by Government of patronage in the matters of permits and jobs and controls. Take for example the appointment of a judge of the Small Causes Court. The Public Services Commission interviewed the candidates and recommended a particular candidate who happened to be an Andhra. But the post has not been filled till now. When the Public Services Commission interviews the candidates and gives a candidate very high in rank, and the recommendation is passed on to the Government, the Government instead of appointing the candidate to the post, keep the post vacant. Madam, these things ought not to continue. It is not good for any Government and not good for the Congress Government. I say it because I belong to the Congress and the honour and prestige of the Congress are dearer to me than my life.

"Mr. Linga Raju was referring to the practically compulsory retirement of the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras. Why should this happen in connection with the simple

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transfer of a lady doctor who has been at a single place, the place of the Chief Minister, for over six or seven years? Could not the Surgeon-General use his discretion and transfer her? Even before the order was issued, could not the Chief Minister say, 'Please do not transfer her. It will be good for her and for others too.' But once the order was passed, what is the meaning of the Chief Minister writing to the Surgeon-General and then the Surgeon-General taking leave preparatory to retirement as a protest? I wish the Hon. the Leader of the House would be good enough to place the correspondence on the table of the House—the Chief Minister's letter, the Surgeon-General's letter and any communication from any Member of the Government of India in this connection. A little exposure in matters of this kind, a little focussing of the light of public opinion on such matters will improve everybody—the services, the Government, the Members of the Legislature also and public opinion.

"I am not saying these things in any spirit of carping criticism. If people's Government is to continue, I submit these things like those referred to by me should not continue. I have said that the Government should divest themselves of the power of granting permits. What about the controls they exercise? They fix prices. They fix one price for Andhra cement, another price for Associated cement and another price for India cement. They compel the people to purchase cement imported here by that great financier, Mr. Dalmia from Pakistan. About that matter, on the floor of the House there was any amount of discussion and suspicion cast over the matter. Why should this Government take up the duty of compelling the purchasers of cement here to purchase half of their requirements from a particular importer? These are very bad things for any Government to do.

"I now come to the case of Judicial Magistrates. It is very good that the Government have given effect to the scheme for which a committee was appointed four years ago. Though late, the Government have taken steps to separate the judiciary from the executive. But in the name of God, why should the Government retain the power of selection of Judicial Magistrates in their own hands? What is the use of saying they are temporary appointments? If the separation of the judiciary from the executive is to be continued and I believe it will be continued, these appointments are bound to become permanent. I ask the Hon. the Leader of the House why the Government should have the power of selection of these Judicial Magistrates. The Munsifs, the Sub-Judges and the District Judges are all appointed from a list prepared by the Public Service Commission and the High Court. Here on the other hand you have got political influence over the Magistrates and you also know that they are interchangeable with the Munsifs and Magistrates according to the scheme. It creates an anomaly—a kind of a political chicanery, if I may say so. A few days ago, the Hon. Minister for Law went round a Court with one of the Magistrates and inspected it. In the name of inspection, has any Minister at any time gone to the

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High Court to inspect that Court of Law? No, because the independence of the Judges is not to be affected in any way. I am drawing the attention of the Leader of the House to the reaction of this in the mind of the Judges. Their sense of independence is lost."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"They were complaining of want of sufficient accommodation. It was necessary for that to go there and see what accommodation was available."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"I am sorry that it was stated in the newspapers if I remember aright that it was a sort of inspection and that some books also were seen. If it was merely a matter of accommodation, the Chief Engineer of the P.W.D. would certainly have attended to it. The Hon. Minister wants apparently to demonstrate that political patronage is still in the hands of the Government. Shall we have this political patronage continued? Look at the history of America in the years 1850 to 1870 and the history of England about 70 or 80 years ago. Those were days of patronage. Look into the reports of the speeches in these parliaments. It was all one continuous wail of Government's misuse of patronage. Shall we not learn a lesson from the history of the United States and England and for goodness' sake would not the Government divest themselves of the power of patronage?"

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

1-15 p.m. SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"The hon. Member from Chettinad in his speech said that efficiency in the services has deteriorated. I was glad he said it because of all men I value his statement. Madam, I was going through the debates of this House for the year 1923-24 relating to the introduction of the Communal G.O. and I found that member after member who was responsible for the introduction of the Communal G.O. said, it was never their intention to reduce efficiency in the services and they only wanted fair representation in services of particular sections of the society, who for one reason or other had not been taken in large numbers in the services. Of course, it was not good from a larger point of view but there is nothing very seriously wrong in it, if pursued as a temporary measure. You want the Brahmans to go out. Then have a competitive examination, put a standard if you like, and eliminate all Brahmans if you choose. Eliminate Ramanujams, Radhakrishnans or Ramans but, for Heaven's sake put a decent standard, and see that all non-Brahmans whom you choose come up to the standard. Do not bring in your political feelings and communal feelings, and do not spoil efficiency. That is why I referred to what the hon. Member from Chettinad said, namely, that the efficiency of the services has considerably deteriorated after working the Communal G.O. for the last 26 years. If I said that myself to the Hon. the Finance Minister, he would have risen up and said, 'No, Mr. Viswanatham has no right to say it.' Here

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I take that sentence of the hon. Member from Chettinad and make a present of it to him and also what hon. Sri Govinda Menon said yesterday. These Brahmans according to the Hon. Leader of the House should not speak of the failure of the Communal G.Os. Madam, I was not looking at it from the point of view of the Brahman or the non-Brahman, but I was looking at it from the point of view of the nation. What is the use of the Independence we have achieved if we cannot forge unity, remove disruptive elements and build an efficient machinery. Shall we build an efficient machinery and reconstruct it so that our prestige may go high to an extent unknown hitherto and shall we build up a nation to be admired and envied by the independent nations of the world?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, reference was made to Col. Bhatia by Mr. Viswanatham and by Mr. Linga Raju. I know something about the matter. I may inform hon. Members that it is not for this question that he retired and it has nothing to do with the transfer of the lady doctor to which reference was made. I do not want to go into it now."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"That is why I submitted, Madam, he might put all the correspondence on the table of the House."

SRI T. S. PATTABHIRAMAN:—"Madam, Chairman, after listening to the four days' debate on the budget and watching the speeches of hon. Members, particularly in regard to the Communal G.O.—perhaps they anticipate that it would lead to complications, rather it is a phobia with them—I am afraid many of the Members had no kind word to say about the budget. Unfortunately, Mr. Gopala Reddi should not be judged by the fact that they could not see anything good in it. They could not see any melodrama in it and some did not see any thrill and all those things. But, may I submit that the budget is not a masterpiece, it is not a literary theme and it is not a book of literature, but it is after all a book containing budget figures relating to Governmental administrative machinery and the amounts allotted for them. If it is anything it is only an annual affair."

"Now, I would like to see whether the Hon. Finance Minister has failed. What is the budget and what is the policy of the Government? Have this Government any sagacity in maintaining the functions of the Government? Functions of the Government have been defined by great economists and politicians like Adam Smith and I think it was Rousseau who said that the function of a Government is merely a police one. They must satisfy if the Government is able to give security to the citizen in the discharge of their responsibility. Madam, now the old theories have gone to the wall. Now economists and politicians and persons like Leo Tolstoy say that the function of a Government is not only to do policing but to look after the welfare of the masses, because the well-being of the greatest number is the

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maxim of the present-day economists and politicians. Have this Government not done it? I would have been glad if the eminent members who criticised the budget had discussed the budget in that unbiassed manner. If they had not seen the budget through coloured glasses I am sure they would have some good things to say about the Hon. Finance Minister. This Government have been in power for the last four years now. It is most unfortunate that many ex-Ministers who are now sitting here had very bitter things to say. Madam, I am sorry to say that some hon. ex-Ministers were merely passing judgments about their own achievements during the past four years. Particularly my hon. Friend, Mr. Kurmayya, was very bitter against the Congress. If the Congress has not done anything for the masses and shown sympathy only for the Harijans there would have been blood-shed. Unfortunately, Mr. Kurmayya forgot what he said last year while he was on the Treasury Bench. It is only 10 months ago he spoke and then he had nothing but praise for the Government and he also made a few assurances on the floor of this House."

SRIMATHI R. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"May I know, Madam, from the hon. Member whether he is carrying any brief bag for the Ministers?"

SRI T. S. PATTABHIRAMAN:—"Yes, Madam, I am carrying the brief bag of this Government, that Government in which the hon. lady Member was once a Member. I say I do not have personal loyalties, but party loyalties and whatever was good of the Hon. Minister if she were a Minister, I would simply say, good; if it is good I flatter her and if I see anything bad I simply say, please get out and she did go out. I am not wrong in referring to one of the ex-Ministers when he stated that it was a bad achievement of the organization or of the Government for the past four years. Probably he forgot what he was saying last year as a Minister. I will only quote a few sentences from his last year's speech. He said: 'In all directions, all that could be done by the Government had been done in these directions.' My hon. Friend, Mr. Kurmayya, said this. I would ask the hon. Mr. Kurmayya to wait for one more year, and not pass his judgment now."

"Madam, I would like the hon. Members to sympathise with the Government. Of course, I do not want any personal sympathy to be given to the Hon. Finance Minister, but let us be fair. Now, look at what this Government have been able to do. They have lost all its taxation sources; 18 crores of income has gone to the masses. It has been complained there is no direct taxation. But, I want to know whether by direct taxation the Hon. Minister could give cash bounties to the masses. I am sure that is not the thing that hon. Members want. There has been relief to a substantial extent of 20 crores and what is lost on account of Prohibition, has gone to the masses indirectly. Further, this Government is doing its best with regard to Irrigation policy and Education policy. To-day, what are we having? The

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Government of India promised 10 crores and on that basis a number of schemes have been sanctioned, but we are now in the unfortunate position of having been denied even a single pie out of that promised amount. I would like the hon. Member to say whether even a single item of the irrigation schemes which have been sanctioned has been dropped for want of these 10 crores from the Central Government? No. Every programme has been kept up even though the Government of India refused the promised amount and this Government thought a great deal as to whether they could not carry through their programmes in spite of the denial from the Centre. So, credit must certainly be given to this Government for it."

"Then, what about the Sales Tax? We will be losing another 52 lakhs next year, though incidentally it will be beneficial to the people. It is not after all going to the Government and so it is certainly a saving to the people."

"In conclusion, Madam, I would like to make an appeal to my friends of the Muslim League. They have been attacking very much the Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi. (Janab Muhammad Raza Khan: 'No, we like him. He is our friend'.) They seem to have forgotten what communalism is. It was only a month ago we had a sample of it. They did not allow one of the greatest men of their community, Sheik Abdullah, to speak in the great Mosque. I do not know whether any one of the hon. Members sitting on the Opposition raised his little finger against that. They have not changed their mind and there is therefore no use saying that they have changed their minds. To-day, one of the greatest examples of tolerance and admiration of the Muslim League is Mr. Hameed Khan and he has been able to defeat a Hindu recently in the Senate election. Is that not a testimony of our goodwill to the Muslim minority?"

"Finally, Madam, in regard to the Madras State, I would like to say one word and then stop with it. The Andhras have been complaining that nothing has been done to them. But, I may point out that on account of the famine relief works under the Famine Code in practically half of the Agency tracts and the abolition of the zamindaris, they have practically drained all our resources and Madras has been drained of all its wealth and the sooner the Andhras go out of Madras the better it will be for the future of the country. I wish it is time they disappear from us."

*SRI M. KANNJAPPAN :—"கனம் தலைவி அவர்களே, இன்றைய தினம் கனம் கோபால ரெட்டியார் அவர்கள் கொண்டு வந்திருக்கக்கூடிய பட்ஜெட்டை ஆதரிக்கும் வகையில் சில விஷயங்களைச் சொல்லப் பிரியப்படுகிறேன். அவர் தங்களுடைய பிரச்சங்கத்தின் கடைசியில் திருக்குரலிலிருக்கும் ஒரு செய்யுளை எடுத்துக் குறிப்பிட்டிருக்கிறார். அந்தக்குரலாவது

‘துன்ப முற வரினுஞ் செய்க துணிவாற்றி
இன்பம் பயக்கும் வினை’

என்று குறிப்பிட்டிருக்கிறார். அதாவது ‘துன்பங்களை பற்பல வந்தாலும், நீ எடுத்துக்கொண்ட காரியம் நல்லதானபடியால் அந்தத் துன்பங்களைப் பொருட்படுத்தாமல் செய்வதாக’ என்பதுதான் அதன் பொருள்.

[Sri M. Kanniappan]

[4th March 1950]

‘துன்பங்கள் பற்பல வரும்’ என்று முன்னதாகவே நாம் எதிர் பார்த்து இப்படிப்பட்ட பட்செட்டை நயமித்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்றே அதன் பொருள். அதன்படியே இப்படி அவர் கூறி இருக்கின்றார் என்று எண்ணுகிறேன். இருந்தாலும் ‘இடுக்கண் வந்துகால் நடுக, அதனை அடுத்துவரத் தீர்த்தொப்பதில்’ என்பதுபொல துன்பம் வந்தால் நிர்த்துக்கொள்க என்ற சூழ்ப்பாவையையும் அவருக்குத் துணையாக இருக்குமாறு நான் வேண்டுகின்றேன்.

“இந்த பட்செட்டில் தூதன் அம்சங்கள் ஒன்றுமே இல்லை. தனிச் சிறப்பும் ஒன்றுமே இல்லை. வகுமானத்திற்கு புதிய வழிகள் கண்டு பிடித்ததாகவும் தெரியவில்லை. தெரிவிப்பார்களாகையால் விஷயங்களைப் பொறுத்து ஏதாவது இருக்கின்றனவோ என்று பார்த்தால் அதிலும் ஒன்றுமே இல்லை. இந்த நிலைமையில் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டிய காரியங்கள் என்ன, அவைகளுக்கு என்னென்ன செய்யவேண்டுமென்பதும் ஒன்றுமில்லை. உணவு பொருள்களின் விலைகள் பாரம்பின் விஷயம்தான் எறிக்கொண்டே வருகிறது. ஒரு விசை மிளகாயின் விலை ரூ. 5. ஒரு விசை புளியின் விலை ரூ. 1-8-0 விநந்து ரூ. 1-12-0 வரையிலிருக்கிறது. கட்டை (firewood) யின் விலை ரூ. 2 விநந்து ரூ. 2-8-0 வரையிலிருக்கிறது. நிலைமை இப்படி இருக்கும்பொழுது அவருடைய பட்செட்டில் விருக்கிறதா என்று பார்க்கும்பொழுது அளவுகூடிய நிலைமையிலிருக்கிறதா என்று பார்க்கும்பொழுது ஒன்றுமே இல்லை என்பதைச் சொல்லப் பிரியப்படுகிறேன். இதைக் குறித்து கலாம் கோபால் ரெட்டி அவர்களையும் கேட்கிறேன். இங்கு இருக்கக்கூடிய கலாம் அங்கத்தினர் தித்தால் அந்த ரூ. 50-ல் அவன் தன்னுடைய குடும்பத்தை நடத்த முடியுமா என்பதை நினைத்துப் பார்க்கவேண்டும். ஆனால் இங்கே இருக்கின்றார்கள் மிகவும் பெரியவர்கள். அவர்களுக்கெல்லாம் இவைகள் தெரியாமலிருக்கலாம். வீட்டிற்கு வாங்கக்கூடிய பொருள்களின் விலை என்னவென்பதை அறிந்து இந்த விஷயத்தில் கண்ணும் கருத்துமாக இருந்து அதற்கு வேண்டிய பணியைச் செய்திருக்கிறார்களா என்று கேட்கிறேன். ஆனால் அப்படிச் செய்யவில்லை என்பதை இச் சமயத்தில் நான் சொல்ல மிகவும் வந்ததப்படுகிறேன்.

“அதைப்போலவே இன்றைய தினம் Communal G.O. என்று சொல்லுவதை குறிப்பாக பல அங்கத்தினர்கள் எடுத்துக் காட்டினார்கள். அந்த Communal G.O. ஐ எடுத்துவிட வேண்டுமென்று அவர்களுடைய உணர்வுத்தினுள்ள உணர்ச்சி வேகத்தை எடுத்துச் சொன்னபொழுது அப்படி யார் சொன்னார்கள் என்பதைப் பார்க்கவேண்டும். இங்கிருக்கும் பிராமணர்கள் நான் அப்படி அதிகமாகச் சொன்னார்கள். இந்த விஷயம் ரொம்பவும் முக்கியமான விஷயம். அதில் அப்படி ஒன்றும் கூக்குறில் போடவேண்டிய அவசியமில்லை. ஆனால் அது சம்பந்தமாக ஓன்றை குறிப்பாக சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இராஜாஜி அவர்கள் 1937-ம் வருஷம் இங்கே பிரதம மந்திரியாக இருந்தார். அப்படி அவர் பிரதம மந்திரியாக இருந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் ஒன்று நடைபெற்றது. அந்த விஷயத்தைப்பற்றி, இன்றைய தினம் இந்த G.O. வை எடுத்துவிட வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறார்களே அவர்களை நான் கேட்கிறேன்.”

CHAIRMAN (Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin):—“The House will now adjourn for lunch and meet again at 2-30 p.m.”

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN :—“கலாம் தலைவி அவர்களே, இராஜாஜி அவர்கள் பிரதமமந்திரியாக இருந்தபொழுது அவர் Communal G.O. வைப்பற்றி எடுத்துக்கொண்ட நடவடிக்கையைப்பற்றி ஒன்று சொல்ல ஆரம்பித்தேன். இராஜாஜி அவர்கள் பிரதம மந்திரியாக இருந்தபொழுது பப்ளிக் பிரசிகுட்டர்களை நியமனம் செய்வதில் இந்த Communal G.O.

[4th March 1950]

[Sri M. Kanniappan]

வை அனுசரிக்கவேண்டாம் என்று தெரிவித்தார்கள். அவ்விதம் தெரிவித்த காலத்தில் அவர் என்ன சொன்னார் என்றால் அந்தந்த ஜில்லாக் களிலுள்ள வக்கீல் சங்கங்கள் எந்தப் பெயரை சுபாரச் செய்கின்றதோ அவரையே நியமித்துவிடலாம் என்றும் தெரிவித்தார். அவ்விதம் கூடாது என்றும், அப்படி இருந்தால் பிராமணாஸ்ஸாதாரூடைய பெயர்களை சுபாரச் செய்யமாட்டார்கள் என்றும் அப்பொழுதிருந்த அங்கத்தினர்கள் தெரிவித்தார்கள். அதற்கு இராஜாஜி என்ன சொன்னாரென்றால் ‘அவர் வித்தார்கள். அதற்கு இராஜாஜி என்ன சொன்னாரென்றால் ‘அவர் வித்தார்கள். அவர்கள் மிகவும் புத்திமான்கள் நியாய அவ்விதம் செய்யமாட்டார்கள், அவர்கள் தெரிவித்தார்.’ அவர் அப்படி மாக நடந்துகொள்வார்கள் என்றும் தெரிவித்தார். அவர் அப்படி தெரிவித்தும் கூட திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவிலும் இன்னும் பல ஜில்லாக் களிலும் உள்ள வக்கீல் சங்கங்கள் என்ன செய்தார்களென்றால் அவர் களில் மேல் ஜாதி என்று சொல்லக்கூடியவர்களைத்தான் தேர்ந்தெடுத்து அனுப்பிவைத்தார்கள். அவ்விதம் தேர்ந்தெடுத்த பிறகு அரசாங்கத்திற்கு லிஸ்டு வந்தது. வந்தவுடன் இராஜாஜி அவர்கள் அவைகளைப் பார்த்து ஆச்சரியப்பட்டு உடனே யார் யாரை தேர்ந்தெடுத்தார்களோ அவர்களுடைய பெயர்களை அடித்துவிட்டு குறிப்பாக திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவிற்கு இப் பொழுது இந்த சட்டசபைக்கு வந்திருக்கும் ஒரு அங்கத்தினரை அந்தக் காலத்தில் நம்முடைய அரசாங்கம் நியமனம் செய்தார்கள் என்பதை இது சமயம் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இன்றைய தினம் Communal G.O. வேண்டாம் என்று தெரிவித்த அங்கத்தினர்கள் குறிப்பாக இதைத் தெரிந்துகொள்ள வேண்டுமென்றும் சொல்லுகிறேன். என் இதைத் தெரிந்துகொள்ள வேண்டுமென்றும் சொல்லுகிறேன். என் இதைச் சொல்லுகிறேன் என்றால் இன்றைய தினம் பிற்போக்கு சமூகம் இருக்கக் கூடிய நிலைமை பெய்யப் பெய்யுமென்றால் இந்த பிற்போக்கு சமூகத்தைச் சேர்ந்த மக்கள் முன்னேற்ற மடையும் பாதையில் இல்லை என்பதுதான். ஆனால் இந்த Communal G.O. வை எடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறவர்கள் இப்பொழுது முற்போக்கு பாதையிலிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த நிலைமையில் அவர்கள் சொல்வதைப்போல் அரசாங்கம் கேட்டு அந்த G.O. வை எடுத்துவிட்டால், நான் Challenge செய்கிறேன், ஒரு நிமிஷம்கூட இந்த அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்த முடியாது என்று. என்னுடன் யார் வேண்டுமா இன்னும் வாட்டும். இந்த G.O. வை எடுத்துவிடவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லு கிறவர்களைக் கேட்கிறேன். அவர்களுக்கு இரண்டு நாட்கள் டயம் கொடுக் கிறேன். சென்னையில் பொதுக்கூட்டத்தில் அவர்களும் சொல்லட்டும், நானும் சொல்லுகிறேன். பிறகு மக்கள் எடுத்துவிடவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னால் நான், எடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறவர்களுக்கு அடிமை யாக இருக்கிறேன். என்னுடைய ஸ்தானத்தையும் ராஜினாமா செய் கிறேன். ஜனங்கள் சொல்வதைக்கேட்டு வேண்டுமென்றால் அரசாங்கம் எடுத்துவிட்டும். பிறகு பார்த்துக்கொள்ளலாம். ஆனால் முக்கியமாக உணர்ச்சியுள்ள மக்கள் அந்த முறையில் இல்லை என்பதைத் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“அதைப்போலவே இன்றைய தினம் நாம் குறிப்பாக சிறந்த ஒரு நோக்கத்தைச் செய்திருக்கிறோம். இப்பொழுது நாம் கன் அரக்களை ஒழித் திருக்கிறோம். அவ்விதம் ஒழித்தால் எழைமக்கள் சுகமாக வாழ்வார்கள் என்ற எண்ணத்துடன் அதை ஒழித்தோம். ஆனால் சென்னையில் பல இடங்களில் அந்த கன் அரக்களுக்கு பதிலாக போதை தரக்கூடியவைகளை உற்பத்திசெய்து அதையும் விற்பனைசெய்து வருகிறார்கள். இந்த நிலைமை யில் அரசாங்கம் கொஞ்சம்கூட செவிசாயக்காமலிருக்கிறது. அதற்கு வேண் டிய நடவடிக்கைகளை உடனடியாக எடுக்கவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. நம் அரசாங்கத்திலேயே உத்யோகம் செய்துவருகிற போலீஸ் சிப்பந்திகள் பழய மாஜி குடிகாரர்களிடத்திலிருக்கும் அன்பால் இந் நாட்டில் அவர்க ளுக்கு ஆதரவு கொடுத்து நீங்கள் கடையை நடத்துங்கள் என்று சொல்லு கிறார்கள் என்பதைத் தெரிவித்துக் கொண்டு என்னைப் பேசுவதற்கு அனு மதித்ததற்கும், நம்முடைய நிதி மந்திரியவர்களுக்கும் என்னுடைய வந்தனத்தைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

JANAB P. K. MOLDEEN KUTTY :—“Madam Chairman, I think Mr. Pattabhiraman was paying very poor tribute to the

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Finance Minister, Mr. Gopala Reddi, when he said that this budget has come in for such severe criticism on all hands, because it was a budget coming from Mr. Gopala Reddi. On the other hand the truth of the matter is, were it not for the fact that Mr. Gopala Reddi, had presented the budget, the criticism would have been much more severe. I do not think he is so very unpopular. If there is any man who by his winsome manners has been able to secure friends it is Mr. Gopala Reddi. So it was a compliment neither to Mr. Gopala Reddi nor to the intelligence of the Members of the House when he said that it was Mr. Gopala Reddi's budget, and so this budget has been subject to so much criticism.

"Coming to the budget itself, it is indeed a very very sad commentary on the administration of the province that a leader like Mr. Prakasam, who has grown old in the service of the nation, has been constrained to say, to use his own words, 'to sit by the side of the Opposition' and speak in a manner that has even surpassed the speeches from the Opposition Benches. That in a nutshell reflects the state of administration of this Government. Whether it be in the train or in the bus, or whether it be a rickshaw puller, everybody is speaking very adversely of the administration of the province. It has become a very common thing nowadays. It was only the other day a friend was saying that a rickshaw puller was commenting that everything is so rotten in the province, that even the ex-President of the Kerala Provincial Congress Committee, who resigned his presidency only the other day, has begun to criticise the Congress of which he was a leader. Such, Madam, is the condition of affairs in this Province.

"Madam, as there is not much time for me, I shall content myself dealing with two or three points. The Hon. Finance Minister in his speech has invited constructive criticism. So I shall deal first with retrenchment. I feel Government have not seriously paid any attention to this question. In fact what I find is, jobs are made for men and not men being put in jobs. It was only the other day we found in the papers that the Education and Public Health Department has been bifurcated, so that there is another addition of a post."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"There is no additional financial commitment by that."

JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY:—"I would ask the Hon. Finance Minister whether it would not be possible to do away with the heads of departments altogether, especially a white elephant like the Board of Revenue. I am told in England it is the practice to have only Secretaries to Departments and entrust them with not only the work of the Secretariat but also with a sort of periodical supervision over the department concerned. I do not know whether I am correct; but I am told it is the practice in England. I certainly think that so many heads of departments

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and to add to them, a separate Secretariat, are certainly unnecessary. I wish Government can try the practice obtaining in England.

"Madam, Mr. Kala Venkata Rao, as a sort of advice, asked us to dissolve the Muslim League. Now, I think, from the stage of threat, it has come to the stage of advice. Mr. Pattabhiraman also advised the same thing. I would request the hon. Gentlemen opposite not to pester us with this sort of advice. Let them, for God's sake, leave that matter entirely to the discretion of the Muslims of this province. For, they want some time to adjust themselves to a very difficult situation in which they find themselves.

"Then, coming to the elections, Mr. Kala Venkata Rao again challenged us to try our strength during the elections. From the very recent experience of the district board elections I have very grave misgivings even with regard to the elections. After all, elections which are properly conducted can alone be the test to know public opinion. In fact, in Russia, Stalin is conducting elections; and Hitler also conducted elections; and from the district board elections we had recently in Malabar I do not think elections will be of much use. Polling booths are arranged to suit the convenience of parties. There was tampering of ballot boxes; seals were removed, and though representations were made they were of no avail. So I fear, from the way in which the party in power is managing things I do not think there will be much use of even the elections. The party is almost becoming a totalitarian party.

"Then, Madam, the first test for a good Government is to see the manner in which they are managing to give the elementary necessities of life to the people. I am really sorry to say that in the matter of food, in the matter of clothing and in the matter of housing and in every important matter this Government has thoroughly failed.

"Many references were made to the tours of Ministers. I would like to mention one thing in that connexion. Time and again we have been pressing the Government unanimously to pass the Malabar Tenancy Legislation but they are postponing it. The Hon. Revenue Minister, under whose portfolio this legislation falls, came to Malabar the other day and straightway went to the richest landlord in the district and stayed with him. The same thing was done by the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi. When he went to Kollengode the other day, he stayed with one of the biggest *jenmis*, the Raja of Kollengode." 2.45 p.m.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"When I went to the hon. Member's place, I stayed with him. He is also a big *janmi*."

JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY:—"I certainly cannot claim to be a *janmi*."

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"In the context of the demand for Malabar Tenancy Legislation and its postponement in spite of the promises made by Ministers, the people naturally suspect when the Ministers, who are at the helm of administration, go and stay with rich landlords in the course of their halts during tours. I refer to this not because I suspect the bona fides of the Ministers, but because the people suspect.

"Unfortunately our Labour Minister has not the inclination to be of any use to labour. He has a bias for the capitalist and he has other important work as he is in charge of the Revenue portfolio also. I strongly appeal to the Hon. Chief Minister to entrust labour, which is causing so much trouble in the State, to a separate Minister.

"Reference has also been made to the Police excesses in Malabar. Last year I spoke about a Nambudiri who was dubbed as a Communist, taken into custody and subjected to ill-treatment simply because he helped a dependant of his. A similar case was mentioned by my hon. Friend Sri M. P. Govinda Menon. These are only a few examples but the actual instances are many. So far as Muslims are concerned, there is a lot of harassment against them going on in the district in the name of Communism. In this connexion, I invite the attention of the Minister to the fact that there is harassment not only by the Police but also by a new class of Congressmen whom I will call as pseudo-Congressmen. Most of them are Dewan Bahadurs, Khan Sahibs and Rajas. They have become very good friends of the Congress of late. They use the police for their own purposes against men of the locality who are not subservient to them. Even for small incidents, they summon the aid of the police and even the Malabar Special Police and harass the poor Muslims of the villages. By such acts, they are only creating more Communists. In a village close to my village, there was not even a single Communist. By the action of a retired Judge, I am told that the whole village has been dubbed Communist, and that even the Malabar Special Police were requisitioned. I spoke about this to the Hon. Chief Minister once.

"I shall be failing in my duty if I do not refer to the unhappy incident in the Salem Jail."

CHAIRMAN (Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin):—"The hon. Member's time is up. He can speak about the shooting in Salem Jail under Police Demand."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Madam, the Hon. Minister for Finance has presented a budget for the third time. Compared to his two previous budgets, this is merely a *status quo* budget. I don't think the budget has kept pace with the events that have taken place. Especially in a free country, I expected a budget befitting the Indian Republic that we have inaugurated. Unfortunately this budget follows the same old lines. It has not given any relief from taxation. The only relief for which we have to be thankful is that it does not propose any fresh taxation. But

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there is indirect taxation. The Hon. Finance Minister expects more revenue from General Sales Tax. More revenue means extra tax on the people."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"More revenue by tightening the administration."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Whether it is tightening the administration or loosening it, experience will teach him."

"A large portion of the amount is allotted for education. That is a most important thing. But my complaint is that the sum of Rs. 11 crores that has been allotted is not enough. Taking the period between 1945-46 and 1948-49, the number of elementary schools opened is 420 per annum. If we go on at the rate of 420 schools per annum in a State with 26 districts and each district having about 1,000 villages, when are we going to make the 50 million people of this State literate? According to our Constitution, we are expected to make every citizen of this State literate within ten years. Education is a prime need of the people and no country can get on without education. The Hon. Minister could have levied more taxes on the rich people who can afford to pay and provide more for education."

"Let me take Public Health. I had a discussion with the Secretary of the Public Health Department. He said that we have only 8,000 medical men and that there were 140 hospitals without doctors. Are we here as a popular Government to close the hospitals that were opened by the previous Governments or to open more hospitals and relieve the suffering people? If necessary, more medical colleges should be opened."

"The Government have not tackled the question of levying agricultural income-tax. That is a source of revenue worth tapping. They are shelving the issue because it affects the particular class of people who form the Government. That shows how partial and selfish the Ministers are. If they are really self-sacrificing, if they have got the interests of the people at heart, they should set an example by taxing themselves first."

"The Government practically shelve the land revenue revision when they say that they are appointing a committee. That committee will probably come into existence after these Ministers vacate office. I can never imagine a popular Government shelving such an important problem and shirking responsibility."

"If they are bold enough, they must go to the country, see who all can bear some more tax and tax them. General Sales Tax affects wage earners and other poor consumers. Why should not rich landlords and binami zamindars be taxed more?"

"The expenditure on Police in 1945-46 was 3½ crores, but now it is 7½ crores. In spite of the increase of 4 crores, can the Government say that they are capable of maintaining law and order? No, not at all. We see disasters and derailments taking place. If these people have been careful enough to safeguard the

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people, could there have been so many raids by communists? Is the protection afforded worth the 7½ crores that we spend on the Police? Either the Police must be inefficient or the Minister in charge of Police must be inefficient. Even after spending so much money, they are not able to control the situation. I do not know the reason why the administration of law and order has failed so miserably as it has to-day.

"The Government appointed a committee to suggest retrenchment and reorganization. Probably more money has been spent on the Committee than the savings it has effected. Its report has been shelved safely in a corner of the Secretariat. The expenditure on administrative machinery is increasing, but the efficiency of administration is going lower and lower day by day. That is because of the interference, favouritism and nepotism of the Ministers and the Members of the Legislature. If this sort of administration continues, I do not know what the fate of the unfortunate people of this State will be. Ministers who have taken a pledge to raise the standard of living of the common man will be failing in their duty if they do not put an end to this state of affairs.

"As though the zamindars are starving, these people have been careful enough to give them one crore and seven lakhs of rupees by way of compensation as if that is their first and foremost duty. Why are the Ministers in a hurry to pay them? They could afford to wait for some decades, if not for centuries. Moreover, they have not brought even a single inch of land under cultivation. Have they increased food production to the extent of one crore and seven lakhs of rupees? If that had been done, we need not now beg the Central Government to allot us more foodgrains. Even in day-to-day administration, this Government have miserably failed, not to speak of five-year plans and ten-year plans. God only knows when wisdom will dawn on them."

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

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Coming to agricultural labour, we see that agrarian trouble is brooding all over the State. I read in this morning's paper that a rich mirasdar was murdered in Tanjore. There is agrarian trouble in Anantapur. The trouble is going out of control because of the inefficiency of the Government."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Because of speeches like this.

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"If it is on account of my speech, I 3 p.m. would prefer that a revolution comes in earlier than he expects to put him down once for all and to break his backbone.

"As regards building grants, Madam, the Government have been setting apart some lakhs of rupees for being granted as loans

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through co-operative building societies. To whom are the co-operative societies building houses? Are they building houses for richer classes of people or middle class people or for working classes? Certainly not for the poor and the working classes. (Sri Guntur Narasimha Rao: 'They do not pay taxes.') It is blackmarketers who do not pay taxes. But these poor people are paying indirect taxes. Even if a poor man consumes a pinch of salt, he pays a tax on it."

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—"On a point of order, Madam, the hon. Member has been repeatedly referring to blackmarketers and tax-dodgers. May I know whom he refers to?"

CHAIRMAN (Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin):—"It is not a point of order. The hon. Member may proceed. He has got only two minutes more."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"It is a mockery and a farce, Madam, that people are observing the Harijan day. They do not understand the principle underlying it. It is not observed in the spirit in which it has to be observed. The object with which the Harijan day was conceived is to instil into the minds of the Caste Hindus that they should get out of the idea of untouchability. Everywhere it is observed by the Revenue Inspectors on the instructions of the Collectors and the other higher Revenue officials. They observe it with no real interest and not in the spirit in which it was intended. This sort of observing the Harijan day will not serve any useful purpose. It would take centuries to remove untouchability against the Harijans if this sort of propaganda is carried on by the Government through their subordinates. I want to know how many cases have been booked by these Revenue Inspectors for offences against the Civil Disabilities Act. They have not booked even a single case although this Act has been in operation for the last two or three years.

"Now Madam, let me come to irrigation. As regards irrigation such an important project like the Sangameswaram Project was not at all mentioned in the whole of the speech of 40 pages of the Hon. Minister for Finance. That is the burning problem of the day especially in Rayalaseema and in his own district of Nellore. That is an indispensable project if the Grow More Food campaign is to be carried on in any satisfactory manner in those districts. The Government should have even gone to the Central Government and borrowed some money and put that project into execution. But they have not apparently thought of this question at all."

CHAIRMAN (Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin):—"The hon. Member has exhausted his time-limit. I now call upon the hon. Sri Kandaswami Gounder to speak."

SRI P. R. KANDASWAMI GOUNDER:—"கனம் தலைவி அவர் களை! பொக்கிஷ மந்திரி கனம் ஸ்ரீ கோபால் ரெட்டி அவர்களால் சபையில் வைக்கப்பட்டுள்ள இந்த பட்ஜெட்டை மனப்பூர்வமாக ஆதரிக்கிறேன்.

[Sri P. R. Kandaswami Gounder]

[4th March 1950]

அதே சமயத்தில் அதில் காணப்படுகின்ற சில குறைபாடுகளை மந்திரி சபைக்குத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ள முன்வந்துள்ளேன்.

“தானியக் கொள்முதல் சம்பந்தமாக மாகாணத்திலுள்ள பெரும் பான்மையான விவசாயிகள் தங்களுடைய அதிர்வியை மந்திரிசபைக்கு எடுத்துச் சொல்லியதன் பலனாக பரிசுஷார்த்தமாக கோவை ஜில்லாவில் “லெவி” முறை மூலம் சென்ற மாதத்திலிருந்து தானியக் கொள்முதல் செய்யப்பட்டு வருகின்றது. இந்த முறை மூலம் பெரும்பான்மையான விவசாயிகள் சந்தோஷமடைந்திருப்பதுடன், தானிய உற்பத்தி அதிகரிக்க வேண்டுமென்று எண்ணத்துடன் விவசாயத்தில் ஊக்கம் கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். அதிகாரிகளிடம் விவசாயிகளுக்கு இந்த மனவெற்றுவையும், பரிசுஷார்த்தமாகத்தான் நடத்தப்பட்டு வருகிறது. இதனால் நிறிய விவசாயிகளுக்கு கொஞ்சம் குறைபாடுகள் உண்டு. அவர்களுக்கு உண்மையில் குடும்பத்திற்குப் பொதுமான தானியமும் இந்த முறையில் கிடைப்பதில்லை. இதை மந்திரிசபை கவனித்து நிவர்த்திசெய்துவிடுவார்களேயானால் கோவை ஜில்லாவில் பரிசுஷார்த்தமாக ஏற்படுத்திய இந்த திட்டத்தை இம் மாகாணம் முழுவதும், எல்லா ஜில்லாக்களிலுமே அமுலுக்குக் கொண்டுவரலாம். அதன் மூலமாக விவசாயிகளுடைய குறைகள் நீங்கும்; தானிய உற்பத்தியும் பெருகுமென்று மந்திரி சபைக்குத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“இப்போது சிறையிலும் சிறைதரபாத்திற்குப் பக்கத்திலுள்ள ஆந்திரா ஜில்லாக்களிலும், இன்னும் திருநெல்வேலி, தஞ்சாவூர் போன்ற இடங்களிலும் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளுடைய தொல்லை பெருகிவருகிறது. இதை போதுமான படி மந்திரி சபை கவனிக்க வில்லையென்று பல மெம்பர்கள் தெரிவித்தார்கள்.

“போலீஸார்கள் தங்களுடைய தொழிலை, தங்கள் லேலை முறைப் பிசெய்வார்களென்றால் அவர்களை அவசியம் பாராட்ட நாம் கடமைப்பட்டிருக்கிறோம். சென்ற ஒரு வருஷ காலத்துக்கு முன் பல கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளால் தேசத்திற்கு ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிருந்த ஆபத்தை மந்திரி சபையால் திறம்பட நடவடிக்கை எடுப்பதின் காரணமாக அந்த கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளுடைய தொல்லை தரவு நிவர்த்திக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. ஆனால் கம்யூனிஸ்டு தலைவர்கள், நமது இருந்துகொண்டு ஆங்காங்கே நாசகரமான தொழிலை கிளப்பிவிட்டுக்கொண்டு, நேற்றுக்கூட கல்கத்தா மெயிலை கவித்து விட்டிருக்கிறார்களென்று அறிகிறோம்—தஞ்சாவூர் போன்ற இடங்களில் விவசாயத்திற்கு இடையூறுகள் தகராறுகளை கிளப்பிவிட்டுக்கொண்டு முள்வார்க்கள், அரசாங்கம் கடுமையான நடவடிக்கை எடுத்து தலைமறைவாகவுள்ள கம்யூனிஸ்டு தலைவர்களை கைதிசெய்ய முயற்சி எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று மந்திரிசபைக்கு தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“Political sufferers களுக்கு பூமி கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்ற யோசனையைப் பற்றி அவசியம் தெரிவிக்க விரும்புகின்றேன். எந்த அரசியல் தியாகியும் தாங்கத்திடத்தில் போய் பூமி கேட்கவில்லை. அரசாங்கம் அவர்களுடைய பொருளாதார நிலைமையை உயர்த்தவேண்டுமென்றும், அவர்கள் என்றென்றைக்கும் தேசத்திற்கு சேவை செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கருதியே தான் அவர்களுக்கு 5 ஏக்கர் நஞ்சையோ, 10 ஏக்கர் புஞ்சையோ தரவந்தா வாக்களித்தது. இந்த வாக்குக்கொடுத்து மூன்று வருஷங்களுக்கு மேலாகி விட்டது. நேற்று கனம் ரெவின்யூ மந்திரி அவர்கள் மூலாயிரம் பேர்களுக்கு பூமி கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருப்பதாகத் தெரிவித்தார்கள். என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயம் போட்டதற்கு ஒரு நபருக்கு 4 செண்டு பூமி கொடுக்கப்பட்டுள்ளதாக தெரியவருகிறது. இந்த நிலைமையில் அரசியல் தியாகிகளுக்கு பூமி கொடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்குமென வாக்களிப்பதால் நிலம் பெறுவதற்காக எவ்வளவோ தியாகிகள் தங்கள் கையிலுள்ள சொற்ப காசுகளையும் இழந்துவிட்டு கடன்காரர்களாகிவிட்டார்கள். இதனால் அரசியல் தியாகிகளிடம் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிற அதிருப்தியும், அவர்களுக்கு ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் கஷ்டங்களும்

[Sri P. R. Kandaswami Gounder]

4th March 1950] கொஞ்ச நஞ்சமன்று. ஆகையால் ஒன்று அரசாங்கம் சொன்னபடி அவர்களுக்கு நிலம் கொடுக்கவேண்டும்; அல்லது சொன்னபடி நடக்க முடியவில்லை யென்று சொன்ன வார்த்தைகளை வாபஸ் வாங்கிக்கொள்வது எல்லோருக்கும் கௌரவமும், உயர்வுமாகும். இதை மந்திரி சபை முழு கவனத்துடன் கவனிக்க வேண்டிக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“Prohibition சம்பந்தமாக பல யோசனைகள் தெரிவிக்கப்பட்டது. Prohibition வேலை செய்வதற்கு பழைய “எக்ஸஸ்” டிபார்ட்மெண்டில் வேலை செய்தவர்களையே வைத்துக்கொண்டு வேலை செய்வதில் சில குறைபாடுகள் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. நிரந்தரமாக போலீஸ் டிபார்ட்மெண்டிற்கு மாற்றி விடுவதன் மூலம் சிறிது அபிவிருத்தி ஏற்படுமென்று மந்திரி சபைக்குத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“அரசாங்கம் விவசாயிகளுக்கு கிணறுகள், மற்ற அனுகூலங்களுக்காக மானியமாக 750 ரூபாய் கொடுத்து வருகிறார்கள். இதற்கு ஏழை விவசாயிகள் மந்திரி சபையிடம் நன்றி பராட்டுவது அவசியமாகும். ஆனால் பருவமழை தவறி விட்டதின் காரணமாக தென் ஜில்லாக்களில் அனேக ஏழை விவசாயிகள் கடன் வாங்கி விட்டு கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். கலெக்டர் நிபந்தனையை பூர்த்தி செய்யாத விவசாயிகளை மேற்படி தொகையை வாபீசு செய்ய தீர்ப்பந்தம் செய்கிறார். பல விவசாயிகள் மிகவும் கஷ்டத்தோடு வாபஸ் செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். பலர் திருப்பிக் கொடுக்க முடியாமல் தவிக்கிறார்கள். இதை அரசாங்கம் பரிசீலனை செய்து விவசாயிகளுக்கு உதவ முன்வரவேண்டும். கோவை ஜில்லாவில் தண்ணீர் கஷ்டம் மிக அதிகமாகியிருக்கிறது. அதுவும் முக்கியமாக கோவை ஜில்லாவில், பல்லடம், தாராபுரம், வுடுமலை போன்ற இடங்களில் குடிக்கக்கூட தண்ணீர் கிடைக்காமல் பஞ்சம் ஏற்பட்டுள்ளது. ஏழை விவசாயிகளுக்கு இதனால் சொல்லொனது கஷ்டம் அதிகரித்துள்ளது. இந்த வரியாக்களுக்கு கனம் ஸ்ரீ பக்தவத்சலம் அவர்கள் சென்ற மாதம் விஜயம் செய்திருந்தார்கள். அப்போது விவசாயிகள் அந்தந்த இடங்களிலுள்ள குளம், குட்டைகளில் நீர் தேக்கி வைத்துக்கொள்ள செப்பனிடவேண்டுமென்றும் உடுமலை, தாராபுரம் தாலுக்காவின் பஞ்ச நிலைமையைத் தவிர்க்க முயற்சி எடுத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்றும் சொல்லியிருந்தார்கள். அந்த வரியாக்களிற்கு வேண்டிய அமராவதி, ஜல்லிமுத்தான்பாரை அணைகட்டு திட்டங்களை செய்து ஏழை விவசாயிகளை கைதூக்கி விடுமாறு நான் மந்திரி சபைக்கு ஞாபகப்படுத்த விரும்புகின்றேன்.

“கடைசியாக உடுமலையில் குடிப்பதற்குக் கூட தண்ணீர் கிடைக்காமல் ஜனங்கள் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். ஒரு குடம் ஜலம் நான்கு, ஆறனுமென்று அங்கே விற்கப்படுகின்றது. மனிதனுக்கு அவசியமான ஜல சப்ளை பண்ணுவதற்கு ஏதாவது அரசாங்கம் ஒரு முயற்சி செய்யவேண்டும். முனிசிபாலிட்டியும், தாலுக்கா விவசாயிகள் சங்கமும் அந்த வித குறைகளை நிவர்த்திக்க உதவி செய்யவேண்டுமென்றும், உடுமலை நகர சபையும் ஜலக்கஷ்டத்தை யெடுத்து மந்திரி சபைக்குச் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள். அம்மாதிரியான நடவடிக்கைகளை எடுத்து ஓரளவு இந்த ஜலக்கஷ்டத்தைப் போக்கவேண்டுமென்று மந்திரி சபையைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

Sri M. NAGESWARA RAO:—“Madam, we are very grateful to the Hon. Leader of the House for the presentation of the Budget which is highly favourable and is appreciated by every one of us. Many of the hon. Members have spoken at great length on other subjects of interest and are of use for the well-being of our Province. Hon. Members have put forward a number of suggestions, but they have omitted one single factor which is most important of all. When I refer to this factor, most of our Members may have an impression that this simple suggestion of mine has already been incorporated. We are all aware of the

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cry from the public to put a stop to corruption, black-marketing and blackmailing and Communist menace, favouritism and nepotism.

"I know the Government is taking all possible measures, but it is known to us that the measures adopted now are not very successful. Here I would like to mention that there is an immediate necessity to form a separate Ministry for propaganda and public enlightenment with some Parliamentary Secretaries. The aim, object and functions of this Ministry should be restricted only to stamp out these four evils, that is corruption, favouritism, nepotism and communist menace. I am sure most of our Members will agree that the best way of facing this mighty problem is to carry out extensive preventive propaganda. We are all aware of the propaganda that was carried on during the days of our struggle for freedom. Propaganda was one of our strongest weapons that won our independence. Why can't we adopt similar methods to put an end to this dreadful evil? I am sure that the new Propaganda Ministry, if formed with a capable and active Minister as head of the portfolio, will be successful in the very near future in our attempts. Now I wish to say briefly how this propaganda work should be effected and the result that would be forthcoming.

3-15 p.m. "For instance take the present action taken by our country to meet the communist problem. We are imprisoning both active and inactive communists not fully realising what the later outcome or results would be. Don't forget our days of imprisonment. We all know that we became more united and stronger in the jails. I wish to draw back your minds to the propaganda we created against the alien Government.

"Now that we have had the experience, we should look ahead, and start counter propaganda measures to crush the evils. Strong propaganda measures that are required to stop this evil need no emphasis.

"I want to draw the attention of the House to the last night's tragedy near Sulurpet which overtook the Calcutta Mail. If the Government do not take severe action against such sabotage, there will be complete panic in the State, and the public will lose faith in our Government. Incidentally I wish to inform that Mr. Kala Venkata Rao was one of the passengers who escaped narrowly, and he carried out excellent rescue work on his own initiative. He was very quick in getting hold of the lorries passing by on the road, and evacuated about 100 serious casualties to the nearest hospital. If Mr. Kala Venkata Rao had not done this, about 50 people would have lost their lives. I along with Mr. Guntur Narasimha Rao and others went to the scene by 10 o'clock this morning and found the hon. Kala Venkata Rao still working restlessly evacuating the casualties. He has exhibited a personal example and gave encouragement and courage to the injured. The Collector of

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Nellore, Mr. Malayappan and the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Mr. Rajarathnam along with their staff, were present there and they gave able assistance.

"It is surprising how this accident could have happened, when a passenger train had passed just half an hour earlier. This makes us think how skilled the people are who created this mischief. I think incidents of this nature would not occur if a separate Propaganda and Enlightenment Ministry is in existence.

"The Government should be very firm in the decision of propaganda work and should leave no loopholes, but I sincerely hope that the Leader of the House and members of this House will agree with me that we must give primary importance to propaganda and public enlightenment. I am sure the separate ministry when formed will successfully carry out this task and give relief to the Government and the public.

"The hon. Member Mr. Kaleswara Rao says that the only method to evade communist menace is to shut oneself in. I am sure he is accustomed to this state of life even from the days when he sponsored the move to dethrone the Ex-Chief Minister. It is due to the Hon. Mr. Prakasam's menace and not to the communist menace alone. While talks go on in the Assembly criticising the Government on the maintenance of law and order, people seem to forget that the Members themselves are not observing law and order in that what they should talk in the party is talked out here. How can we expect the common people to show respect for law and order? Of course the Government are least worried about this. The recent sad occurrence in Guntur district, Ramapuram village, is not due only to the police withdrawal as one Member said."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"On a point of order, Madam. Is the Hon. Member allowed to read a manuscript speech in the Assembly?"

CHAIRMAN (Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin):—"They are only notes."

SRI M. NAGESWARA RAO:—"Finally, I request the Hon. the Leader of the House to establish a separate Ministry for Propaganda and Public Enlightenment. Our State will again give the lead to the rest of our country by showing the correct way of putting an end to the evils that are existing now."

* SRI A. SUBRAMANIAN:—"கனம் தலைவி அவர்களே, இந்த வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தை நான் வரவேற்கிறேன். அதே சமயத்தில் அதிலிருக்கும்படியான இரண்டு குறைகளை எடுத்துக் காட்ட விரும்புகிறேன். அரசாங்கம் பலவகைகளிலும் பல நல்ல திட்டங்களை இந்த வருஷத்தில் செய்திருந்தாலும்கூட முக்கியமாக இரண்டு விஷயங்களை சரிவர கவனிக்க வில்லை என்பதை வருத்தத்துடன் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். முதலாவது விவசாயிகளுடைய விஷயம். இரண்டாவது பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களுடைய விஷயம்.

"விவசாயிகளுக்கு என்னென்ன குறைகள் இருக்கின்றனவென்பதை சரிவர இன்னும் இந்த அரசாங்கம் உணர்ந்து அதற்கு தக்க பரிசாரம் தேடித்தரவேண்டுமென்று தெரிவிக்க ஆசைப்படுகிறேன். இப்பொழுது

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“இரண்டாவதாக பிற்போக்கினத்தவர்களுடைய விஷயம். இந்த பிற்போக்கினத்தவர்களுக்கு இந்த அரசாங்கம் என்ன நன்மைகளைச் செய்திருக்கிறது என்று பார்க்கும்பொழுது அது கடலில் கரைந்த பெருங்காயமாகத்தாலிருக்கிறது. இந்த மாகாணத்தின் ஜனத்தொகை சற்றேறக் குறைய ஐந்து கோடியாகும். அதில் பிற்போக்கினத்தவர்கள் எவ்வளவு பேர்களென்றால் அவர்கள் 150 இனப் பிரிவுகள் கொண்ட 2½ கோடிப் பேர்களாகும். இவ்வளவு இனப்பிரிவுகள் கொண்ட ஒரு பெரிய பிற்போக்குக்கூட்டத்தாருக்கு 1950-51-ம் வருஷ வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தில் அவர்களுடைய கோபநிதிக்கென்று ஐந்து லட்சம் ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கி வைக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்றால் அதைப்பற்றி யார்தான் வருந்தாமலிருக்க முடியும். இதை சற்று யாவரும் யோசித்துப் பார்க்கவேண்டும். அந்தத் தொகையை வைத்துக்கொண்டு எந்த விதத்தில் செலவு செய்ய முடியும் என்பதை அங்கத்தினர்களாகிய நீங்கள் பாருங்கள். இன்னும் அவர்களுக்கு கல்வி விஷயத்தில் அதிக வசதி செய்து கொடுக்கவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. பொருளாதாரத்திலும் அதிகமாக வசதி செய்து கொடுக்கவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. இன்னும் உத்தியோகங்களில் கூட அவர்களுக்கு அதிக வசதியளிக்கவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. இவைகளைப்பற்றி அரசாங்கத்தினிடம் தெரியப்படுத்தினால் ஏதோ பேச்சளவிலும் எழுத்தளவிலும் தானிருக்கின்றனவையொழிய காரியத்தில் ஒன்றுமில்லை. வெறும் காகிதத்தில் எழுதிக்கொண்டிருந்தும் கமிட்டியை நியமித்துக்கொண்டும் பேசிக்

[Sri A. Subramanian]

“இப்பொழுது வகுப்புவாரி பிரதிநிதித்துவ முறை என்பதாகச் சொல்லி அதன்படியே இந்த அரசாங்கம் ஒரு திட்டத்தை ஏற்படுத்தி அதன்படி உத்தியோகங்களை வழங்கப்படுகிறது. அதன்படி பிற்போக்கினத்தவர்களுக்கு உத்தியோகங்களில் எவ்வளவு வசதி செய்து கொடுக்கப்படுகிறதென்பதையும் பார்ப்பார்கள். ஏதோ 14 ஸ்தானங்களில் பிற்போக்கினத்தவர்களுக்கென்று இரண்டு ஸ்தானங்கள் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இது வந்த விதத்தில் நியாயம் என்பதை யோசித்துப் பாருங்கள். ஜனத்தொகையில் நூறுக்கு 2, 3, 4, 8, 10 சத விதமுள்ளவர்களுக்கு இப்பொழுது 1, 2, 6, 8, 10 ஸ்தானங்கள் என்று தவறான முறையில் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆனால் இந்த மாகாணத்தின் ஜனத்தொகையில் சரி பாதியான 50 per cent உள்ள இந்த பிற்போக்கு இனத்தவர்களுக்கு, அதிலும் 156 இளைப்பிர்வு கொண்டவர்களுக்கும் இரண்டே இரண்டு ஸ்தானங்கள் தான் ஒதுக்கப் பட்டிருக்கிறது. இந்த நிலைமையிலிருந்தால் அவர்கள் எந்தக் காலத்தில் முற்போக்கு அடைவார்கள் என்பதை சற்று யோசித்துப் பார்க்கவேண்டும் முற்போக்கு அடைவார்கள் என்பதை தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இன்னும் இப்படியே என்பதை அவர்களுக்குத் தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டிருந்தால் அவர்களுடைய பிற்போக்கு ஆமை வேகத்தில் போய்க்கொண்டிருந்தால் அவர்களுடைய பிற்போக்கு நிலைமை என்றைக்கும் மாறுதல் என்பதை நான் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ள ஆசைப்படுகின்றேன். இந்த பிற்போக்கினத்தவர்கள் படித்துவிட்டு முற்போக்கு அடைவதற்கு இதுதான் தக்க காலம். அப்படிப்பட்ட இந்த சௌகரியமான காலத்தையும் சந்தர்ப்பத்தையும் சரியாப்படி பயன்படுத்திக்கொள்ளாவிட்டால் வேறு பயனல்லாமல் போய் விடும். அதற்கு வேண்டி அவர்களுக்கு கல்விக்காக வசதி செய்து கொடுப்பதற்கு இந்த அரசாங்கம் முன் வரவேண்டும். அப்படிச் செய்யாவிட்டால் பிரயோசனமில்லை.

“அடுத்தபடியாக இந்த அரசாங்க காரியாலயத்தில் அதாவது இந்த Secretariate-ல் அதிகமாக ஆந்திரர்கள் இல்லை என்று சில மெம்பர்கள் புகார் செய்தார்கள். ஆந்திரர்கள் எப்படி இருக்கமுடியும்? சென்னை நகரம் தமிழருடையது என்றிருக்கும்பொழுது சென்னையிலுள்ள காரியாலயங்களில் அதிகமாக ஆந்திரர்கள் எப்படி இருக்க முடியும். தமிழர்கள்தான் இருப்பார்கள். தமிழ் நாட்டில் தமிழர்கள்தான் அதிகமாக இருப்பார்கள். ஆந்திர தேசமாகிய விஜயவாடா முதலிய இடங்களிலுள்ள ஜில்லா போர்டு, தாலுகா ஆபீஸ், கலெக்டர் ஆபீஸ் முதலிய இடங்களில் அதிகமாக

[Sri A. Subramanian]

[4th March 1950]

ஆந்திரர்கள்தான் இருப்பார்கள். தமிழர்கள் இருக்க முடியாது. அங்கே தமிழர்கள் எப்படி இருக்க முடியும். அதைப்போலவே தமிழருடைய சென்னை நகர காரியாலயங்களில் ஆந்திரர்கள் எப்படி இருக்கமுடியும் ?”

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—“ அங்கேயும் நீங்கள் வாருங்களேன்.”

SRI A. SUBRAMANIAN:—“ உங்களுக்கு வேண்டிய சலுகைகள் அளிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது இங்கே நீங்கள் இனி வராமல் இருந்தால் போதும். ஆகவே நான் கேட்பதெல்லாம் ஆந்திரர்கள் வேண்டாம் தமிழர்கள் தான் வேண்டுமென்று கேட்கவில்லை. பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களுக்குத்தான் சலுகை காட்டவேண்டுமென்று கேட்கிறேன். இந்த மாகாணத்தில் சற்றேரக்குறைய 250 லட்சம் ஜனங்கள் இந்த பிற்போக்கினத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர்களிருக்கின்றார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு இப்பொழுது இருக்கக்கூடிய வகுப்புவாரி பிரதிநிதித்வ முறையை அடியோடு மாற்றி திருத்தியமைக்கவேண்டும். இந்த பிற்போக்கினத்தவர்களுக்கு உத்தியோகங்கள் வழங்கப்படுவதில்லை. 14 ஸ்தானங்களில் எழு ஸ்தானங்கள் என்று வழங்கப்படவேண்டும். இந்த முறையும் இன்னும் பத்து வருஷங்களுக்கு அமுலில் இருக்கவேண்டும். அதன் பிறகு பிற்பட்ட இனம் என்பது இந்த தேசத்திலிருக்கக்கூடாது என்பதை நான் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆகவே இந்திய குடியரசு சட்டத்தில் வகுக்கப்பட்டபடி இந்த ஜாதி பேதம் வகுப்புவாதமே இருக்கக்கூடாது. அதன் பிறகு நான் ஏற்கனவே கொண்டுவரவிருந்த ஜீர்மானப்பிரகாரம் நம் தேசத்தில் ஜாதி மதம் என்றில்லாமல் முற்போக்கு இனத்தவர்கள், பிற்போக்கினத்தவர்கள், ஹரிஜனங்கள் என்பதாக ஒரு திட்டம் வகுத்து என்னுடைய ஜீர்மானப்பிரகாரம் நாம் காரியங்களைச் செய்துவந்தால் நம் தேசத்தில் இந்த வகுப்புவாதம் என்றவை நீங்கிப்போய்விடும். இவ்விதம் நம் தேசத்திற்கு ஒரு நன்மையைச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று நான் தெரிவித்துக் கொண்டு இத்துடன் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—“ Madam, I was very anxious to congratulate my Hon. Friend Mr. Gopala Reddi the other day, but as he was reading his budget speech, I was greatly disappointed because he did not show any youth in him. Youth is a period which must be revolutionary and it must always try to take time by the forelock.

2-30
p.m.

“ The budget speech makes almost a dull reading. More than that, he was trying to tell us a grandmother's story of how the budget is being balanced. No doubt a budget must be balanced. But how? Not at the expense of the good of the many. As he was winding up his speech, he quoted from Tirukkural ‘Tread humbly but resolutely, unmindful of pain, the path of common good’. I would like to ask him whether this budget indicates the ‘common good’. It does not. The common man is ignored and the man who is now exploiting the common man is being looked after with the greatest care that this Government is capable of. I have no doubt that all my friends who are now sitting in the Treasury Benches were once in the jails in order to win freedom, not only political but also economic. Then they assured us of social and economic reforms. But where is the promise they have made years back to redeem the masses? I am very much disappointed at the way in which the Party is conducting the affairs of the Government of this State. I would not like to go into the party politics here. But even a gentleman of the status of Mr. Kala Venkata Rao has thought fit that he could make this the forum of party or rather group propaganda. I would not like

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a gentleman of the calibre of Mr. Kala Venkata Rao to talk here about party politics and issue a warning to Mr. Nagappa that the latter could not stay in his Party unless and until he became a bond slave of Mr. Kala Venkata Rao. It is not for this that Mahatma Gandhi has brought us Swaraj. A man must have his independence and independent views and Mr. Venkata Rao must learn that it is time that he must allow himself to be led by a man like Mr. Nagappa.

“ Madam, as the time is limited, I would not like to take up all the subjects. I would take my own subject, the subject concerning the welfare of my community, the Harijan community. I would like to thank the Ministry for what all they have been able to do so far. The Harijan is always humble; he is always obedient; he is the person who is looking after the comforts of all the other communities, but unfortunately these other communities have forgotten that there is a person like Harijan on whom they depend for their daily bread. The Finance Minister has stated here that so much is being done for Harijan welfare and Mr. Kala Venkata Rao has also endorsed the statement. I would like to know whether Mr. Venkata Rao was honest in saying that he and his party or rather the group of which he is now the head, are doing good for the Harijans. Madam, it is an open secret that in one public meeting in Razole taluk Mr. Venkata Rao as the General Secretary of the Congress said that he is the very veritable Ravana and that he would not tolerate any Harijan showing any spirit of independence. If that is the fate of the Congress Secretary . . .”

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—“ On a point of order, Madam, I would like to know whether this is a budget speech or . . .”

CHAIRMAN (Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin):—“ This is no point of order.”

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—“ Madam, I am only answering what Mr. Venkata Rao has thought fit to speak on the floor of this House. My Friend Mr. Madhava Menon asks me whether Ravana was anti-Harijan. Mr. Madhava Menon comes from a place which is very close to Lanka and he must know it better than I do. I come from a place near Amaravati which is supposed to be the abode of Gods but not of Ravana. (Laughter.) I wish that Mr. Venkata Rao will lead us. I am willing not only to be led by Mr. Venkata Rao but also by Mr. Bapineedu, the so-called Harijan bandhu, but lead us with our consent; don't be Fascist; don't be dictatorial; don't try to say that we will be doomed if we are not with you. I would like to give this warning to these friends that if you are not able to change your views and work for the good of the common man, you are going to be doomed, you are going to drag the Congress into mire and you are going to spoil the fair name of Mahatma Gandhi. Madam, I do not say this in any spirit of vindictiveness. I want to be humble and very friendly

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with them but they should not try to create bad blood for the result will be that they will have to pay for it. Harijan, being poor, has nothing to lose. It is Marx who said 'Ye Labourers of the world, be united; we have nothing to lose but our shackles.' I wish the same thing could be said of Harijans—'Ye, Harijans, be united, we have nothing to lose but to win the Government of the country and we will see what can be done and how this country can be ruled better than what these friends are able to do now.'

'Madam, more and more this Government is becoming capitalistic. My friends must understand that the world is already having the swing to the left. In China, Indonesia, Burma and everywhere in the East it is the labour which is coming to the top. It is bound to happen in India as well. Now it is for my friends to see that when labour comes into power, it should not be vindictive or wreak vengeance against these capitalists who are now trying to suck their blood. It is for them to prevent this mishap. They cannot prevent the revolution that is taking place in the eastern hemisphere of the world and India is going to be swallowed by these world revolutionary forces. But when they come to India, let us see that Gandhian revolutionary methods are adopted by Harijans who are now subjected to atrocities and outrages by the capitalists, the caste Hindus, at the point of the gun supplied to them by the policemen under the orders of the Ministry.'

"Madam, I would like to quote only one instance. Once again I go back to this Antarvedipalem firka. It is a story which must make every member of the Ministry bend his head in shame. For three years a Police Inspector has been kept there in spite of public agitation, in spite of public men going and requesting the Minister concerned, and in spite of all papers, dailies and important weeklies saying that this man should be removed. What is the fun in keeping a man there who always drinks and beats people who go in the street? If there is anything wrong in what we say, why not the Ministry send some C.I.D. Inspector, known for his veracity and integrity, and find out whether the accusations are well-founded or ill-founded? How long can we allow such an agitation to go on? Is it possible to-day to get hold of some persons in the name of Communists, make them lie supine and bring urine and pour it into their mouths? It is done under this Government. Again, is it possible to get hold of women and rape them in daylight? It is also done. Why do not the Ministers go and find out the truth for themselves? I request my Friend Mr. Kumaraswami Raja to go to this area and find out the truth. If I am proved to be incorrect, any punishment, either by party or otherwise, I am prepared to submit to; I take up the challenge. The other day I requested Mr. Madhava Menon to go and see certain areas where the Harijans and the landless labourers, were being butchered. He said, 'I am not prepared; I shall depend upon my officers.' All right, what sort of officers are you having to-day? I went to two or three officers, the District Collector, the District Superintendent of Police, etc.

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What did they say? They said, 'Mr. Murthi, why do you come and trouble us? It is your Ministers who are acting like this.' I can prove this. (Interruption.) I am not in a challenging mood; I am in a begging mood. I bend on my knees and say, 'If we are wrong, if the public agitation is wrong, please go and nip it in the bud. But don't allow this sort of rumours and agitation to go on gaining ground; this will create canker in the minds of those landless labourers; it is not good for the Party or the administration.'

"Another point is about lanka lands. 50, 60 or 70 years ago, the lanka lands were given separately for the landless Harijans. But what has this Government done? The Government say, 'They cannot be given.' Rules have been framed, Government Orders have been passed and Ministers have been going and telling the caste Hindus, 'Take these lanka lands and enjoy; we are giving them to you.' I am not referring to the question of the lands now in possession of the Harijans being taken away from them and given as gift to the political sufferers. Political sufferers must no doubt be encouraged. I have been a political sufferer; I have contributed my quota in the freedom struggle. But I would not like to take a land which is now in the possession of a Raju, a Reddi or a Kamma if he is a poor man. Mr. Pattabiraman was asking the other day whether it was possible not to disturb a Harijan who was having 100 acres of wet land and 500 acres of dry land or some such thing. I say Harijans are poor as a class. If there is an exception, that Harijan would not go and take more Government land like some of these capitalists—Reddis, Rajus, Kammas, etc. These people are trying to grab the lands of the poor; this, in short, is sucking the blood of the very people who are serving them. Here is another case with regard to kakkirai lanka. There is a Kshatriya gentleman there. Madam, I am not able to talk because it is impossible to relate all these things. Is it possible? Here is a Raju who is having 600 acres of land. He is a Kshatriya. Kshatriyas are supposed to protect the weak and the meek. The Harijan is weak and meek. (Interruption.) B. S. Murthi is an exception. I refuse to be weak and meek. But Harijan as a class is weak and meek, and this Government pass a separate Government Order saying that all the fishery rights of all 'bodees' and other channels in other lankas may be considered separately and differently, but those belonging to the kakkirai lanka have been given to this rich Kshatriya gentleman possessing 600 acres. What is happening? The Government is giving him this right for Rs. 500 but he is making Rs. 4,000 per year as net profit out of this.

"Another point is about the Ministers' tours. We are anxious 3.45 p.m. that the Ministers should tour and learn things by first hand information. What do they do at present? Whenever they go on tour they are surrounded by their coteries and votaries. (Interruption.) Yes. I was a Parliamentary Secretary. Please ask the public what Murthi as a Parliamentary Secretary did. (Laughter.) I made no distinction between one community and another.

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But what do these Ministers do now? Everytime they receive petitions what are they doing? They bring all the bundles here and some gentleman who knows Telugu or Tamil simply says to the Minister concerned that this is such a petition and that is such a petition for this and that and the Minister simply signs them. All that they want to know is whether it is small signature or big signature that they have to put. (Laughter.) Madam, it is a fact that a Minister has sent a petition from a police officer to the department without knowing that it should not be sent. The case is like this. The hon. Gentleman who was then a Minister had gone to a place in the Telugu districts. Some Harijan went to him and said, 'Sir, I am a Harijan. Not only Harijan but I belong to the very sect'. The Minister asked him, 'Well, can I do anything for you?' He immediately said, 'The Deputy Superintendent of Police is teasing me; the Circle Inspector of Police who is a Reddi, is also teasing me.' The Minister said, 'All right, put everything in writing and I will consider'. That man did not know how to put it in writing correctly. Anyway he put it in writing somehow and while giving it to the Minister said, 'Sir, I am not supposed to give you petitions'. But the Minister said, 'Don't worry, I am here to take care of you.' This paper along with the other bundles was brought to Madras and given to the Minister's personal secretary. That poor man did not know what to do with this petition. He sent this as usual to Home Department and after some days the officer who gave the petition received a communication stating, 'Show cause why you should not be dismissed for disobeying the rules.' It was with great difficulty we had to see that this man was saved. What I want to say is, instead of taking all the bundles here, why don't you call the Agricultural Officer, the Education Officer or the Collector or the District Superintendent of Police and enquire into the matter then and there. When the petitions are clear that the lands belonging to the Harijans are being forcibly taken by others, then why don't you call the Collector and ask 'Well, Mr. Collector, what is the matter about this petition. Will you take care of these poor people?' Similarly you can call the other officers and dispose of the matters then and there without carrying the bundles to Madras and forwarding the applications and petitions to the departments and waiting for their remarks. If this is done, I am sure a lot of their work will be saved. If a man sends in a petition, it takes two years for him to receive any communication in reply. Therefore friends, I also know something of administration and I am anxious to be with you and follow you and to obey you. But don't try to create bad blood and say, 'You are all Harijans. You must obey us. Then only we will help you' and all that.

"One more point and I have finished, Madam. (Interruption.) My hon. Friend Mr. Narasimha Rao says something. He is a mill-owner. In corporal contents we look alike, but in economic contents we are poles apart. Mr. Narasimha Rao is a mill-owner and I am a mill hand. My request to the Hon. Ministers is that they

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especially Mr. Sitarama Reddi, should be more courteous when they are replying to questions. Questions are put on the floor of the House, Madam, not to try and test the intelligence of the Ministers. If we want to try their intelligence, there are other fields. But here, we want to know certain information. A sort of mere clever reply is not the proper thing. They may be more clever and intelligent than the questioner. But the point is that they should sympathize with the questioner and try to tell him this is this and that is that. There is no use of escaping giving correct answers by bypassing the main issues and sidetracking them. Therefore I request the Hon. Ministers, especially Mr. Sitarama Reddi, to be courteous when they give answers to questions.

"Again about the labour policy. Mr. Kosalram has been in season and out of season talking about this. It is three years since this Ministry has been in office. Is there no labour in the Province? Are there no labour disputes? Why is it that they have not brought forward any labour legislation to ameliorate the conditions of labour . . ."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"How can you expect a Zamindar to bring labour legislation?"

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"In conclusion I appeal to the Ministers to take things in their proper perspective and that due regard may be paid to ameliorate the conditions of the landless poor, especially the Harijans in the future programme of the Government. Thank you, Madam."

DR. U. PADMANABHA MALLAYYA:—"Madam Chairman, coming as I do from the district of South Kanara where recently there has been a strike, I have to say a few words about that strike. This strike took a large part of the discussions yesterday and I want to associate myself with some feelings expressed by hon. Members. I have had personal experience of this strike when I was there last week. It looked as if for a week there was chaos and confusion in the district. In fact the labour rebelled. There was confusion. All this was brought by a motor award. Here I would like to know why it took the Government nearly two years to see that that award was implemented. It is as a result, probably, of some hesitancy on the part of the Government, that this sad state of affairs overtook our district. One of the hon. Members, Mr. Karanth was rather vehement when he was speaking here yesterday. I would like to associate myself with his feelings that the labour should be given its just due. But unfortunately he also made a remark about the motor bus owners as a whole which certainly was not a justifiable one. I should not be misunderstood as siding the bus owners. Let me make it very clear. It is wrong to take one bus owner and say that he was anti-national and all that, because he did not contribute to the Mahatma Gandhi National Memorial Fund. It is rather unfair, in my opinion, to that concern. I know fully well what that concern is. It is

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manned by persons who are really national-minded. In fact a good number of the Directors of that concern have contributed liberally for the Mahatma Gandhi National Memorial Fund. Mr. Karanth and myself had gone to one of the Directors of that concern and let me tell you that he has subscribed very substantially. He is the biggest shareholder of that concern and he is having a good deal of influence in that concern. As such, to speak of that concern as anti-national and all that was probably unfair. Apart from that, that concern has been giving good and valuable service whenever it was required for any national purpose. Whether it is the workers of the Harijan Sevak Sangh or the Khadi workers. They had the privilege of travelling in their buses without paying anything. From all this, it should be clear that they were in no way anti-national in their outlook. When I say all this, it should not be understood that I am saying that their actions are justifiable, in not implementing the award. They have represented the matter to the Government and it is now for the Government to go into the matter and see whether there is any justification for the representation. At any rate I would rather like this Government to see the end of this award soon so that labour may be satisfied.

“Madam, in the course of his speech, Mr. Karanth was also referring to the bungalow in our place which is reported to be owned by a motor owner in one of the local papers. I want to correct the wrong impression. This bungalow was being used by the Ministers whenever they make a sojourn to our district. That bungalow belongs to one of the most generous hearted gentlemen and we justly feel proud of that bungalow. The owner of that bungalow is a philanthropic retired I.M.S. Officer. He is a generous hearted distinguished surgeon. He was once the President of the Surgeon-Generals' Conference. He is now in Bombay. That building is a really grand one and as I have already said it is a pride of our district. Whenever Ministers visit that place, and not only that, whenever other big committees visit the place, this bungalow is used to be placed at their disposal and those distinguished visiting gentlemen used to stay there during their visit. In this connection, I may mention here that Mr. R. V. Swaminathan, a distinguished member of this House, when he had come there in the capacity of the Member of the Industrial Board was staying there in that bungalow along with the other members of the Board. It is not as if that bungalow is being allowed to be used by Ministers because they want to get the patronage of the Ministers. I am intimately known to the owner of that bungalow and we belong to the same profession. Being a member of this House having been elected from the constituency of Mangalore itself, whenever some distinguished persons visited our place, it is natural that I used to come forward and take the friends and see to their comforts. In this way only that bungalow was utilized. So this should not be understood that it is done with ulterior motives. Whenever a guest comes to our place it is neces-

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sary that we should be courteous and look his comforts. It is only in that spirit the Ministers and others were accommodated in the bungalow and there is nothing ulterior about it. In my personal opinion, I do not think that there is anything wrong in our Ministers occupying the bungalow. The owner is not there. As I said that bungalow has been placed at our service for accommodating any distinguished guests who may visit our district. Because the Ministers were accommodated in this bungalow, let it not be understood that any individual or any association, however small they may be, were neglected and prevented from seeing the Ministers. I may mention here for the information of the hon. Members that I have taken every care that every individual however poor he may be, was given facilities to interview the Hon. Ministers, so that there may not be any complaints that the representations of these people were not heard by the Ministers when they were there.

“It should not be understood that our district was very well attended to. I may tell that our district was miserably neglected and that has been a sad story altogether. When Hon. Mr. Bhaktavatsalam visited our place for the first time, he acknowledged in a public meeting that he had seen that the district has been neglected. There are schemes, of course. But there has been no progress. Two and a half years back foundation-stone was laid for the starting of a polytechnic. Well, the polytechnic is yet to be started, while those that have been started later on are today working in full. Again there has been provision for Hospitals extensions. But not a stone has been put to achieve the object. The X-ray apparatus is lying idle and is not properly housed in proper buildings so as to be available for the public use. Then again there is the question of bridges. We have been saying in season and out of season that we want good bridges and better communications in our district. I should also like to emphasize that we must have better railway communications. Hitherto we have been depending more upon the motor buses.

“I do not know why these irrigation schemes have not been taken on hand so far. We are told more than anything that irrigation schemes cannot be taken up in our district because of geographical and other considerations. I do not know whether it is really geographical considerations that stand in the way. Anyway I take it it is so. These are big schemes—which cannot be undertaken by the Government just now as they say; there are also several other things which we have been asking for; which if provided will improve the present condition of our district. I am particularly speaking about electricity. Hon. Members in this House know that there is what is known as the Jog Falls in the Mysore State. We have contributed a portion of our land for this scheme and yet to-day we are not getting electric power for us. We have been agitating for it for the last several years. I understand also that some correspondence is going on between our Government and the Mysore Government on

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this matter. But, all the same, whereas it has been possible for this Government to get power for other parts of this State, I do not understand why it is not possible for them to get the same power for Mangalore, which has, as I pointed out, contributed substantially for the harnessing of the Jog Falls. I do not know why the Government are not acting quickly in the matter. If they take quick action, we can derive much advantage from it in irrigating our lands, and improve our lot.

"Then, lastly, Madam, I would like to speak on water-supply. The Mangalore Municipality has been planning for a good water-supply for the city for the last so many years and yet nothing has come about. Equally, we have been having so many plans for the improvement of the general condition of the district for the last 4 or 5 years and nothing has taken place so far. This is a very important question for the Government to answer and I would expect the Government to come to our help quickly so that the people living in our district may be enabled to come up to the level of those living in the rest of the State."

* THE RAJA OF VENKATAGIRI:—"Madam, there are several improvements in the Budget presented this year by the Hon. the Finance Minister, Gopala Reddi Garu, and I must express my gratification. At the same time, I must also express my disappointment—very keen disappointment—at the meagre provision made as compensation for the Zamindars, whose estates have been taken away nearly five months ago. Madam, I sang the song of despair, of despondency, expressing my mental anguish on several occasions. It may weary the House but the one satisfaction, or rather comfort, I would derive from singing it again now is that thereby I will be giving expression to my feelings. If I express my feelings in mild language, that should not be taken as indicating or in anyway symptomatic of the amount of the suffering due to loss which this class has suffered. I would put it in as few words as possible. We have been promised that about twelve and a half crores of rupees would be given as compensation and that 50 per cent of it would be given immediately. The income from zamins taken over represents about 60 per cent of the total income of all zamins. Thus fifty per cent of the total compensation payable should come to about four crores of rupees. So, now, when we are told that only a hundred and seven lakhs of rupees have been provided in the Budget for compensation to those zamins, we are shockingly surprised. We expected that at least three and a half or four crores would be given. I say even now it is not too late to provide that sum and I hope and pray that the Ministry would find it possible to secure to us at least fifty per cent of the compensation as promised in the ratio in which the incomes of these estates bear to the total income, the aggregate total of the income from all the estates put together. Madam, this act of highway robbery and legalized loot, to borrow the phraseology, the expression, the words used by our famous statesman, administrator and leader of

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our country of whom we are all proud—Sardar Vallabhai Patel—does not affect only one class. Even if it affects one single individual, if there is any unjustifiable inequity, the great Congress organization which stands for the inauguration, or bringing into existence of Ram Rajya should not allow inequity to exist. Madam, on a proper and dispassionate consideration—without assessing the benefits, political benefits, that may accrue to the Government at the time of elections—if this matter is judged, the consequences would be found to be terrible and I, as a citizen of India, shudder to think of them. When once the sense of security of property of the citizen is given a rude and disastrous shock then I would submit, Madam, that no amount of appeal to increase production in the industrial as well as agricultural sphere would be of any avail, however eminent the persons from whom the appeal emanates, may be. As I submitted to this House and to the Government, let me again hope that the Congress party which has been responsible for securing independence to this country in a manner unprecedented in history since the creation of this universe would summon courage to see that justice is done to us. I can assure you—I request you to forget for the moment that I happen to be a zamindar or an ex-zamindar (laughter)—that my request would not cause any injury to others interests. On the other hand, it would accelerate the economic advancement of our country. Madam, fourteen thousand crores were once considered to be essential for the economic development of our country by that great planning committee presided over by our Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. But what do we find now? We find the money market getting tightened up every day and dearth of funds is evident. Because of the paucity of response from the sources that used to respond before, several beneficial industrial projects are being put off. It was with a sigh of relief that those of us who are interested in the industrial development of the country noticed the lessening of the incidence of taxation in the Central Budget. I must submit that I cannot refrain from referring to that Budget because if taxation dries up all our financial resources, the '*Kamadhenu*' as my Hon. Friend Gopala Reddi Garu has rightly called Sales Tax would become a '*Namadhenu*.' Therefore, we should see that sufficient relief is given to the tax payers. Even there, the 22 per cent reduction which has been effected—that is to say, the ceiling limit being now 78 per cent—does not provide much scope, in my humble opinion, for capital formation. The *per capita* income in our land is roughly 204 or so. It varies from economist to economist. The total income-tax paid by the highest income group is 14 crores and the number of assesseees is only about 2,500. When we consider the vast scope and the imperative and immediate need for industrialization in our country, we must allow sufficient latitude for finances to make a sound capital formation to promote private enterprise. It is one thing to have a purely communistic State where there would be neither need nor scope for private enterprise and it is another to have a system of Government which for the economic advancement of the country depends

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to a large extent upon private enterprise. I would also suggest that the Ministry should think of introducing mechanisation in agriculture.

15 m. " We are associated with agriculture not only in the capacity as Zamindars but also as agriculturists. We find there is dearth of labour and as such when there is the prospect of 40 lakhs of acres being brought under cultivation when our cherished projects materialise, I am afraid, there would not be sufficient labour to touch even the outer fringe of the demand. Therefore, I would suggest, it is time now to devote our attention to see that mechanized cultivation is adopted and that we do not adopt hastily as the Ministry have done in regard to zamins the other proposed legislation dealing with agrarian reforms. It is very easy indeed to advocate certain changes based upon mere theoretical 'isms'. I would submit with all the responsibility I can command that sufficient care must be taken in seeing that the agricultural reform would not kill the goose that lays the golden eggs. With these words and renewing my request for immediate and more and better compensation being paid to the zamindars, I wish the Ministry every success in running the administration of this State.

" Let me also express my earnest hope that ere long we would not again be treated to the spectacle of seeing this great Congress organization split up into groups and one group attacking the other with greater vehemence than those who are sitting in the opposition block. I must submit that the proper place for all these things is the party meeting. It is there that people should try their strength and not in this House. We have to take sufficient care and see that no word hastily uttered or criticism made affects the general situation in the country which is already critical. I must submit, I am not holding any brief for the Ministry. As I said, I am the most affected party by their policies and individually if I can by my curse—I am incapable of cursing—make the Ministry vanish, and if I have got that mental aptitude, I should have reason to do it. In the present most critical condition of the country, the primary duty of every citizen should be to see that criticism which may be strong at times, is such as would conduce to the promotion of a better atmosphere in the country, so that, it may not follow the footsteps of China as my friend Mr. Murthi himself thought it might. Let all of us who have the best interests of the country hope and pray that it will not happen."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—" The beauty of a young maiden soon fades away but the beauty of the Budget that has been brought forth by my hon. Friend, Mr. Gopala Reddi will not fade away even in the archives of the Government for its print and get up are good. As regards the contents there is nothing exciting. There is nothing new. There is nothing that we can appreciate. It is an ordinary budget. Of course there is improvement from the last year's budget because the

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Hon. Minister has not indulged in any new taxation on food-stuffs, and small things like pepper and chillies. (Interruption: 'Turmeric'.) For that I congratulate him.

" The Gentlemen on the other side have been running amok in their eloquence in trying to take advantage of the differences in the Congress party. I would like to say, I welcome them. It is by self-criticism that a nation and a party can improve and therefore I welcome them, because all those members, those who are to-day speaking in different languages or criticizing in different languages when the general elections come will be faced with Congress and Congress alone.

" Madam, I was very much surprised to see that soon after the country became a Republic, speeches of a communal nature are being made. This is a secular state. (Hear, hear.) Thanks to Mahatmaji, thanks to Pandit Nehru, we find people keep up to the prestige of our secular state even in spite of provocations from the Pakistan borders. The horrible mass massacres, and the fanaticism that is being shown there and that was shown by the Muslim League in this country is now reflected by the acts that are now being committed in Pakistan. I am afraid, a day will come when we have to stand on our legs and say stop all this rot. We will be able to stop the rot as we have stopped the rot in Hyderabad. I am speaking in this language because we are able to get on with more than 4½ crores of Muslim brothers who are living with us in this country happily and even allow them to speak in this assembly with such vehemence and such ferociousness. (Laughter.)

" Coming to the omissions that we have committed, I am one of those who very seriously criticize my Hon. Friends for their omissions. One thing I would like to ask my friends. For one minute please put your hands on your heart and say whether the Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi, Mr. Madhava Menon and Mr. Kumaraswami Raja were not with us in jails, were not sharing that dirty meal with us, were not sharing the blows of the British lathies and were not sharing the bullets of the British Raj. They have been sharing. Why? Because they are also patriots. In administration, some times, they might commit mistakes. Even my great leader, Mr. Prakasam has committed certain mistakes. But to-day the whole question is whether they are doing these things with a particular motive. There is no motive. Even the recent judgment of Rajendra Prasad shows how one has to be careful. It is a warning. Not only that. Please remember—I would request the Hon. Members on the Treasury Benches, to remember, the elections that took place in Britain recently. The Labour Party's majority of 140 is to-day reduced to 7. Why? Because they have taken certain bold steps and they also committed certain great Himalayan blunders. So take that as a lesson and behave in future in such a manner that you don't neglect the poor man, neglect the labourer in the field, neglect the labourer in the factory.

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"What has happened to the Shop Assistants Act which we passed? There were 51 clauses in it and to-day there are 121 amendments by Government orders and the Act has been made null and void practically. Exemptions after exemptions are granted and no protection is given to the employees, I mean, to the labourers, and the workers. I wish the labour portfolio is changed to somebody else because, my Hon. Friend, Mr. Sitarama Reddi, probably is not able to put his brain to labour portfolio as well as to the Revenue portfolio which is big. I request the Hon. the Chief Minister to separate this portfolio from revenue portfolio. There must be a separate labour portfolio for winning the masses, the masses which are to-day going away from you, who are being won over by anarchists by unsocial elements, by people who are adhering to the cult of violence, who are derailing trains, and who are taking away the lives of people travelling in trains. To-day when there are such people to disrupt the Government it is for you to see that you win over the masses to your side. I quite agree with Mr. Karanth when he said that you have to be very careful with the labour and you cannot dabble in promises. You cannot just try to displease them. There is the I.N.T.U.C., which has been doing good work but they are not able to penetrate into the hearts of the labourers because no ameliorative measures, no laws affecting them for their good, for their welfare, are being enacted and even if they are enacted they are not being put into practice.

"The other thing that I would beg to submit is Guntur water works. This has been sanctioned. Rupees 70 lakhs are going to be spent. What is the use? There is no drainage. When the water flows there will be more mosquitoes. Water naturally breeds mosquitoes. Without drainage there can be no water works. I request and pray that immediate arrangements be made to start the drainage work along with the water work so that both may go simultaneously and the town may be improved and not be affected by epidemics, because of the unprotected water-supply system.

"As regards education, I am sorry to say you are neglecting the political and the economic side of it. I am going to open a Summer School of Politics and Economics. I had recently been to Delhi in this connexion and friends there approved it. I have requested the Hon. Prime Minister of India, Pandit Nehru, to come and open this school and Moulana Abul Kalam Azad to distribute the diplomas and give the valedictory address. I have been able to obtain the support of many friends like the Hon. B. V. Keshkar and others. I am a humble servant in the cause of the country for the last 20 years. But unfortunately I have produced more than 600 communist leaders who are to-day anti-social, anti-Government and have become mere anarchists and mere robbers. I would beg of you to take the initiative. You must try to encourage schools of politics and economics in every district. You must try to finance them. You must try to give lessons in ordinary principles of politics and economics, in the ordinary principles of administration. You must produce leaders. Those slaves,

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who have been the boot lickers of the British Imperialism are still your officials, still to-day your guides and still leading you through the nose. They must be replaced by patriots, by people who have some fire in them and who can give a lead to the country. With these words I congratulate the Hon. Sri Gopala Reddi for the Budget presented by him." (At this stage the Deputy Speaker occupied the Chair.)

THE KUMAR ZAMINDAR OF VUYYUR:—"Madam, 4-30 p.m.
Deputy Speaker, the most important problem facing the country at present, according to my lights, is the formation of the Andhra Province. This demand has been there for a very long time. Three or four days back, you must have seen in the press a report to the effect that the Hyderabad State Congress under the leadership of Sri Digamber Rao Bindu has passed a resolution urging the disintegration of that state and attaching the linguistic units of Telingana, Maharashtra and Kannada to their respective provinces. But where is the Andhra Province now? It is not there. There are 8 Telugu districts in Hyderabad with a population of about a crore. The Andhra districts here have a population of about 2 crores. Altogether there are three crores of Andhras. The wish for a province is almost unanimous among the three crores of Andhras. A resolution was passed in this legislature in 1937 and again in 1947 requesting the Government to form an Andhra Province immediately. Again in 1947, our Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru made a statement on the floor of the Central Assembly that the Andhra Province would be formed soon. But it did not materialise. At last, when the Republic dawned, we all hoped that the Andhra Province would at last be realized. But alas! Madam, when we were on our toes to pick the ripe fruit which is rightfully ours and which has been denied to us so long, again we were disappointed. What is the reason for so many failures and postponements? It was insisted that there must be unanimity of opinion. By 'unanimity of opinion' it means 'unanimity of opinion' on the main issues. As for the wish for the immediate formation of the Andhra Province, there is no difference of opinion. As regards the details, there may have been and there will be difference of opinion. If we have to wait for a time when all the differences of opinion will have been resolved, and there will be no difference whatever in however minor a matter, I am afraid we will have to wait till the end of time for the formation of the Andhra Province."

THE RAJA OF VENKATAGIRI:—"The differences were on vital matters."

THE KUMAR ZAMINDAR OF VUYYUR:—"Then, Madam, when there are differences of opinion, the usual procedure is to appoint a committee to go into these matters and settle the issues. That has not been done. I must congratulate our Government for doing their best in the matter, but they must not be satisfied

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with what they have done already. As representatives of the people they must see what arrangements have to be made hereafter to achieve the objective.

"I now come to the next problem in which I am personally interested. That is the zamindari problem. The Raja Sahib of Venkatagiri has already spoken about it. I must thank the Government for having provided 12½ crores, but this thanks must be reserved for a later occasion, when this compensation actually comes into the hands of the zamindars. The payment of compensation, according to the amending Act, will be made after 10 or 12 years when all these estates are settled. Madam, everybody knows and the Government also know that 12 years is a very, very long time in these days. It was then proposed and even promised that 80 per cent of the amount would be paid. Instead of that, only 50 per cent is promised now. It means Rs. 6½ crores. The zamindaris that have been taken over represent, as my hon. Friend the Raja Sahib of Venkatagiri said, about 60 per cent of the total income of the estates. If compensation is paid on that basis, it will come to about Rs. 4 crores. I think the least the Ministry can do now is to take power to pay that compensation. Otherwise, the solemn words of the Constitution which provide compensation for acquisition of private property may lose their respect and sanctity.

"With regard to the estates which have yet to be taken over and which are now governed by the Rent Reduction Act, the zamindars have received notices not to collect any rent. The Government are not collecting any rent. The Government must go into the problems seriously and see how this problem can be solved.

"Madam, the third point which I want to stress is education. Of course, our Government have provided Rs. 11 crores for education. That is one-fifth of the budget. That speaks a lot for the Government. Our problem is huge for we want to educate the whole population in a few years. Of course there is no money to do it. The problem can be solved by some sort of conscription which the ex-Minister Mr. Avinashilingam Chettiyar has suggested. During war time we conscript all able-bodied persons. Similarly we may conscript educated men in the fight against illiteracy. There is nothing absurd or laughable about the suggestion as some people outside were saying.

"I now come to the question of education in the Andhra area. I would like to give a few significant facts. In regard to elementary education, for a population of 19 millions in Andhra area there are less than 1½ millions under instruction, as against 2½ million for a population of 31 million in the rest of the Province. When we come to secondary education, the disparity becomes more pronounced, particularly in regard to the number of girls under instruction. There are, I believe 180,000 under instruction in the Andhra area while there are 341,000 in the rest

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of the Province. Of this only 21,000 are girls in the Andhra area whereas the corresponding figure for the other areas is 72,000. It is well over 300 per cent of the Andhra figures. When we come to collegiate education, we find that as against 14,000 under instruction in the Andhra area, there are 26,000 in the non-Andhra area. In the case of girls, the figures are really alarming, as we find only 742 girls under instruction in the Andhra area while there are 3,341 girls under instruction in the rest of the Province.

"If we take the number of colleges, there are 21 colleges in the Andhra area as against 41 in the rest of the state. In other parts of the state, the colleges that have been started recently have been able to put up good buildings and get good equipment, but it is not so in the case of colleges in the Andhra area. There is therefore a special responsibility on the Government to take care of education in the Andhra area and give more grants to the schools and colleges in that area.

"I will now come to projects. There is no comparison between the rivers Krishna and Godavari and the Cauvery. The waters of the Cauvery do not reach the sea at all; they are all utilized for cultivation. But 95 per cent of the waters of the Krishna and the Godavari are wasted into the sea. The Ramapadasagar project has not yet come. It is a very costly one. The Orissa Government can go on with the Hirakud dam costing Rs. 100 crores. It is because Orissa has its own Province, that it can go on with such a project. The Ministry here should take active interest in the projects here; otherwise there is no prospect of their being materialised. We learnt that the previous site at Polavaram was not suitable for a dam. If we have a dam in the upper reaches of the river in the Hyderabad area, it will only cost half the estimated amount. It may be executed by the staff we are already having in our State. Previously it was not possible to do this. But now according to our constitution, if a river flows in more than one State, it is under the control of the central administration. Even now, the Ministry can take it up. They have provided for a token grant of Rs. 100 and they must proceed with the work.

"Even the minor projects in Krishna—the Budameru and the Kolleru—require immediate attention. Then only the Andhra people will be satisfied that the Government are doing something for them. In spite of some of these defects, I find that the budget is very satisfactory. I must congratulate the Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi on his grand achievement. I am sure the Government will take the few suggestions I have made and give them the attention that is their due . . ."

* SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"Madam Deputy Speaker, I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity of making a few observations on the budget, because I had no opportunity to speak during the debate on the Governor's Address. I would first of all say that the touchstone of freedom is the happiness of the people,

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the happiness which the people actually enjoy after the advent of freedom and not some theoretical happiness. From 1947, the people have been hoping that the poverty of the country would be squarely faced by our Ministers and leaders and that common man would be much happier very soon. It is the accepted canon according to all international standards that freedom in its positive aspects means the four freedoms—freedom from want, freedom from poverty, freedom from illiteracy and freedom from fear. With regard to freedom from want I ask ‘how far have we succeeded in solving the question of food, clothing and shelter?’ I would not be far from the truth if I say that the steps that have been taken so far as regards the food problem both in the procurement side and the distribution side are not at all adequate. Apart from corruption, there is procurement on an inadequate scale from those that have and very heartless procurement from the poor and the tillers of the soil. Apart from that it does not appear sound if anybody would ask, ‘How many people have died of scarcity of food?’ That is no satisfaction or solution. People have to go to the black-market and somehow get the food they want in order to eat and survive. Therefore instead of having these controls, if you are not able to help the people in this way, let the people help themselves. We will be saving a lot of money on Taluk Supply Officers, Firka Supply Officers, District Supply Officers and so many other Supply Officers. What is the use of having a costly system if we are not able to bring happiness to the people? Meet any man in the street, in the bus or the train and hear what he has got to say. It is very sickening to hear it. I feel humiliated. Some people say that they were better off during the time of the British, during the Advisers’ regime and during the war, and also during the regime of the Justice Party. Whether it was communal or not, people say that they were happier. Some say that they might be happier under communism! Of course all these things are not to be taken at their face value, but they surely are symptomatic of a feeling of despair. Unless we secure freedom from want, from disease and from fear, we will not be making the people feel that they are living in a free India of which we had such a glorious vision.

“Madam, I would next deal with the question of freedom from illiteracy and freedom from ill-health. In regard to the question of adult literacy, just imagine what is going on in Russia and in Japan. Though they were engaged in preparing for war and defence, they have made rapid strides in the matter of literacy. From 20 per cent in 1914 it is to-day 99 per cent.

“Then in regard to the question of health, a doctor in Russia is given good honorarium not because there are more patients in hospitals, not because there are no vacant beds in them. But in India if there are more beds and more hospitals, more people will come in and there will still be scramble for beds. That shows, in practice a greater number of people want to go to hospitals. Now, look at what is happening in some of our hospitals even in cities, e.g., K.G. Hospital, Vizag. In a ward of 28 beds, you see even

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the verandas are full, at least there are 20 patients lying in each of the verandas. Most of doctors have told me, these people need not be brought to the hospitals if there is some other building to feed them. The main thing is, it is all a question of proper nourishing food and if that is granted to them there will be no need for their medical treatment in hospitals. That is the expert opinion of some of the doctors whom I consulted. I, therefore, feel, Madam, freedom from want and freedom from disease are some of the most important things that this Government has yet to tackle.

“I am conscious the Hon. Finance Minister has said that what they have done was not enough. I am glad he is alive to the difficulties, not only in regard to food but in regard to education and other things. He has admitted it and that takes away the wind out of the sails of our criticisms. I very much like his frank expression. He has no doubt given us hope that with the full co-operation in all departments of life, of both official and non-official, we will be able to progress a long way in solving the problem.

“Next coming to the question of Harijans. What is the difficulty in tackling the Harijan problem? For example, there is a big tank in Anakapalle to which the Harijans are not allowed by the caste people. The Harijans made a big mahazar the other day and presented it to the Collector and they also wrote petitions to the Government. On course, the tank bed is liable to submersion but yet the caste people raised a hue and cry, because they did not want Harijans to get lands from the Government.

“Then, in regard to house-sites also, it is all lip-sympathy. Our friends who represent the Harijan community are complaining that we are not implementing the Civil Disabilities Act which has been passed unanimously by this august House. I, therefore, say that not only in these matters but in so many other matters as well the profession of ours have got to be carried out in practice.

“Again, Madam, with regard to the general position in the Province—of course, I can speak with some little authority with regard to my own district and I cannot speak about the other districts—for instance, in regard to Prohibition, administration of justice and in regard to any other matter, one of the main difficulties is, there is a tendency among us—whether they are M.L.As., M.L.Cs., members of the executive of the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee or generally the Congress—to interfere with the administration. This is our fault. One man says, I will transfer the Collector. Even if a contract or a magistrship is not given, the man says the Executive Engineer or the Assistant Engineer is going to be transferred. I say that is the attitude of our worthies in the Congress. What I say, therefore, is, in all matters of district administration we should not interfere with the officials in their departmental activities. I humbly appeal to all our friends, if really you want to help the administration, we must turn a new leaf and set an example by our own individual character. Of course, if there is anything wrong, we have got

“பிர்க்கா அபிவிருத்தி மூலம் மிகவும் குறைந்த காலத்திலேயே அதாவது, 3, 4 மாதத்திற்குள்ளேயே அவர்களுக்குப் பூமி கிடைக்கும்படி செய்யவேண்டும். நிலம் வாங்கிக் கொடுத்துவிட்டால் அவர்கள் வீடு கட்டிக் கொண்டுவருவார்கள். Co-operative Society மூலமாகத்தான் செய்யவேண்டுமென்றால் அதிகம் செலவாகும்—காலதாமதமுமாகும். அதை

[Janab Abdul Rahman] [4th March 1950]

ஜனங்கள் மனத்தில் அதிருப்தியும் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இந்த முன்னு நாளுக்கு நாட்களாக நடந்துவந்த இந்த விவாதத்தை ஆராய்ந்து அளிப்பார்த்தால் உண்மை நல்லபடி விளங்கும். மாவட்டம் தெரியுமளவில் இந்த விவாதம் மூன்று நாட்களாக நடந்து வருகிறது. நிர்வாகத்திலுள்ள குறைகளுக்கு உதாரணமாக குறிப்பாக இரண்டொரு விஷயங்களை எடுத்துக் கூறுகிறேன்.

முதலாவதாக கணம் கணம் வெவ்வேடான அவர்கள் மத்தியியாக இந்த தாலத்தில் எங்களுடைய கட்சி தலைவர் ஜனம் மாவட்ட இஸ் மாயின் சாஹி அவர்களால் ஒரு petition அளித்திருக்கிறார்கள். அது அந்தவரு திருச்சியில் ஒரு ஹிந்து கோவிலுக்கு சொந்தமான ஒரு இடத்தை நிரும்பவும் கோவிலுக்கு கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று விரைக செய்யும்படி ஹிந்து தலைவர்கள் என் கட்சி தலைவரிடம் கேட்டுக்கொண்டது. கணம் மத்தியினிடம் சென்ற petition-ஐ தெரிவி கொடுக்கப்பட்டது. மத்தியி அனுப்பிவிட்டார்கள். ஓர் மாதமாகவும் ஒரு தரவிலை கிடைக்காததால் மறுபடியும் கணம் மத்தியினிடமிடம் ஒரு petition கொடுக்கப்பட்டது. இந்த இரண்டு petition களையும் மத்தியி அளர்விடும் தகவல் தெரியவில்லை. மத்தியி யளர்விடும் தெரிவி இரண்டு மூன்று இடம் கொடுத்தும் அவைகளைக் காணவில்லை. ஆனால் அந்த சபையம் கணம் கணம் வெவ்வேடான அவர்கள் சொல்படி செக்டரினரினிடமிடம் ஒரு petition கொடுக்கப்பட்டது. இந்த விதம் நிர்வாகம் நடந்துகொண்டிருந்தால் ஜனங் களுடைய குறைகளை என்விதம் தெரியப்படுத்திக்கொள்வது என்பது தெரிய வில்லை. இவ்விதம் மத்தியினிடமும் செக்டரினரினிடமும் தெரிவி petitions கொடுத்து அவை காணாமல் போனது அதன் அந்தரமெனவா? இதே மாதிரியாக எங்கள் ஊர் Transport Bus விஷயமாக கணம் மத்தியி அவர்களுக்கு ஒரு petition ரிஜிஸ்டரில் அனுப்பப்பட்டது. ரூட்டுகள் கொடுக்கும் விஷயமாக அதில் குறிப்பிடப்பட்டிருந்தது. அந்த petition-ம் போன இடம் தெரியவில்லை. கணம் தலைவி அவர்களே, பெரிய கடைபாடப் பர்களுக்கும் bus owner களுக்கும் black market செய்துகொண்டிருப்பவர்களுக்கும் Secretariat-ல் ஆள்கள் இருந்துவருவதையும் அவர் களுக்கு விரோதமாக இருக்கக்கூடிய petition கொல்லாம் காணாமல் போய்விடுவதையும் சொல்லப்படுகிறது. இவ்விஷயங்களினாலெல்லாம் கணம் ஹும் கருத்துமாக இல்லாமல் போனது நாட்டு நிர்வாகம் எவ்விதம் உருப்படியாக நடக்கும்? ஆகையால் கணம் மத்தியி யளர்களை இவைகளை யெல்லாம் கவனித்து வர வேண்டும்.

“சென்ற பிப்ரவரி மாத ஆரம்பத்தில் ‘ஹிந்து’ பத்திரிகையில் ஒரு செய்தியைப் பார்த்தேன். அதாவது மதராஸில் பெருவாரியான ரிக்ஷாக்கள் இருப்பதாகவும் அதில் 1,500 ரிக்ஷாக்களை குறைக்கப் போவதாகவும் தெரிவிக்கப்பட்டிருந்தது. கணம் தலைவி அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது ஜனங் கள் ஜீவனத்திற்கு ரொம்பவும் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். வேலையில்லா தினம் அடிக் கொண்டு இருக்கிறது. அவ்விதமிருக்கும் நிலைமையில் 1,500 ரிக்ஷாக்களை எடுத்துவிட்டால் அந்த 1,500 பேர்களும் சாப்பாட் டுமனிதன் மனிதனை வைத்து இருத்துச் செல்வது என்பது சரியல்லதான். ஆனால் அவர்கள் சாப்பாட்டிற்கு என்ன செய்வார்கள் என்பது சரியல்லதான். கவனிக்க வேண்டும். இப்பொழுது அவர்கள் ரிக்ஷாவை இழுப்பதால் தீர்மானம் செய்வதற்குமுன் அதனால் ஏற்படும் கஷ்டங்களை நிவர்த்தி செய்கிறதா என்று பார்த்துவிட்டுதான் அதன்மேல் ஒரு தீர்மானம் செய்யவேண்டும். அதற்குமுன் அவ்விஷயங்களில் தலையிடாமலிருப்பது தான் நல்லது. ஆகையால் இதை இந்த வருஷம் அமுலுக்குக் கொண்டு வராமல் நிறுத்திவைக்கும்படியாக கணம் மத்தியியளர்களை கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

[4th March 1950] [Janab Abdul Rahman]

“முன்னுவதாக உணவு பஞ்சம். இந்த உணவு உற்பத்தி சம்பந்தமாக நான் ஏற்கனவேயே இந்த சபையில் பேசி இருக்கிறேன். நமக்கு வேண்டிய உணவு பற்றாக்குறை நூறுக்கு பத்துதான். அதற்கு வேண்டி மலையைக் கெல்லி எலையைப் பிடிப்பதுபோல் வேலைகள் செய்து வருகிறார்கள். இது விஷயமாக நான் என்னுடைய சொந்த அனுபவம்பற்றி முன்னமேயே இந்த சபையில் சொல்லியிருக்கிறேன். நான் என்னுடைய பூமியிலேயே இந்த செய்துவந்து இரண்டு வருஷங்களில் அதில் ஒன்றுக்கு நாலு பங்கு வேலை செய்திருக்கிறேன். தஞ்சாவூர் மெம்பர் கணம் வேதரத்னம் உற்பத்தி செய்திருக்கிறேன். தஞ்சாவூர் மெம்பர் கணம் வேதரத்னம் பிள்ளை அவர்கள் சொன்ன பிரகாரம் நாம் இந்த உணவு உற்பத்திக்கு பூமி யில் உரம் செய்து பாடுபடும்படி நல்ல பிரசாரம் செய்துவந்தால் நல்ல பலன் ஏற்படும். எங்களுடைய தாலுகாவில் இது சம்பந்தமாக செய்யவேண்டிய முறைகளைப்பற்றி பிரசாரம் செய்ததில் நல்ல பலனைப்படுத்தியிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த மாதிரியே சென்ற இரண்டு வருஷமாக கவர்ன்மெண்டார் பிரசாரம் செய்து வந்திருந்தால் இப்பொழுது இவ்வளவு கஷ்டப்படவேண்டியதில்லை.

“அடுத்தபடியாக நெசவுக்காரர்களுடைய விஷயம். என்னுடைய ஜில்லா வில் அவர்கள் இப்பொழுது எவ்வளவோ கஷ்டங்களை சகித்துக்கொண்டிருக் கிறார்கள். இப்பொழுது அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய வேலை இல்லை. கிருர்கள். இப்பொழுது அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய வேலை இல்லை. வேண்டிய நூலும் கிடைக்கவில்லை. சேலம், கோயமுத்தூர் முதலிய வேண்டிய நூலும் கிடைக்கவில்லை. கொடுத்து வருவதுபோல் என்னுடைய இடங்களிலுள்ளவர்களுக்கு கடன் கொடுத்து வருவதுபோல் பட்டினி கிடந்து ஜில்லாவிற்கும் செய்யவேண்டும். நூல் கிடைக்காமல் பட்டினி கிடந்து ஜில்லாவிற்கும் செய்யவேண்டும். பஞ்ச நிவாரண ஏற்பாடுகளை உடன் செய்து கொடுக்க செத்து மடிக்கிறார்கள். பஞ்ச நிவாரண ஏற்பாடுகளை உடன் செய்து கொடுக்க வேண்டும். அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய நூல் கிடைக்கவில்லை. போதுமான கூலியில்லை. இப்பொழுது நூல்களை export பண்ணுவதால் அவர்களுக்கு நூல் கிடைக்கவில்லை. அதனால் பெரிய நூல் பஞ்சம் வரப்போகிறது. இப்பொழுது கோயமுத்தூர் மில்ல்களில் ஜூன் வரைக்கும் வெளி தேசங் களுக்கு order book செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். இங்குள்ள உற்பத்திக்கு வேண்டிய நூல் கிடைக்காது. ஆகையால் நூலை free export பண்ணலாம் என்றிருக்கும் உத்திரவை மாற்றி நமது கைத்திரிகளின் தேவைக்குப் போக மிச்சத்தைத்தான் ஏற்றுமதி செய்யவேண்டுமென்று order போடும்படி வேண்டிக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். உடனே நெசவுக்காரர்களுக்கு நூல் கிடைப் பதற்கும் அவர்களுடைய பஞ்ச நிவர்த்திக்கும் வழி செய்து கொடுக் வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

SRI W. S. SRINIVASA RAO:—“Madam Deputy Speaker, I am glad I have been included in this ten minutes cadre. So, I do not want to waste much of my time. Till now, for the last three days a lot of criticism has been levelled against Govern- ment; and both constructive and destructive criticism have been exhausted. So, now I want to bring in only certain criticism, which I consider more important.

“We are all agreed that there is a danger coming from the North. To-day also in the papers we have found that all the people are unanimous in condemning the Communist movement. That movement is coming down from the North, from the Andhra. It was only day before yesterday, Mr. Raghavayya said, ‘why not it come to Tamil Nad?’ I do not know whether it has come; and perhaps I do not know it is his curse or his wish; I do not know what it is. But we are all agreed in putting it down. Now, I want to tell the House that really the Communists have no hold on the people in the South. But they have got certain fertile places, which have been created by us. That is, we have thrown our dirt and filth in certain places, in which they want to plant Communism and have it grown. If we remove that filth and

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dirt and make it clean, the Communists would have no place in the South. So, for that, both the Government and the people have to co-operate. That co-operation is wanting now. It is not because people like Communists; it is because they are indifferent. (At this stage, the Speaker occupied the Chair.) The lower rung of the people, the ordinary man in the street, the agriculturists and others have got very great grievances; and the Government at the top have no doubt brought in a number of useful laws and measures and they have been sent to the lower officers to be carried out. But what happens is, all the good effects of these legislation are wasted in the middle, and so they are not put into action. Not only that; on the other hand, exactly the opposite result is being produced when it gets into the villages. Take, for instance, the Prohibition movement. Many friends have said it is a failure. I don't agree with that. It is not a failure. It is a success. For the last two years, we can't say, it is a failure. For, now, there is no quarrel in the streets of Madras. In the non-Prohibition days I could not go into the small streets after eight o'clock in the night. For people used to quarrel there; women used to be dragged into streets, and there was a lot of trouble. Now it is all quiet there; and that is so throughout the Province. But there is some illicit distillation going on; and there is hue and cry about it. Why is it so? Because the root cause of it is not eradicated. The financier is not tackled; the coolies, the poor people who are alone brought to book. The bigger people are not caught and put in jail. The real financier is free. That is why illicit distillation is thriving. Now, besides passing this Prohibition, public opinion should be created; a moral background should be created, so that the people may back it up. Now that is lacking, not because people do not like Prohibition, but because they are indifferent; and the executive officers are indifferent. This same thing happens in other matters also. For example, take the sales tax that is being levied. When the measure goes for enforcement, many of the officers, I know for a fact, do not look into the accounts of the merchants, and they do not take the trouble to convince them that their accounts are wrong, but simply say, 'you have to pay four thousand rupees; you have to pay five thousand rupees and you have to pay six thousand rupees, because I do not believe your accounts.' They do not scrutinize the accounts; they do not call the merchants and show them how their accounts are wrong. If that is done, the merchants would not have reason for complaint or discontent. I know personally of a case myself. A merchant came to me complaining how he had been wrongly assessed so much rupees as sales tax. I asked him about the details of his accounts and I showed him how he had omitted certain items, and ultimately he was convinced that he had no reason to complain. Now, Sir, it has become a fashion to abuse the Congress Government in the streets. I shall tell you one such thing. A few days back I was travelling in the bus. An old woman was let down in an unusual place. She was abusing

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the conductor for having done so. She got into another bus and was travelling. And when the conductor was asked why such things were happening, he replied 'it is our Government, and so it is happening.' Then, Sir, so far as our Government servants, they do everything for a consideration, and they put the result of everything on the Congress Government. It is happening in all places. In our place, there was regular murder. In fact, there were three such cases. In all of them, young boys were murdered. The first two cases were hushed up by the Police. But in the third case, there was some public co-operation, and so the culprit was booked. Two constables who hushed up the matter in the beginning were dismissed. Another Sub-Inspector who was promoted as Inspector after the incidents had gone on leave, and he is very often seen in the locality, as he is perhaps anxious to see how things develop. In all matters, there are certain Government servants who want to create an impression that the Congress Government is bad, not because they feel it is bad, but because they want to hide their own ill-doings. That is the kind of thing that is happening in the Province. For that we have the only remedy of . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member's time is up."

SRI W. S. SRINIVASA RAO:—"I shall finish in a minute. The only remedy for that is, instead of passing legislation and leaving it to the lower officers to implement it, it is better to take up a regular programme of, at least for the next six months, going to the villages and getting into contact with the people of all parties thereby remaining there for a number of days. If the Minister explains to them the purpose of all legislation passed, I think there will be an end to this Communist menace."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, 5-30 p.m.
we find from the Introductory Note that a change has been effected in the form of Budget Estimates. By that change, figures relating to the number of officers and their scales of pay have been transferred to appendices instead of placing them in the body of the estimates as was done hitherto. Personally speaking, I would prefer to have all information at a glance and therefore my preference is for the older method. There may be others who may rightly think that this method has got its own advantage. Therefore I do not want to assert my opinion on the change that has been effected."

"I want to refer to one more thing in this connexion. Paucity of trained accountants is being felt by the accounting branch of many a department. On account of this paucity, confusion arises and delays are caused in effecting necessary adjustments. The attention of the Government was drawn to this fact some considerable time ago but they have not yet rectified the defect. Ultimately the people will have to pay for any confusion and hardships that may arise as a result of wrong budgeting by untrained hands. It is this that makes me anxious that sufficient

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number of trained hands must be made available to the departments which deal with the accounts and finances of this State at as early a date as possible.

"Coming to the Budget itself, last year the Government showed a deficit of nearly four crores of rupees. Then we said that in reality there was no deficit at all and we gave some suggestions as to how to wipe out that deficit. The Government did not listen to our suggestions kindly or sympathetically. On account of other happenings, that deficit has been almost wiped out leaving only five lakhs of rupees to be covered by withdrawal from the Revenue Reserve Fund. This year again, the Government have shown a deficit of about 36 lakhs of rupees. I do not think that this is really a deficit when we take into consideration the expenditure incurred on the merged States of Pudukkottai, Sandur and Banganapalle. The expenditure incurred on the administration of these States ought really to come from the Central Government. This Government should not rest content with merely expressing the hope that the Central Government would reimburse them for the expenditure that they are incurring in this connexion. This is definitely a matter for the Central Government and our State Government ought to have budgeted accordingly.

"On page 13 of the Budget Speech we find that our Budget for 1950-51 allows for a small decline in revenue (Rs. 52 lakhs) under the General Sales Tax with reference to Article 286 (1) of the Constitution and a possible fall in prices. The Government need not make this allowance at all for the coming year, because on page 12 it is said that the President has issued an order authorizing the continuance of the tax wherever levied till the 31st March 1951."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The allowance is made with reference to Article 286 (1). The President has issued the order with reference to Article 286 (2)."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"I do not know how the Minister expects a fall in prices. The present tendency is, if anything, that prices may go up. Therefore the Government need not have created this fictitious deficit at all. They might have shown a surplus which is really the fact and reduced the taxes or at least carried the surplus to the Revenue Reserve Fund.

"The Government say with pride that their revenues have increased and that they have increased the expenditure on the various items during the past few years. The figures of course show an increase as is claimed by the Government. But what is the real position? The Government's duty is not simply to tax whatever articles come to their hands and then spend the revenues on the departments which need money. For doing this, no ability or expert knowledge is required at all. The Government should plan with a purpose and see that the amount is spent for the realisation of that purpose. They must show in the Budget Speech

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how far the revenue derived from the taxes are spent on the purposes for which the taxes were levied. Looking at the Budget from this standpoint, I do not find that there is much enlightenment at all on many subjects. The Finance Minister says that the figures will speak for themselves. They of course speak for themselves but they do not speak for the Government. Neither do they speak for the benefit of the people. Take education for example. The Finance Minister has said that the provision made for Education is thrice what it was in 1945-46 thereby making it appear that the Government are really benefiting the people three times as much as they did about five years ago. That is not so. If we ask the figures to speak for themselves, this is the tale they narrate. In 1945-46 the number of elementary schools was nearly 36,000, and the number of pupils studying in them was about 32½ lakhs. In 1948-49, the number of schools was about 37,000 and the number of pupils was about 38 lakhs. Is the number of pupils educated in 1948-49 thrice what it was in 1945-46? The ultimate test of any endeavour made in the field of education ought to be the number of citizens who have been given education. Judged by that test, what is our achievement? The number of pupils educated with thrice the expenditure is only about 20 per cent more.

"The position is no different with secondary schools. The number of secondary schools in 1945-46 was 796 and the number of pupils 416 lakhs. In 1948-49, the number of schools was 1,105 and the number of pupils was 5.21 lakhs. The increase in the number of pupils was only about 25 per cent.

"Taking colleges, their strength increased from 29,000 in 1945-46 to 40,000 in 1948-49, thereby showing an increase of 33 or 34 per cent.

"From the figures given, it would appear that the Government are advancing the welfare of the people in proportion to the increase in expenditure, though the Finance Minister admits at the far end of his speech that this is not so.

"When I am on the subject of Education, I should like to say that the Government are still adhering to the system of Basic Education. The difficulties urged by the people still continue; there are no equipment and staff for pushing forward this education. Similar is the position with regard to visual education. I do not know in how many years the Government will rectify this defect. All these years, many thousands will have to be even without knowing the alphabets of their mother-tongue. If they had paid heed to the advice of experts in education and continued the old system and developed basic education side by side, people would not have had to suffer. I do not know whether they will make the whole State literate within ten years which is the time allowed by the Constitution. The Government do not indicate what progress really they have made towards any object which they have in view. The object in the matter of education, they say, is to make all the people literate. How they are

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achieving that end by this huge expenditure we are not enlightened. With regard to secondary education, a committee of experts was appointed about two years ago and it made certain recommendations. The recommendations were modified and put into force. In the interests of education the recommendations of the expert committee must be given effect to. The reorganization that has taken place must be further reorganized. Educational experts were appointed to the committee because they were the people who knew the subject and their advice must be treated with the respect that is due.

5-45 p.m. "Then again, Sir, what is the position with regard to collegiate education? These Universities are merely conducting examinations and collecting fees from the students. They are simply examination Universities. Take one activity which any University must have according to modern standards, namely research. No provision has been made for carrying on research in any of our Universities. If we want to carry on research, we should have to send our boys to the Calcutta University or other Universities in other Provinces. If we want to have full and mature proof of our educational development, research on all subjects must be carried on in our Universities in this Province and full and adequate facilities must be afforded for it. Therefore, Sir, I want to know, when the Government are giving facts and figures in the budget in regard to education, what their purpose is and how far they have progressed in the achievement of their objects in the field of education. We are not able to make any head or tail out of the figures given here in this budget.

"Then Sir, let me take the question of food. Now how are the Government proceeding in this matter? They have given a number of figures and have catalogued all their activities. For my part I have been trying myself for the last three days to collate these figures in order to make some meaning out of them, but not with much success. Of course, the Government have spent various sums for various purposes on their various plans. They say that the additional production of foodgrains expected during the three years is 782,000 tons. We do not know whether this quantity is for all the three years or for one year only. Then again, there is the well-subsidy scheme which has brought about 108,000 acres under cultivation at a cost of Rs. 680 lakhs, that is to say at a cost of about Rs. 600 per acre. How much quantity of foodgrains is expected out of this area, we do not know.

"Then again, Sir, take Minor Irrigation. Those schemes are expected to cost Rs. 10 crores and the food that is expected to be produced out of them is about 1.5 lakhs of tons. Is it for all the years or for each year? That is not also known.

"Then Sir, take the Grow More Food schemes. Out of these schemes the Government expect an yield of 60,000 tons and so far 17,000 tons have been produced. These are the figures given Sir. After giving out these figures, the Hon. Finance Minister says

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that he hopes to be able to substantially reduce the import of food-grains into this province in future years. Sir, take the position of food in this province. Before the war the total consumption in this Province is said to be about 75 lakhs of tons of foodgrains including the imports into this Province from Burma and other countries. Now, Sir, taking the present population of this Province which is about 12½ per cent more than what it was in the last decade, we now require about 85 lakhs of tons per year. Even when people were consuming 75 lakhs of tons of food, we know that thousands and thousands of people were simply subsisting on one meal a day. In spite of that, the consumption was only 75 lakhs of tons. Now what we are producing according to the statistics given by the Government is round about 70 lakhs tons of foodgrains. Sir, let me mention here that I have not taken into account the damages caused to our foodcrops by the recent cyclones and floods and the failure of monsoon, although our food situation has been made more acute on account of these things. But generally speaking, the deficit, according to the Government's own figures is about 5 lakhs of tons. But at the same time, the Government say that they have been able to manage the situation with only 375,000 tons of foodgrains allotted by the Government of India along with the foodgrains that is procured in this State. I want to know, Sir, how is it that they have been able to manage the whole food situation of this Province with only 375,000 tons of foodgrains *plus* the quantity procured in this State. Sir, what I am trying to show is that even according to the figures furnished by the Government, our people ought to have been either starving or underfed or the figures given by them must be wrong. Therefore my complaint is that the position is not made clear to us and unless they are themselves clear about the position, I do not think that they will be able to tackle this problem with any amount of certainty. But I find that they are only living on hopes, and those hopes I am afraid, cannot be realized at all, because they are not based on facts.

"Sir, it is said in China, the production per acre of land is at least 2,000 pounds of foodgrains. The Government know this well. This has been repeated again and again. In our country the production is only about 900 lbs. or at the most 1,100 lbs. per acre. China is not after all, in any way, more scientifically advanced than our country, nor can we say that their people are more advanced in any direction than the people of our country, and yet if they are able to produce at least twice as much as we are able to produce in this country, there must be something in the methods they adopt which has enabled them to obtain this increased yield, and the Government must investigate into this matter and find out why they cannot also adopt the same methods and try to produce the same quantity. Suppose for the sake of argument let us assume that it is possible for us to produce the same quantity, then what would be the position? Instead of scarcity

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which we are having now, there will be a glut in foodgrains; and we shall have to export food to other countries and the food prices would fall down and then the problem would be to put up prices and not to bring down prices as we are trying to do to-day. Therefore I submit, Sir, that the Government must have some vision about these things and must try to plan out things in an orderly manner and not do things haphazardly. They must not follow the same old and orthodox methods as they have been doing all through these years. They must spend their money with a purpose and they must have some concrete and conscious aim before they launch on any schemes. I do not think it is impossible for them to study and adopt the methods which other countries are adopting in the matter of food-production. Of course we know that there are some countries which are able to raise even as much as 5,000 lb. of foodgrains per acre. Now one important thing that I want to mention in this connexion is about the manner in which the Government should proceed in the matter of bringing down prices of rice and other foodgrains. Now the Government are attempting to reduce the price of foodgrains first. Of course, there is also the problem of inflation which has also got to be tackled and the prices of articles of consumption must also be brought down. But the first point where they should start in bringing down prices is, in my opinion, not with foodgrains. I submit, Sir, that it is wrong to reduce the food prices first, because their prices to-day are not as high as the prices of certain other articles which the agriculturists themselves are consuming. Therefore there must be an integrated cutting down of prices of all other articles which are consumed by the ordinary citizens and the ordinary cultivator. It must be done scientifically and in an orderly manner, starting with foodgrains. This will depress the enthusiasm of the agriculturists. They will have no mind to produce more. They would only produce less than what they are doing to-day. That is what is already happening now. Many people who were producing foodgrains such as rice, ragi and millets are now growing sugarcane and tobacco, because they get more money out of them. Therefore, this must be stopped and people should be encouraged to produce foodgrains, by bringing down the price of other things which the ryots use in producing their foodgrains.

"Then again, Sir, the Government must be vigilant even with regard to small things, which go to assist the cultivators. The first thing is to increase the production on lands which are already under cultivation. This has also been pointed out to the Government more than once. There are certain small things and small defects which are not being properly and promptly attended to, such as the repairing of canals in time, the putting up of drainage facilities, and repairing of drainage sluices, the putting up of tank and river beds, etc. Besides these there is also the provision of green-manures, the supply of available fertilizers at the

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time of plantation and such small things which must be attended to then and there. If some more care and vigilance are shown in attending to these small things, the 10 per cent shortage only which we have at present could be easily made up in a short time. The point is that the Government must attend to these things systematically and provide the necessary facilities in regard to these minor matters which help to increase production. They must have a policy in this regard and they must exercise more vigilance and must look into these things from month to month if not from week to week.

"Then, Sir, we find the same policy of drift, in all their other activities also. What I have been describing now is the result of their policy of drift. It was about this policy that I complained last year and the same policy of drift can be illustrated by what is going on in the matter of the enforcement of prohibition even now. Sir, when they launched prohibition, I know that the whole House supported the Government and they said that it was a very good measure and a measure that ought to be put into operation immediately and without any delay. At the same time it was also pointed out to the Government that they must enforce it in a proper manner. They were told that the palm juice must be converted into jaggery, which has a demand and a need in this country and that thereby they would be providing employment for the thousands of tappers who would otherwise be thrown out of employment. But the Government did not take it up and remained indifferent at the beginning, and the result was that many tappers were thrown out of work and the Government had to face serious difficulties in finding out some alternative employment for them.

"Then again, Sir, the Government were also told that since people would not drink, they would have a great deal of savings in their hands and that a greater part of their savings could be tapped by means of some savings schemes, if the Government launched some such campaigns as soon as possible. There again, the Government did not do anything vigorously and the result was that all these people wasted their savings on unnecessary luxuries. Now the Hon. Finance Minister says that the standard of living of these people has raised on account of prohibition. He has not given us figures in support of this statement, nor have the figures which he has given in the budget speak for themselves in regard to this aspect.

"Then again, Sir, the same policy of drift has been followed by the Government in the matter of industrial development also. The Government appointed an Industrial Planning Committee and they submitted their report. What action have the Government taken on that report? The House does not know anything about it. Then the Government speak of the Industrial Investment Corporation which they have started. What work it has been doing, we have no knowledge of. But all the time we are speaking of the necessity of increasing industrial and agricultural production in this country and in this State.

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"Now, Sir, let me come to law and order. Let us see what are their achievements in this direction. We know, Sir, as a matter of fact that the Communists are working in the midst of our people. They are, as the Government know, engaged in certain subversive activities. But how is it possible for them to engage themselves in those activities in the midst of our people, is a thing which one cannot understand.

6 p.m. "They are living in the midst of the people. Unless people countenance their activities how is it possible for them to carry on. (The Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon: 'Hear, hear'.) The Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon can say 'hear, hear', but I do not know how he has understood it, and what steps he has taken to give satisfaction and contentment to the people so that they may not countenance these activities. (Interruption.) It is not a few people here and there who are engaged in these subversive activities. Subversive activities cannot go on without the countenance of the people. When a popular Government is in office and is at the head of affairs, how is it possible that these people should be able to carry on. That is a thing which the Government must seriously consider. That is related to what I have been saying previously that the people are disappointed. That is the hard act. However much the Government may try to hoodwink this act, they cannot hoodwink the public at all. They have been trying to side-track the issues, by speaking of the Muslims and the minorities. But they have not been able to side-track the issue at all. Even in this House we have heard for the last four days complaints being poured into the ears of the Government by their own party men. They were not able to divert the attention of even their own party men by finding scapegoats in other people and minorities and other organisations. We could understand that a party man is a partisan. He would want only his party to exist and other parties to go out of existence, and when he says that in the future this will be the thing or that will be the thing, it is all, I say, wishful thinking. What we want to impress on the Government is that when we give them some constructive suggestions they should not try to side-track the issue by attacking the legislators and other people who mean well by them. Thereby, they will not be able to achieve anything. It is very bad logic, Mr. Speaker, to answer a question by saying 'what have you done in that connexion'. We were asked through one of our party men by the Hon. the Leader of the House 'what are your achievements'. When a gentleman like the Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi goes to a furniture shop and asks for a table, and when he is shown a table which he thinks is not good, and if that furniture shop man challenges him to make a better table himself, what would he think of the furniture shop man? (Laughter.) What logic is this, I do not know. I said, Sir, at the end of that day that it was like the Penang lawyer's argument. (Laughter.) If we read logic we will find in some text book this argument mentioned. A lawyer argues a case, and there is his solicitor. He instructs him and the other lawyer has answered

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all his points. This lawyer has no more points, and then he says 'no more points; abuse'. Then this lawyer begins to abuse the opponent. When he abuses, it means he has no reply. When a question is put to him, it was easy for the Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi to say 'this is my achievement'. Instead of that if he attacks the questioner, it means he has no reply. People do not understand this. He would not thereby satisfy his own party men. If we take all the criticisms of his own party men, it will give a picture of his budget—a real picture of his budget and a real picture of how things are going on in this State. We need not add much to what his own party men said.

"With regard to the organisation of the minorities, I only want to say that the right of association and organisation for the minorities is guaranteed by the New Constitution. It is for the self-expression of the minorities that they are having an organisation. Even for the harmony and good Government of the country such an organisation is required. People when speaking of these organisations confuse parliamentary activity with political activity. They do not distinguish between parliamentary activity and political activity. Of course under joint electorates an organisation belonging to a minority may not be able to work as a parliamentary party, but it can have and it must have political activities. Now, Sir, when the minorities are being deprived—as Muslims are being deprived—of proper representation in the services, and their educational facilities are being curtailed, and when even attempts are being made to eliminate them from certain economic spheres, then do they not require an organisation to make representations to the authorities? When they go to the authorities and make representations to them to take action, is it not political? They speak of communal organisations when we speak of separate electorates. The minority communities, who have got small things, are jealous of those things and they want to protect their small rights and privileges. But friends like our Hon. the Leader of the House who attack the minorities in season and out of season, simply because they are minorities, are communal. So far, I have asked this question of even the highest authority in the land to define what they mean by communalism. But it has not been defined. If we want to see an example of communalism, we can see it in the answers given by the Hon. the Leader of the House. Unnecessarily and irrelevantly people bring in such things. Even to-day some hon. Members went out of the way and brought the organisation of the Muslims into question. I do not know for what purpose. Sir, they are not at all thereby doing any good to anybody. It is the right of the minorities to have these organisations. Because Members have no other points to go upon perhaps they want to deal in sensationalism. By speaking about the minorities, the feeling of the people is roused. That way things cannot go on for a long time. One must learn lessons from history as to what has happened in other countries and what has happened in our own country. The minorities here have got a place as much as anybody else. It is not

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patriotism to tell even an ant belonging to this country that it has not got as much place as anything else in this country. It is he who says that who is not a patriot, and not the other people. Patriotism if it is true would not allow those friends to disparage any one who belongs to this country. When people are doing their best to maintain law and order, because they know that progress depends fundamentally and primarily upon the maintenance of law and order, and when people do that with a firm conviction, others should not discourage them by calling them names. This is by the way, Mr. Speaker.

"I have to say in this connection, Sir, that Mr. Prakasam stated that the Chief Minister of this State must know and realize that when once he had been elected as the leader of the party, he became the leader of the whole Province and not of one party. He is no more a partisan. It is really a high principle, and in that connection, this much I can say. I have to make this acknowledgment that whenever things were taken to the notice of the leader of the party, that is the Chief Minister, and to the notice of the Leader of the House, that is the Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi, or to the notice of the Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon, who challenges very frequently, or to the notice of any other Minister, I find that they deal with the questions on their merits and not from their party point of view. Not only they considered the questions, but also acted upon them. This much I should say in acknowledgment of what has taken place. But the complaint is, Mr. Speaker, that the day-to-day administration of the State is being interfered with by certain members of a certain party. But if this policy which these Ministers are observing in their own way is effectively enforced, there would be no room for any complaint in the country. The enforcement of such a policy is very necessary. In the words of the hon. Member Mr. Prakasam it is very necessary in the vital interests and the good Government of the State."

(There was a pause. The hon. Member was turning over the pages of his notes.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"It seems the hon. Member has exhausted all the points."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"No, Sir. I am just looking into my notes to see what points I could omit (laughter). There are many points like medical, public health, irrigation, sales tax, motor vehicles tax, etc."

MR. SPEAKER:—"These can be taken in detail when we come to the Demands for Grants."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"Sir, with regard to sales tax I want to say one or two words. The sales tax has yielded more than the expected amount during the current year, and the Finance Minister says that it is due to the increase in business and also due to the tightening up of the administration of Sales Tax Act. But what shape has the tightening up taken? Has it taken

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the shape of harassment to the people? The Government promised more than once that they will appoint a Tribunal. Why they have not appointed the Tribunal, we do not know. I want to say, Sir, another thing in this connection. The Government should not think that they should get as much money as possible from sales tax in any manner and in any way possible. They must get it according to the Act and in the right way. If people are being mulcted of their money unjustly and unfairly, a feeling of discontent will be left in their minds and they will feel that the Government agencies are doing things in the wrong way. The morality of the people will thereby be undermined. This is a very important subject, and the Government must see that the people are not—be it one man or one hundred men—harassed in any manner. Otherwise it will tell upon the popularity of the Government and also the good governance of this State.

"Mr. Speaker, following your advice, I shall omit the remaining points, and shall only request the Government to have a definite purpose, policy and object before them. I would request them not to do things in a haphazard manner and adopt a policy of drift. That will not achieve any tangible results. It will cause difficulties and hardships to the people. Members on the Treasury Benches think, as Mr. Gopala Reddi stated, that the people are still with them. It is not so. If they had the eyes to see would have seen that during the last district board elections the people were not with them as they were with them during the last general elections.

"Mr. Gopala Reddi referred to it and said 'In the future 6-15 elections also if you like, you may go and challenge and if you p.m. like, you may try your strength.' We have tried our strength so far as we are concerned, in all the bye-elections that took place after the last general elections. In all those elections we came out successful."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We also came out successful."

JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"You did not come out successful. But a small organization of Vanniyakula Kshatriyas was able to get 24 seats; it was able to bring out 24 out of 29 candidates successful. (Mr. Rajaram Naidu: 'You have not been setting up any candidates in the past.') Yes, we have not been setting up a single candidate in the past for that is against our policy. Moreover, that does not mean that we are not taking part in the elections. Even under joint electorates, our votes will count. They counted in the district board elections and the people who were supported by the Muslims came out successful. Many a Congressman was supported by the Muslim League itself and they came out successful. But now I want you not to be very sanguine about the position. What I say is you compare the statistics of the number of votes polled during the district board elections and that in the last general elections and see whether the

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same percentage that voted in the 1946 election voted in the recent district board elections. No, they have not voted. You will find that the percentage of votes is smaller than previously. (Sri K. T. Kosalram: 'Take the case of the Tirunelveli bye-elections.') In the matter of the Tirunelveli bye-elections to the Legislative Assembly, the contestants lost their deposits. (Sri K. T. Kosalram: 'Compare the recent district board elections.') Then you had the support of the Muslim Leaguers. What I say is that the Muslim League will be there and they may support the other organizations. If the Muslim League is there, you will be able to get the solid support of the Muslims. First of all, they have to be kept united and then when they want to work like other parties such as the Congress or any other party, and there is an understanding, they will come into that party and support that party with all their united strength. Therefore, in their own interests, the Congress people have to see that the Muslims are united. But they do not understand these things and now they are going their own way. As I said, the last district board elections must have taught them a lesson. There it was shown that they had definitely lost their ground and, if it was so in this election, what will be the position when adult franchise will come into operation, with so much discontent in the country? Therefore, even from their party point of view, they must look to it that the discontent of the people is reduced and that all sections of people are satisfied. With these words, Mr. Speaker, I close."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"On a point of information, Mr. Speaker, or on a point of order, if you please. I want to know whether in an Assembly of a secular State communal parties can be recognized and if that communal party, which perhaps is a minority one to-day, becomes the majority party and occupies the Treasury Benches, whether even then the Government can be called a communal party Government."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Chair cannot compel the people not to form themselves into a communal party."

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am primarily confining myself to the question of law and order which has been raised by various Members, with the idea of warning the Government of the situation in the country and asking that we should all be very careful and see that we work together for the common good which in every field of our activity can be done only if there is security of person and property and respect for law and order. In saying this, I find an expectant look from Mr. Raza Khan that I may say something more. (Mr. Raza Khan: 'I am not afraid.') The hon. Gentleman is not afraid I know very well. There are certain set of people who are not afraid; some people are brazen. But I am not concerned whether anybody is afraid; nor is it my idea to speak anything from the point of view of fear. I find that the remarks, the sober remarks, of the Leader of the Opposition generally disarms opposition and give no ground to speak against them. He said that

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'we learn from logic the principle of *argumentum ad hominem*' which means 'when you have no arguments, abuse your adversary'. That applies more aptly to some of his own followers. He would have realized it if he had only been here to see their wonderful performances, for Mr. Raza Khan was not making any sort of argument. Smarting under the slashes of my Colleague some months ago and knowing that the venom of his remark—if there was any venom—lay in the truth of it, he thought that this was an opportunity for venting a sort of suppressed, and repressed emotions and said while my Friend, Mr. Gopala Reddi was three years old he would have gone without an under-cloth or things like that. In fact, these were the arguments. Such things are natural when a certain feeling of repression or suppression is there. But I do not want to say anything more because I too do not want to fall into that mistake of trying to say things out of excitement. Sir, anything which we say in these days, particularly things which will excite feelings, have to be measured every inch, for the forces of disruption everywhere are attempting to create an atmosphere of hostility whether communal or otherwise so that any statement from any side which will acerbate feelings is dangerous from every point of view. I do not want to controvert or discuss the statement about the justifications for the existence of the Muslim League on the analogy that Hindu Mahasabha exists or otherwise. It is open to anybody to have any sort of league, but I am only anxious that in making statements here with the knowledge that we can make any statements here except those which the Speaker does object to, we must bear in mind the effects on those who are likely to read them through the very kind offices of a well-organized Press that we have in this country. So, Sir, the abuses apart, when we think of the general discussion that we had, it has been taken as an opportunity to vent feelings and it is gratifying to some of us now—public memory may be short but our memories are not short—to note that friends like Mr. Prakasam are finding very good admirers now in people who were perhaps speaking much worse things when he was on this side. When one hon. Member, referring to what Mr. Prakasam was saying, said 'Remember what Mr. Prakasam said', I said 'Don't quote scripture.' Sir, Mr. Prakasam and all other friends belonging to my party have a right to chastise us. They are not satisfied that we are doing all that ought to be done. They want that we should work more (hear, hear), because whether we commit a mistake or do not work properly, it reflects as much on them as on us. So, please take the mentality behind their attitude in telling us or feeling that there is much more to be done and that we have to be careful not only about the greatness of the organisation to which we belong but the future of the country. Do not take shelter under what people say with motives perhaps different from yours.

"Sir, the Finance Minister said something in reply to the Governor's speech. He instanced many things and the answer now is 'not arguments to contradict but abuse'. It may be I would

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have discussed in a very jovial and pleasant manner with the hon. Gentlemen opposite to spend perhaps dull moments that we have sometimes here; I would have indulged and they would have joined me in practical jokes. But to take that as an argument in a House only shows dearth of arguments and not a very desirable use of things which would have been said in a jocular mood.

“Stopping at that, I want to refer to one or two matters other than the question of law and order. The hon. Member Mr. Bhashyam referred to the question of court-fee and said that nothing had yet been done regarding the question of revision of court-fees. I know that there are anomalies and that a rationalization in the Court Fees Act is necessary. To quote one example, if a person files a suit for recovery of possession of a land which contains one full survey number, he need pay only ten times the revenue as court-fee, but if he sues for recovery of 20 cents out of that, the market value of the property which may be lakhs is the assessment of court-fee though the entire survey number is only paying ten times the revenue. Such anomalies are there and we want to rationalize the court-fee. After examining Mr. Satyamurthi Ayyar's report and other authorities in the matter, certain proposals for rationalization of court-fees have been formulated and they are now under the examination of Their Lordships the Judges of the High Court. As soon as their advice is received we hope to come before this House for its help in rationalization of court-fees in such a way that we have rationalization and at the same time we do not lose the revenue that we are getting now.

“Mr. Viswanatham referred to the appointment of Magistrates in connexion with the separation of judiciary from executive. Sir, in the case of District Magistrates and Subdivisional Magistrates, we do not make any appointment directly ourselves. We request the High Court to post certain Munsifs and Sub-Judges as Sub-Divisional Magistrates and District Magistrates. In the case of Sub-Magistrates, the rule that we have framed is that the Public Service Commission should select. Though the rules were not ready we have still requested the Public Service Commission to select. They doubted whether any non-gazetted appointment could be made by them or should be made directly by the High Court as other Heads of Departments are doing now. But we have informed them that they should make it themselves. This requires alterations in certain regulations which we are doing at present so that the Public Service Commission can make the entire appointments themselves. It is for that purpose we said that as temporary appointments have to be made, we have directed the Service Commission to select candidates taking into consideration the cases of existing incumbents, that is the set that has already come and the new one that is coming. We have definitely stated that the selection shall be made by the Public Service Commission and we have fixed a date also. The new rules were not ready and we have had to make certain temporary appointments. Five of us sat

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together, called for applications and selected candidates. If any mistakes were there, we are placing them before the Public Service Commission so that they may be corrected.

“Sir, Mr. Viswanatham referred to another point, namely, the paucity of Andhras in service and that though advertisements were made for the filling up of the post of Small Cause Court Judge, the appointment has not been made. Sir, formerly that post was to be filled by direct recruitment by Public Service Commission. But we were examining complaints that we have received from the lower ranks of the civil judiciary that their promotions are being blocked by direct recruitment to higher places and that if there was to be direct recruitment, both at the top and at the bottom, their chances of promotion will be much less. So we were examining such cases where persons from lower grades and categories could be promoted to higher posts. In that connexion we were examining whether we can promote District Munsifs to that place or post some Sub-Judge. At the time the Service Commission advertised, we were still examining the question. After that, we came to the conclusion that it must be by promotion or transfer of one of the Sub-Judges and we requested the High Court to post one of the Sub-Judges and accordingly one who has been in service has been posted and if I remember correctly the existing incumbent is an Andhra.”

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—“I want to know whether the advertisement was made without the knowledge of the Government.”

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“It was done at the instance of the Government. Under the old practice, we asked the Service Commission to advertise and select. At that time the question whether that post as well as four or five other posts in the City Civil Court and the Small Causes Court should be filled up by direct recruitment or by transfer of Sub-Judges or promotion of the District Munsifs, was under examination. By the time the advertisement appeared it was decided that it must be by transfer and necessary orders were issued asking the Service Commission to refund the money to the candidates who had applied.”

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—“Does not the Minister think that it would have been better if the Government instructed the Service Commission even before, in time, about their decision?”

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“I agree with the hon. Member that it would have been better. We need not have kept the people in hopes, by not having informed the Commission earlier. It would have been better had we made amends and informed the Commission in time. But as the posts could not be kept vacant we had to do that. That is the only reason that I can give for that.

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"Regarding the position of law and order, I may say that the communist menace in the State is being dealt with adequately. A fear has been expressed as to whether it was dealt with adequately. I may state that commendable work has been done by the District authorities and the Police in checking the menace. The situation in the State can now be stated to be on the whole satisfactory.

"The hon. Members are aware of the difficult situation which had to be faced in 1948 and 1949. Even in 1949, several atrocities were committed by the communists within the State, apart from the atrocities committed by the communists from Hyderabad in the border districts.

"That there is considerable improvement in the overall situation will be seen from the facts that I am giving below. Even as late as June, July and August 1949, there were several murders by local communists in Krishna, West Godavari and East Godavari districts. In Mathurai, a police head constable was found murdered. There were several cases of attacks of police stations and rescue of communist prisoners. Such attacks were on the increase in Ramnad, Mathurai, Salem and Cuddapah districts. The kisans in Tanjore district also started an intense agitation in July and August last. Besides, the communists indulged in loot and arson, especially in August last. In the South Indian Railway, they have been frequently attempting acts of sabotage. The communists had also developed the technique of throwing country bombs against their opponents and this form of attack was noticeable in Mathurai, Ramnad and Tirunelveli districts.

"Compared with the situation which existed in 1948-49, the position shows great improvement. There were, no doubt, two ghastly raids on the borders of Krishna district in December last, in which several persons including women were murdered. These were perpetrated by State communists. Since then there have been only two incidents involving loss of life—one in Krishna district, where a person in a village in Tiruvur taluk was speared to death and his son was also murdered. In the second incident again, the State communists were responsible; they raided a border village in Guntur district and murdered four persons. Apart from these incidents for which the communists in Hyderabad have been mostly responsible, the districts have been free from any major incidents and the situation is well under control.

"The Police have succeeded in effecting remarkable arrests and taking strong measures. As a result of careful planning and persistent efforts, the persons responsible for the disorders in Mathurai town have been arrested. One of the accused escaped from Police custody but was again located hiding near Palni. In an attempt to arrest him, he tried to kill the Inspector with his aruval and had to be shot dead. A most important raid was made near Madras and top-ranking communists, who are believed to have directed operations of the Party in Tamilnad, have been arrested. In Coimbatore and Tirunelveli districts also, important arrests

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have been made. As a result of intense activities in the Circars, the Police have shot dead the underground communists Bhadriah, and also P. Subba Rao and Jasti Basavayya when the two latter attempted to attack the Special Duty Inspector with an axe. As a result of combing operations on the Hyderabad borders, about eight important State communists were shot dead after exchange of fire.

"So far as the activities of the communists belonging to this State are concerned, it can reasonably be claimed that their activities have been checked and are very much under control. We are still, however, troubled by occasional raids by State communists, who adopt the policy of 'hit and run'. So far as these attacks are concerned, we are doing everything possible on our side to combat the menace.

"It is not desirable, for security reasons, to disclose all the details of the measures undertaken in the entire Circars but I am giving brief details below.

"The police stations in all the Circar districts have been considerably strengthened. Over 20 new police stations have been opened and the strength of staff in about 40 stations has been considerably reinforced. Special additional staff, including Deputy Superintendents, Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors and constables, have been sanctioned.

"Armed Police parties have been stationed, including the Special Armed Police, Malabar Special Police and the District Armed Reserve in all the districts. Communications between police stations and headquarters have been improved.

"It will be appreciated that to check the 'hit and run' raids from the Hyderabad communists, effective action from the Hyderabad side is also necessary. With the Krishna river getting dry, it has become easier for the communists to cross the river from either side, but all the same, considerable vigilance is being maintained.

"Hon. Members will no doubt appreciate that notwithstanding all the precautions we have taken including substantial additions from time to time to the force in the northern districts, the raids and incidents near the border cannot cease unless and until equally effective measures are taken in the districts of Nalgonda and Warangal. Occasional and casual raids can hardly be foreseen and Police patrols cannot guard every mile of the long frontier. I may add that the Inspector-General of Police, and the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Northern Range are constantly touring in the affected areas, pulling up the subordinate Police wherever necessary and encouraging others to put in better work. Conferences are being frequently held at all levels between officers of Hyderabad and Madras so that there may be effective co-ordination of the drive against communists.

"I would like particularly to stress that the communist explosions within the districts are well under control except when rival factional parties flare up and cloud the whole question. The

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kisans and agricultural labourers are sometimes very near the communists in their attempts to establish what they consider their rights. The efforts of the District authorities and Police alone cannot stamp out this menace without better co-operation from the public who seem to be most of the time of two minds. If the Police do take any strong action complaints pour in that they are running amuck and notice taken of such complaints naturally discourages them.

"In this connexion I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Members to one point which deserves to be specially referred to. That is the existence of factions amongst the villagers of the District and acute differences amongst leading men themselves. In some cases, these differences have resulted in false complaints being made to the authorities by one party about the other party having communist sympathies. Such false complaints naturally lead to the dissipation of the available forces, in attending to such complaints and thereby preventing them from concentrating on the communist troubles. In some cases, the communists themselves pose as Congressmen and secure support from one or the other of the rival groups. Often the rival groups pursue their differences to the point of fighting, which results in breaches of the local peace, and the District Authorities, entrusted with the maintenance of law and order, have naturally to take strong action to put down any disturbances. Such strong measures are often resented and complaints are made to the Government of innocent Congressmen being harassed. Brief details, that I am giving below, would illustrate this aspect:—

"A petition was received from a villager in West Godavari district, alleging that certain communists were threatening a particular person. But it was ascertained that the petitioner had his private grievances against a particular community in the village and to ventilate them, gave information to prohibition authorities about illicit distillation conducted by them. The prohibition authorities booked certain people and it was found that the petitioner feared reprisals by the members of the community afterwards. There was no justification that he was being "marked" by communists for vindictive action."

"From Guntur, a complaint was received that a particular Sub-Inspector was not taking action against communists and alleging corruption on his part. Subsequent enquiry revealed that the Sub-Inspector took prompt and effective action against the members of two rival parties in the village and the complaints were made as a result of the strong measures taken by him. There were two groups in the village and taking advantage of the Police raids against the communists, each party dubbed the other as communist."

6-45 p.m. "A certain organization represented against Security Proceedings instituted in a particular village. Actually it was ascertained that there were two sections in the village. It was found on enquiry that there was a *prima facie* case for Security Proceedings in the matter. The case and the counter-case were pending before a court at the time and it was decided that there was no case for interfering with the due course of justice. The petitioners, without any justification, made allegations that the members of the rival party had communist leanings."

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"In a memorandum, the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee alleged that a number of innocent Congressmen had been arrested either because of genuine mistakes or because of local factions. The Collectors have taken action to remedy any mistake brought to their notice; but to wipe out local factions, I must tell hon. Members belonging to my party, that our Congress Committees themselves have to take the initiative. When the Congress Committees themselves have recognized the existence of factions at different stages, it will be difficult for district authorities to rely upon any of the local bodies or even for that matter, on the opinion of Provincial Congress Committees. So, this is a matter where we should have a little bit of introspection and see that the Congress Committees do their best to fight these factions . . ."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"In cases, Sir, where the Government had definite information according to their enquiries that the complaints made were false, may I know whether they have taken any action against those who gave those complaints or are we having this statement merely for the purpose of the debate?"

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, the difficulty is that no complaints would be completely false. There may be some sub-stratum of truth here and there. There is also some information given by certain people which cannot be taken as complaints under the Criminal Procedure Code. I may assure the hon. Member that action has been taken and will be taken in cases where it is proved that false complaints have been made with the idea of using authority for purposes of faction."

"In another case, one leading personality visited a village soon after a Police raid and advised the local communists not to disturb the articles alleged to have been thrown about by the Police. His visit encouraged the local communists considerably. The allegations of Police excesses were enquired into, but it was ascertained that the village consisted of two factions and after the Police had departed, one faction increased the damages in their own houses and complained, not against the Police, but against the other faction."

"Some complaints were received from Harijans in certain villages of Krishna district that the Caste Hindus were trying to direct the Police against the Harijans on the ground that they have communist sympathies. It was ascertained on enquiry, that the Police had, in fact, acted on complaints made by the Caste Hindus, which were found to be without basis. Instructions had, therefore, to be issued to see that the Police were not misguided by such factious allegations. It will be understood, how difficult the position of the Police in the districts becomes if, as a result of local factions, people make false allegations."

"There were also instances where bad characters masquerading themselves as staunch Congress workers, had made allegations but on enquiry it was found that they themselves were unreliable. One such bad character has recently come to notice. It is reported that he posed himself as a close associate of the President of a

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District Congress Committee. Reports received go to show that he has been collecting money from several villagers in the name of the Congress organization and has been diverting the sum for his personal use. Such is the character of some of the persons who often complain to the local authorities and pretend to be sincere workers of the Congress.

"I hope I have made the position quite clear to hon. Members. The position briefly is that,

(1) the communist situation in the Province is very much under control;

(2) whatever trouble is occasionally experienced in the Circar districts is either due to (i) the "hit and run" tactics of Hyderabad State communists, or (ii) the existing local factions in the villages; and

(3) the officers of the Government and the Police have handled the situation in a satisfactory manner and have achieved a substantial improvement in the general situation.

"I should like to add in conclusion that the so-called communists of this State are nothing but a set of people who have pinned their faith on murder, dacoity, loot and plunder and that it is wrong to call them by any name other than thugs and murderers.

"Hon Members must have received with great shock the news of the wrecking of the Calcutta Mail last night involving the death of so many innocent people and grievous injuries to a larger number of the citizens of this State. Mr. Speaker, our Deputy Speaker, early this morning, rushed to the scene of occurrence (hear, hear) to render help to those in distress and give them a word of sympathy. The reports that she and several others gave of what they saw, are something very harrowing. (Sri T. Viswanatham: 'Has she gone alone all the way for this purpose!') The hon. Member may put the question to her. Sir, it is a matter on which we should congratulate her for her ready help and the House should be grateful to her for the initiative that she took in this matter, with the sympathy natural to a mother, without which the suffering of the people cannot be seen and alleviated.

"Sir, it is such brutal and blind methods of hitting innocent people behind their backs that the so-called communists are specialising in. Such acts cannot but recoil on them if only law-abiding citizens will realize the enormity of their crimes against society and rally round the Government in their attempts to preserve the freedom that has been guaranteed to the people of this country by our Constitution. And there can be no better group of law-abiding citizens than the hon. Members of this House."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know, Sir, from the Hon. the Minister in charge of Law whether any action has been taken against any Police officer who has indulged in excesses?"

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"If the Government are satisfied that any officer has committed excess, certainly action will be taken against him."

SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"May I know from the Government, Sir, whether any action has been taken on my letter which has been sent to the Hon. the Chief Minister and the Home Secretary and also why regular raids have been made in Harijan cherries in the Krishna district by the Police, beating men and women and ill-treating innocent people?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I cannot say off-hand what action has been taken on the letter referred to by the hon. Member. I can say this much. His letter has been treated with the greatest respect it deserves and action taken."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, as many as 62 speakers have taken part in the discussion as against 60 last year and 55 in the year previous to that. (Laughter.) This shows that there has been progress in the number of speakers taking part in the Budget discussion. This was all possible, Sir, because you and your Deputy Speaker and the Chairman have conducted the proceedings with an eye to see that as many Members as possible are given a chance to participate in the discussion. (Hear, hear.) I am indeed grateful to you for the manner in which you tried to satisfy so many people.

"Sir, this discussion has come in close succession to the debate on the Governor's Address in which also a large number of Members participated widening thus the manner of discussion. In the general discussion, anything pertaining to the actual administration—whether it is in relation to finance, whether it is in relation to accounts or provisions made in the budget estimates—does not matter so much as the policies of the Government which hon. Members are entitled to treat as a basis to review the work of the Government. And this, the hon. Members have done from various angles and they have covered a very wide range of subjects. Law and Order came into great prominence; so also food procurement and other matters which are of vital necessity to our people. Sir, while the budget could only propose, it is open to hon. Members to say what has not been done because the enormity of the problems is such that no budget, whether it is of the Union Government or for that matter of any of the State Governments can cope with it within a short period. I do not think that even after ten years the Union or any State Government will be able to please all Members with their budget proposals. Even the countries which have enjoyed freedom for a long time for centuries, and which are trained in the technique of Government find themselves in such a pitiable position that when a budget is presented, there are Members who try to pick out what has not been done or to point out that what has been done is inadequate or is wrongly done. Therefore, Sir, it is not surprising that Member after Member represented to the Government in the course of the discussion that there are many things to be done and they ought

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to be done. These four or five days must have been—and even now it must continue to be—therefore, a very trying period for any Finance Minister.

“Sir, very many points have been raised in the debate. But I shall confine myself only to the budget because my Hon. Colleague, the Law Minister, has covered the other points. The Central Government have been repeatedly impressing upon us the need for balancing our budget. There are international repercussions also when deficit budgets are presented since we are not living in isolation from the rest of the world, and we are having connections with the World Monetary Fund from whom we take loans. As every debtor is to satisfy his creditor, our Union Government as well as the Governments of the States should conform to the promises made to the Monetary Fund and show that we are solvent and that there is nothing wrong with our finances. The Government of India, as I have said, have been repeatedly urging upon the State Governments to do their utmost to balance their budgets. We have taken this suggestion from the Centre—made as late as January this year—and have tried our best to balance our budget this year. Another thing, which was before us when we framed our budget was that there should be no taxation proposals this year. We have seen, Sir, how Member after Member last year criticised the taxation proposals of the Government then made and so we had ultimately to decide to give up those proposals—at any rate a major portion of them—with the result that we were able to get under the various taxes only about 100 lakhs. Therefore, these are the two main principles that guided us—that there should be no new taxation and that there should be no deficit either.

p.m. “With these two things we started to frame the Budget and presented it to you. Sir, there were the difficulties—the three successive failures of monsoons were there. It is a very formidable factor and the cyclones were also there. We have to give large remissions and we had to give an incentive to our procurement drive. That necessarily brings in great unpopularity for any administration. Controls are really a thankless job for any administration. It must be got rid of as early as possible because much of the criticism I see levelled against the Government is due to the controls which are not wanted by the Members. Yet they have become a necessity. Where we procure, the agriculturist and the producers are cursing us all the while; where we take the rice with difficulty and take it to the consuming districts there again they say, it is not good, it was kept in bad godowns and became bad and that the right type of rice that is wanted there, is not supplied. The result is any administration will have to come in for good deal of criticism. Sir, the Conservative party in England won a large number of seats in the last elections. I think it is largely due to the controls which were pressing the people. Likewise, I hold, that in Australia and New Zealand, the Labour Party was defeated and the Liberals have come into power. It is again due to the post-war controls which have again oppressed

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he people there. Therefore it is not surprising that Members of his House have raised their voice of protest against the way in which the controls are administered. But there is no way out of it. Nobody wants them. But yet the Government of India taking an overall picture of the situation and also the State Government taking a overall State requirements have got to feed the deficit districts and necessarily feeding the deficit means procurement in surplus district and that means regulating the entire supply and procurement through well organised channels called controls. Therefore Sir, it is that we do not want to take risks in the matter of controls. We tried it some time ago and we have seen how it costed us considerably. In view of the failure of the monsoon and in view of the shortage of imports from other countries, we do not want to take big risks in spite of the unpopularity. We have to continue the controls for some time to come and the moment we could relax them or remove them completely, certainly we shall be happy and we are looking forward to that day.

“Sir, we have discussed five budgets in this Assembly. It may be that before the next budget is presented in this House we will have to go through the elections. According to our Prime Minister it may be in February 1951. This may therefore be the last budget for this Assembly because the next budget may be discussed by the new Assembly to come. Therefore, Sir, I tried to review the five years work by giving figures and that was criticised as an auditor's report. Certainly an auditor's report is also necessary to look back so that we can look forward. What is it that we have done during the last five years? Have we done nothing with regard to the nation-building activities? What is it that we have done after losing the revenue of 17 crores? Have we been stagnating, have we been maintaining the status quo with regard to the many nation-building activities, or have we been spending large sums of money, is a matter worth considering. I did necessarily take a review of the last five years budgets. Sir, as I have said, there are members who have spoken and participated in the five budget discussions. Last night I was reading the old reports from 1946, I mean, Sir, samples, specimen of how and what Members spoke in 1946 and 1947, 1948 and 1949 and again, of course, I have heard the speeches made this year. I see the same old stream running through all the speeches. They are not satisfied with whatever is being done. They sometimes call it a Khadi budget; it is all a prohibition budget and sometimes they say it is only a taxation budget; sometimes they say it is a *status quo* budget; there is no policy in it; there is only drift and no set progress towards the cherished goal. So, it is rather difficult to please the Members. When budgets were presented by Mr. Prakasham, the same tone of criticism was levelled against the budget proposals and when I presented three budgets, the same line of attack was taken up. As I said it is very difficult to please Members in the fluid state of our political and economic conditions. The finance Minister's job is rather a difficult and unfortunate

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job and specially during the four days he has to sit tied down to his seat and hear these criticisms. But as I review the figures it is very interesting. All these five budgets when they were presented, they were deficit budgets. In 1946-47, it was presented on July 31st, 1946 and Mr. Prakasam as Finance Minister showed a deficit of 8 crores and 93 lakhs as proposed in the budget. In March 1947 again when he presented the budget for 1947-48, he showed a deficit of 1 crore and 48 lakhs. Then when I presented my first budget in 1948-49, I showed a deficit of 5 crores and 61 lakhs. Last year, for 1949-50, I showed a deficit of only 35 lakhs. This year I have shown a nominal deficit of only 35 lakhs deliberately and I shall explain why I have shown it. Thus in 1946-47 the deficit was 8 crores 93 lakhs, in 1947-48 the deficit was 1 crore 48 lakhs and in 1948-49 it was 5 crores and 61 lakhs. There were no taxation proposals. Every time we said that we are going to draw upon the Revenue Reserve Fund which was standing round about 30 crores compiled by the Advisers to be used by the popular Ministers the criticism was that 'the Revenue Reserve Fund is not to cover your revenue deficit, it was meant for post-war development schemes, you have a very ambitious scheme of 120 crores with the 30 crores built up by the Advisers, well intentioned Advisers, the Popular Ministry will be able to add to it and thus secure the necessary amount for building the post-war development.' Sir, when there were no taxation proposals when these deficits were sought to be covered by drawals from the Revenue Reserve Fund that was the type of criticism. They warned us against dipping our unholy hands into this Revenue Reserve Fund which was built up by the Advisers for something else. We were advised strongly not to draw from the Revenue Reserve Fund. Last year when I came with a budget showing a deficit of 3 crores and 90 lakhs and proposals to cover it by taxation for 4 crores thus avoiding the necessity for touching the Revenue Reserve Fund, did they welcome the proposals? Did they congratulate me? They said: 'Alright, you are not going to touch the Revenue Reserve Fund. This year, you are going to get it from the people and therefore save the Revenue Reserve Fund from any unholy drawals'. They again became very vehement. I thought it was safe for the Finance Minister to show deficits and draw from the Revenue Reserve Fund without levying additional taxes. This was not approved. Last year I tried a different technique. It also costed me very much and I was not spared. The usual formality of even congratulating me in the first instance was also denied to me. This year when we did not have any deficit, I mean it is only a nominal deficit of 35 lakhs, when we did not suggest any taxation proposals, I thought the Members would be very cheerful and congratulate me. But again, Sir, I was disappointed. Many Members were disappointed at the budget proposals. From my own angle I was also disappointed. Even when a taxation-less budget, a deficit-less budget was presented, yet the Members have not been kind to me. I do not know, Sir, why it is so.

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"I am just thinking honestly of appointing a committee of this House to go into the question of how and on what lines, the Governments in the various States, are preparing the budget. After all whatever party may be in power, the requirements of the provinces are the same. There are certain things which are common to all. In the matter of education, public health and so on, there is no Muslim League policy, there is no Congress policy. I was just thinking why a committee of all parties should not sit together and give a memorandum which may be of great use to us or to the future Governments that come into being. I am also thinking of making another suggestion, I do not know whether I should pursue it, of having five of our friends from all parties or even seven of us to go on a visit to Bombay, United Provinces and Calcutta (hear, hear) and see how their budgets are being received by their people, whether their Members also are criticising the budget proposals in the same manner or in a different manner, how their taxation proposals are being received and what exactly is being done under irrigation, public health, local administration and so on. It will certainly be helpful if five or seven Members go round the country in say about six or eight weeks. The Government can certainly bear the expenditure. The Government will have an overall picture of what is happening in other provinces like, Assam, Bengal, United Provinces and other provinces. The Members will be able to make valuable suggestions to the Government. I do not know if it is approved by Members. If it is approved it may be pursued by Government and after all it may not cost the Government much. Thus we can wherever necessary borrow information from other Governments and improve things here, and we can also tell them what is being done in Madras. Conversation with the Secretary to Governments and Ministers and the Assembly Members of other provinces certainly will be a very valuable thing, I do not know whether it will be welcomed by all the Members."

JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL:—"What will you do if there were to be criticisms ever after that?" 7-15 p.m.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It will widen every body's outlook, the outlook of the Members and of the Ministers. It will be good for everybody. That is how I review the five years' position."

"With regard to the Rs. 35 lakhs, I have said in my budget speech that it is mainly due to the expenditure we are going to incur in the merged states. We have taken credit for Rs. 16 lakhs for receipts in the three states and we expect to spend rupees 47 lakhs on these three states, leaving a balance of Rs. 31 lakhs. This includes Rs. 5,42,000 that is going to be given as the privy purses to the three princes. Pudukottah will get Rs. 3,60,000, Ranganapalle will get Rs. 81,500 and Sandur will get Rs. 1,00,800, whether it is to the princes or their dependents or the other members of the palace. It comes to Rs. 5,42,000. Our deficit is Rs. 35 lakhs and we are going to incur an excess expenditure of

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Rs. 31 lakhs on these three states. We can tell the Government of India, since they wanted us to balance our budget, to make good this deficit of Rs. 31 lakhs. I presented the budget here on the 27th February. Fortunately for us the Finance Minister of the Government of India in his speech on the following day, the 28th February, has conceded our request and I hope that if not Rs. 31 lakhs, the excess of their income from Central Income tax and Central Excise over their expenditure in these three states will be given to us. It may be Rs. 25 or 30 lakhs. I am really thankful to Dr. John Mathai for having conceded this principle. He says:

'Following the (Krishnamachari Committee) Committee's recommendation for a transitional period of ten years, the Centre has agreed to make good (with certain adjustments) to the States the difference between the actual federal revenue lost to them and the federal expenditure saved to them as a result of federal financial integration. This reimbursement will be made in full for the first five years and on a diminishing scale for the next five years.'

"Then he says in another part of his speech—

'Government have accepted this suggestion and are applying it uniformly to all the Provinces in which Indian States have been merged and provision has been made in the budget for this assistance.'

"The suggestion was with reference to Bombay and Baroda.

"The Government of India will be handing over to us any excess of their income under income tax or excise over their expenditure in the three states and this will practically wipe out our deficit.

"Sir, another criticism has been that no relief in taxation has been given. Last year it was asked why we were imposing fresh taxes. This year we are asked why no relief is given, especially when we have admitted that some of our taxes are the highest in the world. Sir, if I had given any relief, my hon. Friends Mr. Nagappa and Mr. Kameswara Rao and others who belong to the leftist wing and who always think left, would certainly have pounced upon me and said that I have succumbed to the vested interests and given relief in taxation to the capitalists and the big agriculturists when people are starving and have no education, no drinking water facilities and so on. Certainly I could not venture to give any relief in taxation when I have no overall picture of our requirements with regard to every department. Who can say that we have reached the saturation point in the department of agriculture or co-operation or industries? We are only at the threshold and we have a long way to go. We have not gone even half-way. Therefore, when these are our requirements, taxation relief is out of the question. I have not given any taxation relief, though I feel myself that our motor vehicles taxation is somewhat oppressive. I feel it impossible just now to give any relief. There are other proposals. I do not know when they will be finalised and pushed through with your assent and the assent of the House. But for the time being, I am unable to give any taxation relief even in the matter of motor vehicles taxation.

"Then hon. Members have asked why there is no retrenchment. This is a very favourite subject with many of our friends. When I go to Delhi myself and when I see the Defence Department with

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air expenditure of Rs. 170 crores, I ask myself why the Government of India should not retrench their defence expenditure and give some little help to the provinces so that they can carry on their programmes. When I go to the Central Secretariat and see their Secretaries, Deputy Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries, I ask myself why they should not retrench. Likewise, Sir, when I ask people to look at our Secretariat, offices of the Heads of Departments and District Administration Offices, they feel why we should not retrench and close down unnecessary departments. But people who are administering the country know the difficulties of retrenchment. Even as it is there is a good deal of delay in the Secretariat and the offices of the Heads of Departments. And if we retrench more clerks and more Deputy and Assistant Secretaries, the result will be there will be no work done for a long time. We may be giving them money, but it would not be utilised and the papers will be kept pending for a very long time. Who wants bloated expenditure on the departments? Does anybody want any unnecessary department or spend more than is necessary on any department. Certainly no Government will ever incur deliberately any unnecessary expenditure. But when expenditure is necessary, when a departmental head comes to us and pleads that an Assistant Secretary or a clerk is necessary, we may say 'No' once or twice, but when he comes and pleads for a third time, how can any Finance Secretary or Minister say 'No'? When the Secretary of the Department himself or the Minister himself is pleading that it is absolutely necessary, we can't say 'No'. Of course we did appoint a non-official committee for retrenchment and reorganization and we did expect to drastically cut down expenditure on certain of the departments. But, Sir, we could not do it. What we have done has been placed on the table of this House or the other House. It is a bulky volume showing the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee and the decisions of the Government thereon. It has not come to much. It has hardly come to Rs. 25 lakhs.

"Sir, we did say to the Secretariat, whether they willed it or not, there must be a cut of 12½ per cent. For some time it was done. Later on, they compiled figures showing the strength of the staff in 1941 and the present strength, the number of disposals in 1941 and the number now and said that while their staff had increased only by 50 per cent. The disposals had increased three times. They pressed for an increase in staff. While we do not want it to grow, we are unable to retrench, because our departments are expanding. Sir, we cannot retrench in the Education Department or the Public Health Department or the Public Works Department. Likewise every department is unable to retrench. All the departments are just now pushing on their schemes or they will be pushed forward in a short time. We may give them money and technical staff, but if we do not give them ministerial staff, the work will not progress. Sometimes we may give them ministerial staff, but if we do not give them technical staff, the work

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will be held up. Sir, when experienced administrators and Heads of Departments and Secretaries to Government come and say that they want this staff or that, how can Ministers who are necessarily laymen say that they do not agree with them and ask them to get on with two clerks when they require five clerks?

"Sir, there is another item—Contingencies. We were spending about Rs. 3 crores on Contingencies. We appointed a Senior Assistant Secretary, Mr. Krishnaswami Ayyangar who is now in the Gallery, on special duty for about six months to go into this question. In 1948-49 we spent nearly Rs. 3 crores on this item. In the Revised Estimate for the current year we have shown only Rs. 211 lakhs. The Budget Estimate for 1950-51 is Rs. 206 lakhs. From Rs. 300 lakhs we have reduced the figure to Rs. 206 lakhs, thereby saving about Rs. 94 lakhs. Though we could not accept many of the recommendations of the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee, in the matter of contingencies, we proceeded in a rough and ready manner and said that there should be a cut of 10 or 12 per cent. Even though the Departmental Heads were screaming we imposed a cut and effected savings to the extent of about a crore of rupees. We are trying to save as much as we can on civil administration and it is no use saying, 'Why don't you retrench?' That has been an easy subject for people to talk about. Right from 1946 onwards, I have gone through the budget speeches and they have all urged retrenchment. But the Ministers who have been in office all these five years could not accept either the wishes of hon. Members or the recommendations of the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee.

"Sir, then it has been asked. 'Is this the Budget we expected even after the inauguration of the Republic?' The same line of argument was adopted in 1946 also. It was asked then, 'Is this the Budget we expected after the war ended, the Advisers' regime came to a close, elections were held and a popular Congress Ministry came into power?' It was said that people were starving, people were ignorant and living in insanitary conditions and yet there was not sufficient provision in the budget for these. In 1948, after the attainment of Independence, it was said, 'At least after the attainment of Independence, after 15th August 1947, we expected a different type of Budget.' Yet the same old type of proposals are presented to us. Now after the 26th January 1950, after India has become a Republic, they say that the directive principles of the Constitution say that there should be compulsory education achieved within ten years, and that the Constitution contemplates so many big things but yet there is no provision in the budget for these. Sir, 15th August may come, 26th January may come and there may be some changes in the Head of the Republic. Lord Mountbatten may go as the last British Governor-General and Rajaji may come. Rajaji may go and Babu Rajendra Prasad may come as the first President of the Republic. But things would not change by your Constitution alone, by a change in the personnel

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at the top. Something very drastic has to be done. For a very long time to come some sustained work has to be put in before we can see any change. There is therefore no use of saying 15th August or 26th January. Things which have been neglected for centuries cannot be taken up and finished in a short time. Untouchability has been in existence for hundreds and thousands of years. It cannot be wiped out overnight. The previous administrations for various reasons could not take up many schemes for hundreds of years. All that cannot be taken up overnight. We cannot see the benefits of Republican India overnight.

"Sir, the Republic has come, the Constitution which we wanted has come; it has become a very lengthy document, perhaps the longest document as Mr. Ruthnaswami wanted it to be. But, has that given me more powers, or more taxation proposals? Has it taken away any of my burdens? The burden of the poor man still rests with State Government. For instance, Education, rural communications, rural water-supply and every blessed thing that the poor man wants in a village is still the responsibility of the State Governments. At least if the Government of India had taken away elementary education because they wanted to have elementary education even in the Centre, then they could say, all right, this responsibility we are taking away from you, you may go along with the other things. It has not been done. So, all the things which had been the responsibility of the State from 1920 onwards are still there and not one of them has been taken away by the Centre. But, some of our taxation proposals on our credit side have been touched by them. Our sales tax which was purely a provincial privilege has been encroached upon in the same manner. Then, there is the Republican Parliament in Delhi and so, hereafter we have to get the concurrence of the Parliament or the assent of the President in certain matters. Without giving me any more money and retaining all the responsibility the Constitution has come to us, but that does not mean we have got increased powers for solving our going problems.

"In addition to these, we have also seen the Deshmukh Award, which again is going to cut half a per cent off from our divisible pool of income-tax. After all, the total responsibility may be more, but had our 18 per cent been retained we would have got 20 to 30 lakhs more, but due to the clamour of other provinces, especially, Bengal and the Punjab. Mr. Deshmukh went into the question and the result of his Award was that instead of 18 per cent, we will have only 17.5 per cent hereafter. Therefore, Sir, the Republican Constitution which has been framed by all the members of the Constituent Assembly including Mr. Nagappa, has not given me any more financial powers as I have already stated and therefore, Sir, it cannot be said that the Constitution can change the power of our people overnight.

7-30
p.m.

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"There is also another point in this connection. The Government of India, owing to their own financial difficulties, have been pleased to cut down their grants to our province by 3 crores next year. We have taken credit for 5 crores this year two crores in respect of procurement bonus, i.e., we get 8 annas on every maund we procure and that comes to 2 crores—; they have also promised us 1.5 crores for the Grow More Food schemes and another 2.5 crores for post-war development schemes, total being 5 crores. As I have stated already, they have promised to give us only 2 crores under the procurement bonus for the next year and so we have taken credit only for 2 crores instead of the existing 5 crores. There again there has been a drop of 3 crores. Thus, the financial burden of the Government of India due to our province on these three counts will be 2 crores in 1950-51, instead of 5 crores this year. With all that, even with the loss of 3 crores of rupees straightaway and with the Deshmukh's Award which resulted in a net deficit of about 20 lakhs of rupees, Sir, we have not stopped any of our development programmes, but have tried to give some amounts, however, for expenditure on various nation-building departments, which are growing from year to year.

"Sir, in spite of this, my hon. Friends have not taken the trouble of looking into the Budget Memorandum where all the figures for 1944-45, 1946-47 and subsequent years are given. For instance, Education, Medical, Public Health, Irrigation, Agriculture, Veterinary, Co-operation, Industries, are some of the nation-building departments and the expenditure in regard to all these departments was—

	RS.	LAKHS.
In 1944-45	..	8.10
In 1945-46	..	9.92
In 1946-47	..	13.23
In 1947-48	..	16.91
In 1948-49	..	19.90
In 1949-50	..	24.49
In 1950-51	..	26.10

(Revised Estimate for the current year) and (Budget Estimate).
So, you will see, Sir, that from 8,10 lakhs in 1944-45 we have increased it to Rs. 26,10 lakhs, all within five or six years. If it is suggested that all this money has not resulted in any amenities of the people and all this increased amount has gone to waste and people have not seen any change even after the advent of the Congress Government. Then, it is a very serious reflection and if you take the entire administration from 1944-45 you will find that while we spent only 8 crores in 1944-45, it has now gone up to 26,10 lakhs."

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SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"I was only asking, Sir, whether the increase from 8 crores to 26 crores of rupees is a real increase in expenditure or it simply represents the phenomenal cost of labour and other charges."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Whatever it is, it represents the revision of scales of pay, dearness allowance and also cost of labour, etc., but on the financial side it is a burden all the same and whether it is the question of revision of scales, or the opening of more schools or the appointment of more teachers, it does not matter, but as far as the Finance Department is concerned it has cost us 26,10 lakhs while it cost us only 8,10 lakhs in 1944-45. After all, the revision of scales is necessary, labour also has to be paid more and money has to be found for these and it is for the Government to find it. Then, coming to the question of additional cost, either because of higher wages or higher prices of materials or dearness allowance to teachers, whatever it is, quantum of money is the same and we have to meet the expenditure. (An hon. Member: 'Is it the effect of devaluation?') Yes, the rupee has lost its value. You want to say that what we give is not the real value and what is given is bogus money. It does not mean all that. Perhaps your rupee also is a bogus rupee. You think your giving 8 annas is one rupee and I say what I give as one rupee I spend all the 16 annas in the rupee. I say we are getting 16 crores under the sales tax. You say it is due to the false value of money. It cannot be that the 16 crores mean 6 or 8 crores. (An hon. Member: 'Where are the amenities then?') You ask about the amenities, but I ask what about the expenditure. You are looking at it from the point of view of amenities, but I am looking at it from the point of view of finance and the necessity of producing the necessary money for expenditure on the departments. Then you ask about the number of schools. So, Sir, I have to look into various other things. For instance, why don't you look at the number of pupils that are attending the schools. For instance, it may be the case of a school with one teacher previously, but that school may now have three teachers and there will be a large number pupils studying. So, you are merely looking into the number of schools and not into the number of students attending them. That is a very cheap way of getting away from facts. (Janab M. Muhammad Ismail: 'There are the figures.') Yes, I am thankful to the hon. Leader of the Opposition for giving figures. In fact, he is the only hon. Member who has referred to the number of pupils, while everybody else, including the papers, think only in terms of the number of institutions. The hon. Leader of the Opposition has touched upon the real point. We have appointed more teachers in order to enable more and more pupils coming to schools. So, Sir, we have made sufficient progress in that direction. I do not know whether any other province has made such a progress. Even in Bombay, I think, they are spending a high percentage on Education, but the percentage of our expenditure on Education is really over 20 per cent and barring perhaps Bombay, no other province is spending as much on Education as we are spending to-day.

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"Sir, even in regard to Irrigation and Electricity we have been incurring large sums of money. Under capital expenditure we have incurred the following expenditure in:—

1945-46		1 crore.
1946-47		2 crores.
1947-48		6 crores.
1948-49		8.5 crores.

I may point out that these figures do not represent Budget Estimates but only actuals. Budget figures are only estimates and speculation, but if you look into the actuals you will see what has been done and what has not been spent. So, instead of looking merely into the Budget estimates for the next year which is after all a gamble—it may also be exceeded at times—if you will look into the accounts of the previous year then you will get a correct picture of what has been spent on the various departments.

"Then under capital expenditure on nation-building activities we have incurred large amounts and, I think, Sir, during the last four or five years we have certainly spent more money on these nation-building activities, but as I said, the enormity of the problem is such that we have to spend to-day 26 crores of rupees, and while our expenditure was about 8 crores in 1944-45 it has reached a figure of about 26 crores during the last five or six years. Whatever we do may perhaps look like a drop in the ocean for some time to come, because things have been neglected for decades and centuries and so this may seem insignificant or infinitesimal, as compared with the enormity of the problem, but that is the legacy we have got from the previous administration.

"Sir, it will therefore be seen that we have increased our expenditure on various departments and we can safely tell the electorate, if the elections are held in February 1951 it may be before the next Budget—this is what we have done; we have abolished the zamindaris; we have introduced Prohibition and we have also introduced the Temple Entry Legislation. These are the major reforms we have made and on the various departments we have been spending various amounts from year to year. For instance, irrigation is of vital importance to agriculture and perhaps a greater drive will be given for rural communications, sanitation, etc. But, just now our main drive is towards irrigation and electricity and perhaps we have to divert a little to rural communications and sanitation also. Therefore, Sir, there is nothing we need be ashamed of with regard to the Budget proposals because within our limited circumstances we know we have done rather well in these five years.

"Then, Sir, Mr. Nagappa is always fond of referring to the Harijans. I know their difficulties and I know how hard put they are for want of housing accommodation, agricultural land, etc., but even in regard to these things we have budgeted for 93 lakhs of rupees in the year 1950-51. I ask him Sir, is that

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amount? It may after all be a small percentage and as I said, while in 1938-39 the amount spent was only 10 lakhs, now it has come up to 93 lakhs. Since Rajaji's time it has been increased nine times or 900 per cent under various heads. Yet, Mr. Nagappa will never have a kind word to say for what has been done for the Harijans. Of course, he represents their difficulties and their difficulties are no doubt there, but I would also tell him to kindly acknowledge what is being done on behalf of the Government. Taking into consideration the number of scholarships, the number of hostels and other facilities given to Harijan students and also in regard to services, etc., I think we have done fairly well.

"Sir, there is nothing more I have to say. I am indeed 7-45
thankful to the various suggestions made and the advice given p.m.
by hon. Members and I shall certainly take all the criticisms and the comments they have made in the spirit in which they were offered. We have our difficulties, but the country is looking forward to many things. But, Sir, I may again repeat myself that all these things cannot be done, say within five or ten years. It takes at least quarter of a century before we could see the full fruits of our Republic and our Independence.

"A mighty effort has to be made for the co-operation of everybody before we can say that we have done something tangible. I thank you, Sir, once again for the very co-operative spirit in which the Chair has conducted the proceedings; yourself, the Deputy Chairman and the panel of chairmen. I have nothing more to say, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"I rise on a point of information, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Does not the hon. Member think that he has ample opportunities to raise his point at the time when the Demands for Grants are moved?"

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"My point arises out of the debate that has taken place. The Hon. Minister has failed to answer the question raised by me and other Harijan members here, as to why money was being deducted from the one crore fund maintained for Harijan Welfare intended for Harijan amelioration work in rural areas, and is being utilized for paying scholarship, etc., to Harijans living in towns and cities? So far, 46 lakhs has been taken away."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"They might stay in towns and cities; but most of them are coming from rural areas. Apart from that, the expenditure on Harijan uplift has been going up so tremendously from year to year that we have to find enough money to meet it. We have taken 1948-49 as the basic year, because we took the decision for Harijan uplift in that year, and we have taken this year's expenditure, that is, 68 lakhs as the basis, and anything in excess of 68 lakhs we have to debit to this one crore fund."

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Why not debit it to the general revenues?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Otherwise there will be no money available. It may be we may have to spend 90 lakhs or even 126 lakhs. If the one crore is exhausted, who prevents the hon. Member from asking for another crore; so we propose to debit the entire expenditure in excess of 68 lakhs to Harijan Uplift Fund.”

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—“What about the sales tax appellate tribunal?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“There is a special officer appointed to prepare the Sales Tax Manual. When that work is finished, we shall take up that question.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I now adjourn the House till 11 o'clock, Friday, the 10th instant.”

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, the 10th March 1950.

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

I.—SWEARING-IN OF MEMBERS.

The following Members were sworn-in:—

- (1) Sri K. Kamaraj Nadar.
- (2) Srimathi Allum Sumangalamma.
- (3) Sri M. S. Pattabhiramayya.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Alleged death of a member of the Socialist Party in the Chervathur Police station.

[* 36-A Q.—

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member is not in his place. The answer will be printed in the proceedings.”]

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—“May I put the question on behalf of the Member, Sir?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Has the hon. Member been authorized to put the question?”

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—“No, Sir. That is why I asked, ‘May I put the question on behalf of the Member?’”

MR. SPEAKER:—“No, the hon. Member cannot put the question on behalf of the Member.”

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

(a) whether it is a fact that one Mr. Kannan, a member of the Socialist Party, died in the Chervathur Police station;

(b) if so, what the reason was for his sudden death;

(c) when he was arrested and when he died; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the policemen beat this poor man in their custody so severely that it resulted in his death?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“(a) to (d) No person by the name of Kannan was arrested by the Chervathur Police and no person by that name died in the Chervathur Police station.”

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Employment Exchanges.

* 37 Q.—JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN (on behalf of Janab S. Muhammad Ismail): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of persons registered in various Employment Exchanges in the State and the number of persons who secured jobs through the agency of these organizations; and

(b) whether the expenditure of running these exchanges are shared by both Provincial and Central Governments and if so, what the share of the Madras Government is?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) The number of persons registered for employment in various Employment offices in the Province as on 1st February 1950 is 658,204.

“(b) Yes, Sir. The expenditure is shared by the Provincial and Central Governments in the ratio of 40:60. For the year 1949-50, the share of the Madras Government is Rs. 2,18,600 and that of the Central Government is Rs. 3,28,900.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I know what is the procedure adopted by the Employment Exchange for securing employment?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The procedure consists in the unemployed person first registering his name in the registry office of the Employment Exchange at Mount Road where the names are registered. The names are recorded in the files of the Employment Exchange. Then the exchange gets into the other part of the business of finding employment for them. It interviews the candidates and finds out their capacity for employment and all these things. Then an interview is arranged, if necessary, with the employers who offer employment.”

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“Sir, in view of the good work done by this department, may I ask whether the Government will never think of closing down some of the branches of the Exchange in the Province?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“It is a provincial organization, Sir. As long as there is work enough for the Employment Exchange, I assure the hon. Member that the Exchange will continue.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“May I know, Sir, what it costs to the Madras Government? It is said that the Government of India pay Rs. 2 lakhs?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The hon. Member is mistaken, Sir. The Government of India are paying over Rs. 3 lakhs and the cost to the Madras Government is over Rs. 2 lakhs.”

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SRI B. S. MURTHI:—“May I ask, Sir, whether the Government are satisfied that for an expenditure of over Rs. 2 lakhs by this Government and an expenditure of over Rs. 3 lakhs by the Government of India making a total of over Rs. 5 lakhs, finding employment for 145,852 persons is commensurate enough, and whether this money could not be spent better for giving more employment?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The ratio between the money spent and the number of persons employed is not the criterion to judge the work of this department. For the first time in our Province the work of finding employment for the unemployed has been taken up. If we have to go by strict economic standards of these figures, it will be practically impossible to do any work. The Government are perfectly satisfied with the work already done, and in so far as the amount spent is concerned, they feel that it is well spent.”

MR. B. W. BATCHELOR:—“May I ask, Sir, whether the Government are satisfied that these 145,000 people who secured jobs through the Employment Exchange could not otherwise have found employment through their own efforts?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“It is a matter for speculation, Sir. Here is a record from an office which has worked out and given us the figures. What otherwise would have happened is a matter for speculation. Anyone can draw his own inference.”

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—“The Hon. Minister said that this is a Provincial or State department. But so far as I know, in Visakhapatnam, there is an Exchange office which is a Central Government office. May I know the relationship between the Employment Exchange organization of this Government and the organization of the Central Government?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“I would like to inform the hon. Member that there is only one Employment Exchange, which belongs to the State and which has branches in all the districts of this Province. The Government of India have nothing to do in the matter.”

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—“Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister that 145,852 persons were employed through this agency, may I know how many were employed in this State and how many were employed by the Government of India?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“I do not have these detailed figures. As far as I know, a good proportion has been employed in the City of Madras.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Sir, in view of the fact that the Government have recognized the usefulness of this department, may I know whether there is any proposal to extend this department to each and every taluk headquarters and, if so, when?”

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"As regards the expansion of this department, it certainly depends on the use which the public and the unemployed make of it. The Government are certainly interested in finding employment for those that are unemployed."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"In view of the fact that this Employment Exchange has been doing very good work so far, may I know, Sir, what further steps the Government propose to take by way of propaganda and publicity to increase the utility of this department which is now able to find employment for only 20 per cent of the people who are unemployed while the remaining 80 per cent have not yet found employment?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"As it is, Sir, the Government have got an enormous waiting list to be dealt with and we do not want to invite more work until we are satisfied that we have done the work given to us. We are doing our best to employ them. When once the need for greater employment is stressed by hon. Members, we shall think of increasing the utility of this organization."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Government have issued orders to the effect that no vacancy in the Government departments should be filled except through the Employment Exchange?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The Government have got their own methods of getting the workers they want, their stipulated examinations and their own bodies and agencies which do this work. In so far as this organization is concerned, we have offered our services to the Police Department as well as the Public Works Department and any other department of the Government where man-power is required."

JANAB M. V. HYDROSS:—"May I know whether the communal Government Order is followed in the matter of recommending the names of candidates by the Employment Exchange?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"There is no such thing as communal distinction in the Employment Exchange."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government intend to close down the Employment Exchange in this City?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"No, Sir."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Employment Exchange is getting full support and co-operation from the local firms, mills and large employers of labour in the Province?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, we are soliciting their help as far as it lies in our power. I dare say that

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those people who appreciate the work that we are doing are offering their help to the extent that is possible for them. Certainly we will welcome more such help."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, out of the one lakh and odd persons who have been found employment through the Exchange, how many belong to the educated classes, how many are skilled workers and how many unskilled workers? If figures on this basis are provided, we will have an opportunity of knowing how many educated unemployed there are in this Province?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"These figures are not available, Sir. But if hon. Members require that information, I shall call for it and give it to them when it is obtained."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Are the activities of the 11:15 a.m. Employment Exchange confined only to the military people, or do they extend to civilians? And if so, out of the lakh and forty-five thousand people, how many are civilians?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I may inform the hon. Member and he may take it that all these consist of only civilians. The Employment Exchange is a general employment exchange, and it is not confined to the military personnel."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"The Hon. Minister says that it is a State department; if that is so, why did it become an item of retrenchment under the Government of India retrenchment programme?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is because the Government of India have advised this Government to undertake the work and they also promised financial assistance according to the ratio I have mentioned. While we act in co-operation with the Government of India in such a useful purpose, it is necessary that we should also agree to their proposal in respect of a matter in which they are also interested."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that six lakhs of persons are registered in the various Employment Exchanges in this State, will he be pleased to state whether the Government have any statistics of the total number of unemployed in this State?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"No, Sir."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know whether these Employment Exchanges have not come into existence for providing employment for ex-servicemen mainly and then extended to the civilians? Then, how can the Hon. Minister say that almost all of these 145,852 are civilians?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The Employment Exchanges were originally intended for ex-servicemen, but later on they were taken over by the Labour department

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of the Government of India who are very much interested in the unemployment problem for the whole of India; and this State, as part of the Indian Government, have also undertaken some amount of responsibility, not only for military men but for civilians also. I may also inform the hon. Member that we do not make any difference between civilians and non-civilians."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I know, Sir, as a piece of information, under what head of administration the accounts relating to this subject of Employment Exchange are to be found in our Budget Estimates, which Minister is dealing with this subject and whether any administration report is being published by this Government on this subject?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"This department is only a little less than a year old; for statistical and administrative purposes it comes under the head of the Labour department of the Government. With regard to the Government of Madras, I am supposed to be in charge of this department."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"So, it is a department relating to the Government of India and not to this State? Am I right?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"No, Sir; it is as much a department of the Government of India, as it is primarily a department of this State, for which we are responsible."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"The Hon. Minister was asked how many out of 145,852 were used in this Province and how many outside and he was not able to give the information. May I know on what basis the expenditure of Rs. 6 lakhs and odd has been shared between this State and the Government of India?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have already given the information, Sir. If the hon. Member had listened to my reply, he would have known that we share the expenses in the ratio of 40 to 60; this Government bear 40 per cent and the Government of India bear 60 per cent."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have already allowed twenty minutes to this question."

The Ghiriyar Project in Tirunelveli district.

* 38 Q.—**SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:** Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state since unstarred question No. 7 was answered on 24th November 1949, at what stage the Ghiriyar Project in Tirunelveli district stands now?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"The Government have since sanctioned the detailed investigation of the Ghiriyar Project and the necessary staff therefor."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that the necessary staff has been appointed for investigation?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I should like to have notice."

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SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"Is there any agreement between our Government and the Travancore State Government about this particular dam?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"The consent of the Government of the Travancore-Cochin Union has been obtained for doing the investigation work on their side."

Private Livestock Breeds.

* 39 Q.—**SRI S. NAGAPPA:** Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute a sub-committee to give assistance to the private livestock breeds;

(b) if so, when the Committee will come into existence; and

(c) if it is already functioning, what the functions and privileges of the members of that Committee are?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" (a) No, Sir."

" (b) & (c) Do not arise."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"If the answer to clause (a) of the question is in the negative, Sir, may I know how the Government propose to increase the livestock of this Province?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The Government have recently sanctioned a scheme of assistance for private cattle-breeders. Probably, the hon. Member is referring to that."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTI:—"May I know how the constitution of a sub-committee can assist livestock breeds?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"To whom is the question addressed? Is it to the hon. Member who has put the question? If so, it cannot be done."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that recently a scheme of assistance has been sanctioned by the Government, may I know what are the salient features of that scheme?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Assistance will be given in the form of subsidies and loans; a provision of Rs. 1 lakh has been made for this purpose."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Is it a fact, Sir, that there has not been enough stud-bulls either to increase the enterprise or to necessitate the appointment of a committee?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"About 1,600 stud-bulls have been distributed under various schemes in the province. The Government know this is not sufficient for the purpose. The method of artificial insemination has been successfully worked at the Veterinary College, and it is proposed to extend it. Two more centres have recently been opened for artificial insemination work."

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SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware that the Ongole breed is getting deteriorated and may I know whether any steps are being taken to regenerate them? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" I do not know that the Ongole breed is getting deteriorated. Anyway, all that is necessary for improving the breed of cattle to the extent our resources permit is being done."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" May I know whether the Government are satisfied with the success with regard to the application of artificial measures? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" Very well satisfied, Sir; the hon. Member may any day walk into the Veterinary College premises and see what is being done and what success has been obtained."

Appointment of Judges of the Principal City Civil Court and the Additional City Civil Court.

* 40 Q.—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN (on behalf of Janab B. Pocker): Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) for the past how many days the Principal City Civil Court and the Additional City Civil Court were not functioning;

(b) what the reasons are for the same;

(c) whether it is a fact that a large number of litigant public are put to irreparable loss and injury as they were unable to move the Court in urgent matters as there was no presiding Judge in either the Principal or the Additional City Civil Court; and

(d) whether the Government have taken any steps to redress the grievance of the litigant public in the matter?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" (a) The post of Principal Judge, City Civil Court, was vacant from 31st January 1950 to 11th February 1950 and that of Additional Judge from 19th January 1950 to 20th February 1950.

" (b) Promotions of the incumbents of these posts and difficulties in the posting of their successors without any time-lag.

" (c) The answer is in the negative. The High Court on its Original Side has concurrent jurisdiction with the City Civil Court and no difficulty could have existed. The office of the City Civil Court was working throughout to receive plaints, etc.

" (d) Does not arise."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that the litigant public were as a matter of fact put to considerable difficulties because one court had not functioned for one month and another for nearly 11 days? Will he make enquiries and find out? "

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" On the other hand, Sir, the report from the High Court shows that it has not received any complaint from anybody."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" May I know if there are other cases where courts were closed for want of posting of officers? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" A separate question may be put, because I have not got statistics for the whole province with me now."

Starting of Glass and Coir Manufacturing Factories.

* 41 Q.—JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN (on behalf of Janab S. Muhammad Ismail): Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government propose to start Glass and Coir Manufacturing Factories in the State under the State Trading Scheme, in order to give employment to ex-tappers and if so, whether any plan is under the consideration of the Government?

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—" The Government have sanctioned a scheme for establishing a large scale coir factory at Beypore which is ultimately expected to assist ex-toddy tappers to find employment.

" There is no proposal to start any commercial glass factory by the Government."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I know whether the ex-tappers have any knowledge of glass or coir making? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—" They will be employed there when the factory starts work."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know whether the Government will consider the desirability of starting such factories elsewhere in the State, and if so, in which places? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—" Not now, Sir."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware that there is a large-scale coir industry in the East Godavari district, especially in the Amalapur area, and may I know what steps the Government are taking to see that ex-tappers in that area are being provided employment? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—" There it is on a cottage industry basis; but here they are going to start a factory on a large-scale basis in Beypore."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" Are the Government aware that private glass-making industry is being carried on at Mettupalayam; if so, will the Government see that ex-tappers are given facilities for getting employment there? "

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—" It is a matter for that private establishment."

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SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—“ Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to start a coir industry in the Tiruchendur and Nanguneri taluks of the Tirunelveli district? ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ A separate question may be put.”

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—“ Is it not a fact that due to lack of exports, several of the coir factories are closing down? If that is a fact, what is the use of starting new factories? ”

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—“ I have no information on that.”

JANAB M. V. HYDROSS:—“ May I enquire how many ex-tappers are employed at the coir factory at Beypore? ”

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—“ It has not started yet.”

The Vaigai Reservoir Scheme.

* 42 Q.—SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the execution of the Vaigai Reservoir Scheme has begun; and

(b) whether this scheme will affect the present supply of Vaigai water to ayacuts in Manamadura, Paramakudi and other areas in Ramnad district?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ (a) No. Plans and estimates are being scrutinized by the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department (Irrigation).
“ (b) No.”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“ May I know whether the Government are aware of the fear expressed by the ryots in the Ramnad area that on account of this Vaigai scheme, the present water they are getting will be affected? Have the Government examined this question, and if so, will they issue a press communiqué stating how it will be affected and satisfy the ryots? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ The Government are aware of the fears expressed by some people and the Government have assured themselves and assured those people that the fears are unfounded. Only the surplus water that is now falling into the Arabian sea is sought to be harnessed under this scheme. I have explained in a well-attended conference the position and assured the people that it will not affect existing interests. Again, this answer given on the floor of this House will be sufficient to assure all concerned that no existing interests will be affected by the scheme.”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“ May I know whether this reservoir scheme is likely to benefit any area in the Ramnad district; if so, what is the extent of land in the Ramnad district which will get water-supply? ”

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ I do not think any area in the Ramnad district will be benefited by this scheme.”

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU:—“ May I know from the Hon. Minister when this scheme will be executed, whether this year or next year? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ I expect to get the scheme sanctioned in about three months.”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“ May I know whether the Government are aware of the fact that in the recent Engineers' Conference at Mathurai, it was pointed out to the Minister that by this scheme about 6,000 to 7,000 acres of land in Sivaganga taluk can be supplied with water, and that it was feasible also? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ I am not aware of that; it all depends on the availability of water. From out of the water available, only 17,000 acres will be brought under irrigation, out of which 11,000 to 12,000 will go to the dry areas of the Tirumangalam taluk in Mathurai district and the other 5,000 acres will be in the nature of extensions under the present Periyar system.”

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—“ May I know, Sir, the total amount expected to be spent on this Vaigai Reservoir? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ The Chief Engineer has not yet submitted his final estimate.”

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—“ May I know where the Reservoir under this scheme is going to be situated? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ That will be in a site in the Periyakulam taluk.”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“ Since this Vaigai river belongs not only to Mathurai but also to Ramnad, will the Government consider the desirability of giving at least a minimum supply of water to the Ramnad district also which is most essential? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ It is a misnomer to call it Vaigai scheme. It is the waters of the Periyar that have to be harnessed and brought into the Vaigai.”

Smallpox in the City.

* 43 Q.—SRI B. S. MURTHI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of attacks of smallpox in the City of Madras during December 1949 and January 1950;

(b) the number of deaths during that period; and

(c) the preventive measures taken?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ (a) & (b)

	Attacks.	Deaths.
December 1949	108	22
January 1950	471	62

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- “(c) (i) isolation of all notified cases in the Infectious Diseases Hospital;
- (ii) protective vaccination against smallpox;
- (iii) intensive inspections with a view to detect unnotified cases and isolate them in the hospital;
- (iv) disinfection of infected places; and
- (v) health education and propaganda to notify cases and to acquire protection by vaccination.”

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—“ Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister that the smallpox in the City was 400 per cent more in January 1950 than that in December last, may I know whether in the month of February it has gone down or increased? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ It has now gone down a good deal, Sir.”

Reconstitution of the Film Censor Board.

* 44 Q.—SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government have reconstituted the Film Censor Board;
- (b) whether any limit has been fixed with regard to the maximum strength of the Board; and
- (c) what the basis adopted for the selection of members for this Board is?

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

“(b) No statutory restriction, but the intention is not to make it unwieldy.

“(c) The general principles followed are that the Board should be of manageable size and the members should ordinarily be residents of Madras City. Representation is normally given to persons interested in the cinema and the dramatic art, the press, film associations, educational interests, women's associations, the Police department and the chief languages of the State.”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“ May I know, Sir, the reason for restricting the selection of members to the Film Censor Board only to Madras City? Is it the opinion of the Hon. Minister that persons living outside the Madras City and in the districts have no interest in or knowledge about cinema? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“ People outside Madras City may have very good interest and knowledge about cinemas but it will not be practicable or convenient to get them whenever they are required.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“ May I know, what is the manageable size? ”

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“ It is a matter entirely of opinion and I think a size within 30 will be manageable.”

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—“ May I know, if there are any lady members on the Film Censor Board, and if so, who are they? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“ I think about half-a-dozen ladies are on the Board. Since the hon. Member wants to know the names, I have got the names here and I will find out and give the names later.”

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“ In view of the fact that there are numerous cinemas spread over all the parts of the State in the mufassal towns and touring cinemas spread all over the mufassal parts, is it not necessary that rural representatives should be put on the Board, so that the interests of the general public may be represented on this Board? ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ That question has already been answered and if the Hon. Minister wants to repeat it I have no objection.”

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTI:—“ Is the Hon. Minister aware that while the Hon. Mr. A. B. Shetty was in charge of the Education portfolio he promised last year in this House that at the time of the next Constitution of the Board if any hon. Member of this House expressed his intention of being put on the Board he would also be included in the list and may I know, why the Hon. Minister has entirely forgotten that promise, because hon. Members of this House can claim to be representatives of the people as much as the Hon. Minister himself? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“ I remember to have heard the answer of my Hon. Colleague that the Members of the Legislature were not appointed and if they offered, their claims would be taken into consideration. I wish I had not been asked the reasons, but now, that the reason has been asked, I may say that the number applied was so much that either I had to fill the Board only with members or not and I found it difficult to choose between one or the other.”

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—“ Is there any lady Member of this House on the Committee? If not, will the Government consider the desirability of including a popular representative, at least one lady Member, on the Board? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“ There is no lady Member of this House as a member of this Board. In fact the President recommended a lady Member, but the Government declined to accept it for the reason that she was an M.L.A. I did not want to make a distinction.”

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN:—“ தலைவர் அவர்களே, அந்த Censor Board ல் எப்பொழுதும் இருக்கக்கூடிய ஆட்களே இருக்கிறார்களே; ஏன் புதிய ஆட்களைப் போடக்கூடாது என்று கேட்கிறேன்.”

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“புதிதான கூட்கள் ரொம்பஜாஸ்திப்பேர்கள் அந்த Board ல் இருக்கிறார்கள். பழைய கூட்கள் நல்ல வேலை செய்யும் பொழுது அவர்களை எடுப்பது சரியல்ல என்பது என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயம்.”

Committee for selecting Prohibition propagandists for Telugu districts.

* 45 Q.—SRI B. S. MURTHI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(a) whether a committee has been constituted for selecting Prohibition propagandists for Telugu districts;

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, the names of the members and the chairman and their duties;

(c) what the necessity is for such a committee and what the allowance to be paid to each member of the committee including the chairman is; and

(d) whether any selection was made, and if so, the number of candidates selected and the community to which each selected candidate belongs?

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—“(a) Yes:

“(b) The names of the Chairman and members of the Committee are—

(1) Dr. M. Rangayya, I.M.S., Eluru, West Godavari district, (Chairman).

(2) Sri Pidathala Ranga Reddi, Member, A.I.C.C., Giddalur, Kurnool district.

(3) Sri K. Dayananda Raju, Kakinada, East Godavari district.

“(c) In view of the duties attached to the posts of prohibition propaganda officer, it was thought that candidates with previous experience in social welfare, temperance and prohibition work should be recruited. The Government considered that the best method of recruiting such persons would be to entrust the work of scrutinising the applications and interviewing the candidates to *ad hoc* committees constituted for the purpose.

The Members are eligible only for travelling allowance.

“(d) The Committees have not yet sent the list of candidates selected by them.”

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—“May I know, Sir, why not even one Harijan has been appointed to the Committee?”

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—“I do not think it is possible to represent every community on the Committee.”

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—“May I know, Sir, the policy of this Ministry in constituting committees by putting in only nominees of their own, men who have no sympathy for the Harijan community?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Is the hon. Member making a speech?”

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SRI B. S. MURTHI:—“No, Sir. I want to know whether it is a fact that propaganda is to be carried on only amongst the poor people who mostly constitute the Harijans and not among the rich and influential people?”

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—“I am not prepared to accept the allegations; they are most unfounded.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“May I know what is the purpose of this Committee? Do they go and do propaganda for or against Prohibition?”

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—“The Committee does nothing of that sort. They only select propagandists and recommend names of propagandists and the Government may accept their recommendation or make changes.”

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—“Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Government of Madras have set up a new precedent of asking non-officials to select people to be employed by Government as against the usual procedure of Government officials or the Public Service Commission selecting persons?”

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—“I gave the reason in my answer to clause (c) of the Question. I expect this Committee to know the social workers better than the Government directly.”

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—“In view of the fact that propaganda for Prohibition is very necessary and it has been long overdue, may I know whether at least from the 1st of April next these propagandists will be employed?”

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—“I hope the Committee will be able to send the names of selected candidates very quickly and if they do send the list I will certainly see that they are appointed earlier.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I know, Sir, how many times the Committee met and how many candidates have been selected so far?”

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—“In reply to clause (d) of the question I have stated that they have not yet sent up the list of selected candidates. I hope the list has been made out and they will finalise the number quickly.”

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—“May I know whether the Government have prescribed any technical or educational qualification for these candidates to be selected?”

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—“Of course, general knowledge of the subjects of the day and previous experience of their propaganda work about Prohibition. These are the qualifications.”

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—“Is it the view of the Hon. Minister that right down from the Member of the Board of Revenue for Prohibition to the officials of the Prohibition

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Department in this province are incapable of selecting suitable candidates though of course, they may have to go to the districts to make the selection?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"It is not because they are incapable, but I thought the members of this Committee who are more in touch with people and who have been working in the Prohibition field since so many years, would be in a better position to contact people and select the candidates."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister realises that propaganda cannot be as effective as public opinion in the matter of Prohibition?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"It is only to create that public opinion that we are appointing these propagandists."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I know, Sir, whether it would not have been better for the Government to ask the Public Service Commission to make the recruitment and associate with the Commission any social worker who could have helped them in the choice of the candidates?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"It is because the Government did not think so that they have constituted this Committee."

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN:—"தலைவர் அவர்களே, Propaganda Committee என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டே இருந்தால் அதை எப்பொழுது தான் ஆரம்பிக்கப் போகிறீர்கள் என்பதை திடமாகச் சொல்லவேண்டுமென்று கேட்கிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"அப்பொழுதே ஆரம்பமாகி விட்டது. இன்னும் சில நாட்களில் எல்லா காரியங்களும் பூர்த்தியாகிவிடும். எல்லா appointment-ம் பூர்த்தியாகிவிடும்."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Sir, the Hon. Minister said in reply to one of the questions that in order to create public opinion these propagandists are appointed. Does that imply that there is no public opinion to back the Prohibition scheme in this Province?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"There is public opinion, but it is not enough and so we want to have much more favourable opinion in respect of Prohibition."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that public opinion in this province is definitely against the appointment of 400 propagandists and also in regard to the manner of their appointment and therefore is it not right that the Hon. Minister should cite public opinion?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"I think, Sir, it is the opinion of Mr. Raza Khan, or may be the opinion of his party, but I know the country as much as Mr. Raza Khan and I may assure him that the public are in favour of Prohibition."

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The Tungabhadra Project.

* 46 Q.—SRI B. S. MURTHI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the date on which the Tungabhadra Project was sanctioned;

(b) the progress so far made since question No. 187 was answered on the 24th November 1949; and

(c) the amount estimated and the amount so far spent?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" (a) The execution of the Tungabhadra Project was sanctioned on 23rd December 1944. The actual inauguration of the Project was on 28th February 1945.

" (b) The dam excavation has been nearly completed in all reaches upto the river margin, except in isolated portions, and excavation of about 5.93 million c.ft. out of a total quantity of 11 million c.ft. to be done, was completed by the end of January 1950. About 4,400 running feet of holes have been drilled and 3,034 running feet of holes have been grouted. About 28,300 c.ft. of concrete have been laid in isolated pockets in the foundations. The dam masonry is in good progress and about 6,59,400 c.ft. of masonry out of the total quantity of 16.3 c.ft. have been laid. The camp, at dam site has been completed and is being maintained properly. The work on the main canal is in good progress and out of 750 million c.ft. of excavation work, 335 million c.ft. has been completed. The construction of 34 bridges, 32 cross drainage works, one escape and one regulator has been completed; 17 bridges and 32 cross drainage works are in various stages of construction. Ninety-one per cent of the substructure work of the Hagari Aqueduct has been completed and the work on the superstructure is in full swing. The localisation of ayacut under the distributaries has been taken up. Satisfactory progress is being maintained in the construction of the dam on the Madras side in co-ordination with the work on the Hyderabad side.

" (c) The estimated cost of the project for the Madras side is Rs. 17 crores and the amount spent to end of January 1950 is Rs. 5.2 crores."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know, Sir, when the Government expect the project to be completed?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"It may be completed by the end of 1952."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government contemplate converting this into a wet scheme as well?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"The Govern- 11-48
ment have not yet taken up that proposal." a.m.

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SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Is it a fact, Sir, that there were differences regarding the construction of the dam and other details between this Government and the Hyderabad Government and may I know if those differences have been resolved?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"There have been some such differences between the two States in the past, but now all those differences have been resolved."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"May I know, Sir, if on account of the huge cost involved, namely, seventeen crores of rupees, other projects had to be kept in abeyance?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I do not think so, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know, Sir, whether the seventeen crores include the cost for the high-level channel on the Tungabhadra Project?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"No, Sir."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Is it a fact, Sir, that the work on this project has been very slow and there is dissatisfaction on that account?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"From the answer that I have just now given, it will be seen that it is not at all so; on the other hand, it is going on according to schedule and there is no room for any kind of dissatisfaction."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Hyderabad Government will also finish their side of the work by 1952?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I expect they will do it, Sir."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I know, Sir, whether the allotment made for the works at the headwork in the project will all be spent before the end of this year?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I have no idea whether the full allotment will be spent before the end of March this year."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I know if at least fifty per cent of the allotment would be spent?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Much more than fifty per cent has been already spent and I take it that the hon. Member is aware of it, Sir."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"May I know, Sir, how many miles of the canals have been dug?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Besides what I have already given, I have no information."

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

III.—HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY TO THE ADDRESS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have to report to the House His Excellency's reply to the address which runs as follows:—

'Dear Mr. Speaker,

I have received with great satisfaction your resolution of thanks for the address with which I opened the present session of the Legislature.'

IV.—RESIGNATION OF DR. P. SUBBARAYAN.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have also to inform the House that under the provisions of clause 3 (b) of Article 190 of the Constitution of India, His Excellency Dr. P. Subbarayan has tendered his resignation of the office of Member of the Madras Legislative Assembly with effect from the 2nd March 1950 and his resignation has been accepted."

V.—VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1950-51—cont.

DEMAND XXIX—FAMINE.

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

'that on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs under Demand XXIX—Famine.'

"It seems to be appropriate, Sir, that this particular demand should be the first to be discussed this year during the Budget Debate. Our State has been the unfortunate victim of cyclone, floods, tidal wave, and drought due to failure of rains. Madras is known to be a deficit State in the matter of food and the calamities that I have mentioned have added to the difficulties that have to be faced by the people of this State. No efforts have been spared by the Departments of the Revenue, Public Works, Agriculture and Food to meet the situation and hon. Members must be aware that a portion of the meagre quantity of water available for the generation of electricity has been diverted for the growing of food crops and the water of the beautiful lake at Kodaikanal, has also had to be used to preserve the standing crop that was threatened with failure. The Agricultural Department has been helping by the supply of pumping sets and the Department of Food has already taken up with the Government of India the need for additional supply of food. Procurement has been intensified and the movement of foodgrains to the affected areas from the surplus districts within the State has been planned and is being executed.

"This Demand provides for expenditure due to drought and other natural causes such as floods, cyclones, fires, epidemics, earthquakes and similar calamities."

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"In recent years (since 1945) the operations undertaken for the relief of distress on account of the causes mentioned above do not, however, strictly follow the provisions in the Famine Code. It has been found that the procedure laid down in the Famine Code which involves the opening of test and relief works and the payment of wages and the distribution of gratuitous relief in accordance with the provisions thereof created an undue amount of rigidity to the relief operations. The practice now followed in times of distress is, therefore, to expand the ordinary public works to provide employment to labourers and to pay wages based on the outturn. The expenditure incurred is debited to the ordinary departmental heads and not to the Famine Budget head which we have now under discussion. However, in the interests of the comfort and convenience of the labour, who are provided for in such works, the Government have to provide them with certain amenities, such as provision of accommodation, supply of drinking water near the place of temporary residence, and have also to provide ration shops where they can get the required rations at the controlled rates from out of the wages which they get in the works. In suitable cases gratuitous relief, that is payment of cash doles or opening of free kitchens (kanji thottis) have also to be provided to relieve the children and the decrepits who live with such of their relatives, who are able and bound by the custom of the country to support them. Babies have also to be provided with milk and given vitamin tablets to sustain them during this period of distress. Thus although the estimate for the main works is debited to the departmental head the several items of expenditure connected with various objects mentioned above are debited to the Famine Budget.

"Another important item which goes to the Famine Budget is the cost on account of measures to feed cattle. The provision of fodder for cattle is essential to the well-being of the agriculturists and for the preservation of local breeds and is second only in importance to the provision of foodgrains for people. The Government have, therefore, to make special arrangements to obtain fodder during times such as these, wherever there is likely to be a shortage.

"Apart from the provisions of expenditure for relief on account of adverse seasonal conditions mentioned above, this head includes provision also for relief from natural calamities such as damage and distress caused by floods and cyclones.

"During the year 1949-50 this State has had the misfortune to suffer under both the major calamities mentioned above, namely, cyclone and floods in the Northern districts in the first part of the year, and adverse seasonal conditions and drought in the latter half of the year in the Southern and Central districts.

"In September 1949, owing to heavy rainfall, there were floods in the Northern Circars and Ceded districts. The main districts affected were Guntur, Krishna, Nellore and parts of Bellary, Cuddapah, Kurnool also suffered. Within less than a month another calamity in the shape of cyclone affected the

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districts of Guntur, Krishna, East and West Godavari and Visakhapatnam. In November 1949, the havoc caused by the floods and cyclone was explained by me to this House on a special motion which I moved and hon. Members are aware of the extent of the damage caused and of the relief measures which the Government undertook in that connexion. I am glad to say that the prompt and adequate relief which the Government afforded have benefited the districts to a large extent and conditions are returning to normal.

"Even before the Government could complete their relief measures in this area, they had to face yet another natural calamity of a different nature in the Central and Southern districts. The distress in these districts was brought about by the lack of adequate rainfall and the consequent withering of crops and resultant unemployment among agricultural labourers and loss to the cultivators. The areas affected by this drought are:—

The entire districts of North Arcot, South Arcot, Chingleput, Ramnad and parts of—

- (1) Nagapattinam and Tiruthurai pundi taluks of Tanjore district,
- (2) Udayarpalayam and Musiri taluks of Tiruchirappalli district,
- (3) Dindigul, Palni, Tirumangalam, Nilakkottai and Periyakulam taluks of Mathurai district,
- (4) Nanguneri, Koilpatti and Sankarankoil taluks of Tirunelveli district,
- (5) Erode, Dharapuram, Palladam and Udumalpet taluks of Coimbatore district,
- (6) Uttangarai sub-taluk of Salem district,
- (7) Sullurpet sub-taluk and Venkatagiri taluk of Nellore district, and
- (8) Kalahasti, Puttur and Tiruttani taluks of Chittoor district.

"The people of the affected areas were naturally distressed about the state of things. The Government, as early as December 1949, deputed the four Members of the Board of Revenue to tour intensively these areas to study the conditions at first hand and were instructed to submit to Government the measures proposed to be taken to help the people of those areas. The Members of the Board of Revenue after their study, met and collated all their observations and sent up recommendations to Government suggesting ways and means to relieve distress. The Collectors of the districts are sending reports of the seasonal conditions and measures taken to relieve unemployment of the workers every week to the Government. Thus the Board of Revenue and the Government are keeping continuous vigil over the situation in all the affected districts.

"In pursuance of the recommendation of the Board, the Collectors of the districts have suspended the collection of land

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revenue; azmaish, has either been completed or is being completed and it is proposed to grant remissions of land revenue. They will be on the same liberal scale as before. The Collectors of the affected districts were also directed to undertake works to provide for employment to the agricultural labourers. The relief works undertaken include works in the Minor Irrigation programme and rural water-supply programme, grow more food works, etc. In some districts, road works under the Highways Department or under district boards have also been undertaken. These works are at present providing adequate employment to the labourers who are in need of work, and the Government have on hand estimates for further items of work, ready to be taken up as and when it is necessary. The hon. Members may, therefore, rest assured that the Government are ready to afford adequate relief to the people affected by the floods and cyclone and the adverse season.

12 noon. "I may now indicate for the benefit of hon. Members briefly the number of works which are at present in progress in the various districts—

Nellore.—In Nellore district, 38 grow more food works are in progress.

Chittoor.—Four minor irrigation works and 24 district board works are in progress. As unemployment and distress are apprehended in Kalahasti and Tiruttani taluks, the Collector has prepared a list of road and tank works for these areas and has applied for financial grants.

Chingleput.—In Chingleput district, 186 major irrigation works, 151 minor irrigation works, four grow more food works, 18 firka development works and 391 district board and Highways Department works have been taken up and are in progress.

North Arcot.—In North Arcot district, 62 major irrigation works, 145 minor irrigation works, 24 district board works, 16 food production works and 21 firka development works have been taken up.

South Arcot.—In South Arcot district, 42 major irrigation works, 158 minor irrigation works, 45 district board works and one food production work have been undertaken.

Tanjore.—Three minor irrigation works are under execution.

Tiruchirappalli.—In this district, 16 major irrigation works, 21 minor irrigation works, 21 district board works, two grow more food works and 29 firka development works have been taken up.

Mathurai.—Twelve minor irrigation works and 35 grow more food works are in progress in Mathurai district.

Ramnad.—Here 146 minor irrigation works, six district board works and 121 tank improvement works in the affected areas have been taken up.

Tirunelveli.—Here 31 minor irrigation works and 12 district board road works are in progress.

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Salem.—Two minor irrigation works have been ordered to be taken up in Uttangarai sub-taluk of Salem district.

Coimbatore.—In order to provide employment to the distressed agricultural labourers in this district, six district board road works have been opened. The Lower Bhavani Project work is already in progress. One hundred and fifty-eight drinking water well works have also been taken up in Dharapuram taluk, while 69 drinking water well works have been taken up in Palladam and Udumalpet taluks put together.

"So far as cyclone and floods in the Andhra districts are concerned, the Government sanctioned a total allotment of Rs. 21,28,000 in 1949-50 for meeting the expenditure necessary for granting immediate relief to the victims, by way of cash doles and building materials. In addition to this, an amount of Rs. 35,000 from the Krishna and Godavari Cyclone Relief Fund has been allotted for flood relief in the Guntur and Krishna districts. A sum of Rs. 2,45,115 has been collected by the Provincial and District Andhra Cyclone Relief Committees, and part of the amount collected has already been allotted by the Provincial Committee to the affected districts. For the fishermen affected by the cyclone in Amalapuram and Razole taluks in East Godavari district and Narasapur taluk in West Godavari district, an allotment of Rs. 60,000 has been made by the Government for purchase of nets and other fishing materials. The supply of seeds, manure and water for raising a second crop wherever possible, was also arranged, as it was reported that about three lakhs tons of food-grains were lost during the cyclone and floods. Full remission of land revenue for all wet crops with an outturn of six annas and less and half remission in cases where the outturn was more than six annas but less than eight annas were also given. The same scale of remission was given in respect of water-rate on dry lands cultivated with paddy and other crops.

"Scarcity of drinking water is felt in Ramnad and in Coimbatore districts. Instructions have been issued to the Collectors of these districts that, pending completion of the work of deepening of drinking water sources, drinking water should be supplied through Civil Supplies lorries and railways. Similar instructions have been issued to the Collectors of the other affected districts also.

"The provision under the Famine Code and the Agriculturists' Loans Act for the grant of subsistence loans which enable small agriculturists to carry on when on account of adverse seasonal conditions, they have got nothing from out of their lands is being applied in some of the affected areas as and when a need is felt.

"Grant of loans under the Takkavi rules is being made liberally where needed. The Collector of Coimbatore has been receiving applications in large numbers for loans under the Takkavi Manual mainly for the purchase of fodder in the affected taluks. Government have appointed special staff to dispose of these applications speedily.

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"There is provision in the Famine Code for the grant of relief to weavers and their families during times of scarcity. This year, the distress among weavers is due not so much to adverse seasonal conditions, as to the loss of markets for the finished goods and the recent short supply of some counts of yarn. This, coupled with the adverse seasonal conditions has affected some of the weavers very badly in Melapalayam Municipality in Tirunelveli district. The Government have already sanctioned gratuitous relief of Rs. 2-8-0 to Rs. 3 per weaver family per week. Government have also recently sanctioned a scheme of relief for weavers which applies not only to the Tirunelveli district, but also to other areas. It is expected that the new scheme sanctioned will go a long way to relieve the distress among weavers.

"An important item of urgent relief which is necessary at present is the provision of adequate fodder for the cattle of the agriculturists. Fodder scarcity has been reported from South Arcot and Coimbatore districts. In the case of South Arcot district, the question is not one of scarcity but of equalizing distribution, but, in the case of Coimbatore, there is actual shortage. As hon. Members are, no doubt, aware, Coimbatore is noted for some of the fine breeds of cattle, and the Government have to take every step to provide adequate means of obtaining fodder for the protection of such breeds. Under instructions from the District Collector, the District Forest Officer has opened some cattle pens where local cattle may come and graze. Arrangements have been made to fight the fodder scarcity by importing fodder from Salem and Tanjore districts. Three agencies in Dharapuram, one agency in Tiruppur, one in Perundurai and three in Udumalpet have been selected for importing fodder. So far, 201 wagons of fodder have arrived at Tiruppur and about 30 wagons of fodder would have reached Udumalpet by now. The special agencies for Dharapuram taluk have purchased fodder and are awaiting allotment of wagons for transport. The Chief Traffic Manager (Movement), South Indian Railway, has been specially addressed to give top priority in the matter of allotment of wagons next only to foodgrains, for the societies selected by the Collector. The question of obtaining concessional rates of freight for transport of fodder is also under correspondence.

"So far as South Arcot district is concerned, Government have under consideration the question of imposing a ban on the export of fodder and bran outside the district and it is considered that this measure would be sufficient to meet the needs of fodder in the scarcity areas of that district.

"There is one other important point which I would like to mention to this House, and it is this. Under the rules, the land revenue is payable to the Government by the registered holder of the land who in several instances may not be the actual cultivator. The benefit of remissions which the Government have given will, therefore, go to the landholder who may not often be the actual tiller of the soil. A tenant who has invested money for

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raising a crop which is unsuccessful is equally in need of relief. He is even in greater need of relief. It has been urged on the Government that legislation may be undertaken to compel the landowner to pass on to the tenant relief of the concession in the matter of rent in proportion to the land revenue remission granted to him. This point was pressed before me in my tour of the cyclone affected areas in the Andhra. At that time, I appealed to the landlords not to wait for any legislation to be enacted but that in the interest of equity and justice they must pass on the benefit to the cultivators. I am glad to learn that this appeal has had salutary effect. Naturally, the same kind of relief is needed to the suffering cultivator in the affected areas of the south also. The poor cultivator who has put in hard labour and his hard earned money finds that for no fault of his, the yield has either been poor, negligible or in some cases nothing. It is but right that he should get the concession. May I take this occasion to appeal to the good sense of the landlords to pass on the benefit to the actual cultivator and not to insist upon the contractual obligation?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Motion moved—

'that the Government be granted under Demand XXIX—Famine a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,00,000.'

"I fix three hours for this Demand and ten minutes for each speaker."

* JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 10,00,000 under Demand XXIX—Famine be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"Sir, I have heard with interest the speech of the Hon. Minister for Land Revenue with regard to the famine conditions in this province and the activities of the Government in order to give relief to the vast mass of people affected by the unfortunate incident in this province. Sir, the Hon. Minister opened his speech by saying that this State has been unfortunate in having to face a series of calamities and devastations. Sir, the question which has often been raised by the people is 'why such a calamity should happen in this province year after year?' 'Why the rains are failing; and why there should be cyclones? One of the ex-Premiers of this province has said that perhaps the failure of the monsoon and the calamities are due to the sins of the people! I do not know whether it is really due to the sins of the people or due to the fact that we have destroyed several of our forests. Any way, it is for the Government to look into this matter and see what the matter really is.

"With regard to the question of remissions, the Hon. Minister has detailed the several actions taken by Government. But somehow or other, I feel that the existing remission rules are so hopeless that the benefits rendered through these rules do not reach the people concerned. In this regard, several important

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members of the Congress Party including Mr. O. P. Ramaswami Reddiyar and my hon. Friend Mr. Avinashilingam Chettiyar have held that these remission rules require drastic changes and overhauling. The Hon. Minister only spoke about the proposed legislation; but I wish he had constituted a committee to go into this question of revising remission rules, so that the benefit that may accrue may really go to the people who are really affected. In his speech, the Hon. Minister said that there are a vast mass of landless labourers who did not get the benefit given under the Famine Code. When he himself has found how the Code is operating, is it not time that he constitutes a committee to go into this question? We have several times raised questions on the floor of the Assembly during question time with regard to the remissions given to various parts of the province, and the Hon. Minister had replied that on receipt of the reports from Collectors of districts action would be taken. But I ask, 'why should you collect land revenue from people of areas which are affected by drought or cyclone?' That is a hardship.

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"May I take this opportunity to give the hon. Member the information, that in such areas where it is reported that the lands are affected, land revenue collection has already been suspended."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"But it has been brought to my notice that land revenue is being collected from the area which has actually been affected. I say this, subject to correction. It was reported to me that land revenue is being collected even from people whose lands have failed."

12.15 p.m. "Again, Sir, a vast number of people who are affected by these cyclones and failures of monsoon are only the landless agricultural labourers. Therefore this is a national question to which the Hon. Minister for Revenue has already made reference in his speech, and I am sure that the Government will take immediate steps to tackle this question, so that these landless agricultural labourers are not put to periodical sufferings like this. I think, Sir, that the whole defect lies with the remission rules framed by the Board of Revenue. Unless these rules are revised suitably, I do not think the Government will be in a position to give necessary assistance to these people."

"Again, Sir, the Hon. Minister for Revenue mentioned several schemes of relief which the Government have put into operation, but he has not mentioned what arrangements have been made for the feeding of the population not depending hitherto on rations. This is also a serious question which requires consideration by the Hon. Minister for Revenue."

"Sir, in addition to the question of revising the remission rules, I would request the Hon. Minister for Revenue to see that the Famine Relief Fund Act is also suitably amended. He has himself said that in order to give relief to people affected by

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certain other causes, he had to deviate from the rules and regulations made under the Famine Relief Fund Act. Therefore it becomes obvious that the Act which was passed in 1936 must be so amended as to meet all situations and I hope that the Government will take immediate steps to see that this Act is properly amended.

"Sir, according to the Madras Famine Relief Fund Act, relief can be given only to those people whose lands are affected on account of the failure of monsoon. But there are also a vast number of people who are engaged in different occupations and they are also affected, it may be sometimes due to failure of monsoons, or sometimes it may be due to some other natural calamities and natural causes. Under the Famine Relief Fund Act, there is no provision to afford relief to the vast number of handloom weavers who are in need of relief and assistance to-day. I therefore request the Government to take steps to see that the Act is so amended as to enable that Fund being utilized for affording relief to people who suffer due to different causes other than the failure of monsoon and other natural calamities also."

"Sir, with regard to the Andhra cyclone relief, the Government have undertaken several relief measures and through those measures, they have rehabilitated a vast number of people. But in spite of these measures, I am given to understand that there are quite a lot of people who are still suffering from the disastrous floods that had overtaken that unfortunate part of this province. Sir, I belong to the south and the Hon. Minister for Revenue belongs to the Andhra districts and he is much more concerned than myself about his own people. But still, Sir, I would wish that all steps are taken to see that the people who are suffering are given some immediate relief."

"Sir, I do not propose to go further into this question. It is rather unfortunate, Sir, that our discussions on these Demands for Grants should have been so arranged as to begin with a subject like 'Famine' and end with 'Loans'. That is probably because the persons concerned with the preparation of the priority list for discussion have found no other better subjects to begin with and to end."

JANAB M. V. HYDROSS:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the cut motion moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Majid. In supporting it, I beg to bring to the notice of the Government an omission on their part to mention the various relief measures undertaken by them and the amount they are going to spend on them, in the various parts of this province, which are affected by the failure of monsoon and other natural causes, and particularly in the district of Malabar. Sir, I am sure, the Government are aware that on account of failure of monsoon, in the district of Malabar, especially in the taluks of Palghat, Walluvanad, Ponnani and Ernad, the paddy crops have been considerably affected. All these taluks are rice-producing areas in Malabar. I am sorry to say that no mention has been made by the Hon. Minister in charge of

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this portfolio about the relief which he has proposed to give to the various ryots affected in this area and I therefore request the Hon. Minister to conduct an immediate enquiry into this matter and see that necessary relief is afforded to the people affected in these taluks."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Motion moved—

'that the allotment of Rs. 10,00,000 under Demand XXIX—Famine be reduced by Rs. 100.'

A number of hon. Members have given notice of cut motions in respect of the various demands for grants. It is not necessary that all members should speak on all the cut motions given notice of by them. They may confine themselves to a few of them in which they are particularly interested, so that all members may have an opportunity to take part in the debate and speak on those cut motions on which they want to lay any special stress. I shall now call upon Dr. D. S. Ramachandra Rao to speak on his cut motion, under this Demand."

DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the cut motion moved by the hon. Gentleman, Mr. Majid, I want to bring to the notice of the Government the efforts that have already been made to render the required aid and assistance to the different districts in the province which were affected either by the recent cyclones or by drought. Sir, regarding the great cyclone in the Andhra districts, let me say, that I happened to be at that time in the town of Vijayavada, when the cyclone burst with all its fury in that city and in fact in the whole of those districts of the Circars. A week or two later I happened to go there again to see for myself the extent of the damage caused in the villages nearby and again two or three weeks after I went to these villages to see whether adequate measures had been taken to meet the situation and whether necessary relief had been given to the persons affected. No doubt, Sir, the Government have tried their very best to meet the situation, but at the same time, one has to realize that the havoc caused had been so great and the harm done had been on so colossal a scale that unless very great efforts are made to meet the situation, it would indeed be a very very difficult task for the Government to satisfy the wants and requirements of the people affected. Sir, I went from village to village and from small town to small town. My informants were not Government servants. I went direct to the people affected. I talked to them. I travelled with these people and I had discussions with them. When I first visited those villages, I could not get any real idea of the magnitude of the damages caused by the cyclone. But when I went the next time, I found that the damages done had been so great, that any amount of relief given by the Government would be hardly adequate. But, however, Sir, people are indeed very grateful to the Government for the sympathy they have shown and the attempts they have made to give relief to the victims affected. But a great many

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I was told that there was not only scarcity of foodgrains, because crops had been practically washed away, but there was also an acute scarcity of clothing. Women and children in particular suffered very much. Most of their clothing were either washed away or stolen. They had only one cloth which remained with them. Several workers who were rendering assistance on the spot and who were in the know of things told me that they would appreciate any help from other parts of the province, not so much in the form of money, but in the form of clothing because at that time, there was a tendency for prices of cloth to rise up owing to great demand. Women, in particular, were in great need of cloth.

"Again, Sir, I happened to meet a person who was a servant of the local board in a small town. I had conversation with him and I asked him what help he received and whether the condition was really so bad as it was made out to be. He said that conditions were really very bad indeed, and that he himself had lost almost every piece of cloth he had. Then I asked him, 'Have you got any money with you?' To this he replied, 'No'. Then I asked him, 'How are you getting on?' He said, 'We are really in a very awkward position. We feel ashamed to go and beg. Those who beg or clamour get some aid in the form of money or cloth; but those who want to preserve their self-respect, find it very difficult to get the aid they need.' Sir, that was the real situation.

"Then, Sir, I went to some of the fields to find out for myself the extent of damage caused and I asked some of the people there whether any Government official came over there to understand the situation. They said that none came to that village. Then I returned to the railway station and got into the train. A good number of people were sitting in the train and our conversation naturally turned to the havoc wrought by the cyclone and the floods. I asked one of them whether anybody came there to enquire into the grievances of the people affected and one person told me, 'Yes, Sir, a certain number of Ministers came to my village in a jeep and they were taken to a particular house and there they stayed for the whole day and in the evening they returned.' I asked him, 'What is the effect of their visit? Have you received any aid that you really need?' He replied, 'There was no aid given at present. But they have promised some aid in the future.' Then I asked him what was the kind of help that he required, to which he replied that if some help came in the form of cloth, it would be distributed only to the friends and favourites of the village officers and to those who have some influence with them. Therefore, Sir, the one way to tackle this problem is to set up a private committee in every village and in every small town with which the Government servants should co-operate and work. Otherwise there will be favouritism and nepotism in the matter of distribution and only a few people would get some aid.

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"Again, Sir, they said that this was the particular locality in the district which was periodically affected by floods and so they impressed upon me the necessity to have some drainage system by which the surplus water on account of floods could be carried over some miles outside the locality. I am speaking particularly of the Krishna district, where I have lived and worked for a number of years and it is there that we have periodical floods and cyclone havoc and unless some such drainage system is constructed, the problem of floods will always be there and the situation will not be permanently remedied, and any relief given during times of floods like this can only be a patching up affair.

"Sir, on the same day, I went to a place a little far away and found that there has been a devastating loss of food-crops. People have begun to grow more and more tobacco, where more food could have been grown. Some of the finest fields in which paddy could be grown have been changed over to the cultivation of tobacco, particularly of the Virginia variety. This no doubt means more money to the grower of tobacco, but it would take away the food from the mouths of so many people in this country, and therefore at a time like this, the Government must insist on the owners of these lands the necessity of growing more food-crops instead of commercial crops like tobacco for being exported to other countries.

"Unless a method is devised by which encouragement is given to the growing of food crops the problem would not be solved effectively. While the Government's efforts are appreciated, I think attempts should not be made entirely on the Government level, but people should co-operate with the Government to meet the demand and save the situation. Otherwise, however much money we may spend, there will always be discontent. This ought to be done so that the people might help themselves in their own way."

* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—
"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the cut motion, I wish to say a few words. Especially this year, this Demand has been taken up first, and under the existing conditions also, this Demand has to be taken up first. I also agree on the need to take up this Demand first. The Hon. Minister says to-day that there is famine. The question is, was there a time during Congress Ministry when there was no famine? Famine has been there always. Perhaps this year it may be a little more acute.

"Sir, when I went through the budget estimates and also the budget memorandum, I noticed a very surprising thing. For such an important item, the amount provided is only Rs. 9.4 lakhs (even this under 'Miscellaneous'). Of course provision is made on certain principles. There are about four or five items for which allotments are made. For about two or three items the demand was for Rs. 60,000 and for the fourth item the demand was for Rs. 9.4 lakhs out of Rs. 10 lakhs. An explanation has

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been given for the provision of Rs. 9.4 lakhs that it is for the purchase of fodder, protection of cattle, and other things. It was really very strange to note this, and here I am reminded of the Tamil proverb:

எரியும் வீட்டிற்குள்ளே குழந்தையும், கோழியும் தவிக்கும்போது, குழந்தையை விட்டு விட்டு கோழியை தப்பிவிடும் போனானும் முட்டான் மனிதன்.

When the house was on fire, and when a child and a fowl were inside the house, that fool went in, risking his life, to take out the fowl and not the child. (Laughter.) We are starving and we do not know what would happen tomorrow, especially when we see the statement of the Prime Minister for India which is alarming and threatening made on the 29th November 1949.

"Even if there is to be a cyclone or even if there be an earthquake, there will be no import of foodgrains after 1951. You should be even prepared to starve or solve the problem by increasing production. Why should Panditji threaten us like this? What are we to do if there is no import? If our Prime Minister is prepared to die for want of food and if the Hon. Ministers are also prepared to do so, we are also prepared to die. We do not have any power. It is in the hands of our Ministers. What is famine? Famine does not mean want of food alone. There may be famine for house, for peaceful life and other things also. The most important thing is the famine for food. Just now we have been hearing a long catalogue of items from the Hon. Minister, and we also heard that a number of things have been done in many places to do relief work. Sir, suppose every labourer gets Rs. 20 a day or Rs. 10 a day, what will he do with the currency notes or the coins? Will he eat them? Can he swallow the currency notes or gold or silver? There must be food. That is the chief thing. The Government may go on with so many works. They may sanction bonuses. But first of all our outlook should be to solve the food problem. There is the Tamil proverb which may be known even to Andhra Members of this House. It is 'பசிவந்திடப் பத்தும் பறந்து போம்.' This proverb carries a lot of meaning. I have no time to speak on the meaning of this proverb, because my time is limited."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has only four minutes more."

* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—
"The whole trouble is due to want of food. The Communist menace, murder, arson, looting and everything else are due to want of food. So, we have first to improve our food condition. Have not the Hon. Ministers seen in papers that in Tanjore district under a new method of agriculture, an acre has produced 6,350 lb., when the average yield in the State is only 1,250 lb. This year the produce is only 1,150 lb. per acre. The Government are under the impression that this State is deficit by only 5 lakhs of tons. Certainly not. This State is deficit by 10 lakhs of tons.

[Janab Sinna Kaziar Haji Moulvi S. A. F. Ibrahim] [10th March 1950]

I will tell how this figure is arrived at. In Andhra districts we have lost 3 lakhs of tons on account of cyclone. Till November 1949, the procurement of foodgrains in Tanjore district was less than the target by about 2 lakhs of tons. Already, this State is deficit by 5 lakhs of tons. The deficit on account of cyclone in Andhra districts and the short procurement in Tanjore district up to November 1949 alone come to 5 lakhs of tons. Added to the 5 lakhs of tons which the State is already in deficit, the total deficit comes to 10 lakhs of tons. Further, this year the monsoon has failed. It is possible that there is a still further deficit. Considering all these things, if only we solve our food problem, all other problems, like labour problem and wages problem, will be easily solved. I request the Hon. Minister to take note of these points and improve the food position of our State, and thus solve the famine problem in this State."

* Sri A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"கனம் சபா நாயகர் அவர்களே! நான் தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவிலிருந்து வந்தவன் என்பதற்காக, 'தஞ்சை ஜில்லா எங்கிலுமே பஞ்சம் கிடையாது' என்று பல அங்கத்தினர்கள் இங்கே கருதுகிறார்கள்: அது தவறு; அங்கேயும் பஞ்சப் பிரதேசமிருக்கிறது என்பதை அவர்களுக்கு ஞாபகமுட்ட விரும்புகிறேன்."

"கடற்கரையோரமாகவுள்ள மணற் - பிரதேசம் திருத்துறைப்பூண்டி, வேதாரண்யம், அரந்தாங்கி தாலுகாக்கள், ஆற்றுப்பாசனம் இல்லாத காரணத்தினால் மழை பெய்வதைப் பொறுத்தே—வானம் நோக்கியே—விளைவுக்கு வாழவேண்டிய நிலைமையில் இருக்கின்றதினாலேயே, கடந்த மூன்று வருஷ காலமாகத் தொடர்ந்து மழை பெய்யாத காரணத்தினால் அங்கே பஞ்சம் தலைவிரித்தாடுகின்றது. அங்கே ஜனங்கள் உணவு கிடைக்காது மிகுந்த கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். ஒரு வருஷ பஞ்சமாகியிருந்தால் அவர்கள் எப்படியோ சமாளித்துக்கொண்டு விடுவார்கள். ஒன்றை விட்டொரு வருஷமாயிருந்தாலும் கூட பரவாயில்லை. தொடர்ந்து மூன்று ஆண்டுகளாக மழையே இல்லாத காரணத்தினால் அவர்கள் எல்லோரும் உணவில்லாமல் வாடி வதங்கி விட்டார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு தானியம் நிறைய வெளியே கிடைக்கின்றது என்றாலும் விலை கொடுத்து வாங்க பணமில்லாது மிகுந்த கஷ்டத்திற்கு ஆளாகியிருக்கிறார்கள். எத்தனையோ இதர ஜில்லாக்களில் பஞ்சம் வந்த காலத்தில் தஞ்சை ஜில்லா அவர்களுக்கு உதவி செய்திருக்கின்றதினால், இப்போது தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவிற்கே அந்தப் பஞ்சம் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கின்றதினால் காலதாமதம் எதுவுமின்றி அர்க்கள் மூன்று ஆண்டுகளாக தொடர்ந்தாற்போல் மழையில்லாமற் போன தின் காரணமாக அவர்கள் பயிர் செய்வதற்கு விதையில்லாமல் கஷ்டப்படுகின்றார்கள். அந்த விதையை இப்போது பக்கத்து கிராமங்கள் எங்கே யிருந்தாவது வாங்கிவரவேண்டுமென்றால் அதற்குச் சட்டம் தடையாக யிருக்கிறது. அவர்கள் அம்மாதிரி விதைகள் வாங்கவும் அதை தங்க பிரதேசங்களுக்கு எடுத்துச் செல்லவும் பர்மிட்டுகள் (passports) தடைபடியாக வரப்போகின்ற வருஷத்திற்கு பயிர் செலவிற்கு வேண்டிய தானியங்களை தாராளமாக வாங்கிச் செல்வதற்கு காலகாரணம் எதுவுமில்லாமல் உத்திரவிடவேண்டும்; அப்படி உத்திரவிடத் தவறிவிட்டால் அடுத்த வருஷச் சாகுபடி தடைப்பட்டுப் போய்விடுமென்று ஞாபகப்படுத்த விரும்புகின்றேன். ஆகையால் அதை உடனே விரைவாகச் செய்யவேண்டும். இந்தச் சமயம் வரையில் அவர்கள் விதைக்குக்கூட நெல் இல்லாமலிருக்கிறார்கள். இத் தற்கு அரசாங்கம் உடனே இந்த உத்திரவை தந்தி மூலமாகவாவது அறிவித்து சாகுபடிக்குவேண்டிய தானியங்களை அவர்கள் வாங்கிச் செல்வதற்கு வசதி யளிக்கவேண்டுமென்று நான் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

10th March 1950] [Sri A. Vedaratnam Pillai]

"தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவில் ஆற்றுப் பாசனமற்ற அம்மாதிரிப் பிரதேசங்கள் பஞ்சத்தினால் பெரிதும் பாதிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்றதினால், அவைகளையும் பஞ்சப் பிரதேசமாக எடுத்துக்கொண்டு, அந்த இடங்களிலும் பஞ்ச நிவாரண வேலையைச் செய்யவேண்டும். அதே வேலை இனி அப்பிரதேசங்களில் பஞ்சம் வராமல் தவிர்ப்பதற்குரிய வேலையாகவும் இருக்கவேண்டும். சில நீர்ப்பாசன திட்டம் ஏற்படுத்தியிருக்கிறார்கள். குறிப்பாக திருத்துறைப்பூண்டி தாலுகாவில் 'முள்ளியாறு' திட்டம் இப்போது அமுல் நடந்து வருகிறது. அடுத்த வருஷத்தில் செய்ய ஒத்திப்போட்டிருப்பதை இப்போதே அவர்கள் செய்யத் துவக்கினால் மிக விரைவில், குறைந்த செலவில் அவைகளை முடித்துவிடலாம். அடுத்த ஆண்டு முதல் பஞ்சமே தோன்றாமல் தடுத்துவிட முடியுமென்று சொல்லுகின்றேன். ஆகையினால் மராமத்திலாகா மந்திரி அவர்களையும், ரெவின்யூ மந்திரி அவர்களையும் கவனத்துடன் உடனே இந்தப் பஞ்ச நிவாரண வேலையைத் துவக்க வேண்டுமென்றும், அதே சமயத்தில் இந்தப் பஞ்ச நிவாரண வேலை பஞ்சம் வராமல் தடுக்கின்ற பாதுகாப்பு வேலையாக இருக்கும்படி செய்ய வேண்டுமென்றும் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

"அடுத்தபடியாக அரந்தாங்கி, திருத்துறைப்பூண்டி தாலுகாக்களிலும் அதைச் சுற்றியுள்ள இடங்களிலும் தலைகாட்டியிருக்கின்ற பஞ்சத்தைத் தவிர்க்கப் பரிகாரம் தேடவேண்டும். அதற்கு முதல்படியாக இப்போது அந்த தாலுகாக்களில் விளைந்திருக்கின்ற கொஞ்சநஞ்ச தானியத்தையும் கொள்முதல்செய்து இதர ஜில்லாக்களுக்கு அனுப்பிவிடாமல், அந்தப் பஞ்சப் பிரதேசங்களுக்குப் போதுமான அளவு தானியத்தை ஒதுக்கிவைத்து விட்டுத்தான் பாக்கி தானியத்தை வெளியே இதர ஜில்லாக்களுக்கு அனுப்ப வேண்டுமென்று கொள்முதல்செய்யும் * அதிகாரிகளுக்கு அறிவிக்க வேண்டுமென்று நான் உணவு இலாகாவைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இப்போது அவர்கள் தீவிரமாகக் கொள்முதல் வேலையில் முனைந்து அங்கிருக்கும் சொற்ப தானியங்களையும் வெளி ஜில்லாக்களுக்கு அனுப்பி விடுவதால் உடனே இங்கிருந்து உத்திரவிட்டு அதை தடை செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். தொடர்ந்தாற்போல் மழை இல்லாமல் இப்பிரதேசங்களில் பஞ்ச நிலைமை அதிகரித்துவிட்டதின் காரணமாக, அங்குள்ள ஜனங்கள் வேலை கிடைக்காமல், உணவில்லாமல் வேறு இடங்களுக்கு குடிபெயற ஆரம்பித்து விட்டார்கள். ஆகையால் அவர்கள் அங்கேயே தங்கும்படி செய்வதற்கு உடனே பஞ்ச நிவாரண வேலையை துவக்கவேண்டுமென்று நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

"இப்போது அரசாங்கம் இந்தக் கொடிய பஞ்சத்தைத் தவிர்ப்பதற்காகவும், பஞ்சத்தினால் ஒரு ஆள் கூட மாளாமல் பாதுகாக்க வேண்டுமென்றும் முயற்சி எடுத்துக்கொண்டு எத்தனையோ காரியங்களைச் செய்கிறார்கள், நிதி ஒதுக்கியிருக்கிறார்கள். இருந்தாலும் அந்த வேலைகளெல்லாம் துரிதமாக நடக்காமல் அப்படியே யிருக்கின்றன. பஞ்ச நிவாரண வேலைக்காக வென்று பணம் ஒதுக்கினால் மாத்திரம் போதாது; அதை உடனே துரிதமாகச் செலவிட்டு அவ்வேலைகள் பூர்த்தியாவதற்கு வேண்டிய நடவடிக்கைகளை எடுத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்று கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்குத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

"பஞ்சம் வந்தால் அதைத் தடுப்பதற்காக போதிய முன் ஜாக்கிரதையுடன் முற்காலத்தில் வரகு போன்ற தானியங்களை எத்தனையோ நூற்றாண்டுகள் சேமித்து வைத்திருப்பார்கள். அதைப்போல் நன்றாக வெள்ளாமையுள்ள காலங்களில் இம்மாதிரியான தானியங்களை ரிசர்வ் நிதி போல வைத்திருந்தால், இப்போது மழையின்றி வெள்ளாமைகுன்றி பஞ்சம் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் இந்தப் பஞ்ச காலத்தில் மிகவும் பயன் படுமாதலால் அரசாங்கம் கவனத்தில் இவைகளை வைத்துக்கொண்டு வரகு போன்ற தானியங்களைச் சேமித்துக்கொண்டு முன் ஜாக்கிரதையுடன் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆலையம் கட்டுகின்ற காலத்தில் அதன் உச்சியின் மேல் வைக்கின்ற சிகரத்திற்குள்ளே வரகு தானியத்தை கொட்டி வைத்திருப்பார்களென்றால் அது இம்மாதிரியான காலங்களில் நீண்ட காலம் கெடாமலிருந்து பயன்படுவதற்காகவென்று நம்பப்படுகின்றது. இதேப் போன்று அரசாங்கமும் முன் எச்சரிக்கையுடன் நடந்துகொள்ள வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

[Sri A. Vedaratnam Pillai] [10th March 1950]

12-45 p.m. “அடுத்தபடியாக இதற்குமுன் இரண்டு மூன்று தடவையாக வற
புறுத்தியிருக்கின்றேன். திருத்துறைப்பூண்டி தாலுகா காட்டுமேட்டு மலைப்
பிரதேசமில்லை. நல்ல விவசாயத்திற்குச் செழிப்பான மண் வளமுடைய
இடம். ஆனால் நீர்ப்பாசனத்திற்கு வசதி இல்லாத காரணத்தினாலேயே
அறுபதியிரம் ஏக்கர் நிலத்திற்குமேல் நஞ்சை நிலம் விவசாயம் செய்ய
முடியாத நிலையில் இருக்கின்றது. குறிப்பாக இந்த முள்ளி ஆற்றை
விவசாயத்திற்குப் பயன்படும்படிச் செய்தால் இந்த 60 ஆயிரம் ஏக்கர்
நிலமும் 60 டன் அதிக தானியத்தைக் கொடுக்குமென்று குறிப்பிடு
கிறேன். பாசன வசதிக்காக ‘முள்ளியாறு’ திட்டம் துவக்கியிருக்கிறார்கள்.
பத்து மைல் தூரம் இந்த ஆற்றை வெட்டிவிட்டால், அந்தப் பிரதேசங்
களில் விவசாயத்திற்கு பாசனக் கஷ்டமில்லாமல், சற்றேறக்குறைய 60,000
ஏக்கர் நிலத்திற்குப் பாசனம் கிடைக்கும். இந்த ஆற்றை இன்னும் பத்து
மைல் தூரம் வெட்டுவது ஒன்றும் பிரமாதமான காரியமில்லை. அந்தப்
பிரதேச பூமியும் மணற்பாங்கானதால் குறைந்த செலவில் அதை வெட்ட
லாம். அவ்வாறு செய்தால் இப்போது வீணாக கடலில் போய் வியர்த்த
மாகின்ற ஆறுஜலத்தை இந்த 60 ஆயிரம் ஏக்கர் நிலத்திற்குப்
பாசனக் கொள்ளலாம். இம்மாதிரிச் செய்துவிட்டால் அடுத்த வருஷம்
முதல் அப்பிரதேசங்களில் பஞ்சமே தோன்றாதவாறு பல நிலங்கள்
நஞ்செய் பயிர் செய்து வெள்ளாழமையைப் பெருக்கிவிட முடியும். மற்ற
இதர பஞ்சப் பிரதேசங்களுக்கும் போதிய உதவி செய்யமுடியும். ஆகை
யால் இந்த திட்டத்தை உடனே பஞ்ச நிவாரண வேலையாக எடுத்துக்
கொண்டு அதை இந்த ஆண்டிலேயே முடிக்கவேண்டுமென்றும் கேட்டுக்
கொண்டு இந்த டிமாண்டை நான் முழு மனதுடன் ஆதரிக்கின்றேன்.”

* SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I
rise to support the motion made by the Hon. Minister for the grant
of 10 lakhs of rupees under ‘Famine.’ We are thankful to the
Hon. Minister for giving a gist of the efforts made by this Govern-
ment to relieve distress in such of the districts where famine condi-
tions are prevailing. He told us at the outset that the important
function or rather provision that is made under famine is to pro-
vide work for the agricultural labourers and also grow more food.
The Hon. Minister happens to be in charge of land assignment as
well. It has been said in this House that though the Government
are sympathetic towards the agricultural labourers, most of whom
are drawn from the Harijan community, not a cent of land has
so far been given for the agricultural labourers coming under the
category of Harijans. Sir, for a permanent solution of the distress
of the agricultural labourers, it is highly necessary that these people
must be given lands so that they may undertake cultivation and
provide sufficient food not only for themselves but also for all those
who are dependent on them. The Minister has been kind enough
to tell us the various schemes that have been undertaken in South
Arcot. Representing as I do a constituency in South Arcot, I
feel grateful to the Hon. Minister for the various schemes under-
taken, that is, 42 major irrigation schemes, 158 minor schemes,
45 district board and 1 grow-more-food works. I do not know within
the short provision of 10 lakhs for the year to come, whether it
would be possible for this district to get the quota of money to do
all these works. During the year 1949-50 the Government have
provided 23.77 lakhs for the scheme. But I find from the Budget
Memorandum that an explanation has been given that most of this
money has been spent on the cyclone-affected areas. I feel that
the provision of 10 lakhs of rupees provided for 1950-51 is not
enough. But I find from the Budget Memorandum that the

[Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillay]

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Hon. Minister and the Government feel that the conditions will
be better in the year to come. We feel so, that providence will
help us so that we may tide over these difficult times.

“My chief object of giving notice of a token cut under this
Demand is to find a permanent solution for times of distress. I
do not find any provision has been made for irrigation schemes both
in the Villupuram and Gingee taluks which are very badly affected
among the famine-stricken taluks. The Hon. Minister gave a cata-
logue of those taluks that were affected in the various districts.
But I find that he has not made any mention of the Villupuram and
Gingee taluks which are the most affected taluks in South Arcot
district. It is said in the Memorandum the purposes for which
this famine relief is intended . . .”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“May I state that
the provision made covers the whole district?”

* SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—“Thanks, Sir. Com-
ing to the position of the cattle which is the real asset to the agri-
culturists, the Hon. Minister has said that there is no difficulty
of having fodder for South Arcot. But, he has told us, it is in
the matter of the distribution that the fodder has not reached the
taluk. I feel that he will make early arrangements so that fodder
may be distributed to the affected taluks because in such taluks as
the two I have already mentioned, unless the fodder goes to the
cattle, it will hit hard on the lives of these poor animals which are
the real asset for the agriculturists. I am also glad that the Hon.
Minister has made an arrangement that no fodder or bran can go
out of the district until such time as the distress is removed or dis-
appears. I only feel that the Hon. Minister, having taken note
of the recommendations of the Board of Revenue, will kindly see
that these two affected areas are given enough care so that both
the human beings and animals are not allowed to perish. With
these few words, I close.”

* SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“Mr. Speaker,
Sir, I was closely following the famine statement made by the
Hon. the Revenue Minister and the number of relief works that
have been sanctioned by Government in the various districts of
the State. Perhaps he started with South Arcot and Tanjore and
ultimately reached Coimbatore. To start with, he gave me a very
encouraging picture but when he ended with Coimbatore, it was
a gloomy one as I took it. Perhaps Coimbatore and Salem were
accorded a step-motherly treatment. For Salem, he stated, only
two minor irrigation works are under execution, and in Coimbatore
about six district board works and a number of drinking water well
works in Dharapuram and Palladam taluks, and he incidentally
mentioned about the work of Lower Bhavani. Of course, the
lower Bhavani work is a major work having in view a long range
programme of solving the food question. It is not a famine work.
I, therefore, most earnestly appeal to the Hon. the Revenue
Minister to take into consideration the plight in the several taluks

[Sri V. C. Palaniswami Gounder] [10th March 1950]

of Coimbatore which are suffering now under actual famine conditions. His Colleague the Hon. Mr. Bhaktavatsalam was kind enough to tour some of these famine-affected areas and I had the good fortune of following him. Wherever we went, there was utter failure of crops, no patch of green anywhere. Palmyra and coconut farms are all withering. People have not even drinking water facilities. The several drinking water wells that have been dug, when actually inspected, are short of water or have no water at all. A few district board relief works were started. There too the poor Harijans were not given the preferential treatment of getting work. They were ordered to go to Lower Bhavani to find work there. You know the Harijans are attached to the agricultural pattadars for helping them in agricultural operations. If they are made to migrate to Lower Bhavani area, that means from the southernmost corner of Coimbatore to the northernmost corner of Coimbatore, namely, Satyamangalam and other places. Then these people will have very little opportunity of returning to their homes when rain falls and the famine conditions go away. Therefore, it is not a proper thing for the poor Harijans to go away to Lower Bhavani and seek works there. The most convenient thing is to provide them with labour almost in their own taluks. Generally relief work under famine is to give them road works, improvement of minor irrigation works, etc. Only such works can be given by way of mass employment to the poor agriculturists as well as the casual labourers, viz., the Harijans. Such being the case, to sanction a few district board works in certain localities alone will not satisfy the hundreds and thousands of people who have been thrown out of employment owing to these famine conditions. Similarly, a few well works won't find them employment. Sinking of wells is a special job. An ordinary labourer cannot be employed for sinking wells or deepening them. It is only earth work and similar things that can give them employment. I am not giving a gloomy picture."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Does the hon. Member want to continue his speech after lunch? Or, does he want to take two or three minutes now and finish."

* SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"I shall continue after lunch."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yes, you may continue after lunch."
The House then adjourned for lunch.

(After lunch—3 p.m.)

I.—SWEARING-IN OF A MEMBER.

Janab S. Muhammad Ismail was sworn in.

V.—VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1950—51—cont.

DEMAND XXIX—FAMINE—cont.

* SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the very outset I have to request you to give me a few

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[Sri V. C. Palaniswami Gounder]

more minutes for the reason that I am coming from a famine-stricken area, i.e., Coimbatore, where actual famine conditions are prevailing. I request your indulgence in this matter with full hope.

"Now, relief work has been started in the three taluks of Palladam, Dharapuram and Udumalpet. I am of the opinion that this is not at all sufficient. Only six road works have been started. These would not be sufficient to give employment to all the poor Harijans and other agricultural labourers. I earnestly request the Government to start more relief works. Apart from these, I would plead for the grant of interest-free loans for deepening the existing wells. That will give not only employment, but at the same time, we can get more water for growing food crops. This is a very important thing and I have impressed this upon the Hon. Minister for Public Works when he was touring in that part of the district.

"Further, Coimbatore requires the development of Minor Irrigation Works. Because, Coimbatore is not fortunate enough in having big natural rivers. Only a major work like the Lower Bhavani Project has been started and that too only recently. Even this is only going to serve the taluks which have been already served by irrigation works. Our original request was to start the Upper Bhavani Project, which if started, would go a long way to help the famine-stricken taluks. But for various reasons that scheme has been dropped.

"Next, I would like to plead for the starting of the Amara-vathi Reservoir Project which will protect the famine-stricken areas like Udumalpet and Dharapuram. This aspect of the question has also been impressed upon the Hon. Public Works Minister during his recent tour of that part of the district. I, therefore, take this opportunity of impressing upon the Government at least to make this scheme a success and try to complete it at the earliest possible moment. Further, the extension of the Lower Bhavani Channel work may be speedily done. Thus the unemployed labourers may be given work by extending this channel to Dharapuram taluk.

"In the matter of further relief, I may suggest that in each and every village there are some ponds and minor tanks. Most of these ponds and tanks are in disrepairs. And some of them have been assigned to the ex-service personnel after the two Great World Wars. Therefore, in order to augment the underground water-supply for the existing wells, the improvement of these minor tanks and ponds are absolutely necessary. This aspect of the question has also been impressed upon the Hon. Public Works Minister during his tour in those taluks by several of the ryots. But one unfortunate thing in this respect is, these big Engineers do not believe in the small works. Their minds always work upon major works involving an expenditure of crores and lakhs of rupees. But our request is to allot some money in thousands for the improvement of small minor tanks and ponds."

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Mr. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has only one more minute. He has taken seven minutes in the morning and now he has taken six minutes.

* SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"Sir, even at the outset I pleaded for a little more time and craved your indulgence, coming as I do from a famine-stricken area.

"Now, I would very much like to impress upon the Government to take up the Minor Irrigation Works and the improvement of tanks and other small irrigation works and grant immediately interest-free loans for the deepening of wells. The existing relief works may be continued and a number of additional relief works may also be started, in these three taluks which are experiencing famine conditions. Here I would also like to mention the Avinashi taluk, a major portion of which is also under the same condition. There, water scarcity is very keenly felt and the ryots have no work at all. Therefore, for the Avinashi taluk also relief works must be started. With these remarks, I support the demand brought forward by the Hon. Minister for Land Revenue."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was very right that we decided to take up the demand for famine in the first instance. For, situated as we are in our Province with shortage of foodgrains and later on having suffered from various calamities such as floods and cyclone and things like that, every member coming as he does from famine-stricken areas would necessarily like to draw the attention of the Government to conditions prevalent in their respective districts. The Hon. Minister for Land Revenue has told us that there is hardly any area in the southern districts which have escaped famine. Some districts on the whole have been famine-stricken and some parts of other districts have also been famine-stricken. Unfortunately, in the southern districts, monsoons have failed continuously for three years. That is one of the reasons why we people in Tamil districts are suffering. Cultivation has suffered and there have been no crops and the percentage of crops is very limited; so much over and above the shortage that is already in existence in our Province, these failures of monsoons have brought us to a very calamitous situation. Everyone in any State will naturally look up to the Government to see that the Government provides something to eat, something to wear and some work to do. The present Government has been in existence for some years and I dare say that it has not organized things in such a way as to meet situations like this. Also, when monsoons fail to give enough to eat for the people, the irrigation works of any State ought to be so organized as to conserve a major portion of the water-supply during the rainy season for purposes of cultivation. How is it to be done? It is sought to be done by major irrigational works and projects. So far so good. But at the same time, it is very necessary that we should conserve a major portion of the rainfall in any district in any area by having tanks spread all over the places and a number of minor irrigational works will have to be started. That ought to be the policy of the Government in order that the water

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that is vouchsafed to us through rain is conserved and usefully kept so that cultivation could be done with the water that is available in the various parts of the Province. I understand from the Hon. Public Works Minister that the Government have undertaken various major projects as well as minor irrigational projects. They have been taking a long time and they have not been able to complete these projects at a quick space. In the meantime, calamity befell the Province in the shape of failure of monsoon on the one hand and cyclone and floods on the other. There is no use of complaining that God has punished us or to say that God has been responsible for this or that. Nature has its own ways and if there had been monsoon this year there would have been a heavy rainfall. This cycle of things has been changing from year to year. There may be drought in one year and there may be heavy rainfall in the second year. So whatever water is available in one year has to be conserved as to be useful for the subsequent years even if monsoon fails. That ought to be the policy of the Government and they should undertake to see that this is done.

"Now, when people are in a famine-stricken condition all over the Province, what is it that the Government has to do? Of course, the Government have started relief works and given a few annas to the labourer here and there to enable him to eke out his livelihood and to buy some foodstuffs. Do you mean to suggest that these few annas will be sufficient for this purpose? I should think that foodstuffs should be made available to the poor people. The first duty of the Government is to see that somehow or other foodgrains are made available to be distributed equitably all over the Province, particularly in areas, where there is shortage of foodgrains. This ought to be done in a very careful way. On the other hand, unfortunately there has been delay in transport, when there is transport, stocks are not moved from place to place easily and if they are moved from place to place easily, then the stocks deteriorates in quality and go to waste.

"Such things have been happening and a fairly large quantity of foodgrains has been spoiled on account of wastage of this kind. What is the use of complaining that the monsoons have failed and that floods and cyclones have destroyed the crops? There is no use of complaining against Nature. God has given us wisdom. When we come to occupy the seat of authority and the destinies of millions of people are placed in our hands, it is our duty to use our power in such a manner that things do not come to a crisis as we witness to-day. If the Government had been careful and planned things in advance, we would not be placed in the situation in which we find ourselves to-day. As I said many troubles we face now are only avoidable ones. Relief is afforded here and there to the distressed. They are engaged in road construction work and works of various other kinds which the Government have undertaken. But this does not suffice. I do not blame the Government and they cannot, I know, give employment to all. I do not think, for the matter of that, that any country like ours where there is no scarcity of men, can give relief to all with their meagre resources. A few annas and a few

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pies given to them by way of wages cannot solve their problem, leave alone those who do not get even this much. This kind of relief, as a matter of fact, cannot help them to make both ends meet. Therefore, Sir, the recent havoc brought about by the floods, etc., should be a warning to the Government to be prepared in future to face any calamity or catastrophe that may befall us. I know in the southern districts, there are many rivers which during the rainy season flow to the brim. Where does this water that overflows go? Most of it goes to the sea. I know of the rivers Cauvery and Coleroon . . .

SRI T. S. PATTABHIRAMAN:—"Cauvery does not flow into the sea." (Laughter.)

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I know that, Sir. What I say is that the overflow in Cauvery is not properly taken advantage of and its water is not utilized sufficiently. And then about the water in the Coleroon, it goes as fast as it can to the sea and at the end of the monsoon there is no water seen in the river. This flow into the sea should be diverted and made use of for purposes of cultivation. If this is done, then there would be no necessity for the Government to come up to the House with proposals to give doles—either rice or millets or even cash in the shape of wages for work done or as gift to the poor. Let them not look forward to famines but husband the resources of the State in such a manner that such situations as we have witnessed do not arise."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad that even the Hon. the Minister for Revenue wanted that I should speak about Ramnad. (Laughter.) I am sure he knows the conditions in my district. Ramnad is one of the districts which have been worst affected in the matter of supply of food, and I can liken the conditions obtaining there to those prevailing in the Ceded districts. As the Minister for Revenue comes from that area, he is perhaps anxious to know what is happening in Ramnad. Sir, I would like to point out one thing. The steps taken by the Government to fight the famine in our State are not adequate. I do not, at the same time, want to blame the Government. They are doing things with the best of intentions. They are in power in the name of the Congress and the Congress is the only organization in the country to-day which can do something to better the lot of the people. All that I wish to say is that the Revenue department is not functioning well. The way in which it is working will not bring any credit to that department. Several hon. Members in this House have pointed out that in Tanjore several thousands of acres of land are lying uncultivated and that the Government should take steps to bring them under cultivation. Sir, in my district, not thousands, but several lakhs of acres of land are lying uncultivated and they are going as waste. If these lands are reclaimed, I am sure, we can meet a major portion of the food requirements of our State. The only difficulty in reclaiming these lands is we have no water. If the Government can make arrangements to supply water, we can go ahead with

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cultivation. Sir, this morning when I put a question to the Hon. the Minister for Public Works regarding the Vaigai Reservoir scheme, he stated that it would not benefit Ramnad. I would request the Government to prepare some schemes of irrigation for Ramnad also. When the Vaigai scheme was first mooted, the people of Ramnad were thinking that Ramnad would also benefit from it. There were also certain others who were fearing that even the water that is at present available in the Vaigai would go when the Reservoir scheme is put through. I am, however, glad that the Hon. the Minister for Public Works has assured me that this will not happen, and this statement of his will allay the fears of those who entertained them.

"I would like to say a word or two on the Grow More Food campaign in this connexion. It was brought to the notice of the Government recently that in Tanjore, about 300 acres of land which a mirasdar has been cultivating on lease under the Grow More Food scheme since 1944-45 have been taken away from him perhaps for allotment to political sufferers and others. I am very grateful to the Government for having snatched away this land from him. But what was the ultimate object the Government had in view? They wanted that those to whom the lands were allotted should bring them under cultivation. I am sorry, Sir, that nothing has happened since they were taken over. I think these lands lie in the Tiruthuraipundi taluk and belong to Mr. N. R. Samiappa Mudaliar. Last year, the District Collector proposed that 100 acres of these lands should be allotted to political sufferers, 100 acres to the landless including Harijans and backward communities and the remaining 100 acres to the Harijan co-operative societies. I do not know what has happened to the proposal but the fact remains that the lands still remain uncultivated nor have they have been allotted to anyone. I do not say anything against the Ministers. I am only asking whether it is right to keep them as they are when the people are on the verge of starvation and death. Tanjore, unlike Ramnad, enjoys very good facilities for irrigation. If the lands had been left with the mirasdar himself, there would have been continuous cultivation. After all, Sir, we never asked for any land for political sufferers. It is the Government that said, 'we will give you *veera manya* and you take it', and this has given rise to many a humiliating question being put in the House. We want food. In the Madras City, we see and hear news about big gentlemen owning flower gardens, converting them into vegetable gardens or paddy fields. Often photographs appear of these people holding the plough in their hands and this is given publicity also in the papers. This is what happens in the City. What happens in the mufassal? What happens in the districts? Three hundred acres of land which were under cultivation are taken away and allowed to remain a waste, notwithstanding the fact they lie in deltaic areas. When people look at both these, they will only laugh. As soon as we return to our places after attending the Assembly session, people ask us about the purport of the photographs that appear in these papers. They know that lands lie waste there and, therefore, rightly feel that the photographs are meant not for

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propaganda on 'Grow More Food' but for publicity for the big gentlemen concerned. My object is that no land should be allowed to remain uncultivated and I would request the Government to find out who is responsible for this state of affairs in Tanjore, whether it is the Collector or the Tahsildar or any other official, and bring him to book. The Hon. the Finance Minister has mentioned several schemes that the Government propose to take up. But none of the schemes relate to Ramnad. Sir, Ramnad contains nine taluks out of which only three are under the supervision of the Public Works Department of the Madras Government. The remaining six are under the zamins of Ramnad and Sivaganga. So, before any scheme is thought of for Ramnad, the six taluks I have mentioned just now should be taken over by the Government under the Abolition of Zamindaris Scheme."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will take one more minute and finish."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"I shall take two more minutes, Sir, and finish. Until such time as they are taken over, some short-range schemes should be proposed for them. In this connexion, I would like to say a word about Pudukkottai. I met several friends from Pudukkottai and they feel disappointed that Pudukkottai is completely neglected by the Government. It is a pity that it suffers from shortage of food and other necessities of life."

"The Government should give special attention to this State. If you take the entire State of Pudukkottai, it is much worse than Ramnad district. Ramnad is much better so far as famine is concerned. But people both from Pudukkottai and Ramnad are going to Tanjore. They have no provision for cultivating their lands and they have no money to buy anything. So they are all going to Tanjore. I would therefore request the Hon. Minister to give special attention to Pudukkottai and Ramnad and help the people in these districts."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have very little to say about this Demand."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If he has very little to say, he need not speak at all."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"I will speak for about two minutes about the policy. It seems to me that we are pursuing very anachronistic policies. The Governments of old had taken up famine as their special obligation, because they had to make good to the world the promise that this country would be ruled very graciously. They spread a propaganda that India was liable to periodic famines and they were anxious to show to the world that whenever a famine came, they had the Famine Code and measures to combat famine as and when it appeared on the scene. To-day, Sir, things have changed altogether. Famine has not the same old meaning which used to attach to it in those days. Famine is a thing which may appear to-day or to-morrow in some

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the country or in the entire country owing to the failure of the monsoons. It can be met only by very energetic work in raising the production. But what do we do under the Famine Code? I would like this head to be changed in the budget into unemployment relief or seasonal employment relief, because it is what we do under the Famine Code. We spend a few lakhs of rupees and perhaps make the road over and over again. These roads are never maintained. I know several famine roads which have fallen into disuse. Our famine policy should be based on absolutely different lines. The Hon. Minister must base it on the lines of more production, more irrigation projects and more attention to the catchment areas of rivers. It is not as if our rivers are not used. I am surprised that the hon. Member opposite does not know that not even one per cent of the waters of the Cauvery goes into the sea. Under the conditions prevailing at present not a drop of water goes into the sea. It is even apprehended that if the tributaries of the Cauvery are given precedence over other schemes, it is just possible that it may interfere with the distribution of water elsewhere. There is no reason for such apprehension. It ought to go through. We should follow a broad policy for overcoming the famine. It is not as if we invite famine, and keep some money ready in the Famine Fund to which* the general revenues have to contribute every year. This anachronistic thing should go. We must have a new head called unemployment relief or seasonal employment relief. We must engage in works of permanent beneficial nature taken up in areas where such famines may come. That ought to be the policy to be pursued."

"Sir, I will say a few words about the catchment areas of rivers. It is a very important thing. We have neglected several catchment areas. What happens is, if rain falls in those areas, the flood carries away all the rain waters in small streams. I do not talk of big rivers at all. The water goes to waste. But if catchment areas are well protected, this will not happen. We can use this labour not on famine wages, but on real wages as they stand to-day. We may take up this work of building up the catchment areas of rivers and small streams right through the country. Then we can think of damming these rivers. The usefulness of this work is that it will make rain water flow gently. For instance, if a stream flows only for seven days in a year, we can easily increase it to 15 or 20 days in the year, if we attend to the catchment areas of the rivers."

"What we are doing under the Famine Code is to find employment for the people affected. But the situation caused by a famine is aggravated by scarcity of drinking water. One may have no crop and suffer a famine, but he cannot continue to live in an area where there is no water to drink either for man or cattle. Therefore the usefulness of every little pond for the cattle or every good well sunk in time for the people of such localities has a significance of its own. That is all I wish to say on this Demand. I hope that next year the Government will revise their famine policy and call this not a Famine Demand. Instead, there should be an unemployment relief policy or seasonal employment relief."

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* SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I just want to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister the labour conditions in a famine-stricken area. He himself coming from a famine district knows them better than I do; yet as the Minister responsible he may forget for the time being what are the needs of the people whom he has to look after. The Hon. Minister while moving the Demand explained to us how many works he has been good enough to sanction. He said that there were so many district board works, but my impression of district board works is they take up nothing but metal collection and metal breaking. This is the worst kind of manual labour that we can ask starving people to do. It is cruel on the part of the Government to extract such manual labour from half-starving or completely starving people.

"Sir, according to the Famine Code, the wages paid to an adult male is 2 to 3 annas a day and to an adult female 1½ to 2 annas a day. How do you expect these people to exist in the world with 2 or 3 annas a day when the cost of living has gone so high that the Hon. Minister finds all over the country an agitation for enhancement of salaries? Is it not high time for the Government to revise the Famine Code and see that the wages of the poor people are enhanced in accordance with the conditions prevailing to-day?

"Sir, as regards takkavi loans, no doubt, famine is an emergent thing. The Government machinery should move very quickly. As it is, redtapism is so great that matters take some years and months before they are disposed of. The Government should see that there is no stagnation for more than two or three weeks. What is the good of giving relief after the patient is dead? If we want to save people from starvation, we must act quickly so that the people may get the relief which the Government want them to get. Moreover, Sir, according to the Famine Code, test works ought to be started first and after watching for 40 days whether relief is necessary for agricultural labourers, the test works should be converted into relief works. The District Collectors are ignorant of this fact although the Famine Code is at their disposal. They do not convert the test works into relief works for the simple reason that they will have to show a greater concession to the labour population. I would ask the Government to impress on the Collectors that it is their duty, if the test work proves that the area requires some relief, immediately to convert the test work into relief work. All the relief that ought to be given under the Famine Code must and should be given then and there as early as possible. Only then the Government will be called a popular Government which has come to the rescue of the people.

"Then, Sir, as regards fodder, where there are forests near the villages, even though they are reserved forests, at least for the time being, the rules and regulations regarding the Forest Act must be relaxed so as to allow the cattle to graze there. The supply of fodder is a great problem in those famine-stricken areas. Where there are no cattle available the people of the locality suffer a lot. When the people are suffering, they cannot take care of the

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cattle. As a result I have seen cattle being sold for the cheapest price possible. Some people disown the cattle for the simple reason they find it difficult to maintain them. (Interruption.) My hon. Friend Mr. Kallur Subba Rao himself comes from a famine area and he would have also suffered. He himself may not have suffered, because he depends on others. The people who have to work there have suffered a lot.

"Now, Sir, as regards the relief, I would request the Government to revise the Famine Code. The number of days for the test works should be reduced from 40 to 20. Even this is a long period. It must be the maximum. When a man is starving, you cannot test him for a long period. Then relief works must be started.

"Sir, when the Hon. Minister moved the Demand he mentioned that there were major and minor irrigation works. I would impress upon the Government that they should not stop the work the moment there is a shower of rains, saying that famine has gone and that labour is not available. They should not leave the work half-finished. They must pursue the work till it is finished and the amount sanctioned for it is spent.

"Sir, just at the closing of the famine relief work, the Government entrust the work to the district boards. The district boards do not have any interest at all in this. Their only interest is in the collection of road metal. Most of the roads which have been constructed during famines have not been maintained at all. The amount spent on these works have been a waste all these years. I would impress upon this Government not to waste public funds like that. Every pie that we spend must be useful to us. There must be maximum utility not only for the time being. The amount should not be spent just for the sake of spending it, whether the relief reaches the poor or not. 'Because we are asked to spend the money, let us spend the money'—that should not be the attitude of the Government.

"Sir, during famine relief works many people are pilfering. Every person from the Charge Officer, the Depot Manager and so on, every blessed man is pilfering. A greater portion of the amount is taken up this way than what is actually spent on the works. I have visited some of the camps and extracted every possible information. I have found that where 2,000 workers are employed, it is written down that 3,500 workers are employed. The wages drawn for the excess number of 1,500 are shared by every blessed man, by the Charge Officer, the Works Manager and so on. I would request the Government to keep a vigilant eye on this expenditure and see that the amount is spent in the right way.

"I thank you very much Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity you have given me to speak on this Demand."

* SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been customary in this House to discuss the Famine grant with reference to conditions prevailing in the Ceded districts. This year, however, the position is anomalous and a bit paradoxical too, because the Ceded districts which generally suffer from famine

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have suffered this year from floods, and the Tamil Nad districts which generally do not suffer from famine are suffering from the effects of the failure of rains, and even districts like Tanjore-parts of it I think, and other districts, are faced with a situation bordering on famine. Therefore, it is a bit paradoxical; but listening attentively to the speech made by the Hon. Revenue Minister, I was very much heartened to find that the measures so far adopted not only for relief from the ravages of floods but also from the effects of famine have been extremely satisfactory. That should be as it is, because the Revenue Minister is a famine expert, and therefore it is but natural that he is dealing with the situation in a manner that should give satisfaction to every section of this House. But there are a few observations which I wish to make with reference to the measures taken in my own district of Kurnool. We had unusually very heavy rainfall in the third week of September and large volumes of water overflowed the banks of the rivers. All along the margin of these rivers, there was devastation of crops, lands were damaged, in addition to thousands of houses that collapsed. Board Members were sent to inspect the districts which had suffered from the effects of floods and cyclone. One of the Board Members visited our district and he spent one or two days in going round the district, of course only along the roads, and he did not get into the interior. He made a report to the Government, and the Government basing their relief measures on that report, gave a few thousands for those people whose houses had collapsed and the relief measures stopped there. I am very sorry that the Government did not consider fully the real nature of the relief that was expected of them. Giving a pittance of a few rupees cannot be in any sense called relief at all. I would have expected them to get into service certain bulldozers and tractors and put the land back into cultivable form, to repair the damaged land and to level it up and thus give relief to the ryots. That was not done. A number of petitions were sent up; but so far as I know, I do not think that any action has been taken. My own computation, though rough it may be, is that 50 to 60 thousand acres of very good land, particularly in the Kundu valley all along the Kundu river, and the Galeru and Paleru rivers, have been damaged—lands yielding excellent crops year after year—and the poor ryots cannot reclaim them unless the Government come to their assistance. I therefore suggest that the Government should immediately take up the land reclamation programme and reclaim these lands damaged by floods. They may of course charge something from the ryots, Rs. 50 or Rs. 25 per acre; they may not grudge to pay it; and it may be collected in annual instalments in the course of five or ten years. If this is done, I think the relief measures they have taken to give relief from the effect of floods would be complete; otherwise I would be compelled to say that the money so far spent would be mere waste.

"As I said, coming as I do from a perpetual famine-stricken area, I can easily understand the hardships and sufferings of my friends in the Tamil Nad area and my heart goes out in sympathy

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for them. What the Government have so far provided in the Budget for relief operations may not be sufficient at all, and I join hands with them in demanding that if necessary more funds should be allotted. But my view of the famine relief operations is this: I consider that real famine relief must be based more on prevention than on relief. You are aware, Sir, of the old adage 'prevention is better than cure'; and therefore, if we are to protect people from famine, the first thing we must aim at is to prevent famine and this can be done in a number of ways. In 1938 when there was a very severe famine ravaging the districts of Rayalaseema, a Famine Code Revision Committee was appointed, and I believe the Hon. Revenue Minister was also on that Committee. They went about their work and made a number of recommendations for the revision of the Famine Code and also pertaining to certain measures which can be taken to prevent famine once for all. I do not know exactly how many recommendations or to what extent the recommendations of that Committee have been accepted and whether the recommendations that have been accepted have been put into practice. The most fundamental recommendation which they made was the development of irrigation. While dealing with irrigation, I would like to say that those districts which have been perpetually famine-ridden must get the highest priority. If you go through the Irrigation Report issued by the Madras Government year after year you will find that while the average percentage of irrigation in the Presidency is something like 29 per cent, the Ceded districts have a very poor irrigation percentage. Anantapur has only about 6 per cent irrigation, Bellary about 4.5, Kurnool about 10 per cent, and Cuddapah about 20 per cent irrigation. This is much less than the Presidency average. I would request the Government to have a definite policy of giving priorities. The other day I found a Press Note to the effect that a committee is going to be constituted to determine priorities. It is a very important question. You see in the Budget that the grants are not equitably distributed between one district and another. I would say that if the Government want to give real protection to the districts, they must have a target and they must have a policy. The policy must be that 50 per cent protection must be given by way of irrigation and each district which does not come up to that level must get the highest priority. Looked at in that way, you will agree with me that the Ceded districts must receive the highest priority.

"Then there are two or three other points which I wish to mention; as my time is up I will only hint by way of saying that preventive measures are also called for by way of afforestation. That was one of the recommendations made by the Famine Code Revision Committee, as also industrial development, provision of electricity for small cottage industries and medium industries and the exploitation of the mineral wealth of the Ceded districts. If all these recommendations are given effect to. I do not think, Sir, that we need have this Famine Demand in the Budget, and we need not waste our time in discussing this Demand year after year in this Assembly."

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* SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, speaking on this Demand, it is usual to generally think only of the Famine districts which are notorious in our State, viz., the Rayalaseema districts; but as the term famine includes also devastation due to cyclone, floods and failure of rains, etc., and as we have had recently very bad experience of these unusual conditions, I am sure that the *resume* that has been given by the Hon. Minister of the various measures which the Government have immediately taken to offset these disastrous consequences is very welcome, and I am thankful to the Hon. Minister for the same. I would only add that at the time when the Hon. Minister for Revenue and the Hon. Minister for Public Works visited Tuni, various memoranda were presented to them setting forth what were the immediate and actual requirements of Tuni and of the districts of North and South Visakhapatnam and East Godavari. I find that several things which are very essential to give proper relief to the persons badly affected by these disastrous conditions have not been touched at all; for example, the ravages done by the Sarada floods and the big tank Kandakarla Ava which had broken its bunds. His Excellency the Governor also inspected the breach of the dam at Tummapala; he was very much impressed and he said so before the public. I therefore felt that there was some possibility of all these matters receiving some sort of priority; but I am sorry to find in all the long list of items the Hon. Minister has given, nothing has been mentioned of the district of Visakhapatnam. Probably it is an oversight; but I know they have done something; my only request is that more must be done in order to ward off the ravages still unrepaired which have been pointed out to the Government by all of us.

“ Sir, the question of famine implies want of food and want of employment. If food and employment are there, there would not be any famine. It implies that large scale schemes of irrigation and Grow More Food are the only solution to avert famine. Instead of having to spend lakhs and lakhs by way of direct relief and remission of kist to the ryots, it is better and worthwhile to spend all that amount, as Mr. Venkatasubbayya and Mr. Nagappa pointed out, on these schemes; and I earnestly appeal that the scheme which has been repeatedly brought to the notice of the Public Works Department Minister, viz., the Vamsadhara and other schemes, will make Visakhapatnam which is now a scarcity and deficit district not only self-sufficient but also make it possible to be helpful to other districts which may be suffering from the effects of cyclone or floods. I therefore suggest that an all-round plan going into these details should be drawn up and the money spent under this head may be fully utilized for giving permanent relief to the people who are now deprived of food and employment.

4 p.m. “ Sir, there is another point. As I said on another occasion there is an exclusive area in the Agency tracts, about thousands of acres, which can easily be converted into wet. I understand the Government of India are proposing a big scheme involving about 10 crores for a five-year development plan. In fact, I understand orders have been issued by the Madras Government

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10th March 1950] to the Collectors of the districts concerned to convene a conference of representatives to devise ways and means of implementing the scheme and they found that any amount of money could be spent in harnessing the rivers in those areas, that the money utilized will be well-spent and that it will be a sort of absolute insurance against famine in all the districts including Koraput and the neighbouring places. I therefore, think, that the Agency tracts may afford very good field for utilizing all the available money which this Government could spare and if that is done I am sure they will get the rupee value for the money spent by means of improved yield of paddy, millets and other grains in that area.

“ There is one other point and that is, not only by means of irrigation but also by means of a good road transport scheme for developing village roads, we can make the villagers, according to the ideal of the Madras Government, self-sufficient. That implies, there should be a good transport system for the conveyance of the food crops from the villages to the nearest market. Even from that point of view, I believe, a good intensive road-laying scheme will also help as a side measure to irrigation schemes and ward off famine conditions which are so notorious in our parts.”

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவிலிருந்து வந்திருக்கிறேன். சாதாரணமாக திருநெல்வேலி என்றால் நான் நெல்வேலியை படைத்த ஊர் என்று அர்த்தம். அந்த ஜில்லாவின் பெயரைப் பார்க்கும்பொழுது உண்மையிலேயே நெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவானது ஒரு அழகிய நெல் வேலியை உடையதாக இருந்திருக்கவேண்டும். ஆனால் இப்பொழுது துர் அதிர்ஷ்டவசமாக மூன்று நான்கு தாலுக்காக்கள் பஞ்சத்தால் பாதிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அப்படி பாதிக்கப்படாமல் செய்வதற்கு அரசாங்கத்திற்கு முடியும். இப்பொழுது ஒன்றை சாதாரணமாகக் குறிப்பிட விரும்புகிறேன். P.W.D. மந்திரி கனம் பக்தவத்சலம் அவர்கள் ஒன்று செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். தாம்பரப் பரணி பாசனத்தில் Electricity-க்காக வைத்திருந்த தண்ணீரை சுமார் 82,000 ஏக்கரா நிலத்திற்கு 15 நாட்களுக்கு கொடுத்ததன் பயனாக அந்த நஞ்சை நிலங்களை இப்பொழுது காப்பாற்ற முடிந்தது. அதற்காக கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கு அந்த 82,000 ஏக்கரா நஞ்சை நிலப் பட்டா தார்கள் சார்பாகவும் என்னுடைய ஜில்லா மக்களின் சார்பாகவும் என்னுடைய நன்றியை செலுத்தக் கடமைப்பட்டிருக்கிறேன்.

“ சாதாரணமாக நான் சொல்லுகிறேன். திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவில் பஞ்சம் ஏற்பட்டிருப்பது கனம் மந்திரியவர்களுக்குத் தெரியும். அங்கு வேண்டிய வசதிகள் ஜில்லாமலிருப்பதும் அவருக்குத் தெரியும். இப்பொழுது கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கொடுத்த ஸ்டேட்மெண்டிலிருந்து சுமார் 31 Minor Irrigation திட்டங்களும், 12 ரோடு வேலைகளை யும் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப் போவதாக சொல்லப்படுகிறது. ஆனால் அது வரவேற்கப்படவேண்டியதாக இல்லை. Major Irrigation வேலைகளில் ஒரு வேலையையாவது நெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவில் எடுத்துக் கொண்டதாக அவருடைய ஸ்டேட்மெண்டிலிருந்து தெரியவில்லை. அதைப்பற்றியும் ஸ்டேட்மெண்டில் சொல்லவில்லை. அங்கு எத்தனையோ Major Irrigation வேலைகளைச் செய்யமுடியும். நாங்குநேரி தாலுகாவில் மட்டும் சுமார் 10, 12 வேலைகளைச் செய்யமுடியும். இதைப்பற்றிகூட அங்கு நடந்த மகா நாட்டில் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள். அதன் படி ஒரு ரிபோர்ட்டும் அனுப்பப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அந்த ரிபோர்ட்டையும் கனம் ரிவினியூ மந்திரி அவர்களும் பார்க்கலாம். சங்கரன்கோவில், கோவில்பட்டி, தாலுகாக்கள் ஒரு பஞ்சப் பிரதேசம் என்று கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களே தன்னுடைய ஸ்டேட்மெண்டில் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார். சங்கரன்கோவிலில்கூட தாம்பரபரணியில் ஒரு Dam ஐக் கட்ட முடியும். இன்று காலையில்கூட

[Sri K. Koti Reddi] [10th March 1950]

the Andhra area also crops have failed; similarly in large areas in the Northern Circars, in a smaller area in Cuddapah and Kurnool, for instance. So, Sir, the conditions in these areas also are such that Government should come forward with some relief to the ryots. I may give one instance of the hardships of labourers. On the 26th of last month while I was at the Kodur railway station on my way to Madras to attend the Budget session, I met a group of people, men women and children, about 40 or 50 in number, on the platform and I was curious to know what the matter was for them to be there. They spoke some broken Telugu. When I asked them, they said they belonged to Tiruvannamalai in the North Arcot district and for want of work there they had to come in search of employment. I then offered to give them some work in my own village, but I also told them at the same time that if they chose to go towards the northern parts of Cuddapah, they would not only get work but that though the wages are the same as I pay in my place they would get foodgrains at two-thirds of the price they would have to pay in my place. So, Sir, conditions in North Arcot and in other places in the south are such that it is the duty of the Government to see that sufficient relief is given to people who are affected.

"Sir, I can claim to have some experience of famine areas and often times I have felt that the lot of money we spend on famine relief ought to be better utilised. In a majority of cases the labourers are employed on metal breaking. Of course, it is not really that the Government are obstinate in giving work of this kind to these people but I know there are a lot of difficulties in the way of giving some other work to these people. My hon. Friend, Mr. Nagappa, was saying that people do not like metal breaking. He is not right. I was also under the same impression. But, my experience is that many of the labourers do like metal breaking. That is the truth. Of course, they may not like it for a week or two but later on they become satisfied with metal breaking as compared with other forms of work, for instance, irrigation works which are more exacting according to the requirements of the Public Works Department.

"Secondly in regard to the question of road laying, every village has to be connected with roads and famine is an opportunity which they can take advantage of for laying roads. I think it will be more useful if road work is not preferred to irrigation works. If Government entrust such works to the District Boards as famine relief operations, it is not sometimes useful and does not go for the benefit of the labourers, because it is usual for the district boards to entrust the works to contractors and particularly during times of famine these contractors get a lot of profit out of the allotment made for such works, because there is plenty of labour available when there is famine conditions and hence they get many labourers cheap. Thus they make a profit at the cost of labour. However, in case they make provision for famine relief and entrust large amounts to district boards or municipalities, they should insist that the work should be carried on departmentally and that they should also fix the wages."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"I would like to inform the hon. Member that the Hon. Minister will begin to reply at 4-35 and hope he will finish soon."

SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—"I would request the Hon. Minister who has got experience of the Ceded districts, to try as far as possible not to entrust the work to district boards, but if he does, he should see that the work is carried on departmentally.

"Then, Sir, coming to flood-affected areas in my district we were given to understand that some relief would be given to small landowners. Nothing has been done so far. It is not only the rich landowners and the labourers who have suffered but also the small landowners who lost practically everything. A ryot requires Rs. 400 or Rs. 500 to raise turmeric crop in an acre. So, I request the Hon. Minister to do something for the small landowners so that they also get some relief out of the famine relief fund."

* JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, when there is God-made famine man is helpless and when there is man-made famine God is helpless. In either case man has to fight famine by his ingenuity alone. Even so, Government has to devise ways and means of not only fighting famine, but of preventing famine. Now, Sir, this famine has been going on in our State for a number of years. It has become chronic and every year we have to cry and weep in the Legislature here along with the ministers when we hear about famine, either God-made or man-made. So, we must have some sort of permanent arrangement to see, that at any rate in the chronic famine areas, we could, by some method or other, prevent famine and mitigate the rigours of our unfortunate fellow countrymen living in those parts. Now, Sir, I remember when I went to Pondicherry some years ago, I saw artesian wells there. If artesian wells can be had in Pondicherry, I do not think why they could not be had in non-chronic famine areas where water would be oozing all the 24 hours so that the country could be flooded with water, converted into gardens and cultivation carried on without much difficulty. For this purpose, I would request this Government to invite some expert French Engineers to go over to our State and visit the chronic famine areas and find out the possibilities of artesian wells or some other devise for getting plenty of water in those areas. The Hon. Minister in charge of famine relief operations, the Government and perhaps all the Members of the Cabinet and this House might be aware that there is a proposal to convert the Sahara desert into a garden and that the French Engineers are working at it. I suggest that this Government can very well spend 10 or even 20 lakhs in getting some French expert Engineers to find out ways and means of converting these famine areas into non-famine areas so that we can get rid of this bother and head-ache for all time to come.

If any case, whether the famine is man-made or God-made, we have always to depend upon God and let us pray to Him at the same time so that He may guide us in the correct way and enable us to do the right thing at the right time."

[10th March 1950]

SRIMATHI ANJALAI AMMAL :—

“கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது எங்கு பார்த்தாலும் மழையில்லாமல் தண்ணீர் இல்லாததால் ரொம்பவும் கஷ்டமாக இருக்கின்றது. அதனால் ஆயிரக்கணக்கான ஏக்கர் நிலங்கள் வரண்டு பயிர்களெல்லாம் காய்ந்து சாவியாய் போய்விட்டதனால் ஜனங்கள் ஆடு மாடுகளை மேயவிட்டுவருகிறார்கள். அதனால் கவர்ன்மென்ட் பார் அவர்களுக்கு உதவிபண்ணினால் ரொம்பவும் தேவலை. இப்பொழுது மற்றெல்லா வேலைகளுக்கும் கவர்ன்மென்ட் பணம் கொடுத்து உதவி வருவதுபோல் இவர்களுக்கும் இப்பொழுது பணம் கொடுத்து உதவி ரொம்பவும் செளகர்யமாக இருக்கும். ஏனென்றால் அவர்களுக்கு பிழைப் பிறகு வேறுவழியில்லாமலிருக்கின்றது. இருபோகம் விளையக்கூடிய நிலங்கள் ஒருபோகம்கூட விளையாமல் வரண்டு கிடக்கின்றன. அந்த நிலங்களெல்லாம் நல்ல பாசன வசதி இருப்பதனால் முன்காலத்தில் இருபோகம் விளைந்து வந்தன. இராஜாஜி அவர்கள் மந்திரியாக இருந்த காலத்தில் எங்கள் ஊரிலுள்ள ஒரு ஏரி மேட்டிட்டுப்போனதால் மந்திரிகள் அங்கு அடிக்கடி வந்து அதை கவனித்துவந்தார்கள். ஆனால் இப்பொழுது இருபது வருஷகாலமாக அந்த ஏரி மேட்டிட்டுப்போய் துந்துபோய் அதனால் நிலங்களெல்லாம் தீய்ந்துபோய் அப்படியே இருக்கின்றன. ஏனென்றால் இப்பொழுது இருக்கும் மந்திரிகளில் ஒருவரும் அதை கவனிக்கவே இல்லை. இதைப்பற்றி கலெக்டருக்கு எழுதச்சொல்லி அவருக்கும் எழுதியிருக்கிறார்கள். போர் பாட்டிற்குக்கூட இல்லாமல் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். யார்வாந்தாலும் அவர்களுக்கு அங்குள்ள ஜனங்கள் சாப்பாடுபோட்டு கையிலும் நெல் கொடுத்து அனுப்பும் பிரதேசத்தில் இப்பொழுது சாப்பாட்டிற்குக்கூட கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். அந்த மாதிரி நிலங்களெல்லாம் பாழாய்கிடக்கின்றன. இவைகளை யெல்லாம் சர்க்கார் கவனித்து விவசாயிகளின் மேல் பார்வை வைத்து அவைகளுக்கு சீர்திருத்தம் செய்தால் ரொம்பவும் நல்லதாக இருக்கும். ஏழை ஜனங்கள் எங்குபார்த்தாலும் ரொம்பவும் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அதனால் எங்குபார்த்தாலும் திருட்டும், கொள்ளையடிப்பதும் ஜாஸ்தியாகிக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றன.

“இன்னும் இவைகளை சீர்திருத்தம் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கலெக்டரைக் கேட்டால் எஞ்சினீர்வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறார். அவரை நியமிப்பதாக இருந்தால் உத்திரவு மேலிருந்து வந்தால்தான் முடியும் என்று சொல்லுகிறார். தாங்கள் அதற்காக எழுதி அனுப்பியிருப்பதாகவும் சொல்லுகிறார். எங்களால் அங்கு போய் ஒன்றும் சொல்லமுடியவில்லை. எங்களால் பிரசாரமும் செய்யமுடியவில்லை. இப்பொழுது நிலைமை எப்படி இருக்கின்றது என்றால் நாங்கள்போய் சொன்னால் தடியை எடுத்துவந்து அடிப்பார்களபோல் தோன்றுகிறது. அங்கிருக்கும் குறைகளைப்பற்றி நாங்கள் இங்கு வந்து சொல்வதில்லை என்று எங்கள்மேல் அவர்கள் வருத்தப்படுகிறார்கள். தயவுசெய்து இவைகளை கவனிக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“இப்பொழுது கடினம் நதி ஜலம் அவ்வளவும் கடலில்போய் விழுகிறது. அது சமுத்திரத்தில் போய் விழுவதற்குமுன் ஒரு அணைகட்டி அந்த நதியை திருப்பினால் எங்கள் ஊரிலுள்ள மேட்டிட்டு இடங்கையெல்லாம் விவசாயம் செய்யலாம். நதிகளிலும் வாய்க்கால்களிலும் இப்பொழுது மணல் திட்டுகள் ஏற்பட்டு தண்ணீர்போகாமல் இருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் அங்கிருக்கும் நதிகளையும் வாய்க்கால்களையும் பழுதுபார்த்து சீர்திருத்தம் செய்தால் விவசாயம் செய்வதற்கு ரொம்பவும் உபயோகமாக இருக்கும்.

“இப்பொழுது அரிசிகளைப்பது என்பது ரொம்பவும் கஷ்டமாக இருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது ரேஷனை எடுத்துவிட்டு ரூபாய்க்கு இரண்டுபடி அரிசி விலை நிர்ணயம் செய்தால் ரொம்பவும் செளகர்யமாக இருக்கும். இப்பொழுது ரேஷனைவைத்துக்கொண்டிருப்பதால் அரிசிக் கடையில் போய் கேட்டால் இப்பொழுது அரிசி இல்லை நாளைக்கு வாருங்கள் என்று சொல்லி விடுகிறார்கள். இவ்விதம் சொல்லி அநேகம் ஜனங்களை விரட்டிவிடுவதால் ஜனங்கள் அரிசிவாங்கமுடியாமல் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். ஆகையால் தான் அரிசியின் விலையை ரூபாய்க்கு இரண்டுபடி என்று நிர்ணயம் செய்து இந்த ரேஷனையும் எடுத்தவட்டால் நிறைய அரிசியும் கிடைக்கும் எனக்

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கனம் நிம்மதியாக இருப்பார்கள். பிறகு இந்த பஞ்சம் நிவர்த்தியாகி எங்கிருந்தும் அரிசியை வாங்கி சாப்பிடுவார்கள். இப்படிச் செய்வது ரொம்பவும் அவசியம் என்று சொல்லக்கொண்டு இத்துடன் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

* THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must thank the Members for the interest that they have taken in the subject and for the various suggestions that have been made with regard to the prevention of famine and for fighting it. The causes of famine have been gone into by some hon. Members and a few others have observed that whoever is responsible for it, it is the Government that must set right all things. Of the various suggestions made, I find, Sir, some of them are such that it is not possible either for the Government or for anybody else to carry them out. I should take the last suggestion made by the hon. Member for South Kanara who is not here asking why artesian wells could not be found in other areas. I come from Bellary and if I could get one artesian well in my district I should only be too happy. There are certain things in which neither man nor State could help. Artesian water is a rare phenomenon and it occurs only in particular areas. It is found in South Arcot district and not in all dry areas and the Government have been helping those people who wanted to put borewells. It is not as if this idea has not been known to the Government and it is not as if the Government have not attended to this matter. It is not the attention of the Government that is going to yield results but it is nature that should help and none of us can help.

“The hon. Mr. Majid was referring to the cause of famine and suggested that it is the fault of the people, or perhaps the sins of the people and he was trying to quote one hon. Member of the Legislature. We are not going into the reasons for it whether it is God that is responsible for it or somebody else but all of us, the Government and the people, are all responsible to face this evil and try to evolve measures to prevent and fight it. The Famine Demand was characterized by an hon. Member as an anachronism and that there should be no such demand but that it should be an unemployment Relief Demand. I should very much welcome such a state of things. I have had some experience in attending to the relief of famine as a non-official and I have had occasion to deal with the matter more than once in the unfortunate district of mine and the unfortunate areas that I come from. That is an area that has been subject to frequent famines and has been a source of anxiety to the Government for a long time. So, during 1938, a Committee was constituted to go into the question of the revision of the Famine Code. The hon. Member Mr. Nagappa did not perhaps know that adequate enquiries have already been made and a lot of recommendations received and several have been accepted. We did not go merely into the question of the revision of the Code but also considered the ways and means of preventing famine. The suggestions were confined to particular areas that were subject to famine very frequently. But what applies to particular areas, the basic factors apply equally to places where famine conditions exist occasionally, though not every alternate

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year as in the Ceded districts. But unfortunately in the Southern areas, we find that scarcity conditions have been occurring for the last three years continuously and that naturally has impaired the reserve capacity, if I may say so, of the cultivators. He can stand one famine year, but if it is continuous for three years, I quite realize the difficulties of those who have been subjected to this great calamity. I should like to take this occasion to clear the minds of hon. Members of one thing. After touring in all the affected areas the Members of the Board of Revenue have come to the view that conditions in those areas are not such as could be called famine conditions. The term "famine condition" is rather technical, because a particular state of things constitute famine conditions as defined by the Famine Code. But the Government are not standing on any formality whether an area is declared a famine area or not. As I indicated in the course of my opening remarks, the Government have taken up the expansion of relief in all areas where famine conditions obtain. From experience gained in the working of the famine relief operations in Bellary and Anantapur districts during 1945 and 1946, the Members of the Board of Revenue wrote up a report to the Government suggesting that in case such a state of things occurred in future in any other area the policy evolved in 1945 and 1946 in Bellary and Anantapur districts could be followed with advantage in those areas and that is what we propose to do in the present scarcity conditions due to adverse seasonal conditions in all the districts. It will enable people who go to work to get higher wages, much higher than under the Famine Code and at the same time people who would get relief under the Famine Code are also given them because money that is available under the head of Famine will be utilized to provide hutting accommodation, drinking water and other facilities. We propose to open ration shops so that the people who go to work there could get adequate quantity of foodgrains. An hon. Member suggested: What is the good of opening all these works, there must be something to buy there. We have known that aspect of the matter and that is why we have taken care to see that not merely work is provided and wages are given but also that the worker gets his money's worth of foodgrains.

"I am sorry the hon. Mr. Majid is not here as I should like to correct a misconception that is likely to occur in the minds of some hon. Members. Mr. Majid was saying and I am sorry he is not in the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member came to me and said that he was going as he had an urgent business outside."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"He made a remark which I can only call an unfortunate one; he said that he belonged to the South and the Minister belongs to the Andhra area and perhaps I may be inclined more towards helping the Andhra areas. Let me take this opportunity of assuring every section of the House that so long as it is given to me to serve as a Minister of this State, I should like to serve as a Minister of Madras and not as of any particular district or area or people. I can

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assure him that I would never do such things and I hope he did not seriously mean it when he said that I might be inclined to help a particular section; I would not be doing a duty to myself or to my people if I did such things and I should like to take this opportunity to correct any misconception on the part of hon. Members of this House or outside; I claim and I do act in an unbiassed manner to serve the people as a Minister of this State.

"Certain suggestions were made that instead of merely providing road works, minor irrigation works or major irrigation works, the Government must try to tackle famine by taking preventive measures; we must have anticipated it long ago and taken steps to see that such things do not happen. It is true it is a very good suggestion. But I would like to remind the House that such a step is a long-term one. As we are all aware this Presidency has been a deficit one all along in some of foodgrains, and specially in rice, and so if we want to grow rice, unless there are large irrigation works we cannot make our province self-sufficient in food. Here I wish to tell hon. Members that the Government of Madras have a scheme of tank improvement for the entire presidency, and the Government of India have approved that scheme. It costs 10 crores of rupees. In this province there are 33,000 irrigation tanks, of which a little over 9,000 are Government tanks. We do realize the need for taking steps to prevent famine by providing adequate irrigation facilities, and when the scheme is pushed through I am sure, the problem of availability of foodgrains for the people would have been solved; and perhaps there will be no famine condition as such. But the question of failure of rainfall as such is bound to happen as also floods and cyclone. Unfortunately, in the Andhra area, it has been found that these cyclones have been coming every five years, or four years. In fact, the question was put to me some time ago by one hon. Member, 'have you been able to find the cycle of cyclones that affect these coastal districts, why they come and what steps are being taken to prevent them?' Sir, it is quite possible perhaps to investigate it and find out how frequently cyclones have been visiting a particular area. But to take measures against tidal waves is a long-term measure, which will cost a lot of money. No doubt, examples have been cited of countries which have been able to withstand tidal waves. But, as I said, such a scheme is a long-term scheme, which will cost a lot of money. But I assure hon. Members of this House that Government wish to see that there is no famine condition in this State. They are as eager as anybody else to see that such conditions do not occur. For that, long-term measures have been taken up, and a lot of money has been made available to tackle the problem. For instance, the hon. Member from Nellore was referring to the Krishna-Pennar project; it is a very good project; it is going to irrigate a vast area. The hon. Member from Visakhapatnam was referring to the Vamsadhara project; and the hon. Member from Ramnad was referring to the Vaigai. It is true that every district has got irrigation facilities for putting up some kind of irrigation work which will help to grow more food in that particular district,

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which will help to ease the overall situation of the State, and perhaps also of the whole country, as there may be some foodgrain left after meeting the needs of the State for export outside. These are schemes that have to be examined, and some of them have been taken up for execution after examination. This is what in general I have to say on this Demand.

"Sir, Mr. Palaniswami Gounder from Coimbatore made the remark that the Government of Madras are treating Coimbatore and Salem districts in a step-motherly way. I am surprised that he should have said that. Sir, why should this Government treat any district, whether it is Coimbatore or Salem or any other district, in a step-motherly way. Sir, this is a Government which represents everybody. We are not interested in treating anybody in a step-motherly way. In fact, when such a district as Coimbatore or Salem has powerful people like the hon. Member himself, Mr. Avinashilingam Chettiyar, Dr. Subbarayan—when such enlightened members represent that district, can any Government afford to treat such a district in a step-motherly way? It is impossible. I am sure, the hon. Member did not mean it. Or, if he meant it, I can only tell him, that we have no such intention. We want that every area, whether it is Coimbatore or Visakhapatnam, that has been subjected to distress due to seasonal conditions or cyclone or flood, is given necessary, adequate and early relief. I claim we have done our best in the matter. As I have already said in my earlier statement, as soon as the conditions were known, I took special care to see that every area was inspected by no less an officer than a Member of the Board of Revenue, because from experience of these things, I know that it is always useful to send Members of the Board of Revenue to study at first hand the situation and then submit a report; as, that will certainly expedite relief much more than what we have been doing till now. I think I have done my very best in the matter; and the results have proved that the steps Government took in deputing these officers to tour and submit a report has had the desired effect. A few members have said that the number of road works, minor irrigation works or some other irrigation works that the Government have taken up are more in some districts than in some other places. I know one hon. Member said that while the Highway Engineer sent up 44 works for approval, Government have approved only 32 works. It is quite correct that 32 only have been approved. But it does not mean that the remaining 12 works are not going to be taken up. Government have been sanctioning as many works as are necessary to meet the situation and to provide employment to local people. So, if there are more works in any particular area, the hon. Member need not be agitated over that matter, because we want to see that adequate employment is given in every place to those people who need employment. I can assure hon. Members that it is our intention and we do mean to carry out our intention, to give adequate relief to all areas. We will give the necessary staff for such works as and when they are required. I would also tell hon. Members that I am keeping in touch with the progress of relief operations in every district by getting

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a weekly report from the Collectors, which are placed before me as soon as they are received. Arrangements have also been made to see that the Collectors should send directly to the Secretariat and the Board of Revenue those weekly reports, so that the Board of Revenue and the Secretariat may keep a vigilant watch over the progress. If Collectors send proposals for sanction for additional work or staff, there is no delay in sanctioning them. Mr. R. V. Swaminathan made a statement saying that Government had neglected 300 acres of land in Tanjore; that it was first-class land, and that it could have been allotted for growing useful crop; but it had been allowed to lie waste by the neglect either at district level or some other level. I would like to give him certain facts about it here and now, as repeated mention was made about it. It was emphasized as though nothing had been done in the matter, or the whole thing has been hanging fire very long. It was stated that the lands were taken away from some gentlemen and have not been re-assigned to any one for cultivation and that the lands remain uncultivated. I should like to say a few facts about the land. The entire area is about 800 and odd acres. From the file, I see the Government Order is dated 19th October 1949. Out of that 800 and odd acres, one hundred acres have been reserved for the co-operative society of field labourers for a period of five years, and the remaining land has been asked to be assigned to the class of people who are eligible for assignment under the Government Order we have already passed."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Not only have they not allotted any land, but the lands have been allowed to remain uncultivated. That is a fact. I do not know what Government have been doing."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The information I have with me I have furnished. I had no time to contact local people. So, so far as the matter is dealt with at Secretariat level, I can assure the hon. Member that we have taken steps to see that the matter was disposed of. I want to correct a possible impression that may be created in the minds of the Members that the Government may be holding up matters and not disposing of them, and to matters of great importance, they do not pay prompt attention. We are not delaying any matter at all. At the same time, Sir, it is quite possible that there are a few lands here and there in the presidency, through neglect of somebody, which may not have been cultivated. It can only be a very small acreage. But I assure hon. Members of the House that we mean to see, and we have already instructed our officers to see, that no land that is available for cultivation is left to go waste; and if there is any such land we would only thank hon. Members like Mr. Swaminathan to bring them to the notice of Government, and we would take early steps to have the defects, if any, remedied."

"Some hon. Members said that the people of certain districts like Kurnool and Cuddapah expected the announcement of certain land revenue concessions and that such an announcement had not

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yet been made. I should like to tell them that so far as the cyclone and flood-affected districts are concerned, orders have been passed long ago granting remission of land revenue in special cases.

"Some complaints were made about the non-supply of tractors for reclamation of land and such other matters. I assure the hon. Members that the department will take note of what the hon. Members have said and we shall see that the grievances are removed.

"Let me thank the hon. Members once again for the very useful suggestions that they have made and the way in which they dealt with the subject. I request the hon. Member to withdraw the cut motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Janab Sinna Kaziar is going to withdraw the cut motion. I wish to remind him that he has no right of reply."

JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, having heard the reply of the Hon. Minister and with the fervent hope that there will not be famines in future, I beg leave of the House to withdraw the cut motion."

The cut motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—
that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,00,000 under Demand XXIX—Famine."

The Demand was carried and the Grant made.

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Last year the Hon. Speaker allowed the Member who withdrew the cut motion to say a few words by way of reply."

MR. SPEAKER:—"By this time the hon. Member should have known that the mover or any other Member who withdraws a cut motion has no right of reply under the Rules."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Saturday, the 11th March 1950.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Food deficit in the Madras State.

* 47 Q.—SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) what the amount of deficit in Food in Madras State is; and

(b) what the quantity of foodgrains expected from the Government of India is?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—" (a) The deficit during 1950 has been estimated at about 8 lakhs tons of all foodgrains.

" (b) The Government of India have not officially communicated the total ceiling import quota for 1950 but we have been given to understand that it will be 3 lakhs tons of all foodgrains. The Government of India have also been approached for further allotment to cover the deficit."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Even after taking into account, the three lakhs of tons of foodgrains expected to be received from the Government of India, there is a deficit of five lakhs of tons. What steps do the Government propose to take to cover this deficit?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"As I have already said, we are still trying to get more quota from the Central Government. At the same time we are trying to procure as much as possible in our own State."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know the exact quantity that we expect from the Government of India before the end of the year?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"The deficit is about 8 lakhs of tons. Now it is too early to say how much we will procure in our own State. That is why we are trying to get as much as possible from the Central Government to meet the situation."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"How much of this deficit of 8 lakhs of tons is represented by rice and how much by other foodgrains and may I know the basis of the calculation of this deficit?"

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THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"The deficit is made up of 6 lakhs of tons of rice and 2 lakhs of tons of other foodgrains."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Arising out of the answer that the Government are trying to procure more, may I know what impediments stand in the way of their procuring more even now?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"As is well known, we are handicapped in two ways—the cyclone havoc in the northern districts and the monsoon failure in the southern districts. Our estimate of the loss due to cyclone is about 3 lakhs of tons. The monsoon failure has affected the food crops in the southern districts."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"To cover the net deficit of 5 lakhs of tons, how much more foodgrains than last year do the Government hope to procure?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"In spite of our best efforts, I do not think we will be able to procure as much as we did in the previous years."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister the basis on which the deficit is calculated, the quantity of paddy produced in our State and the outturn of rice, and the relation between the requirement and the availability in our State?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"A separate question may be put."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know whether this Government are sure of getting from the Government of India as much as to cover the entire deficit to prevent deaths due to starvation because of the very peculiar and critical condition in which our State is placed on account of various causes?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"Yes, Sir, we feel the responsibility to keep up the present scale of ration and it is hoped that it will not be necessary to allow any part of the State to starve on account of want of food."

JANAB M. V. HYDROSS:—"May I know whether there is any proposal to reduce the present scale of ration?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"There is no such proposal."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Will the Hon. Minister give an assurance to this House that he will make every effort to see that people do not die of starvation on account of the precarious food position this year?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"The assurance has already been given."

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JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"We are not satisfied much with the assurance of this Minister. Will he try to get an assurance from the Government of India that no deaths due to starvation will be allowed to occur?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"At the last Food Conference it was made very clear to the Government of India that they are as much responsible as the State Government to see that people are not allowed to starve."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware, from proceedings of the various District Food Committees which have appeared in the press, that a number of members have complained that too much pressure is brought to bear by the procuring agents or the Government staff in the matter of procurement?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"As regards exercise of pressure here and there, we get complaints from both sides. According to the present system, we have sometimes to use pressure on the people to get foodgrains. At the same time we have also made it clear that no unnecessary hardship should be caused to the people on that account."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister has any information that there are deaths on account of starvation in any part of this State?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"There has been no definite report about that."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—"In computing the food requirements of our State, may I know whether the requirements of both the statutory and the non-statutory ration areas have been taken into consideration?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"Both areas are always taken into consideration."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"In addition to the intensive procurement scheme, which is very unpopular and is also difficult to execute, have the Government any scheme for intensive production of short-term crop?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"Yes, that also is being tried."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the declared policy of the Central Government to stop import of foodgrains from 1951, may I know what attempts the Madras Government are making to make our State self-sufficient in food?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"The Government have undertaken several measures. Besides the grant of well subsidies, we are interesting ourselves in minor and other irrigation works which will enable us to produce more food."

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SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—“Has the Hon. Minister for Food received any communications from Burma or from any other source as Burmese are saying that they are prepared to supply any quantity of rice and, if so, what action has he taken on them?”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“Negotiation with a foreign government is a matter entirely within the jurisdiction of the Government of India.”

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMY GOUNDER:—“In view of the general failure of monsoon consecutively for the last three years in the southern districts and in view of the fact that as high as 30 per cent of the produce has been procured in our State, will the Government see that no undue pressure is applied in procurement?”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“Procurement scheme is only based on surplus. Where there is no surplus, no procurement is possible.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“In view of the emergent need for making up the deficit, will the Government follow the policy of concentrating on areas where the maximum yield of food can be obtained?”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“Wherever we can produce more by devoting more attention, we are already devoting attention to such areas.”

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“Will the Hon. Minister convey to the Government of India the general anxiety expressed in this House about the need for making up the deficit immediately to avert starvation and death?”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“Representations have already been made. The Director-General of Food, who recently toured in our State, also carried the opinion of the people here that something must be done as early as possible to relieve the situation.”

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMY GOUNDER:—“Madras has done the maximum procurement and possibly our State stands foremost in the whole of India. When that is the case, the general impression in the minds of the people is that the Government are becoming more and more unpopular on account of their applying pressure in further procurement.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member is making a statement.”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“In view of the fact that this Government depend on procurement to fill up the deficit, may I know the progress made in procurement in the Coimbatore district where the levy system has been introduced and the other districts?”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“Levy system has been introduced in the Coimbatore district as a trial measure. The Government are watching the working of that system. At present it is considered that it has worked well

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so far and that it will not affect the quantity which we can procure by the usual method of procurement. If the system proves a success, it is proposed to try it in other places also.”

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government have any proposal to increase the procurement price of foodgrains because the landlords are not prepared to release their stock due to the low procurement price?” 11-15 a.m.

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“Sir, the general policy laid down by the Central Government is to reduce the procurement price of foodgrains as much as possible, and agreeable to that policy, we have also to reduce the price wherever possible. It is not possible to increase the procurement price all of a sudden unless circumstances warrant such a course.”

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—“Referring back to the answer, Sir, that there is no case of death due to starvation, may I know whether the Hon. Minister for Food has made any enquiries to find out whether the citizens of this Province are underfed or not and why many sections of society are getting leaner and leaner every day and whether it is not on account of the insufficiency of rations.”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“Whenever we get any such report, we send our officers to find out the true cause of it and generally we find from their reports that they are affected by certain maladies without sufficient nutrition. It is no doubt true, Sir, that under the present circumstances, the general condition of the people will be such, because we are not able to meet their full requirements, so far as supply of food is concerned.”

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“Has this Government impressed upon the Government of India that it is because of the reduced issue price that they are not able to procure as much as possible and that if it is continued, it will be detrimental to the procurement policy of this Government?”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“It has been pointed out to them more than once and that was also the suggestion made at the last Food Conference. But now without affecting our procurement, we have already taken steps to reduce the price to the consumers.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister that in order to increase food-production in this State, the Government have taken up a number of major and minor irrigation projects, may I know when the Government expect this State become self-sufficient in the matter of food?”

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“We are making every effort to increase food-production in the State and to hasten the day when this State will become self-sufficient; but I cannot say, Sir, when that happy day will come.”

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JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware of the wheat scarcity in the province and also of the deteriorated condition of the wheat stocks available?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"Wheat has been received only just now in this State, Sir. Probably the hon. Member is referring to some old stock, which has already been distributed after it is cleaned and fumigated."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"In view of the extraordinary situation caused by the conspiracy of famine and flood, will the Hon. Chief Minister of this State take up this matter himself and try to impress upon the Government of India to give us a guarantee that this State will not be neglected for reasons of their own?"

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Are not the hundreds of cases of arrests that are being reported regarding unauthorised transport of rice indicate that there is something wrong in the procurement machinery?"

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—"That is not due to the defects in the procurement machinery, Sir. We are now, as I said, trying to remove all the surplus available, according to our present method of procurement. There may be here and there some surplus left which probably finds its way into other markets, Sir."

Increase of the quota of iron and steel.

* 48 Q.—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state whether any representations were made to the Government of India to increase the quota of iron and steel for this State and if so, what the result is?

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"Yes, Sir. The Government of India have increased the quota to this State. As against an allotment of 4,000 tons in period I of 1948, the allotment to the State in period I of 1950 has been 9,945 tons (including both the agricultural and non-agricultural quota)."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know, Sir, what are the normal requirements of iron and steel for this Province and what is the deficit, so far as the availability of iron and steel from outside is concerned?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"I have not got the figures at present, Sir. Let the hon. Member put a separate question."

Cholera in Eluru taluk.

* 49 Q.—SRI B. S. MURTHI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of persons who got an attack of cholera in Eluru taluk during December 1949 and January 1950;

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(b) the number of deaths due to cholera during that period; and

(c) the measures taken to arrest the spread of cholera?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (a) & (b).

	Attacks.	Deaths.
December 1949	6	4
January 1950	145	54

" (c) The usual control measures such as disinfection of cholera excrements including vomits and all articles soiled by them, protection and chlorination of drinking water sources, better cleansing and conservancy, isolation and treatment of patients, and anti-cholera inoculation. The epidemic is now subsiding as a result of the measures taken."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister that in the month of January there were 145 attacks and 54 deaths, may I know, Sir, whether it is due to inadequacy of the staff that cholera could not be brought down, resulting in 54 deaths?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is not a question of staff that is concerned with the spread of an epidemic like cholera, Sir."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that the death rate has shot up to so high a figure as 54 in the second month of the incidence of the epidemic and is it not on account of the want of staff and the non-availability of the medicines in those places, particularly in rural areas that is responsible for such a high death rate?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"There was some staff, Sir, and it was not reduced in the month that the hon. Member refers. The same staff has been working there, Sir, but the question as to why at particular periods of the year, cholera is so virulent as to cause so many deaths, is still under investigation, Sir."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"My question was, Sir, whether the existing staff was adequate and whether there was no need to provide additional staff to cope with the situation that has arisen, and if so, whether such additional staff was given?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"All the necessary staff for combating the spread of the epidemic has been provided, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that though cholera was prevailing in the month of December, it has shot up to 145 attacks in January resulting in 54 deaths. If so, may I know, whether during the month of December any section of the population got themselves inoculated and if so, what percentage of the population got themselves inoculated in the month of December?"

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, inoculation against cholera is a universal safeguard wherever cholera prevails and inoculation has been going on from month to month, both in December and January."

SRIMATHI R. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Since cholera is a water-borne disease, may I know whether Eluru has got protected water supply, Sir?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Yes, Sir, it has."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister whether the attack of cholera could not be anticipated, since the whole of that region was cyclone-swept in the months earlier to December?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is rather strange, Sir, that after the cyclone, there was not an increase in cholera, in any village affected by cholera."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"May I know, Sir, whether in view of the remedial measures taken by the Government to checkmate cholera, the cholera situation in Eluru is now well in hand, and whether there is now a less number of cases of cholera attack?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Yes, Sir, that is the answer I have given. We have in a way tackled the epidemic very successfully, Sir."

The Government Ceramic Factory at Gudur.

* 50 Q.—JANAB S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state the amount of the profits earned by the Ceramic Factory at Nellore in the year 1949 or the amount of loss, if any, incurred by the factory since it was started?

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"The Government Ceramic Factory at Gudur began to function as a commercial concern with effect from 1st April 1949. The financial position will be known only after the accounts of the concern are audited after 31st March 1950."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"In view of the fact that there is no ceramic factory in the Tamil Nad, either owned by the Government or by private agencies, will the Government start a ceramic factory in the Tamil Nad, and especially in Ramnad, where plenty of white clay is available?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"That suggestion will be considered, Sir. Nothing can be promised now."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government are satisfied with the present working of the ceramic factory at Gudur?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"It is working satisfactorily, Sir."

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SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know the capital involved in this ceramic factory?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"Notice, Sir."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Is not ceramic industry a very important industry and if so, is it not necessary that some more impetus should be given to it by spending some more money on that industry and by starting some more factories in the Province?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"Lots of money are being spent, Sir, to put this industry on a sound basis."

SRI D. V. RAMASAMI:—"In view of the importance of this industry, may I know whether the Hon. Minister will consider the desirability of starting a ceramic factory in Rajahmundry?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"At present we have not got enough personnel to start any new factories, Sir."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether the articles produced in that factory compare favourably with imported goods?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"They are not up to the standard of the imported goods, Sir, but however, they are better than local-made goods."

JANAB N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether this factory is producing anything, and if it is, whether it has marketed anything, and if it has marketed, whether it is durable, and if durable, whether it is economical?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"The articles manufactured in this factory are marketed, Sir; but regarding other things, I am not able to say anything at present."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know, Sir, what are the articles produced in this ceramic factory?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"Sanitary wares and crockery, Sir."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know, Sir, whether this ceramic factory has got any experts from Japan?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"The ceramic expert now working at Gudur has had his training in Japan and other foreign countries."

Tobacco Growers' Marketing Society at Guntur.

[* 51 Q.—MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member who put the question is not in his place. The answer will be printed in the proceedings."]

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SRI M. NAGESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) at what stage the proposal to organize a Tobacco Growers' Marketing Society at Guntur is and whether the re-drying plant which was ordered by the Indian Central Tobacco Committee for this society has been received;

(b) what the conditions are under which this Government wanted the Indian Central Tobacco Committee to give the re-drying plant for the society; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the Indian Central Tobacco Committee offered the plant to the Madras Government on long-term loan which cost nearly Rs. 2 lakhs and also agreed to bear a certain portion of the cost of staff of the society?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“(a) The scheme of this Government for the formation of a co-operative society of tobacco growers and for installation of a re-drying plant has been dropped in view of the scheme of the Indian Central Tobacco Committee to establish a re-drying plant at Guntur.

“(b) The Indian Central Tobacco Committee was originally requested to give the re-drying plant and bonded warehouse (which was estimated to cost Rs. 7,56,000) free of cost to the co-operative society proposed to be formed under the scheme of this Government, in view of the fact that a major portion of the Tobacco fund raised by the Government of India was contributed by the Guntur tobacco growers. When however the Committee informed this Government that it would meet only half of the expenditure, viz., Rs. 14,750 towards the cost of one Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies and 10 Agricultural Demonstrators, this Government requested the Committee at least to meet half of the non-recurring expenditure Rs. (Rs. 3.78 lakhs) and half of the recurring expenditure (Rs. 14,750) as neither the proposed co-operative society nor the Government could bear the entire cost. These were the conditions under which this Government wanted the re-drying plant.

“(c) The answer to the first part of the question is ‘no’ and the answer to the second part is ‘yes’.”

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

II.—BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1950-51—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1950-51—cont.

DEMAND XXVIII—ELECTRICITY.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,01,07,400 under Demand XXVIII—Electricity’.”

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“It is rather appropriate, Sir, that I should follow up the demand for Famine Relief granted yesterday with a demand for Electricity development. Sir, famines are caused by the existence of abnormal conditions of poverty accentuated by the continuous failure of monsoons and electricity is the most potent instrument for production of wealth which would permanently root out these conditions.

“This Demand on Electricity for Rs. 2,01,07,400 represents the operating costs of those electricity enterprises which have come into productive use. They consist of the three hydro-electric systems of Pykara, Mettur and Papanasam, the huge thermal plant of Madras City and the Andhra system consisting of the thermal plants at Visakhapatnam, Kakinada, Vijayavada, Kurnool, Cuddapah and other places. The gross revenue from these systems far exceeds the operating expenses covered by this Demand bringing us a net profit. This net profit has been steadily increasing during the last few years and it now forms an important addition to our General revenues. For 1946-47, the net revenue was Rs. 52 lakhs, for 1947-48 Rs. 62 lakhs, for 1948-49 Rs. 85 lakhs, for the year just closing Rs. 124 lakhs, and for the coming year it is estimated to be Rs. 158 lakhs. For the current year, this revenue would have been appreciably greater but for the fact that our hydro-electric reservoirs were practically empty for many months owing to the repeated failure of monsoons and therefore drastic cuts had to be made in the consumption of power. Even so, hon. Members can see that the revenue from this source has trebled itself during the last three years giving us a little over 8 per cent on the capital invested on Electricity.”

“There is another important Demand connected with Electricity, Demand No. XXXVIII for Rs. 5,66,10,600 for Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes. In case we do not reach that Demand for want of time, I shall briefly state that this Demand is intended to meet the large capital expenditure we are now incurring on new schemes. Electricity projects when completed, will bring us a fair return on the capital and therefore the large amount covered by this Demand need not be met from taxation, but can be financed from loan funds. In the Budget for the year just closing, we had provided for an expenditure of about rupees six crores under this head and we will actually be spending a little more. That was the reason why the Hon. Finance Minister was very worried when the Government of India refused to grant him the loan of rupees six crores which they had originally promised him. However he has managed to make full provision for this expenditure in the revised Budget without imposing substantial cuts, for which, we should all be grateful to him.

“In order to enable hon. Members to appreciate the significance of these demands, I shall briefly explain the policies and programmes which we are now pursuing. When the Congress took over the administration of this State in 1946, the total installed capacity of all generating stations was 120,000 K.Ws.

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Since then we acquired the big thermal plant of Madras City and a few other small stations raising our total installed capacity to 160,000 K.Ws. Almost the first thing we did after taking over the administration was to sanction a five-year plan of power development. This programme consists of the Machkund Project estimated for Rs. 1,283 lakhs, Moyar Project for Rs. 634 lakhs, Pykara Extensions for Rs. 326 lakhs, Papanasam Extensions including Mathurai Thermal Plant for Rs. 288 lakhs, Madras Plant Extensions for Rs. 265 lakhs, Ceded Districts Distribution Scheme for Rs. 76 lakhs, the Nellore Thermal Scheme for Rs. 60 lakhs, the expansion of the Visakhapatnam, Vijayavada and Kakinada Thermal Stations for about Rs. 220 lakhs and the construction of certain main transmission lines in different places in order to transmit the additional power to various consuming centres. The total cost of this five-year programme is about Rs. 30 crores and when completed, it will double up the power generation in the State. Work is in full swing on all items of this programme and in spite of unavoidable delays caused by foreign firms in the delivery of plant, this programme is expected to be completed by about 1952. We have spent on this programme about Rs. 2.7 crores in 1947-48, Rs. 4.5 crores in 1948-49 and Rs. 6 crores in 1949-50. The amount of Rs. 5.6 crores covered by Demand XXXVIII in the Budget for 1950-51 is largely towards this programme. Hon. Members will therefore see that this five-year plan is not a mere paper-plan, but we are already half-way through, in its execution. (Hear hear.) It is no doubt true that additional power has not yet begun to come in; but electricity projects take a good deal of time in these days of acute shortages and the progress we have made in execution, certainly compares very favourably with what other States have been able to accomplish elsewhere. Certain items of this programme have already matured, as for example the Ceded Districts Distribution Scheme, which was recently switched on in Bellary district, and the Nellore Thermal Plant which will be ready for operation by next June. Under these circumstances, I have a right to appeal to the hon. Members to bear with me for a little more time till about the end of 1951 by which time we hope to usher in very substantial results.

"The Electricity department is organized on commercial lines, i.e., the department maintains separate capital and revenue accounts and when it supplies power to a consumer the revenue derived from the consumer should meet the interest on capital, the depreciation on the installation, the operating expenses and should also produce a profit. Supposing the capital cost of an extension to a consumer is Rs. 100, the department must derive sufficient revenue from him to cover Rs. 3½ towards interest, Rs. 2½ towards depreciation, Rs. 3 towards operating expenses, and something more towards the cost of the power generated at the power station. Till 1947, the department was insisting on a minimum annual revenue of Rs. 12½ on a capital investment of Rs. 100, which meant that after allowing for interest, depreciation and operating

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expenses, there was a sum of Rs. 3½ per year towards the cost of power. On this formula, industrial loads consuming large blocks of power for long hours were at an advantage. Applicants for agricultural loads which consumed power in small quantities were unable to guarantee this 12½ per cent revenue and were being rejected as unremunerative. In order to assist agriculturist, we have reduced the minimum guarantee from 12½ to 10 per cent in hydro-electric areas and from 15 per cent to 10 per cent in thermal areas. This reduction leaves just a small margin only towards the cost of power in hydro-electric areas and no margin at all in thermal areas. In other words, we have begun in a small way to subsidize rural electrification and the department is gradually losing its commercial character. The new emphasis which we are now laying on rural electrification has begun to produce some results. Electricity reached 101 new villages in 1946-47, 146 villages in 1947-48, 194 villages in 1948-49 and about 250 villages in 1949-50. One thousand two hundred and twenty-three pump-sets were newly connected up in 1946-47, 1,793 in 1947-48, 2,288 in 1948-49 and about 2,500 in 1949-50. Electricity is now available in 1,700 villages to operate about 15,000 pumpsets and we are at present endeavouring to see that about 3,000 pumpsets are newly installed in each year. This is not altogether a mean achievement especially when we find that nothing comparable has been done for rural electrification in any other part of India including Mysore, which had a lead of several years over us. We have made adequate provision under Demand XXXVIII for continuing this good work to the limit of the capacity of the department in materials and technical man power.

"The House would remember that during the November session we enacted legislation for the speedy nationalization of the few private and local board electricity enterprises of this State. I had explained on that occasion, that our rural folk have become electricity-minded, that licensees who were answerable to shareholders for an adequate return on capital, were not the proper agency to distribute this vital amenity in villages, where the law of diminishing returns operated steeply, and that for the proper development of licensees areas, the Government should take over their concerns and operate them as part of the Government's business. That legislation has since become law and the time has come to implement it. The licensees are now conscious that their undertakings will soon be taken over and are therefore in a state of unhealthy suspense. It would be desirable if we could have taken over all these concerns forthwith, but this would place a very heavy strain on our limited resources. Our main emphasis should be on the five-year plan for the generation of additional power and therefore the acquisition of existing concerns could only take a lower order of priority. Besides, we should space out the acquisition in such a way as to cause the minimum dislocation to the smooth administration of the department. We have now drawn up a programme of acquisition arranging the concerns in five batches to be taken up one after another, the less efficient ones taking precedence. I had promised the licensees' representatives

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that this programme will be announced beforehand so that the licensees may be relieved of suspense. The following is the programme:

First Batch.

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|------------------------|--|
| (i) Udipi; | (ix) Tirumalai-Tirupati; |
| (ii) Rajahmundry; | (x) Kasaragod; |
| (iii) Ongole; | (xi) Union Cochin; |
| (iv) Proddattur; | (xii) Thirty-three local board concerns; |
| (v) Narasaraopet; | (xiii) West Ramnad; |
| (vi) Salur-Parvatipur; | (xiv) Vellore; and |
| (vii) Srikakulam; | (xv) Ambur-Vaniyambadi. |
| (viii) East Coast; | |

Second Batch.

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| (i) Adoni; | (v) Mangalore; |
| (ii) Bobbili; | (vi) Tirunelveli-Tuticorin; and |
| (iii) Gudivada; | (vii) Salem-Erode. |
| (iv) Anakapalle; | |

Third Batch.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| (i) Palghat; | (vii) Kanadukathan; |
| (ii) Cannanore-Tellicherry; | (viii) Chittoor; |
| (iii) Devakottai; | (ix) Visakhapatnam; |
| (iv) Nattarasankottai; | (x) Kozhikode; |
| (v) Karaikudi; | (xi) Eluru; and |
| (vi) Chingleput; | (xii) Nellore. |

Fourth Batch.

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| (i) Nagapattinam; | (iii) Guntur; and |
| (ii) Kumbakonam; | (iv) South Arcot. |

Fifth Batch.

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| (i) South Madras (four undertakings—East Tanjore, East Ramnad, Tiruchi-Srirangam and Pudukkottai State Co.); |
| (ii) Ponnamaravathi (Pudukkottai); |
| (iii) Brahavidyalambal (Pudukkottai); and |
| (iv) Pudukkottai Corpa (Pudukkottai). |

Even though I have now announced this programme, I must make it clear that a batch will not necessarily be taken over fully in one financial year. A five-year period for taking over all the concerns seems at present to be the minimum, consistent with efficiency and the availability of funds; but this period can be lengthened out or shortened according to administrative and financial convenience. The Government must reserve to themselves the right to deviate from this programme for good reasons. Licensees may, however, note, that as far as I can foresee at present, this is the programme which we wish to adhere to. Licensees whose concerns cannot be acquired immediately may legitimately complain that they cannot

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find funds for further development, because nobody will lend them for a short duration. In order to assist such licensees, the Government are willing to grant them loans at about 4 per cent for specified rural extensions. We have, during this year, granted to the South Madras Electric Supply Corporation represented by Sri Seshasayee, two loans, one for about Rs. 8 lakhs and another for about Rs. 3 lakhs for certain rural extensions and I had the pleasure of switching on current in some of the rural areas covered by the earlier loan. My hon. Friend, Sri Natsan, will confirm that the Government have similarly sanctioned to the South Arcot licensee, a loan of Rs. 7 lakhs for rural extensions in his area. More applications are coming in and it shall be my endeavour to sanction as many loans as possible within the limits of our ways and means position.

"About three years ago, our post-war planners were enthusiastic about the speedy nationalization of key industries and public utilities. Since then, there has been a change of opinion and there may be some amongst you who doubt the necessity of nationalizing private electricity enterprises. They may well ask why the Government should not confine their activities to the creation of new wealth instead of acquiring existing wealth. I do not wish to enter into the merits of this controversy, but shall contend myself by giving you a brief account of what we have already done in the way of nationalizing this industry. The House will remember that in August 1947, we acquired the City electricity undertaking from the British firm which had operated it for over forty years. Conditions of generation and distribution were not too satisfactory when we took over and it was almost impossible to get a new service connexion. The generating plant was very old and the D.C. system of distribution was out of date. There were few days when the current had not failed in one sector or the other in the City. For the immediate relief of the City, two 2,500 K.W. transportable sets were installed by us in quick time at a cost of Rs. 32 lakhs. Twenty-seven distribution transformers were added on to the 54 taken over from the former stations were added on to the 54 taken over from the company. Thirty-three miles of high tension and 56 miles of low tension lines were newly laid. The peak load of the power house was raised from 19,600 to 25,400 K.Ws. registering an increase of 30 per cent. Service connexions increased from 21,526 to 27,691 or by 28 per cent. Rural service in the neighbourhood of the City was taken up for the first time and 63 agricultural pumps aggregating to 300 H.P. have been connected up. The number of units consumed in the City rose from 68 millions per year to about 90 millions. The outmoded D.C. equipment is gradually being replaced by modern A.C. equipment and about 400 services have already been changed over. Works are well in progress for the installation of new plant for 15,000 K.Ws. at Basin Bridge at an estimated ultimate cost of Rs. 6 crores which will come into operation in 1952 and solve the power problems of Madras for a decade or more. Complaints have been made in certain quarters

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that we have been increasing the staff of the system indiscriminately. It is no doubt true that we have employed additional staff, but this addition was necessary for the expansion of the power plant and new services. Our critics do not seem to realize that the European officers who were running the concern had left and their places had to be filled by new men. A good deal of consulting and purchase work was being done for the Company in London by their Headquarters staff and that work too is now being done locally. The main consideration is judging us on this question should be whether we have been able to run the concern during the last two years as a successful commercial proposition. I can assure the House that we are securing a reasonable return on our capital, after providing for depreciation at rates ranging as high as 8-1/3 per cent which was considered necessary, in view of the dilapidated conditions of much of the plant which will have to be replaced quick. A large part of our efforts, as, for example, the plants for the extensions have not yet begun to bear fruit, but by 1952 we hope to present a tidy picture. In the meanwhile we have just completed the work of interconnecting the Mettur Hydro-Electric Power House with Madras through a 110-K.W. transmission line and from last night onwards about 4,00 K.Ws. of power which is surplus in Madras during the early hours of the morning will be transmitted to Mettur to augment the resources of that system, sadly depleted by the failure of the monsoon. In future, it may be possible to save coal in the City plant, by tapping the surplus power available in the Mettur System during certain irrigation seasons. I now leave it to hon. Members to judge whether the department has done something worthwhile after taking over the Madras concern and whether further nationalization is worthwhile.

“The development of electricity has to be planned on a long-range basis. Under our existing shortages of money, materials and an-power, an electricity project will take at least five years to mature from the date of inception. Hon. Members may therefore ask me whether the department has any plans for the future after the completion of the five-year programme which we are already half-way through. Investigation is now proceeding and is about to be finalized on a scheme in the Kundah Valley on the Nilgiri Plateau which is capable of generating 100,000 K.Ws. We have conducted negotiations with the Cochin-Travancore Union for the development of power from the Periyar waters in Mathurai district and an agreement is in sight whereby we hope to develop about 40,000 K.Ws. of power. The Tungabhadra Project now under execution will give us an equal quantity of power for use in the Ceded districts. Plans and estimates for the Hydro-Electric portion of this Project has just been received by the Government and are now under consideration. We have also negotiated an agreement with Mysore on the Mekadatu Falls on the Cauvery, whereby Mysore will release to us about 20,000 K.Ws. of power for use in South Kanara and the Salem.

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We have already prospected a good site on the Sileru below the Machkund river in Visakhapatnam district from which a substantial block of power can be generated to supplement the Machkund System in the final stages of development. Plans are thus getting ready for the development of another 200,000 K.Ws. of power, for rural electrification in the quinquennium to follow the present five-year plan.

“I have now covered the salient points of the electricity administration. But I can visualize, that friends from Andhra districts may point an accusing finger at me, by attempting to draw a contrast between what has been already accomplished in the Hydro-Electric areas in the South and the Thermal areas of the North. I can appreciate their anxiety, if that was intended just to make me put in an extra spurt for the speedier development of electricity in the Northern districts; but I must at the same time point out that the present Government became responsible for the administration of the State only from 1946 and cannot be held responsible for any remiss in the past. The Machkund Project which we sanctioned in 1946, is by far the biggest hydro-electric project which we have so far launched and it is exclusively for the benefit of the Circars. The Project site is situated in the dense, malaria-infected jungles of the Agency, 125 miles from the nearest railhead. Plainsmen had seldom traversed that trackless country and our Engineers who investigated it, had to reach the place mounted on elephants—a journey of two days from Jaipur. Today a pretty little town has sprung up at that place and about 5,000 workmen are employed on the project. All important contracts connected with the supply of turbines, switchgear and line materials have been placed and during this year we have incurred an expenditure of Rs. 99 lakhs on this project. For the coming year a provision of Rs. 161 lakhs has been made under Demand No. XXXVIII. I would suggest to those hon. Members who are inclined to criticize the department on the slow progress of the projects, to pay a visit to that place, because only when they see the place, that they will be able to appreciate what our Engineers had to contend with, before they got going.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Do you want the Members to suffer from malaria?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“If the hon. Member is afraid of malaria, I would suggest to him to go to the Elphinstone Theatre, as a picture on the Machkund Project is being shown there just now.

“From the figures given on page 48 of the Hon. Finance Minister's Budget speech, hon. Members can have an idea of the progress made in the execution of electricity projects in the Andhra area. The Nellore Thermal Scheme which was sanctioned by us in 1948 is almost completed and will be switched on by next June. The Ceded Districts Distribution Scheme by which we took 4,000 K.Ws. of power from Mysore for use in Bellary district, has already been switched on and this power will be available in

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the towns of Bellary and Adoni during this month. The Kakinada Power House has already been augmented by the addition of new diesel sets. No doubt there has been some delay in the completion of the Visakhapatnam Plant extensions; but that is caused by foreign firms not delivering in time the materials ordered of them. Even so, an amount of Rs. 23 lakhs was spent on that scheme this year and a provision of Rs. 16 lakhs has been made for the next year. We have taken over the Kurnool and Cuddapah Thermal Stations and made appreciable improvements to them. We have also augmented the supply to Rajahmundry. Work has just commenced on the two new thermal stations, one at Nandyal and another at Tadpatri. It is no doubt desirable that we should have done more but I would like the House to appreciate that what has been accomplished so far, did call for considerable effort and if the department had failed to do more, it was for reasons beyond the control of ordinary mortals.

"Another criticism which I may anticipate, though not so grave as the one before, is about the drastic cuts in the consumption of power which we were constrained to impose in our hydro-electric areas. Hon. Members are no doubt dimly aware that this was due to the failure of our monsoons; but in protesting against these cuts, people do not seem to appreciate that the department had no choice in the matter. The Papanasam Reservoir is not an irrigation reservoir. Waters stored in that reservoir, are normally those which would have flown into the sea, if the reservoir had not been there. Agriculturists in the Tambraparani Delta can lay no claim to that water, because it is intended solely for power development. And yet, when crops begin to fail for inadequate flows in the river, the affected persons, quite naturally, raise a cry for the release of the electricity storage. This is what has been happening for a number of years and this is just what has happened this year too. We had to empty out the precious electricity storages in Papanasam and Mettur Reservoirs to save crops in Deltas. Fortunately for us, the Pykara Reservoir has no irrigation under it and all the three hydro-electric stations are inter-connected. We are thus able to tide over the crisis, but not without imposing drastic cuts on all the three systems. There is no use blaming the department or the Government for these cuts which are unavoidable. Even so, we have not imposed a cut on the quantum of power used by agriculturists. I can only assure the House that we will do our best to mitigate the rigour of the cuts which have become inevitable for reasons beyond our control.

"Hon. Members have given notice of several cut motions under this and allied Demands. I am grateful to them for thus focussing attention on the defects in the administration of the department and I shall endeavour to set right such of them as are remediable. But in speaking on these motions, there is one point which I would like hon. Members to keep in mind. The programmes and policies of the department are no doubt shaped by me and by hon. Members from this House, but let us remember

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that the successful execution of these programmes, is not in our hands, but in the hands of hundreds of public servants labouring in the field. Speeches made by us in this House are diligently read by them. They are not seasoned politicians like us and may be inclined to take criticisms both fair and unfair, at their face value. They have an arduous job to do and what they need from us is some little encouragement to put in an extra spurt. There are many experienced and devoted men amongst them whose sole care in life is the faithful discharge of their arduous duties. The remuneration which we can offer them under this poor Government is not comparable to what most of them can secure for their talents in the open market. Almost every day I am getting requests from the Governments of other States and the Union for lending those Governments the services of some of our men on scales of pay which are very attractive compared with what we offer them here. There may be a few black sheep amongst them and I have no special brief for such of them; but let us not forget that the large body of them, are men imbued with a high sense of duty, unstintingly giving out their best in the common endeavour. Recently I visited the Machkund Project which is intended exclusively for the benefit of the Circars districts. There, in that camp, I saw Andhras, Oriyas, Tamils and Malayalees, all joined together as a happy family under the control of a Superintending Engineer who hails from distant Coorg. Let us not by our expressions or insinuations in this House, produce disharmony amongst them and make them feel that they come from different linguistic areas. Let not the criticisms which we have to make in this House, tend to sever the bond which now unites them in the common endeavour. They seemed to be quite content with their lot up there and do not seek any fresh concessions from us. They have a right to expect from us appreciation of the good work they are turning out and let us give it to them in a just measure and above all let us desist from the temptation of using words and expressions which will sink deep in their minds and damp their enthusiasm."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Motion moved—

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,01,07,400 under Demand XXVIII—Electricity'.

"I allot two hours for this Demand."

HON. MEMBERS:—"Only two hours, Sir? The Hon. Minister himself has taken so much time on this."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The time taken by the Hon. Minister will not be included in the two hours. I allot two hours from 12 o'clock for discussion on this Demand and ten minutes for each hon. Member."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

'That the allotment of Rs. 2,01,07,400 under Demand XXVIII—Electricity be reduced by Rs. 100.'

[Janab Abdul Hameed Khan] [11th March 1950]

"Sir, my Hon. Friend, the Minister in charge of Public Works and Electricity, has drawn, as usual, such a rosy picture that it becomes impossible for anyone to introduce any cut motions to criticise and criticise effectively. Though he has drawn a rosy picture, I do not for a moment suggest that it does not contain any real material facts.

12 noon. "He has also anticipated the criticisms that hon. Members might offer on the working of the electricity system in our State. He has told us what the Government have done and what they propose to do in the next five years in the matter of generation and supply of electricity. The people in our country have awakened to the needs of various kinds, not only in regard to providing amenities for themselves like electrification of their homes and business houses but in regard to production also. India is primarily an agricultural country. Agriculture is our main industry. Of course, we have here and there started several other industries. But we depend mainly upon agriculture. It should, therefore, be the responsibility of the Government and particularly of the Hon. the Minister in charge of Electricity to see that electricity is produced on a large scale and distributed throughout the State so that the rural areas may be encouraged to step up production and the problems of food that faces us to-day may be solved to a certain extent as early as possible. It is true, as the Hon. the Minister for Public Works has pointed out, that all these things can be done only if finances are available, if men are available, if technicians are available. May I ask the Government what they have done in order to provide themselves with sufficient funds? They have lost much of their revenue; far from adding to it. Then, the Minister wants qualified men to undertake the work. The Government have now increased the number of engineering colleges. But how far have they been able to turn out more people qualified in electrical engineering? It is really unfortunate that sufficient encouragement is not given to those who have undergone training in other Universities, both in this country and abroad, and qualified themselves in electrical and mechanical engineering. I hope, now that a large programme has been chalked out by the Government, the Hon. the Minister would take into consideration the need for increasing the number of qualified people to take up these works. The Hon. the Minister has stated that as many as 1,700 villages are getting electrical energy for production of foodgrains. But, taking into consideration the large number of villages in our State, I feel that urgent measures should be taken to extend this benefit to other villages also. However, I am glad that a fairly good number of villages enjoy supply made from hydro-electric projects. Of course, there are very many handicaps from which we suffer which are largely due to our own actions and it is time that we make a common endeavour to help to increase production. I understand that on account of the failure of monsoons, the supply of power has been cut to a very large extent. I can understand such a cut with respect to domestic consumption and in power supplied for lighting to business houses. But I can never imagine a cut in respect of

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industries and particularly the agricultural industry. The Government must see that supply is maintained at the minimum at least rather than effecting a drastic cut. Then, the Hon. the Minister gave us the names of places which will enjoy supply of power within a period of five years. In this connexion, I may state that the Ceded districts are the most backward and I am glad that the Government have included in their list places like Cuddapah and Kurnool. Several thermal stations before they were taken over by the Government were having a precarious existence and very often supply of electricity used to be interrupted, often for a long time. I must compliment the Government that after they had taken over the Madras Electricity System it is working very well under the very able Superintending Engineer who is placed in charge of it. The management is more satisfactory now than it was under the English firm. But, the speed with which connexions are now given is really annoying. I hope that it will be possible for the administration to give more and more connexions speedily in future. On the whole, the Hon. the Minister for Public Works has been able to manage the departments of Irrigation and Electricity with great skill and efficiency and I may assure him on behalf of the House that whenever he comes forward in future with any demand, we will be only too ready to give him the amount asked for. Although I have moved the cut motion, it is not my desire to criticise the Government. I only wanted that the House should be given an opportunity to discuss the Government's policy in this matter and say how the department is managed, what the requirements of the respective districts are and so on. The Hon. the Public Works Minister has uttered a friendly warning to the House that if hon. Members are hard in their criticism of the work done by the department, it might discourage the officials. I endorse his views and I am sure that hon. Members if they criticise will not say anything that will affect their work and damp their enthusiasm. With these words, Sir, I move my cut motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Motion is—

'That the allotment of Rs. 2,01,07,100 under Demand XXVIII. Electricity be reduced by Rs. 100.'

* JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the cut motion moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan, I would like to make a few general observations on electricity. As we all know—and it is fully realised by the Hon. the Minister in charge of Electricity—electricity is the very life that will sustain our nation and on it depends the well-being and the future progress of our country. In that sense, I should think that the Hon. the Minister in charge of Electricity may be rightly regarded as the life of our State. (At this stage, Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin occupied the Chair.) If he persistently and consistently pursues the programme which he announced on his speech today, it will indeed be a brilliant record of achievements for him and will build great hopes for the future. We are really proud of the achievements so far of the department and I must

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congratulate the Hon. the Minister on what has been achieved and on what he has told us he would do in future for the well-being of the State and the people. In the matter of electrification of rural areas, our State has given a lead to the rest of the country. That is indeed a remarkable achievement. While saying so, I should at the same time, draw the attention of the Minister and of the Government as a whole to the deplorable state of things in the district of South Kanara in the matter of supply of electricity from the Mysore territory—generated in the Hydro-electric works at the Jog Falls. It is well-known that South Kanara had to give away 1,280 acres of land in three villages for the reservoir as a gift practically, for nothing in return; and what is it that we actually got? It is perhaps only a kick from the other Government. This is really deplorable. Indeed we are grateful to the Hon. the Minister for Public Works here for having tried his level best to come to some understanding on a reasonable basis with the representative of the Mysore Government. There was an attempt till very recently to make power available to us and we were told that we had only to lay the lines to get supply from the Jog Falls which is situated on the border of South Kanara. But at one time meanwhile, the Mysore Government tried to postpone the work on the plea that unless the *Megadattu* question was settled first, this question could not be taken up. But fortunately for us, the Hon. the Minister for Electricity here was able to settle that question also and get over that hurdle. We were promised 6,000 kwts. electrical energy for distribution throughout the district. The hitch arose with regard to the question of rates. In spite of the fact that we have made a sacrifice by giving away three villages the lease is for 99 years and that means as good as eternity—the Mysore Government is trying to drive a very hard bargain with the reasonable demands of our Government. On top of all this, the Mysore Government has put forth a most unreasonable demand. I think it is demanding the payment of a surcharge the levy of which this Government might make on the distribution of power to the people. I, therefore, feel that the time has come when this Government should take a bold and firm step in dealing with the Mysore Government.

12-15 p.m. "Whatever the status of the Government may be that Government ought to recognize that reasonableness and justice should be the prime factors which should guide any Government in the matter of negotiating a contract or an agreement for the benefit of the people. *Megadattu* Scheme should not be a condition precedent to the settlement of this matter of supply of electricity from Mysore State to our district or the Ceded districts or Hindupur in Bellary district. I believe, our Government do know how to deal with the Mysore Government and can use the same tactics and tell them in a business-like manner: 'Here are you, if you do not agree to a reasonable rate and give up your demand for payment of surcharge, we will be forced to take suitable action.' I am also told, that the action

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of the Mysore Government is an infringement of the Constitutional rights. This Government would do well to press home and bring the Mysore Government to a proper appreciation of the real constitutional position with regard to this matter.

"I am sure the Government has done its best but it has not done enough in this particular matter. I would therefore request the Hon. Minister, on this occasion and the Government as a whole to compel the Mysore Government by whatever means possible and whatever means available at their disposal to see that electrical energy is supplied to the district of South Kanara and to the Ceded districts and Hindupur in Bellary district at very very reasonable rates and not to infringe on the sovereignty of the territory of our State by making unreasonable and preposterous demands. While we are thankful to the Hon. Minister for having encouraged the *Megadattu* project for supply of 20,000 K.W. as was announced by him to-day, he should also press for the 6,000 K.W. for South Kanara at a very reasonable rate and possibly compel the Mysore Government by putting some sort of pressure, namely, by withdrawing certain concessions or beneficial advantages that they are getting from this Government at present. With these words, Madam, I heartily support the token cut motion moved by my hon. Friend."

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Madam, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to say what I have to say on this important item. Electricity is the life breath of development in every country. Just as the rays of the sun, electricity forms the essential urge of the life that is given to all human beings and also to all vegetable kingdom. Those who have been backward in the matter of development of electricity are bound to be in the background. The Hon. Minister in charge of this item has given a very rosy picture of the developments that have been made since 1946. There has been a progress shown year after year. But what is this progress? Is this the progress that India should have been making even during the last four years? The number of villages that have been brought under this scheme also have been referred to. If the Government of India had treated this electricity development as an All-India problem, and spread electricity all over India, this country would not have been ever threatened by food famine as it has been during the last two or three years. Is it not a misfortune that a country like India should have been compelled to import foodgrains for 100 crores three years back, in the next year for 215 crores and in the third year 250 crores from other countries? I was pointing out this on the floor of the Parliament and on the floor of the Constituent Assembly when I happened to be there. It is a great misfortune that this country should have been compelled to spend so many crores of rupees year after year during the last three or four years. With this amount, the electricity programme of the Hon. Minister here and the Hon. Ministers in all the other States could have been extended to any extent; even if half of this money had been spent on this item, we could have spread electricity very

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widely. But the people of this country are unfortunate and they are bound to suffer as they have suffered in every other way and particularly with regard to this item which should have proved the best preventive to famine, which should have enabled the people to grow their own food and everything of their own, without any effort and without all this waste of money and energy and so many officers employed.

"I would request the hon. Members of this House to just pause for a while and consider how Japan that had fallen—fallen to the worst level—has grown up to-day industrially and how she has developed all her resources within the last few years after the fall of that country. What is the cause of this? I should have expected those in charge of this Government to have applied their minds leaving the centre alone and considered how best this electrical scheme could have been developed here on their own accord without asking for any help from the centre or anybody or even from the villagers. That could not be, unfortunately because we have been tickled in every way, our thoughts will not be flowing and ideas are suppressed and we are interrupted on every side on various grounds. In Japan to-day, how is the electrical system working? The Hon. Minister in charge might to-day get into the plane, go there and see for himself how within the last few years electricity has been developed there and how it has been made to become the foremost of the nations in industrial development to-day within such a short time. It is not confined to Machkund, Pykara or Mettur project where crores and crores of rupees have been spent anticipating return for the work done there. In Japan you will find electricity, not through these thermal installations, not all these things and installations built up at the banks of rivers but you will find electricity installations on small waters flowing through small rivers and wherever it is possible for electricity to be spread and enabled the people to work and prosper and develop all possible industries. That is the sort of picture I have got before my mind. I am longing for the day when we will be able to see electricity spread all over the country. Whatever figure you have given, 100 villages, 300 villages, or even 1,000 villages is not sufficient. What is the number of villages in this country? What is the relief that is required in this country and how can you help? If you have to help at all you must know how electricity has been developed in Japan to-day and how they are working and prospering. Now, I would suggest, that this Government should immediately send an expert, including the Hon. Minister in charge, over there, study the whole thing, come back and plan how it could be introduced here instead of hearing the complaints that 'Machkund has not been attended to', and 'Thungabhadra has not been attended to'. All this will disappear in no time. It should be the endeavour of any Government, whether it is a single Government, united Government or a divided Government, it should be the endeavour of every Government to see that first things are done first. This is the first item in regard to the development of any country and

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in every aspect of it. Therefore, I am submitting that we have been in the wrong way and it is not too late even now to correct it and come to the proper way. It is a deplorable thing that everywhere you are finding people starving, complaining that they are not getting food, clothing and so on. Lot is being wasted on the railway stations and various platforms and other places. All this could be redressed by a proper organization. But there is no proper organization under this Government. Let me tell my hon. Friends, I have been a hard critic of theirs and I have fought all these years with a view to see that these troubles of ours would get bettered and improved in all possible manner. If I am taking more time, Madam, I would like to sit down."

CHAIRMAN (BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN):—"The hon. Member may take two more minutes."

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Therefore, this subject is so important that everyone should do his bit of work to promote electric installations. It should not be confined to thermal stations and big stations only. Take for instance Machkund. Nobody should say that it is exclusively intended for the Andhra districts. It will not be confined to Andhra districts alone, to the seven districts on the coast and five districts on the west. When that project is completed, it will be connected with the Pykara system and there will be a net work over the whole presidency. The Machkund had been neglected and Tungabhadra had been neglected, no doubt for various reasons mentioned by the Hon. Minister. There has been neglect of a very serious nature. All this has to be made up. We broke up in the Partition Council on account of the differences which arose there with regard to the amounts which have to be spent on these items. I would appeal to the Government and the hon. Members of the House and to those who are in a position to afford, to take an aeroplane and fly to Japan and study the conditions there. One month's study in Japan will be sufficient. Two months' study will teach them a very good lesson and they can come back and introduce schemes which will make every part of this State a very flourishing place. This will give lessons to the Union Government where things are going wrong enough in several respects. That is my appeal with regard to this matter. I was anxious to speak a few words on this Demand and I have done. I thank you, Madam."

JAMAL N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR:—"Madam, curiously enough, the hon. Member Mr. Prakasam and I have got a very common outlook. (Laughter.) There is this difference, that because of his age he wants the Hon. Minister to fly eastward while I would suggest to him to fly westward, because after all, Japan is the Britain of the east. Let us go to the very source where electricity has started, which you yourself, Madam, must have seen while you were in your teens. I was surprised when I saw that wonderful island, so remarkably developed by the Japanese, the precious gem set in the silvery sea."

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"Madam, the Hon. Minister spoke of numbers of units as the wonders of his department. I wonder whether, if he had gone to the ends of the earth, he would have spoken in the way in which he has spoken to-day. After all, his achievements, however huge he may claim them to be, are but nothing and they pale into insignificance when we compare them with the achievements in the field of electricity in other countries of the world, which are rightly called progressive countries of the world. Compared to them, Madam, we are a backward people, a backward country in the backwaters of electricity. Madam, I must say this with emphasis, that he should undertake a flight to England and Italy if he wants inspiration. We are also quite willing to give him co-operation by our physical presence with him. Let him go just underground. I do not mean it as a communist does. Let him go to the underground world where there is layer after layer for several hundreds of feet. He will see what electricity can achieve if only he has the will and the wherewithal. I can understand him saying that we do not have sufficient funds in our coffers to undertake such schemes of expansion which Mr. Prakasam has visualized. Then I must now say that if we do not have anything in our coffers, let us not be telling the people and dangling before them that we have such and such wonderful schemes of electricity. Let us say we are bankrupt and that we have no problem, no programme and no policy. In a matter like electricity we can tax people and tax them well if only we can advance the cause of agriculture and provide more food instead of allowing them to remain on tender-hooks and starve to death. Madam, I have got to wax eloquent and urge on the Hon. Minister that electricity is not a simple problem of lights in the homes. We want power in our factories and power in our farms and not merely power on the treasury benches which the Hon. Minister may have for himself.

"Madam, I must here revert to my old cry, for this year may be the last year for me and the Hon. Minister in this House. Let me refer to that cry, but let it not be a cry in the wilderness—my cry for the Palar. I must say that after all the Hon. Minister himself must share with me the anxiety that the Palar river from year to year wastes its resources into the sea. [An hon. Member: 'Where(?)'] If you go below the ground you will understand. From the place where the Palar enters my district of North Arcot till it goes into the Bay of Bengal, both in the North Arcot and Chingleput districts there is an under-current of water flowing all the while. It is underground and it can very well be utilized. (Interruption.) After all, Madam, the moment we speak of underground, I do not know why it should create suspicions. In North Arcot district there are plenty of resources underground. Don't fight shy of it. The only thing is you must have imagination. You must sink tube wells in order to get the underground resources out. There are channels along the gradient which are led to the fields by the ryots who utilize the underground resources. These are called spring water sources. You must have heard of Navlock, not lovelocks which you must have worn sometimes. That spring water is the effervescence of the

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water that is underground. We can tap this water. The Government need not even indent on the services of water diviners to discover these sources. They are there even for the naked eye to see. There is this Navlock or effervescence of underground water for ten miles this side and that side of the Palar. You must have the vision, imagination, capacity and courage to utilize the resources of the district. With a little difficulty you can get us water, water and plenty of water, the water that can give us power for our looms, the water that can give us electricity. (Interruption.) How am I to understand our hon. Friends? I can only say, 'God save me from my friends who cannot understand this. Electricity can come out of water even as water can come out of electricity. All these tube wells must be controlled by the Electricity Department. As in the case of tanks, let the Government charge water rates and realise revenue and manage these tube wells. That is a simple and noble suggestion that I make. I appeal to the Government to have the interests of the ryots at heart and not simply imagine that they have done wonderful things in the past. They have yet to do much and to go a long way before they can alleviate the distress of the people in the famine areas. Let the dry lands be brought under cultivation. Let this magic of electricity be carried to the very poorest people. I can only assure the Hon. Minister that his district and my district together can yield a surplus for the State and we need not be knocking at the doors of the Government of India begging them for help to meet our deficit."

* SRI S. CHIDAMBARA AYYAR:—"Madam, Chairman, in supporting this Demand, I wish to congratulate the Hon. Minister and through him the Government for the good work that they have done to improve the supply of electricity in this State. My only request is that electricity should be taken to interior villages more and more. My district of South Arcot is served by the South Arcot Electric Supply Company of which the hon. Member Mr. Natesan is the managing director. So far as the work done up to now is concerned, it is quite satisfactory, but my grievance is that they are not extending it to other villages. If in a particular village 20 or 30 people apply for connexions for pumps, the company are not able to give them for want of finance or for want of necessary materials. This was the reply given for the last three or four years. Even on an earlier occasion when I spoke on the Electricity Undertakings Bill, I said that the Government might even lend money to them. I find now from the speech of the Hon. Minister that about Rs. 7 lakhs have been lent to the Company for the purpose of developing electricity in the South Arcot area. They now develop only the villages on the main line. If a village is situated about two miles from the main line, the Company say they have no poles for the transmission lines. Hereafter such an excuse will not be available to the Company. In the lines to a measurable distance of two or three miles from the main line to supply almost all the villages in that area. Further

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till now the Company were saying that they had no money and they asked every man who wanted a pump connexion to pay Rs. 1,000 or Rs. 2,000 as a loan or deposit. That practice should now be discontinued. It should be made a condition precedent to the granting of Government loans that they should not demand this deposit or loan from the people. If the deposit is insisted on, the supply will not reach the poor man. The poor man owning 5 or 10 acres is not able to instal a pump as he finds it difficult to purchase a pump. In addition to this, if he is asked to give a loan of Rs. 1,000 to the Company, poor people cannot be served and electricity cannot reach the poorest homes. This practice should be discontinued and the licensee should be made to understand that they should not demand such deposits.

"I also notice that the South Arcot Electric Supply Company is the fourth in the list for the purpose of acquisition by the Government. So, they will be working in the district for some time. During that period, I request the Company to see that electricity is supplied to almost all the villages in the district and that the villages are benefited. In fact, this year when there was a drought, half a dozen villages in my taluk were not at all affected by it. Though there was no water in the tank and there were no rains, still as there were a number of electric pumps in the villages, the people were able to raise paddy crops and even sugar and other crops also. Therefore, if there is supply of electricity in sufficient quantities to every village, famine can be fought with the help of the pumps. In fact, these villages are happy villages. I wish every village is made like that. Further, Sir, in South Arcot district, round about the French Settlement of Pondicherry, there is sub-soil water and the soil is sandy. If electricity is supplied, it will be helpful for cultivation purposes. There will be enough food for South Arcot district and there will be no famine. With these few words, I support this Demand for Electricity."

1-45 m. * SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Madam, I really wanted to speak a good deal on this Demand; but the Hon. Minister even before a single Andhra Member rose or made any remark whatsoever, made a gratuitous statement against Andhra and said he visualized that Andhras would point out this and point out that and other things. I submit it is not the way of doing things, and I am deeply hurt as an Andhra, and I do not, therefore, propose to speak on this Demand."

* SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Madam, I rise to support the Demand moved by the Hon. Minister for Public Works. I feel that a great advancement has been made in this Department of Electricity. As one who has known the great improvement and the achievement of the Pykhara Hydro-Electric schemes, I must honestly congratulate the Hon. Minister on the great care he has bestowed and the drive that has been responsible for this improvement. I have now taken this occasion to speak on this Electricity Demand since my hon. Friend, Mr. Borkat Borkat,

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due to serious illness could not be present here and take part in the discussion; and that is why I wish to make certain observations on the Demand that is before this House.

"The Hon. Minister has made a realistic study of the electric schemes in this Province and he has well planned out what ought to be the future work of this department. I may also say, Madam, that if his plan proves successful, the great cry of nationalizing industries and improvement of the conditions of agriculture will go a long way, so that famine may not visit this country as often as it does now.

"Coming to the Nilgiris, Madam, I find from the revised estimate for 1949-50 for the Pykhara Scheme that receipts have been put down as Rs. 85.94 lakhs, while the expenditure is shown as Rs. 37.49 lakhs. In 1950-51, I find receipts are put down at Rs. 88.50 lakhs while expenditure is Rs. 35.86 lakhs. I do not know the reason which prompted this Government to levy a surcharge of ten per cent on all consumers' bills. When he has shown a rosy picture of the receipts under this undertaking, why the consumers of electricity should be surcharged ten per cent, I cannot understand. I must thank the Hon. Minister for excepting agricultural consumers; but in these hard days when articles are so costly, is it not necessary that people who use electricity for domestic purposes should be given as much facility as possible? I am sure the Hon. Minister will look into this and see that he does not levy a surcharge again in 1950-51.

"Madam, the next point which I would like to urge on the Hon. Minister is that great improvements have been made in the Nilgiris by erecting new dams to harness the waters that are now going to waste; but there is a move to utilize the soil which forms the catchment area for these dams. I must warn the Government that they should not show undue sympathy in the matter of assigning lands in the catchment areas. In his opening speech, the Hon. Minister observed that many of the storage tanks are empty to-day and unless we take note of what is happening, and far from tapping these catchment areas what little water is coming out of the natural springs will dry up and there is bound to be, not the 15 per cent cut that has been made this year, but a bigger cut. If this cut continues, I fear many of the industrial concerns, mills, etc., that are provided with electricity from the Nilgiris will have to stop work. And stopping of work does not mean stopping of the work of the machinery alone, but there will be thousands and thousands of labourers who will be thrown out of employment, and more so, Madam, when we are attempting to improve the national industries. Electricity forms a very important item in all these industries, and so I wish the Hon. Minister makes a note of it.

"Another point I want to refer to is this: the water that flows in the Kunda river comes from the Nilgiris to the plains of Andhra Pradesh and if the Hon. Minister were to think of putting up a dam to arrest the waters of the Kunda river, the heavy load which is now falling on the Pykhara Scheme can be reduced and

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as a result all the mills in the Coimbatore district can be given electricity by a scheme that could be worked up from near the Kundahs. I know the Kunda river is a big river and I know also as a matter of fact that at one time the Engineers were at it and were considering the question of erecting a dam, so that the electricity produced thereby may feed the several mills in the areas of Coimbatore and Salem and also reduce the load on the Pykara Scheme.

"With these few observations, Madam, I think the appreciation of this House is due to the Hon. Minister for his able administration in matters relating to electricity."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—"Madam, I support the Demand of the Hon. Minister for Electricity, and I congratulate him on the manner in which he has introduced this Demand. Madam, hon. Members have been speaking here about what is being done in Japan or in the West. They forget that it is not possible to bring electricity within 24 hours. Whatever Japan may have done and whatever the Western countries may have done we are not behind any of those countries. I want to say that much as a man who has been dealing with electricity for over twenty years now. It is all very easy for hon. Members here and particularly members like the hon. Mr. Chidambara Ayyar to say that electricity is not brought to the interior villages, that the licensees are only doing probably two miles and under, and they do not want to go into the interior, and things like that. It is all simple talk. When electricity concerns try to put up an estimate, they want to see if money is available, if the income is reasonably fair—in fact the Government will not allow the licensees to take up such lines as are uneconomical; and the Government themselves are not taking up lines which they themselves think are uneconomical. Apart from this, this country is an agricultural country; we have no machinery, we have not one material which will help the spread or supply of electricity. You have got to depend for transformers, insulators, poles and all sorts of things on foreign countries. Especially as a result of the War, there is so much demand now in foreign countries, all over the world. Let hon. Members realise that it is not the Madras Province alone that is getting on with electricity development; every State in the Union of India is now trying to increase electrical production and all other foreign countries also are at it, so much so the manufacturers of machinery in each of the countries like England, Germany and Switzerland, are all full with orders, particularly America; they have orders booked for the next three years. So, what is the good of saying here 'these falls must be harnessed, that work has got to be done', etc. You will only be putting the Government in a very embarrassing position. They are not able to get the materials. I am talking with authority, because I am a man who is supplying most of the materials to Government and my manufacturers say that they cannot effect deliveries within the next three years. Again, with the present dollar scarcity it is not possible to get machinery from

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America and with the Sterling trouble, it is impossible to get materials from other soft currency countries. With that as the present position, what is the good of asking the Government to do this and that? I certainly consider that the Government are doing their very best to get materials and to see that as much electrification is done as possible.

"Then there is a talk of shortage of technical personnel. My hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan says why not start some technical colleges. But when are you going to produce technicians? If you start the colleges even to-day, it will take ten years before you can have a good number of technicians. Do not think that a man straight from the college will make a good technician; he may not have the experience and the skill, and probably he will destroy one of the best transformers which are very costly. I may tell you, even if you are a doctor, immediately after you come out of the medical college you are certain to see that one or two people die at your hands (laughter). Even a lawyer when he goes to court for the first few years, will fail in a few cases and then only he becomes a prominent lawyer. So, you cannot turn out boys into professors on the next day after they come out of the college. As I said, the Government of Madras are doing their best in this matter.

"Then there was also the question of famine referred to. Everybody says the famine will not come once you start giving more and more electricity. I cannot understand the relationship between famine and electricity. When there is no water available in the wells as a result of shortage of rainfall, how do you expect electricity to help you? In my own district, I am sure Mr. Chidambara Ayyar will confirm me—a number of wells are there without water. If there is no water in the wells, of course the owner will go to the licensee and say 'my well has become dry and so I want to have this pump shifted to another place'. That is the position. It is no good talking in the air and saying that if electricity is brought in, everything will be all right. In this House, without understanding the implications and understanding the financial commitments, we are talking about electricity projects. I did not want to take part in this discussion, but the hon. Mr. Chidambara Ayyar dragged my name as the South Arcot licensee, saying that these licensees are not prepared to do this and that, and appealed to the Government stating 'when these licensees go to the Government for taking loans, please make them understand that they have got to do certain things'. It is absolutely impossible to do any such thing; we are given a list of villages to be electrified and the Government give a loan for the purpose; we have got to satisfy the Government that these villages are electrified according to the condition imposed when the loan is given. How can I therefore oblige Mr. Chidambara Ayyar by going to a village which is not in the Government list? I think after all it is not proper to bring all these matters to the floor of the Assembly. I speak as the licensee for South Arcot and if anything has to be done, I am willing to consider if that is possible.

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"I do not want to take up more of the time of the House, except to congratulate the Hon. Minister again on the manner in which he has presented this Demand. I want all hon. Members of the Assembly to give encouragement to all those men who are at this job, from Machkund downwards. Machkund, as the Hon. Minister has said, is a highly malarial place—I know something of that. When all these people without going out of these unhealthy places, stick to their jobs on a low salary, even according to the Hon. Minister, we ought to give them every encouragement and see that the Government work is carried on. Otherwise, there will be complete dislocation of Government work and all the electricity that the people want will not be coming at all. I only wanted to say that it is not an easy thing to produce electricity and there is no use embarrassing Government by making all impossible requests."

JANAB P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY:—"Madam, one feels rather diffident to speak, if not despondent, after my hon. Friend, Mr. Natesan, who is supposed to be an expert and an authority on electricity, has spoken. He is an authority as he himself has said. In spite of such a pessimistic vein I cannot but feel that something can be done in the matter of providing electricity in the villages of this State. I am sorry, Madam, I could not be here to hear the speech of the Hon. Minister for Public Works while moving the Demand. Madam, electricity has come to play such an important part in the life of the people that it is only next to water and air. Therefore, I hope the Hon. Minister will pardon me if I speak in a spirit of linguistic or of parochial rivalry in asking for electricity to Malabar. So far as the supply of electricity is concerned, Malabar is far behind any other district. Of course, I do not blame the present Government or even the Hon. Minister in-charge of Electricity for this thing. The reason may be historical; it may be due to some other reasons; and therefore I am not blaming the present Government, but the fact remains that comparing the supply of electricity in Tamilnad and Kerala, I must certainly say that Malabar is very much behind. I do not know much about Andhradesa, but wherever one goes in Tamilnad, he will find even small towns electrified. You will be surprised, Madam, to note that only this year provision has been made to electrify the Collector's office at Kozhikode. Last year when the Hon. Minister for Law and the then Minister for Revenue came down to Kozhikode, they had to resort to the aid of a peon to have some air, as it was very sultry. Even this year, I understand, no provision has been made to put up fans in the Collector's office, not to speak of the other very important towns in the district. As far as South Malabar is concerned, not a single taluk headquarters has electricity at present. The other day I was told by the Hon. Minister for Law that there was a proposal to extend the Pykara system *via* Palghat as far as Ponnani. It is no doubt a very welcome proposal, because it will not only electrify that area but it will also go a long way in the

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11th March 1950] matter of getting more food by using the waters of the Bharatapuzha for irrigation purposes. I do not know whether that proposal is there and how long it will take for the Government to extend the Pykara current along the Bharatapuzha as far as Ponnani taluk and to most of the pretty big towns which are without electricity at present. I understand that the Pykara system has been extended as far as Nilambur and it can be extended from Nilambur to Tirur or from Palghat to Ponnani. Therefore, Madam, Chairman, I would earnestly appeal to the Hon. Minister for Public Works to take up this matter, not because we are particular about having electricity for lighting, but because of the importance of growing more food in that area which is deficit in the matter of food.

"Then, another matter which I want to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister is, because of the policy of nationalisation of this Government, I am told, the licensees are shy of supplying electricity or starting new schemes because they are afraid that any moment the Government may pounce upon them and take over the schemes. When there is the sword of Democles always hanging over their heads, one need not wonder that these licensees are shy about extending their electricity schemes. With these few words I resume my seat."

* SRI B. SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—"Madam, I wish to offer a few remarks on this Grant and I shall confine myself to my own district of Visakhapatnam. There is a small thermal station at Visakhapatnam but there is absolutely no current to supply the needs of the growing town. My hon. Friend Mr. Viswanatham refused to speak and I do not know the real reasons for it. I have not followed the speech of the Hon. Minister in moving the Demand. I do not know in what way, the refusal to speak on the Grant on the part of my hon. Friend, Mr. Viswanatham, would be useful to the Visakhapatnam thermal station. Anyhow, I want to point out one or two facts. In his opening speech the Hon. Minister said he was spending so many lakhs in the Andhra districts last year. Evidently, everybody knows how much was spent during the last three years in the Andhra districts. Compared with the amount spent in the southern districts the amount spent in the Andhra districts during the last three years is less than what has been spent in the southern districts. For the last two or three years there has been a proposal for the extension of the electric line from Anakapalli to Chodavaram, a distance of nine miles and I understand that estimates have also been prepared. Every year at the time of preparing the Budget I have been telling the Hon. Minister about taking up this work and including it in the Budget. Even last year he had promised to undertake the work. I understand that the investigation has also been made: estimate has been worked out and that the cost of the work would be about Rs. 50,000 or Rs. 60,000. Even two months back I reminded the Hon. Minister to include this work and make special provision for it

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in the present Budget. I should say that he has not given more attention to the Andhra districts probably because all the material was given to the southern districts.

"Regarding Machkund also he has not given proper attention. In his opening speech he is no doubt promising so much, but it is all an eye-wash. I am therefore requesting the Hon. Minister to give some more attention to the Visakhapatnam thermal station and to take up the Anakapali-Chodavaram extension this year at least."

* SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Madam, I rise to congratulate the Government on the giant strides they have made in the development and exploitation of the Electricity Department in our State. Three decades ago when this question was taken up by the then Government we had a stalwart in Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar, who, we should say, was the father of the two great Electricity schemes, namely, Mettur and the Pykara, the fruits of both of which we are to-day enjoying. The department at the time was also manned by another giant in the person of Sir Howard whose services to this State can never be forgotten by those who have followed the progress of electricity development. Also the various legislators who were responsible for voting the grants for the development of electricity never stinted it because there had been a very early realisation in the State that with the development of electricity the wealth of our State was inextricably bound. To-day again, speaker after speaker has emphasised the importance of electricity in the creation of national wealth and in the promotion of industry and agriculture of this Province. Therefore, I am unhesitatingly and wholeheartedly supporting this demand for the development of electricity."

"Madam, I have only one or two observations to make and I hope the Hon. Minister will pay some regard to those observations. First, I understand crores and crores have been sanctioned for schemes which are languishing either for want of material, or for want of funds or even for want of hands to execute. It is no doubt comforting to have sanctioned schemes, but it is a strain on the departmental officers to ask them to prepare estimates and investigate the schemes which could not be executed within a reasonable time. I think the knowledge and the talents of the officers of the department can be saved if we have a regulated plan, and regulated investigation adjusted in accordance with our resources of money and material. That will be, to use the old adage, cutting the coat according to the cloth. So, there is no use asking the department to do these things unless there is an early prospect of the work being taken on hand and executed. This is one of the suggestions I have to make."

"Secondly, Madam, in view of the importance of the various schemes and the changes in the schemes—for instance, what might have seemed important some years ago, might not be so important

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in subsequent years—there must be periodical or half yearly revision of lists of schemes setting their priority. Various schemes, because they are old ones may have become comparatively small now and they should not have priority and those schemes which are greatly necessary and which are likely to be more useful must certainly have precedence over other schemes, even though they are new schemes and the other old schemes might have been prepared years ago. I would urge upon the Department and the Government to have a periodical revision of the schemes that are pending investigation or sanction of the estimates."

"So far, Madam, rightly I think emphasis has been laid upon the supply of power for the development of industries and to big cities and towns and the result has been that in lean years such as last year and this year, the Government have been forced to impose a cut upon the supply of electricity and the development of industries in the towns having gone ahead, sufficient extension of rural supply both for agriculture and cottage industries is not available. I only wish to say that our towns and cities are beautifully lit and much more than what is necessary, in my opinion and a cut and economisation in the electricity consumed by cities especially in periods like this when the level in our reservoirs is low and our systems are failing for want of water, may be made by means of reducing street lighting, say by blacking out alternate lights or some other system and more emphasis should be laid on the supply of power to cottage industries and to agricultural farms. They have also a system of peak load where supply is given some days in a week only during night time. To do the pumping at nights and regulate the water to the fields is a very difficult business when it is done at night and I am speaking of it from personal experience. You have not only to pump the water but to regulate the supply to the fields. The agriculturists should have the power during day time, so that these things could be done easily; otherwise it would mean that this will have to be done in darkness which is difficult."

"I have a suggestion to make, Madam, and that is that electricity should be made to serve even the middle classes by encouraging the use of electricity for domestic purposes. I think the Department has not paid sufficient attention to this development. In these days when fuel prices are shooting up, the use of electricity for cooking purposes will be of considerable help and it will be of much use if this Department or a new Department or a Sub-Department takes up the question of popularizing home appliances like electric ovens, electric heater, refrigerators, etc., to preserve food from going to waste. If all these can be made available to consumers especially the middle class people at a reasonable price, the Government would have supplied a very useful need. At present, Madam, these appliances are imported from outside at enormous price; there is no refrigerator available at less than Rs. 1,500 but before the war it used to cost Rs. 400 to Rs. 500. An oven, for instance costs Rs. 1,500 as very heavy import duties have to be borne. There has been a move in one

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part of our country, I believe in Bihar, and they wanted to start a plant for the manufacture of refrigerators. I do not know if the Madras Government have got any proposal of that nature under consideration; if not, they will do well at least to make a beginning for the purpose of supplying home appliances at a reasonable cost to the middle class people for whom electricity will be a real boon.

"I am much pained to say, Madam, that so far there has not been any uniform policy with regard to the loans given to private licensees of electricity. I know a case where about 7 lakhs of rupees has been given, if I remember aright to a firm—Sesha-sayee & Sons—and I believe that even though the loan has been taken, to this day there is no regular agreement concerning the terms of the loan. Loans to two other companies are given on different basis; for instance a 4 per cent interest is asked from one firm and a lower rate from another and other new conditions are stipulated like the forfeiture of the solatium in case the Government is to take over the concern. Of course, we have passed the enabling measure for the Government to take over such undertakings as they may consider suitable but that should not stand in the way of giving loans on proper security and on the usual terms. Taking away the solatium where the money is going to be invested and the work executed probably at cheaper cost than what it would have been had the Government themselves done it, would only drive these licensees into the hands of private investors and insurance companies. I know, Madam, that the Kumbakonam Electric Company took a loan of three lakhs of rupees not from the Government but from the Bombay Mutual Life Assurance Company because the terms offered by the Government are not less onerous but definitely not reasonable. I want that this distinction in the matter of terms and conditions of loans to one company and another should be abolished and a uniform policy should be adopted in the matter of disbursing loans.

"I have very great pleasure, Madam, in supporting the Demand and in congratulating all the officers of the Department, high and low for the very rapid strides that electricity development has made in our State."

* SRI P. VENKATASUBBIAH:—"Madam, I support the Demand moved by the Hon. Minister for Public Works. I come from the dry districts known as Rayalaseema where irrigation facilities and electrical facilities are more necessary than in any other place. If large irrigation schemes are undertaken, not only will it be difficult but it will not be possible to complete them for a decade or so. But in the meanwhile if the supply of electricity is extended to those places, it will go much to improve the economic lot of the people. My hon. Friend Mr. Anwar referred to tube-wells; they are really necessary and they will certainly be of help in the black cotton soil areas where water is not available on the surface. For the development of the mineral resources of the State, electricity is a dire necessity and especially in Kurnool and Cuddapah where barytes and lime stones and other essential

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minerals are found, if electric power is made available it will go a very long way to improve the economic lot of the people. First it was proposed to start a thermal station at Kurnool so that it may provide facilities for ryots for irrigation purposes also. But I find from the Budget Demand that the thermal station at Kurnool has been postponed and I wish to know from the Hon. the Minister for Public Works why it has been postponed. If it is installed immediately, there will be the possibility of starting a cement factory there where the necessary ingredients for the manufacture of cement are obtainable in abundance. Not only that, power could be made available to the ryots for pumping purposes and the areas may be made self-sufficient in regard to food. In my place, Madam, mangoes are famous, and they are grown all along the river Zusseru. There are so many mango gardens on the sides and if electricity is supplied to those areas, fruit canning industry may also be started. So, I request the Hon. Minister for Public Works to give first priority to these backward areas and see that electric facilities are extended to those places as early as possible so that our people may not lag behind in the matter of economic development."

SRI R. SUBBA IYER:—"Madam, கனம் மராமத்திலாகா மந்திரி அவர்கள் பிரேரேபித்த இந்த டி.மாண்டை நான் ஆதரிக்கிறேன். அப்படி ஆதரித்து பேசுகையில் சில குறைகளை எடுத்துச் சொல்ல வேண்டியது அவசியமாக இருப்பதால் அவைகளை எடுத்துச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். முதலில் அவர் டிபார்ட்மெண்டு இன்று செய்திருக்கும் வேலைகளை அவர் எடுத்துக் கூறி பேசும்போது அது செய்திருக்கும் மெண்டை வாசிக்கும்பொழுது வாஸ்தவமாக ஏதோ ஒரு நாவல் வாசிப்பதைப்போல் இருந்தது. அதில் அவர்கள் இருக்கிறது. அது ரொம்பவும் பிரமிடர்ப்பதைக் கண்டு சந்தோஷமாக இருந்தது. ஆகவே, வசிகரமாகவும், ஆகர்ஷணகரமாகவும் இருந்தது. (fascinating) ஆகவும், வசிகரமாகவும், ஆகர்ஷணகரமாகவும் இருந்தது. அவர் கொடுத்த புள்ளி விவரங்கள் : அவைகள் எப்படி இருந்த போதிலும் மாகாணத்தில் 1,700 கிராமங்களில்தான் இந்த நான்கு வருஷங்களில் மின்சார வசதி அளிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்பதை படிக்கும் போது அவர்கள் செய்ய வேண்டிய காரியங்களில் அது எவ்வளவோ குறைவான பணத்தான் எடுத்துக் காட்டுகிறதே யொழிய இன்னும் மேல் செய்யவேண்டிய காரியங்கள் அதிகமாக இருக்கின்றன என்பதையும் மறந்துவிடக்கூடாது. ஆனால் இந்த இலாகா செய்திருக்கும் காரியங்களைக் கண்டு கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சந்தோஷப்பட வேண்டியது நியாயம்தான். இந்த நான்கு வருஷங்களில் இந்த இலாகாவின் கொள்கை ஒரு விதத்தில் மாறி இருக்கிறது என்று அவர் குறிப்பிட்டார். அந்தக் கொள்கை மாறுதலை நான் வரவேற்கிறேன். இது வரையில் சர்க்கார் எந்தந்த திட்டங்களை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு செய்தாலும் அதில் என்ன வரும்படி வருகிறது என்பதைக் கணக்குப்பார்த்துதான் பல காரியங்களைச் செய்து வந்தார்கள். இப்பொழுது கொள்கையில் மாறுதல் ஏற்பட்டு இருந்தபோதிலும் கிராம மிகவும் சந்தோஷமடைகிறேன். அப்படி இருந்தபோதிலும் கிராம திட்டங்களுக்கு 15 சதவீதம் வரும்படியை எதிர்பாராமல் நாம் இப்பொழுது 10 சதவீதத்துக்கு குறைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறோம் என்றும் தெரிவித்தார். அதிலிருந்து 10 சதவீதம் வரும்படியை என்னும் செய்யும் கிராமங்களுக்குதான் மின்சார வசதி அளிக்கப்படும் guarantee என்று தெரிகிறது. இந்த 10 சதவீதம் கூட அதிகப்படியான வரும்படி தான் அதுவும் சில கிராமங்களிலிருந்து எதிர்பார்ப்பது என்பது அதிகமே யில்லாமல் மற்றப்படி அவர்கள் சொன்னதுபோல் subsidiary ரூபமாக கிராமங்களுக்கு மின்சார வசதி அளிக்கப்பட்டதாகவே ஆகாது என்று நான் கருதுகிறேன்."

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CHAIRMAN (BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN):—"The House will now rise and meet again at 2-30 p.m."

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

(The House re-assembled after lunch with Mr. Speaker in the Chair.)

* Sri R. SUBBA IYER:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, மராமத்து இல்லாவில் மாறுதல்கள் ஏற்பட்டிருப்பதைக் குறித்து அதாவது 10 சதவீதம் வரும்படி வரக்கூடிய திட்டங்களை மட்டில் அவர்கள் எடுத்துக்கொள்வதாக அவர்கள் தெரிவித்தார். இம்மாதிரி கிராமங்களிலிருந்து 10 சத விக்கித வரும்படி சர்க்கார் வாங்கும் கடன்களுக்கு சமம் 3 சதவீதத்துக்கு நான் வாங்கு கிறார்கள். ஆனால் மற்றவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கும் பொழுது 4½ சதவீதம் அல்லது 5 சதவீதத்துக்குக் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். மற்ற காரியங்களுக்கெல்லாம் எந்த percentage ஐ வைத்து நியாயம் செய்திருக்கிறார்களோ அதேமாதிரி இந்த மின்சார சப்ளை விஷயம்கூட இம்மாதிரி இல்லாமல். இந்த 10 சதவீதம் வரும்படியை எதிர்பார்ப்பது என்பது சரியான கொள்கை காரம் எவ்வளவு அவசியம் என்பதை பார்த்துப் பொழுது எவ்வளவுக் கவ்வளவு உணவு உற்பத்தியை அதிகரிக்கிறோம் என்பது விளங்கும். ஆகையால் 10 சதவீதம் guarantee எதிர்பார்ப்பது இன்னும் சுருமான வரையில் குறைந்த அளவில் மின்சார வசதியை செய்துவைக்கவேண்டியது சர்க்காருடைய பொருப்பாகக் கருதி அப்படியே அவர்கள் செய்துவைக்க வேண்டுமென்றும் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

என்னுடைய ஜில்லாவைப் பொறுத்தாட்டில் ஒன்றை நான் தெரிவித் துக்கொள்ள விரும்புகிறேன். அது என்னவென்றால்: இந்த மின்சார சப்ளையிலும் சரி, நீர்ப்பாசன வசதியிலும் சரி செங்கற்பட்டு ஜில்லா கொஞ் சமம் முன்னேற்றமடையவில்லை என்பதை நான் வருத்தத்துடன் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அது விஷயத்தில் எங்களுக்கு குறை கொஞ்சம் இருக்கிறது. கனம் மராமத்து இலாகா மந்திரி அவர்கள் செங் கற்பட்டைச் சேர்ந்தவர்களாகையால், பல ஜில்லாக்களிலிருந்து வரும் இதர சொல்லுவார்களோ என்று நினைக்கலாம். ஆனால் செய்துவருகிறார்கள் என்று செய்கற்பட்டு ஜில்லாவிற்கு ஒரு செனகர்யத்தையும் செய்யவில்லை என் பதை குறிப்பிடாமலிருக்க முடியவில்லை. ஆகையால் இந்த குற்றையே கள் ஒன்று சொல்லலாம். Firka development. ஆனால் அவர் எங்கள் ஜில்லா திருவள்ளூருக்கு மின்சார சப்ளை செய்திருக்கிறோம் என்றும் இன்னும் புத்தமல்லித் தாம்பரம் முதலிய இடங்களுக்கு செய்திருக்கி பட்டு ஜில்லாவில் மதுராந்தகம் முதலிய இடங்களுக்கு செய்திருக்கி கூட முன்னேற்றமடையவில்லை. இன்னும் கொஞ்சம் இடங்களுக்கும் வசதி செய்து கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண் டிருக்கிறார்கள். மதுராந்தகம் டவுனுக்கு அதன் பக்கத்திலுள்ள வந்த லாடியிலிருந்தோ செங்கற்பட்டிலிருந்தோ வசதி செய்து கொடுக்கவேண் டென்றொன்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டுவந்தும் இன்னும் பண்ணிக்கொடுக்க ஒரு விதத்திலும் அஷாகூலம் கிடைக்கவில்லை. ஒரு வகையிலும் Electricity supply company இருக்கிறது. செங்கற்பட்டு டவுனில் செங்கற்பட்டு ஜில்லா கிராமங்களுக்கு வேண்டிய மின்சார வசதியை விவ சாயத்திற்கு செய்துகொடுக்கவேண்டியதவசியமாக இருக்கிறது. அதற்கு 420 kilowatts load இல்லை என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அதற்கு வேண்டிய 420 kilowatts load தான் இருக்கிறது என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள்.

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அதை 500 kilowatts ஆக அதிகரித்துக்கொடுத்தால் அவர்கள் விவ சாயத்திற்கும் பம்பு செட்டுகளுக்கும் energy கொடுப்பதற்கு அவசியம் இருக்கிறது. அவ்விதம் வசதி செய்து கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்றும் கேட் டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

தவிர விவசாயத்திற்கு கொடுக்கும் energy ஆனது alternate நான் கனில் அதாவது ஒன்றுவிட்டு ஒரு நாள்தான் கொடுத்து வருகிறார்கள். அதுவும் இராக்காலங்களில்தான் விவசாயத்திற்கு கொடுத்துவருகிறார்கள். இராக்காலங்களில் கொடுப்பதால் விவசாயிகளுக்கு விவசாயம் செய்வ தற்கு வசதி ஏற்படாது. எவ்விதம் இரவு காலங்களில் ஊர் விழித்துக் கொண்டு தண்ணீர் பாய்ச்சமுடியும் என்பதை ஆலோசித்துப் பார்க்க வேண்டும். ஆகையால் பகல் காலங்களிலேயே சப்ளை செய்ய வசதி செய்து கொடுக்க ஏற்பாடு energy 500 kilowatts ஆக விஸ்தரித்துக் கொடுத்தால் ரொம்பவும் நன்றாக இருக்கும் என்பதையும் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

"தவிர ஒரு மெம்பர் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களை ஜப்பானுக்குப் போய் பார்த்துவந்து அதைப்போலவே நம் நாட்டில் மின்சார வசதியை எப்படி அதிக ரிக்கச் செய்யலாம் என்று தெரியும் என்றும் தெரிவித்தார். மற்றொரு மெம்பர் ஜப்பானுக்குப் போகவேண்டாம், இங்கிலாந்திலிருக்கும் under-grounds railways ஐயும் underground வேலைகளையும் போய்ப்பார்த்து வந்து இங்கும் வசதி செய்யவேண்டுமென்றும் சொன்னார். பாலாற்றின் under-ground ஜலத்திலிருந்து மின்சார உற்பத்தியை அதிகரிக்கலாம் என்றும் சொன்னார். ஆனால் நான் சொல்வது என்னவென்றால் நீங்கள் ஜப்பானுக் கும் போகவேண்டாம், இங்கிலாந்தைப்போல் underground வேலைகளும் செய்யவேண்டாம். இங்கேயே ஸ்திரமாக இருந்துகொண்டு நீங்கள் எடுத்துக்கொண்ட காரியங்களையெல்லாம் அழகாகச் செய்து எல்லோருக் கும் திருப்தியளிக்கும்படியாக செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளு கிறேன்."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"I will call the Hon. Minister to reply at 2-40 p.m. Janab Sinna Kaziar should not take more than five minutes."

* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, of course I am supporting the cut motion but not with the usual object of attacking the Hon. Minister but only with the object of getting an opportunity to speak on the subject. No doubt the Hon. Minister in charge of the portfolio has done something and he is sincerely anxious to do something more in future also. My only dissatisfaction is that electricity develop- ment in our State is proceeding at a bullock cart's speed at a time when the other countries of the world are planning in terms of jet plane and aeroplane.

"As has been suggested by several hon. Members, I do not want our Minister to visit Japan, England or America. I agree with Sri R. Subba Iyer and I want our Minister to sit here and do things. Though the progress of electrical development during his regime has been slow, it is better than what it was during his predecessor's tortoise speed. It is said in the speech of the Hon. Minister that electrical connection has been given to 1,700 villages. There are about 40,000 villages in our State. If we go on at the present rate of progress, I do not know when we could supply power to all the villages. We do not want current for electric fans and lights; we do not want current for decorating the

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towns and villages with lights. We want current for lifting water for agriculture. Food is the most important thing at the present juncture. If we solve the food problem, we will have also solved the labour and other incidental problems.

"Our country has got the maximum resources: only third in the whole world:—

Canada	47 millions H P.
U.S A.	35 do.
India	25 do.

But we have got the minimum energy in terms of *per capita* consumption and horse-power. The following comparative figures will illustrate my statement:

Name of country.	Per capita consumption.	Horse-power for every thousand people.
Canada	2,310	600
Switzerland	1,118	500
Norway	1,150	700
United States of America	846	100
Madras State	4.5	1

The above figures show how much progress we have yet got to make.

"The Hon. Minister for Public Works may say that he has not got enough money. It is not our lookout to find money for him. It is a matter for the Ministers and they should give top priority to electricity. Electricity is required not only for irrigation; for the development of cottage industries and for improvement in so many other directions, electricity is necessary.

"The Hon. Minister has got several electricity schemes costing many crores of rupees. But when is he going to complete their execution? My suggestion is that, instead of taking up so many schemes simultaneously, he should chalk out a plan and take up and complete one scheme after the other. That will at least give the benefit of one scheme to the people at an early date. If only we give electrical connection to 10 per cent of our villages, I am sure we will save about 6 crores of rupees worth of rice which we are now importing.

"Electricity is helpful in so many other directions. In Australia and America, fruits are grown with the help of electricity and several thousand tons of fruits are exported to other countries. Even our country is importing fruits worth Rs. 75 lakhs every year.

"With these words I conclude my speech."

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very much obliged to the hon. Members for the compliments they have paid me and for the very valuable suggestions they have made regarding this subject. I am particularly thankful to the last speaker, my hon. Friend, Janab Sinna Kaziar, for the

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11th March 1950] very valuable statistics he quoted regarding consumption of electricity in several countries of the world. They should certainly inspire us to go ahead with the programme of electrical development. It is true that we have to do a lot and that the number of villages supplied with electricity is too small compared to the total number of villages in our State. I do appreciate the feeling that what I have claimed to have done appears to be nothing compared to what we have got to do. I have explained the limitations under which we have been able to carry out this programme of electricity development. I am fully alive to the need for expediting the programme. I can assure the House that we are doing our very best and we shall do still more in the matter.

"The hon. Member from South Kanara, Mr. H. S. Hussain, referred to the delay in securing power from Jog for his district. The Mysore Government were good enough to agree to supply power to the extent of 6,000 K.Ws. for the South Kanara district. It is true there was some hurdle and we could not confirm the agreement. Therefore, the sanction of the scheme has been delayed. I got a letter from the Hon. Minister in charge of Electricity in Mysore only two days back. I have no doubt that the Government of Mysore will not insist on their proposal to levy a surcharge on the power consumed by this State. Another point also has been raised by the hon. Member. We are examining the whole question, and I have no doubt that it will be possible to come to an agreement before long so that we could sanction the scheme and go ahead with the construction of transmission lines for the supply of power from Jog to the villages and towns of South Kanara district.

"A suggestion was kindly made by several hon. Members that our Government should study the development of electricity in Japan, England, Italy and other countries and adopt the methods adopted there to suit our conditions here. It will certainly be useful if somebody visits those countries and studies on the spot. But I myself need not necessarily go and I do not propose to go. I can assure those hon. Members who made the suggestion that I would certainly have the measures adopted in those countries studied properly so that we could adapt them to the requirements of our State.

"Sir, I was rather surprised to find that my hon. Friend from Visakhapatnam, Mr. T. Viswanatham imagined himself that I had offended him because of certain observations I had made regarding the feelings of hon. Members and he got into a fury and said that he was deeply hurt and that he would not speak on this Demand. Sir, in my speech this morning, what I was referring to as the feelings of some hon. Members in this House, who might contrast the development in one area in the Province with the development in another, has been construed by the hon. Member as an offence against some Members of some particular areas. Sir, I may assure the House that it is far from my mind to wound anybody's feelings; and I am not capable of offending anyone. I

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only said that it was possible that some Members from the Andhra might compare the development in Andhra with the development in some other areas, and might express their feelings, because I have heard before such opinions and remarks expressed and I added that whatever might be the contrast in development between one area and another, this Government must not be held responsible and then I explained how we were going ahead with various development schemes in that area. Therefore, I could not understand, Sir, how that should have caused any offence or hurt the feelings of my hon. Friend Mr. Viswanatham. But another Member from Visakhapatnam who followed him did justify my reference, and probably I was right in having anticipated expression of such feelings. Sir, the other hon. Member from the Visakhapatnam district, Mr. Satyanarayana Raju pointed out that there was a positive neglect of the Andhra areas. He even went to the extent of describing what we have claimed to have done as mere eye-wash. I do not take it as an offence, Sir, because I can understand the feelings not only of that hon. Member himself, but also the feelings of those who think like him that nothing has been done for those areas, but I may say, Sir, that I am too familiar with this kind of comments. Sir, when I was travelling in a train to Visakhapatnam to inspect the progress at the Machkund site and to have a conference with the Hon. Minister of Public Works from Orissa, an hon. Member of this House joined me in the train and he immediately acquainted me with the rumour which he had heard that some materials and machinery that were landed at the Visakhapatnam harbour for the purpose of the Machkund project were being transported to the Tamil districts. I immediately told him that it could not be so, because the machinery that was required for a big Hydro-electric project like Machkund was not the machinery that was required in the Tamil districts for extension schemes. And then when I reached Visakhapatnam, I went to the harbour, and found three big transformers packed, and landed at the harbour, and when I enquired of the officers about them, they said that these transformers were intended for the Rajahmundry extensions and because Rajahmundry had no harbour, they were landed at the Visakhapatnam harbour from where they would be transported to Rajahmundry by train. That was the position, so far as this allegation was concerned. Perhaps some people when they find some machinery imported into this Province landed at some harbour and then transported from that harbour to another place, simply imagine that they are intended for one area and transferred to another. Sir, as I said in the other House, the only remedy against these kinds of fantastic complaints is the formation of the Andhra Province. But I can assure the House that so far as I am concerned and so far as this Government are concerned, there is no question of discrimination or preference or partiality between one linguistic area and another. I should also like to assure my hon. Friend from Chingleput that that district to which I happen to belong, would not suffer because I belong to that district, nor would it have any preferential treatment over others, because I belong to that district. (Interruption). If perhaps my hon.

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Friend from Kurnool Mr. Nagappa were a Minister, he might show such a preference to his own district, but I have no such preferences, Sir.

"Then, Sir, the hon. Member from Chingleput criticised the insistence of the guarantee of 10 per cent. He described my speech as a novel and therefore he was carried away by that, and did not listen to what I had explained about this 10 per cent guarantee. Sir, this 10 per cent guarantee covers interest charged on the capital, the depreciation charges and working expenses and we get only a very small margin on the current supplied. I explained it clearly in my speech this morning, that if the capital expenditure is Rs. 100 on any extension scheme, Rs. 3½ is charged for interest, Rs. 2½ for working expenses and another Rs. 3 for depreciation charges and then there is only a margin of Re. 1 which is actually the charge for the current. Therefore, Rs. 9 out of the Rs. 10 which is insisted as a guarantee, go for the expenses and interest and only Re. 1 for every Rs. 100 of capital expenditure is charged on the current and that is a very small margin indeed, Sir.

"Then, Sir, the hon. Gentleman, Mr. Hameed Khan referred to the dearth of technical personnel, but I would tell him that next year we do hope that the situation would be considerably improved. We do hope that in another three months a number of students who are now studying and appearing for the examinations, would be coming out of the colleges and might be joining us in larger numbers than last year, and we might thus be able to solve the problem of scarcity of technical personnel to some extent.

"Sir, the hon. Member from Villupuram referred to the insistence of a deposit of Rs. 1,000 from licensees. I would tell him that I shall look into the matter. Sir, again another hon. Member referred to the levy of a surcharge on the electricity and questioned the need for it. So far as the power to be supplied from thermal stations is concerned, this surcharge is hardly adequate for the cost of power produced therein. But for power supplied from a hydro-electric source, this charge would be a source of revenue. Hon. Members might remember that last year the Hon. Finance Minister indicated in his budget speech about his proposal to levy a tax on the consumption of electricity. In the place of that tax this surcharge is being levied and the proposal for taxing consumption of electricity has been given up. This surcharge in the hydro-electric areas must be taken as a source of revenue.

"Sir, the hon. Member from Malabar referred to the neglect of that district in the matter of hydro-electric development. The hon. Gentleman, Mr. Moideen Kutty referred to the need for the sanction of an electric line between Calicut, Ponnani and Tirur. I would tell him that that scheme is under the consideration of the Government. The estimated cost of that scheme is 7.9 lakhs and we hope to be able to sanction that line in the near future. There is also another line that has been sanctioned and that is

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the Palghat-Parli-Shoranur line. When these two lines are connected, there can be direct connection between Coimbatore and Shoranur and thus we will be able to develop the extension services in the Malabar district.

"Sir, the hon. Member from Vellore Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliar suggested that there must be a partial black-out and a cut in street-lighting, so that the power that is saved thereby might be utilized to reduce the cut that is now imposed on industrial concerns. I should like to tell him that, after all, the power consumed in the matter of street-lighting is not much and that would not in any way help us materially so as to enable us to restore the cut in the supply of power to industrial concerns. We have not imposed any cut in the matter of supply of power for agricultural purposes. There, the supply is continued as before. If agriculturists are now required to take power in the nights, it might cause some inconvenience, but there is no other way, because we want to distribute all the power that is available to as many agriculturists as possible and in the South Arcot, Chingleput and other districts, they have been taking power at night. Before power was available, the agriculturists had to bale out water from wells by means of bullocks and by men even during nights, and therefore this is an inconvenience which cannot be avoided and as I said just now we are anxious to distribute the maximum power available among as many agriculturists as possible.

"Sir, the hon. Member from Vellore Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliar also complained that there is no uniform policy in the matter of granting loans to licensees. The first loan that was sanctioned to one of the licensees was done long ago, but since then we have laid down a uniform policy in regard to interest as well as other conditions, and we have been adopting this policy in disposing of all applications for loans from various licensees. Sir, he referred in particular to the Kumbakonam licensee. Sir, that licensee was not interested in taking a loan from the Government and he preferred to go to some insurance company and got the necessary loan, because perhaps he was interested only in urban connections. The policy of the Government is not to give loans for urban connections and they have laid down that loans should be given to licensees exclusively for the purpose of extending connections to rural areas.

"Sir, the hon. Member from Banganapalle also referred to the need for setting up a thermal station at Kurnool. My hon. Friend, from Cuddapah reminded me about the necessity for a thermal station at Cuddapah. Both Cuddapah and Kurnool have been taken over. Sites have been selected and plans and estimates have been prepared and the Government have also sanctioned these two schemes. But since then the devaluation came in and prices of machinery went up and not only the prices of machinery went up, but we were obliged to go to the United Kingdom rather than to United States of America, for the necessary machinery and then

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we were told by the United Kingdom manufacturers that it would take another two or three years more for them to supply the necessary machinery. Therefore, in those circumstances we thought that it was not worth while waiting for so long a time for getting the machinery and thereafter putting up the power station for developing electricity, because before we could get the machinery and put up the thermal station, the Tungabhadra hydro-electric scheme would have been ready by then and power could be brought from Tungabhadra to both Cuddapah and Kurnool. This proposal was also placed before the Ceded Districts Development Board and they too have agreed to the proposal. Therefore it was decided that instead of pursuing this matter of developing thermal stations in these two places, the hydro-electric scheme at Tungabhadra might be expedited. That is the position, Sir, so far as Cuddapah and Kurnool are concerned. Subject to that, we are doing everything to improve the electric supply both in Cuddapah and Kurnool.

"Sir, the hon. Member Mr. Nagappa asked me about the Srisailem Hydro-electric project. Sir, that will be investigated and that will be a new source of power development. I referred to another site in Visakhapatnam, this morning and this too will be investigated. After these investigations are over, we will take up these hydro-electric schemes.

"The hon. Member from Banganapalle while pleading for the taking up of the Kurnool thermal station, said that it was urgently required for cement production, for which there was a proposal to start a factory in that district. It was with that view that we prepared the original plans and estimates and sanctioned the scheme and settled the site, but then we were told that the idea of setting up a cement factory in Kurnool was given up and therefore there is no possibility of any urgent requirement of power there. It was in these circumstances that we have given up the idea of further developing the two thermal stations and as I have already said, we are now expediting the Tungabhadra hydro-electric scheme. That hydro-electric scheme is to be sanctioned presently but I cannot exactly tell my hon. Friend when it will start functioning. We will do it as early as possible.

"I would now request Mr. Hameed Khan to withdraw his cut motion."

SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—"May I know, whether electricity could not be supplied to the Cuddapah district—at least to the eastern portion of it from the Moyar hydro-electric system?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I shall look into that matter."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"The Hon. Minister has not mentioned anything about the electrification of the Government fika development areas which have applied for electric connexion. That matter was also referred to by the Members. Another point

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is about the establishment of the electricity board for this State. I want information whether any steps have been taken in regard to these two things."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"The Hon. Minister referred to some 'other point' raised by the Mysore Minister in the letter received by him two days ago. May I know whether the 'other point' referred to could be disclosed?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"We have been discussing this matter with the Mysore Minister and, therefore, I do not think it is right that I should disclose that. But it is not a major point and we hope we will be able to settle that with the whole question so that the agreement could be entered into."

"Regarding the other point raised by Mr. Ramaswami, I could tell him that we are giving priority for the firka development areas and we are proceeding with development schemes in these areas. He also asked me about the question of electricity board. We have not yet taken up the matter, Sir. I would also like to refer to another point that was raised. A reference was made about the Visakhapatnam power-house. There is provision in this year's budget for its expansion. For want of some materials—some cast-iron pipes—this matter was delayed. I went and inspected the Visakhapatnam power-house construction. Boilers have been erected and we are also commissioning two diesel generating sets and we hope to secure more power in another three months and then in another six months the power expansion would be completed."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I beg leave of the House to withdraw my cut motion."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum of Rs. 2,01,07,400 under Demand XXVIII—Electricity'."

The Demand was carried and the Grant made.

DEMAND XXIII—LABOUR INCLUDING FACTORIES AND HARIJAN UPLIFT.

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 88,31,000 under "Demand XXIII—Labour including Factories and Harijan Uplift."'

"Sir, the most important items under this head are Harijan Uplift, Labour, Factories, Settlements under the control of Police Department, etc.

"The hon. Members will see that out of the total Demand of Rs. 88,31,000 under this head, a substantial sum of Rs. 63,86,600 is for expenditure for Harijan Uplift; besides, a sum of Rs. 28,80,500 is also provided for expenditure from the 'Fund for Village

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Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift'. On the whole a provision for expenditure of Rs. 92,67,100 is made for this year, marking an increase of over Rs. 10 lakhs over last year's revised estimate.

"As the hon. Members are aware the Government have been incurring a steadily increasing expenditure on the uplift of Harijans. While the Government spent only Rs. 8.78 lakhs in 1924-25 on this account, the expenditure has risen particularly during the last few years. In 1948-49 it was Rs. 63.87 lakhs. Having realized that educational advancement is the forerunner of all progress they have paid special attention to the provision of educational facilities. While there were only 500 lower elementary labour schools with 500 teachers educating 14,500 pupils in 1924, there were 1,232 schools with 2,661 teachers educating 87,224 pupils in 1949-50. Again against 281 scholar-educating 13,978 scholars receiving in all a sum of Rs. 5.4 lakhs during 1949-50. In the matter of boarding grants to hostels also, there has been an enormous increase in expenditure. While in the year 1924 it was only Rs. 3,580 it rose to the very large sum of Rs. 10,08,305 in 1948-49 which was distributed among 325 hostels. The Government are also running in addition 13 hostels on which they have spent no less than Rs. 1,39,520 during 1949-50. Another large item of expenditure is the provision of midday meals which has been found to be absolutely necessary, if we are to spread and promote education among these poor illiterate masses. This scheme which was started in 1941 cost the Government Rs. 25,000 in 1943-44, for feeding 4,600 children. But in 1948-49 the number of pupils fed rose to 84,660 and the expenditure to as much as Rs. 11,53,500.

"House-sites have been provided by the assignment of waste or poramboke lands at the disposal of the Government free of cost to landless Harijans or by acquiring private lands when suitable Government lands are not available. The Government have been meeting half the cost of acquisition of private lands, subject to certain maximum limits, the balance of the cost being recovered from the Harijans. But as it was found that no substantial progress had been made in this direction on account of the absolute poverty of the Harijans who were unable to pay even half the cost of the land and the deplorable conditions in which several of them were housed we have now liberalized this concession by meeting from provincial funds the entire cost of acquisition of sites in the case of those who cannot afford to pay the cost.

"In the matter of sinking wells in cheris, the Government have been providing funds, but, as this provision has been very meagre it has been directed that separate wells not provided for in the five-year plan of the rural water-supply scheme should be provided in the Harijan cheris wherever necessary and that the expenditure on account of these wells should be met from the Rural Water-supply Fund.

"The facts I have mentioned above and the details I have given under some of the main heads indicate the progress

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we have made in the advancement and amelioration of the conditions of Harijans. These will furnish a clear proof of the earnestness and sincerity of the Government if proof were wanted. In order to give a further impetus to the work and accelerate the pace of progress the Government have, on the advice of the Provincial Harijan Welfare Committee, constituted with effect from 1st April 1949 a separate department of Harijan welfare and they have appointed a retired Judge of the High Court of Judicature, Madras, as its first head, so that he may pay his undivided attention to the several problems confronting the Government to help them to attain their objectives speedily. To assist him in his work the Government have also appointed two experienced Deputy Collectors as Deputy Directors. And with the object of obtaining better and quicker results in the districts, the Government have also recently appointed Deputy Collectors in eight districts and senior Tahsildars in the remaining districts in the place of the Deputy Tahsildars who were hitherto in charge of the Harijan Uplift work in each district. Though it is scarcely two months since higher grade officers started working in the districts I may inform the members that I have already had occasion to notice the change for the better. We can confidently hope that they will be able to give a greater fillip to the Harijan Uplift work and achieve within a measurable time abiding and substantial results which will register a marked advance over the progress already made. Thus by these new arrangements, namely, the creation of a separate department with a Director at its head and two Deputy Directors under him and the appointment of Deputy Collectors and Senior Tahsildars, we will be able to make rapid strides, so that by the end of ten years we shall have improved the lot of the Harijans substantially, even if we are unable to bring them into line with the more advanced sections.

"The magnitude of this centuries old problem cannot be ignored. Many a previous attempt on the part of social reformers and religious leaders ended in failure. But it was left to Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of our Nation, to bring about a revolution which has touched the hearts of the masses to the quick and has roused their social consciousness to such an extent as to make untouchability a crime. By his Epic fast, severe penance and mighty sacrifices he has performed a miracle in this as in many other things, whereby the foundations for building up a united nation and a stable State, were well and truly laid. We cannot afford to forget the central fact that all Harijan Welfare work means in its essence complete eradication of untouchability in all its forms. It is not as some imagine the mere transformation of a depressed and suppressed class into a favoured class. While it is necessary for the society and the State to take in the first instance all steps to do away with the special difficulties and hardships to which they are subjected and to give them every encouragement and facility by which they will become full and equal sharers of all opportunities of life, it is certainly not the intention of the Government to treat them as a separate and

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distinct class or community for ever. Therefore, all the work done and progress made should be measured not by the standard how far Harijans as a separate class have been elevated but by the test how far the Harijans and others are moving and mingling with each other without any distinction so that they may ultimately merge into one homogenous society knowing no caste distinctions. The change that has come about in the consciousness of caste Hindus in recent times has been appreciable and visible. In this connexion, one has only to recall the Opposition of a few Members of the Legislature to the Temple Entry Bill of the late Mr. M. C. Rajah about 10 or 12 years ago and the present times, when not only the temples are open to all Harijans, but all the Members of both the Legislatures without exception vie with one another in espousing the cause of the Harijans. Even outside we cannot find any one worth the name openly justifying the social hardships or other disabilities of Harijans. Under such happy augury and promising circumstances, we can reasonably hope to reach our ultimate objective within a period of ten years.

"But we must keep our eyes open to the forces which are working close to us to disrupt the peace and tranquility of our country. I refer here to the forces of Communism in their particular relation to the Harijan community. The Communist Party seeks to sow the seeds of disruption in the vast multitude of depressed people scattered loosely over every village and township in the State. It is for the caste Hindus and other non-Harijans to realize the importance and seriousness of this situation. That the history of India is a record of successive and successful invasions from outside the borders is nothing new. Invaders succeeded not because of their strength but because of the divisions and disunity among the people within its borders. It is, therefore, for us to see that there is no division of our people through discontentment of one class caused by the tyranny of another class over it, that there are no privileged and unprivileged classes, and that there are none favoured and unfavoured in the ordinary walks of our life. Communism by itself is foreign to the Indian people and Indian thought. It believes in a two-nation theory—the haves and have-nots. Democracy thrived and flourished in India long before it was known and practised in the West. Our Constitution modelled on the most democratic lines and about which we can rightly boast of, propagates equality of all men, politically, socially and economically. While this is so, if we are to be proud of our Constitution and true to our Motherland, we should see that we make no difference among its people socially, economically and politically. The non-Harijans and especially the richer classes like the mirasdars will be doing a great service, if they realize this.

"The problem of untouchability is a socio-economic one. It has also religious and political aspects. Hence the resource of the State cannot be expected to solve it in full.

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"The disabilities from which the Harijans still suffer, though not so acute as in the past are yet urgent and call for immediate removal. Some of the main disabilities are want of access to public wells and tanks, non-admission into coffee hotels and eating houses and hair-dressing saloons and resistance to temple entry. Though the Government have enacted laws to remove these disabilities, knowledge of these laws has not reached the distant villages. It is, therefore, felt that there should be sufficient propaganda to educate the public, particularly the orthodox among them. With a view to popularize the laws enacted in this regard, the State has organized the celebration of the 'Harijan Day' on the 30th day of every month. I need hardly mention that unless the much-needed enthusiasm on the part of the public is forthcoming in fighting these evils, any amount of effort by the State will not achieve the fullest results. While the State are doing and will do all that lies within their power, the non-official institutions also must come to their aid.

"The problem is huge and the expenditure involved is enormous. The State cannot be expected to meet all the cost at the same time. They can go only by stages. Financial aid from public and private bodies is very essential. Funds should be collected locally to supplement the resources of the Government and spent through the District Harijan Welfare Committees. The various bodies and institutions interested in Harijan Welfare work must train the Harijans themselves in such a way as to make them self-confident and stand on their own legs. Here again, the example of Mahatma Gandhi to the last moment of his life must be remembered and followed.

"I am aware that just as there are distinctions and superiority and inferiority complexes among the Caste Hindus, there are differences even among the Harijans. There are some sects and sub-sects among the Harijans who refuse to intermingle socially and desist from even taking water from a common well. These distinctions are perpetuated by them in pursuance of age-long customs and in imitation of the practices of the Caste Hindus to whom they have been accustomed for ages to look up for example and precept. The Caste Hindus should not make capital out of these differences. Instead of pointing the finger of reproach against them, the Caste Hindus will do well to persuade them to sink their differences. I appeal to the Caste Hindus and Harijans alike to see that these irritating distinctions are done away with.

"There has been a very notable advance in the attitude of the general Hindu public in their relations to the Harijans. While in the past, the public fiercely opposed and resisted the measures taken to remove untouchability, their attitude now is generally one of passive apathy and indifference and I have no doubt that in the near future their attitude will be one of active help and co-operation.

"I wish to conclude by reminding the hon. Members of the utterances of the Father of the Nation who enjoined on us to do penance for removing this evil of untouchability. He said 'Hindus

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have committed a great sin in giving sanction to the evil of untouchability.' And I am very anxious, if such a thing as vicarious penance is possible to purify that sin."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Motion moved—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 88,31,000 under Demand XXIII—Labour including Factories and Harijan Uplift'.

"I fix three hours for this Demand and ten minutes for each hon. Member."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 88,31,000 under Demand XXIII—Labour including Factories and Harijan Uplift be reduced by Rs. 100'.

"In moving the cut motion standing in my name, my intention is to bring to the notice of the Government the injustices that are prevailing in certain districts. For instance, especially in the Ceded Districts, hostels were opened very recently. If you take Kurnool district, there are only three or four hostels which are functioning well. Two or three hostels were opened last year and they were not given any grant at all. As a result of that, the hostels in Allagadda and Giddalur had to be closed and the hostel in Pattikonda is on the verge of closure. Now the Government have appointed the Provincial Harijan Welfare Committee."

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Sir, I have to inform the hon. Member that the hostel at Pattikonda is not closed. On the other hand, we have given an annual grant this year."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"I thank the Hon. Minister for the information. I did not say that it was closed. Till yesterday it was on the verge of closure. Till yesterday the Hon. Minister could not give anything to that hostel. Now he says that he has given a grant. I thank him for that and I hope he would grant enough funds. I expect that he will grant amounts liberally especially for hostels that are situated in the Ceded Districts. These are backward areas and so they should not be subjected to the rules which have been made by the Provincial Harijan Welfare Committee according to which the existing hostels will have to show an increase in strength by 20 per cent to get an increased grant. That is to say, you will be comparing the hostels in the backward areas with those found in other districts which are very much advanced districts, in each one of which, you will find that there are 25 or 40 hostels. On the other hand in the Ceded Districts, which are very backward, you will find that there are only 2, 3 or 5 hostels. There are some hostels which do not receive anything from the Government. When such is the case, I expected that the Government would come forward and start hostels in these backward areas where there are no hostels at all. Instead of doing that, if the Government go on comparing these with the other

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advanced districts, then these backward districts will certainly fall back. That is the point which I want to impress upon the Government.

"Coming next to the question of house-sites, the Hon. Finance Minister in his budget speech has said that ever since this Government has been saddled with responsibility, they have provided one lakh of house-sites for the 82 lakhs of Harijans of this State. How many Harijans would have been benefited by this? Do you think that all the Harijans of this State will be able to get house-sites? I would like to impress upon the Government that if need be, they should not hesitate to change the rules of procedure governing the acquisition of lands. If you want to acquire any site to-day from any private individual or from the Government, it takes not less than two years. At present, the Harijan Welfare Officers are pestered with a lot of work. They cannot concentrate their attention on this subject and are not in a position to attend to the provision of house-sites. To-day, Sir, this question of provision of house-sites is the burning problem everywhere. So, I would impress upon the Government this aspect of the question and appeal to them to do their best in this matter. Only then, I hope, they will be able to satisfy the hon. Members of this House and satisfy themselves also.

"As regards the building grants to the hostels, they are situated generally in a very unhealthy locality."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"No, no."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"My hon. Friend Mr. Kandaswami Pillai says 'no, no', as if he has gone to the Harijan hostels, as if he has admitted his children in a Harijan hostel and as if he knows how the Harijans are treated in the hostels. Without knowing anything of the Harijans and Harijan hostels, he has come to give evidence on the floor of the House saying, 'no, no', when I speak on the conditions of these hostels. What does he know of these matters? He has no knowledge of his own district, his own taluk. When such is the case, he cannot come and talk about Harijans all over the State. (Hear, hear.)

"As regards the building grants, I say that the Government have been adopting a rather lukewarm policy. They have not spent any appreciable amount on this matter. If they come forward to bear at least 75 per cent of the cost of the buildings, then there are enough non-official agencies to come forward, like Mr. Bapineedu and his organization, the Harijan Sevak Sangh, to contribute the remaining 25 per cent of the cost of the building. If this is done, any number of buildings will spring up overnight. But what is the policy of the Government? It is bankrupt. Moreover, the Provincial Welfare Committee has passed a resolution that they would grant building grants subject to a maximum of Rs. 10,000. Can you expect any building in these days to be erected with Rs. 10,000? You will have to spend at least Rs. 50,000 to construct a hostel in order to accommodate about 50 to

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100 students. To-day, it is a problem even to purchase a site—let alone constructing a building—with Rs. 10,000. When that is the case, Rs. 10,000 will be a drop in the ocean. Let the Hon. Minister think over this matter and if need be, decide to change the rules and see that generous grants are given for erecting buildings.

"Sir, I have been patiently hearing the Hon. Minister's speech. He has been making a jugglery with some figures. This sort of jugglery with figures will not carry us very far. He says that in 1924 we have spent so much and we are spending so much to-day. What was the Government in 1924 and what is the Government to-day? Why do you want to compare the present Government with that of 1924? You are a popular Government. The Government which was in office in 1924 was an enemy Government. Therefore I strongly feel that it is not at all worthwhile for you to compare a popular Government with an enemy Government, who did not care for your welfare, for your interest and for your benefit. If you do that, I think it is too low."

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Sir, may I point out that before 1946, i.e., before hon. Sri Prakasam became the Premier, the figure was only Rs. 40 lakhs. Now we have reached the figure of Rs. 93 lakhs within the three years. This will clearly show the progress which we have made."

* SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Well, Sir, that is exactly the reason why Hon. Sri Prakasam had made a grant of Rs. 1 crore which you are not able to spend even to this day on Harijans. You are a popular Government. Do you think that with this Rs. 93 lakhs, you can satisfy the 86 lakhs of Harijans in this State? What is it that you are spending on them? It amounts to Re. 1 per head. Do you think that it is enough?

"Then, as regards Labour schools, my hon. Friend, the Minister was giving some figures saying that so many students are admitted and so much amount has been spent last year and so much amount has been spent this year, and so much amount will be spent next year. Why are you giving such false hopes? I would like to know what is the concrete result. How many students have been turned out of these schools, how many graduates have been appointed as Deputy Collectors, and how many have been able to capture the Treasury Benches? If you give me figures as to these things, then I will be satisfied. (Laughter.) There is no use of saying that you have opened some schools here and some there which cater up to third class or fourth class. That will not help anybody. I would request the Hon. Minister to concentrate more on the elementary schools and see that every cheri is having at least one school. If the Government themselves are not able to start these schools, then I would like to urge upon them to ask the district boards at least to take up this work. Let these district boards be asked to start an elementary school in the Harijan cheri in every

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village so that it may be convenient to the Harijans and prove an incentive to go and attend them and get instructions there. In this way, education could be spread among these poor Harijans."

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

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"I am sorry I have to talk on a number of points, Sir."

"As regards the well programme, I am glad the Hon. Minister has given some thought to this."

"Then as regards the Law graduates, the Government have passed an order that Harijans will be exempted from paying this Rs. 650 as enrolment fees. I find that there are a number of hurdles to be crossed by the Harijans before they can get this exemption. So, I would request the Hon. Minister to make this exemption easy and practical."

"As regards the scholarships from the Central Government, those amounts fall very short of the Provincial Government's. So, I would request the Hon. Minister to see that this difference is made up, so that the students who are studying in the various colleges and schools and are getting the Central Government grant may not suffer for want of funds."

"As regards rural water-supply, the Hon. Minister said that there are differences among the Harijans themselves. I want that there should be a band of social workers to do propaganda and see that this difference is removed not only among the caste Hindus but also among the Harijans. I would request the Government to have a well programme by which in every village there will be a well for Harijans. In these wells, the Harijans should be free to take water. I once again request the Government to bestow their attention to this matter. There is no use of passing legislations and keeping quiet. You should see . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member should not address as 'you'."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"I am sorry, Sir. By 'you', I only meant the Hon. Minister. The Hon. Minister should see that the legislation that is passed here is implemented in actual practice."

"The Hon. Minister was kind enough to mention that he has appointed 8 Deputy Collectors, in 8 districts. I thank him for that. But what is the position in other districts? The appointment in eight districts will not solve the problem, in so many other districts. I wish the Hon. Minister to fight with the Cabinet and get sanction for their appointment in other districts as well. The appointment of retired Tahsildars on the ground that they are seniormost is no good. They are old and they cannot even move about . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Order, order. The hon. Member should not speak ill of officers here."

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Sir, I am not speaking ill of them, but I am only referring to their capacities. These Tahsildars are old people; they cannot move about easily. They are about to retire—people without any zeal or enthusiasm. (Laughter.) Such people have been appointed."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Motion moved—
that the allotment of Rs. 88,31,000 under Demand XXIII—Labour including Factories and Harijans Uplift be reduced by Rs. 100'."

* SRI P. M. VELAYUDAPANI:—"கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே! ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய ஷேமாபிவிருத்திக்காக மந்திரி கனம் பரமேஸ் வரன் அவர்கள் கோரிய இந்த மானியத்தை நான் மனப் பூர்வமாக ஆதரிக்கின்றேன். இந்த மானியம் வேண்டுமென்று அவர் கோரி பேசிய காலத்தில் கடந்த ஆண்டிலே ஹரிஜன மக்களுக்காக இந்த அரசாங்கத்தார் என்னென்ன செய்தார்கள் என்று குறிப்பிட்டிருந்தார்கள். அதற்காக நான் மிகவும் நன்றி செலுத்துகிறேன்."

"குறிப்பாகச் சொல்லுமிடத்து ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய முன்னேற்றத்திற்காக எட்டு டிப்டி கலெக்டர்களையும், ஒரு டிப்டி டைரக்டரையும் ஏற்படுத்தி யிருப்பதாக அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். அது மாதிரமல்ல. ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு வீடு கட்டுவதற்காக நிலம் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமானால் போதிய பணம் அவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கப்படுமென்று ஒரு சட்டமிருந்தது அதனை இவ்வாண்டிலே அரசாங்கத்தின் சம்பந்தப்பட்ட அளவிலே நப் முடைய ஹரிஜன மந்திரியவர்கள் ஏற்படுத்தியிருப்பதாகச் சொன்னார்கள். அது மிகவும் நல்லது; அதற்காக மிகவும் சந்தோஷப்பட்டு, அவர்களின் சார்பாக எனது நன்றியை செலுத்துகின்றேன்."

"என்றாலும் இந்த முறைகளிலுள்ள சில குறைபாடுகளைப்பற்றி என்னுடைய யோசனையை எடுத்துக் கூற விரும்புகிறேன்."

"இந்த ஆண்டு திட்டத்திலே ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய ஷேமாபிவிருத்திக் காக 93 லக்ஷம் ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கியிருப்பதாகக் குறிப்பிடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தைச் சமர்ப்பித்து பேசுகிறபோது Finance Minister அவர்கள் 1948-49-லே 64 லக்ஷம் ரூபாய்தான் என்றும், அதற்கடுத்தாற்போல் 82 லக்ஷம் ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டது என்றும் இவ்வாண்டு . . ."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"தலைவர் அவர்களே! நண்பர் மூலம் நாகப்பா அவர்கள் cut motion-ஐ கொண்டுவந்தார்கள். அதை ஒருவரும் second செய்யாதபோது வேறு ஒரு மெம்பர் பேச வது சரியா?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Cut motion-ஐ ஒன்றும் second செய்ய வேண்டியதில்லை. Let the Hon. Member continue."

SRI P. M. VELAYUDAPANI:—"இவ்வாண்டு 93 லக்ஷம் ஒதுக்கியிருக்கின்றன என்றும், அதற்காக அதிகப்படியான செலவினத்திற்காக, ஒரு கோடி ரூபாய் ஷேமாபிவிருத்திக்காக ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது, அதனை எடுப்போமென்று சொன்னார்கள். நான் என்ன கூறுகின்றேன் என்றால் 1948-ம் ஆண்டுவரை ஹரிஜனங்களுக்காக தனிப்பட்ட அளவில் பணம் ஒதுக்கப்படவில்லை. ஒதுக்கப்பட்ட பணமும் வேறு இனத்திற்கு எடுத்துச் செலவு செய்வதென்று ஒதுக்கப்பட்டதில்லையென்பது என் அபிப்பிராயம். ஆனால் இந்த இரண்டு ஆண்டுகளிலே 47 லட்சம் ரூபாய் அளவில் எடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இதற்கு இரண்டு ஆண்டுகளுக்குமுன் ரூ. 1,80,000 தக்கர்ப்பாவி வித்தியாலயத்திற்கு கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆக அரை கோடி ரூபாய் போய்விட்டது. அதனை எதற்காகக் கூறுகிறேனென்றால் இப்போதாவது அதிகப் பணம் ஒதுக்கிச் செலவு செய்யவேண்டுமென்பதுதான் என் கருத்தாகியிருக்கிறது."

[Sri P. M. Velayudapani] [11th March 1950]

“மற்றொன்று, சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே! ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு வீடு கட்டிக் கொடுக்கும் திட்டம் சம்பந்தமாக 5 லக்ஷம் ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கியிருப்பதாகவும், அதுவும் இதே பணத்தில் caste Christianகளுக்கும் வீடு கட்டித் தரப்போவதாகவுமுள்ள சர்க்கார் உத்திரவை அறிந்து நான் மிகவும் வருந்துகிறேன். ஹரிஜனங்கள் தான் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்கள், கிருஸ்தவர்கள் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்கள் அல்ல. அவர்களுடைய பிரதிநிதி வேறு; ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய பிரதிநிதி வேறு; அவர்கள் புதைக்குமிடம் கல்லறை. ஹரிஜனங்களைக் கொளுத்துமிடம் சடுகாடு. ரூக், யஜூர், சாம, அதர்வண வேதங்கள் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்காக யிருக்கிறது. ஆனால் அவர்களுக்கு ‘பைபிள்’ என்ற வேதமிருக்கிறது. எந்த முறையை எடுத்துப் பார்த்தாலும் அவர்கள் வேறு, ஹரிஜனங்கள் வேறு. திவான் பகதூர் காலஞ் சென்ற ஸ்ரீ ஆர். சீனுவாசன் அவர்கள் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்காக இந்த அரசாங்கத்தின் மூலமாக பல்வேறு விஷயங்களைப்பற்றி எடுத்துச் சொல்லியிருப்பதை இந்த மகா சபையில் தங்களுக்கு நான் ஞாபகமூட்டுகிறேன். ஆகையால் இந்தத் தொகையிலிருந்து பணம் கிருஸ்தவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கவேண்டாமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆனால் தனிப்பட்டு பத்து கோடி ரூபாய் அவர்களுடைய முன்னேற்றத்திற்காகச் செலவிடுவதை நான் மிகவும் வரவேற்கின்றேன் என்பதை இந்தச் சபையில் சொல்லிக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே! ஹரிஜன முன்னேற்றத்திற்காகப் படிக்கின்ற குழந்தைகளுக்கெல்லாம் ஸ்கூல் சம்பளம் இல்லையென்று அரசாங்கத்தார் ஒரு சட்டம் போட்டிருப்பதை நான் மிக மிக வரவேற்கிறேன். ஜஸ்டிஸ் அரசாங்கமிருந்தது. அதன்பிறகு அட்வைசரி அரசாங்கமிருந்தது. நான் பார்த்தவரையில் எந்தவிதமான நன்மை செய்திருந்தபோதிலும் என்னுடைய மக்களின் முன்னேற்றத்திற்கு ஒன்றும் செய்யவில்லை எனச் சொல்லுகிறேன். நம் மக்கள் அரசாங்கம் ஹரிஜன மாணவர்களுக்கு சம்பளம் வேண்டாமென்று உத்திரவு போட்டிருக்கிறதென்றால் அது குறிப்பிடுகின்றேன். இம்மாணவர்கள் கிராண்டு பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் சம்பளம் கொடுக்கின்றார்கள். கிராண்டு பள்ளிக்கூடங்களுக்கு சம்பளம் கொடுக்கிறதில்லையென்றால், ஹெட்மாஸ்ட்ரோ, மாணேஜரோ அந்தப் கூடத்திலிருந்து சம்பளம் கொடுக்காததால் விரட்டியடித்துவிடுகிறார்கள். பள்ளிக் மாணவர்கள் எத்தனைபேர் என்று உங்களுக்கும், என்னக்கும் நன் ஹரிஜன மாணவர்கள் படிக்கப்போக முடியாத நிலைமை ஏற்படுகிறது. சர்க்கார் இதை நன்கு ஆலோசனை செய்யவேண்டுமென்றும் கிராண்டு பள்ளிக்கூடங்களிலும் சம்பளமில்லாமல் படிக்கும்படி உத்திரவு போடும் படி சொல்லிக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“லேபர் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் அதிகம் ஏற்படுத்தியிருக்கிறோமென்று நம் மூலைய மந்திரியவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். நான் ஒத்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். லேபர் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் இருக்கிறது. பிள்ளைகளும் சேர்ந்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் தக்க கவனமும், ஊக்கமுமில்லாமல் பல பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் கொண்டுவர விரும்புகிறேன்.

“இன்னொன்று சொல்லுகிறேன், லேபர் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் மாணவர்களுக்குப் பிற்பகலில் இலவச உணவு கொடுக்கிறார்கள். கட்டணம் தலைக்கு 1½ அணா (ஒரு அணா, 9 பை) வீதம் கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த ரேஷன் காலத்திலே ஒரு மாணவனுக்கு 1 அணா, 9 பைக்கு முடியுமென்று தெரியவில்லை. எனவே இந்த உணவுக் கட்டணம் ஒவ்வொரு குழந்தைக்கும் தலைக்கு 3 அணா வாவது வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். என்னுடைய வட ஆற்காடு ஜில்லாவிலேயும் கண்டிராக்டர் கள், கலைக்டர் மூலமாக தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இதனை ஹரிஜன கேஷமாபிவிருத்திக் கமிட்டி என்ன செய்திருக்கிறது என்றால்

[Sri P. M. Velayudapani] [11th March 1950]

இந்த புறத்துக்கும் வேண்டாம்—அந்தப்புறத்திற்கும் வேண்டாம் என்று தலைக்கு 2½ அணா கொடுத்தால் நல்லதாயிருக்குமென சிபார்சு செய்திருக்கிறது. இந்த முறையில் தலைக்கு 2½ அணாவாவது கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென நான் சொல்லிக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே! உத்தியோக விஷயத்தில் நான் பேசவேண்டுமென்று விரும்புகிறேன். சென்னை மாகாணத்திற்கு ஸ்ரீமான் ராஜாஜி அவர்கள் பிரதமராய் இருந்த காலத்தில் உத்தியோகத்திற்கு ஒரு ஹரிஜனன் வேண்டுமென்றால் உடனே அந்த ஸ்தானத்திற்கு ஆன் சிடைக்கா விட்டால் அதற்கு ஏற்ற ஹரிஜனன் வரும்வரையில் அந்த உத்தியோகத்தை ரிசர்வ் செய்திருந்திருக்கிறார்கள். எனக்கு நன்றாக ஞாபகமிருக்கிறது. ஆனால் இந்தக் காலத்தில் ஒரு திருஷ்டாந்தமாகச் சொல்லுகிறேன், மிகவும் வருத்தமாயிருக்கிறது. இந்த சர்க்கார் காரியாலத்தையே எடுத்துக்கொள்வார்கள். முந்தைய சூப்பிரண்டுக்குள் இருக்கிறார்கள், அதில் யாராவது னங்கள். முந்தைய சூப்பிரண்டுக்குள் இருக்கிறார்கள், அதில் யாராவது ஒரு ஆதித்திராவிடர் இருக்கானவென்று சொல்லுகிறேன். அதை நினைக்க உண்மையில் கண்ணீர் விட்டு வருந்துகிறேன். சர்க்கார் மிகவும் கண்ணீர் கருத்துமாயிருந்து கூடிய சீக்கிரத்தில் இவைகளையெல்லாம் நீக்கவேண்டுமென கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அதுவும் நம்முடைய ஹரிஜன மந்திரி நல்ல இளைஞர். சருசுருப்பாக, கண்ணீர் கருத்துமாய் அவர் நடந்து கொள்வதை நான் பாராட்டுகிறேன். சர்க்கார் அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய நன்மையைச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கூறிக்கொண்டு அவர் கோரிய இந்த மானியத்தை சந்தோஷத்துடன் வரவேற்கின்றேன்.”

* SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not know whether I will be able to express what all I have to say on this matter within the short time that is allotted to me, namely, ten minutes. Anyhow, I shall try to wade through the main points within that time. I had occasion to refer, during the general discussion of the Budget, to the policy of the Government. I repeat now that the main policy of the Government should be the eradication of untouchability root and branch. I doubt very much whether mere education will bring us to that goal. I shall not dilate upon this point now as I have already stated what I have to say. Now, I would like to point out another important thing. If really we have to achieve our object, if the Harijan Department is to achieve substantial results, I must honestly state, without casting any disparagement on the present incumbent, the Hon. Mr. Parameswaran, that this department should be under the control of the Home Minister. I feel that nothing substantial can be achieved by a man who has no real power and who has no influence over the over-all administration of the Government. The poor Harijans are always suffering and not a day passes without some sort of a complaint from them, from some village or other, of their being harassed by the people, that is non-Harijans. A number of complaints are made to the Police, but the Police do not care for such complaints. Therefore, I want that this portfolio should be made one of the main portfolios and handled by the Chief Minister who handles the Police also so that it may instil some fear in the minds of the subordinates. They must be made to feel that the law passed by this Assembly shall be duly obeyed in every nook and corner of the State. There is another mentality that I would like to protest against. The mentality of separation should go. I do not subscribe to the theory that the Harijan

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Welfare Department should be under a Harijan Minister. Everything connected with this Department, I understand, is placed in the hands of Harijans by the Government. The other day, the Hon. Minister told us that out of eight Deputy Collectors who were appointed, five were from the Harijan community and the remaining three from the backward communities. Is it the idea of this Government, I ask, that this Harijan welfare work can be handled only by Harijans? Apart from capacity, apart from other considerations, is it I ask in the interests of removal of untouchability that we man this Department with Harijans? I had occasion once to refer to this aspect. When the Harijan Welfare Committee in its report wanted that schools should be established for the Harijans separately, I dissented from the majority opinion. My opinion was that it should not be our policy if we really wanted their condition to be improved and brought up to the standard of their people. The other day, the Hon. Minister for Education said in the Council that the schools in which our common boys are educated are not fit to be occupied even by animals. When such is the case with the ordinary schools, Sir, I need not say more about Harijan schools which are located in cheries. If the boys are put into such schools and made to stay there in such unclean surroundings to the exclusion of boys from other communities and if Harijan teachers alone are made to handle these boys, how can they come up to the level of other people within a period of ten years? I have no objection to any amount of money being spent on Harijan Uplift. In fact, my hon. Friend, Mr. Nagappa, wanted that ten crores instead of one should be spent on Harijans. We can spend any amount but our object should be to elevate their status in society and not to create a sort of separation or inferiority complex in their minds. (Hear, hear.)

3-45
p.m.

"Another thing I want to point out is want of supervision over the large amount that is being spent in this department. The Hon. Minister said that from 17 lakhs we have come to 92 lakhs of rupees. Can I ask whether the department that spends this has been sufficiently implemented with the personnel required for its proper disbursement and supervision? I can definitely say, no. Ever since this department came into being the same staff is working. It is only two months ago that eight Deputy Collectors have been added to this department. Is it sufficient in proportion to the volume and importance that it has come to occupy? I say, Sir, in the interest of the Harijans and the money that is being allotted to this department that effective control and supervision should be there. Otherwise the money will not go into proper hands.

"I would like to point out only one or two more points as the time at my disposal is short. The Government's policy is to aid as many hostels as possible. They are started in innumerable places now, because the Government are giving a grant. In the beginning to secure the grant, hostels are started and then they apply for the

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grant. Neither the person who opened the hostel, nor the boys reading therein, nor the manager-correspondent, not even the Director of Harijan Welfare, knows when these hostels will get the grant. At the end of the year, just before the schools and hostels close a firman comes, I do not know from where. Grants to these hostels are sanctioned and the amount allotted in lakhs are to be distributed to various hostels at the rate of 8 thousands, 10 thousands and 12 thousands. I do not know, and I want to ask the Government whether they have taken care to see that all these amounts have been properly utilized by the authorities. To whom is this money to be handed over at the fag end of the year? I can quote examples where hostels that have been drawing the grants at the end of the year have taken money from the inmates of the hostels and run them at their expense and at the end when the amount comes as a bolt from the blue, I do not know what they do with it. I can only say these do not find a place in their accounts. Such a thing should not be allowed to continue in the interests of the Harijans. The feeling that any amount can be made from the hostels should be absolutely erased from any man that thinks of it. I am therefore particular that the money this Government spend, be it 10 crores or even 100 crores—every pie of it—should be accounted for properly. This cannot be achieved without proper supervision.

"Then the amount of Rs. 13 lakhs given for midday meals is a colossal waste. You have no effective supervision over it. As my friend Mr. Velayudapani pointed out one is given one anna and nine pies for a meal. What is it that the contractor can supply for this sum of one anna nine pies, profit included, carriage charges included and I need not say other expenses that he might have to meet included, and with the ration restrictions? It will be nothing. The contractor is expected to supply a meal to the student which would sustain him during the day at the rate of one anna nine pies. Does it stand to reason, Sir, that this will really help the boy? It may be a small thing but many a mickle makes a muckle. You have 13 lakhs to be spent at the rate of one anna nine pies a meal, without anybody being benefited. The Government therefore lose the amount of 13 lakhs. There is no control, there is no supervision. Even where headmasters or some people in the chery, are entrusted with this work of supply of these things, the result is not to their credit, or to that of the authorities. It is because we have no staff to supervise these things. There is one welfare officer for a district who is supposed to supervise 150 schools and 45 hostels besides so many other things, and disburse salary, the money for the midday meal and so on. He has only time to sit at his office and do things there. If really we want that full benefits of the money should be had we should create a proper agency like any other department. There is no repartment in this State which function with such minimum establishment as the Harijan Welfare Department.

"I want the Government to understand that a huge amount of one crore is being spent under this head and every pie of it

should be properly utilized, properly supervised and managed. If really we want to erase untouchability within the period of ten years we should take courage in both hands, and go ahead. I appeal to the Government and the Minister in charge to see that from to-day at least the law that we have passed in this House is implemented to the utter exclusion of other things—even education—if we want to conform to our ideal of the removal of untouchability, tooth and nail, from every nook and corner of the country. That only will solve the problem, and I am quite sure with the courage and the dexterity of the hand that the Harijans abundantly possess they can of their own come up to our standard if only we remove this untouchability that is a blot on the society as a whole."

SRI K. SHANMUGHAM :—“ అధ్యక్ష మహాశయ, హరిజనాభివృద్ధికి దాదాపు 93 లక్షల యాచాయలు భిన్నపెట్టుటకుగాను ప్రభుత్వంవారు అంచనావేసి యున్నారు. ఇది చాలా కొద్దిపాటి మొత్తము. ఇది వారి జనాభివృద్ధికి విమంతురేహ దము కాజాలదు. Labour schools ను పెట్టి ఒక్క పూట మాత్రమే ఆన్వయము వేయించినంతమాత్రాన గర్భదృష్టులైన హరిజనులు విద్యావంతులు కాజాలరు, ఇటులను పెట్టి జదువుకొనమనినంతమాత్రాన వారికి ప్రోత్సాహము కలుగదు. హరిజనులు విద్యావంతులు కావలెననిన ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఈ labour schools లోపాటు తాలూకాకు ఒక హరిజన హాస్టల్నునుకూడా ఏర్పాటుచేసి, వాటిని నడిపించుటకు వారే బాధ్యత వహించి, హరిజన బాలబాలికలకు విద్యయందు ఆభిలాష కలిగేట్లు చేయవలసినదని నా ప్రార్థన.

“హరిజనులు గృహవసతులులేక చాలా బాధలుపడుచున్నారు. 10, 12 సంవత్సరముల క్రితమే హిందూ మహమ్మదీయ గలాటాలూ కాండికలూనైన నెల్లూరు లోని నారిరెడ్డి తోట అనే గ్రామాలలో నివసించే హరిజనులు గృహములు కట్టుకొనుటకు ఫలములకుగాను అర్జీలు పెట్టుకొనినప్పటికి వారికి ఇంతవరకు ఫలములు ఇవ్వబడలేదు. వారు ఇంకను మాములుగానే బాధలుపడుచున్నారు. అంతేకాకుండ పెంకుటిగిరి తామిరాళూరి పెట్టురు, సిద్దాద్గుంట, కోటంబేడు, అత్తిపరం మున్నగు గ్రామము లోని హరిజనులు 5, 6 సంవత్సరముల క్రితమే గృహ నిర్మాణమునకై ఫలము నిప్పించవలసినదని ప్రభుత్వమువారికి అర్జీలు పెట్టుకొని అంతో శన చేసినప్పటికి వారికి ఇంతవరకు ఎంతమాత్రము సహాయము జరుగలేదు. Provincial Harijan Welfare Department వారైనను శ్రద్ధలేనిదని త్వరగా హరిజనలకు గృహ నిర్మాణ విషయంలో సహాయము చేస్తారని నేను ఆశిస్తున్నాను.

“Social Disabilities చట్టము pass అయిన దేశాని ఈ చట్టముయొక్క
 లాభములను గురించిగాని దీని అవశ్యకతనుగూర్చిగాని పల్లెటూళ్లలో ఇప్పటికీ ప్రజలకు
 ఏమాత్రము తెలియజేయబడలేదు. హరిజనులయొక్క సాంఘిక పరిస్థితులు
 ఏమాత్రముకూడా మారడము లేదు. (మరి నెల కి) వ లేదీన జరుపవలసిన హరిజన
 దివోన్సవాలు పట్నాలలో మాత్రమే జరుగుతున్నాయి కాని పల్లెటూళ్లలో జరుపబడుట
 లేదు. కాబట్టి ఈ ఉత్సవాలు తాలూకాలలో జరుపబడుట
 పల్లెటూళ్లు అన్నింటిలోను జరిపించేట్లు ప్రభుత్వంవారి ఉద్దేశమునంటి ముఖ్యమైన
 అగిస్తున్నాను. అంతేకాకుండా ఇంతకుముందు నేను మనవిచేసినట్లుగా హరిజనులకు
 గృహ వసతుల విషయములోను hostels విషయంలోను హరిజనాభివృద్ధికాని మౌలి
 గారు పూర్తి శ్రద్ధవహించి పనిచేస్తారని అగిస్తున్నాను.

11th March 1950]

“ Temple entry విషయంలో కూడా సవర్ణులవద్దనుంచి తగినంత సహాయము జరుగుచుండుటలేదని మనవిచేయుచున్నాను. మా జిల్లాలోని వెంకటగిరిలో ఈ సంవత్సరం జనవరి 30 వ తేదిన కాశీవిశ్వేశ్వరస్వామి దేవాలయంలో హరిజన ప్రవేశం జరిగినది. వెంకటగిరి రాజాగారు అది తన స్వంతదేవాలయమని, దానిలోనికి హరిజనులకు వెంకటగిరి రాజాగారు అది తన స్వంతదేవాలయమని, దానిలోనికి హరిజనులకు ప్రవేశమివ్వరాదని notice యిచ్చియున్నారు. ఆ దేవాలయము రాజాగారి స్థలములోలేదు. అది వెంకటగిరి పట్టణములోని public ఏధిలో ఉన్నది. ఆ దేవాలయమునకు సంబంధించిన రథములు, వాహనములు ఏథులలోనే ఉన్నవి. హిందువులందరు బహిరంగంగా అన్ని రథోత్సవాలు బ్రహ్మోత్సవాలు మొదలైనవాటిలో పాల్గొంటారు. ఇటువంటి పరిస్థితులలోకూడా హరిజనులు మాత్రము ఆ దేవాలయము లోనికి పోకూడదని రాజాగారు అడ్డపణ చేయుచున్నారు. రాజాగారు శాసనసభా సభ్యులు Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Bill యొక్క Select Committee లో member కూడాను. అట్టివారే ప్రతి మానవుడు సంపూర్ణ స్వాతంత్ర్యము అనుభవించుచున్న యీ దినములలోకూడా హరిజనులు తమ స్వంత దేవాలయంలో ప్రవేశించకూడదని అడ్డపించుట సమంజసముగాలేదు. కాబట్టి ఇటువంటి అభ్యంతరములు ఎవరు పెట్టకుండా temple entry చట్టంలో ఏదైన లోపములుండి వాటిని త్వరలో సవరణ చేయించవలసినదని Religious Endowments మంత్రి గారికి నేను ప్రార్థిస్తున్నాను.

ప్రభుత్వం Temple Entry Schemes ను అమలు జరిపించేటటువంటి ఉద్యోగులు

“Firka Development Scheme ను ఆమలు జరిపించేటటువంటి ఉద్యోగులు హరిజనులయడకు హెచ్చు ప్రోత్సహించుటలేదు. మా జిల్లాలో ఉన్న Development Firka లోని “కనమూరు”లో హరిజన దేవాలయ ప్రవేశానికి ఇవ్వవలసిన సదుపాయ హరిజనులను అవమానపరుస్తుండే ఆ ఫిర్కాలో ఉన్నటువంటి Special Development Officer, Firka Development Officer మున్నగు ఉద్యోగులను హరిజనులకు విమాత్రము సహాయపడలేదు. ఇందులకు కారణము ఈ Firka Development Department లో హరిజనులు లేకపోవుటచేతనే అని అనుకోవచ్చును. ఇప్పుడు మరొక 50 firka లలో ఈ scheme ను అమలు పెట్టుచున్నారు. ఈ firka లలోనిన అర్హతగలిగిన హరిజన అభిసర్గునియమించవలసినదని Rural Development Minister గారిని కోరుచున్నాను.”

Minister ஈ.வி. ஜெ. கண்ணன்.

* SRI M. P. PERIASWAMI:—“கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, நமது அரசாங்கம். ஹரிஜனங்கள் தக்க முறையில் முன்னேற்றமடையும்படி செய்யவேண்டுமென்ற எண்ணத்துடன் ஹரிஜன கேஷம்பிவிருத்தி கமிட்டியை ஏற்படுத்தி இருக்கிறார்கள். ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய முன்னேற்றத்திற்காக கனம் பிரகாசம் அவர்கள் தன்னுடைய நிர்வாக காலத்தில் ஒரு கோடி ரூபாயை ஒதுக்கி வைத்திருக்கிறார். இந்த நான்கு ஆண்டுகளாக அந்த ஒரு கோடி ரூபாயை ஒரு கோடி ரூபாய், ஒரு கோடி ரூபாய் என்றே சொல்லிக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்களே யொழிய அதனால் என்னென்ன சிலவுகள் செய்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதையே சொல்லவில்லை. இன்னும் ஹரிஜன வளவு சிலவாகிறது என்பதும் நன்றாக தெரியவில்லை. அந்தப்பணத்தில் ஹரிஜன முன்னேற்ற விஷயத்தில் கால் பங்கு சிலவானாலும் நன்றாக இருக்கும். ஆனால், வேறு விதத்தில் அந்த ஒரு கோடி ரூபாயும் சிலவாகிக் கொண்டுதானிருக்கிறது. கிராமங்களில் எங்குபோனாலும் இந்த ஒரு கோடி ரூபாயை வைத்துக்கொண்டு ஏதாகிலும் சிலவு செய்திருக்கிறார்களா என்று பார்த்தால் குறைந்தளவில்தான் தெரிகிறது.

பார்த்தால் குறைந்தளவில்லாதான் தொகை. “அதோடு கூட இப்பொழுது வீடு கட்டும் திட்டம் என்று ஒன்று இருக்கிறது. அதன்படி கூட்டுறவு வங்கியிலிருந்து நிதி ஸ்தலமாக வரக்கூடிய வசூல்கள், அந்த வங்கிகளைக் கட்டிக்கொடுப்பதாக சொல்லிக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். ஆனால்

[Sri M. P. Periaswami] [11th March 1950]

இது வரையிலும் ஒரு பக்கத்திலாவது வீடு கட்டிக்கொண்டு வந்ததாகத் தெரியவில்லை. கூட்டுறவு மூலமாகக் கட்டுவதைக் காட்டிலும் அங்கங்கே ஹரிஜனங்கள் வசிக்கக்கூடிய தெருவுகளுக்கு பக்கத்திலேயே இருக்கும் இடங்களை அவர்களுக்கு அடமானம் செய்து கொடுத்தால் அவர்களே தங்களுக்கு வேண்டிய வீடுகளைக் கட்டிக்கொள்ளுவார்கள். அவ்விதம் செய்வதற்கு அரசாங்கம் நிலக்காரர்களுக்கு பணம் கொடுத்து நிலங்களை acquire பணனை ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குக் கொடுத்து உதவ வேண்டும். அவ்விதம் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் acquire செய்து கொடுத்தால் ஹரிஜனங்கள் சீக்கிரம் தங்களுக்கு வேண்டிய வீடுகளைக் கட்டிக்கொள்ளுவார்கள். அதற்கு வேண்டி இப்பொழுது ஹரிஜன வெல்ஃபேர் ஆபீசர் நிலங்களை பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார். அவ்விதம் அவர்கள் இரண்டு மூன்று வருஷங்களாக பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருந்தும் இன்னும் acquire கிறது. இவ்விதம் acquire செய்வதற்கு ஹரிஜன வெல்ஃபேர் ஆபீசர் நிலங்களைப் பார்த்தவுடன் நில சொந்தக்காரர்கள் அவைகள் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு கிடைக்க முடியாமலிருப்பதற்காக அந்த நிலங்களை ஆபீசர்கள் பார்வையிட்டவுடன் தங்களுக்காக குடிசைகளைப் போட்டுக்கொண்டு ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு அவைகள் கிடைக்க முடியாத நிலைமையில் செய்து விடுகிறார்கள். இன்னும் வேறு விதங்களில் எவ்வளவு தடைகள் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று களையும் செய்து வருகிறார்கள். ஆகவே ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய தெருவுகளுக்கு பக்கங்களிலோ அல்லது சுகாதாரமுள்ளதாகவும் பள்ளிக்குப் பக்கமாக வீடு கட்டிக்கொள்வதற்கு வேண்டிய ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டுமென்று ரொம்பவும் வற்புறுத்திக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். சில ஊர்களில் பணங்களை வாங்கிக் கொடுக்க வேண்டும்.

“இன்னும் இப்பொழுது அரசாங்கம் ஹோட்டல் பிரவேசம், ஆலயப் பிரவேசம் போன்றவைகளை ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு செய்து வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஹோட்டல் பிரவேசமோ செய்து அவர்கள் மேல் நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுக்கப் பட்டால் சில அதிகாரிகள் அதை கண்டிப்பதே கிடையாது. ஜாதி விற்துக்களை உள்ளே விட முடியாது என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். இன்னும் ஹரிஜனங்களிடத்தில் வந்து சொன்னால், ‘அதற்குள்ளாகவோ வந்துவிட முடியும்,’ சொல்லி விடுகிறார்கள். இன்னும் சில இடங்களில் அதிகாரிகள் ரொம்பவும் force ஆகவும் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஒரு இடத்தில் ஒரு ஹரிஜனனே கேஸ் கொண்டுவரான போதிலும் அந்த ஹரிஜனனுக்கு தகுந்த விட்டார். இவ்விதம் அதிகாரிகள் acquit செய்து விடுவதால் ஜாதி செய்து வருவதால் ஜாதி விற்துக்கள் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு தொந்தரவுகள் விருந்ததைவிட ஜனநாயக அரசாங்கத்தில் ஜாதி விற்துக்களுக்கு அதிகமான தைர்யம் வந்து விட்டன. அதனால் அதிகாரிகளினால் ஹரிஜனங்கள் உடனடியாக உத்தரவு அனுப்பவேண்டும். இன்னும் கேஸ்களில் acquit வேண்டும். அப்படி செய்தால் தான் கொஞ்சமாகவும் ஜட்ஜ்மென்ட்டில் நியாயம் கிடைக்கும் என்பதை தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

“ அடுத்தபடியாக ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு வீடு கட்டுவதற்கென்று புரம்போக்கு நிலங்கள் கொடுக்கும் விஷயத்தைப்பற்றி சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். அது வசியமாக புரம்போக்கு நிலங்களிருந்தால் அவைகளில் ஹரிஜனங்கள் வீடுகளை கட்டிக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டால் அவர்கள் வீடுகளை கட்டிக்கொள்ள முடியாதபடி எவ்வளவு இடையூறுகளும் செய்யமுடியுமோ

14th March 1950] [Sri M. P. Periaswami]

[illegible]

* JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"Mr. Speaker, the question of Harijan Uplift is not only of State-wide importance but of all-India importance and it comes under this Demand. Special attention has to be paid to this question not only by this Government but by all sections of the House. Harijans have been there for ages, since the beginning of time perhaps in our country and they have been segregated and compelled to live in water-tight compartments as it were. It was the great Mahatma Gandhi who first thought of uplifting these down-trodden and unfortunate creatures

[Janab H. S. Hussain] [11th March 1950]

of God and the great Mahatma has done yeoman service not only to our country but to the whole world, because Harijans ultimately form part of the world and an important section of the world's peoples. They are intelligent, they are honest and they are capable, but the unfortunate thing is they are down-trodden under the tyranny of the caste system. They are as good as the rest of us, perhaps even better. We must uplift them in all spheres of life and provide facilities for their education, for the boarding and lodging of their students, for their better housing, for their economic progress and for the supply of enough and pure water for drinking and cooking purposes. All these things are good and necessary. It is the duty of a civilised State to look after the welfare of this unfortunate section of the people. But, Sir, while we are pursuing such a policy we must also take care to see that they are not still segregated and put into water-tight compartments by having separate institutions such as schools, hostels and colonies called cheries. That is not the proper way to approach this problem of Harijan Uplift. We must see that they mix and mingle with all the touchable communities freely and fully and live a full life. The hon. Member Mr. Prakasam proposed such a scheme two years ago and said that there should be free mingling with the touchable communities—Muslims, Brahmmins, Hindus, Christians and so on. That programme ought to have been taken up and pushed through. I do not see that kind of programme has even been touched. There is the other side of the question. There is the social subjection. If we always keep them at a distance in the name of untouchability, or anti-untouchability or eradication of untouchability, we will still be perpetuating untouchability. Whenever the unfortunate boys and girls of Harijan men and women approach the so-called high class Hindus, are they allowed to enter their houses, and are they employed in their households, in their shops and establishments? Have they got access anywhere? Of course, the Government are trying to force the people to give the Harijans proper entry, legitimate entry into hotels and places of public resort. But what is happening? The Harijans themselves still continue to have that inferiority complex, in that they always keep at a respectful distance.

"Sir, what is this temple entry? We are simply taking a handful of Harijans by force as it were and asking them to enter into a temple and publish in the newspapers that so many Harijans entered such and such a temple to-day or yesterday. That is not the sort of approach that we have to make to the untouchability problem. Let the Harijans have their own temples and their own pujaris and let the other caste people go to those temples and receive prasadam from their poojaris. That ought to be the spirit in which caste-Hindus or high class Hindus should approach the problem. After all they are the creatures of God, they know God and they recognize God. They are as pure as anybody else in the world. That is my suggestion with regard to the removal of the social stigma. Unless that stigma is removed, there is no use of

11th March 1950] [Janab H. S. Hussain]

beating about the bush and saying that we are spending so many lakhs of rupees every year, that the number of students has increased and so on. It is the social stigma that should be removed first; there should be a change in the mentality of Caste Hindus first. I do believe it is necessary. Even in my own place, at the end of every month, a Harijan Day is being celebrated. What is the earthly good of celebrating this day? It is all hollow. Now they are losing all the enthusiasm for the monthly celebrations. That is in my own place. I do not know what the conditions are in other parts of the Province. Let the Harijans stand on their own legs. Let them have a sense of superiority, at any rate of equality with others. Why not Harijans have their own temples and their own priesthood? Let them read the Shastras and Vedas and become Pandits. Let the Caste Hindus including Brahmans go to the Harijan temples and receive prasadam from their priests. That ought to be the spirit in which we should work for the uplift of the Harijans. Unless we do these things, I am afraid, not only in our lifetime, but perhaps for centuries to come, the Harijans will remain where they are, so far as their social status is concerned. That is my view of the whole problem.

“ Sir, I just want to say a few words with regard to the factories and other matters which come under this Demand. I wish to say a word with regard to the policy of the Government in respect of the rice mills. Recently, I find that on account of the policy of the Government to encourage hand-pounded rice, they have said that no more licences would be granted to rice mills. I do concede that hand-pounded rice has got more nutritive value and that it is good for health. I can understand that hand-pounded rice should be encouraged. But to adopt it as a policy and enforce it at a time when there is scarcity of food and when paddy has to be converted into rice quickly and moved from place to place to the depots and the ration shops quickly, is not the proper way. I do not see any reason behind such a policy now. In my own district, along the coast, I know that more than 5 lakhs of muras of paddy are produced. There are no rice mills anywhere. If one or two rice mills are not started in those areas, I do not know how these five lakhs of muras of paddy could be converted into rice overnight or in a short time. Unfortunately, Sir, the harvesting season synchronises with the fishing season and it is not possible to get labour for hand-pounding paddy into rice. In such circumstances, it is fit and proper that the Government, while pursuing the policy of encouraging hand-pounded rice, should also see that licences are granted to new mills and that new mills are even encouraged in such areas so as to enable the Government to solve the food problem. I just wanted to take this opportunity of drawing the attention of the Government to the urgency of this problem.”

blem."

Sri D. GOVINDA BOSS :—"అధ్యక్ష మహాశయ, పరిణామస్పర్ధికి గాను ప్రభుత్వమువారు ప్రయోగముగా Harijan Welfare department ను విచ్ఛిన్నము

[Sri D. Govinda Doss] [11th March 1950]

హరిజనాభివృద్ధి కార్యాలయమునకు వచ్చినప్పుడు... **Collector** లను ఈ కార్యాలయమునకు పంపించుటకు **land acquisition** చట్టమును ఉపయోగించుటకు ఏర్పాటు చేయవలెను. లేనచో హరిజనులకు అభివృద్ధి చెందుట చాలా కష్టము. ముఖ్యముగా మా జిల్లాలో ఉండే **Welfare Officer** గారు మా కష్టములను తెలుసుకొని, **Welfare Department** నుంచి వేరే **Department** కుబదిరి చేయవలసినదని కోరుతున్నాను. ఆయనకలహరిజనులకు ఇటువంటి లాభము కలుగుటలేదు. ముఖ్యంగా ఇకముందున్న ఇటువంటివారిని వేయకండా హరిజనులయెడల కొంచెము సామర్యము, దయ, కనికరము ఉన్నటువంటివారిని చూచి ప్రభుత్వమునకు నివేదించి, ప్రభుత్వమునకు కోరుచున్నాను. అటువంటి మంచి అధికారులను వేసి ఎక్కువమంది హరిజనులకు సహాయము చేయించవలసినదని అనేక వేల సంవత్సరములనుంచి కష్టపడుచున్న హరిజనులలో సామాన్యము కలుగజేస్తారని ఆశిస్తూ, నా ఉత్సాహమును ఇంతటితో మూర్చి న్నాను.

* **SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:**—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, this department which is a spending department is construed by many Members as one on which the Government are spending money in waste. I must point out that if the Harijans who are known as the Scheduled Castes have not been bringing in revenue to the coffers of the Government, it is the sweat of these people that has been able to keep the community in safety. My friend Mr. Gopalaswami just now expressed that the separatist tendency must disappear. Who created this separatist tendency, Sir, is a pertinent question which has to be answered by those people who think that we the Harijans, whom they call are inferior have created. It is not so. It has been admitted not only by the Father of the Nation but by all right-thinking people that it is the attitude and **అవస్థ** of the caste-Hindus that has been responsible for the Harijans being kept under many disabilities for centuries together. It is a social, economic and political evil and many leaders have said unequivocally many a time that something must be done to elevate these communities. Sir, if we go through the Constitution that has been accepted for this great country, and what was said by the people who made this Constitution, it will be found to be laid down that ‘the State shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker section of the people, and in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitations.’ That is in Article 46. Again, in Article 38 it is clearly stated; and again in Article 39 it is said: ‘that the ownership and control of the material resources of the community are so distributed as best to serve the common good.’ And again in Article 43, we are told that ‘The State shall endeavour to secure, by suitable legislation or economic organization or in any other way, to all workers, agricultural, industrial or otherwise, work, a living wage,’ etc. Sir, these are very important points. I

[Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillay] 11th March 1950]

would like to ask the Hon. Minister who has been kind enough to give us a history of the movement and what the Government have been spending all these years, whether the Government have taken into account the directive principles of State policy enunciated in this Constitution and whether they have made any attempt to implement those principles. That is the first point I want to ask the Hon. Minister. Secondly, Sir, in a book which has been circulated to the Members of this Assembly, ‘An Outline of the Administration of Madras in 1948’ it is stated that—

‘The ameliorative work of the Labour department consisted, as usual, of the provision of house-sites, the opening of schools, grant of scholarships, stipends, boarding grants, maintenance of hostels, supply of mid-day meals to poor pupils, provision of sanitary amenities, provision of wells for the supply of drinking water and assignment of lands for cultivation.’

Sir, assignment of lands for cultivation is a very important item in the economic development of the community. I should like to ask my hon. Friend who has got a voice in the Cabinet whether G.O. No. 1526, which has been so nobly brought before the House and placed before the country, was given effect to. The other day in reply to the question asked on the floor of the House whether it was not a fact that lands that had been under the enjoyment of poor agriculturists and Harijans had been taken away from them and granted to political thyagis, the hon. Sitarama Reddi said he did not know. I have received several petitions from affected persons and I wish to quote the following from one of them:—

‘We, the undersigned affected parties, bring the following for your kind information which we fear have not at all been brought to the kind attention of the hon. Revenue Minister in spite of our repeated petitions to the authorities concerned on the subject, for your sympathetic and kind consideration and favourable orders in the light of the reply given by the hon. Minister for Revenue.’

This is not the only case; I have received this petition signed by many persons from Tirukkoyilur that lands assigned to Harijans have been taken away from them. Again, I can instance what has happened in Salem. One Dr. Varadarajulu Naidu who has been pretending for some years to be a benefactor of the Harijans went and took up the lands of two ladies who had been enjoying the lands for years together. I can also give instances of many other cases where the lands of the Harijans who have been using them for decades have been taken away without paying any compensation. The other day when I asked my hon. Friend whether for all the lands taken away from the Harijans any compensation was given or whether any other land in exchange was given, he replied that it was not only the Harijans who were spending money and labour in making the land fit for cultivation but that other communities also were doing it. Sir, the Prime Minister of India Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and others have been insisting that something substantial should be done for alleviating the conditions of the Harijans. The Hon. Minister Sri B. Parameswari was giving out the amounts that the Government have been spending from the year 1924 and my hon. Friend Mr. Nagap told him how he could compare 1924 with 1950.

[Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillay] [11th March 1950]

"Taking the budget, Sir, I find that Rs. 54 lakhs have been spent on education. Is not education a right claimed by all citizens, and should it not therefore find a place in the Education department? Why this Rs. 54 lakhs finds a place in the Harijan demand, I am not able to understand. Again, Sir, this common nomenclature of 'Harijan' in this budget includes all communities that are eligible for help, the Scheduled tribes and converts. It is most unfortunate that the name 'Harijan' should be given to this department. I feel that the Hon. Minister must rise up to the occasion and see whether the amounts that are entirely and specifically set aside for the ameliorative measures of the Harijans are kept there and spent properly. They should not be mixed up with other heads like Education. A feeling has crept into the minds of some friends that within ten years everything will become all right. In the Constitution, provision is made only for reservation for ten years. The President has got a right to appoint a special officer who will tour throughout the country to find out the conditions of the Scheduled Castes and report to him so that necessary steps may be taken to improve their lot. If the Government hasten ameliorative measures and improve their economic condition, the Welfare department may be wound up earlier than ten years.

4-30 p.m. "Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Gopalaswami, was saying that merger should take place soon. At the present rate, I am afraid, it will not be possible for the Harijans to merge. Perhaps in a few places, for instance, in towns, it may be that the Harijans have come up, but if one goes to the cheris in rural areas, it is not so. Sir, the other day, even the head of this State, His Excellency the Governor, speaking at the Kanniyappa Nayagar Kazhagam, has definitely stated that it is high time that the cheris disappear from the country. Sir, with what is in the Constitution itself and when the head of the administration of this State has also stated that the cheris must disappear, may I ask whether enough provision has been made in the Budget to give effect to the feelings expressed by the head of the administration or what has been enacted in the Constitution? These are facts which cannot be ignored.

"Then, Sir, coming to the question of habitation, it has been said that hundreds and thousands of house sites have been granted. But, Sir, as one coming from the Nilgiris I can say that not even a single Harijan was given land or house site. Though several individual representations have been made to the authorities and representations have been made to the Co-operative department, still these people are not able to get house sites for themselves. It may be that hundreds and thousands of house sites have been given in the City of Madras or in some other important towns, but if one goes to the rural parts he will see what is the exact position. The three things that the Harijans require are, habitation, drinking water and some education. I know, as a matter of fact, they have done something in the matter of education, but it is not enough. They must see that primary education is given to every

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citizen of the community within the ten-year period. So, Sir, it is the Harijans that need more and more attention so that they get the necessary education.

"Sir, then in regard to agricultural labour, I have already read the portion relating to the living wage for the agricultural labourers. It was stated in this House by the Hon. Minister for Labour that such and such Article of the Constitution will come into force in 1951. Now, there is a great agitation going on in the country and there are people who want to take away the Harijans from their fold and make them join other activities, for instance the communistic activities and such other things. Therefore, Sir, it is high time that Government rise to the occasion and see that these people do not fall into their net and give trouble to the Government. I am sure if all these things are done, they will go a long way towards the advancement of the Harijans. I hope the Hon. Minister will bring forward a Bill to grant the facilities referred to in the Constitution at the earliest possible moment, if necessary, or put up a fight with the other Members of the Cabinet, and give solace to this unfortunate community."

* Sri S. K. PALIYA KUDUMBAR:—"கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே! ஹரிஜன அபிவிருத்திக்காக மந்திரி அவர்கள் இப்போது பிரேரேபித்துள்ள 'பில்'லை ஆதரித்து சில குறைபாடுகளை நிவர்த்திக்க வேண்டுமென்று சொல்ல முன் வந்துள்ளேன்.

"கனம் ஐயா! இங்கே எல்லோரும் ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய முன்னேற்றத்திற்காக ஆத்திரத்துடனும், ஆதாரத்துடனும், ஆவேசத்துடனும், நல்லெண்ணத்துடனும், சுறுசுறுப்பாகவும் சட்டங்களை இயற்றியிருக்கிறோம் ஆலயப் பிரவேச சட்டத்தை ஏற்படுத்தியிருக்கிறோம். ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாக் களிலுமுள்ள ஆபீசர்களும், அதிகாரிகளும் நன்றாக உழைக்கிறார்கள். இந்த நிலைமையிலே பாமர மக்களான ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு கஷ்டங்களும், சங்கடங்களும், துன்பங்களும், நயரங்களும், இன்னல்களும், அல்லல் களும் வேறு மாதிரியாக வந்து கொண்டிருக்கின்றன என்று நான் சொல்லுகிறேன். ஐயா! சட்டங்களை சுடியாவரை யாரும் மீறாமல் அதிகாரிகள் பார்த்துக்கொள்ளுகிறார்களே தவிர, வேறு விதமான குற்றம் சாட்டிக் கள் பார்த்துக்கொள்ளுகிறார்களே தவிர, வேறு விதமான குற்றம் சாட்டி அவர்களை தண்டிக்கும்போது இவர்கள் என்ன செய்ய முடியும்? இந்த நிலைமையிலே ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய முன்னேற்றத்திற்காக ஆத்திரத்துடனும், மையிலே ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய முன்னேற்றத்திற்காக ஆத்திரத்துடனும், நாம் உத்திரவுகளையும், சட்டங்களையும் போட்டிருக்கிறோமே தவிர வேறு விதமாக இதற்கு மாறுகவேதான் அவர்களுக்கு துன்பங்கள் உண்டாகிறது ஒருவன் ஒரு பொதுக் கிணற்றில் தண்ணீர் எடுக்கச் சென்றான் என்றால் அந்த ஹரிஜனன் சொம்பை திருடிவிட்டான், மாட்டை திருடிவிட்டான், கோழியை திருடிவிட்டான், பூசனிக்காயை களவாடிவிட்டான், சேலையை எடுத்துப்போய்விட்டான் என்று அவன்மேல் இல்லாதவற்றையும் பொல்லாதவற்றையும் சொல்லி கும்பல் கும்பலாக அவனை அடித்து நொறுக்கி விடுகிறார்கள். அட்வைசரி காலத்திலோ, அதற்கு முன்னிருந்த ஆட்சியிலோ இந்த மாதிரி ஹரிஜனங்கள் துன்புறுத்தப்பட்டு கஷ்டப்படுத்தப்பட்டதே நான் பார்த்ததேயில்லை. இந்த அக்கிரமங்களை, அறியாயங்களை, அநீதிகளை இப்போதுதான் நாம் கண் கூடாகப் பார்க்கிறோம்.

"சர்க்காரால் ஏழைகளுக்கு குடிப்பதற்காகவென்று வெட்டிக் கொடுக்கப் பட்ட கிணற்றுக்குத் தண்ணீர் எடுக்கப் போன எந்த மனிதனாவது சொம்பைத் திருடுவானோ? ஆட்டைத் திருடுவானோ? மாட்டைத் திருடுவானோ? சேலையைத்தான் எடுப்பானோ? இம்மாதிரி எங்கள் ஜில்லாவில் ஒருவனைப் பிடித்து, அவன்மேல் கற்பனையான பொய்க் குற்றம் சாட்டி மாகாண மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் அதை விசாரிக்கும்படி உத்தரவு போட்டார்கள். அதன்படி விசாரிக்கும்போது நீதிபதி சட்டப்படி அவன் குற்றவாளி என தண்டித்து

[Sri D. Kadirappa]

[11th March 1950]

செய்திருக்கிறது. ஆனால் இந்த 500 தொழிலாளர்களையும் அடக்கியதற்கு ஒரு தனி நபராகிய முதலாளியை அடக்குவதற்கு அரசாங்கத்தினிடம் சட்டம் இல்லையா, அல்லது அரசாங்கத்தின் அதிகாரிகளுக்கு மனம் இல்லையா என்பதுதான் இன்றைய நிலைமை. ஆனால் குறிப்பாக தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு பாதுகாப்பு அளிப்பதற்கு யாதொரு சட்டமும் இல்லை. சொல்லிக்கொண்டே இருந்தால் பிரயோசனமில்லை. இருக்கும் சட்டத்தை சரியான முறையில் நடத்த வேண்டும். ஒரு prosecution என்று ஒரு முதலாளியின்மீது போட்டால் அந்த prosecution சம்பந்தமான file இந்த Secretary-ல் உள்ள Legal Department, Finance Department, Labour Department, Industries Department. இப்படி எத்தனையோ டிபார்ட்மெண்டுகளுக்குப்போய் கடைசியாக மந்திரிகளிடம் வருவதற்கு வருஷம் ஒன்று ஆகிறது. ஆனால், இப்பொழுது நல்ல வேளையாக Industries Minister-ஆக இருந்தவரை மாற்றிவிட்டார்கள். முன்பு Labour-ம் Industries-ம் ஒரு மந்திரியினிடமிருந்தது. இப்பொழுது மாற்றிவிட்டது. ஆனால் Labour-ம் Industries-ம் ஒரு Secretary-யினிடம்தான் இருக்கிறது. அதனால் முதலாளிகளின் நிலைமையை பாதுகாப்பதும் அவர்தான், தொழிலாளிகளின் நிலைமையை பாதுகாப்பதும் அவர்தான். இந்த இரண்டு டிபார்ட்மெண்டுகளும் ஒரு மந்திரியினிடம் இருந்தது. அது இப்பொழுது பிரிக்கப்பட்டு விட்டது. அது ரொம்பவும் சந்தோஷமாக இருக்கிறது. அதே மாதிரி அவைகளைப் பார்க்கும் காரியதரிசியையும் அவ்விதமே நிச்சயமாக பிரிக்கப்படவேண்டும். முதலாளிகளை பாதுகாப்பது என்பது அவருடைய மூளையிலிருக்குமானால் தொழிலாளிகளை பாதுகாப்பது என்பது அவரின் மூளையிலிருந்து முதலாளிகளை பாதுகாக்க அவரால் முடியாது. அதனால் தொழிலாளிகளை பாதுகாப்பதற்கு வேண்டி அதைப் பிரித்து மற்றொருவர் கையில் கொடுக்க வேண்டும். ஒருவரால் இருந்தால் ஒருவருக்கேதான் பாதுகாப்பு அளிக்கும் மனப்பான்மை ஏற்படும். ஆகையால் அதை மற்றொருவருக்குப் பிரித்துக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். இந்த 1½ வருஷ காலமாக ஒவ்வொரு நாளும் இந்த அரசாங்கத்தின் ஒவ்வொரு காரியதரிசியும், உதவி காரியதரிசியும், பிரதம மந்திரியும் பார்த்துக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். இன்னும் Advocate-General என்று ஒருவர் இருக்கிறார். அவரிடமும் யோசனைகளை கேட்டுக் கொள்ளப்போகிறோம் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அங்கிருந்து யோசனை வந்த பிறகு கடைசியில் லேபர் ஆபீசருக்கு அனுப்பவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். இந்த நிலைமையில் அரசாங்கம் மிகமிக பிற்போக்கான நிலைமையில் போய்க்கொண்டிருக்குமானால், ஒரு ஐந்து லட்சம் தொழிலாளர்களை அடக்க போலீஸ்காரர்கள் இருக்கும்பொழுது, ஒரு தனிப்பட்ட பேர்களாகிய முதலாளிகளை அடக்குவதற்கு அரசாங்கம் திறமையற்றதாகி விட்டது என்றும், முதலாளிகளுக்கு அடிமையாகிவிட்டது என்றும் தான் தோன்றும். இந்த நிலைமை நீடித்துக்கொண்டே போனால் குண்டர்களும், அக்கிரமக்காரர்களும், கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளும் விரிக்கக்கூடிய வலையில் தான் இந்த தொழிலாளர்கள் போய் விழுவார்கள். எந்த நிலைமையில் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கும் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கும் வசதி அளிப்பதும் ஒத்துழைப்பும் கிடைக்கவில்லையோ, அதே முறையில்தான் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கும் அதிகாரிகளுடைய ஒத்துழைப்பு கிடைக்கவில்லை என்பதாக நான் சொல்லுகிறேன்.

[Sri K. T. Kosalram]

அந்த சட்டம் இருக்கிறது. ஆனால் இந்த 500 தொழிலாளர்களையும் அடக்கியதற்கு ஒரு தனி நபராகிய முதலாளியை அடக்குவதற்கு அரசாங்கத்தினிடம் சட்டம் இல்லையா, அல்லது அரசாங்கத்தின் அதிகாரிகளுக்கு மனம் இல்லையா என்பதுதான் இன்றைய நிலைமை. ஆனால் குறிப்பாக தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு பாதுகாப்பு அளிப்பதற்கு யாதொரு சட்டமும் இல்லை. சொல்லிக்கொண்டே இருந்தால் பிரயோசனமில்லை. இருக்கும் சட்டத்தை சரியான முறையில் நடத்த வேண்டும். ஒரு prosecution என்று ஒரு முதலாளியின்மீது போட்டால் அந்த prosecution சம்பந்தமான file இந்த Secretary-ல் உள்ள Legal Department, Finance Department, Labour Department, Industries Department. இப்படி எத்தனையோ டிபார்ட்மெண்டுகளுக்குப்போய் கடைசியாக மந்திரிகளிடம் வருவதற்கு வருஷம் ஒன்று ஆகிறது. ஆனால், இப்பொழுது நல்ல வேளையாக Industries Minister-ஆக இருந்தவரை மாற்றிவிட்டார்கள். முன்பு Labour-ம் Industries-ம் ஒரு மந்திரியினிடமிருந்தது. இப்பொழுது மாற்றிவிட்டது. ஆனால் Labour-ம் Industries-ம் ஒரு Secretary-யினிடம்தான் இருக்கிறது. அதனால் முதலாளிகளின் நிலைமையை பாதுகாப்பதும் அவர்தான், தொழிலாளிகளின் நிலைமையை பாதுகாப்பதும் அவர்தான். இந்த இரண்டு டிபார்ட்மெண்டுகளும் ஒரு மந்திரியினிடம் இருந்தது. அது இப்பொழுது பிரிக்கப்பட்டு விட்டது. அது ரொம்பவும் சந்தோஷமாக இருக்கிறது. அதே மாதிரி அவைகளைப் பார்க்கும் காரியதரிசியையும் அவ்விதமே நிச்சயமாக பிரிக்கப்படவேண்டும். முதலாளிகளை பாதுகாப்பது என்பது அவருடைய மூளையிலிருக்குமானால் தொழிலாளிகளை பாதுகாப்பது என்பது அவரின் மூளையிலிருந்து முதலாளிகளை பாதுகாக்க அவரால் முடியாது. அதனால் தொழிலாளிகளை பாதுகாப்பதற்கு வேண்டி அதைப் பிரித்து மற்றொருவர் கையில் கொடுக்க வேண்டும். ஒருவரால் இருந்தால் ஒருவருக்கேதான் பாதுகாப்பு அளிக்கும் மனப்பான்மை ஏற்படும். ஆகையால் அதை மற்றொருவருக்குப் பிரித்துக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். இந்த 1½ வருஷ காலமாக ஒவ்வொரு நாளும் இந்த அரசாங்கத்தின் ஒவ்வொரு காரியதரிசியும், உதவி காரியதரிசியும், பிரதம மந்திரியும் பார்த்துக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். இன்னும் Advocate-General என்று ஒருவர் இருக்கிறார். அவரிடமும் யோசனைகளை கேட்டுக் கொள்ளப்போகிறோம் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அங்கிருந்து யோசனை வந்த பிறகு கடைசியில் லேபர் ஆபீசருக்கு அனுப்பவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். இந்த நிலைமையில் அரசாங்கம் மிகமிக பிற்போக்கான நிலைமையில் போய்க்கொண்டிருக்குமானால், ஒரு ஐந்து லட்சம் தொழிலாளர்களை அடக்க போலீஸ்காரர்கள் இருக்கும்பொழுது, ஒரு தனிப்பட்ட பேர்களாகிய முதலாளிகளை அடக்குவதற்கு அரசாங்கம் திறமையற்றதாகி விட்டது என்றும், முதலாளிகளுக்கு அடிமையாகிவிட்டது என்றும் தான் தோன்றும். இந்த நிலைமை நீடித்துக்கொண்டே போனால் குண்டர்களும், அக்கிரமக்காரர்களும், கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளும் விரிக்கக்கூடிய வலையில் தான் இந்த தொழிலாளர்கள் போய் விழுவார்கள். எந்த நிலைமையில் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கும் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கும் வசதி அளிப்பதும் ஒத்துழைப்பும் கிடைக்கவில்லையோ, அதே முறையில்தான் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கும் அதிகாரிகளுடைய ஒத்துழைப்பு கிடைக்கவில்லை என்பதாக நான் சொல்லுகிறேன்.

“அடுத்தபடியாக மந்திரி அவர்கள் Shop Assistant சட்டம் செய்தார். அந்த சட்டம் செய்தபோது நான் சட்டமாக இருந்தது. இன்று அதிலிருக்கும் எத்தனையோ clause-களுக்கு exemption என்று கொடுக்கப்பட்டாய்விட்டது. அதனால் அதற்கிருந்த உயிரே போய்விட்டது. அந்த சட்டம் எந்த நோக்கத்திற்காக கொண்டுவரப்பட்டதோ அந்த நோக்கம் இருந்த இடம் தெரியாமல் போய்விட்டது. எதற்குப் பார்த்தாலும் exemption கொடுப்பதாக இருக்கிறது. இன்றுகூட ஒரு exemption கொடுத்திருப்பதாக பேயரில் வந்திருக்கிறது. இவ்விதம் ஒவ்வொரு வியாபாரியும்

4.45
p.m.

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM :—“Mr. Speaker Sir, இப்பொழுது பல நண்பர்கள் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு அரசாங்கம் என்ன செய்தாலும் அரசாங்க அதிகாரிகளின் ஒத்துழைப்பு இல்லாததால் அதை எவ்விதமும் செய்ய முடியாமலிருக்கிறது. என்பதாக சொன்னார்கள். ஆனால்

MR. SPEAKER :—“I wish to know from the Hon. Minister whether we can sit till 5-30 p.m. today as there are a number of hon. Members who are desirous of taking part in this debate.”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“I have got an engagement, Sir.”

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM :—“ஆனால் ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய நிலைமை மட்டும்தான் அப்படி இருக்கிறது என்று நினைக்கவேண்டாம். ஏற்கனவே தொழிலாளர்களின் பாதுகாப்புக்காக அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய சட்டம் இல்லாமல் இருப்பதான ஒரு குறை அரசாங்கத்தினிடம் இருந்தாலும், தொழிலாளர்களுடைய சொகர்த்திற்காக ஏதாவது ஒரு சிறிய சட்டங்களி லிருந்தாலும் அந்த சட்டங்கள் சரியான முறையில் நடத்தப்படுகிறதா என்பதைப் பார்க்கவேண்டும். ஹரிஜன விஷயத்தில் அதிகாரிகள் கொஞ் சம்கூட அரசாங்கத்தின் நோக்கம் தெரியாமல் நடந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள் என்று பல நண்பர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். அவ்விதமேதான் நமது Secre- tariat-ல் இருக்கிற அதிகாரிகளும் நடந்து வருகிறார்கள். மந்திரிகள் மூளையில் என்ன இருக்கிறது என்பதை தெரிந்துகொள்ளுருக்கிறார்கள் அவர்கள் இயற்றும் சட்டங்களை அவ்வப்போது பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருக்கக் கூடிய Secretary சட்ட தொழிலாளர்கள் விஷயத்திலும் மந்திரிகளுடைய மூளையில் என்ன இருக்கிறது என்பதையும் தெரிந்துகொள்ளாமலிருப்பது மிகவும் வருந்தக்கூடிய விஷயம் என்று நான் சொல்லிக்கொள்ள விரும்பு கிறேன். குறிப்பாக 1½ வருஷத்திற்கு முன்னால் ஒரு தொழில் தகராறு ஏற்பட்டது. அதனால் சுமார் 500 தொழிலாளர்கள் பாதிக்கப்பட்டார்கள். இது சம்பந்தமாக அந்த 500 தொழிலாளர்கள் பாதிக்கப்பட்டார்கள் இருந்திருந்தால் சர்க்காருடைய ஒரு order-ல் போலீஸ்காரர்கள் அதனைப் போர்களுடைய மண்டைகளையும் உடைத்திருக்கலாம். அரசாங்கத்தினிடம்

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கேட்டுக்கொள்வதற்கு **exemption** கொடுத்து வருகிறார்களே, அவர்களுக்கு எதிர் கட்சியாகவுள்ள தொழிலாளர்களுடைய சங்கம் இருக்கிறதே, அவர்களைக் கேட்டு செய்கிறார்களா? வியாபாரிகள் இவைகளுக்கெல்லாம் **exemption** கேட்கிறார்களே, அதனால் உங்களுக்கு ஏதாவது ஆட்சேபணைகள் உண்டா என்று கேட்கிறார்களா? இல்லவே இல்லை. யாரோ ஒருவன் தன்னுடைய சொந்த நபரை ஹோட்டலில் வைக்கவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டால் அவனுக்கு உடனே **exemption** கொடுப்பதோடல்லாமல் மற்ற எல்லாருக்கும் **exemption** கொடுத்துவிடுகிறார்கள். ஒரு பக்கத்தில் முதலாளிகள் வந்து சொல்லுகிறார்களே அவர்களைக் கேட்கும்பொழுது மற்றொரு பக்கத்தில் **represent** பண்ணுகிறவர்களை சர்க்கார் கேட்பதில்லை. அவ்விதமே சட்டத்திலுள்ள முக்கால்வாசி **clause**-ஊக்கும **exemption** கொடுத்துவிட்டார்கள். யாராவது ஒரு கடையில் தன்னுடைய தம்பியையோ அல்லது வேறு ஒரு சொந்தக்காரையோ வைக்க வேண்டுமென்று ஒரு தனி நபர் விதி விலக்கு வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டால் அதற்காக இந்த மாகாணம் முழுமைக்கும் விதி விலக்குக் கொடுத்தால் அதற்கு அர்த்தமில்லாமலிருக்கிறது. இந்த நிலைமையில் மக்கள் அரசாங்கத்தின் மீது என்ன நம்பிக்கை வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்பது தெரியும். ஒரு கட்சிக்கு விதி விலக்கு கொடுப்பதாக இருந்தால் அடுத்த எதிர் கட்சியை கூப்பிடுங்கள். அவர்கள் என்ன சொல்லுகிறார்கள் என்று கேட்கப்பாருங்கள். அவ்விதம் கேட்பின்தான் **exemption** கொடுப்பதைப்பற்றி சிந்திக்க வேண்டும். அதன் பிறகு ஒரு **case-ஐ Industrial Award Tribunal**-க்கு **refer** பண்ணுகிறோம். அப்பொழுது சாப்பிடுவதற்குக்கூட வழியில்லாத ஒரு தொழிலாளி ஒரு வக்கீலை வைத்து நடத்துகிறான். காங்கிரஸ் காரர்களிலுள்ள உண்மையான ஒரு வக்கீல் ஏதோ கொஞ்சம் பிஸ் வாங்கிக்கொண்டு ஒரு வருஷம் **case-ஐ** நடத்திய பிறகு கோர்ட்டில் ஒரு **award** கொடுக்கிறார்கள். அந்த **award-ஐ** நாம் கிரியாமசையில்செய்து காட்டுவதற்கு அரசாங்கத்தினிடம் தைரியம் இருக்கிறதா? இப்பொழுது **Motor Transport-ல் award** கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். அந்த **award-ஐ** நாம் **implement** பண்ண வேண்டுமானால் எத்தனையோ வழிகளிருக்கின்றன. சர்க்காரில் ரூட்டுகளை கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த **Labour Department-லிருந்து Transport Department-க்கு** எழுதியும் நம் அரசாங்கம் உத்திரவை சட்டம் செய்யவில்லை. கோர்ட்டுக் கொடுத்த ஜட்ஜ்மெண்டும் சரிவர நடைபெறவில்லை. ஒரு ரூட்டை **cancel** செய்துவிட வேண்டுமென்று **Labour Minister-க்கு Transport Minister** எழுதினால் அந்த **award-ஐ implement** பண்ணிவிடுவார்கள். அதற்கு தைரியம் இல்லை. **Tribunal-லிடம் refer** பண்ணப்போனால் சர்க்காரில் வேலை பார்த்து **retire** ஆன உத்யோகஸ்தர்கள்தான் ஜட்ஜுகளாக உட்கார்ந்துகொண்டு ஜட்ஜ்மெண்டு கொடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அந்த ஜட்ஜ்மெண்டு களுக்கு பிரயோசனமிருக்கிறதா என்று கேட்டால் ஒன்றுமே இல்லை. ஒரு ஆபீசரிடம் இன்னொரு ஆபீசர் **refer** பண்ணினால் ஒருவனும் சட்டை பண்ண மாட்டேன் என்கிறான். **Action** எடுத்துக்கொள்வதற்கு அதிகாரம் இருக்கிறதா வென்றால் அதற்கு வேண்டிய அதிகாரம் இல்லை. இதைப் போலவே பல அதிகாரிகளை அதிகாரம் கொடுக்காமலேயே நியமித்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஏனென்றால் அர்த்தமில்லாது சட்டங்களை செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதற்கு உதாரணமாக இப்பொழுது **Shop Assistant** சட்டப் பிரகாரம் இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்களை மாகாணம் பூராவிலும் போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அவருடைய அதிகாரம் என்ன? ஒரு விதமான அதிகாரமும் அவருக்குக் கிடையாது. அவர்களுக்கு கொஞ்சமாவது அதிகாரம் இருந்தால்தான் ஜனங்கள் பயப்படுவார்கள். **Shop Assistant Inspector-களைக்** கொண்டு ஒரு வியாபாரிகளிடம் அதிகாரம் என்ன? ஒரு அதிகாரம் இல்லாத காரணத்தான். கிறேன். எந்த அளவிற்கு நாம் சம்பளத்தைக் கொடுக்கிறோமோ அந்த அளவிற்கு அவர்களுக்கு அதிகாரம் கொடுப்பதில்லை. அதிகாரத்தைக் கொடுக்காமல் நாம் அதிகாரிகளை நியமித்தால் நாம் நிறைவேற்றும் சட்டங்களை ஜனங்களுக்கு செளகரியம் ஏற்படும்படி நிறைவேற்றி வைக்கமுடியாது. ஆகையால் நாம் நிறைவேற்றும் சட்டங்களை ஜனங்களுக்கு செளகரிய

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மனிக்கும் வகையில் நியமிக்கப்படும் அதிகாரிகளுக்கு பூர்வா அதிகாரத்தைக் கொடுக்க வேண்டும். அப்படி இல்லாமல் அதிகாரிகளை நியமிப்பதில் அர்த்தமே இல்லை.

“அடுத்தபடியாக மில் விஷயமாக மந்திரிகளுக்கு நன்கு தெரியும். மில் முதலாளிகள் நம் அரசாங்கம் சொன்னதை கேட்கவே இல்லை. தொழிலாளர்களை எடுத்துக்கொண்டே போகிறார்கள். எவ்வளவோ கேட்டுக் கொண்டும் சொல்லிக்கொண்டிருந்தும் அதற்கு வேண்டிய சட்டங்கொண்டு வந்திருக்கிறார்களா என்று கேட்டால் ஒன்றுமில்லை. அவைகளுக்கெல்லாம் மத்ய சர்க்கார்தான் சட்டம் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். மத்ய சர்க்கார்தான் சட்டம் செய்வதற்கு மத்ய சர்க்காரை அனுசி கேட்பது நம் அவ்விதம் சட்டம் செய்வதற்கு மத்ய சர்க்கார் சட்டம் செய்து கொடுக்க முடைய அரசாங்கத்தின் கடமை. மத்ய சர்க்கார் சட்டம் செய்து கொடுக்க மாட்டேன் என்று சொன்னால் நாம் சண்டை போட்டு வாங்க வேண்டும். மாகாணம் முழுமையும் நிலைமை எப்படி இருக்கிறது, சட்டத்திற்கு நிர்ப்பந்தம் இருக்கிறது, அதற்கு அலுவலர் கொடுத்துதான் ஆக வேண்டும் என்று அவர்களோடு சண்டை போட்டு வாங்கவேண்டும்.

“தொழிலாளர்களுடைய நிலைமையை தீர்க்கமுடியாமலிருக்கும்பொழுது ஹரிஜனங்களைப்பற்றியும் பல நண்பர்கள் பேசிவிட்டார்கள். இப்பொழுது ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு வீடுகள் கட்டிக்கொடுக்கவேண்டியது அவசியம் என்பதை எல்லோரும் உணராமலில்லை. இது சம்பந்தமாக கனம் மந்திரி அவர் களுக்கு ஒரு யோசனையைச் சொல்ல பிரியப்படுகிறேன். இன்று நாம் கூட்டுறவு முறையில் பெரிய முதலாளிகளுக்கும் மத்யதர வகுப்பினருக்கும் கூட்டுறவு முறையில் பெரிய முதலாளிகளுக்கும் மத்யதர வகுப்பினருக்கும் வீடு கட்டிக்கொடுக்கிறோம். அதற்கு அவசியமே இல்லை. வீடுகள் கட்டிக் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்றால் ஏழை ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கும், வீடு இல்லாத உழைப்பாளிகளுக்கும் தான் வீடு கட்டிக்கொடுக்கவேண்டும். இந் நிலைமை யில் எங்கு மனதைத் திருப்பி செலுத்தவேண்டுமோ அங்கு ஹரிஜன மில் கட்டிக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்றால் சுகமாக வாழ்க்கையை நடத்த ஒரு வீடு கட்டிக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்றால் கொடுத்து உதவ வேண்டும். 750 சிலவாகும். அதில் பாதிவை அவனிடத்திலிருந்து வசூலிப்பது 25% என்றில்லாமல் அவனிடமிருந்து 25% வசூலித்து கொடுத்து உதவ வேண்டும். யும் ஹரிஜன கேஷம்பாவிருத்தியிலிருந்து கொடுத்து 25%88 வாழ்க்கையை நடத்த முடியும். ஹரிஜனங்கனிடத்திலிருந்து 25%88 வசூலிப்பது 25%88 கஷனில் மெம்பர் கனம் தேசிகர் அவர்கள் கூட தன்னுடைய ஹரிஜனவர்களுக்கு வீடு கட்டிக்கொள்வதாக இருந்தால்தாம் 25% தொகை கொடுத்து உதவுவதாக சொல்லி இருக்கிறார். அதைப் போல மற்றவர்களும் உதவி செய்ய முன்வர வேண்டும். அவர்களெல்லோரும் இன்னும் எவ்வளவோ பிரமுகர்களிருக்கிறார்கள். இவ்விதத் திட்டங்களை இப்பொழுது உதவி செய்ய முன்வரவேண்டும். இவ்விதத் திட்டங்களை யெல்லாம் கடைபிடித்து இம்மாகாணத்தில் வீடு இல்லாத ஹரிஜன் இல்லவே இல்லை என்ற நிலைமைக்குக் கொண்டுவரவேண்டும். அடுத்த வருஷம் கனம் பரமேஸ்வரன் அவர்கள் இந்த திட்டத்தைக் கொண்டு வரும்பொழுது வீடு இல்லாத ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு இந்த மாகாணத்தில் இல்லை என்று சொல்லும்படி செய்து கொடுக்கப்படியாக அவரை நான் வேண்டுகிறேன்.”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“A submission, Sir. This is a very important Demand which concerns not only labour and Harijans but also the backward classes. The time allotted, namely, three hours, is not sufficient. Therefore, I submit that the time may be extended to four hours.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I shall consider this suggestion on Monday.

“I adjourn the House to 11 o'clock on Monday, the 13th March 1950.”

[11th March 1950]

III.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE.

Notifications making amendments to Madras Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940, published with Home Department Notification No. 357, dated 29th March 1940, as subsequently amended.

(1) *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 3534, Home, dated 2nd September 1949.*

(2) *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 3647, Home, dated 9th September 1949.*

(3) *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 3612, Home, dated 7th September 1949.*

(4) *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 5000, Home, dated 14th December 1949.*

(5) *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 4252, Home, dated 25th October 1949.*

(6) *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 5155, Home, dated 23rd December 1949.*

(7) *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 4892, Home, dated 14th December 1949.*

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, the 13th March 1950.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Looting of Sembalur village in Pattukkottai taluk by the Communists.

* 52 Q.—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Sembalur village in Pattukkottai taluk was looted by hundreds of Communists on or about 12th February 1950;

(b) if so, what the extent of loss of property is and how many persons were injured;

(c) what action the Government have taken in the matter; and

(d) whether the Government have got any proposals to prevent such activities in future?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of Hon. the Chief Minister):—“(a) & (b) On the night of 12th February 1950, about 200 persons suspected to be Communists committed dacoity in the house of the village headman of Sembalur. They carried away paddy, jewels and cash, etc., worth about Rs. 6,000. None is reported to have been injured.

“(c) Proper steps are being taken by the police to arrest the accused and they will be prosecuted for the offences committed.

“(d) Necessary instructions have been issued to the Collector on receipt of the first report on the incident. It will not be in the public interest to disclose the measures that are being taken.”

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government have received any representations from the local public to post punitive police in this area; if so, may I know, Sir, whether the Government have taken any steps in this direction?”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“Representations have been received from the local people to post punitive police and we are examining the question.”

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SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIAR:—“ May I know, Sir, whether any arrests have been made with reference to the dacoity and whether they have been charge-sheeted? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“ As I said, Sir, necessary steps have been taken, a case has been registered and investigation is proceeding and it will not be in the public interest to disclose the number of arrests made or give other details in regard to the matter.”

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—“ Are the Government aware, Sir, that letters are being circulated by the Communists that for the fault of their opposing the Government on certain principles, they are to be shot down at sight and are declared to be outlaws? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“ We have not declared any people to be outlaws but there is power given to the people under the penal code for self-defence and it is there. Anybody can use force in self-defence and in respect of certain other matters provided in the law and if beyond that anybody uses excessive force, they will be responsible for it.”

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—“ May I know, Sir, how many are being proceeded against and under what charges? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“ If my hon. Friend refers to this particular question, the number of people who are alleged to have committed dacoity is 200 but as yet the number against whom evidence is forthcoming is only 41.”

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—“ May I know how many were originally arrested and how many have subsequently been let off? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“ This is an incident which occurred very recently and as I said, investigation is proceeding and any further disclosure will not be in the interests of the prosecution of the investigation.”

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—“ May I know what the attitude is of the Communists who have been released on their giving an undertaking—are they helping the police in checking and preventing these atrocities? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“ We have not enquired into the matter whether they have been helpful or not; in this particular case, I shall enquire.”

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—“ In view of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that punitive police has been requested for by the people, am I to understand that the majority of the villagers there are abetting such offences in the village? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“ Not exactly, Sir. It has been found that in this particular case, it was the neighbouring village that has been responsible for this.”

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SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:—“ May I know, Sir, whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the fact that a number of similar incidents have occurred in Tanjore district and in view of the heavy loss of life and property, will the Government take drastic action in the matter? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“ There have been two or three incidents in Tanjore district but there has not been heavy loss of life as my hon. Friend suggests; there has been some looting of some property and we have taken every possible precaution to see that such things do not recur and also to find out the people responsible for it.”

JANAB MAHIN SCHAMNAD:—“ May I know, Sir, how many persons have been identified among them? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“ As I said, Sir, it will not be in the interests of further investigation to make any disclosure as to what is being done in this case.”

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ May I know, Sir, whether there was any dispute already in that village and how many houses were looted? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“ In this particular case, Sir, one house was looted, namely the house of the headman of the village and paddy, cash and jewels belonging to the women were taken away.”

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“ Will the Government consider the desirability of giving arms for sheer self-defence to prominent and reliable people in the village? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“ The Government is certainly willing to encourage self-defence on the part of the people; but we had bitter experience in some places of giving arms as these had been coolly surrendered to the people who came to create trouble.”

SRI M. KUMARAN:—“ I wish to know, Sir, whether Home Guards have been available in this area and whether they have proved to be of any assistance in dealing with dacoits? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“ Home Guards are requisitioned when there is a necessity; but in this case, there has been a sporadic and sudden attack and we could not anticipate it.”

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—“ Are the Government aware, Sir, that Ambalapet, a neighbouring village is giving shelter to the Communists who have gone underground and that is why the general public wanted to post punitive Police in the village? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“ That is what I meant when I said that the responsibility for this occurrence has been traced to a neighbouring village and the name of the village is the same as my hon. Friend has mentioned.”

[13th March 1950]

Enclaves in Tirunelveli district.

* 53 Q.—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have handed over certain "enclaves" in Tirunelveli district to the United States of Travancore and Cochin;

(b) whether it is a fact that the above 'enclaves' were ceded for administrative reasons;

(c) whether it is a fact that the above areas are Tamilian areas;

(d) whether the Government have made any representation to the Centre protesting against the transfer of Tamil areas to the United States of Travancore and Cochin; and

(e) what steps the Government propose to take to get back all such Tamil areas from the United States of Travancore and Cochin?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of Hon. the Chief Minister):—“(a) & (b) The answer is in the affirmative.

“(c) Of the three enclaves transferred, viz., (1) Anjengo, (2) Thangasseri and (3) a bit of about fifteen acres of land in Sivakamipuram, a hamlet of Panakudy village of the Tirunelveli district, only the third is a Tamil area.

“(d) The answer is in the negative.

“(e) The Government do not consider it necessary to take any steps in this regard.”

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—“May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that some places in Nanjanad and Shenkottah which are cent per cent Tamil areas, were ceded to the United States of Travancore and Cochin?”

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

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—“Are the Government aware, Sir, that the agitation of the Tamil areas of the United States for inclusion in our State has led to the suppression of Tamilian interests in the United States of Travancore and Cochin?”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“I am not aware of any suppression of Tamilian interests in the United States of Travancore and Cochin for in the United States there are certain areas which are predominantly Tamil and there is no meaning in that Government repressing a portion of their own people.”

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—“May I know, Sir, whether prohibition has been given the go-bye in certain enclaves recently handed over to the United States of Travancore and Cochin?”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“I have read in the papers that in the case of these enclaves, Thangasseri I believe—prohibition has been given up; I have not, however, verified it.”

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SRI V. S. SANKARASUBRAHMANYA MUDALIYAR:—“May I know, Sir, what action has been taken by the Government to take back the enclaves of the Travancore-Cochin State in Tenkasi which are far in the interior of the district such as Sundarapandiyapuram and Sambur Vadakarai?”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“There are enclaves like that which lie in the Tirunelveli district belonging to the United States; this question has to be decided by the Central Government and the Central Parliament hereafter.”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“May I know, Sir, what is the purpose in handing over enclaves from Madras State instead of taking over enclaves in the United States of Travancore and Cochin?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“This is a Central Subject and the question should be addressed to the Central Government and not to the State Government here, as the transfer of enclaves is made by the Centre.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I know, Sir, if the enclaves transferred to Travancore and the enclaves we have taken from them approximate in area and the revenue derived from those areas?”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“Notice, Sir; I have not got the figures yet.”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“Have the State Government recommended to the Central Government to get back the enclaves which now form part of Travancore State?”

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

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—“May I know, Sir, whether the arrangement about the enclaves has been the subject matter of correspondence between the Central Government and the State Government and whether recommendations emanated from the State Government or from the Central Government?”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“The recommendations emanated from the Central Government and in certain cases we agreed and in others, we have not and in the case of these three enclaves, there was agreement and they were handed over.”

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—“May I know the reasons why one of three enclaves which was purely a Tamil area was handed over to the United States of Travancore and Cochin?”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“There is no question of a Tamil area being handed over. I do not see any particular difference between a Malayalam and a Tamil area when it is handed over to another area.”

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—“May I know, Sir, whether Kanyakumari originally belonged to Madras State and it was handed over to Travancore some fifty or sixty years ago?”

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Never according to history was Kanyakumari within the Madras State territory at any time."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Have the State Government sent their recommendations to the Central Government to give back these areas?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The word 'enclave' implies that it is a small patch which lies within the other State. For administrative reasons this Government thought it necessary to hand them over to the United States of Travancore and Cochin."

Payment of compensation to certain victims of Communist outrages.

* 54 Q.—SRI K. LINGA RAJU (on behalf of Sri V. Raghavayya): Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether any compensation has been paid or monetary help rendered to the victims of Communist outrages or to their families in the Andhra coastal districts, till the end of January 1950; and

(b) if so, how much money has been granted?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of Hon. the Chief Minister):—" (a) & (b) The Government do not ordinarily pay any compensation to victims of outrages committed by Communists or others. They have, however, made exceptions where the victims have shown commendable courage in fighting the Communists and have either lost their lives or suffered injuries in the course of such defence. In the Andhra coastal districts, compensation was sanctioned in one case in 1949. In this case, the widow of a victim of Communist outrage in West Godavari district was granted an allowance of Rs. 15 per mensem for a limited period and her son was granted an allowance of Rs. 10 per mensem for his education."

SRI K. LINGA RAJU:—"May I know, Sir, if the Government have received any petition from one Virothi Satyam of Rajahmundry, who lost both his eyes as a result of acid throwing by the Communists?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I cannot say off hand whether any petition has been received from such a person in Rajahmundry."

SRI K. LINGA RAJU:—"If there is a petition pending before the Government will the Government consider the urgent necessity of giving a liberal compensation to that gentleman as he fought the Communists very bravely and lost both his eyes."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Each case will be considered on its merits, Sir."

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SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Is it not a fact that Communists spot out certain persons as their enemies, and as such they are dealing with them cruelly, and so these people are subject to loss of life and limb, and so, may I know, in such cases, why the Government should not go forward and help them inasmuch as they help the Government by resisting Communists?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"My answer says that in cases where they have shown commendable courage in fighting the Communists we have given compensation. As I said, each case will be considered on its own merits."

Change of name of District Harijan Welfare Officer.

* 55 Q.—SRI B. S. MURTHI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state the reasons for changing the name of the District Harijan Welfare Officer as District Welfare Officer?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"As the District Officers have been attending to the amelioration of the conditions of not only Harijans, but also—

(a) other communities eligible for help from the Harijan Welfare Department; and

(b) the communities which have been recognized as 'Backward' by Government, the designation has been changed."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know whether the Government are aware that the Harijan Welfare Committee has recommended that such a step should not be taken by the Government and if the Government have received the resolution may I know what steps the Government have taken on that resolution?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"The Harijan Welfare Committee decided that backward class members need not be nominated to the District Harijan Welfare Committee, and the Government accepted the decision of the Committee and decided that backward class members need not be nominated to the District Harijan Welfare Committee. With regard to the change in the designation of the officer, I am very doubtful whether any objection was taken; on the other hand members have been graceful enough to agree to the designation of 'District Welfare Officer' and that it may continue."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Is it not a fact that the Government were good enough to bifurcate the Labour Department into Labour Department and Harijan Welfare Department and they were pleased to appoint a Director of Harijan Welfare also? That being the case, what is it that made the Government change the designation 'District Harijan Welfare Officer' into 'District Welfare Officer'?"

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THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"We cannot post a separate officer for the backward classes; and so these officers are asked to undertake that work also."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Does not the deletion of the name 'Harijan' prove that they are losing interest in the matter of Harijan Welfare, which appellation was originally thought of to denote their interest?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Mere deletion of the word 'Harijan' will not go to show that the Government's interest has waned in any way. On the other hand my speech yesterday under the Demand for Harijan Uplift should have shown clearly that the Government's interest has increased."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Arising out of the answer of the Minister that the District Welfare Officer has to look after the amelioration of backward communities also may I know whether the Government are aware of the fact that in certain districts we have powerful backward communities, who are more powerful than Harijans, and so, is it not useful to have some members of those communities on the committee, who will do better work than others?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"We are not going into the Communal G.O. now. We will consider the question of appointing separate committees for these backward communities also. But I am dead against this separatist tendency."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Is it not a fact that the Constitution has provided reservation of seats and reservation in services to Harijans, and such being the case, what harm is there if a separate officer for Harijan Welfare is given to each district?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"A separate officer will mean that that officer has to be solely in charge of Harijan uplift work. But now in addition to that, he has to look after the welfare of backward communities."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether he will take the suggestion I made . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"This is not the time for suggestion."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"I can ask the question whether the Government will accept the suggestion (laughter) as to whether, in view of the question raised here, they would call these officers 'District Harijan Welfare and other Welfare Officers' in general, so as to emphasise the fact that they are doing both work?"

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Arising from the answer of the Hon. Minister, would his purpose have been served if from 'Harijan Welfare Officers' to merely 'District Welfare Officers'?"

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THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"It is not the policy of the Government always to keep Harijans aloof from other communities. (Hear, hear.) The policy of the Government as far as possible is to make all communities move together and form a homogenous unit. It is not their policy to treat them as separate entities for all time. The very fact that we have omitted the word 'Harijan' from the designation shows that we are moving towards national solidarity."

SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"May I inquire whether the Government are not aware that the conditions of Harijans in cheris and their social status are different from those of backward communities, and so, is it not desirable to have separate committees for the welfare of backward communities, as otherwise it will give rise to conflict between the two interests?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"It is a question of being graceful on the part of Harijans."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"Are the Government aware that the word 'Harijan' means 'children of God', even as all poor people are children of God?"

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"In view of the series of interpellations in the House, may I have an assurance from the Government that they will reconsider the matter and have the name as it originally stood, since all people feel in the matter very strongly?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"If Members are going to be so very communal-minded I have no objection to reconsider the question."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the fact that the backward classes have been feeling that they are socially higher than Harijans, and yet they have been saying they belong to the backward community, will the Government nominate two or more members of that community in the District Harijan Welfare Committee and see that they are all brought to the level of Harijans." (Laughter.)

Observance of communal Government Orders.

* 56 Q.—SRI T. VISWANATHAM: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether instructions have been issued to district officers to observe the communal Government Orders notwithstanding the coming into force of the Constitution of India from January 26th, 1950?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of Hon. the Chief Minister):—"The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply of the Leader of the House in the Madras Legislative Assembly on 16th February 1950 in connection with the debate on His Excellency's address."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I request the Hon. Minister to give us a gist of that policy as it is not possible to recollect

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the answer given as early as 16th February last? Sir, unless such answers are placed before us it is not possible for us to put supplementary questions."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister is entitled to answer in that way. Members should be alert to know what takes place in the House."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Apart from the answer, Sir, wherever there is a reference to a previous answer would it not be possible to place it on the table of the House (I am only suggesting to the Chair) so that we may refer to it before putting supplementary questions?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"He can put a separate question on this answer."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"May I suggest that this question may be taken up to-morrow?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"It is for the Chair to do it."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If such a thing is allowed, I am afraid it will not be possible for us to finish the business."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I request the Hon. Minister to read the reply of Hon. the Leader of the House?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I have not got it here. But I am aware what answer was given on the previous day."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I request the Hon. Minister to give us a gist of what was said on that occasion?"

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"I rise on a point of order, Sir. While I perfectly agree that it is open to the Minister to answer a question by asking us to refer to a previous day's proceedings, is it open to him to say that he is not aware of an answer given on a previous day, for, he is supposed to come ready to furnish answers to supplementary questions."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Members of the House must be alert in knowing what has happened in the House."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"In fact, Sir, you are perfectly right in your ruling that Members of the House must be so alert as to have a knowledge of all things that take place here, and if they do not have that, it is their fault. If that is the position with regard to the Members, the position with regard to the Minister must be more strictly observed. For, if a Minister says, 'I do not know what is the answer given', he gives up his entire case. He must be as alert as any other Member."

MR. SPEAKER:—"How is it a point of order?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"On a matter of personal explanation, it is absolute misrepresentation to say

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that I have not read that answer. I have read that answer when it was prepared. I never said I did not read that answer."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I point out that the speech referred to does not contain any answer to the question raised by me. So, may I ask the Hon. Minister to read that portion of the speech which contains the answer, now?"

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Sir, while admitting and appreciating that the Hon. Minister has read the answer given on the previous occasion, in order to test how he has read it, will he give us a gist of that answer?" (Laughter.)

Working of fire engines of Tellicherry and other stations.

* 57 Q.—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN (on behalf of Janab K. M. Seethi): Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the recent fire accidents at Tellicherry, Badagara and Keezhur in North Malabar and the general complaint that the fire-engines of Tellicherry and other fire stations took considerable time to work after their arrival at the place of the accidents, resulting in the avoidable destruction of valuable property while the fire-engines were on the spot without operating, have been brought to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, whether the Government have enquired into the reasons for the failure of the fire engines to be put into prompt and proper use in putting down fire on such occasions; and

(c) what steps have been taken to prevent such failures in future?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of Hon. the Chief Minister):—" (a) It is not correct to say that generally the fire engines of Tellicherry and other stations take considerable time to work after their arrival. The Mobile Tank Unit goes into operation always immediately.

"Fire near St. Peters Church at Tellicherry on 15th December 1949.—The fire started at 12-30 hours. The fire call was received at Tellicherry station at 12-55 hours and the fire units reached the spot at 13-00 hours covering a distance of 1-2 miles. The Mobile Tank Unit started working immediately on arrival at the scene of the fire. When the Trailer Pump was set to work, the crowd that gathered at the scene became uncontrollable. The people, who are the uneducated fishermen of the locality, fell on the units each trying to take a length of hose and thus hindered the hose being laid. They pulled the branch pipes from the firemen and, when this was resisted the firemen, with branches and hose lines, were bodily dragged in every direction without aim. They also attempted to drag the Trailer Pump to the sea saying that the water in the Static Tank would not be sufficient. On account of the above confusion there was delay in the

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Trailer Pump going into action. The police arrived immediately on information sent to them and gave necessary assistance to the Fire Officers in controlling the crowd. It was only after the arrival of the Police that fire fighting operations could be conducted unhampered, to bring the fire under control.

Fire at Badagara on 3rd December 1949.—Fire at Badagara was alleged to have occurred at 17-30 hours on 3rd December 1949. The fire call was received by Tellicherry Section at 20-00 hours and units reached the fire spot at 20-40 hours after covering a distance of 12.2 miles. The Mobile Tank Unit and Trailer Pump started working immediately on arrival. The water had to be pumped up a steep ascent by the Trailer Pump. After working for 15 minutes, the inner lining of one section hose of the Trailer Pump collapsed and choked the output. However, the Mobile Tank Unit was made use of and the fire was brought under control. The defect in the suction hose could not be foreseen and was accidental.

Fire at Keezhur.—The fire was reported to have occurred at 22-00 hours on 16th December 1949. The fire call was received at the Tellicherry station only at 23-21 hours by telephone from Badagara Police station which is 8 miles from Keezhur. The Mobile Tank Unit reached the fire spot at 00-30 hours and by that time the fire had already been controlled by the villagers. The Trailer Pump which started at Tellicherry got stranded en route due to the clutch assembly of the tender giving way. This sudden breakdown on the way was purely accidental, as the vehicle had been tested the day prior to the incident and found to be in satisfactory order.

(b) It will be seen from the details given in the answer to clause (a) that the failure of the Trailer Pump in the first case was due to the confusion created by the people who gathered at the scene of the fire and interfered with the working of the Unit. In the case of the fire at Badagara the collapse of the suction was accidental. In the case of the fire at Keezhur the Trailer Pump got stranded in the way on account of the sudden breakdown of the clutch of the tender. This was also accidental.

(c) Orders have already been issued to the effect that the Officer-in-charge of a Fire Station is responsible for the general efficiency of his station including the proper upkeep of appliances and equipment. Instructions have also been issued to all Officers-in-charge of Fire Stations to examine the condition of each fire-fighting appliance every day to see whether it is fit and if any defects are noticed to take prompt steps for its repairs. This will be impressed again on all Officers."

11-30 a.m. JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Has not the Hon. Speaker told the Ministers times without number that very lengthy answers should be placed on the table of the House?"

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MR. SPEAKER:—"This answer does not contain any figures."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, you have said that long answers which contain statistics should be placed on the table."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether these fire accidents occurred after the amalgamation of the Fire Services with the Police Department?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"These accidents occurred in December 1949, and the amalgamation took place on 1st October 1949."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"Does not the Hon. Minister form the impression from the long answer he has read out that the fire service equipment is not maintained in good trim and working order?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Not at all."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know the loss, according to the Government estimate, due to the delay in tackling the fire?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"There has been no loss to the Government. If the hon. Member means loss to the affected parties, a separate question may be put."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"May I ask whether it does not strike the Government that less attention is devoted to technical details after the amalgamation of the Fire services with the Police Department?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"In the major accident, the crowd on the spot hindered the hose being laid. It was not a case of the fire-fighting machinery being out of order."

"In the other two cases, the fire engines had to cover a long distance and the defects were accidental."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Does not the Hon. Minister think that the Police should accompany the fire engines to prevent people crowding on the spot and hindering operations?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The Police also go there. But the fire engines do not wait for the Police to come; they rush to the scene as soon as they get information of the occurrence of fire."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Does not the Hon. Minister think that, in these difficult times when fires are caused by persons indulging in subversive activities, Police arrangements should be available on the spot simultaneously with the arrival of fire engines?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"As soon as the Police get information, they rush to the spot. But the fire engines need not wait till the Police are on the spot."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister the extent of loss caused by the fires in the three places?"

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The estimated value of property lost or damaged in the Keezhur fire is Rs. 98,850. I have not got the figures for the other two places."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In the face of such colossal damage, does the Hon. Minister still maintain that the steps taken by the Police and the Fire Brigade were adequate?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"It is due to colossal ignorance of the position that we think that the fire engines were at fault. The accidents happened miles away from the nearest fire station. The engines rushed to the scene as soon as they got information. By the time they reached the spot, the fire was brought under control. Fire does not wait for the arrival of engines."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"May I ask whether the Government are aware that in all the other countries of the world the control of fire services vests with those in charge of water-supply, as there has got to be co-ordination between fire-fighting and water-supply?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I am thankful for the information."

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

II.—MOTION UNDER RULE 11 OF THE MADRAS ASSEMBLY RULES.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO SRI K. BOKKAI GOWDER.

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

that, under rule 11 of the Madras Assembly Rules, leave of absence be granted by this House to Sri K. Bokkai Gowder, M.L.A., for a period of one year from the date of his absence.

"The House knows that owing to some unfortunate disease Sri K. Bokkai Gowder has practically lost eye-sight. He is undergoing medical treatment. He has absented himself for the last 64 meetings of the House. He has requested the Hon. Speaker to obtain leave of absence from this House. Since he expects to recover and attend the House, it is only just that we should give him sufficient time. So I have suggested as a temporary measure that one year's leave of absence may be given. If extension of the period is necessary, he will apply and then we will consider."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I do not think there is any objection. The question is—

that, under rule 11 of the Madras Assembly Rules, leave of absence be granted by this House to Sri K. Bokkai Gowder, M.L.A., for a period of one year from the date of his absence."

The motion was carried.

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III.—VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—cont. DEMAND XXIII—LABOUR INCLUDING FACTORIES AND HARIJAN UPLIFT—cont.

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister in charge of Rural Development was pleased to say that Rs. 92,67,100 has been allotted for Harijan cause. But on a close examination we find that only Rs. 26,00,000 is actually spent on Harijans, the other provisions made being Rs. 54,13,800 for education, Rs. 7,80,000 for other eligible communities, Rs. 30,73,300 for reclamation work and Rs. 4,00,000 for staff, etc. For a Government spending 56 crores of rupees is it worthwhile spending only Rs. 26 lakhs on Harijans and at the same time ask them to forget that they were once untouchables? They are still being treated as untouchables. In the course of his answers to questions this morning, the Hon. Minister for Rural Development was pleased to say that Harijans must forget that they were Harijans and exhorted them to join the other Hindus. We are willing to do it and the Hon. Minister himself knows that Harijans have made several attempts towards making India a united nation. In to-day's 'Indian Express' there appears a report of a brutal attack on a Harijan by a caste-Hindu in Balusseri in Kurumbranad taluk of the Malabar district. It appears that the Harijan T.T. Velandi was taken to an influential man's house, beaten black and blue and not allowed to get out of the house for six days. With the help of caste-Hindus who were sympathetic towards Harijans, the victim was rescued by a sub-Inspector of Police and sent to the nearest hospital. He has lost his sense of hearing as a result of a blow on the head. In the course of a statement on the incident, Sri K. Kelappan, the well-known Congress leader of Malabar, says—

"Despite the liberal provisions of our Constitution, there is little safety for the life or limb of the Harijans in rural areas. Some relief can, however, be obtained if the village officers are sympathetic. But, in general, they are conservative. The remedy lies in Harijans organizing themselves and standing up to these atrocities and insults."

When that is the state of affairs in Madras State, I do not know how the Hon. Minister in charge of Rural Development or any other Minister can ask Harijans to forget that they are Harijans. I have no time to speak at length on the atrocities and insults. Many Harijan Members and non-Harijan Members sympathetic towards Harijans have spoken about them at length. There is no use in asking Harijans to join hands with caste-Hindus who have not forgiven them. Harijans have not committed any fault; only they are poor. The Hon. Minister was also pleased to say that there was growth of Communism among Harijans. What has the Ministry done for the Harijans so far? Everywhere Harijans are being subjected to a lot of harassment and social boycott. If Harijans demand higher wages for field labour, there is social boycott. If they want a strict enforcement of the Removal of Civil Disabilities Act, there is social boycott. The police come in handy; they come at the dead of night, beat the Harijans black and blue and institute false cases against them.

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“ I do not want to take up much of the time of the House. I only want to tell the Ministry that they must be able to tackle the disease. If they allow the disease unchecked, not only the Harijans, but also the other backward communities and landless people will soon become anti-Congress and anti-Government. There is no use in sitting here coolly, passing laws and saying that this must be done and that must be done. I have repeatedly requested the Ministry to tour rural areas and find out for themselves the state of affairs. But not one of the Ministers has been pleased to do it. Sir, these Ministers are not at all taking cognisance of reports and representations made by responsible people including M.L.As. If this state of affairs is allowed to continue, I am sure, Sir, very soon there will be only jungle rule in this State and not the rule of law.

“ Now Sir, let me tell the Government that if they want to combat Communism, if they want to see that there is no general unrest in the country, referred to by the Hon. Minister for Finance in his budget speech, they must take courage in both hands and introduce certain important legislation. First of all they must declare a moratorium. Twelve years ago, the first Congress Ministry passed the Agriculturists Debt Relief Act and this Act helped only the capitalists and the landed aristocracy. But the landless agricultural labour did not get any benefit out of this measure. We have been urging upon the present Government and especially the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon for the last two years to bring forward a legislation wiping out all the debts of the landless agricultural labourers. The Government are not able to face facts. These landless agricultural labourers are being forced day after day to become bond-slaves of the richer landlords, in the rural areas. Some immediate measures should be introduced to prevent this state of affairs.

“ Sir, I would ask these Ministers not to be wishy-washy about the reforms they think of. In the course of a reply to the debates in this House, the predecessor of the present Minister for Land Revenue said that there are now about 2 to 3 crores of acres of land available for cultivation. Why not the Government organize co-operative land colonization societies and settle these landless agricultural labourers in those lands and give them employment by starting cottage industries? I would also tell the Hon. Minister that there are several Harijans who are educated but who are not employed. There are several people belonging to other backward communities who are also educated, but not employed. It is said that an idle brain is a devil's workshop. If the Government want to arrest unrest in the country, they must plan out and execute some schemes or other in order to give full employment to these educated unemployed, whether they belong to the Harijan community or to any other communities.

“ Then Sir, just as they have done in regard to prohibition and prohibition propaganda, the Government must constitute district and taluk committees and also appoint some propagandists to do

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propaganda in regard to the Removal of Civil Disabilities Act and the Temple Entry Act. Many a time we have told the Government that the provisions of these two Acts are not known to people in the remotest corners of this province. You yourself know, Sir, how thousands and thousands of Harijans have been calling upon you and praying that you should interfere in the matter, when there were instances of social boycott by the caste-Hindus, because the Harijans have committed the sin of trying to enter into the local temples. You also know, Sir, how in a village which is only three or four miles from the City of Madras, the Adi-Dravidas were denied several of the amenities, some time ago, because they tried to sin against the will of the orthodox caste-Hindus. Why not the Government appoint in each district or in those districts where the Government consider necessary, some propagandists who could go to the caste-Hindu quarters and tell them that the Government have changed, that new measures have been brought into being, that everyone in the country must be treated equally, that there should be no untouchability in the country, that Harijans should be allowed into the temples, and if there is any opposition or obstruction to these people by anybody they will be liable to be punished under the law, and that this is not good for making India attain a place of honour in the comity of nations?”

RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—“ Mr. Speaker, I shall not take more than a few minutes. Sir, I have just been going through a few paragraphs on page 88 of the Budget Memorandum wherein the provisions under Demand XXIII—Labour including Factories and Harijan uplift, have been explained. I am not able to see therein any allocation of money for the improvement of the Harijan cheris although it is a main item of Harijan welfare. I do not decry, Sir, the policy of Government in spending so much money on other items of Harijan welfare. I have already mentioned in the general discussion on the Budget that cheris are mainly occupied by Harijans and that these cheris should be improved so as to make them habitable. Particularly in the City of Madras, these cheris are in a very deplorable condition. What is the use of the Government constituting a City Improvement Trust and appointing men like me as its members? They are absolutely a waste. I can assure the Hon. Minister for Housing that the object of the City Improvement Trust is not to build bungalows in the City for middle class and upper-middle class people, as has been their policy so far. I am glad, Sir, to tell this House and the Hon. Minister in particular that even at the first meeting of the City Improvement Trust, I have been able to change the policy of the Trust, from one of building bungalows for richer people in the City to one of improving the cheris and slums and providing quarters for the people living in these cheris and slums. People who want to build houses for Rs. 20,000 and Rs. 15,000 can very well be looked after by the housing co-operative societies. I do hope, Sir, that the Government will come forward with a token

[Raja Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad] [13th March 1950]

demand for an additional allotment or for the variation of the allotment already made, for improving the condition of the cheris and slums in the City of Madras and also provide some lakhs of rupees for constructing houses for these slum-dwellers. Let some portion of the money that is being diverted from the Harijan Fund be earmarked for Harijan cheris in the City. I do not want that all the money diverted from the Harijan Uplift Fund should be utilised for the purpose of improving these slums. I should like the Hon. Minister for Harijan Uplift who knows the City of Madras so well and who knows also the condition of other cheris in the districts, to find out for himself, whether the slums in the City do need improvement or not. I submit, Sir, that the money that is so far given by the Government, namely, Rs. 2½ lakhs and another Rs. 2½ lakhs that is provided by the Corporation of Madras is most insignificant for their improvement and for housing these people. I do hope, Sir, that the Hon. Minister for Rural Uplift, the Hon. Minister in charge of Housing and the Hon. Minister in charge of the City Improvement Trust will form into a Sub-Committee of the Cabinet—not a Sub-Committee for merely drafting a beautiful report—but an active Committee to provide money for the improvement of slums in the City and I do hope that the Hon. Minister in charge of Harijan Welfare will come before this House later on for a token sum for the purpose and I am sure that the whole House will only be too glad to give its approval and support to such a demand.”

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I most fervently endorse the appeal made by my Leader regarding the improvement of the cheris in the various parts of this State, and I would, in particular, request the Government to concentrate their attention on the improvement of the condition of the cheris belonging to the Government themselves in the City of Madras. Sir, you know the condition of certain cheris in Ellisapuram in the City of Madras. Year after year, representations have been made to the Corporation of Madras to improve these cheris, but nothing so far has been done in that direction. Possibly the Government might come forward and say that they have not got sufficient funds, but that plea will not hold water, because we are aware that a crore of rupees have been allotted only recently for being spent on the uplift of this unfortunate community.

“ Sir, I just now referred to the condition of the cheris in Ellisapuram in the City of Madras and you may remember, that both of us attended a meeting there recently and saw the unfortunate conditions in which those people were living. That is not the only cheri in the City, but there are any number of cheris like that which belong to the Madras Government and the Madras Corporation. I would therefore earnestly appeal to the Government to set apart at least Rs. 20 lakhs out of this Fund for being spent on improving the condition of these cheris, or at least the cheris belonging to the Government, and if they do so, they will not only improve the dwelling conditions of these unfortunate people, but also improve the City of Madras.

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“ Sir, there is one other thing to which I should like to refer and that is the condition of the labourers and workers in the beedi factories. The hon. Gentleman the Minister for Labour has become an expert on labour matters. He has not only gone abroad and studied the conditions of labour in other countries, but he has also attended the conference that was held at Newara Eliya and he has made everybody there believe that he has become an expert on labour matters. So, all honour to him. But it will do him good only if he puts all his knowledge into practical use. I would ask him to go into the conditions that exist in the various departments of labour and try to find out for himself, the various disabilities under which they are suffering and to remedy them as early as possible. We have got a very able and efficient Commissioner of Labour, at the head of that Department. What has the hon. Gentleman the Minister for Labour done, so far as that department is concerned? I am afraid, Sir, he has not taken the trouble to acquaint himself with the conditions in which labour is living, and particularly the labour which is engaged in the manufacture of beedies. Their condition is no better than even that of animals. They are not given education; they are not given work for more than one day in the week; they are not given sufficient wages and they are living like worse than animals. But here we have got a Labour Minister, who has got so much money allotted for labour, but who is doing nothing for labour. Of course we have passed two Acts, the Non-Power Factories Act and the Shop Assistants Act. We have also appointed inspectors to look after the conditions of labour in various industries, but not much good seems to have attended their efforts. But, Sir, this easy way of attending to the solution of labour problems will not do. This is a very sore situation and if something is not done to remove the sore from the body politic, the situation would get out of hand. Therefore, the Hon. Minister for Labour will have to give his earnest and careful attention to these labour conditions and come forward with a legislation giving security of tenure and also better conditions for labour engaged in the beedi industry, in particular. I am sure my Hon. Friend has attended one of the meetings of these workers and has seen the unfortunate conditions in which they are living and the hardships they are suffering. He may possibly make a mistake in thinking that I am pleading on their behalf, because there the labour is mostly Muslim. The Muslim labour engaged in the beedi factories is only a very small portion of the total number of people employed therein. There are a large number of people belonging to other communities, and he will be doing a service to all communities, if he gives his earnest and sympathetic attention to this question.”

* SRI K. BHASHYAM:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to speak on the question of industrial disputes between labour and capital and the machinery set up by the Government under the Industrial Disputes Act for the settlement of these disputes. I want to bring to the notice of the Government certain irregularities and difficulties in the way of settlement of disputes between labour and capital. The Industrial Disputes Act gives power to the Government to refer any dispute which may exist to a tribunal or to a

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conciliation board or to some authority suggested by the officer in charge. My respectful submission to the Government is that in making references of these various disputes to the tribunal or the conciliation board, they acting very hastily and they are not taking into consideration the various factors that should exist to make a reference. In fact, many cases have come before the Courts where the Courts have found and pointed out to the Government that the references themselves were really vague because there were no findings in them that there was a dispute between the labour and capital. I have got one instance on hand which I would place before the House so that they may be able to understand what the nature of the complaint is. There was no dispute for the last four years. There is a new Union formed somewhere and now starts a dispute that in 1946 there was a bumper sale or at least business and, therefore, a lot of money was made then. Therefore, there is a dispute to-day that the labour must be given some sort of allowance or bonus in respect of the year 1946, in the year 1950. It is wrong if it is supposed to be a dispute and is referred for being arbitrated upon. Of course, the Courts cannot go into it because there is no machinery for it. The only thing that is available is to go to a Court of Law for setting aside this reference. But that will involve costly proceedings, not at all suited for the purpose. What I want to point out is this. The Government, before they really refer any dispute between the parties, must carefully examine whether there is a dispute or not. Very often, it has been found in the course of investigation by the Courts that there was no dispute and that the officers themselves who advised the Government found that there was no dispute but in spite of it the Government had acted in referring some sort of dispute to the tribunal. That is not correct because they are acting in the interests of the State, not as political bodies or as politicians or persons belonging to one party or another but they are there as judges deciding differences between two parties. Therefore, I would like them to constitute themselves as judges to decide, what is called, disputes between capital and labour and refer only such disputes as can be justifiably placed before the tribunal, and not all simple things which will only mean the absorption of long time which is undesirable from any point of view. Therefore, it has been found that there have been not only hasty references but also illegal references. But these things come to light only after the award has been given and capital has taken full advantage of the situation before the award is made. So, I would appeal to the Government to look into the matter in the first instance. In fact, I would make a concrete suggestion that before they make any reference in the matter, they may refer the matter to the Legal Department so that any legal difficulties in the way of references being made by the Government may be set right.

“Next, not only, as I said, the references are made on insufficient materials but also they make regional references. An industry where a dispute exists is not in a particular place ‘A’, but it is an industry relating to the whole province such as the metal industry or textile industry. In such

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may be supplied to the parties concerned and then a reference may be made. No vague issues may be raised before the tribunal.

“As regards the tribunals themselves, I want to make a few remarks. They are certainly now composed of very eminent persons who have retired as distinguished District Judges or persons of high authority. What happens in this case is this. The industrial dispute is certainly quite different from what is generally a case or a suit in a court of Law. In the Courts they have no human problems as in the case of labour. In fact, more than one Judge has remarked that in respect of labour dispute, it is not ordinary law that applies but you can go very much behind all these things and look at the human problems behind the dispute between capital and labour. Therefore, the Government must appoint persons who have got some background in dealing with labour problems, who have studied labour problems and who know something about the work of labour. Unless this is done, no satisfactory result will be achieved by the establishment of tribunals and the making of references to them.

“The other point which I would like to make is this. So far as the tribunals are concerned, because of the want of basic knowledge of the industrial needs and other things they take an enormously long time for the purpose of deciding the disputes. They have to be acquainted with the elements of labour problems, i.e., what is labour problem, what is labour dispute, etc. One instance has at least come to my notice. Labour disputes in the engineering industry have been going on for six years. What happened was that more than once this Government, because there was some illegality in a reference, had to scrap that reference and make a new reference. Such things irritate labour. Certainly they irritate capital also, so that the harmonious relation that ought to be established between capital and labour and which is the object of the Industrial Disputes Act is not achieved. Therefore, in making these appointments, I would like the Government choosing persons who have been long acquainted with such questions and who know something of law and also something about public affairs. It is not merely knowledge of law that is necessary in adjusting these disputes. These are human problems and therefore persons who know law and in addition move with the people should constitute the tribunals, not merely District Judges or High Court Judges. Further wherever we go, there is no literature supplied to these tribunals for the purpose of their guidance. There are some very eminent books dealing with collective bargaining and collective trade unionism. But they are not supplied to these various tribunals to make themselves acquainted with the labour problems and the trade unionism in other countries. Trade unionism in our country is in the infant stage; it has to be fostered, nurtured, and therefore it is necessary that the process of trade unionism in other countries must be really studied not by the tribunals themselves but by the persons who appear before them, and if I may

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respectfully say so, the Minister himself should be well up with the trade union matters for there is very little knowledge exhibited in the matter of references. When I find the Ministers acts upon these very often he acts not upon these principles but upon political considerations whether a union is affiliated to the Congress and the other unions are affiliated to some other party. We are not concerned with politics in respect of trade unionism. We are concerned only with the question of labour and capital involved.

“Another matter that I would like to place before the Hon. Minister in this. The awards are passed. What happens afterwards? It takes years for the Government really to implement them. One instance was brought to the notice of the House the other day by my Hon. Friend Mr. Karanth. There was a dispute in the transport service in South Kanara. The award was given. But still it has not been implemented. Only one company implemented it. Why did it so happen? Why did not the Government take action in respect of this matter? The labour had, therefore, to resort to a district-wide strike for the purpose of getting their demands recognised. If such is the case, what is the purpose of the machinery that the Government have got for the purpose of settling these various disputes between capital and labour? When an award is passed, it is not also questionable in a Court of Law because the Government have taken care to provide for it. Therefore, that award must be implemented at once. Merely publishing it in the *Fort St. George Gazette* is implementation so far as the Government are concerned; but so far as the implementation by the capital is concerned, that is another story. I would like to point out in this connexion that even the Government do not set an example to other capitalists or rather employers to follow. In the City Transport Department, there is an award which has not been given effect to. The award of a bonus in that case to the various workers in the Transport Department has not been implemented by the Government themselves. Of course, the Government stand on a different footing and they can say that it is a public utility service. But unless they set an example to others by implementing all the awards given in respect of transport services, how can they expect the capitalists or the other employers in the transport services to give the necessary implementation to these various awards? Another thing is that when the Government want to implement the award, they follow a policy of hesitancy because they feel that when they do so they will be offending the capitalist. That is another complication. In all these things, I should like the Government to be more serious.

“Another point is this. There is no mention about agricultural labour. There is no reference to what they have done. There was a commission that went out for the purpose of finding what the wages for the agricultural labourer were and I think the report has been received. I would like this matter to be examined urgently in view of the Grow More Food Campaign and I should like the Hon. Minister in charge of Agriculture or even Labour to

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take up this matter and proceed at once to fix fair wages for agricultural labour in the various districts so that the problem between the landless and the landlords may be easily solved.”

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—“கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே! கனம் கிராம அபிவிருத்தி மந்திரி கேட்டிருக்கும் மானியத்தை ஆதரிக்கையில் சில வார்த்தைகள் பேச விரும்புகின்றேன்.

“ஹரிஜன முன்னேற்றத்திற்காக வருஷா வருஷம் அதிகப்படியான தொகை ஒதுக்கிவைப்பதையும், அவர்கள் முன்னுக்குவர செய்திருக்கக் கூடிய காரியங்களையும் பார்த்து நான் மிகவும் சந்தோஷப்படுகின்றேன். தனியாக இதற்கொரு இலாகா ஏற்படுத்தியிருக்கிறார்கள். ஹரிஜன முன்னேற்றத்தில் அபிமானமுள்ள தனி டைரக்டரை நியமித்திருக்கிறார்கள். அவருக்கு உதவியாக சில டிபுடி டைரக்டர்களும் இருக்கிறார்கள். அதே மாதிரி ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாவிலும் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் நியமிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் ஒவ்வொருவருக்கும் இந்த வேலைக்கு ஏற்ற தகுதி பூர்ணமாக இருப்பதாக நான் நினைக்கவில்லை. இந்த வேலைக்கு முக்கியமாக வேண்டியது தேச நன்மைக்காகச் செய்கின்ற புனித செய்யவேண்டிய வேலையானது அதற்கு வேண்டிய ஒரு மனோபாவமும் மான் சேவை என்ற உணர்ச்சியும் அதற்கு வேண்டிய ஒரு மனோபாவமும் அதிகாரிகளிடையே இல்லாததால்தான் நம்முடைய வேலைகள் ஒன்றும் சரியாக நடக்காமல் தடங்கல் ஏற்படுகிறது. அதனால் இந்த ஹரிஜன முன்னேற்றத்தில் ஊக்கத்தோடும் விருப்பத்தோடும் வேலை செய்யக்கூடிய வர்களுடைய இந்த உத்தியோகங்களுக்கு நியமிக்கவேண்டுமென்று நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இந்தக் காரியம் தகுந்த முறையிலே நல்ல அனுபவம் வாய்ந்தவர்களை வைத்துக்கொண்டு செய்யக்கூடிய வேலை மற்ற எந்த யோக்கியதர்மசங்கள் இருந்தாலும் துவேஷ மனப்பான்மையும் வெறுப்பு உணர்ச்சியும் உடையவர்களை இந்த வேலைக்கு வைத்துக்கொள்வதால் முன்னேற்றத்தைவிட ஹரிஜனங்கள் அதிக கஷ்டமே அடைய நேரிடும்.

“இப்போது ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாவிலும் ஹரிஜன முன்னேற்றக் கமிட்டி ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. மதுரையைப் பொறுத்தவரை, இரண்டு, மூன்று மாதத்திற்கு ஒருதரம் அந்தக் கமிட்டி கிராமங்களில் கூடுகிறது. இந்தக் கூட்டத்திற்கு பலலாயிரக்கணக்கான ஹரிஜனங்கள் வருகிறார்கள். அவர் களிடத்தில் ஒருவித புது விழிப்பும், எழுச்சியும் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதைப் பற்றி நான் மிகவும் சந்தோஷப்படுகிறேன். இவ்விதமான ஒரு புது விழிப்பும், எழுச்சியும் எந்த சமூகத்தினரிடையேயுமில்லை. இந்த விழிப்பையும், எழுச்சியையும் நல்ல விதத்தில் உபயோகப்படுத்திக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். ஆகையினால்தான் நான் முன்னால் சொன்ன பிரகாரம் இந்த வேலைக்குத் தகுதிவாய்ந்த உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களை நியமிக்க வேண்டும்.

“ஹரிஜனங்கள் முன்னேற்றமடைவதற்கு படிப்பு மிக மிக அவசிய மென்று சர்க்கார் அதிகத் தொகை செலவிட்டு வருகிறார்கள். அந்தத் தொகையானது நல்லவிதத்தில் செலவு செய்யப்படவில்லையென்று யாரும் ஆகேஷிக்க முடியாது.

“ஹரிஜனப் பிள்ளைகளை சேர்த்துக்கொள்ளும் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களுக்குத் தான் கிராண்டு கொடுக்கப்படுகிறது. இவர்களுக்காக தனி ஹாஸ்டல்களும் நடத்தப்பட்டுவருகிறது. அந்த ஹாஸ்டல்களிலுள்ள பிள்ளைகள் பொதுவாக நல்லமுறையிலே வளர்க்கப்பட்டுவருகிறார்கள். இதுவரைக்கும் தனியாக இருந்துவரும் அந்த ஹாஸ்டல்களில் கொஞ்சம் கொஞ்சமாக மற்ற வகுப்புப் பிள்ளைகளையும் சேர்த்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். நம்முடைய ஹரிஜன மந்திரி அவர்கள் காலையில் ஒரு கேள்விக்கு பதிலளிக்கையில், ஹரிஜனப் பிள்ளைகளும் மற்ற எல்லாப் பிள்ளைகளும் சேர்ந்து வாழவேண்டும்—முன்னேற வேண்டுமென்று சொன்னதைக்கேட்டு நான் மிகவும் சந்தோஷப்படுகிறேன். ஒரு பள்ளிக்கூடத்தில் ஹரிஜனங்கள் சேர்க்கப்படாவிட்டால் அந்தப் பள்ளிக் கூடங்களுக்கு recognition கொடுப்பதில்லையென்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது.

13th March 1950] [Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman]

“கடைசியாக இன்னொரு விஷயம்; ஆலைத்தொழிலாளர் விஷயத்திலே சர்க்கார் அக்கரை காட்டி வருகிறார்கள். அவர்கள் இதுவரை எடுத்துச் செய்திருக்கின்ற காரியமானது அவர்களுக்கு பூர்ண திருப்தி கொடுக்கா விட்டாலும் சர்க்கார் நல்ல முறையிலே அவர்களுக்கும் நன்மை செய்ய வேலை செய்கிறார்களென்ற நிலைமை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. Tribunal ஏற்படுத்தி ஆங்காங்கு தொழிலாளர்களுடைய குறைகளை கவனித்து தீர்ப்புக் கொடுக்கப்படுகிறது. ஆனால் பல இடங்களில் அந்தத் தீர்ப்புப்படி முதலாளி மீனாட்சி மில்லில் வேலை நிறுத்தம் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அந்த வேலை நிறுத்தத்திற்குக் காரணம் சர்க்காருடைய தீர்ப்பை தொழிலாளர்கள் ஏற்றுக்கொள்ளவில்லையென்று முதலாளிகள் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஆனால் தொழிலாளர்கள் வேறுவிதமாகச் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அது எந்தக் காரணமாய் இருந்தாலும் வேலை நிறுத்தம் நடக்காதபடி பார்த்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டியதுதான் முக்கியமான விஷயம். வேலை நிறுத்தத்தினால் தொழிலாளர்கள் வேலையில்லாமல் தவிப்படுகிறார்கள். அதுமட்டுமல்ல நமக்குத் தேவையான துணியைப் பெற முடியாமல் தேசத்தின் உற்பத்தி பாதிக்கப் பட்டுவிடுகிறது. இந்த நிலையிலே சர்க்கார் முக்கியமாக மீனாட்சி மில்லிலும், மற்ற மில்களிலும் வேலை நிறுத்தம் நடக்காதபடி கவனித்து நம் நாட்டுத் தொழில் வளர்ச்சியுற கவனம் செலுத்தவேண்டுமென் கேட்டுக்கொண்டு முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, even at the outset; I have to thank the Hon. Minister for providing Rs. 5 lakhs towards ameliorative measures for the Backward Classes. Last year also the Government had provided the same Rs. 5 lakhs. Even during the budget discussions last year, some hon. Members had represented to the Government that this amount was not at all sufficient to meet the requirements of the Backward Classes and that it should be adequately increased. Naturally, we expected that this Government will make it Rs. 10 lakhs. But we find that even this year, they have allotted the same figure which is very insufficient. Now, this amount is being used for giving some scholarships to a few college students. Even there, we are not able to meet the needs of all the poor college students. Again there are a number of these backward communities. As many as 156 communities are included in the list of backward communities. There are some communities among these, who are far more backward than even some of the Harijans in regard to education and in various other social matters. Take for instance the Koravas. Their conditions are very bad. They are included in the list of backward communities. We have requested the Director of Harijan Welfare to give this community first priority and if there is any balance, that may be given to other communities. So if we have to meet the requirements of all the Backward Classes, then this amount granted by the Government is quite insufficient. The Backward Community Board which has been recently appointed by the Government, met in Madras sometime ago and have decided to request the Government to raise this Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 10 lakhs.

“When I raise the question of Backward Classes and request the Government to ameliorate their conditions, some hon.

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Members begin to ask, 'Why should Mr. Swaminathan always talk about the backward communities?' I want to make one point clear here and that is I am not at all happy to raise this question of Backward Classes so often on the floor of the House. Of course it is rather a painful duty which I have to perform. Especially when we have achieved independence and everybody should enjoy equal status and must have equal share, it may not sound all right if one talked always of certain communities. But I must also point out here that several lakhs of people who are classified as Backward Classes, are not equally respected by other communities and are not getting any benefit either socially, economically or otherwise. Therefore we have to raise this subject on the floor of the House. When I speak on this subject, some people think it is a communal affair. The Muslims say, 'Oh, this is only for some backward Hindus'. The Brahmins think, 'Oh, it is for some Non-Brahmin backward community people' and like that. Let me tell my Brahmin friends first that this is not at all a communal problem and this is not based on religion and I want to make this point once more clear. I think you yourself will be aware of the fact Sir, that there are several Brahmins who are very backward. Take for instance the Mukkani Brahmins of Tiruchendur. Of course they are Brahmins. They are educationally very backward. The number of persons who are educated in that community is very few. I will be happy to recommend to the Government the inclusion of this community also in the list of backward communities. There are now 156 communities. Let this community be the 157th. I will be very glad to recommend their case to the Government. Again take the case of the Dikshidars of Chidambaram. They are also in the same position as the Mukkani Brahmins of Tiruchendur. Also, the same is the case with the Nambudiris of Malabar. Hon. Sri Madhava Menon knows more than anybody else in this House about the condition of these Nambudiris. All these people are equally backward and they may be included in the list of backward communities. Again I have to mention the case of the Labbais of Coimbatore. I would not mention the case of the Labbais of Tanjore, because there they are very well-placed in life. But the Labbais of Coimbatore are really backward. Although we may have one or two Seethi Sahebs and Pocker Sahebs here (laughter), yet generally, Moplahs of Malabar are also very backward. Of course a few of them may be well-educated and well-placed. If the Labbais of Coimbatore and the Moplahs of Malabar want that they should be included in the list of backward communities, I have no objection and I will be glad to recommend them to be included. Therefore, when I speak of this backward classes problem, it is not a Brahmin Non-Brahmin problem and it is not a Hindu-Muslim problem. It is not at all based on religion."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"As Mr. Swaminathan has said, may I suggest that some of the Brahmins, if not all, may be included in the backward communities?"

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SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Certainly, I will welcome any representation or application from an Association of Nambudiris, Dikshidars or Mukkani Brahmins that they should be included in the list of backward communities and I will be glad to recommend their cases to Government."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I also be included in the list?"

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Mr. Viswanatham wants to be included in the list. If a gentleman who has been Chief Parliamentary Secretary under the great leader Mr. Prakasam wants himself to be included in the list of backward communities, then I don't know what to say. I leave it to you, Sir."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Thrown backward."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Coming to the subject, I have no objection to the backward people being included in the list. Sir, this is a problem of the majority seeking protection from the minorities. This is not a problem like the Hindu-Muslim problem where the Muslims who are in a minority want protection from the Hindus who are in a majority. This is a peculiar problem which should be carefully and properly considered. Then there is the suggestion that the communal Government Order should be revised. I have very little time at my disposal and I have to talk on so many other things. So, I shall deal with this subject some other time."

"At present, I have to request the Hon. Minister to consider this problem of backward communities and raise the grant from Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 10 lakhs. I do not think it is very difficult for the Government to provide a few more lakhs. Already the budget is a deficit one by a few lakhs. Therefore, an additional grant of some more lakhs could be easily sanctioned by the Government to tackle this problem."

"Next I come to the labour problem. This is a very serious problem."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has only two more minutes."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"I will come to my point now. I am not going to refer to matters relating to the Labour Department. I would only take the subject of Kallar Reclamation work which has been included in the Labour Department. From 15th August 1947 this department of Kallar Reclamation work has been transferred to the Labour Department and the Commissioner of Labour is now in charge of this work. In the publication, 'Madras in 1948,' it has been stated, 'With the repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act, the interest of the Kallars in maintaining in good repair the Kallar schools owned by them waned'. But that is not the fact. When the Reclamation work was controlled by the Police department, the Police did some evil."

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On account of their evil actions, the community had to undergo great difficulties. But I must say that they have also done some good thing. Now, after transferring this reclamation work to the Labour Department, I must say that the Labour Department has lost all interest in the matter. I don't wish to blame anybody who is at the top, say the Commissioner of Labour or any others. I do not want to complain against those Officers. But the people who are in charge of the department in the districts have lost all interest and they are not properly controlling the institutions.

12-30 p.m. "The Reclamation Scheme provides two or three lakhs of rupees under Co-operative Societies. Out of this fund, one Inspector has swindled about Rs. 50,000. Recently I received a communication from certain Directors of the Society that the Inspector has misappropriated this sum and neither the Department nor the Police has taken any action against him, with the result that this man is going about in the streets without any fear of arrest. I am citing this instance to show how the Department has lost all interest in the work of reclaiming the Kallars. I would request the Government to see that they take active interest in their reclamation by opening more co-operative societies, more schools, etc.

"Sir, I would like to say a word about Harijan Uplift. I shall take only one minute and finish. With regard to the construction of houses for Harijans, the Harijan Uplift Department is not at all taking proper interest. In my own village, Paganeri, there are hundred houses to be constructed for which proposals have been submitted to the Government by the Collector. The Harijans themselves—who can afford—have come forward to meet a portion of the construction charges. And also, those people who were responsible some years ago for driving the Harijans to their present condition, have expressed their intention to help financially in the construction work. But the Government have not moved in the matter so far. I would request them to do something really to ameliorate their conditions. I would also once again request the Government to increase the provision by five lakhs of rupees."

* JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not propose to take even ten minutes allotted to Members who want to speak now. I shall try to say a few words on some of the important points which I want to press upon the Hon. Ministers concerned. With regard to Harijan Uplift much has already been spoken by those who can speak with authority on that subject. In this connexion, I would invite the attention of the Hon. Minister concerned to the remarks made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Gopalaswami. I know, Sir, Mr. Gopalaswami has been doing Harijan Uplift work for the last two decades and therefore, whatever he says on this subject must be taken as authoritative. He said that the administration of the Harijan Uplift Fund was not being done in the manner in which it ought to be done. This is rather a serious matter and I would request the Hon. Minister to see that the Fund is properly administered."

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"With regard to the labour question, I think it is a very big one and if we want to go into the several activities of the Government in this regard, it would take even for a Member like me at least one hour. But I would like to say only one word in this connection and that is this. Though we, Members of this House, both on this side and those belonging to the Congress party, condemn the activities of the Communists, I find that some of the Congress labour leaders have been going about the country indulging in giving expression to such views that look more royal than the King. I mean that they are more communistic than the communists themselves. I wish that these people do not indulge in such sort of loose talks as to create greater discontent and disaffection, particularly among the labour population. It has been the cry from the top, from the Hon. the Prime Minister of India, the Deputy Prime Minister and such other great leaders—and they have been appealing to the people concerned whether they are labourers or the civil population—that all must work and produce more. I wish that everything is done by responsible leaders in this country to see that there is no discontent created among the labour population.

"As regards the administration of certain Acts passed in 1947, you are aware, Sir, that we had the pleasure then of enacting, amongst others, two measures, the Non-Power Factories Act and the Madras Shop Assistants and Establishments Act. In this connection, Sir, you will remember, I gave notice of a Bill in the last session to be moved in this House on a non-official day. But, as you know, these non-official days exist only for purposes of Assembly rules and in practice they are always utilized for the transaction of official business. Therefore, I did not have the opportunity of moving the Bill in this House. This is a Bill to repeal the Shop Assistants and Establishments Act. With regard to the Non-Power Factories Act, I do not want to say anything because I know the Central Act which is going to come into operation will nullify the effects of our Act. About the former one, while sending in the draft Bill, I mentioned the following under the Statement of Objects and Reasons:—

"One of those pieces of legislation which were introduced in the Legislature became law in the shortest time and with least discussion either in the Legislature or in the Select Committee stage is the Madras Shops Assistants and Establishment Act of 1947. A powerful majority in its early enthusiasm did not see the impracticability of the measure. When the measure became law and was put into force the impracticability of many of its provisions became evident. Several exemptions granted by the Government to numerous establishment stand organizations from the operation of the Act bear testimony to this fact. Further the Act is a spoke in the wheel of production. Therefore, I urge the repeal of the Act."

I have got a list of exemptions which the Government have given to the various establishments and organizations in this State from the operation of the Act itself. I do not know whether I shall have time to read out all the cases as they cover pages. Any way I shall read a few—

"Advocates' chambers, Doctors' consulting rooms, dispensaries attached to these and nursing homes and hospitals, persons employed on contract for fixed periods, all shops dealing mainly in vegetables, meat, fish, etc., hair-dressing

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saloons, Messrs. Spencer & Co., Ltd., Madras, The Imperial Bank of India, Ltd., establishments engaged in the manufacture of ice, banks-scheduled and non-scheduled-restaurants, the All-India Spinners' Association, etc.

The effects of the Act, it will be seen from these exemptions, are nullified by the action of the Government themselves. Such being the case, I really do not see why an Act of this type should be on the Statute Book. Therefore, I would urge the Hon. the Minister for Industries to see that this Act is repealed as early as possible. Another point to which I would like to invite the attention of the Government is how this Act is impeding production in our State. The Act requires that the shops should be closed at a time when people badly need them. In labour centres, the people can do shopping only in the night as they are engaged throughout the day in the factories. The shops are closed and they are not able to buy anything. So, Sir, at a time when we want more production, I really do not understand the necessity for having a measure like this."

* SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to represent to the Hon. the Minister for Labour, the grievances of the labour population, a problem which he has to tackle more efficiently and more intelligently. Sir, I felt that I would be failing in my duty if I did not bring home to the Hon. the Minister who is in charge of this portfolio the view-point of labour with whom I am closely associated. Sir, my Hon. Friend may feel that there is a machinery to look after the interests of labour and study their problems. But I want to impress upon him that the labourer, the worker, who has contributed to the success of the freedom movement in this country has all along been promised that milk and honey would flow the moment we came to power all their grievances would vanish and disappear like snow before the sun. But, alas, what is the position now? The old traditional treatment of labour continues, it persists in spite of the mute but effective voice of the toiling labourers. Sir, the Hon. the Minister has got the Labour Commissioner and the Labour Department. I do not say that the department is inactive. Of course, it works but the machinery is not run on a scientific basis with all the technical knowledge necessary for it. The worst offender in the matter of non-implementation of awards is the Government itself, the jurisdiction of the Labour Commissioner being de-limited. On many occasions the Labour Commissioner has found himself helpless where the employer happens to be the Government."

"What is the reaction in the minds of the labourers? I ask, 'are we going to be deaf and dumb to the cries of labour, are we going to be merely sitting on the Treasury Bench and carry on the Government irrespective of the feelings, reactions, and repercussions among the people?' If we are going to carry on in this way, woe unto the day. I do not think we are doing justice to the seats we are occupying and the party we represent and to which we belong, indifferent as we are in this way. I do not say that this indifference is voluntary, or is due to an ideology or theory which seeks to suppress or exploit labour. I do not

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want to be so uncharitable. All that I wish to say is that this indifference is due to ignorance and incapacity and incompetence. (Hon. Members: 'Oh, oh.') Some of my hon. Friends seem to be a bit surprised at the terminology. But I feel that this terminology is too feeble for the occasion. Sir, we must understand the problems of labour. They are multifarious. I want to tell the Government that there should be a Minister exclusively for this subject. Even then, I wonder, whether he would find enough time to attend to their interests which are so vast and the study and the understanding of the possibilities and potentialities of labour is absolutely necessary. If we are going to mismanage the affairs at this most critical hour, if we are going to be indifferent to the problems of labour and if we are going to be deaf and dumb to the cry of the people who are faced with hunger and starvation, we will be playing into the hands of those parties and those elements which invite chaos and trouble in the country. At least to put down those elements we have to rise to the occasion. I therefore implore and I entreat the Hon. the Minister to take up this matter seriously and not to deal with it in the manner in which other things are being treated. This is a very deep problem which must be tackled, as I have said, most intelligently and efficiently. We are now approaching the elections. We have introduced adult franchise and it is the labourer who is going to shape the future of the country.

"We have to save the labourer. We have to save the country 12-45 p.m. and at least for that we have to attend to needs of the labourers. Sir, my hon. Friends who preceded me have gone into the details of the industrial tribunals and about their awards which are not being carried out. In regard to the exemptions which have become almost a normal feature, almost rendering the Act nugatory, I mean the Shop Assistants Act, what is the reaction that these changes cause outside this House? Are we going to be indifferent to these reactions? Are we going to be merely sitting under the fans in the Treasury Benches lobbying and answering questions in a non-chalant manner? Are these things going to help us outside the four walls of this House? I want to know this from the hon. Members and the Hon. Ministers. I have expressed all this because I feel it is my duty to represent all these facts. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have spoken generally. I do not want to go into details because you have limited the time. I only wanted to generalize and impress upon my hon. Friends the importance of the matter. Not that I love the Ministry less but I love the labour and the Congress and the country more." (Hear, hear.)

* SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry I am only given five minutes whereas other Members were given ten minutes. Now, I want to put the whole thing in a nutshell. As regards the burning topic of the Harijans, namely, the housing problem, I must tell the Government that they must be able to take speedy measures to provide house-sites to the houseless Harijans. The other day the Hon. the Finance Minister said that they have provided till now, from the beginning of the department till

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last year, one lakh of house-sites. I wonder how he could have arrived at that figure. Studying the administration report of the Labour Department issued by the Secretary, Development Department, till 1947 only about 45 thousand house-sites were given to the Harijans. But during these three years the allotment set apart for the provision of house-sites for the Harijans is very poor. I find from figures provided in the Budget that there is a provision of only Rs. 91,872. I wonder how one lakh or more or more than 50 thousand house-sites could be provided from out of the allotment of Rs. 91,872 for the last three years. I request the Hon. Minister in charge to find out the actual figures and reply to this question. Sir, there is no use in criticizing Government as regards house-sites. There are many difficulties in the way of the Government as well as the people to get house-sites. The applicant has many a hurdle to cross. The District Welfare Officers are made to go up to the High Court for awarding house-sites for these Harijans in case an appeal is preferred. If the Government really want to provide house-sites to all the houseless Harijans in the rural areas, they must have an Act which would enable the officers to provide the sites at a very early date.

"As regards the scholarships, I must thank the Government for the provision of sufficient funds to award scholarships and sanction of boarding grants in hostels run by private management but I must inform the Government that the allotments meant for the different people, such as Harijans, backward communities and other eligible communities, should not be mixed together. We are thinking that Rs. 92 lakhs have been provided in the Budget. But a close scrutiny would reveal that the amount to be spent for Harijans will be about Rs. 80 lakhs and out of this a good amount is spent on district staff and the Harijan Welfare Directorate here. I must tell you, Sir, that the staff in the office of the Harijan Welfare Director is not properly discharging their duties. When the additional staff was sanctioned, the Labour Commissioner sent away the inexperienced staff—people who knew nothing about rules and work—to the Harijan Welfare Directorate and retained the efficient and experienced staff with him. I would ask that this must be taken notice of and efficient and experienced people must be appointed under the Harijan Welfare Directorate. I also suggest that the Harijan Welfare Director should be a man of the Senior Collector's rank. I placed this suggestion even before the ex-Premier. I must now request the Government as a whole to see that a Senior Collector is placed in charge of this department so that the work could be carried on efficiently. As regards assignments, Sir, I have already said that a mischievous Government Order has been issued by the Revenue Department under which Harijans who were formerly allotted lands have been evicted to give preference to the political sufferers. This Government Order should be withdrawn or amended soon. If any work is to be done, it has to be done only by the Revenue Department. I request the Hon. Chief Minister to transfer this department to the Harijan Minister. It is no use giving it to a man belonging to the caste people. I again request Ministers to work for the Harijans."

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*DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO:—"Speaker, Sir, I thank you for the few minutes given to me, and within these few minutes at my disposal I have to speak only on one or two problems. One thing, Sir, is about the poor. We know that the poor are always with us. Our problem in the past has been rather unique. In this country without having a Poor-law we have been able to solve the poor problem in our own way. The outside world have been wondering how we have been able to solve the problem without the aid of a Poor-law. Sir, whatever might have been in the past, the conditions seem to be changing and changing rapidly at the present day. The prices have gone up. No doubt the wages too have gone up but the wages have not kept pace with the rising prices and therefore people who might have been thought before to be respectable have now been dragged down to the level of the poor. And these poor, Sir, are really the great bulk of the population of our country as they are in any other country in the world. But our problems have been rather trying. In the past even at the very peak of our prosperity the millions here went without one square meal in 24 hours. Sir, that problem is becoming more acute to-day."

"Sir, we have no doubt people who are called poor labourers. I should like to call myself a labourer. (Interruption.) Otherwise I should only be a parasite in this country. I should indeed like to be a labourer rather than be a parasite. But, Sir, labour is either organized or unorganized and I am speaking now about the particular kind of labour which is not intellectual labour but is manual labour. It is not organized but unorganized and altogether unskilled. If you visit the homes and the localities in which these people live to whatever religious community they may belong economically, socially, educationally and sanitarily they are at the lowest depths; and this, Sir, in 1950, with our freedom and our calling ourselves one of the largest Republics of the world we are allowing them to live in squalor, in ignorance and stupidity. We must realize that before long we who are supposed to be the upper strata of the community shall have to meet the repercussion of the policy that was followed in the past."

"The wages earned by the community at its best are just now enough to keep together the body and soul of those who earn. The moment the man reaches old age, when he cannot work, he somehow feels that his own family is not able to meet all his requirements because in old age the requirements become greater and therefore one out of ten is left in the street. I have been able to observe since the beginning of the war a great number of people, respectable looking poor people, old men and women, going into the streets, and begging. What is the cause of this poverty? I would request the Government not only to give a little aid to the poor but follow up the aid and find out what is the real cause of their poverty and their remedy. Secondly there ought to be homes for the poor particularly the aged—those who have no homes of their own, nobody to protect and look after. Following the example of

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- other countries we must have old-age pensions. People who cannot work through old-age should be really looked after and cared for."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We are already an hour behind the scheduled time. The hon. Member must close his speech. The Hon. Minister will now reply."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I should like to deal first with some of the general observations that have been made in regard to labour and Labour Legislation in this State. The hon. Member Mr. Rajamannar made an eloquent plea on behalf of the rights of labour. Sir, there can be no two opinions about the need for taking great care of the welfare of labour and he knows we are doing our best in the matter. Perhaps he wanted to emphasise, that I, as a Minister should take a personal interest in the matter so that the work of welfare to labour may be expedited. I certainly thank him for the suggestion but I can assure him that I do take a personal interest in the matter, that there are many cases and in most of the cases, the matters are dealt with if necessary at the Ministerial level. I should like to inform the hon. Member, Sir, personally I have had occasion to deal with both labour and management, sitting across the table and settling various disputes. I have had occasion to thank both management and labour for the friendly way in which they agreed to certain suggestions made by me as Minister of this Government. So I can assure you, Sir, that I have taken a personal interest and wherever it is possible we have tried to settle most of the disputes by conciliation and by persuasion. That is what we believe in and how the department of the Government of 1 p.m. Madras works and everywhere it is expected to work. It is not a department merely to threaten people and make them do certain things. That is not the function of the Labour Department. It is the function of the Department to bring the parties together and by persuasion and conciliation see that there is industrial peace and that adequate facilities are provided for labour to improve their conditions.

"Sir, the hon. Member sitting opposite to me, the hon. Member coming from Kurnool grew very eloquent and I do not know whether he was complimenting me or insinuating when he said that I had become an expert. I do not know whether he was talking like that out of jealousy. (Interruption.) Whatever it may be, I do not claim to be an expert in any particular matter, because, Sir, expert knowledge is not gained so easily. But I do claim this much that I know some of the things. I should say with great respect--a little better than my hon. Friend; because he ought to have known that under the new Factories Act of 1948, beedi labour has come under that Act. It has been notified that any premises where 10 or more persons are employed, comes under the Factories Act. Such factories are inspected. That is a piece of information which I would like to give the hon. Member for his information and guidance.

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"Sir, I now come to some of the suggestions made by hon. Members. Mr. Bhashyam made some remarks and went away. I should like to have corrected some of the things he said. He said that when we appoint industrial tribunals, it is not necessary that they should be merely judges, retired or otherwise, or High Court Judges. I should like to draw his attention to the fact that the Industrial Disputes Act contains provisions which make it compulsory on the Government to appoint only people who are either judges or retired judges or High Court Judges. That is why we are appointing these people. I can assure the House that we do select the people properly and I should say that most of them have done very well and they have been working very satisfactorily. So there is no need to say that these people have not come up to our satisfaction. But most probably, Sir, the hon. Member expects that they should be of a standard about which he has read in some books about other countries. Most probably we have not come up to that standard. But we must remember that labour legislation and trade unionism have just been coming up and been given due prominence only after some of these popular governments have come into office. It has also to be remembered that to-day labour commands greater attention from the hon. Members of this House, and the public. That is a very healthy sign. We have made good progress in this direction.

"Now, Sir, I should like to answer certain specific questions which have been raised. Most of the Members who were referring to the Shop Assistants and Establishments Act said that so many exemptions had been given that this Act had become a nullity and that there was nothing more of this Act. Some hon. Members seem to feel that the Government are not anxious to implement the Act. I should like to give briefly what the nature of the exemptions is and why and under what circumstances they have been given, because I should like to take this opportunity of removing the great misconception that several hon. Members here and people outside seem to have. Only in eleven cases have permanent exemptions been given from all the provisions of the Act. They relate to clerks working in factories which are covered by the Factories Act of 1948. Naturally we had to give them exemption, because they are covered by a different Act. Then there are the ticket clerks of the Madras Electric Tramways, the offices of the Air Companies, the Registered Accountants and Auditors and the Law Chambers, the nursing homes and dispensaries. If we have given exemption to these categories of people, it has been done after due examination and also after consulting various other provinces and states where similar legislation has been enacted and implemented and after giving sufficient thought to the question in the interests of public convenience. So Sir, there is absolutely no laxity in the matter of these exemptions.

"About 70 cases have been exempted from certain provisions of the Act relating to the opening and closing hours, etc. The primary consideration in all these cases is that the public should not be inconvenienced and at the same time special care was

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taken to ensure that the interests of the employees in respect of overtime wages and holidays, etc., were not in the least affected. These are some of the cases where exemptions have been granted. If hon. Members see some Government Orders saying that a particular provision of the Act has not been applied to some people and that they have been given exemption, they should not judge the thing by the number of Government Orders issued. For instance, there are fairs and festivals which take place all over the State for a few days at a time, and during these few days it is necessary in the interests of public convenience and public comfort to make a few exemptions and we do issue exemption orders. When hon. Members happen to read a Government Order here and there, they should also read the reasons why they have been given. They will find that the interests of the shop-employees have been sufficiently taken care of. Sir, another suggestion was made that before these special exemptions were granted, the employees' associations must be consulted. I can assure the House that we have been consulting labour associations and in several cases, we have examined the objections raised. It was only after such examination that we gave any of these exemptions. Because the number of exemptions issued is numerous, hon. Members should not feel that the Act is inoperative or that it has not been properly worked.

"Sir, special reference was made about the motor transport award and its non-implementation. I know that several hon. Members have referred to it, particularly to the South Kanara Motor Transport dispute. This history of this award and its implementation is interesting and it will take a little time if I have to go into all that. But I should like to say briefly that after the passing of this award under the Industrial Disputes Act, the High Court passed a certain judgment which made the award not binding. So, we had to wait for an amending Act and the House passed the amending Act. Subsequent to that Act and in pursuance of that Act, this particular award has been extended for a period of one year. Now, we are trying our best to see that within this short period of one year the award is implemented. That is how the history of the motor transport award stands. It so happened that when this question was taken up for implementation in Malabar some motor owners filed suits and obtained injunctions from the High Court about the validity of the award. There is certain difficulty experienced by our officers in the implementation of the award, because there is the injunction of the High Court. (Sri K. T. Kosalam: 'Why not cancel the route licences?') My hon. Friend suggests that the Government should straightaway cancel the licences given to the people who do not implement the award. I do not think that it is proper or correct for any Government to do so. There is a certain procedure to be adopted. There is a law in the matter and we can only follow the law. We should not take extra-legal steps to do a certain thing when we have got sufficient power to implement it under the law as it stands. It would be wrong if we

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go out of the way and do any such thing. I am sure the department concerned is paying special attention to this question. It is proposed to appoint one or two special officers to go into the question and take stock of the situation. Certain representations have also been made by the managements that since the passing of the award, there have been certain difficulties felt by them and that there has been a higher rate charged for petrol. Other representations also have been made. Recently I have had occasion to discuss the matter with representatives of labour and employers, especially of South Kanara. I found that there was agreement on certain points between labour and managements. We have taken up with the Transport Ministry the question of the enhancement of the rates. That question has to be examined in relation to how it affects the travelling public. These are all matters that will have to be gone into. I should like to assure the House that this matter has been receiving the attention of the Government and we are quite alive to it.

"Sir, another matter with regard to the salt manufacturers of Tirunelveli district was referred to by my hon. Friend Mr. Kosalam. In this matter there has been a reference to the court and there has been a stay order by the court in respect of that. I can assure him that the question of prosecuting the manufacturers for failure to lift the lock-out is being examined by the Government and adequate steps will be taken.

"Sir, some hon. Members complained that in the matter of assignment of land, not much has been done by the Government. I shall give as an illustration the following figures relating to lanka lands. The extent of lanka lands assigned in fasli 1358 to the field labour co-operative societies and for communities eligible for ameliorative measures undertaken by the Labour department is 1,173.73 acres by auctioning and 22,751.61 acres without auctioning. That is the information about lanka lands. Wherever we grant lands without auction, the average of the three previous years' rates is taken. It cannot be said that the Government have not done anything in the matter of assignment of lands or in helping these particular communities by giving them land for cultivation. In so far as lanka lands are concerned, I have tried to collect some figures as to the extent of land that has been given for cultivation to the eligible communities. I can assure the hon. Member that in regard to the cases referred to about some lands having been taken away from some Harijans and given to political sufferers, when we received the complaint we referred them to the Collectors concerned, because under the Government Order that has been issued there is adequate protection for these people to see that land is not taken away from them. I am sure, after due examination, if there is any hardship caused to those people, our Collectors will see to it that no injustice is done or the injustice that is apprehended will not be there . . ."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Sir, so far as the land assigned to the Harijan Co-operative Society of Vendurthi is concerned, the

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Collector himself felt that sheer injustice was done to them, because the Government passed orders that the particular lands should go to political sufferers. The Collector feels that the Government Order is not justified. What is to be done in such cases, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The hon. Member can easily understand, he himself being a seasoned parliamentarian, that I do not carry all the papers with me when I am replying to the discussion of this Demand. I would suggest to him that he has got the remedy of putting a short notice question and getting all the necessary information he wants. There is no use of bringing in now isolated instances that relate to a particular place or a particular individual before we know the details."

"Sir, certain references were also made that the Government were hasty in making references to the Industrial Tribunals and that they must exercise greater care in the matter of these references so as to see that the references may not be held to be illegal. But, Sir, I should like to draw the attention of hon. Members to the fact that when we made the reference, we were advised it was quite legal; but in some cases when the matter was taken up to the High Court, they felt it was not quite legal or proper. So it is not as though a careful examination was not made. I claim we did examine some of these things carefully, but it has so happened that the court feels it is not proper, and we always have to and do obey the orders of the court and it is the duty of the Government or the public to so obey. That is all that has happened. So, I can assure the House that before references are made, matters are carefully examined and, if necessary, the Legal Department also is consulted."

"Sir, I do not think there are any other points raised by hon. Members. I have been able to cover most of the points that have been raised. There was a reference made by the hon. Member from Mathurai about the Meenakshi Mills. There has been some difficulty there. The management did retrench 500 and odd workers, and on the day when this happened, we took care to see that the Commissioner of Labour was there on the spot. Our officers tried to persuade the people and bring some settlement in the matter; but unfortunately we could not succeed in doing that. So the question of taking action in the matter against the management is engaging the attention of the Government, and I can only assure this House that we are fully alive to the problem and we shall do our very best to see that the rights of labour are upheld and nobody is allowed to carry things in his own way without observing the procedure and the law in the matter."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister for Rural Development wants twenty minutes for his reply. We shall, therefore, sit till 1-35 p.m. and finish this Demand."

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have listened with interest to speeches from several hon.

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Members of this House. There were conflicting views expressed by several members and I am very glad that not a single member complained anything about educational disadvantages. My friend, Mr. Nagappa, only mentioned about the inadequate number of hostels in the Ceded districts. In the Ceded districts, Sir, unlike in other districts, private enterprise was not forthcoming. Further, there are not sufficient number of students; and if there had been sufficient number of students and if there had been private enterprise as in other districts, we would certainly have given the necessary encouragement for the starting of these hostels; and if my friend could bring to my notice whenever there is necessity for such a hostel, the Government would certainly take the responsibility of themselves starting the hostel if it is very very necessary. (Interruption.) I have just explained the circumstances, and I do not think I can add anything further."

"With regard to the remarks made by Mr. Nagappa about officers, I must thank you, Sir, for kindly calling the attention of Mr. Nagappa that he should not indulge in such unnecessary criticisms against those officers who are not here to defend themselves. I would request him to be very fair hereafter whenever he passes certain aspersions on these officers."

"Mr. Nagappa said that we have posted in some of these districts duffers as officers."

MR. SPEAKER:—"But I called him to order at that time."

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Yes, Sir; they are from the Revenue Department. Again, our hon. Friend Mr. Kurmayya said that the Harijan Welfare Department is not managed properly. I do not think we can get a more enlightened and more sympathetic man for this work than Mr. Bhashyam Ayyangar who has been doing this work honorarily for the last one year and has been trying to do his best for the community. We must also remember that he is very ably assisted by two Deputy Collectors who are Harijans themselves."

"With regard to Mr. Murthi's remarks that we have spent only Rs. 26 lakhs, I should like to bring to his notice that on the district staff we have spent Rs. 3,57,500 on education of Harijans, Rs. 62,81,700 on general amenities to Harijans such as house-sites, wells, burial-grounds, etc., Rs. 6,00,000 and odd, altogether a total sum of Rs. 74,02,700. It will be seen that in the budget for 1950-51, out of a total provision of 92.67 lakhs, only a sum of Rs. 7.8 lakhs has been provided for the reclamation of Kallars, Koravars, Sugalis and Yenadis, in addition to the expenditure on the Bitragunta Settlement. The balance of Rs. 84.87 lakhs is mainly allotted for the welfare of the Harijans. Out of this sum, Rs. 69.63 lakhs relate to the expenditure on educational facilities to Harijans and Rs. 10.5 lakhs towards the acquisition of house-sites, sinking of wells, burial-grounds, etc. It will be further noticed that the extra provision of about Rs. 10 lakhs this year in 1950-51 over that in the current year relates to excess provision for Harijan work."

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" Mr. Nagappa wanted that in each district there should be Deputy Collectors as and when the work increases. If there are compelling reasons, we will certainly think of appointing Deputy Collectors to such districts.

" Mr. Gopalaswami complained that it was not proper to have selected almost all the new officers from among the Harijans. But, there are men like Mr. Muniswami Pillay who want that members of the Harijan community alone should be selected, and there are others who think that it should not be monopolized by the Harijans themselves. Therefore, Sir, we have followed a *via media* and we will try to appoint officers from the Harijan community; but we are not also debarring the members of other communities from getting these posts. This is only a humble beginning, and in that we only felt that born and brought up in the community, they will be easily accessible and the members of the community can represent their grievances to them and get things done. That is the only reason and it is not the intention of Government to bar any other community from serving the Harijan cause.

" There are separate schools for the Harijans, and Mr. Gopalaswami said that these separate schools should be abolished. That is a very correct view, and the Government are really anxious to do so, not at present, but in course of time. At present, the condition of the Harijans is so deplorable that we cannot allow them to study in any school that is quite nearby to them. Therefore, while we are trying to see that the segregation is fast disappearing, we must also see that the poor children are educated.

" Some members raised some general points. I do not want to repeat my arguments again, but I would only wish to repeat one or two facts which I mentioned in my speech in moving the Demand. In fact, the Provincial Harijan Welfare Committee which examined this question came to the conclusion that there should be separate schools for the Harijans; but we are trying to admit from next year students belonging to the other communities also, particularly the backward communities by at least ten per cent in number, and thereby slowly trying to make the community feel that they are one with the others. I am very anxious to see that members of the Harijan community realize that the future of the caste Hindus and that of the Harijans are inextricably bound up and they must work towards this goal and see that what the Father of the Nation has been all along preaching and practising is fulfilled.

" I have distinctly stated in my speech, in moving the Demand, that while it is necessary for the society and the State to take in the first instance all steps to do away with the special difficulties and hardships to which they are subjected and to give them every encouragement and facility by which they will become full and equal sharers of all opportunities of life, it is certainly not the intention of the Government to treat them as a separate or distinct class or community for ever.

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" Again, Sir, it is not from the scholarships that we are granting or the number of officers that are appointed that the progress of the community should be judged. I have said the other day also that the progress made by a community is not to be judged in this way, merely by the number of jobs obtained by its members, but by the general uplift of the community as a whole and the improvement of their social and economic conditions. The work done and the progress made for the uplift of the community should be measured not by the success attained by them in securing loaves and fishes of office, not even by the standard how far Harijans as a separate class have been elevated, but, as I have said in my opening speech, by the test how far Harijans and others are moving and mingling with each other, without any distinction, so that they may ultimately merge into one homogenous society knowing no caste distinctions.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillay, referred to the wiping out of cheris. I do not know whether he meant throughout the State or in the City of Madras. Raja Muthiah Chettiyar also drew pointed attention to that fact and he was supported by Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan. The question is: 'This fund has been allotted for Rural Uplift work and if we are to divert something from this fund and allot it to the Corporation, there are other municipalities in the State which may be equally entitled to claim such allotments to be spent on acquiring house-sites for Harijans in their areas. At this rate the fund will evaporate in a short time. So, though the Government consider it very necessary to provide house-sites for these poor people, it is the bounden duty of the Corporation and the municipalities to provide house-sites for them and to look to their amenities. However, the question seems to be very very important, and the Government do realize the necessity for giving some kind of relief to the poor Harijans in a city like Madras. I would only like to say that the question will be again examined in the light of the remarks made by hon. Members. At the same time, I would also say that the problem is so huge and difficult that it is not possible for anybody to make these cheris into enviable spots. This is an age-long problem; centuries of disabilities cannot be thrown overboard in the mere twinkling of an eye, and progress must necessarily be gradual.

" With regard to the acquisition of house-sites, we have got to take recourse to the Land Acquisition Act. It is an All-India Act; it cannot be amended by the Provincial Legislature, and it involves a cumbersome process; and when we think of acquiring house-sites, we can only speed up the matter. The new officers we are appointing are specially instructed to speed up the acquisition work and to see that within a year or so, considerable progress is made in this direction.

" Then, Sir, with regard to midday meals the amount has been asked to be raised from one anna nine pies to two annas six pies. The Government will examine the question and see whether it can be done. 1-20 p.m.

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"Now, with regard to the backward classes, the Government have spent nearly five lakhs on them and it is not possible for us to spend more at present, but at any rate, since Mr. Swaminathan is so anxiously looking to me as to whether the amount can be increased, I can only give him this assurance, that the question will be examined."

"In regard to the amendment of the Communal Government Order, I can only say that it has been amended recently and I do not think it is possible for the Government to amend it now."

"With regard to the directive principles to which my hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillay, has referred, I may point out that long before the Constitution came into operation, this Government has been doing its best for the amelioration of the condition of the Depressed classes. Just as this Government have been the pioneers in several other measures like Prohibition, etc., they have been pioneers in the matter of the amelioration of the condition of the Depressed classes also. As I said, even before the coming into operation of the Constitution Act, we have been doing our best and we hope to implement the clauses which relate to the improvement of the Harijans."

"In conclusion, I would like to assure hon. Members that I take their criticisms as constructive ones and I thank them for their criticisms."

"I request Mr. Nagappa to withdraw his cut motion."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Sir, in view of the fact that the Hon. Minister himself has frankly confessed that it was not possible for him to do much and he has promised to do something more at least in the years to come, I beg leave of the House to withdraw the cut motion."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the grant made. The House rose for lunch.

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

DEMAND XXI—INDUSTRIES.

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,57,64,300 under Demand XXI—Industries.'

"This demand relates to the expenditure under the several heads pertaining to the Industries Department. The major activities of the Industries Department may be grouped under the following heads:—

Industrial Engineering.—In the context of the 'Grow More Food Campaign', the well drilling operations of the department

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have undergone considerable expansion. Since 1946, 16 additional power drills and fifty-six additional hand-boring sets have been acquired and the number of bore holes put down rose to 1,000 in 1946-47, 1,214 in 1947-48 and 1,371 in 1948-49 and 1,000 in 1949-50 up to 1st January 1950. The Government have sanctioned the construction of 20 bore wells in the artesian basin area in the South Arcot district with a view to make available water to poor ryots who cannot afford to have their own wells. Six wells have been completed and water from these wells is now irrigating about 400 acres of land. This scheme is likely to be completed by April 1950.

Technical education.—Eight polytechnics have been started on a regional basis and the important courses of study imparted in the polytechnics include (1) Mechanical Engineering, (2) Electrical Engineering, (3) Automobile Engineering, (4) Chemical Engineering, (5) Sound Engineering, (6) Fisheries Technology, (7) Overseer's course, etc. With 973 students in 1946-47, the present strength has risen to 1,510. The scheme for providing facilities for training artisans in glass bangle and bead manufacture was sanctioned in 1946. Fifteen students are being trained every year in the training centre established at Kalahasti. Two more training centres have also since been sanctioned. The Government have also sanctioned the establishment of a block glass factory at Gudur with a view to arrange for the supplies of block glass to the artisans engaged in the glass bangle industry.

The Coir school at Beypore was expanded into a regular training institution. Eighty students are now receiving training. A coir factory has also been sanctioned and it will begin to function at an early date.

Research institutes.—The Government have sanctioned the starting of a well equipped chemical and analytical laboratory with a view to provide facilities for testing the industrial potentialities of the raw materials available in the State. Active steps are being taken to recruit the required personnel and to start the laboratory at an early date.

The Government have also sanctioned the starting of an Oil Technological Institute at Anantapur. A director has been appointed to be in charge of this institute. The buildings are being constructed and the Government expect that regular work can be started in 1950-51. Besides undertaking research in oil technology, this institute will also provide facilities for training of apprentices in oil technology.

Commercial concerns.—The activities of the two commercial concerns at Kozhikode, viz., the Kerala Soap Institute and the Oil Factory are being developed with a view to produce larger quantities of soap and oil. It is also proposed to capulate the produce at the oil factory. Capsulating equipment has also been sanctioned for this purpose. It is also proposed to market a special veterinary brand shark-liver oil for animals.

The Hydrogenation factory at Kozhikode is being put up and it will go into production in 1951.

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The Government have under consideration the question of recruiting a foreign expert to be in charge of the Andhra Paper Mills at Rajahmundry and it is expected that this mill will go into full production soon.

The Ceramic Expert who went abroad for training has returned and he is now actively engaged in putting the Ceramic factory at Gudur in a proper working condition and increase production.

The Government Silk Filature at Kollegal has been provided with a twisting plant at a cost of Rs. 4 lakhs and this will vastly improve the production of silk yarn in that factory.

State Aid to Industries.—The Government have sanctioned financial aid to the existing and new industrial enterprises. There are even now a large number of applications pending consideration of the Board of Industries.

The Madras Industrial Investment Corporation began to function late in the year, and it is expected that this additional source of help will be availed of by the industrialists from now onwards. The Government have not only taken 51 per cent of the shares in this Corporation but have guaranteed both the share capital and the dividend payable thereon. The Institutions which are eligible to take shares in the Corporation have not yet subscribed to the shares to the extent expected. The Government expect that the remaining shares will be taken by them soon.

Cottage industries.—The Government have sanctioned a scheme to secure a speedy revival of cottage industries in selected firkas at a cost of Rs. 6 lakhs non-recurring and of Rs. 1 lakh recurring.

Lignite investigation.—The Government have decided to intensify the development of the lignite mines in South Arcot district. The main problems requiring immediate solution are the presence of artesian water in the area and a large overburden. With a view to tackle the water problem, the Geological Survey of India have been requested to undertake a ground-water survey of the area so that necessary action may be taken to release the pressure of artesian flow in the area, for extracting lignite. They will start work soon. A suggestion has also been made that foreign experts who have dealt with lignite may be invited to study the data already collected and to suggest the best method to be followed for exploiting and utilizing the lignite. The Government are pursuing this suggestion. The Officer-in-charge of Lignite Investigation is carrying on the work of sinking the shafts to obtain bulk samples to study the economics of utilization of the mineral. The Government are thus taking action to speed up the investigation and to exploit the mineral at an early date.

Iron and Steel Industry.—The Government of India have since informed this Government that they have decided to locate the two proposed steel works in the Madhyapradesh and Orissa States. It will therefore be seen that the Government of India do not propose to locate any within this State. The Government have,

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however, sent the iron ores available to Norway for analysis and after the results of the analysis are obtained they will consider the possibility of starting at least a special alloy steel plant within this State to utilize the large quantities of iron are available.

Provision has been made for the administration of cotton, cloth and yarn control. The Government of India allot quotas of mill cloth and yarn produced in the Indian Union among the States in the Union and fix their maximum ex-factory prices and retail prices. The internal distribution and the fixation of margin over the ex-factory price within the maximum retail price have been left to the State Governments. This Government have allowed the trade to appropriate a margin of 14 per cent including transport and other charges and sales-tax except at the last stage in respect of cloth and 6½ per cent excluding transport charges and sales-tax in respect of yarn. The retail prices in this State are arrived at on this basis. Separate representative buyers cum wholesale consignees in each district procure cloth from the Bombay surplus area and distribute it to the dealers in their districts. Separate wholesale consignees and nominees in each district procure respectively cloth and yarn produced by the mills in South India. There is only one set of dealers in this State to do either wholesale or retail business or both; and dealers' licences have been granted to all those who desire to take out such licences unless there are specific pending charges against them. In the case of yarn, however, it had been decided recently not to licence any more dealers without the specific approval of Government.

Cotton Control.—In view of the shortage of cotton, the Government of India have taken up the distribution of cotton locally produced and imported, to all mills in the Union. Each mill is allotted quotas by the Textile Commissioner, Bombay. The dealers of cotton in this State have been licensed. Recently the stocks of cotton with all dealers in this State have been frozen and the licensees have been asked to declare stocks. Any mill requiring cotton should apply to the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, with a deposit of 15 per cent of the value of cotton. If the Textile Commissioner recommends, this Government will requisition cotton from the dealers and supply to the mills concerned.

“With these words, I move the demand standing in my name and request the hon. Members to offer their valuable suggestions to Government.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Motion moved—
‘that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,57,64,300 under Demand XXI—Industries’.”

* JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—
‘that the allotment of Rs. 1,57,64,300 for Industries be reduced by Rs. 100.’”

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" Mr. Speaker, Sir, the time at my disposal is so short that it will not be possible for me to cover all the field of activities coming under the Demand under discussion. Therefore, Sir, I will have to confine my remarks to a few of the Industries, particularly the industry with which I am intimately connected and in which I am interested.

" Sir, before I could say anything on the industrial activities of this Government, I would like to refer to an important matter and that is this. The other day, you remember, Sir, when my hon. Friend, Mr. Natesan, was speaking and when he was criticising the Government, some of the hon. Members belonging to the party in power remarked that he was a representative of the merchants and traders. There is a sort of impression among the hon. Members here that the merchants and traders of this State, or this country, are foreigners. I ask, Sir, are they not the citizens of this State, are they not the people who have been helping in the commercial, economic and industrial development of this country? They are the people, Sir, who have been contributing enormous sums of money to the State coffers and to the exchequers of this country.

2-45
a.m. " I would urge upon hon. Members that they must change their attitude towards traders, merchants and businessmen of this country and they are not in small numbers.

" I have to express at the outset my complete dissatisfaction with the working of the State Aid to Industries Act in this State. I have no time to go deeply into that question but I would urge upon the Hon. Minister to place a statement on the floor of the House showing a list of industries which have received state aid, the report of their working and accounts relating to their profit and loss. I can speak with authority on several of the industries but as I have already said, within the short compass of time available to me, Sir, I will refer to one or two industries only.

" Let me take two of the cottage industries of this Province. In this country, there are about 225 match factories and out of them 190 are in the State of Madras and 180 are working on a cottage industry basis. The labour employed in these factories is about 50,000. Apart from this, there is the vertical and horizontal development of this industry and they are the splint and veneer factories, the glue factories, litho printing factories and flour mills and if the match industry were to come to any grief thousands of people will be thrown out of employment. (An hon. Member: 'Already thrown out of employment.') Yes, my Hon. Friend puts it as already thrown out of employment and it will create a new problem for the State. At a time when the industry was undergoing considerable hardship, they petitioned to the Government; they have issued appeals to the Government but unfortunately, all those petitions and appeals seem to have been lost on the Government and their cries for help have fallen on deaf ears. If this Government want to stabilize the industries already operating in this country, they must make up their mind

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to go to their rescue and see that all help and assistance are rendered to them. Again, Sir, this industry is contributing nearly five crores of rupees to the Central and State Exchequer of this country and therefore, it is in the interests of the Government that they should do something to rehabilitate the industry.'

" Next, Sir, I come to the handloom industry. You are aware, Sir, that in the past the only hon. Members who have often times referred to this industry is the Hon. Gentleman representing Mathurai, who is not here (Mr. Speaker: 'He is here.')

—I am sorry, and the other is the Hon. Gentleman Mr. Sankarasubrahmanya Mudaliyar representing Tirunelveli and my humble self. We have been the only people who have been making some reference to it but in recent times, I find that the cause of the handloom industry has been taken up by several of the hon. Members of this House. I am really grateful to them and I am also grateful to the Government because I find that they are just moving in the matter. My gratitude, the gratitude of the industry and the vast number of people who are engaged in it are also due to the Fourth Estate of this Land, the Press, because they have been fighting our cause and are representing our grievances to the Government and to the authorities concerned in this country. Sir, when you go through the labour figures of this State, you will find that in all industries you have a labour strength of three lakhs. You may take the textile industry, the sugar industry and all other industries but the figures are only three lakhs but so far as the handloom industry is concerned, there are nearly 6 lakhs of looms in the State and for every handloom there are nearly five members, the husband and the wife and some three children working at each loom and if you calculate on that basis, there are nearly thirty lakhs of people interested in this industry. Apart from that, as I have observed with reference to the match factories, there is the horizontal and the vertical growth of the industry. What about the spinning mills in the State? They are supported by the handloom industry. Supposing the handloom industry were to go to the wall, naturally lakhs and thousands of people employed in that industry, where crores of capital have been invested, will also go. Then, Sir, there is the dye and chemical industry. Are they prospering through and other industry? No, Sir. They prosper because of the handloom industry. Then there are the sizers, vast number of carpenters engaged in the making of handloom structures and so many other articles required for the handloom industry. The industry is not only supporting so many other industries and so many lakhs of people but also, as I said, it is contributing several crores of rupees to the exchequer of the State and the Centre. Is it not necessary, is it not the duty, is it not the responsibility of the Government to understand the problem of the handloom industry? To-day, Sir, they are going about trying to create new industries. The handloom industry is an industry that has been in existence in this country from time immemorial, an industry which was supported in the past by Kings like Harsha and Asoka, which has been in existence throughout the history of the country and has faced and stood up to

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the storms and stress of history and survived them all. Is it not duty of the Government, is it not their responsibility to stabilize that industry, instead of trying new industries? The handloom industry has clothed our people and clothed millions of people in the Eastern Hemisphere and we can clothe all our people by means of this industry even if all the textile mills go out of existence. But we find Sir, we have been crying in the wilderness and our voices have been falling upon deaf ears. Government have not realized their responsibilities. If this industry were to go down due to the neglect and indifference of this Government, a vast number of people would be thrown out of employment. Let me forget for the moment the thirty lakhs of people directly employed in the industry; what about the lakhs of people who are employed in the textile mills, in the dyeing factories and chemical industry, the huge number of people engaged there, etc. Sir, the whole economy of this country will be shattered—I use that expression with all responsibility—I say, Sir, the economy of this country will be shattered unless the industry is properly sustained and helped. I make an earnest appeal to the hon. Gentlemen sitting on the Treasury benches, I make an earnest appeal to the hon. Members of the party in power to come to the rescue of the weavers. To-day they are suffering without employment; they are starving and almost facing death. Unfortunately the Government have not understood their problem, and their problems must be correctly understood and solved in a manner they ought to be solved. Let me tell you, Sir, that the handloom industry has risen to this state because of the huge exports which it controlled in the past. But, unfortunately, in the name of cloth famine in this country, a ban was imposed by the Government of India on our exports to other countries. Has it helped to solve the cloth famine here? No, Sir. The only thing it did was that it shattered the industry and we lost all our foreign markets which were almost in our hands, to others. We were exporting to Burma, the Far East, the Middle East countries, Malaya, Siam, South Africa and Nigeria. These were exclusively our markets but to-day on account of the ban that existed for some time they have been captured by other countries and by people who have started manufacturing cloth in imitation of the handloom cloth. It has ended in a great loss, an economic loss of the first magnitude to this country. I do not want to go further into this question as I am sure there will be abler men coming after me who will refer to this industry. May I suggest to the Government that they must create a separate Department for this industry—I would even urge the creation of a separate Minister with the portfolio to look after the handloom industry because I say the whole economy of this country, the economic structure of this country depends upon the prosperity of the handloom industry.

“I would close with this observation, Sir. The Hon. Minister for Finance while replying to the general discussion on the Budget compared the sales tax to *kamadhenu*. I suggest it is no use calling the sales tax a *kamadhenu* and I would much rather call

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the trade and industry of the State as *kamadhenu* and as a result of a policy of masterly inactivity and—can I say—culpable indifference of this Government, this *kamadhenu* remains neglected under-fed and under-nourished and if you want to revive that *kamadhenu*, the Government should initiate progressive policies, realistic policies and not spend lakhs and lakhs of money in implementing out-moded and obscurantist policies and programmes.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Motion moved—

“That the allotment be reduced by Rs. 100.”

The time allowed for discussion is three hours and I shall allow the usual ten minutes to each hon. Member.”

* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—3 p.m.

“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I should like to say a few words in supporting the cut motion moved by my hon. Friend. It was said by Mr. Majid that you should not call the sales tax as ‘*Kamadhenu*’ but it is the industries that should be called ‘*Kamadhenu*’. Long ago, if I remember well, Sir, it was said by Carlyle that ‘Trade, commerce and industry are the Gods of our economic politicians.’ It is really true. The country which is backward in trade and industry will be backward in everything. If you read the Silappathikaram and Manimekalai, you will see how we, especially from South India, were carrying on trade with Babylonia, Assyria, Arabia and Egypt even 2 or 3 thousand years ago. Even to-day, you can see in Delhi the rustless iron pillar of Prithivi Raj near Kutubminar. It was made 2,500 years ago whereas our western civilised countries came to know how to make rustless iron only 20 or 30 years ago. Our civilisation, trade, commerce and industry with our art and architecture and every kind of export business have been lost and we are now in a very deplorable condition. It is a fact known to everyone that India happens to be the second biggest State in the world in population and the second richest State in the world in regard to raw materials. It cannot be denied that we have vast mineral resources. In industrial development, India is the most backward country; and in that, our Province is the most backward Province. Sir, what is the reason for this? Things can be achieved only by perspiration and not by inspiration or aspiration by making sincere attempts and not by wishful thinking. If we grant that industry is the backbone and life of a nation or a country, then to develop that industry; labour is the backbone. For without labour one cannot develop industry. Without husband and wife, we cannot have a child. So also without labour and capital we cannot have production. Regarding the importance of labour a great poet has said thus”

بہو کو دے یتیم کو دے بے وطن کو دے
بہولوں کی گرہیں بے تو بانی چمن کو دے

It means, ‘If you want production, pay labour properly; if you want to develop industry, pay labour well’. As the time allotted for me is short I shall be brief. Your energies and activities have

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been wrongly directed to ruin the Province. This reminds me of a story. Once there was a poor man. He was living with his only son. One day a palmist approached him. He examined the palm of his son and said 'This boy is destined to be a wealthy man in future; so educate him well and fix him up in a good position in life.' Then the palmist went away and nothing was heard of him for a long time. Meanwhile the poor man educated his son well. At length the palmist appeared once again after some years and inquired of the poor man, how his son was faring. The poor man said that his son was a shroff in the treasury on a meagre pay. Thereupon the palmist said really his son was unfortunate; though he gets money (money which he gets to count) it all goes away. The palmist also said that if he had chosen a more respectable job for his son and fixed him up in the higher circle all the money which he was counting would have been the personal wealth of the son earned by him. Similarly Gandhiji gave a good training to his prominent disciples, Congress Ministers, advising them to start good projects and schemes to produce wealth for the state. Had they started costly and productive schemes and plans they could have made this Province rich in everything as they were destined to do so. But as the poor man's son changed his fortune by adopting a shroff's post our Hon. Ministers have changed their destiny and the destiny of this Province by starting khaddar and cottage industry and also by the manufacture of charka and thakli. (At this stage the Deputy Speaker occupied the Chair.)

"The Hon. Minister was speaking about the importance of agriculture. I shall give some facts to show about the richness of our land. Our land is as big as Europe minus Russia. It has one-fifth of the population of the world. This will show what our power of production must have been. In mineral resources our country stands third in the world. Regarding mica, jute, oil seed and sugar it is first; in manganese, cotton, tobacco and tea it is second; in wheat and coal it is fourth. Further it has one-third of the cattle of the world. To mention a few items, in mineral production we have to make much headway. Take some of them and let us see how we stand. Taking 100 as the world production, the position stands as follows: In U.S.A. it is 29, in Germany it is 15, in France it is 5, in Japan it is 5, in Belgium it is 2 and in India it is 1. This shows that we are very much behind in production. What is the cause for this? Unless you pay labour, it is impossible to improve production. The wage in 1937 in America was 1,100 dollars for a labourer; and to-day it is 2,800 dollars; thus it has increased by 155 per cent, though the cost of living there has increased only by 75 per cent. Seventy per cent of the American labourers own cars. A carpenter or a mason is also owning a car. Now we are famous for one thing. We stand first in the world for having the maximum percentage of labour strikes and lock-outs and also Police firings. So the real remedy lies not in suppressing labour but in improving their

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living conditions. To know the condition of labour here, I shall give comparative figures of the wages paid in different countries of the world per day. In U.S.A. it is Rs. 13; in Australia it is Rs. 10; in Germany it is Rs. 8; in Britain it is Rs. 8; in South Africa it is Rs. 5; and in India it is Re. 0-10-0. With such a state of affairs, how can we expect to develop industry? One word more, Madam. It will be a surprise to know that America with 1/15 of the population of the world and 1/15 of the land area of the whole world; has sixty per cent of production of the whole world. But we, here, are still adopting antediluvian policy when America and other Western Countries are adopting up-to-date methods of production. Unless electricity is brought to the doors of each cottage and to every village it is impossible to develop industry. With that, labour wage also should be increased. Unless we do these two things it will take at least 250 years for us to keep pace with the other countries of the world."

* SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I am highly thankful for having given me an opportunity to say a few words regarding industry in this State. Madam, I take this opportunity to say that I support the Demand moved by the Hon. Perumalswami Reddiyar who has taken charge of the department very recently. The industrial development of this State, ever since the Congress assumed charge of office in 1946, is not very satisfactory. It is due to several causes; and I appreciate the difficulties of Government. We are badly in need of electricity, for which all the commodities are brought from foreign countries. Further so many natural resources like coal and other things are not available. In the place where steel and iron ores are abundantly available. So the best that Government can do under the circumstances is to develop the industries which are in vogue in the Province. Take for instance, the handloom industry. It was supplying cloth not only to our whole province but to the outside world also. As was said by Mr. Majid, we had markets throughout Burma, the Federated Malaya States, Fiji, South Africa and so many other places. I want to give the Houses also one information. There was a time when Japan was selling cheap cloth in Lancashire. But some time hence our handloom cloth captured that market by supplying handloom cloth at a cheaper rate. There are statistics to prove that.

"Now, Madam, the cause of mill-labourer is getting strong. They are consolidating their front and ask Government to enhance their wages. But side by side with that, the mill-owners also are getting very strong. They are very calculative, and they care more for their profits than for anything else. So they are unwilling to sell yarn at a cheaper rate than before. I would request Government to supply yarn to handloom weavers abundantly at a cheaper rate. Unless Government do it, this industry will not thrive, as it was once. Madam, I am not able to voice forth in this Assembly the grievances of the handloom weavers, although I represent a constituency which consists of more than 23,000

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looms, the largest number of looms in one place in the whole of the province. In spite of that I could not draw the attention of Government to the grievances of the weavers there, like Mr. Majid or Mr. Subbaraman or Mr. Sankarasubrahmanya Mudaliyar. (Several hon. Members: 'Why?') Because they have influence with Government, and they get occasions to speak on the floor of the House a number of times; whereas other people like myself who have no influence with the people who have got power get no occasion to speak. The supply of yarn sometimes absolutely fails. For instance, recently, the eighty counts yarn the weavers could not get; and due to that, the looms which were weaving that count were lying idle. They represented to me this difficulty just before my departure to this House, and I assured them that I would represent to Government to take necessary steps in the matter.

3-15 p.m. "According to Mr. Abdul Majid, every loom in handloom industry keeps four people engaged. Though only one person is engaged in actual weaving, the services of two or three people are required to supplement the work. So when work on one loom is suspended, four people are out of employment. The number of employees in all textile mills is only about four or five lakhs. But the number of handloom weavers in our State is about ten lakhs, though according to Mr. Abdul Majid it is only six lakhs. When the weaver has no work, all those engaged in dyeing and allied industries have no work.

"I want to say a few words on steel industry. Iron ore is in abundance in the Salem district. Time and again I said on the floor of this House that the iron ore could be exploited. The Hon. Minister for Industries replied that the cost of production in that place will be three times more than the cost in other parts of India. But I am told that experts differ from this view. Anyhow I request the Government to employ some experts and see whether work cannot be commenced there with the aid of the coal available in South Arcot district. I would like to have a definite reply from the Minister as to what the Government propose to do in the matter.

"Taking the mill industry, the mill-owners in our State want an exorbitant profit. They are engaged in producing cloth of lower counts. When people ask for cloth of finer counts, they say that cotton is not available. Several mills say that they purchase cotton from Egypt. The price of cotton imported from other countries will be high and consequently the price of yarn made out of that cotton will also be high. Just as the Government are making efforts to be self-sufficient in food as far as possible, they must see that adequate cotton also is grown within our State or within India. Unless and until we become self-sufficient in raw materials as far as possible, it will be very difficult to develop industries. The Hon. Minister referred to the attempts made by the Government to develop certain industries. It is true that the

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Government are making strenuous efforts to develop the industries of the State. When specific complaints are made from definite sources, the Government must enquire into them and set right defects. Unless the Government do this, it is not possible to rectify the defects which are found at the present time."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I request the Hon. Minister for Industries and the Members of his party to study the work of the Industries Department in regard to heavy, medium and cottage industries on the day, my Friend Sri V. V. Giri laid down, or rather was unceremoniously sent out of, the office of Minister for Industries, and the present position in Madras. What is the position in this State to-day? Most of the match factories in Tamilnad are either closed or on the verge of closure. All the coconut oil mills in Malabar are closed so much so that now only copra and coconut are sent from Malabar to Bombay. Thousands of people, who were employed in these mills, etc., are without employment. Most of the plywood factories erected at an enormous cost, which were in a flourishing condition, are closed. With regard to handloom industry, the less said, the better. Members who can speak with authority on the subject have spoken and many more will speak. I will put one simple question to the Hon. Minister for Industries. I admit the present Minister is new to the subject, as he took up the portfolio only about six months back. The Hon. Sri H. Sitarama Reddi was in charge of the portfolio for about two years prior to that. Why have our industries been reduced to this condition? I ask the Hon. Minister, the Members of his Party and the department concerned to go into the question as to why important industries like the match, oil and plywood industries remain closed. Is it due to lack of raw material, or shortage of personnel or inability to withstand competition? I am sorry to remark that the Industries Department seem to think that it does not matter if these industries are closed. In the present deplorable condition of our industries, is it not the duty of the Minister or the department concerned to scrutinize things and rectify defects? No doubt there may be some handicaps. What attempt have the Government made to remove them? The Hon. Minister will perhaps read out the usual written reply. I detest these written replies of Ministers. I expect the Ministers to say something extempore so that we can follow them. We cannot follow them when they read five or six pages of manuscript unless copies are supplied to us in advance.

"About Rs. 40 lakhs have been spent on the Andhra Paper Mills. Its production is not much and it is very difficult to push the sale of what little it produces. I am saying this on the authority of information supplied by the Government themselves. The Hon. Minister will say that he is awaiting the arrival of some expert and that the production will improve when he takes charge. I do not know when the expert will come.

"About Rs. 10 lakhs have been spent on the Ceramic Factory at Gudur. We do not know whether it has started production,

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whether its products will not be costly and whether they can withstand competition. I am given to understand that the other Government concerns like the Kerala Soap Institute, Kozhikode, and the Silk Filatures, Kollegal, are either practically working at a loss or their income has dwindled to a considerable extent. Possibly I may be wrong, as I do not have facts and figures. The Hon. Minister can take his own time and correct me if I am wrong. Let him compare the present income of these concerns with their income during the years 1940 to 1945. Is it because the Industries Department left the industries to take their own course irrespective of whether there was deterioration or improvement? The department lacks initiative and enterprise. Things are done in a routine way. Public money cannot be wasted in this manner. The Government are responsible for the proper utilization of every pie of public money.

"My Friend Mr. Abdul Majid referred to the aid given under the State Aid to Industries Act. This subject has, of late, gained a good deal of prominence. I am given to understand that aid to the tune of 80 to 90 lakhs of rupees has been given to several industries in a very very liberal manner. The scope of the Act is to give aid to deserving industries. But I am told that the Government, the department or the wonderful Board of Industries have been so liberal that for the mere application they have given aid. 80 to 90 lakhs of rupees have been distributed by giving 10 lakhs to the Sudarsan Oil Mills, Katpadi, 5 lakhs to an oil industry in Chittoor and so on. I ask the Hon. Minister whether he could lay on the Table of the House a statement of industries which have been given aid, the progress they have made and the dividends they have declared. When a question was put by a Member of the Congress Party, the Hon. Minister said that he did not know whether that particular concern had declared any dividend for the last two or three years. Is this the kind of reply that we expect from Ministers? Things have come to such a pass that even newspapers have applied for aid under the State Aid to Industries Act. It will be no wonder if some charitable institutions also apply for aid. The Government and the department are so liberal in giving loans under that Act. I think it is time that the Hon. Minister looks into the matter. I sympathize with the Hon. Sri C. Perumalsami Reddi, because he is new to the job. But I am sure he will go deep into the matter. Industries Department is not an ordinary department; we expect much from it in the development of industries and putting Madras on the industrial map of this country. Madras is very very backward compared to the States of Bombay, Uttar Pradesh and Bengal. The Government reports will establish what I am saying. Instead of developing industries, what little improvement has been effected has been undone during the past few years. The Hon. Minister may take credit for the opening of some polytechnics here and there. But even here it was only a culmination of the efforts made from as early as 1944, 1945, 1946 and so on. The efforts that were made were only continued to fruition and there is nothing for the Hon. Minister for Industries to enthuse over.

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The Hon. Minister referred to the Madras Industrial Investment Corporation in the course of his speech in moving the Demand. He says that the Government have taken 51 per cent of the shares in this Corporation but that businessmen had not subscribed to the shares to the extent expected. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister the actual amount invested by businessmen in this Corporation. The Hon. Minister has been very very guarded in not giving the actual figure. Why have not businessmen invested to the extent of our expectations? Because the record of the Industries Department is not good and the Government have no policy. Things which are said to-day are contradicted the next day. The record of the Department is not such as to infuse enthusiasm in the business community. It is not my purpose to level a charge, much less a sweeping charge. I am sure the Hon. Minister for Industries will make an earnest attempt to improve the department and make it produce a good record. I am sorry to say that this department is really going backward and the industries are neglected. In its work there is not much for the people of this State to enthuse over or which redounds to the credit of the department itself."

* SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—Madam Deputy Speaker, I would first of all plead before the Hon. Minister for Industries that he should do something for the Rayalaseema in the matter of opening some big industries there. Consent for capital issues was given to a number of persons for the starting of weaving mills, cement factories, vegetable oil factories, etc., but to-day, except perhaps one, nobody else has been able to start any big industries. It is not because these people are not interested or anxious to start such industries, but it is mainly due to the want of sufficient capital forthcoming from that particular part of the country. Therefore, if the Government have no project of their own or if they believe that it is not possible to raise the share-capital necessary for the starting of such industries by the people of that particular area, then it is an opportunity for them to show their interest in these areas by starting some industries, at least as an experimental measure, which if they succeed, could be copied by private shareholders. Take for example the paint industry. A lot of barytes is available in the districts of Kurnool, Cuddapah and Anantapur. In these districts to-day, these barytes is powdered and sent either to Calcutta or to Bombay. A first class paint industry could easily be started in one of these districts. Some years ago a private company was formed with some of the shareholders from Madras, but nothing came out of it. I hope, Madam, that the Government will take some steps to see that a paint industry is started, with their own capital, if private capital is not forthcoming.

"Then, Madam, take the cement industry. A big company was expected to be floated for the manufacture of cement in Kurnool and the Government had also promised to subscribe 51 per cent of its share-capital. I was told recently that the promoters of that company have given up the idea. That is an instance where the Government could really come forward to start

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a cement industry of their own in the Ceded districts. Especially in view of the fact that the Sangameswaram Project will be taken on hand very soon and in view of the fact that Rayalaseema is very backward in the matter of communications, a cement factory in that particular area is absolutely necessary. Cement, as you know, is a very heavy material and it would cost a great deal in transporting it from distant places to any big irrigation projects which are under execution in the Rayalaseema or which will be undertaken by the Government in the future. It would therefore save a lot of expenditure if a cement factory is started in Rayalaseema by the Government themselves, if private agencies and private capital are not forthcoming. I am told that Kurnool is a very suitable place for starting a cement industry, but in Cuddapah also there are some sites round about Erraguntla which are equally suitable. Whether one is started in Kurnool or Cuddapah, it does not matter, but there is a need and a case for starting one cement factory in Rayalaseema and I would request the Government to look into the matter again and see whether they cannot start one there. Apart from its use in irrigation projects, there is a great need for improving the road communications in the Rayalaseema and we hope that at some future date, there will be cement roads connecting the four districts of the Rayalaseema.

“Madam, as regards the vegetable oil industry, there is only one private company manufacturing vegetable oil ‘vanaspati’ started by the Birlas which has its factory at Kurnool. It is therefore necessary that we should have another factory at Hindupur or in some other place in Cuddapah or Kurnool district. Nobody has so far attempted to start any other factory for the production of vegetable oil purely for want of capital.

“Then Madam, take again the spinning and weaving industry. An attempt was made to start one weaving mill at Kamalapuram, one at Tadpatri and another at Penukonda or Hindupur. But the necessary share-capital was not forthcoming from the investors. In Adoni certain promoters even collected share-capital for the starting of a weaving mill, but so far, no weaving mill has actually been started in any of those places. All this is due to the fact that Rayalaseema is very backward in every respect particularly in finance and therefore private capital is not forthcoming and unless some big capitalists from outside or the Government come forward, there is no chance of starting any weaving mill there.

“As regards cottage industries. This country, as we all know, is a country of villages and the majority of the population live on agriculture. Most of the agriculturists do not know anything other than agriculture and they are not also fully engaged throughout the year. In some months of the year these agricultural labourers have no work. Again there is plenty of labour available from non-agricultural communities also and these can usefully be engaged in cottage industries, if they are given some training in some of the cottage industries. I hope, Madam, that serious attempts will be made by the Government to start cottage

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“In Japan, for example, nearly 60 per cent of industrial goods are produced from cottage industries. Even in many of the advanced and highly industrialised countries of Europe like Germany, Sweden, Switzerland, etc., a large percentage of industrial goods that are exported to countries outside are really turned out from cottage industries. But in a country like India, which is not industrially advanced like those countries of the West, and the majority of whose population live in villages, it is absolutely necessary to see that a great many of the industrial goods are turned out from our villages through cottage industries and I do hope that the Government will make all earnest and sincere efforts to start as many cottage industries as possible in all our villages. One suggestion that I should like to make in this connexion is this. I am against the multiplication of big towns. Now-a-days we see that towns are growing up larger and larger and the population also is increasing year by year. Take for instance the City of Madras. Some 10 or 12 years ago, the population in the City was only about 8 or 10 lakhs. It is now about 16 lakhs. It is the same case with every town in this province. Day by day, population is increasing in every town and as population increases, living in towns becomes difficult and there is a growing wretchedness and poverty among certain sections of the people in the towns. One is surprised to see how quickly towns are growing up and how people from rural parts are flocking to towns. I believe it is due mainly to the facilities and conveniences that are available in towns. Villages are becoming depleted because there are no facilities there. Because there are facilities of electricity, of good roads, facilities for education and other things, people concentrate in towns. Apart from that, whenever there is any famine due to failure of crops or scarcity of foodgrains, or when there is unemployment among labourers, people from villages flock to the towns, thinking that they could easily get some labour and employment and that is why we see to-day in Madras, such an influx of labour population, and cheaper labour available than in village parts. Even unskilled women and children have flocked to the towns, because they get some employment or other to get on. To-day we can get a woman labourer for 14 annas a day in Madras, whereas in villages you cannot get one even for Rs. 1-6-0 or Rs. 1-8-0 per day. Take skilled labour like carpenters, blacksmiths and masons. They are available here in plenty and come in for cheaper wages than in our village parts. They have all now settled down in towns and cities and so there is a very great dearth of both skilled and unskilled labour in villages. Then how can villages improve? This state of affairs is certainly detrimental to

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the real prosperity of our country as a whole, because villages which are the backbone of our country become depleted of population and agriculture which is the mainstay of their occupation suffers thereby. There is therefore suffering and poverty in the land. It is therefore very important and urgent that this flight of population to cities and towns must be stopped. For this purpose the Government should take all steps to see that villages are improved and that all facilities which are available in towns are provided therein and that more and more people are encouraged to go back to their villages and see that this flight of population is practically stopped. In starting mills, factories and industries, whether big or small, all attempts should be made to see that they are located in villages and that no facilities are allowed for them to be started in towns and cities. If facilities are allowed for them to be started in towns and cities, labour from the surrounding villages will flock to these factories and when industries are concentrated in towns, there will be regular labour strikes and lock-outs, with people congregating in cities and towns, consequently dislocating normal life therein. On the other hand if factories are started in the rural areas, there will be no unemployment among the labourers and there will be no migration of labour from rural to urban areas, and people will stay in the villages and villages will prosper. From that point of view, the Government should so plan out their schemes of industrialisation that towns are not allowed to grow at the expense of villages and that this flight of population to cities is prevented in future."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Madam Deputy Speaker, year after year during the budget sessions we generally discuss the question how far our State has progressed industrially. Now, the Hon. Minister for Industries, Mr. Perumalsami Reddi has taken up this portfolio only recently and I am sure he must be making sincere efforts to develop this State industrially. But according to the Constitution, it is the Centre that wields all the power over the development of large-scale industries even in the States and therefore the Hon. Minister of his own volition cannot do anything very great to improve the province industrially. There is also what is called the regionalization of industries and that policy has, to a very large extent, affected our State from progressing industrially. Whatever natural resources may be available in this State, whatever special facilities there may be in our State for starting some particular industries, we are not the free agents to start those industries. Unless there is sanction and permission from the Government of India, this State cannot by itself encourage the starting of particular industries. We have always felt, not only now, but even before, that this province has been dealt with in a very step-motherly fashion by the centre so far as the development of large-scale industries are concerned. The North always had the preference over the South and whether natural resources are available or not, people in the North are easily able to approach the higher authorities in Delhi and get permission for starting any large-scale industries they want in the North.

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Besides, there is the question of finance. We are a comparatively poorer province in the country. We do not have Birlas in this province; we do not have Dalmias here who are able to put crores of rupees in starting large-scale industries. Even as regards such a basic industry as cement, it was a Dalmia that had to come from the North to set up some factories in the southern districts. Similarly it was a Birla that had to come to Kurnool to start a Vanaspathi Factory there. These are our difficulties and circumstances as we are, this State could not make any progress in the matter of developing large-scale industries. But when we consider to what extent our State has succeeded in starting and developing small-scale industries, I am afraid we have not made any appreciable progress in that direction also. The soap industry has been there for a long number of years. The oil industry has been in existence in this State for a long number of years; then there is the silk filature industry which was started by a very enterprising Director of Industries, who took a very great initiative in starting a number of other small-scale industries like that. Then there is the ceramic industry which is still in its initial stage of development. In fact all these small industries have been started in this Province, and many of them have been in existence for a considerable number of years, but not much appreciable progress has been made in this State so as to call itself an advanced industrial State in this country.

"Therefore, we come to the conclusion that we have not made appreciable progress even though our State has a very large population. There are more than 50 million people in our State and our main industry being agriculture, we do not have a subsidiary industry worth the name in which we could engage the extra population which has absolutely no work to do. These are some of our difficulties. I wonder whether capital will not remain shy as it has done for a long time and whether new industries will be started in our State although our Government have been offering financial aid to industrialists. There are the paper mills and other mills but whether they will succeed in making the production profitable and remunerative remains to be seen."

"Another point is whether the aid given to existing industries has been given in a very careful manner after taking into account every aspect of the concern. No purpose will be served by the Government financing not real institutions, institutions which have not shown enough progress, whose stability has not been established and whose capacity to produce and make profitable returns has not been proved. One must be very careful in selecting concerns which deserve to be helped."

"Madam, the Government themselves can start industries. But they have not made any effort in that direction. We have done well in establishing the Industrial Finance Corporation which is now ready to finance big industrial concerns. Such big industrial concerns have not come into existence. Then as has been pointed out and also stated by the Minister himself, whereas the Government themselves have purchased 50 per cent of the shares, the

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other institutions which are expected to take the remaining shares, have not come forward to do so. Whether this institution of Industrial Finance Corporation will be a success or a failure is a question that remains to be answered. As it is, it is certainly a failure because the Government cannot finance it cent per cent. Having contributed 50 per cent of the shares, the Government expect other institutions to take up the remaining 50 per cent of the shares. On account of the fact that capital is shy to-day and money is tight on account of the policy pursued both by the Government of India and our State Government, no capitalist is prepared to come forward and take a risk in starting big industries because they do not know what will happen to their industries the next day. Under these circumstances, we cannot hope for any industrialist or industrial concern coming forward with a big programme of industrialisation. Only if they come forward, this Finance Corporation will be a success. Then only the money that has got to be given to such concerns will be useful. This is unfortunately the state of affairs so far as the industrial position of our State is concerned.

"Madam, even if we cannot manufacture articles on a large scale, we can at least start small industries which will certainly produce consumer goods. We know what a lot of money we are sending out to foreign countries for our necessary articles, such as toys, without which civilized people cannot do. We were getting such articles first from England; then came Germany in the field, and thirdly Japanese articles found a market here. Therefore, our money has been going out and our people have been idle without work. The income of the people having come down, the standard of living became low and we have been reduced to practically a poverty-stricken country. Such being the case, in a State like ours, however circumscribed it is, we must make a sincere effort to start at least small industries and produce at least 50 per cent of our requirements without going outside for import of articles.

"I am glad that the Government of our State have been starting more and more polytechnics. But 8 polytechnics for a big State like ours are certainly not a big number. We want technical personnel. Without sufficient number of technical personnel, it is not possible for us to even dream of industries of any kind. We have to go out of our country even for a screw, a nut or a nail. If we cannot manufacture these small articles which are necessary for repairing a machine when it goes out of order, woe to the country which is in such a state of affairs. The picture may be dark, but I am sure Mr. Perumalsami Reddiar who is in charge of this portfolio will make an effort in the direction of improving the industrial position of our State."

* SRI V. S. SANKARASUBRAHMANYA MUDALIYAR:—
"Madam Deputy Speaker, in supporting the Demand made by the Hon. Minister for Industries, I want to place before the House the plight of the handloom weavers in the country. We are having about 30 lakhs of handlooms supporting about 15 millions of people

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in the whole country of which we have 6 lakhs of looms in our State supporting about 30 lakhs of people. This major cottage industry is uncared for and it seems as though it is tottering to its final decay. We are not having the exports we were having hitherto and the keen competition, or rather the cut-throat competition, from the mills is making the industry practically extinct. The present position of the handloom weavers is very bad. In 1947 and 1948 the weavers were able to get about Re. 1-8-0 for weaving one knot of yarn, that is, 8,400 yards. But now the wage has gone so low as 4 annas while the cost of living remains the same or has increased a bit more. In many districts the wage that is given is about 4 annas and even in the Government co-operative institutions which are subsidized by the Government, they are giving only 4 annas and not 6 annas, with the result that the handloom weaver is not able to make both ends meet. In the Tirunelveli district, we have big centres like Melapalayam and Kadayanallur which are big Muslim centres. These Muslim centres mainly depended on Pakistan for the sale of their goods but now after the partition of the country, they are unable to find a market. They are unable to switch on their looms for the production of varieties which will be consumed in the internal market for want of funds. So, the Government have started some sort of relief scheme. But this relief scheme is so very meagre that it is not able to reach all the people. The relief through co-operative societies is not sufficient for they are also paying only 4 annas per wage per knot. The co-operative societies stand in no better position than any ordinary master weaver. They are also not able to supply more than two bundles of yarn per weaver per month. At the rate of 4 annas per knot, the weaver will be able to get only Rs. 10 including sizing and warping charges which come to Rs. 2-8-0. So, he has to be satisfied with Rs. 7-8-0 or even still less per month. This relief will not be sufficient and some other step should be taken to give more relief to this major cottage industry which is supporting a very large population of the country.

"The next point is about the supply of yarn over which this Government have no control. This Government must recommend to the Central Government to reserve more yarn for the looms. Whenever there is a demand for the mill goods, the mill-owners use all the yarn for the manufacture of cloth and when there is no demand, they sell it to the handloom weaver and at the same time divert the unsold mill cloth into the country with the result that the handloom weaver is at a loss to find a market for his goods. There are a very large number of looms which are outside co-operative societies. Out of 6 lakhs, only one-fourth of the looms are brought into the co-operative fold. Seventy-five per cent of the looms are outside co-operative societies. Unless the Government are able to place the industry on a sound basis and on a better footing the industry cannot be saved and the Government cannot subsidize all co-operative societies to help the weavers. The question of marketing will come in and they will find themselves in a position in which they will not be able to invest more money in the manufacture of handloom goods. Even in the case of relief

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through co-operative societies, though it is said that the Government are willing to take more and more looms into the co-operative fold, the societies are unwilling to take more looms into their fold because they are not able to find a market for their goods. So, when we ask a particular society to take in more looms, they say that they won't do it because they find that it is very difficult to find a market for the goods and their finances will be locked. The scheme of the Government reimbursing the loss in forming a new society is not very encouraging. In Tirunelveli district there are about 32,000 looms working. The relief scheme is sanctioned only for a thousand looms which is a very small fraction of the total number of looms."

m. THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"The relief scheme will be extended, if necessary."

SRI V. S. SANKARASUBRAHMANYA MUDALIYAR:—"I welcome such extensions as pointed out by the Hon. Minister for Industries."

"When we are on a major question like this, such small help will not solve the problem. We must order that particular kinds of cloth must be woven in the mills, and certain types of cloth must be exclusively reserved for manufacture only by hand looms. The present arrangement of the Central Government in reserving particular varieties of cloth exclusively for hand looms is welcomed by all the handloom weavers of this State. But it is not implemented. I am told that it will be implemented in the month of July. I think it must be implemented much earlier and for a longer period so that we will be able to find out the effects, beneficial effects, on the handloom weavers. I wish to point out one matter with regard to this reservation. Reservation is made for handloom weavers. But there is nothing to prohibit the power loom factories from manufacturing those varieties. There are a number of such factories which will more successfully compete than the mills with the handloom weavers in the manufacture of varieties which are specifically reserved for handloom weavers. I hope this Government will recommend to the Central Government to prohibit the factories also from manufacturing such varieties of cloth which are specifically reserved for handloom weavers. The present order does not clearly say that power loom factories must not weave all those particular varieties which are specially reserved for handloom weavers. It must be specifically made clear that these factories also are prohibited from weaving those particular varieties which are reserved for handloom weavers."

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU:—"You mean powerloom factories?"

SRI V. S. SANKARASUBRAHMANYA MUDALIYAR:—"Yes, I am referring to powerloom factories. There is another point which I want to bring before the House. Recently, Burma and Ceylon wanted our yarn; but they do not want our cloth and they were successful in getting yarn from

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our country, to the exclusion of our handloom cloth. I would strongly urge upon this Government to recommend to the Central Government not to send yarn to such of those countries which were taking till recently handloom cloth from this country and which refuse now to take handloom cloth. The Central Government should insist on such of these countries to take at least a portion of our handloom cloth as they were doing hitherto. If we fail to do that, we would not be finding a proper market for our handloom cloth.

"Another point which I wish to mention is about the imposition of sales tax on things that go to make the handloom cloth. The Government of India have recommended to this Government not to impose any sales tax on all goods that go to make up the handloom cloth, i.e., free yarn, dye-house and the handloom cloth. I do not know why this Government are not willing to implement their recommendations."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"It means losing funds."

* SRI V. S. SANKARASUBRAHMANYA MUDALIYAR:—

"Even if it means losing some funds, the Government should not hesitate to implement the recommendation of the Central Government. This being a major cottage industry in the State next to agriculture, we cannot afford to lose the prospects of a major cottage industry. The consequences of throwing out a number of people engaged in this industry off their employment will be very severe, and we will have to spend much more money if such a state of things were to happen. For sales outside the Province, they are levying sales tax and they are interpreting it in this manner. Taking my own district of Tirunelveli, suppose there is a sale of goods outside our State, say to Travancore or Mysore State. The sales-tax authorities say that the man must carry the goods to Travancore or Mysore and sell them there and then only he will be eligible for exemption from paying the tax. I must say, that this is a very harsh and improper interpretation of the rules. Again when a trader who is having a number of branches in different states, transfers his goods from one branch in a State to another in another State then also it is considered as sale by the authorities and such sales are also taxed. The sales tax on dyeing charges is also helping to raise the price of the handloom cloth. It is unfair to consider dyeing as work on contract and levy sales tax. The result is that many people are closing down their dye-houses. With these words, I appeal to the Government and to hon. Members of this House to help the handloom industry not merely by talking about it, but also by practically wearing handloom cloth."

SRI B. ANANTACHAR:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, it is a pleasure to stand and talk about Industry. We lack industry very much; because we lack energy and energy begets industry. (Laughter.) We need alertness also. I find that there has been a lot of talking about physical, mental, economic and all sorts of energy and alertness. There has also been a lot of talking about industry. Well, one thing we have to learn and many things we have to unlearn. We have been thinking of industry, plans and

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schemes and in this connexion we find that there is a prolific production of plans and schemes of industrial expansion. We notice very little of actual industrial expansion. I would request the Government not to depend upon the Government of India very much. For Geography and Geology, we are running to Delhi and for electrical energy we have to run to Mysore State. Similarly, for many other things, we have to depend upon others. In a way, we are depending upon the charity of strangers and have lost initiative. So we lose energy, we lose planning and we lose the method of working out our plans successfully. We have to try to revise our policies and outlook if it is possible. As an illustration, I would point out that there was a geological and superficial survey—I would not call it a real survey—of iron ore and steel. Somebody said that Salem ore is the best and there is a counter-claim on behalf of Kurnool district. But Sandur in Bellary stood first in the matter of percentage. (Hear, hear.) All these claims were not recognized and had to go to waste, because, the Government of India stepped in and said, 'Oh, no! We have decided to start the factory in Madhya Pradesh'. We are here down in the South and Madhya Pradesh gets the chance, because it looms large in the minds and in the brains of the Sircar at Delhi. I think hereafter we have to make the Delhi Sircar realize that proper planning would require a lot of industrial expansion in the South. It is beneficial and it is necessary and in fact in the long run it would save Northern India and the industrialists of Northern India and also the security of Northern Indian capital. I know the inroads of the Northern Indian capital into the South. We shall welcome it to the extent to which it is advantageous to us.

"I think each district must be made a centre for a kind of intensive survey and working of a particular industry suited to the best talents and the best materials available in that particular area. It is not enough to plan and start an industry in some place without knowing what the raw materials are. I would request the Government to take the initiative and bear this point in view when they start industries in any place. If Cuddapah is good for paint industry, let such an industry be started there. The Government should make it worthwhile for the mercantile community to emulate the example of the Government so that labour and industrialists may share in the produce and profits of that particular industry, which is sponsored and worked by the Government. These are some of the points which have to be carefully looked into.

"Now coming to the Vanaspathi industry, coming as I do from Bellary, we have planned one such industry there. The Government have sanctioned loans for some Vanaspathi industries in some places. Unfortunately, the Vanaspathi factory in which my district is particularly interested, did not get any loan. The complaint is that on account of linguistic bias, it did not get anything. Well, if that is so, it is really a big wrong. If linguistic and provincial spirits are to guide the sanctioning

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industries, then it is a great handicap and a misfortune particularly to the neglected small areas like Bellary district. It would really be a big stroke of misfortune and I am sure the Government and the Hon. Minister will step in and do something in the matter. Thank you, Madam."

* JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, let me first thank the Hon. Minister for Industries, Mr. Perumalswami Reddiar for having so promptly ordered the execution of the long-delayed building scheme of the Karnataka Polytechnic in Mangalore. Madam, a nation is bound to be unhappy, if it has no exports. Woe unto the country whose exports are declining. Having this truth before us, we must do some planning of our industries if only it increases our production for the purpose of exports. Unfortunately, our situation to-day is this. I am just referring to it on this important occasion. We have, whether deliberately or not, closed down our markets in some part of the World. That is not a very wise policy nor a healthy step towards the rehabilitation of our country. If we closed down certain of our world markets for a certain variety of our goods, naturally, the industrialists concerned at home will suffer. Therefore, when we consider our industrial policy in the light of world context, we should try to increase our production at home and extend our markets abroad. Basing our planning on this broad policy and outlook of world trade, I think a State like ours can make very good advance in the field of industrialization in this Province. Hitherto I have been observing that this Government has been doing industrial planning—if it is to be so-called—in a haphazard manner.

"There are heavy industries; there are light industries; there are big industries and there are small industries. We must compile statistics of all existing industries, both big and small, and must carry out a regular survey of their working throughout the State. And then we must find out the possibilities in every area of developing those industries with reference to the facilities available in the respective areas. Therefore, unless we have such a planning board for the State I do not think our Government will be able to make any progress in the matter of expansion of industries, both big and small. We have got many possibilities in all parts of the State and unless we do the planning in a scientific and systematic manner, there is no use of frittering away our revenues—the public money—on the so-called expansion of industries. We have got certain indigenous industries which are peculiar to our own State which need not only State Aid in the shape of loans but liberal subsidies as well. For instance, we have got the handloom industry, the famous and well-known industry of Southern India. It is one of our precious assets in the industrial field and if the Government do not pay any attention to this industry in which, as my hon. Friend, Mr. Majid pointed out, 30 lakhs of people are engaged, I do not think our Government will be able to achieve anything in the field of enterprise. Therefore, I would even go to the extent of suggesting to the Government

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industries, then it is a great handicap and a misfortune particularly to the neglected small areas like Bellary district. It would really be a big stroke of misfortune and I am sure the Government and the Hon. Minister will step in and do something in the matter. Thank you, Madam."

* JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, let me first thank the Hon. Minister for Industries, Mr. Perumalswami Reddiar for having so promptly ordered the execution of the long-delayed building scheme of the Karnataka Polytechnic in Mangalore. Madam, a nation is bound to be unhappy, if it has no exports. Woe unto the country whose exports are declining. Having this truth before us, we must do some planning of our industries if only it increases our production for the purpose of exports. Unfortunately, our situation to-day is this. I am just referring to it on this important occasion. We have, whether deliberately or not, closed down our markets in some part of the World. That is not a very wise policy nor a healthy step towards the rehabilitation of our country. If we closed down certain of our world markets for a certain variety of our goods, naturally, the industrialists concerned at home will suffer. Therefore, when we consider our industrial policy in the light of world context, we should try to increase our production at home and extend our markets abroad. Basing our planning on this broad policy and outlook of world trade, I think a State like ours can make very good advance in the field of industrialization in this Province. Hitherto I have been observing that this Government has been doing industrial planning—if it is to be so-called—in a haphazard manner.

"There are heavy industries; there are light industries; there are big industries and there are small industries. We must compile statistics of all existing industries, both big and small, and must carry out a regular survey of their working throughout the State. And then we must find out the possibilities in every area of developing those industries with reference to the facilities available in the respective areas. Therefore, unless we have such a planning board for the State I do not think our Government will be able to make any progress in the matter of expansion of industries, both big and small. We have got many possibilities in all parts of the State and unless we do the planning in a scientific and systematic manner, there is no use of frittering away our revenues—the public money—on the so-called expansion of industries. We have got certain indigenous industries which are peculiar to our own State which need not only State Aid in the shape of loans but liberal subsidies as well. For instance, we have got the handloom industry, the famous and well-known industry of Southern India. It is one of our precious assets in the industrial field and if the Government do not pay any attention to this industry in which, as my hon. Friend, Mr. Majid pointed out, 30 lakhs of people are engaged, I do not think our Government will be able to achieve anything in the field of enterprise. Therefore, I would even go to the extent of suggesting to the Government

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that the Khadi scheme be scrapped for the moment and the subsidy given to khadi be diverted to the handloom industry. (Sri D. V. Ramaswami: 'No, no.') If the hon. Gentleman cannot agree, let him have it as a fad and let him continue it. But I would request him to find out the percentage of people engaged in the Khadi industry and the percentage in the handloom industry. Let him find out the number of people who wear khadi at home and the quantity of khaddar exported outside South India. Let us look facts squarely in their face. Let us face facts boldly and take courage in our hands and keep the Khadi scheme, if it is necessary, in abeyance for the time being. This will encourage the handloom industry which has got its market in South Africa, South East Asia, Burma and Ceylon. Therefore, Madam, I speak with sincerity when I say and I do not mean any disrespect to the great Khadi scheme evolved by the great Mahatma.

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"On a point of information, Madam, it was never the intention of the promoters of Khadi and Mahatma Gandhi to export khadi. It was meant for adoption only by the indigenous population."

JANAB H. S. HUSSAIN:—"I am obliged to the hon. Member for the information he has given. Even if khadi is not meant for export but for being popularised among the people here as a cottage industry, I would say that the Government would be well advised to encourage the handloom industry by diverting to it for the time being, if not all at least a good portion of the subsidy given for khadi. That is the point I want to make. Then, Madam, there should be proper planning, as I have said. What is happening now? We find that our industries are not progressing at all. The State has undertaken certain industries. There are the Kerala Soap Institute, the Government Oil Factory, the Government Ceramic Factory and so on. What about private enterprise? Is sufficient encouragement given to private enterprise in the case of certain small local industries? Now, as the Government may be aware—and the hon. Members of this House also must be aware—the tile industry on the west coast is having a very good fillip on account of large demands from South East Asia—even Australia—and Africa. Forward contracts have already been booked and the tile industry is thriving. I am sure the Government are also aware of this fact. Similarly, if we can create markets outside and they are thrown open for certain of our ancient industries like the handloom industry and if the Government do all they can in this regard, this industry will thrive and will become as strong as the tile industry. Now, Madam, again referring to the handloom industry, I am reminded of the Dacca Muslin which used to be described as 'a web woven wind'. We also know of the Kashmir shawl and the brocades of Benares. These had captured markets all over the world but the foreigners who came to this country, we are told or at any rate we have heard, cut off the thumbs of the weavers so that the Dacca Muslin could be no longer produced in order to make room for the Glasgow

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Mull and the Manchester textiles. This is the story we have heard because after all world conflicts and world wars are meant for the expansion of trade in the markets of the world by the respective countries. I would once again point out that I have not spoken against the encouragement of khadi. It is a good programme no doubt. But I must say that instead of spending huge sums of money on it, at least a portion thereof should be utilized in subsidising the handloom industry."

*** SRI K. LINGA RAJU:**—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, in supporting the Demand before the House, I would like to draw the attention of some of the hon. Gentlemen like Mr. Raza Khan, to one or two points about Andhra Paper Mills, Rajahmundry. They have been thinking that the Government are throwing away some good money on acquiring some mills like the Andhra Paper Mills. On a previous occasion, during question hour, the hon. Gentleman, Mr. Raza Khan created an impression that many lakhs of rupees have been wasted on purchasing this mill. Even to-day he was trying to mislead the House by saying that something like forty lakhs of rupees has been spent on the mills. Let me correct him by saying that the Government paid only twenty-five lakhs for the purchase of the mill and they might have spent some five lakhs more for improvements. Madam, for constructing a mill of that size, for producing about 10 tons of paper a day, it will cost anything over fifty to sixty lakhs of rupees. But the Andhra Paper Mill may require a few lakhs more if more improvements are to be made and even then the total cost may not exceed forty lakhs of rupees. Let me, therefore, tell the hon. Gentleman that the Government by buying it for twenty-five lakhs have struck a very good bargain. As one who can claim some inside knowledge of the working of the mill, let me tell this House that the mill has started full production from 1st February and is doing very well now. The paper produced in the mill need not get into the market for competitive sale for it is barely sufficient to meet the requirements of the Government of Madras. If, however, there were anything left out after meeting our requirements it may be supplied to the Government of India or other State Governments. I would, however, make this request to the Hon. the Minister for Industries. He should make adequate provision immediately for making effective improvements to this mill—say, about 10 lakhs of rupees more. This is not a very big sum compared to the nature and size of the industry. The Government must secure a second paper and a spare boiler plant for the mill to increase production to about 20 tons a day which will make it a self-sufficient unit. As the Hon. the Minister has told us, a foreign expert who has got practical knowledge of the work of the mill is absolutely necessary and it is to be regretted that the Government of India are not able to find an expert even though our Government have asked for one long ago. I reliably understand that a number of experts have now offered their services and I hope before long our Government would be able to secure an expert. Then, I may assure hon. Members, this mill will prove to be most paying industry among those which

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have been nationalized. I would also request the Hon. the Minister to take steps to develop the already existing ceramic industry in Rajahmundry. A small unit has been started for training potters in ceramics and it is there for the last four or five years without making any progress. The unit has been able to train very few potters actually and I request the Government to make a liberal provision for a permanent building for housing the unit. I had occasion to visit this unit and I was told by the man in charge that they need small fabricated machines, which could be manufactured in the Government Workshops. If these small pieces of machinery are supplied to them, this industry will flourish and this unit in particular will be able to train a good number of potters in ceramics and which can be improved as a profitable cottage industry.

Before I conclude, Madam, I want to make a reference to the State Aid policy of this Government. Within the short time that is allotted, it is very difficult to deal with the entire policy. I would only request the Government to see that not a single rupee is spent on aid to Vanaspati. We have risked our money enough on Vanaspati which is after all a product of doubtful value from the health point of view of the people of this country. The Government must, therefore, stop all aid to this industry. My hon. Friend, Mr. Anantachar was sorry that there was no aid given to Karnataka Vanaspati concern. I may tell him that to that extent he is benefited. (Laughter.) There is a big controversy going on whether this Vanaspati is good. The Government of India have come to the rescue and insisted on colouring the product. Still it is doing its harm and I hope that this Government at least will not encourage this product. With these remarks, I support the Demand."

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p.m.

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTI:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, the Hon. Minister is doing very good work but would have done better had it not been for his ill-health due to accident. (Interruption.) Sir, apart from that I am constrained to say it is our misfortune that our State of all States is still industrially backward, continues and persists to be backward in spite of all other encouraging factors. We hoped that after the war just as other countries our country would also push through post-war reconstruction schemes and advance industrially and prosper. But unfortunately it is not our lot. I do not want to go into the causes for this state of affairs. Whatever it is, our position is unfortunate. We had a number of post-war reconstruction schemes but to our utter amazement and disappointment these were not pushed through, partly because we had not materials and partly because we had not the technicians. Of course we started these polytechnics and hoped that we could manufacture technicians to help the growth of our industries. That has not come true. If we go to these schools, we will find there are no qualified men to train our boys, that they have not been supplied with proper apparatus and other things. I want the Hon. Minister to satisfy himself and see that the money spent is well spent and that what was expected to be

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derived out of these institutions is derived in proper time by proper attention and sincere application. (At this stage the Speaker occupied the Chair.)

"Sir, if the Ministry is willing and desirous of really advancing the industries of our State, even if it is not possible to do it for lack of proper material and technical skill and advice, it is open to them to seek the advice and co-operation from people who have already been in the line, who have good technical skill and claim to possess creative thought. Need I say there are men in our Province of whom we can be proud of. We might know, Sri G. D. Nayudu of Coimbatore has offered a number of suggestions and advices which have fallen on deaf ears. I understand that he is capable of manufacturing blades which can stand for years to come without the necessity of constant sharpening. All these industries must be encouraged.

"Sir, coming now to cottage industries, which find the first place in the Industries demand, I find that our Government have not progressed though a very good beginning was made in the year 1946. A machinery was set up with an expert at the head and many schemes were planned but unfortunately, for reasons into which I do not want to go, that expert was sent out. It was the Government of India that found a job for him and made use of his talents and capacity to improve the cottage industries on a national scale and on the lines of the advancement made in such industries in Japan. What was a loss to Madras was a gain to the Centre. (Hear, hear.) The hon. Members and the Hon. Minister who had also been to Delhi, ought to have seen for themselves how that department worked at the Centre. They have got an Industrial Emporium where they have exhibited articles manufactured in several parts of India. People from other countries who visit Delhi, see the exhibition and see for themselves the articles manufactured in our country. Thus they have a machinery to create a taste in the people who see the exhibits and thus create a market in foreign countries. Our Province which produces goods in large quantities is unable to find a market for them and so we must find means of marketing our goods.

"Even in the Cottage Industries department the United Provinces made great advance and development. The Director of Industries there has started a research school for handloom industry where men who are already in the line are given special training to produce goods which can be easily marketed not only in our country but in other countries as well. That is the advice and technical training that is given to the people who study in these schools. Are we doing that? In fact last year this Government lost about 30 to 40 lakhs because the Government of India withdrew the grant which they intended to give to this Government and this was due to the fact that we had no plan. Even if we had plans and schemes we are not pushing through these schemes due to sheer lack of interest and indifference on the part of the Government. Just now I referred to the research work that was being done in the United Provinces.

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Because our Province lost this grant of 40 lakhs that Province came up and claimed that grant for themselves. What we lost the United Provinces got. I understand they get nearly 2 crores of such grants for similar developmental work, post-war reconstruction and development. I am one of those who believe along with my Friend K. Subba Rao that we must advance on the lines adopted by Japan. What have we seen after the Hiroshima incident? Within two years they have been able to rebuild, reconstruct the factories and produce the required materials. They were able to export also. Have we been able to do that? Our country was not a theatre of war and no bombs were dropped on us. (A voice: "God save us.") Yes; but in spite of it we have not progressed, because we have no initiative, no intelligence, no capacity and we have no interest. It is all what I can say. More attention must be paid to industries. We must realize the importance of the growth of the industries. We must improve the wealth of the Province. Otherwise we go down in history as having been criminally indifferent to the prosperity of our nation."

MR. SPEAKER:—"One more minute for the Member."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTI:—"I spoke about cottage and other industries. What about the underground wealth which you have not exploited and explored. Have we not enough material? Have we not enough technical skill? Have we not got the desire to do it? Where there is a will there is a way. Let us go ahead by pooling our resources. At a time when we must advance, when we must co-operate and develop the industries and increase the wealth of the country we think of partition, we think of linguistic provinces and we waste our energy and precious time."

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—"In supporting the motion of the Hon. Minister for allotment to the Industries demand I wish to make a few observations. With regard to state-aid to industries, it is only for the last three years that the Government has been giving some grants. In giving the grants though they are giving it impersonally, in the best interest of the industry and to improve the industry, I still find that the allotment they are making for particular industries are very meagre. (Interruption.) Some of my Friends want to ask me some questions. I shall come to them at the end. In the case of some industries Government calculate on the basis of 50:50 and grant a loan on a very low and moderate scale whereas the Central Financial Corporation and the Provincial Financial Corporation has been liberal enough in the grant of the loans. The Industrial Board are strict and their loans are low and moderate. I plead that they should give in a more liberal manner."

The loan granted to the Katpadi Vanaspathi Industries was the target of criticism by some Members because some of the Directors happened to be relatives of the Finance Minister or the Finance Minister happened to be a Director of the concern once. This is really an unfair criticism. The Industry as such that has applied

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"With regard to the Andhra Paper Mills, after the Madras Government wisely took over the Industries, I had an opportunity to visit the mills. They have come up to the largest production level and the Madras Government have placed an order for 350 tons. Though the industry is capable of producing more, some more advance is necessary for improvement of the industry. The Madras Government have not allotted sufficient money for this. There is only one boiler at present. A spare boiler is necessary. This has not been provided for. If the Madras Government had really invested another 20 lakhs, that would certainly bring in 4 lakhs profits every year. Why should the Madras Government take up the industries and stifle it but not improve it? They should take up such industry which is capable of producing more profits and thus better the interest of the Province. No doubt the present Director of Industries has done his best but I wish the Government should allot Rs. 20 lakhs immediately for this industry and see that in the course of the next two years the industry is permanently developed. When I went there the supervisor in charge told me that the present rate of raw materials is much more. So they are trying to show that the mill is working at a loss even though it is working at a profit. I wish that some small items which the Government are trying to charge to the Mills are stopped so that ultimately the Mill can produce much larger quantities."

"Sir, under the Advisers' regime a number of sugar, cement and textile mills were proposed to be started in the Andhra area. There are eight spinning mills, but only two of them have come into production. What is the reason? The Government have seen that in all the eleven districts there are no spinning mills. When they want to separate the Andhra Province, the Ministry have not cared to see that spinning and weaving mills and sugar mills are started. It is very unfortunate that the capital is not forthcoming. The Government should do their best and invite industrialists to start more mills. They should give them encouragement. Even the mills that are coming up are in difficulties. When they apply for a loan, there is inordinate delay; when they apply for cement there is inordinate delay. There are so many handicaps. With

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regard to electricity the position is worse. We have to depend on thermal stations. The mills in the South are charged hydro-electric rates, while the mills in the Andhra area are charged thermal rates. The difference between the two rates comes to Rs. 3,000 for a mill every month. When the Government are producing power both by thermal and hydro-electric means, they should average the cost of production and levy a uniform rate. They should not charge thermal rates for people in the thermal area and hydro-electric rates for people in the hydro-electric area. Now the mills that are coming up cost Rs. 23 to 25 lakhs while the mills of old put up in the Pykara area cost only Rs. 6 lakhs. Is it not necessary to subsidize the new mills coming up by giving them cheaper power and thus encouraging them? But it is not done. I want to urge on the Hon. Minister that the mills which are started under the post-war reconstruction scheme should be supplied electricity at Pykara rates rather than at thermal rates.

Sir, the eleven districts of the Circars and the Ceded Districts known as the Andhra area have not got many industries. When we are talking of a separate province for those districts, what will we find there after separation? We will not have even enough mills to produce the cloth required there. It was proposed to start a super-phosphate factory and a proposal was sent to the Government. Instead of importing super-phosphate from foreign countries, why not we encourage the starting of an industry in the Andhra area? When the Travancore Factory wanted money, our Government took shares for Rs. 20 lakhs. This year also they are proposing to take another Rs. 20 lakhs worth of shares. What is the nature of that concern? It has a capital of Rs. 2½ crores, but the production is only 50 tons of sulphate of ammonia and a small quantity of super-phosphate. If a super-phosphate factory is started in our State, it will increase food production in East and West Godavari and Krishna, which have ample resources for this purpose. But the Government have not paid any attention to start such a factory.

“Before I conclude, Sir, I would like to request the Hon. Minister for Industries that Government should give encouragement to industries which have already been started. For instance the Madras Pencil Factory is already producing quality goods. Formerly there was a Government Order to the effect that in the placing of indents for goods required by the Government departments, they should give preference to goods produced in Government factories like the Kerala Soap Institute and goods produced in South India. Now also the Government should pass an order saying that industries in this Province should be given preference over industries which are foreign or which are outside this Province.”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, several hon. Members Mr. Majid, Mr. Raza Khan and Mr. Anantachar mentioned about the Board of Industries and how they are granting loans. As a member of that Board who has been unanimously elected by this House to that body, I feel it is my duty to say a

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few words about it. I find, Sir, that these hon. Members have got some doubts and wrong impressions about the working of the Board and I want to remove them. Mr. Raza Khan said that the Board was very liberal in granting aid to industries and that he would not be surprised if the Board granted loans to even charitable institutions. If only the hon. Member knew the procedure adopted by the Board, I am sure he would change his views about it. The Board has to follow certain regulations or instructions issued by the Government. Mr. Raza Khan said that the Board did not look into the income of the concerns and whether they were able to declare any dividends or not, before they decided to grant a loan. If the concern has got sufficient funds and if it is able to declare a dividend, why should it come to the Board for a loan? Under such circumstances, the concern will not come to the Board for a loan. Only when the concern is in need of money, will it come to the Board for a loan. When a company applies to the Board for a loan, the application is very carefully considered. First of all, the concern must give sufficient security. If the security given is land, it will have to be valued by the Revenue Department in the district. That department will put a valuation on the property. We all know how stringent will be the valuation of a property by the Revenue Department. If there is any machinery, it will be valued by the officers of the Industries Department. Then the buildings will be valued by the Public Works Department. All this valuation will come before the Board. Then, only one-third of the total value of the property will be taken as the basis for the grant of the loan. Suppose security worth Rs. 30 lakhs is offered, the industry will get only Rs. 10 lakhs as loan and not more than that. Only after making sure that there is ample security for the loan, will the loan be granted. For instance, if half a dozen applications from industrial concerns come before the Board, hardly one or two will be recommended. The other cases will not be recommended for one reason or other, either because the security offered is not sufficient or because the industry does not require state aid and so on. Such being the case, I cannot understand why these hon. Members should have any doubts or wrong impressions about the working of this Board.

“Sir, Mr. Anantachar said that either on linguistic or other considerations, his district of Bellary did not get any help from the Government. After hearing his remarks, I referred to the Director of Industries and got some information. I did not attend that particular meeting. It was the only one meeting I did not attend as my membership ceased. According to the information I have just now got from the Director of Industries

(SRI R. S. MURTHI:—“On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, may I know whether the hon. Member can say that the information has been got from such and such an officer.”)

MR. SPEAKER:—“There is nothing wrong in it. The hon. Member may continue his speech.”

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SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“This particular application to which reference was made was not recommended for two reasons. The security offered was not sufficient. The Managing Director and the other Directors were asked whether they were prepared to give further security or personal security. They refused to give any personal security. Without giving sufficient security, no one can expect the Government to give any loan. There is another thing also. The Board would not recommend the grant of loan to any industry or company merely for the purpose of clearing of the existing loans. That is not our policy. Only when an industry is not able to continue for want of funds, when an industry is not able to complete certain things for want of funds, do we give it any assistance. For instance, some gentlemen might have started an industry and ordered some machinery from foreign countries and paid some advance for the machinery. Now for want of funds, they may not be able to get the machinery and they will be in a difficult position. If the Government do not go to their assistance, the amounts they have already spent would be a waste. The Madras State also will lose the advantage of having certain industries started here. We will then look into the question whether this industry comes in the list of industries supplied to us by the Government of India. The Government of India have supplied a list showing which are industries and which are not industries. We will look into that list carefully. If the particular industry which has asked for assistance from the Government is not found in that list we will not consider the application at all. If the industry finds a place in it, we will give the loan. (Interruption.) Vanaspathi also finds a place in the list. Mr. Nagappa may move the Government of India to remove Vanaspathi from the list.”

“With regard to the grant of loans, the Andhra area has been more fortunate in getting loans from the Board. If we go into the list for the last three years, we will find that almost all the loans have been granted only to the Andhra area. We have also taken particular care to see that the undeveloped parts of Andhra Desa get first priority. Of the loans recommended by the Board, the majority of cases have been from the Ceded districts. (Interruption.) I request Mr. Venkatasubbiah to take this list from me. I will pass it on to him. He may look into it and he will find what amounts the industries there have received.”

“I now come to the point which has been raised by Mr. Anantachar. He mentioned some linguistic considerations. I have said that we have given ample aid to the Ceded districts. If he wants to know about the Kanarese speaking people, I should like him to look into this list. He will find that the Canara Ceramic Industry of Kasargode has received Rs. 60,000, that the Mudibidri Straw Board and Paper Mill has received Rs. 80,000. Mangalore area also is a Canarese speaking area and that area also has received support from the Board.”

“In this connexion, Sir, I want to make it clear that not a single case has been recommended by majority vote. The Board will look into all the cases and consider them on their merits.”

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Even if one member objects to the grant of loan, the Board will not recommend the case. The other members will try to convince the member who objects, but if they are not able to convince him, the loan will not be recommended. (An hon. Member: ‘How many Members are there on the Board?’) There are 14 members of whom two are Members of this House, unanimously elected by the House, and then there are members elected by the European Chamber of Commerce, the South Indian Chamber of Commerce, the Muslim Chamber of Commerce and so on. There is no political or personal consideration. Each application is considered on its own merits. All the cases which are recommended are recommended unanimously. Not a single case is recommended by majority vote. Even then, the Board simply recommends the case to the Government. Then the Government is there; the Finance Department is there. They will raise all sorts of objections. The Legal Department will scrutinise all the papers. Then they will go to the Finance Secretary who will have to look into the matter. Then the matter will have to go to the Solicitors. Then it will come to the Industries Department. The Industries Minister will look into it.

“Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Bapineedu is an Andhra. He is not an Andhra in this House, but so far as his being a member of the Board is concerned, he is out and out and cent per cent an Andhra. Whenever a case from Andhra comes, he will give more consideration and plead for the Andhras. But we do not look at the question from the point of view of Andhra or Tamil. We always consider only on the merits of the case.”

“Sir, I therefore appeal to hon. Members not to have any wrong impressions about the Board that they are making their recommendations indiscriminately. The Board invariably decide on the merits of the case.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I adjourn the House till 11 a.m. tomorrow.”

The House adjourned.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday, the 14th March 1950.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Formation of a Finance Committee of the Assembly.

* 58 Q.—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN (on behalf of Janab M. A. Muhammad Ibrahim): Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether this Government propose to set up a Finance Committee of the Assembly for scrutiny and sanction of appropriations, under the changed condition that is, after the establishment of the Republic of India?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The Government do not at present propose to make any major change in the budget procedure for the Budget for 1950-51. The question of appointing an Estimates Committee will however, be considered in due course."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIAR:—"May I ask, Sir, whether it is not a fact that under the present order of things, the Finance Committee or the Standing Committee on Finance is mainly a committee to do post-mortem examination of expenditure incurred, two or three years before and whether it is not necessary to have it replaced by a committee which will keep a constant vigilance on the Government's expenditure, in the nature of the Estimates Committee of the Government of India?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The present committee is hardly a Finance Committee; there is only a Finance Committee which is a Cabinet Sub-Committee; but what the hon. Member probably refers to, I suppose, is the Public Accounts Committee which sits only to scrutinise the accounts of 1946-47, etc. The question of appointing an Estimates Committee to scrutinise the estimates will be taken up in due course."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"Is it not a fact that the Hon. Finance Minister while replying to the budget debate just four or five days before said that inasmuch as the budget is not appreciated by the various sections of the House, he will consider a proposition to have a Finance Committee to give him help even before the preparation of the budget?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I did not say Finance Committee, Sir; I must have meant an Estimates Committee. I think I said the Government of India are

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taking steps to appoint an Estimates Committee and we can also consider whether we can appoint an Estimates Committee to scrutinise the various demands."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that the Government do not propose to appoint a Finance Committee, am I to take it that there is something wrong in the matter of appointing such committees? Am I to understand that there is something fishy in the accounts of the Government which cannot stand scrutiny?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"There is nothing fishy about it; the Accountant-General and the Auditor-General will certainly pull up the State Government if there is any such thing; there is no difficulty about that. With regard to the Finance Committee, I think subsequent to 1937 there has been no Finance Committee as such in this State Government; but with regard to the Estimates Committee, as I said, we will take steps to see whether we can have an Estimates Committee in due course."

Grants to the training schools and colleges.

* 59 Q.—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the present rate of grant paid to the training schools and training colleges;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the rate of grant to the training schools and training colleges; and

(c) if so, from what date?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" (a) It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to the basis as assessment of teaching grants to aided training schools and colleges. Teaching grants to aided training schools are assessed on the basis of two-thirds of the net cost of maintenance in the preceding financial year and aided training colleges on the basis of one half of the net cost."

" (b) & (c) There is no proposal to increase the basis of assessment of teaching grants to all the aided training schools and colleges. The question of sanctioning as a special case, teaching grants on the basis of two-thirds of the net cost to five aided training colleges proposed to be opened during 1950-51, is under consideration."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether this two-thirds grant includes the stipend grants to the students?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"No, stipend is not given by the management; it is given by the Government. Two-thirds of the net expenditure by the management is given."

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JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know which are the training colleges which are receiving these grants?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"If the hon. Member means colleges under clause (a) of the question, all the existing aided training colleges. In Madras, you have the St. Christopher Training College, the Meston Training College, etc."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"May I know whether there are a sufficient member of L.Ts. available for schools?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"No, Sir; we are very short of B.Ts."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know whether the Government have any proposal under consideration to increase the building grants to aided institutions?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"We have begun to give building grants only since the last two years, and there is no proposal to increase the rate of building grants now."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"May I know whether there is any basic training college in our State; if so, where is it and what is the difference between the basic training college and the ordinary college so far as grant is concerned?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"There cannot be any basic training college at present, because training colleges are for training teachers for secondary schools. We have as yet no secondary schools wherein there is basic education. There is a proposal to have a private training college with basic education as primary subject in Coimbatore, and for that I think provision has been made in the budget."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In view of the fact that there is colossal paucity of trained teachers in the State, will not the Government consider giving encouragement by giving financial support to independent people for staffing these training colleges?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"That is what certainly the Government propose to do. I said it is under consideration, in reply to clauses (b) and (c). The Government have recommended to the House under Part II Schemes to give two-thirds of the net cost instead of half, to these training colleges."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"May I know whether Government are thinking of increasing the stipends and also encouraging local bodies to give stipends for teachers who undergo training in the colleges?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"There is no proposal to increase the stipends at present; if the local boards

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send their teachers for training, who are in permanent service, two-thirds of the cost will be met by the Government i.e., two-thirds of the proved expenditure will be met by the Government."

Appointments given to the political sufferers in the Government Transport.

* 60 Q.—SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the number of appointments given to political sufferers so far in the Government Transport?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"There is no information as to how many of the employees in the Government Transport were political sufferers."

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN:—"தலைவர் அவர்களே, பிரிட்டிஷ் ஏகாதிபத்தியத்தில் சேர்ந்து ஒத்துழைத்த சிப்பாய்களுக்கு இருப்பதைப்போல இனியாகிலும் தேசபக்தியின் காரணமாக சிறை சென்றவர்களுக்கு அரசாங்கத்தார் எல்லா இடங்களிலும் வேலை தரமுடியுமா என்று கேட்கிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"When they come up to the qualifications prescribed for the various services, certainly due consideration will be given to them."

Conveyance allowance to Municipal Health Officers.

* 61 Q.—SRI K. LINGARAJU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of conveyance allowance granted to Health Officers of municipalities; and

(b) whether any representation has been recently received by the Government for the enhancement of the same?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (a) The rates of conveyance allowance admissible to Health Officers of Municipalities are as follows:—

(1) *Second-class Health Officers.*—(i) Rs. 20 per mensem if a motor car or motor cycle is maintained.

(ii) Rs. 13-2-0 per mensem if a jutka and pony is maintained.

(iii) Rs. 4 per mensem if a bicycle is maintained.

(iv) In certain municipalities with reference to the work involved and the finances of the municipalities, second-class Health Officers have been allowed a conveyance allowance of Rs. 30 per mensem if a motor car is maintained and Rs. 20 per mensem if a motor cycle is maintained.

(2) *First-class Health Officer.*—(i) Rs. 40 per mensem if a motor car is maintained.

(ii) Rs. 20 per mensem if a motor cycle is maintained.

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(iii) Rs. 13-2-0 per mensem if a jutka and pony is maintained.

(All the above rates are exclusive of the 25 per cent temporary increase allowed to all Health Officers).

"(b) Yes. The Municipal Health Officers (First-class Health Officers) of Mathurai, Coimbatore, Kakinada, Kozhikode, Salem, Tiruchirappalli and Vijayavada have been permitted to draw with effect from 1st January 1950, a conveyance allowance of Rs. 75 per mensem (inclusive of the temporary increase of 25 per cent) subject to the maintenance of a motor car."

SRI K. LINGARAJU:—"Sir, are the Government satisfied that when petrol is selling at Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon, the Health Officers can satisfactorily attend to their outdoor work with this meagre allowance?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Allowances do not follow the price of petrol for conveyance purposes."

SRI K. LINGARAJU:—"Apart from the question of petrol for their conveyance, are the Government satisfied that they can maintain a motor car for carrying out their outdoor duty?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Certainly the Government can give only such allowance as their finances permit, and the nature of the work demands."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"May I ask whether there is any difference between the conveyance allowance given to Municipal Health Officers and the Municipal Commissioners? If so, what is the reason?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"That is quite a different subject; Municipal Commissioners are apart from the Health Officers. Therefore, I am not able to give the information required by the hon. Member."

Elections to the Madras Legislative Council.

* 62 Q.—JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons which persuaded this Government to postpone the elections to the Madras Legislative Council on account of the retirement of certain members in March 1950; and

(b) the names of the members whose term of membership expires by March 1950 and who have been given extension?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to clause (1) of Article 382 of the Constitution of India. Under that clause, members of the Legislative Council in office on the 26th January 1950 automatically continue to hold their offices until fresh elections are held under the New Constitution. This Government did not order any postponement of the elections, as

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suggested. A statement * showing the names of the members whose term would otherwise have expired in March 1950 is placed on the table of the House."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Since the list placed on the table of the House involves two Hon. Ministers of this Government, would it not have been better if the Government went to the polls and proved their representative character?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"A long time ago they were elected, I think in 1937; and from time to time there have been extensions; and even last year we gave an extension to them."

Provision of raw cotton for the Saroja Cotton and Spinning Mills, Coimbatore.

* 63 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the management of Saroja Cotton and Spinning Mills, Coimbatore, have notified their workers that the mills will be closed from March 1950 due to lack of raw cotton; and

(b) if so, what action the Government have taken to procure sufficient cotton for that mill?

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—" (a) Yes, Sir. (b) The attention of the mills was invited to clause 16 of the Cotton Control Order, 1949, and the Notification of the Government of India issued thereunder laying down that applications from manufacturers requiring any variety of or description of cotton shall be in the form prescribed in the notification and addressed to the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, along with a deposit equal to 15 per cent of the total basic ceiling price of cotton applied for and the mills were advised to follow the procedure laid down and to apply to the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, for the cotton required by them in the form prescribed furnishing such particulars as the mills had in their possession and remitting the necessary deposit. The mills have since sent an application to the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, for cotton required by them but have not remitted any deposit. The mills have again been advised to remit the deposit immediately so that the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, may take further action to supply cotton to the mills."

1-15
a.m. SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Sir, may I know whether the Government have any idea of the consumption of cotton by this State, what is the quantity of production in the State and whether the Government are allowing only the surplus to be exported outside the State or without any such statistics whatever is available in the State is exported?"

* Printed as Appendix on page 682 infra.

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MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will please put a separate question."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware that hand-spinning is suffering for want of cotton? If so, have the Government made any arrangement to regulate the supply of cotton for handspinning?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"Yes, Sir. A quantity of cotton has been reserved for hand-spinning."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government have secured sufficient quantity of cotton to those who have applied?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"Cotton has not been frozen and any extra quantity that is required is imported."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether the Coimbatore Mills have informed that they would close this month?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"I have no information so far."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that sufficient cotton is reserved for hand-spinning, is it not a fact that the Firka Spinning Centre at Kota Uratala (South Viskhapatnam) have represented to the Government that there is no cotton for the last one and a half months and that the work is absolutely at a stand-still?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"That question may be put to the Hon. Minister in charge of Cottage Industries, Sir."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government can give any information as to whether there are any other mills in this State which suffer on account of insufficient supply of cotton either by way of production or in the number of shifts engaged by various mills?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"No information, Sir."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"May I know what is the number of employees that will be thrown out by the closing of this mill?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"The mill has not yet closed and only when it is closed it will be known."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know, Sir, how much cotton is consumed by hand-spinners?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"If the Hon. Minister is prepared to answer the question, I have no objection."

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"Notice, Sir."

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Effecting economy in the cost of administration.

* 64 Q.—SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether any instructions have been recently received by this Government from the Central Government for effecting economy in the cost of administration and other matters;

(b) if so, whether a copy of it would be laid on the table of the House; and

(c) what steps have been taken to implement those instructions?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“(a) & (c) Certain suggestions for curtailment of expenditure were received from the Government of India in October 1949 to meet the situation created by devaluation. Even before these suggestions were received, this Government had taken various steps to reduce expenditure both on the revenue account and on capital works, and it was considered that it would not be feasible to effect further economy. The Government of India were informed of the action taken and the conclusion reached by this Government.

(b) The correspondence is confidential and no useful purpose will be served by placing it on the table of the House.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I know, Sir, that while the Central Government have been able to reduce their expenditure by effecting a cut of 15 per cent, why the Provincial Government's expenditure has increased and whether it will not be possible for them to reduce their expenditure further?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“It means the Government of India had an unnecessary 15 per cent of extra staff and so they retrenched, but we had no extra staff and there is therefore no question of retrenchment.”

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister, am I to take it that the instructions of the Central Government have already been observed by this Government before they were received or there is no need to observe them?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“We did take steps even before the instructions of the Government of India were received and those instructions are of a general nature.”

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—“May I know Sir, whether it is a fact that this Government are creating more appointments contrary to the Central Government's instructions and if so, what are the reasons?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“It is not contrary to the instructions received from the Government of India, but it is a question of meeting the demands of the various

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and expanding departments (and not that we are spending more money on departments where necessarily on the other hand we want more officers, so that the amount given is spent in a good time.”

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—“Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister may I know the amount that has been saved through the economies that have been effected.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Sir, as I have already stated in the budget discussion, about 25 lakhs of rupees have been saved, either on account of the recommendations of the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee or due to the instructions of the Government of India and over 100 lakhs of rupees under Contingencies have been saved.”

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—“May I know, whether in the Central Government's instructions regarding economy there is any reference asking the Provincial Government to curtail the tours of Ministers?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“A separate question may be put.”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“In reply to a supplementary question the Hon. Minister said, we have no extra staff in the State. May I know, Sir, whether the Retrenchment Committee appointed by this Government recommended retrenchment in the staff? If so, what is the meaning in saying there is no extra staff in this State?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“That may have a certain meaning, but what we do also has a certain meaning. We did examine those recommendations in consultation with the various heads of departments and we came to the conclusion that there was no need for retrenchment. That also has some meaning.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Sir, granting that all further purposes of retrenchment are not open to us, is it not the duty of the Government to concentrate on new sources of revenue without resort to additional taxation?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Yes, Sir, The hon. Member is perfectly right in asking the Government to seek new avenues of revenue.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Sir, as an economy measure, if they cannot reduce the staff, will not the Government consider the advisability of reducing the number of Ministers from 13 to 10 especially when a few Advisers were able to manage the administration?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Just now there are 13 Ministers to be reduced to 10. Apart from that, the question does not arise.”

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—“May I know, Sir, whether it is the Central Government that marked the instructions

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as confidential or the Hon. Finance Minister wanted to treat them as confidential and so refuses to place them on the table of the House ? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“ It is rather difficult to answer the question. As I have already said the correspondence is confidential and whether they marked it or I marked it as confidential does not matter.”

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—“ May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that while the people were thinking that the Government were going to spend 29 crores, they sanctioned 27 crores on establishment ? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“ Some time ago it was 20 or 22 crores, but I do not think it has gone up to 29 crores.”

JANAB K. M. SEETHI:—“ May I know, Sir, whether the Government think there is no further scope for retrenchment in the matter of administration ? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“ Consistent with the efficiency we have to maintain in the administration of the various departments, it is not possible.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ May I know, Sir, whether this Government have informed the Central Government that they have done their best in the matter of curtailment of expenditure and that no further retrenchment or curtailment is possible ? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“ Yes, Sir.”

JANAB MOHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—“ Is the Hon. Minister aware that there is a general impression both inside this House and outside that the Government could effect some economy under the cost of administration if the Hon. Leader of the House had kept up the promise he held out some time ago, so that he might satisfy the Members here and the public outside that there is no scope for reduction ? ”

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—“ May I know, Sir, with reference to the relationship propounded by the Hon. Finance Minister with regard to cost and efficiency, whether he is going to increase the efficiency of administration by increasing the cost and whether he will take any steps in that direction ? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“ We do feel that without an adequate number of officers these things cannot be undertaken. It is no use asking the Executive Engineer, for instance, to spend money without giving him the necessary staff—Assistant Engineers and Supervisors. Necessary staff, etc., must therefore be given if we want to see that the work is carried out expeditiously.”

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SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“ Sir, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to take this House into confidence and let us have a general summary of the various measures of retrenchment effected in the several departments ? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“ I think that information was already laid on the table of the House. If necessary, we shall certainly lay it on the table of the House.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“ Sir, while the Hon. Minister's anxiety to seek new sources of revenue is appreciated on all sides, does it show any concern on the part of the Government to actually seek new sources of revenue while they cut down in the budget estimate the sanctioned expenditure for nationalization of transport in the next two years ? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“ There are other matters incidental to expansion of nationalization and all those factors have also to be gone into before we decide to extend it. Therefore, there is no provision in the budget with regard to nationalization.”

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ Sir, is it not a fact that democracy is costly and it necessitates the opening of more departments and the employment of more officers and staff ? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“ Yes, Sir. Not only democracy, but Republican Democracy and freedom also are costly.”

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

II.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1950-51—cont.

DEMAND XXI—INDUSTRIES—cont.

* SRI G. LATCHANNA:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the Demand for Industries I would like to draw the attention of the Government particularly to the industries which are organized by the workers themselves. For instance, at Dowlesh-waram, there is a small scale industry engaged in cast iron safe, etc. They can be called cottage industries and no machinery is necessary for those industries but only by human skill such industries are progressing there and there are too many proprietors who are running such industries. But, when the workers demanded more facilities and benefits to which they were entitled under the legislative enactments, the proprietors of those industries closed them down in order to bring round the workers. Since the workers themselves have got their own small industries to carry on they are not progressing. Even though the proprietors have closed down their industries since the last three months, they are getting their quotas regularly, but I do not know what they are doing with these quotas. God alone knows what they are doing with the iron and steel quota they are getting. They are not working properly but yet they are getting their quota, whereas the workers are not given sanction to get extra quota of

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steel. Till now the Government have not been kind enough to consider their position. Of course, it may not be a matter for the Industries Department but the Labour Department is also ignoring the conditions of the workers of these industries. Sir, it is a well-known industry which has got markets throughout the country and it is also competing in foreign markets in respect of hand scales, iron safes, iron boxes for washing purposes, etc. But no help from the Government is coming forward to help the industry and the workers have to depend on their own industry and with not even one meal a day they have to work hard so that they may stand on their own legs in the matter of self-sufficiency. I would request the Government to consider the situation at Dowleshwaram and encourage the industries which are organized by the workers themselves and which are run very efficiently and are having a reputation throughout the country.

By and by I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the coir industry, particularly in Visakhapatnam district. There are thousands of Burma evacuees there who have no livelihood. During the second World War, the then Government were kind enough to start some coir industries; it can be said that it is a sample industry and not at all self-sufficient. A population of 30 to 40 thousand people have no other livelihood and both males and females are earning their livelihood by coir-making by their old crude methods. If the Government would take a little more interest they can develop the coir industry to the level obtaining in Malabar coast so as to enable the people to earn enough at least for one meal a day. I do not want to say that the major industries should be ignored but I would request the Government to give an equal attention, if not special attention in regard to these cottage industries where the people are really suffering and starving. These things can be solved by encouraging cottage industries in right earnest and not by drawing up schemes and making announcement in papers but by actually putting them into practice by which the Government would be enabled to rectify grievances in two ways, one by solving the question of the rehabilitation of evacuees in East Godavari and Visakhapatnam districts and developing cottage industries and at the same time solving the food problem of thousands of people who are actually starving.

"One industry was started on a co-operative basis by the ex-service men but it is not progressing in a self-sufficient manner because of lack of encouragement on the part of the public as well as the Government. In respect of the industries that have been started, I would urge that the Government should take special care so that they may be developed and reach a stage of self-sufficiency and the people who are engaged in it may have both encouragement and a little more higher standard of living than they have now."

* SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—Mr. Speaker, Sir, what may strike any one who reads the opening speech of the Hon. Minister moving the demand is that the Government are about to construct or are already having buildings ready for the

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in March 1950] For several years past, we have separation of vegetable ghee. For several years past, we have ad from the columns of the paper of the All India Village Industries Association conducted from Wardha that vegetable oil is not wholesome to the human system, it is deleterious to health and is one which undermines the breeding of good milk cattle. So, Sir, it is somewhat surprising that the preparation of vegetable ghee should be sponsored by the Government. Of course the Hon. Minister can have the plea that the schemes were prepared before he accepted office. A thing that is bad cannot be perpetuated because part of the work has already been undertaken and started; the earlier it is put down the better.

With regard to soap-making by the Government, we find that though the Government have interested themselves in soap-making, enough propaganda has not been undertaken by the Government in a way they could have done with a view to see that foreign soaps which are very largely consumed in this country are prevented from coming into the country. My submission is that intensive propaganda might be undertaken and also production may be expanded so that at least in this State our Kerala soaps may be able to supplant foreign soaps.

Another point that I noted in the speech of the Hon. the Minister for Industries is that in the Industrial Corporation that has been started and in which the Government have invested 51 lakhs of rupees, there is a kind of reluctance on the part of those who, the Government expected, would invest, to invest and it is a matter for the consideration of the Government as to what is the reason for this reluctance. Very probably the industries to which loans have been given by the Board are such as would not appeal to those who would like to invest in the Corporation.

With regard to cottage industries, it is a matter for some more consideration on the part of the Government than they have bestowed till now. So far as our popular Government are concerned, the question of cottage industries is one of the main planks upon which we claim to be a popular Government and to implement which we are supposed to be now running the Government and in fact, it is one of the main points of Gandhiji's own economic programme. Yet, the methods by which we have been tackling the question are just the same which the foreign rulers were doing—tinkering with the matter here and there and waiting for the cottage industries to ask for help. The best way for the popular Government intent upon the good of the people and of raising their economic level is to take a survey of those parts of the country where cultivation alone is the main occupation and people remain without any subsidiary occupation for six to eight months in the year, and particularly in the dry districts where unless seasons are favourable, we do not even have one harvest. The Government should take a survey of such areas where famine immediately sets in as soon as the monsoons fail and as a result there is failure of crops and there the Government should have data as to which cottage industries could be introduced in order to give a supplementary occupation to the people,

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so that the people may not suffer even if there is failure of crops. That requires detailed investigation and those areas which are frequently famine-affected should be investigated.

"Now, Sir, cottage industries are sought to be developed in firkas where the Firka Development Scheme is in operation; and if it is sought to be developed or extended, it is extended to the adjoining firka in that particular district. They choose like that because supervision would be easier and the officer in charge of the Firka Development Scheme in a firka would also be put in charge of the adjoining firka. I submit, Sir, that it will not be fair to the other taluks. For instance in the Melur taluk of Madura district, there is the Vadanatham firka which is a dry area and people live on dry cultivation; if at all cottage industries are introduced it should be in such parts of the district where people really stand in need of subsidiary occupations. I hope that the Government will undertake a survey on the lines I have indicated and while extending the Firka Development schemes, they will do it on consideration of the needs of each firka rather than be guided solely by considerations of administrative convenience.

"I wish to make a submission regarding the yarn position so far as it affects our weavers. We were 33 per cent surplus; the handloom weavers, instead of their having yarn enough for thirty days, had yarn with which they could carry on for ten days more. We were producing large quantities of yarn. But now we find as a result of the distribution arrangement in regard to yarn by the Central Government that our weavers can get only a quota for ten days' work in a month. I would, therefore, urge upon the Government to press the Central Government to see that on account of the reduced quota, our handloom weavers should not suffer. They should not suffer for want of work and go without their food merely because yarn is required in some other parts of the country. Before we try to oblige the other parts of the country in the Union, we should at least see that our weavers do not suffer by having only one-third of the month on wages and the other two-thirds on starvation.

"Let me take cotton control. The Cotton Control Rules have been so framed as to establish or encourage a kind of corruption. Where ginned cotton is transported from district to district, we find that there is a kind of restriction but if the same owner purchases kapas, he can freely do so with the result that almost all mills are supposed to be purchasing kapas whereas in fact ginned cotton is coming in. In this way fraud is practised; in the invoices produced by them, unginned cotton would be mentioned whereas in fact only ginned cotton would be coming in. This is done in order to avoid the restriction imposed upon movement. It does not help anybody, the Government or even the very dealers. As a matter of fact one entire set of people who had been carrying on business has been eliminated by the supposed purchase of unginned cotton by the mills. The sooner such kind of rules which start evasion are amended the better.

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not fair to labour. As the Hon. Minister for Industries mentioned yesterday, we find that suddenly 6,000 labourers are discharged in Madura and matters are so precipitated that even if the Government issue a warning, or the Labour Commissioner issues the warning, or the Industrial Tribunal steps in, it is of no avail and it is carried out suddenly. In another place, a subsidy of one crore has been provided by the Central Government for purposes of enabling the mill to have enough supply of cotton. There has been a profit of Rs. 30 lakhs and the whole of it is sought to be distributed as dividends, working to 17½ per cent, among the shareholders. In the past they were given extra bonus shares twice with the result that it works to six times and the profit works to 105 per cent. Last year they gave a bonus of 24 months' pay but this year they have no money because they are distributing the whole money with the result that two months' bonus is sought to be given. There is another mill where the men are supposed to work but the work is done in some other place. Sir, it is useless to say that the whole thing will be settled by the Labour Minister. A stage has now reached, when the capitalist is not afraid of fines, because he sees that after all he might have to give a penalty of Rs. 200 or so; or if it is a question of imprisonment, it would be only a cheap imprisonment till the rising of the Court. A more drastic remedy is needed. In my opinion Government should take over the mills themselves, as they did in the case of Sholapur. If they have not the power to do that, let them get it by writing to the Central Government, and then let them by means of an Ordinance or legislation take over the mills, so that recalcitrant mills may be brought to their sense. I hope the Hon. Ministers concerned would take into consideration my suggestions."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Sir, while I rise to support the demand moved by the Hon. Minister for Industries, I have to say a few words. I am glad we are invited to give valuable suggestions on this subject. But year after year hon. Members are giving valuable suggestions, and I am yet to see whether any of those suggestions have been adopted by the Government. (Laughter.) At page 24 of the budget speech of the Hon. Finance Minister, he says, an additional extent of 108,000 acres have been brought under cultivation. Then he says that so many bore-wells have been sunk in South Arcot. Now if water from these wells is being utilised and so many acres have been brought under cultivation—if what Government say is correct—I am sure there is nothing to worry about production of food. I really want to know what has happened to those acres brought under cultivation, and also about the bore-wells. In spite of all these, we are yet parading this province with Grow More Food Campaign! I hope the Hon. Minister will explain what really they are doing.

Then under technical education about providing facilities for the manufacture of bangles, I understand about 15 students are being trained every year. We have been hearing about this

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hangle industry year after year. I do not know how it is working. How does it stand against competition from North India? It is no good starting an industry unless it is able to stand against competition. We have been hearing of the closing of match factories."

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Not all."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Mostly, what does it mean. It means 'not all'. The fact is that many of the match factories have been closed down."

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"I do not want facts to be misrepresented. Only a few of them have been closed down."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—"I am only putting it in correct English. (Laughter.) The only cottage industry I can see to-day is illicit distillation. That is what I read in the papers. If there is any cottage industry which thrives to-day it is illicit distillation of liquor, a thing of which nobody can be proud."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"There is the hand-loom industry, which is thriving as a cottage industry."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—"We know how it is thriving. In fact it has been undergoing untold suffering. Then, the Hon. Minister says that Government have started a well-equipped Chemical Testing and Analytical Laboratory. How much money was spent on it; who is in charge of it? On these points the Hon. Minister is silent. Such a laboratory can be maintained only by Western nations. It involves large expenditure, most of which may not result in any tangible benefit, as it is mostly research. Then one has to maintain a personnel for that, which also would be very expensive."

"Then there is the Andhra Paper Mills. Here, a Congress Government would go and get a foreigner to run it rather than bring one from Northern India. Then, they have brought an obsolete machinery. Either they should scrap the entire obsolete machinery and go in for new up-to-date machinery or not run the mills at all. But the Hon. Sri Sitarama Reddi will say that they are now producing eight tons a day. If it is so, where are they finding a sale for that? Is that able to stand competition?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Government consume most of it."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—"If Government consume the produce it is no real guide at all. If it is able to stand as a commercial venture, I can understand it."

"Then with regard to the ceramic factory at Gudur how much money was spent on it? There are several articles which are in daily demand which can be manufactured there. There is the

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Electricity Department which is craving for insulators. Cannot Government produce them in this factory and absorb the entire produce? It is not vouchsafed to us, as to what this factory is doing. I fear a lot of money is being wasted over that factory."

"About State Aid to Industries, we have seen so many industries being financed. But, may I know, who is there to look after to see whether that money is being used properly? My complaint is, there is nobody in Government for that. Reverting again to the Electricity Department, because I am interested in it, I want Government to produce in their ceramic factory the several small things that are daily used by the Electricity Department. Now, every year Government are purchasing them here and absorb the prices. They can as well manufacture them here and absorb the products in their own department. Take again, house service meters. They now cost Rs. 96, whereas before the war, they were sold for Rs. 50. Then the budget envisages larger expenditure under lignite investigation, as also under iron and steel. That means more capital is required for them. For that, if we produce all our electrical goods in our own factories, it will save to us so much capital, and then our department can be self-sufficient. As my time is almost over I resume my seat."

SRI C. M. KOTHARI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, while supporting the Demand moved by the Hon. Minister for Industries I have to say a few words about the administration of cloth and yarn control and cotton control. I shall take first the question of cotton control, because I feel the agriculturists of this country are at a disadvantage, compared to the purchases made by the Government of India on behalf of the mills. I wish to know why the Government of this Province have not pressed the case for the decontrol of cotton. Either the Centre has been practically controlling the Province, or their case has not been very well put before the Centre."

"I will explain in a few words how the agriculturist is affected by the control of cotton. We are told that Cambodia cotton has a ceiling price and a floor price. The ceiling price is Rs. 800 and the floor price is Rs. 600; but the kapas is not controlled at all. As a consequence, the mills are not getting their requirements, and so the Government of India have to import to the extent of rupees two lakhs U.S.A. cotton, spending the hard-earned currency of the people. While Japan and other countries are offered high price for their kapas, the agriculturist here is denied that price. So it is of imperative necessity to this Ministry to see that they impress on the Government of India that the controlled ceiling price they fix is inelastic and the agriculturist is suffering thereby. Are we going to be left in the lurch?"

"Another important point that this control of cotton has is, that kapas is being bought at a lower price, it is ginned and manufacturing charges are added. I would not say, blackmarketing is existing in respect of kapas. Is it necessary that we should control cotton and do not control kapas? If we control

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12 noon. kapas, agriculturists will suffer. So I appeal to the Hon. Minister in charge to stress upon the Government of India that cotton should be decontrolled. The hon. Member representing those remarks will not go unchallenged by the Minister when he replies to the debate. He made mention of a cotton mill in Mathurai. I hope he is unaware that this mill called the Madura Mills had not paid dividend to the shareholders for nearly twelve years out of an existence of eighty years. Capital is shy and industries are on the verge of closure. There is no subsidy for cotton. He must realize that one-half of the profits made by mills goes away for the payment of taxes—a large portion of it in the payment of the General Sales Tax. Mention was made about Sholapur Mills. I am afraid he does not know the difference between Sholapur and Madura. Sholapur Mills was so badly managed that the Government of Bombay promulgated an Ordinance and took over the Mills themselves. I hope he does not expect every mill in this State to be taken over by the Government, as that will completely eliminate private enterprise. As against the normal production of 4,300 million yards, only 3,800 million yards are produced to-day. Is that the way in which we want to encourage industries? It is high time that we explore possibilities for increasing our production.

"I come to the administration of cotton and yarn control. The Hon. Minister has given some figures regarding middleman's profit and the extra charges which the consumers have to pay by way of Sales Tax and distribution charges. But he has conveniently omitted to give figures about yarn and cloth. I feel that the Hon. Minister for Industries should impress on the Government of India that it is absolutely unnecessary to continue the control over cloth and yarn for a number of reasons. The mills are asked to give two-thirds of the yarn a mill produces to the consumers. But even this two-thirds is not lifted. He is aware of the sad plight of the handloom industry and the handloom products are not easily marketed. There is no possibility of blackmarket and unfair distribution, as plenty of stock is available in the country. As I said, control breeds blackmarket. In the interests of the State as a whole, I urge that the control on cloth and yarn should be lifted.

"Sri P. Natesan referred to the ceramic factory at Gudur. I do not want to challenge his suggestion. Such a small industry cannot command the facility of raw materials, etc. The Government must encourage it till it can stand on its own legs. Afterwards they can give it to an individual or a limited concern to run it for the benefit of the State.

"The Hon. Minister says that in the case of yarn, it had been decided recently not to license any more dealers without the specific approval of Government. Licensing also breeds blackmarket. Therefore there should be no control over licence; it should be free."

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RAJA MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, after the speech of my esteemed Friend who represents commercial interests so well in this House and occupying as he does the authoritative position of Vice-President of the Federation of India Chambers of Commerce and Industry, there remains very little for me to speak. But I think it will not be out of place if I speak on one or two points even at the risk of repetition.

"I have said on a former occasion that though certain subjects are entirely within the jurisdiction of the Government of India, yet any shortcoming in the administration of that subject may adversely affect our local economy and that therefore it should be the concern of the local Government to make vigorous representations from time to time. Control over cotton is one such subject. Though I have referred to the cotton situation more than once, I fail to see any response from the Government. I have not heard that the Hon. Minister for Industries has waited on deputation on the Government of India and represented the cotton situation in our State. Do the Government realize the implications of the shortage of cotton? Thanks to all concerned, to-day the relationship between labour, industry and Government is cordial. I only wish that this happy state should continue in the coming years. There should be complete peace and perfect law and order when we launch on the great experiment of elections based on adult franchise in a year's time. Nothing should be done to deflect the people's support to the Members of the present Government and men of their way of thinking. We wish that such people are in power at least for some years to come. It is in that fond hope I say that the situation should not be allowed to deteriorate, particularly in the economic field. If there is shortage of cotton, mills will have to close down either fully or partially. The resulting unemployment will give a handle to those who are opposed to the Government to do propaganda against them. I do not want such a situation to arise. It is well within the power of the Government to avert such a situation. Bombay being nearer to Delhi, the Minister for Industries in the Bombay Government has the ear of the Government of India. I do not see why the Minister for Industries in the Madras Government should not have not only one ear but both ears of the Government of India. I do hope to see in the newspapers that our Minister for Industries travelled to Delhi several times and represented to the Central Government the need for allotting more cotton to this State. Unless cotton is given, how is it possible to run the mills? There are instances of the Government asking the mills not to close down but to continue work and saying that they will supply cotton somehow. How long can they do like this? From reports that I have heard, I see that the voice of Bombay, Sholapur and Ahmedabad dominates in the Textile Board, though there are representatives of Madras on it. It is the duty of the Government to step in and support our non-official representatives on the Board. They should make immediate representation to the Government for the supply of enough cotton for the mills in South

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India. There is no mill in South India which is anxious to work to its maximum capacity. Certain mills are working three shifts, certain mills are working two shifts and certain mills are anxious to work with less than two shifts. It is the imperative duty of the Government to provide the mills with adequate cotton. Otherwise the mills will have to close down and thousands and thousands of workers will be thrown out of employment. Neither I nor the millowners wish that such a tragic situation should arise and disturb the cordial relationship between labour, industry and the Government. We can be proud of the present happy situation and I congratulate the Government on having averted a crisis during last year and the year before that. The situation is fraught with the possibility of deterioration in the coming weeks. This Government are not even fully posted with information about the total quantity of cotton required, the number of mill employees, etc., to tackle the situation effectively should any crisis occur. The Government may have the information but this House has not been told about it. In such matters, the Government must be alert and tell the people that they are fully seized of the situation, that so much is the shortage and that they are making good the shortage by such and such means. When I told the Labour Minister about the deterioration in the cotton position a few months ago, he took the trouble of convening a small conference and noted down certain details from the parties concerned. I am yet to know what further has happened. To-day a large proportion of the profits of the mills goes to labour and it is all to the good. It is necessary to see that the situation continues without further deterioration.

"I shall not dwell upon the necessity, or otherwise for the removal of control on cloth and yarn. I think the situation will be all right if there is no control. Though the subject is not within the jurisdiction of this Government, this Government have got a right to advise the Government of India. Only when the several States make representations, the Government of India will move. Otherwise, how are the Central Government to take a decision on the abolition or retention of controls?"

"I now turn to the Industrial Investment Corporation. What is the object of constituting that body? It is to help the Government to plan their industrial policy with an expert eye. I am very glad that the Corporation has been well established. Applications for aid are made to the Government as well as to the Corporation. I speak on the authority of the Chairman of the Corporation. Applications for less than five lakhs of rupees may be dealt with by the Government under the State Aid to Industries Act and applications for five lakhs of rupees and more may be left to be disposed by the Industrial Investment Corporation. With such a demarcation, the purpose of setting up the Industrial Investment Corporation will be served."

2-15 p.m. SRI S. NAGAPPA:—Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister for Industries that there are very many possibilities of developing this Province industrially

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and the Rayalaseema in particular. Kurnool is a place where raw materials for the manufacture of cement are found in abundance. I was told that licences were given to some gentle men for the starting of a cement factory and a spinning and weaving mill in Kurnool, but that these people have failed to float a company because they could not collect the necessary share capital. I want to know why the Government should not themselves start these two industries out of their own funds. After the completion of the Tungabhadra Project, we will have enough electric power and that could be used for the running of these two industries cheaply. I therefore request the Hon. Minister for Industries to review the position again and see whether the Government themselves could not start these two industries in the Kurnool district.

Secondly, Sir, there are ever-so-many children and boys of the working class people and labourers whose parents are unable to educate them, and for whom the Government are not in a position to give free and compulsory education. These boys could usefully be put in some industrial schools or technical training centres, so as to make them skilled artisans. There is only one poly-technic school in the Rayalaseema and this could not absorb all these boys, and since most of these boys have not got any secondary education, they could not get admission there. There was a proposal to start an industrial school in Kurnool and another one in Cuddapah, but up till now they have not yet been started. I had a discussion in the matter with the authorities concerned a few days back, and they were good enough to tell me that because of the dearth of technical teaching staff, they could not open such schools. Now I ask, why have the Government lent so many of their hands to the Central Government for their technical training centres for demobilized persons and for the refugees? The Government of India and they are now teaching staff to the Government of India and they are now suffering from want of trained teachers, and so they are not able to start some more training centres of their own, for these boys.

As regards the Firka development schemes, they are spending lakhs of rupees at the various centres on training units and all the materials that were used therein are now lying idle and are not put to any use. If even half that amount is spent for the training of these boys, it would have produced more useful results. Now especially in Kurnool, these materials are getting rotten and go to waste, because they are not able to find a safe place to keep them in, nor is the department able to provide a storeroom for putting them in. That is the position, Sir, so far as these training materials are concerned. There was an offer from the Harijan Sevak Sangh to place these materials at their disposal, so that they could make use of them for training their Harijan boys. I do not know what has become of that proposal, but I want to ask the Government that if they are not in a position to take up the training of these boys themselves on some technical line, they could at least order the transfer of these materials to

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some private agencies who are prepared to take up the work themselves. Why should these materials be wasted in this manner, on which the Government have spent thousands of rupees from public funds?

"Sir, take again the Provincial Motor Transport Department, which is growing day by day and in which the Government are owning a number of buses and lorries. They can train these boys in body-building and in various other jobs. I do not find even a single workshop worth the name to take up the work of body-building in the districts. I would request the Hon. Minister to have a discussion on this matter with the officers of the Industries department and see whether they cannot start any workshops in the district headquarters for building bodies for these vehicles. Now there are many motor transport co-operative societies organized by the Co-operative department, and these societies have come forward to open workshops to take up the work of body-building for these vehicles. We have about 60 to 70 vehicles running in each of the districts. They build their bodies in the City of Madras. They are spending for a single vehicle, Rs. 2,000 and Rs. 3,000 for building bodies. I ask, why not this body-building be done at every district headquarters? The Government are owning about 500 motor buses and they can open workshops in the district centres through these co-operative societies and train these boys for various jobs in the motor transport department. They can be trained as drivers, cleaners, mechanics and for various other jobs. This will go a long way in enabling these boys to get technical training.

"Now, Sir, coming to some of the major industries, I was just referring to the need for starting a cement factory in Kurnool. In this connection, I would ask the Government what was the reason for them to close down the paper mill at Gaganapalle. Instead of making every effort to rectify the defects and improve its working, they have gone to the extent of closing it. Is this the policy of the Government?

"Sir, in Markapur there is a famous slate factory. They were supplying slates even to Ceylon. The Government have not given any transport facilities nor any other encouragement to this industry with the result that it is on the point of being closed down.

"Sir, the whole of the Rayalaseema is rich in mineral wealth. No attempt has been made by the Government to carry out a geological survey and to find out how far they can exploit these mineral wealth. The standard of living of our people in this country cannot be improved merely by agriculture alone. We must improve our industries, exploit our mines and minerals, and increase our production. Only then our country can hope to prosper and only then the economic condition of the country will improve and the standard of life of our masses will be raised. We must develop not only our cottage industries, but also the large-scale industries.

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"Sir, I would suggest that the Co-operative Department and the Department of Industries could be clubbed together into one department, instead of their remaining as separate departments, and put in charge of one officer. There is ample scope to organize small-scale and big-scale factories in this Province on a co-operative basis. If the Government would only appoint a co-operative supervisor at every mill or factory or workshop where there are 25,000 people, or more supervisors, to collect at the rate of half-anna in the rupee that each labourer earns, they can get crores of rupees of capital. They have not got the foresight; they cannot think; they have no policy; they have no programme; they have no schemes. Such is the state of the Government and I have never come across with a Government like this in my life.

"Sir, I request the Government to move in the matter. Let them not keep quiet. If they had been idle hitherto, let them at least hereafter come forward with some programme and with some policy. There is a lot of scope to collect the capital necessary to start new industries even from the labourers.

"Sir, with regard to cottage industries, they have been talking and talking about cottage industries, but they have not done anything concrete or substantial in the matter. Now there are so many facilities for starting such industries. For instance in the Rayalaseema, you can start a number of cottage industries, such as basket-making, cumbly-weaving, slate-making, etc. The Hon. Minister for Industries should tour these districts and study the conditions in each place and try to start such of the cottage industries that will work successfully. There is no use sitting tight in his cushion seat in the Treasury Benches and under the electric fan, saying, 'My department is there, my officers are there and they will look after everything'. That is not the way that a popular Ministry should carry on the administration. Such an administration will not continue long. There is no change in their old policy; there is no programme for them to act. If they want that the condition of the labourer is to be improved, the labourer must be made the owner of the factory in which he works. The Government have not taken any steps in this direction, and such being the case, how can they expect the standard of living of the labourer to go up?"

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, if there is one portfolio, the administration of which is enough to condemn this Ministry, it is this portfolio of Industries. But I am not going to enter into the detailed acts of omission and commission on the part of the present Minister for Industries, because he is quite new and is holding somebody's child. Sir, his portfolio has suffered much because of the frequent changes in the Ministry and also of the Premiership. During the Premiership of Mr. Prakasam, Mr. Giri was in charge of this portfolio. During the Premiership of Mr. Ramaswami Reddiar, the Hon. Mr. Sitarama Reddi was in charge of it and now during

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the Premiership of the Hon. Mr. Kumaraswami Raja, the Hon. Mr. Perumalsami Reddi is holding this portfolio. Sir, enough confusion had already been created when Mr. Kala Venkata Rao was the Minister for Revenue."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We are not on the Revenue Demand now."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Sir, when Mr. Kala Venkata Rao handed over charge of his office of Revenue Minister to Mr. Sitarama Reddi, he also handed over enough confusion in regard to that portfolio. The Hon. Mr. Sitarama Reddi, after he had taken over the Land Revenue portfolio found that he had too much work and therefore handed over the industries portfolio to my hon. Friend Mr. Perumalsami Reddi and that is why I sympathise with him because, he has been holding this baby at the last stage and has to bear all the brunt of attack for the sins of omission and commission on the part of his predecessors. Perhaps it may be pointed out that there is joint responsibility in the Cabinet. If that were so, then all the Ministers are responsible for the production of this child, because this child has played a greater part and therefore has taken a larger share in the charges that are pending against the Ministers."

MR. SPEAKER:—"What has this demand to do with the charges against the Ministers? I cannot allow the hon. Member to make reference to these things which have no relevancy to the Demand under discussion."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Let me explain to you, Sir, the relevancy and the connection between this Demand and the charges against the Ministers. It is the administration of this portfolio that has figured very largely in those charges. At least 50 per cent of the items that are referred to by the Hon. Mr. Prakasam in his charges relate to the administration of this portfolio, and that resolution, Sir, is now pending before this House for your ruling. But I shall not go into those details at present because fortunately the matter has come up before this House and before you and if this House is fortunate and if this Province is fortunate we will have an opportunity to go into and discuss those charges, although various attempts had been made to deny this House the privilege of having a discussion over such an important matter as that. Sir, as I said, most of the charges contained in that resolution relate to the manner in which this portfolio has been administered, and that resolution is now pending discussion in this House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is still repeating the same thing and is still making reference to that resolution and to those charges. If he repeats them again, I will not allow the hon. Member to speak further."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Sir, I shall confine myself to the administration of the State-Aid-to Industries Act,

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it has been administered by this Government during the last these years, and I shall attempt to show how this Government have used it for their own purposes, party as well as personal, and how they had betrayed the confidence, the faith and the responsibility that were reposed in them by the public and how this Province is suffering on account of their sins of omission and commission in this respect. Sir, as you have ruled, I shall not go into those charges, because it would be a difficult and a delicate problem for me to discuss them or to point out on the floor of the House how they have mismanaged and misused the State-aid-to Industries Act in the matter of giving aid to an oil mill at Katpadi, to a mill in Gudur and to another mill in Nellore and to a paper mill in some other place. It would be very difficult to avoid mentioning these things, because it is here that they have abused the provisions of that Act in order to favour particular individuals. Sir, a time will come, when the whole thing will be known to this House and also to the public outside.

"Sir, it is not enough for Members like the hon. Gentleman, Mr. R. V. Swaminathan, who is a member of the Board which deals with the applications for loans by the various industries seeking aid from the Government to feel satisfied with the procedure that is gone through or with the justice, reasonableness and propriety of such applications or the manner in which they have been scrutinized and disposed of by the State-aid to Industries Board. Sir, my hon. Friend the Rajah of Chettinad, this morning pointed out that there should be a line of demarcation between the applications to be dealt with by the Industries Board and those by the Finance Corporation and suggested that applications for loans above Rs. 5 lakhs should be dealt with only by the Industrial Finance Corporation and not by the Board of Industries. Sir, the Government have simply created the Finance Corporation and nothing yet has happened. It has not begun to function although it has been formed. Still the Government are going on granting loans to persons they like for reasons well known to themselves and not completely known to this House or to the public."

"Now, Sir, I shall make a categorical statement before the Hon. Minister for Industries that every industry for which State-aid has been given by the Government during the last three years is either not working to-day or if working, has been working at a loss and I am prepared to take the reply from the Hon. Minister, even at this stage, and also ask him whether it is not a fact. Let him get up and say whether it is not so. Let him make a categorical statement before the House that the Government have given such and such aid to such and such industries and let him tell the House whether any of them are working and if so, whether they are working at a profit or loss. Sir, it is easy for them to say that they had taken every precaution and made every enquiry before sanctioning the loan, but have they taken any care or any action to find out how the industries have utilized the amount, and how they have been working after they had taken the aid from the Government? No, they have done nothing of

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that kind. They have not raised their little finger to find out how they had utilized the amount or how they are working. I ask the previous Minister for Industries to tell the House what precautions and what steps he had taken to see that the money that was given was used properly. Sir, it is common knowledge that this State-aid to Industries Act is intended for the purpose of giving aid to such industries which are essential and for which capital is shy and not forthcoming from the public or from private shareholders. It is not to be given to newspaper editors or to snuff manufacturers. I am told that the Government are thinking of giving aid to some snuff manufacturer of this Province. That clearly shows that they have not understood the purpose for which the State-aid to Industries Act was intended to be applied. It is clearly shown therein for what industries and for what purposes State-aid can be given under the Act. It is true that there is a provision in the Act that aid can be given to industries which are essential, which require capital and technical aid and where capital is shy, but that does not mean that they can give loans lavishly to any industry they like for personal or other reasons. As an example of how loans have been granted, let me tell you, Sir, that in my own district Rs. 1 lakh has been given to an industry some years back, but still it has not started production. I won't take much of your time in citing the example of the Nellore Ceramic Factory which is running at a loss. I was just telling the House that the factories were not working. I have information here that the factories are working at a loss. Not only those industries which are State-aided but also Government industries in which the money of the Government is spent and which are managed directly by the Hon. Minister with the help of the Government department, are working at a loss.

"Sir, about four days ago you disallowed a question of mine wherein I was asking 'in addition to all the lands, jobs, permits, exploitation of forests, of mines and of minerals, to the political sufferers, what else are we going to give them?' You said, Sir, that I could put a separate question. Sir, is it not a fact that only last month the Hon. Minister for Land Revenue, or I do not know whether it was the Board of Revenue, gave preference to political sufferers in the exploitation of minerals and of some quarries for taking materials for building purposes? There are clear orders in my hand to show that the Government or the Board of Revenue have instructed the Collectors to show preference to political sufferers. This morning the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi stated that it is the policy of Government to give preference to political sufferers where other things are equal. That is a very dangerous phrase, for the mental attitude that

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is the hon. Member correct in introducing this subject now? What have we to do with this?"

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"State-aid is given to these people. I will tell you, if you will pardon me, how this

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is relevant. In my district there was a quarry. A request was made to the Collector to auction the right of exploiting that quarry. One fine morning one lady came and brought the matter of auction to the notice of the Minister and the Revenue Board and then the order was passed that it should not be auctioned. One person had sent a petition directly to the Land Revenue Minister saying personally, 'You give that quarry to me and I will pay you Rs. 10,000.' There was no auction. The offer of Rs. 10,000 was rejected and the right was given to a person for a 'song' as Mr. Raza Khan says, on grounds of political considerations. It is on paper. Thus, for the last three years about a crore of rupees have been spent under some family patronage, party patronage or district patronage. So, this matter is relevant to the present discussion. But that is all past. This Budget session seems to be dull because there is no Leader's election. But I have got a warning to give to this Government. This Government are going to be measured by, or perhaps their life depends on, the way in which they are going to deal with cotton and the cotton textile industry. Some hon. Members who have spoken before me have said that the relationship between the labour, the industry and the Government is good. We have given sufficient warning to the Government to take stock of the situation and see that cotton is supplied to the industry. Either the Ministers are indifferent or are incapable of appreciating the seriousness of the situation and they have not done anything so far. Much depends on the condition of labour. The very existence of this Ministry depends upon the way in which they tackle the cotton problems."

* DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO:—"Sir, in tackling the problem of industry in this State, a Government ought to make up its mind as to what policy it is going to follow. Without a policy we shall never be able to achieve anything worthwhile. Years ago we made up our minds in a way to respect the Socialist method of production on the Russian pattern. I remember an old friend of ours, an American, who spent some time in Russia early in the thirties of this century, writing an article upon the great industrial achievement of Russia since the first War. That article I was able to read on my way to the United States. I was enamoured of the country and of its method of procedure that enabled the people to produce in abundance under the most trying human conditions. So, on my return home just before leaving the United States, I went over to the Russian Bureau of Information and asked for a permit and a pass to visit Russia. They were delighted to give me a pass and a permit. But they said that I must go under the Government guide. I told them that I wanted to see things for myself but the Russian Information Bureau told me that it was dangerous: 'You are a stranger belonging to another country under another Government. The Russian Government will take charge of you and of your life. Therefore, if you travel in Russia, you must be under Russian guide. Otherwise, you won't get a permit to visit Russia.' That means that what visitors go they are permitted to see only certain

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to help them to the extent possible in co-operation with the Government of India. The Government of Madras have been interesting themselves in certain cottage industries. Just now, Mr. Ramachandra Rao was telling how difficult it is for these articles of cottage industry to be sold. We have got to find suitable markets for them and it is not an easy problem as several hon. Members think it to be. This is a new adventure on the part of the Government of Madras since the Congress Government came into office and we have been trying to do our best. But circumstances are such that we are not able to push up certain schemes which we have thought of in the year 1946, for want of technicians.

"The Government of Madras and the Government of Mysore have come to an agreement with regard to the dollar-earning Drugget Industry. We have set up a Joint Advisory Board in this connection and we hope to capture that industry much to our advantage. We have also thought of another scheme which provides for the distribution of raw materials at cost price and for the free supply of models of improved labour saving tools and implements to enterprising village artisans in the Firka Development areas. Mr. Vaidyanatha Iyer pleaded that the cottage industry work should not be confined to the Firka Development areas only. I must say that the atmosphere is congenial in the Firka Development areas and there are also necessary men who could be used for these cottage industries work. But I shall certainly go into the question of extending these cottage industries work to other taluks also. I don't think I can give any assurance, but I can only say that the question will be examined very sympathetically.

"There is another matter. Unlike the big industrialists, the poor village artisans in small factories are almost illiterate and ignorant. These poor artisans expect something in return for the labour that they put in. Therefore the Government can only help them with technicians and with the necessary finances. The Government are only trying to help them by giving all the materials and tools which I have just now narrated. About Rs. 12 lakhs have been sanctioned as advance for the purchase of raw materials for distribution at cost price to artisans and Rs. 5 lakhs have been sanctioned towards free distribution of improved tools, etc. We have deputed three Firka Development Officers and Six Grama Sevaks to Wardha to undergo training in Village Industries. Eight Technical Officers have been appointed to guide the artisans in the use of improved tools and implements. We are also thinking of sending a delegation to Delhi to undergo vocational training on methods which the Government of India are encouraging on the Japanese lines. When they come, they will also be made use of for our cottage industries purposes.

"Apart from these, the Government are also considering the question of intensive development of certain industries whose products have a marketability value especially for export. They

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will be developed in the regions in which they are somewhat concentrated. To cite a few instances I may say Palmyra fibre and leaf products in Tuticorin and Tiruchendur areas; leather goods manufactured in Dindigul; woollen cumblis and other products in Bellary, pile carpets in Eluru; hand-made cotton lace in Narasapur and coir goods in Malabar district. We also propose to set up an Advisory Board in respect of each of these industries to advise Government on the measures to be taken to develop them.

"The question of the establishment of a central research institute for carrying out research work to improve the quality and efficiency, etc., of the tools and implements used in the cottage industry, is also under the active consideration of the Government.

"With regard to the request of Mr. Latchanna that Burma evacuees should be encouraged to take up coir industry and other industries, I shall go into the matter and see what can be done in the matter.

"Sir, I have nothing else to say except to make the House realise how difficult it is to take up cottage industries work and to develop the same. It takes a lot of time but the Government are earnest in their attempt. I am quite sure that if we want to help the villagers, it is only through the cottage industries that we can help them. If there are no cottage industries thriving in villages, the villagers will perish and if the villagers perish, India too will perish."

"THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to the cut motion moved by the hon. Gentleman, Mr. Abdul Majid, and in reply to the points raised by other hon. Members, I would like to state in the first instance that rapid industrialisation of this State is the cherished aim of this Government and with this end in view I claim we have initiated a vigorous policy. The development of industries in this State has been receiving the attention of both the Central and State Governments. This Government constituted the Industrial Planning Committee in 1947 to draw long-term and short-term plans for the industrialisation of this State. Some of the recommendations of the Committee have already been implemented while a few of the other recommendations are still under examination. This Government will also take an active part in the work of the newly created Planning Commission of the Government of India.

"Now, coming to Mr. Majid's complaint that this Government are not taking sufficient interest in the major industries, I would like to say that the Government are taking suitable action with a view to establish major industries like Textiles, Sugar, Cement, Vahanapathi, Chemicals, Automobiles, etc. The Government have distributed 352,000 spindles allotted to them by the Central Government to 24 new and 9 existing mills. The target for the expansion of sugar production in this Province has been fixed at 120,000 tons per annum and for this purpose ten new sugar factories will be started besides increasing the capacity of existing factories and to guarantee a well developed sugar industry in the

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enamoured of the situation, only two or three years ago came over to this country and after his subsequent experience, he recanted a great deal of what he wrote and said in the early stages. Therefore, Sir, when we think of socialism and the Russian method of work in industry, we are labouring under great difficulties. It has been shown to the world by the capitalistic countries that Russian method of production has been a failure. On the other hand, Russia wants its industry to be cracked up so that whatever Russia has done or will continue to do is the best method of industrial regeneration. For us, Sir, the difficulty is very great. I have been associated in my own humble way with the Bhadravathi Iron Works of Mysore for several years. I am speaking of those days before the advent of the freedom and the Republic. Then we had a Diwan of remarkable ability and driving power whose word was law. I believe industrial development started in Mysore a decade or two or even a quarter of a century before in this State. What has been the result? Most of the work done by the Government has been the business of everybody and in spite of the great personality and driving power of the Diwan and the excellent character and ability of the Civil Service of Mysore, most of the industries had not given even an ordinary flat rate of interest. Therefore, after a trial of several years, they had to give up that method of Governmental production and Government only invested money in companies started under the aegis of the Government themselves. That has been a better and cheaper method of production. Now let us come to ourselves. What have we done? At one time we say that we have to get control of all the key industries. Another time we say that we have to develop cottage industries. The third statement we make is that we have to produce luxuries so that production on a large scale would raise the standard of living of the ordinary man and woman. I would like to ask the Government to consider whether we have the time and the energy, the enthusiasm and the driving power, to do all these things at the same time. Would it not be better that we should get into a compartmental method of looking at things? Now we produce khaddar and there are different places where we produce it. Mahatma Gandhi, the great revolutionist, thought that by khaddar he could create a revolution in this country. He had done so, but he expected that it would become a poor man's cloth. But now all the khaddar that we have in this country has gone only to clothe the rich. It has become the luxury of the rich or the symbol of a political party rather than a cloth which has come to aid the poor man because the prices are so high that the poor man has not got the means to purchase the cloth produced.

"Regarding cottage industries, the great trouble now is that there is no market for the goods produced. What has the Government to do? Are they going simply to stimulate cottage industries or are they going to find a market where these goods might be taken and sold? It is a great problem for the man who produces if he cannot sell the goods. Selling is more important than production. Even the great Bhadravathi Iron Works with which I was

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associated for about four years was running at a loss of three and a half crores. The Government unable to stand public criticism were about to close it down. But their eyes were opened and they realized that it would be worthwhile as a great key industry to keep it on for some time. The second World War came and within a couple of years, all the debt on account of the Bhadravathi work was wiped out. So, certain key industries on which the existence of the State depends must be worked even at a loss. Luxuries might be left to private enterprises and necessities and also cottage industries might be the real work of the State for the time being. It is only then that with the compartmental division of labour, we would be able to face the world and solve our problems."

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to reply to some of the points raised by the hon. Members on the floor of the House yesterday and to-day.

"Mr. Majid was pleading for help to be rendered to the match factories. As a matter of fact, I would like to state that the match factories have been running on sounder conditions in the year 1949 and now than in the year 1948.

"Comparing the figures of production in the previous years, 12-45 p.m. it is found that the match industry as a whole flourished better in 1949 than in 1948. It may be a fact that some small factories have been closed. The reasons for the closure of some of these factories, which is not an unusual thing, are many. It is a common phenomena that in one or two months of the year, some factories remain closed. That is due to the incompetent management, inadequate financial resources and unsatisfactory marketing arrangements. Sir, I went to Sivakasi and Sattur in order to find out the actual situation. Representatives of both the Chambers of Match Industry came there and they had to be told that unless there is an Advisory Board to look after their interests, their cottage industry would not be thriving. Their problems are excise duty, import of chemicals, railway freight and similar difficulties, which lie within the jurisdiction of the Central Government. In order that the Government of Madras may recommend their case to the Government of India, we wanted that they should understand their problems quite clearly. Now there is some amount of confusion prevailing amongst them that the small match factory owners are not allowed to have all the privileges that the larger factory owners are having. As a matter of fact, when representatives were sent to the Government of India to report the grievances of match factory labourers, I was reliably informed that the difficulties of labourers were not expressed before the Government of India and the interests of small match factory owners were not truly represented. Therefore in the proposed Advisory Board, they wanted more representation and the labourers also wanted representation because the conditions of the labourers in these factories are not so satisfactory as we would expect them to be. With regard to this match factory industry, the Government are really interested in it and they are willing

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ones. One of the new units in the Mathurai district has just commenced production while the one at Pithapuram is expected to go into production at a very early date. The others are in various stages of progress and the Government are giving them all facilities to start at an early date.

"Till recently there were only 4 cement factories in existence with a total production capacity estimated at 360,000 tons per annum in this State. The four existing factories have been permitted to expand their production capacities and in addition three new cement factories, two of 100,000 tons and one of 50,000 tons annual production capacity have been permitted to be started. The total production capacity of all the factories, old and new, will be 1,030,000 tons per annum. One of these three factories of 100,000 tons annual production capacity has already commenced production in the Tirunelveli district.

"As regards Chemical Industries, the Government of India have sanctioned, on the recommendation of this Government, the issue of capital for three companies which propose to start soda ash factories in the Tirunelveli, Guntur, Mathurai and Ramnad districts of this State.

"At present there is only one factory in this State which produces caustic soda with a production capacity of 1,600 tons per annum. This factory has programmed for expansion to three times its existing capacity. The Government of India have accorded, on the recommendation of this Government, permission for the issue of capital to these four firms for the establishment of additional plants in this State.

"There is also a proposal to set up a plant for the manufacture of sulphuric acid from gypsum.

"With a view to augment petrol supplies, this Government have programmed the installations of 4 power alcohol plants as adjuncts to sugar mills located in Visakhapatnam, Bellary, Krishna and South Arcot districts. The total quantity of power alcohol produced when all these units come into production will be about 1,450,000 gallons.

"Regarding the automobile industry, the Government have permitted the erection of two factories near Madras for assembly of motor cars and in due course for the manufacture of cars and spare parts. There are proposals to start two factories for the production of cycles of which one proposal has been finalised.

"In respect of certain industries of All-India importance like iron and steel, magnesium and magnesium products, aluminium, ammonium phosphate, heavy electrical power plant, etc., this Government have been urging on the Government of India the need to establish some of these industries in this Province in collaboration with the Central Government.

"Members from the Rayalaseema spoke of the necessity for more attention to the industrial problems of the Ceded districts. They are no doubt aware that this Government have constituted the Rayalaseema Development Board consisting of both officials

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and non-officials with my Hon. Friend the Minister for Land Revenue as Chairman. We have also appointed a Development Commissioner of the grade of a District Collector to initiate plans, co-ordinate the activities of the various departments and supervise the execution of schemes relating to the economic development of Rayalaseema. Both the Chairman and the Development Commissioner hail from the Rayalaseema and I am sure they will do all that is humanly possible for the development of Rayalaseema. When Government examine the final proposals of the Board they will certainly bear in mind the suggestions made by the Hon. Members including the starting of a paint industry in Cuddapah mentioned by my friend Mr. Koti Reddi.

"Permission was given to start a Cement factory at Kurnool 1 p.m. with an annual capacity of 100,000 tons. Sanction for the issue of a capital of Rs. 2 crores and licence for the import of the requisite machinery were given in July 1948. Subject to certain conditions, this Government agreed to contribute 51 per cent of the share capital. But due principally to the lack of response from the local public, the promotor subsequently expressed the perity to proceed with the scheme and offered to surrender the permit for the issue of capital and the licence for the import of machinery granted to him.

"Another promotor has since offered to utilise the capacity granted to the Kurnool Cement Company by starting two cement factories of 50,000 tons capacity each, one in the Rayalaseema and the other in the Circars. His proposals in this regard are awaited.

"The hon. Gentleman Mr. Raza Khan was critical of the management of the Andhra Paper Mills and also about the liberal loans granted by the Industries Board. His points have been already met by my hon. Friend Sri Linga Raju and Sri Swaminathan, who is an active member of the Industries Board. Hon. Members expressed a desire to know the financial side of the various concerns managed by Government. Exact figures will be available only after the close of the financial year and I shall place the details on the table of the House at an early date. But I may mention now that almost all these concerns are expected to show a profit margin.

"The hon. Gentleman Mr. Raza Khan, again made mention about the need to protect the plywood industry and let me briefly state what we have done in this connection.

"At the instance of the Government of India, the Tariff Board took up the question of affording protection to Plywood and Tea Chests Industry. The Board after considering the replies to their questionnaire received from various firms and individuals interested in the industry, submitted their recommendations to the Government of India. These recommendations included protective duties, controlling the import of plywood suitable for tea chests, conserving the species of timber suitable for the plywood industry, facilities for research in the manufacture of plywood, import facilities for machinery to the manufacture of plywood,

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total prohibition of export of casein, etc. These recommendations have been implemented to some extent and certain recommendations are being examined. I assure the hon. Members that this Government will do all that is possible in this matter.

"The hon. Gentleman Mr. Hameed Khan referred to the need for opening more polytechnics in the State. As I have already stated in my opening speech, eight polytechnics have been started on a regional basis. Due to lack of technical personnel and equipment as well as the present financial stringency it may not be possible to open more polytechnics. The Government have also sanctioned the opening of six Industrial Schools at Visakhapatnam, Repalle, Nandyal, Salem, Cuddalore and Tuticorin but it has not been possible to start them on account of the non-availability of buildings and of the difficulty in putting up new buildings at these places. Much as Government would wish to open Industrial Schools in each district, in view of the acute financial stringency, it may take some time before the ideal is realized. The necessity for opening more Industrial Schools will, however, be borne in mind."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—May I enquire, Sir, whether the Hon. the Minister is willing to open the Industrial School at Visakhapatnam immediately if a building is shown?"

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—Yes, Sir. I am prepared to open the school if a building is available.

"The hon. Gentleman Mr. Hameed Khan has said that the Madras Industrial Investment Corporation is a failure. The Corporation started functioning only recently and since the institutions which are eligible to take shares have not yet subscribed to the extent expected, there is a proposal to throw it open to the public also. It is too early to judge the results of the working of the Corporation and I would plead with the hon. Member for more patience. In this connection, I would like to tell the hon. Gentleman Raja Muthia Chettiar of Chettinad that his suggestion for a clear demarcation in the limits of loan between the Madras Industrial Investment Corporation and the Industries Board will be examined by the Government."

"The Government are fully alive to the need for sufficient supply of cotton and I assure the hon. Member that all steps will be taken in this regard in consultation with the Government of India."

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Kandaswami Pillai wanted to know definitely as to what the Government are going to do about the iron ores in Salem. The question of lignite investigation in South Arcot will influence the utilization of the Salem iron ores. As I have stated already the Government have sent the iron ores to Norway for analysis and after the results are received the possibility of starting a special Alloy Steel Plant will be considered."

"Now I come to the handloom industry. The problem of distress in handloom industry is not altogether a new one. When

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the trade was brisk, the handloom trade dumped poor quality cloth on the foreign market with a view to getting large profit. This, among other reasons, has contributed to the loss of foreign markets. This Government and the Central Government are fully alive to the situation and are doing all that is possible to help the handloom industry. In order to give relief to the handloom industry, the Government of India are allowing free export of handloom cloth to all foreign countries. They are also taking all steps necessary to popularize the sale of handloom cloth in foreign markets through their Trade Commissioners and Foreign Embassies. A Standing Handloom Committee has been constituted by them to look after the interests of the handloom industry, in the Indian Union and that Committee has already met and come to certain conclusions which are being implemented to the extent possible. One of the important results of the Committee's labours is that the Government of India have decided to reserve certain fields of production for the handloom industry and give effect to that decision from July 1950. When this comes into force unhealthy competition between handloom industry on the one hand and mill and powerloom industry on the other, will be eliminated and this will give a great fillip to the handloom industry. The Government of India have also decided to take a third of their cloth requirements in the shape of handloom cloth. As regards this Government, they have already sanctioned a scheme for the immediate relief of the distress among the weavers through the agency of the co-operative societies which will assure the weavers a minimum wage, of continuous employment and of relief from the burden of marketing the cloth as far as possible. They are also actively considering the question of constituting a State Handloom Committee, to protect the interests of the weavers and develop the handloom industry in this State. The question of taking a portion of this Government's requirements of cloth in the shape of handloom cloth is also under consideration though they are pledged to give first preference to Khaddar. Thus, both the Central Government and this Government are taking all steps that are possible in the circumstances to relieve the distress of the handloom weavers. Regarding supply of yarn to weavers at low rates, the prices of yarn are fixed by the Government of India on an All-India basis on the Tariff Board's recommendations. I expect that the hon. Gentleman Mr. Majid will give his valuable suggestions when the State Handloom Committee begins to function. I shall only be too glad to have the co-operation of those hon. Members who are interested in this industry so that all that is possible can be done to help the industry."

"Sir, I accept the suggestion of my hon. Friend, Mr. Vaidyanatha Iyer that more intensive propaganda should be done for the Government Kerala Soap Institute. I assure the hon. Member that I shall pursue his suggestion for a proper survey of minerals, etc., in 'dry tracts' to provide supplementary occupation for them. His suggestions regarding the cotton problem and control of mills will be examined by the Government and necessary action will be taken."

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"Sir, the hon. Gentleman Mr. Kothari spoke about de-control of yarn. I may tell him that as long as there is All-India shortage of yarn control will have to continue. Further, on a question like that of abolition of control, individual States cannot follow independent policies. I may, however, assure him that the position will be watched and when the need for de-control is felt we shall certainly take up the matter with the Government of India."

"Sir, the hon. Mr. Salam charged the Government that the State Aid to Industries Act is being administered with a view to help friends and relatives of Ministers. That charge is purely imaginary. I am convinced that the administration of the Act is well above board. I shall also take steps to place on the table of the House a statement showing the names of the various industries which have been given aid under the State Aid to Industries Act."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Sir, can we have that statement when the Supplementary Demands come up before this House? I hope a comprehensive report will be made available by then."

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"I do not think it is possible to have it prepared so early as that. I shall certainly place it on the table of the House as early as possible."

"My hon. Colleague, the Minister for Rural Development has explained the Government policy on Cottage Industries and allied matters."

"In conclusion, I thank the hon. Members for their suggestions and assure them that I will bear those suggestions in mind and implement them as far as practicable. With this assurance, I request the hon. Gentleman Mr. Majid to withdraw his cut motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Does the hon. Member, Mr. Majid, withdraw his cut motion?"

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Sir, you want me to withdraw the motion." (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"No, I wanted to know whether the hon. Member is withdrawing or pressing the motion."

JANAB M. S. ABDUL MAJID:—"Sir, in view of the assurances so abundantly given and the great generosity shown by the Hon. the Minister, I have great pleasure in begging leave of the House to withdraw my cut motion."

The cut motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—
'That Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,57,64,300 under Demand XXI—Industries.'
The Demand was carried and the Grant made."

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DEMAND XVII—PUBLIC HEALTH.

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—
'That Government be granted under Demand XVII—Public Health a sum not exceeding Rs. 97,67,000.'

I shall listen to the remarks and criticisms of the hon. Members and I shall summarise the whole position while I reply to the debate in the end."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Motion moved—

'That Government be granted under Demand XVII—Public Health a sum not exceeding Rs. 97,67,000.'

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

'That the allotment of Rs. 97,67,000 under Demand XVII—Public Health be reduced by Rs. 100.'

Sir, it is with regret that I move this cut motion, because the demand relates to a subject which is in the charge of the Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan for whom I have great regard. But, sitting in this House we have to rise above personalities and have to discharge our duties to the electorate whose interests we are here to safeguard. When perusing the Budget I came to notice the meagre provision that has been made for this purpose.

"It is indeed regrettable that while this year the allotment under other demands has been increased, that for Public Health has been reduced by 2½ lakhs as compared to last year. That this should be so in the face of the appalling distress and ill-health that have been rampant in the State during the past year, as is evident from the report of the Director of Public Health clearly indicates the apathy of the Government towards the welfare of the people. Out of a population of nearly 50,000,000 about 3 lakhs of people died in this State last year from preventable diseases, like cholera, malaria, typhoid, plague, small-pox, etc. Deaths from cholera in particular have been most staggering. When in the year 1946 the Congress took over charge of the Government from the Advisers of the British regime deaths from cholera amounted to only 753. In 1947 conditions deteriorated and the number of deaths recorded from cholera rose to 12,743 and in 1948, the number of deaths from cholera more than doubled itself as compared to 1947. I am quoting from the report of the Director of Public Health for 1948 in which year the number of death registered for cholera rose to 26,171. Such being the condition of public health in this state, is it not surprising that public health should be treated as the Cinderella of the various departments of the Government?"

"I am afraid, the Government are suffering from the wrong notion that money spent in public health is unremunerative. Hence it is that they have set apart but a nominal amount for

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this purpose. They should, however, realize that the expenditure incurred on improving the nation's health is one of the best investments that can be made, for health means wealth both to the individual and the nation at large. The nominal amount that is being set apart for public health by this Government can help very little to improve matters. The attitude of this Government in regard to the health of the nation reminds one of the attitude of the rulers of another country with reference to such matters. In that country while people are dying like flies from epidemics, the authorities instead of coming to their rescue, have organized a band of religious men to preach to the inhabitants of that land that they should resign themselves to their fate and that they will have their reward in the next world.

"When terrible epidemics stalk the land, we find that the number of Health Officers is not sufficient to cope with the task. In this State we have one Health Officer for 20 lakhs of people and one Health Inspector for 2 lakhs of people. How then can public health be properly attended to? The scales of pay and the emoluments of the officers of the Public Health Department are very meagre. The Hon. Minister in reply to an interpellation this morning informed us that Rs. 30 a month was given to the Health Officers to the local bodies for maintaining a car. I should like to know from the Hon. Minister whether in these days when the price of petrol is so high and when in this State the tax on motor vehicles happens to be the highest in the world; it is possible for a poor man like a Health Officer to maintain a car on Rs. 30 a month. It is because the post of Health Officer is not attractive, that there is not sufficient response when such posts are advertised.

"Another service which is not attractive and where there is considerable scarcity is that of the vaccinator. There is need for a large number of vaccinators in the State but people are not forthcoming to take up the appointments on account of the low scales of pay and emoluments offered to them by the Government. I therefore urge upon the Government to raise the scale of salaries of officers in the Public Health Department and also of vaccinators including women vaccinators. I should like the Government to appoint more women vaccinators and give them the necessary training.

"Another point that I should like to mention is that the Government and local bodies recruit their Public Health staff mainly from the Medical Department whereas as a matter of fact there is need to appoint a large number of Public Health Engineers also to attend to environmental hygiene. The work of a doctor is curative but that of the Public Health Department is more preventive than curative. When there is an outbreak of cholera or small-pox Health Officers get busy inoculating and vaccinating but they do not pay the necessary attention towards the prevention of such epidemics. The preventive aspect can be tackled better by Public Health Engineers. So, I would request the Government to appoint a large number of men who are well versed in

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public health engineering to the Public Health Department, who would instill into the minds of the villagers by constant propaganda the necessity to keep their villages clean and to keep their drinking water free from pollution.

"When dealing with the question of water-supply, I wish to state that it is indeed a tragedy that the most elemental yet one of the most fundamental and essential requirements, namely, pure water, which like air is indispensable to human life, is being denied to millions of people in this State. There are tens of thousands of villages in this State particularly in the Rayalaseema area where they have not a single well for drinking water and where people have to walk miles, sometimes four or five miles, in order to get a pot of drinking water. In some places like Penukonda which is often affected by drought and to which place I had occasion to go, water is sometimes sold to people during the summer months. I find the Government have not paid adequate attention to the question of rural water-supply and have not made the necessary headway with reference to the sinking of wells to provide villages with drinking water. The Hon. Minister may reply that there is paucity of requisite personnel, that the Government do not have a sufficient number of overseers and maistries for the purpose. But, Sir, this Government have been at the helm of affairs not for one or two years, but for 4 years now and soon they will have to quit. I ask, what is it that they have done during the course of these four years in regard to providing the people of the State with the most elemental necessity, namely, pure drinking water? It is high time that the Government changed their order of priority with reference to their undertakings and concentrated their primary attention in providing each village with a well for drinking water before they went out of office so that when the present Ministers canvass votes at the next elections they may be able to tell the village-folk—'We have provided you with this elemental necessity which was denied to you during all the years of foreign rule.'

"Again, with reference to sanitation, the state of affairs is most deplorable. Several of the Municipalities and most of the villages lack proper drainage and sanitary conveniences. The Government appointed a Drainage and Water Supply Committee but I find that most of the recommendations of that Committee, some of which were very useful, have been put into cold storage. The Government have also a very useful enactment in the Statute Book, namely, the Public Health Act, for which we are grateful to the Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan, the present Minister, for he was responsible for this piece of legislation when he was in charge of the Health portfolio during the last Congress Ministry. But what do we find? The provisions of this Act are not being properly enforced. Even local bodies are not implementing that Act. The Hon. Minister knows that one of the provisions of the Public Health Act is that local bodies should provide accommodation for the reception and treatment of infectious cases. But most of the local bodies have not provided the necessary facilities. Again with

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regard to vaccination, the rules are not properly enforced. It is only when an epidemic overtakes the people that vaccination and revaccination are resorted to with vigour.

"Another Act that is not being properly enforced is the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act. Adulteration of food—ghee, milk, oil, etc.—is proceeding apace but the authorities are not taking sufficient steps to check it. There is need to enforce this Act properly and also to extend it to more areas. The Act also requires amendment for the fines that are levied are so small that they do not act as deterrent punishment. The Act must be so amended as to increase the maximum fine that might be imposed on the culprit. The Government should also establish more laboratories for analysing the various foodstuffs to find out whether adulteration has taken place. According to the report of the Director of Public Health in 1948 the percentage of adulterated samples was 43.9. Another point that I should like to mention is that when we have got an Act preventing the adulteration of pure ghee, is it not illogical for the State to allow Vanaspathi to be sold in the open market which is declared to be deleterious to health? The Government should examine this question from the point of view of public health and prohibit the manufacture and sale of Vanaspathi if they come to the conclusion that this step should be taken in the interests of the people.

"Before I conclude, I wish to refer to some requirements of women with reference to public health. The Hon. Minister is aware that maternal mortality is very high in this country. In 1948, the number of women that died as a result of child-birth in this State was 12,175 which works out to 7.28 per cent per thousand births. Such being the case, I am sorry to note that no allotment has been made in the budget for the training of additional midwives this year. The total number of posts of midwives in 1948 was only 595 (excluding those under the Corporation of Madras). But we require at least 10,000 trained midwives to cater to the requirements of the population of this State. In England they have one midwife for every 600 of the population, but we have one midwife for a population of 60 to 70 thousand. Is it then not regrettable that no allotment has been made this year for the training of additional midwives? Another requirement is that the posts of women medical officers under the local bodies should be provincialized. We find the local bodies every year sanctioning additional posts of women medical officers. The total number of posts sanctioned hitherto is 80. But a large number of these posts remain vacant and those that are filled also fall vacant: some as a result of resignations. The reason for this is that women find it difficult to serve the local bodies under the present condition and very often complain of harassment by the Health Officers, at whose mercy they are placed. I have been urging upon the Government for the past three years to provincialize these posts. Unless they do so, maternity and child welfare work cannot progress in the rural areas for want of the requisite personnel.

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"In conclusion, I am constrained to make one observation and that is that it is with considerable regret that I note that all the promises of this Government as regards implementing the proposals of the Post-war Reconstruction Committee with reference to rural medical relief have been cast to the winds and our hope that during the five years of the Congress regime we would see medical relief being provided within five miles of every village has been dashed to the ground. It is indeed very distressing that this has been the result of the administration of this Government during the course of these years."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Motion moved—

'That the allotment of Rs. 97,67,100 under Demand XVII—Public Health be reduced by Rs. 100'."

The House then rose for lunch.

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"Mr. Speaker, in supporting the cut motion, I should like to make a few observations. No doubt the Hon. Minister is my friend. I respect him very much for his old age more especially for his versatile activities which are inversely proportional to his old age." (Laughter.)

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I thought he was going to say something different."

JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"I have not been lucky enough to hear the Hon. Minister's opening speech."

MR. SPEAKER:—"He has not made any opening speech."

JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"It means that there must be something which we cannot understand now. We will be able to know about it after hearing his reply. Sir, after hearing a number of Ministers not only on this Demand but on other Demands also, I have been puzzled to find what these Ministers have been doing all these days. On every Demand, the hon. Members from this side of the House and also from the other side have been levelling criticisms and attacking the Hon. Ministers. A stranger who happens to hear all these will think that for the last four years they have simply been sleeping. This could not have been. Certainly they have been doing a lot of things, spending crores of rupees without any good result. Last night when I made up my mind to speak on this Demand, I wanted to know what the present conditions are. Sir, they might have done so many things; they might have spent crores of rupees and they may still be planning new schemes, but my only object is to find out what is the present state of our country in comparison with the other countries of the world.

"Sir, there is an Urdu proverb which says that a bandicoot got into a big pot and moved round and round inside it. It got the impression that the pot was the whole world. Likewise the Hon. Minister thinks that our Province is the world. Sir, we

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need not have originality, we need not invent or discover things, we need not start new schemes and we need not do wonders in the world but we should do small fundamental things relating to public health and human happiness as others do in other parts of the world. We should see what is going on in the outside world and try to do what they are doing. That is what I want. For a study of the conditions relating to the public health not only of this Province but of the whole of India, our country, and also of the conditions in the other parts of the world, I have got a few figures here. After four years of Congress administration, in our God forsaken Province, what do we find? We have the maximum percentage of adult mortality, infantile mortality and maternal mortality in the whole world, not only in India. We have got a maximum percentage of blind people in this country. Out of five lakhs of blind people, we have two lakhs in India, of which a certain proportion must be in our State also. The Hon. Minister should not ask me what he could do if people are blind. Let him see what they do in America. They transplant eyes so that the blind man can see. I see from your reports that in 1947, the Government has started an eye-bank where experiments are going on. It is also said that if the experiment succeeds, necessary arrangements will be made to take eyes from dead persons (for storing and grafting). The experiment was started in 1947 and we are now in 1950. Experiments have been going on for the last three years still they have not succeeded. Certainly they will not. If they succeed, I am afraid both the Hon. Minister and I will not live to see it. Perhaps our grandsons may be here to see these things.

"Then, Sir, there is the maximum percentage of venereal disease, maximum percentage of tuberculosis and maximum percentage of malaria in this Province.

"But what about our expenditure? What progress have we made in this direction? What action have we taken? We find that we have only the minimum per capita expenditure. We have a minimum percentage of beds in hospitals in the whole world, minimum percentage of hospitals in the world, minimum percentage of doctors in the world and minimum percentage of nurses and health visitors in the world. Again, Sir, our average duration of life is the minimum. We die soon. The average age of a Madras is only 25 years while in New Zealand the average is 65 to 70. The Hon. Minister may say that they are not Gods. But there is a Tamil proverb which says that unless you make a sincere effort, you would not succeed:

முயற்சி உடையார் இகழ்த்து அடையார்.

Mr. Speaker, I see you are looking at the clock; and whenever you see the clock, I get nervous. Sir, what they have been doing all these days? India gives a very bad impression to the foreigners who come here. They get an impression that India is a land of beggars and a land of lepers too. We cannot ignore this fact. Now, Sir, I have only generalized. I have not argued these things in detail. I am going to give a few facts and figures

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which will convince the hon. Members, the Hon. the Speaker and the Hon. and the Venerable Public Health Minister also. Let us see how much we spend on Public Health. The per capita expenditure on Public Health in the United States is Rs. 51-6-0, in the United Kingdom, Rs. 54-8-11 and in our blessed Madras Province, Re. 0-6-0. The amount you spend is intended most probably to distribute a pinch of snuff to every one of these sick persons; but not for the purchase of medicines for them.

"Sir, when we are spending such a meagre sum on Public Health, what we are spending on social welfare? In the United Kingdom they spend Rs. 58 per capita, in France Rs. 17, in Germany Rs. 14, in Australia Rs. 22, in Canada Rs. 13, while in India we spend only Re. 0-10-0. If I am wrong, the Hon. Minister is listening to me carefully and he will bombard me. But what I say is fact of facts. If there is any mistake, let the Hon. Minister say so and I am subject to correction.

"Sir, I want to say another thing, though it may seem to be out of place."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If it is out of place, the hon. Member need not mention that."

* JANAB SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM:—"From my point of view, it may seem to be out of place. From other's point of view, it may be useful. Sir, people have been spending money like water on killing people. An American expert says that there are four crores of people suffering from syphilis, 90 lakhs of people suffering from gonorrhoea. These figures include our country and our Province. After experiments he has come to the conclusion that by spending ten dollars per head for the former and 75 cents per head for the latter, these diseases can be controlled and the world freed from them. But nobody has made any attempt in this direction. On the other hand, the world war of 1914-18 cost about 8,000 crores of pounds. The world war expenditure in 1931 was on armament 1,400 pounds a minute. So much they spent for killing men. Had they spent this amount on Public Health activities the world would have been free from all dangerous diseases.

"Then, Sir, I want to give a few figures regarding infantile mortality. In New Zealand it is 6 per thousand births, in the United Kingdom it is 46 per thousand births, whereas in India it is 170. Now let us compare our figures with those of the other Provinces in India. The following are the figures of infantile mortality per 1,000 births in the various Provinces of India and

Pakistan:—	100	Delhi ..	140
Bihar ..	104	Bengal ..	143
Sind ..	117	Punjab ..	145
North-West Frontier.	123	Bombay ..	161
United Provinces ..	130	Madras ..	170
Assam ..	131		
Come ..			

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Madras has the highest figure of 170. Then what is the remedy for this? If I suggest any remedy, it may not be very effective with our Public Health Minister. I will only quote what the Health Minister of the Government of India, Rajkumari Amrit Kaur said, speaking at the T.B. Workers' Conference in Bombay in November 1949, that the following arrangements were necessary to combat this disease in India. The original initial expenditure for that would be Rs. 400 crores and the recurring annual expenditure Rs. 100 crores. There should be 5 lakhs of beds. But we have not got even 5,000 beds. She says there should be 4,000 T.B. clinics, 15,000 doctors, 50,000 nurses and 50,000 health visitors. But what do we have at present? We have 123 clinics, 2,000 doctors and a very small number of nurses and health visitors. Then again, in the United States of America they have 10 beds for each death case, but here in India we do not have 10 beds for even 10,000 death case. We are doing nothing. You simply say that you are appointing vaccinators and health inspectors and other medical men. What are they doing? They are going from house to house taking soda and coffee and chatting in the villages. If we have an administration and Government must if we are spending crores of rupees on public health, there must be some good results from it. With these few words, I close my speech."

* DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—Mr. Speaker, Sir, while supporting the Demand for Public Health for an amount of Rs. 97,67,100, I would like to place before the Government a few factors that are vitally important to improve the Health department. The speaker who moved the cut motion, Begum Amiruddin, raised some very cogent questions wherein the department has erred. As we go round the country, we find that there is not much improvement in the public health of the population in the rural areas. No doubt there is considerable increase in the grants made for the Public Health and Local Administration departments; but it is not commensurate with the amount of work to be undertaken in the rural areas. Sir, in my own experience, I could quote instances where people in the villages who had these infectious and epidemic diseases were not properly cared for, because of the meagre staff in the Health department. You can imagine how one District Health Officer can run round a whole district from one end of it to the other during the epidemic of cholera. I had the opportunity of visiting a few villages year before last year during the epidemic of cholera; I could see one Health Inspector and one vaccinator in a centre where there were nearly 30 to 40 attacks. The Health department is very inadequately staffed and they are not given proper materials to carry on the work entrusted to them. Therefore, I would very humbly suggest to the Government that a thorough overhauling of the administration of the Health department should be undertaken at the earliest opportunity. Sir, unless the Health staff is increased, almost doubled, they cannot effectively run this Public Health department.

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"Secondly, the Health department must be separated from the Local Administration department. For example, an assistant health officer in a municipality has to work under great disadvantage. If he wants to give leave to a scavenger, it has to be approved by the commissioner; if he wants to recommend a man for extra work, that has to be approved by the commissioner or to give him some punishment, that has to be approved by the commissioner of the council and so on and so forth. Thus, the health officer is not able to do any original work for the good of the people. The Government should consider this point very carefully and see that this department is separated and given independence in running the administration.

"Coming now to another point, vaccination, the hon. Member Mrs. Begum Amiruddin has made mention of it. Recently, I had the opportunity of visiting some villages wherein the smallpox had spread in a virulent form. I had the patience to go into some of the statistics in the villages. Where children or girls below twelve years of age were vaccinated six months ago, that vaccination is of no effect at all, because all the three children in the house get a very virulent type of smallpox. I do not know whether the health inspector or any health officer who is in charge of these statistics had the occasion to go and enquire whether a certain vaccination done on the individuals had any effect at all and demonstrate to the villagers that the vaccination is the only preventive measure for smallpox. The common people in the village are losing their little faith in the vaccination as there is recurrence of the disease in vaccinated people. Therefore, I would advise the Government to have very careful statistics prepared about the effects of vaccination. Some of these vaccinators are not properly trained and educated; they do not know how to preserve the serum and at what times they should use it, and mostly the failure of these vaccinations is due to the inability or the incapacity or the lack of knowledge of the vaccinators about the vaccines and the sera.

"Yet another point I would like to bring to the notice of the Government is that enteric or typhoid fever is very rampant not only in the cities but also in towns and villages too; especially in some of the urban areas. I find this typhoid is very virulent and taking a good death-roll of the student population. Just as we are undertaking to inoculate people throughout the cholera epidemic, so also I would advise the Government to take up this question and consider whether it is not advisable to supply sufficient anti-typhoid vaccine for the use of the hostels and other places of public resort where typhoid is raging very seriously.

"I should also like to bring to the notice of the Government, Sir, that some of the public health centres which we have been planning for the last three or four years to start, have not come into effect so far. Every year the Government have been allotting certain funds towards the starting of health centres, but to my knowledge, they have not so far been able to do anything in the Rayalaseema districts. Recently, the Surgeon-General also visited one of the centres with a view to open a combined medical and health centre

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in one place called Bandi Atmakur near Nandyal and all the estimates and plans are ready, request the Government to take up this centre for execution in this year's budget as this is very important for the people of that area.

"As for the Bhoire Committee Report, so many members have already spoken about it; we must have more medical centres and health centres attached to them, so that the public health of the country may be raised to a high level.

"Sir, in some of the rural medical relief centres, some of the rural medical practitioners who have worked for a number of years have come forward to contribute liberally in putting up buildings and also equipping the hospitals. I would request the Government to consider such cases of medical men who have spent all their lives in rural medical relief, so that they may come and occupy the centres and work to the best advantage of the locality.

"Sir, with these few words, I support the Demand."

* Sri N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN :—“கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, ஆதரித்து சில வார்த்தைகள் பேச விரும்புகிறேன். நாட்டு மக்களின் முடியாது. ஆகவே மக்களின் சுகாதாரத்தைக் காப்பாற்ற நாம் எல்லா வற்றையும் செய்ய கடமைப்பட்டிருக்கிறோம். நோய் வந்த பிற்பாடு அதைத் தடுப்பதைவிட நோய் வராமல் பார்த்துக்கொள்வது தான் நம் முன்முயற்சி. இந்த சென்னை ராஜ்யத்தில் நாம் சுகாதாரத் துறையில் வைத்தியத்திற்காக அதிகமாக செலவு செய்கிறோம். வைத்தியத்திற்கு இவ்வளவு செலவு செய்வதையும் குறைத்து, வேண்டுமென்றால் அவ்வளவையும் சுகாதாரத்திற்கு செலவு செய்து சுகாதாரத்தை அதிகமாகக் காப்பாற்றுவோமென்றும். சுகாதார உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களை நாம் அதிகம் நியமித்தால் சுகாதாரத்தை அதிகமாக விருத்தி செய்யலாம் என்ற அபிப்பிராயம் இருக்கிறது. ஓரளவு அது உண்மைதான். எவ்வளவு அதிகாரிகளை வைத்துக்கொண்டபோதிலும் பொது மக்களுடைய ஆதரவிலாத வரையில் அதிகம் பயனடைய முடியாது. ஆகவே மக்கள் சுத்தம் செய்து அவர்கள் பயனடையும்படியான இருக்கும்படியாக நாம் பிரசாரம் நல்லகாற்றும், நல்ல நீரும், நல்ல உணவும் நமக்கு முதலில் அவசியமாக இருக்கின்றன. காற்றை ஆண்டவன் நம் எல்லோருக்கும் கொடுத்திருக்கிறான். எனினும் நம்முடைய கெட்ட பழக்க வழக்கங்களினால் நாம் அனுபவிக்கும் காற்றை கெடுத்து வருகிறோம். தண்ணீரையும் அது போன்று நமக்கு ஆண்டவன் சமமாகக் கிடைக்கும்படி கொடுத்திருக்கிறான். ஆனால் தண்ணீரையும் நாம் கெடுத்து அதனால் பல வியாதிகளை அடைகிறோம். தண்ணீரின் நம்மிடம் எவ்வளவோ நோய்கள் பரவுகின்றன. இன்னும் தண்ணீரின் தான் காலரா பரவுகிறது என்றும் சொல்லப்படுகிறது. எவ்வளவோ வியாதிகள் மக்களுடைய உயிரை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு போகின்றன. மற்ற எல்லா வியாதிகளும் வருஷா வருஷம் குறைந்து வந்தபோதிலும் இந்த காலரா மட்டும் அதிகமான உயிர்களைக் கொண்டு போகும் வியாதியாக இருப்பதைக் கண்டு பெரிதும் ஆச்சரியமாக இருக்கிறது. சர்க்கார் எவ்வளவோ நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொண்டும் காலரா பரவுவது குறைவதில்லை. காலரா தண்ணீரின் மூலம் பரவுகிறது என்றால் தண்ணீரைக் காப்பாற்றுவதற்கு நாம் போதிய அக்கறை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவில்லை என்றே தெரிகிறது. இந்த காலரா பரவுவதற்கு முக்கியமாக ஒரு காரணம் சொல்லப்படுகிறது. அதை சுகாதார அறிக்கையில் பார்த்தேன். அதுவடை காலங்களில் பலர் வேலைக்கு பல இடங்களிலிருந்து அழைக்கப்பட்டார்கள். அவர்களில் சிலருக்குக் காலரா கண்டு விடுகிறது. காலரா கண்டவர்கள் மற்றவர்கள் அப்படியே விட்டுப்போய் விடுகிறார்களாம்.

[14th March 1950]

[Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman]

எனவே அவர்கள் மூலமாக பரவுகிறது என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. அது வாஸ்தவமாக இருந்தால் அதுவடைக்கு வருகிற விவசாய தொழிலாளர்கள் மூலம் இதை பரவாமல் தடுப்பதற்கு சுகாதார இலாகா என்ன நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள்? நான் ஏற்கனவே சொன்ன பிரகாரம் நோய் வந்த பிற்பாடு செலவு செய்வதைவிட, வருவதற்கு முன்பாகவே கவனித்து அதைத் தடுத்து விடுவதுதான் நல்லது. அவ்விதம் தடுப்பதற்கு எவ்வளவு நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொண்டாலும், அதற்கு எவ்வளவு செலவு செய்தாலும் தரும். அதனால் ஒன்றுக்கு நூறு மடங்கு லாபம் ஏற்படும்.

"கிராமங்களில் ஜனங்களுக்கு குடி தண்ணீர் நல்லதாக கிடைப்பதில்லை. எனென்றால் அங்கிருக்கும் கிணறுகள் பெரிதும் அசுத்தமாயும் கட்டப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. ஒரு வேளை கட்டப்பட்டிருந்தாலும், கழிவுத் தண்ணீர் போவதற்கு இடமில்லாமல் மோசமாக இருக்கிறது. ஒவ்வொரு கிராமத்திலும் நல்ல விதமாக கிணறுகள் கட்டி ஜனங்களுக்கு சுத்தமான தண்ணீர் கிடைக்கும்படி செய்யவேண்டும். கழிவுத் தண்ணீர் போவதற்கு தகுந்த ஏற்பாடுகள் செய்து, கழிவு நீரால் கெடுதி தீட்டத்திற்காக ஏராளமான பணம் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருந்தபோதிலும் அனுபவத்தில் பார்த்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டும். கிராமங்களுக்கு தண்ணீர் திட்டத்திற்காக ஏராளமான பணம் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருந்தபோதிலும் அனுபவத்தில் பார்த்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டும். குறைவாகத் தான் செலவு செய்யப்படுகிறது. கிணறுகள் கட்டுவதற்கு பெரிய தொழில் அனுபவமும் விஞ்ஞான அறிவும் வேண்டியதில்லை. எங்கும் சுகாதாரமான இடத்தைக் காண்பித்து விட்டால் அங்கு சுகாதாரமான ஆட்களை வைத்துக் கொண்டு கிணறுகளை கட்டி முடித்து விடலாம். எனினும் இப்பொழுது கிணறுகள் கட்டுவதற்கு நன்றியாக தாமதம் ஏற்படுகிறதோ தெரியவில்லை. ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கென்று தனியாக கிணறுகள் கட்டவேண்டியதில்லை. எல்லோருக்கும் சேர்த்து கிராம அபிவிருத்தி கணக்கிலிருந்து கட்டலாம் என்று யோசிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இது மிகவும் நல்லது. பொதுவான கிணறுகள்தான் கட்டப்படவேண்டும். அதன் மூலம் வித்தியாசம் இல்லாமல் சுகல வகுப்பினருக்கும் நல்ல தண்ணீர் கிடைக்கும்படி செய்யவேண்டும்.

"மல ஜலம் கழிக்கும் விஷயத்தில் நாம் இன்னும் மிகவும் பிற்போக்காகவே இருக்கிறோம். முற்காலத்திய வைதீக முறையும் நம்மிடம் இப்பொழுது இல்லை. இந்த காலத்திய விஞ்ஞான முறையையும் நாம் அனுஷ்டிக்கவில்லை. மல ஜலம் கழிப்பதை நல்ல முறையில் நாம் உணர்வதற்கு ஒரு வித நாகரீகமும், ஒரு மனப்பான்மையும், பழக்கமும் உண்டாக்கிக்கொள்வது மிக மிக அவசியம். கிராமத்திற்குப் போனால் இந்த மல ஜலம் தான் நம்மை வரவேற்கிறது. திரும்பி வரும்பொழுதும் அங்குள்ளதான் நம்மை வழி அனுப்புகின்றன. அவைகளைப் பார்க்கும் பொழுது நாம் வருத்தமும் வெட்கமுமடையவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது நாம் கக்கூஸ்கள் அதிகமாக கட்டப்படுகின்றன என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஆனால் அவைகளை நம் தேவைகளோடு ஒப்பிட்டுப் பார்க்கும்பொழுது மிகவும் குறைவாகவே இருக்கின்றன. மகாத்மா காந்திஜி பல அறிய காரியங்களைச் செய்து சாதித்திருக்கிறார். அதே போல் மல ஜல விசர்ஜனத்திற்கும் புது முறைக் கக்கூசை கண்டுபிடித்துக் காட்டியதால் அதை நாம் அதிகம் பயன்படுத்திக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். அது சுகாதார முறையிலுள்ளது. கிராம மக்கள் எளிதில் பயன்படுத்திக்கொள்ளும் முறை அது. அதையே நாம் பரப்பிவரவேண்டும். பிரக்கா அபிவிருத்தி ஊழியர்களும் நிர்மாண ஊழியர்களும் மட்டும் இந்த கக்கூஸ் முறையை கிராமங்களில் பரவுவதற்கு வேலை செய்து வருகிறார்கள். இதைச் சர்க்கார் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களும் மாகாணத்திலுள்ள எல்லா கிராமங்களிலும் பரப்ப முயற்சி எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். சுகாதாரமில்லாத இடங்களில் முதலில் இம்முறையைக் கொண்டுவரவேண்டும். சினிமாவில் அநேக அறிவு வளர்ச்சிப் படங்களைக் காட்டுகிறார்கள். அதைப் போலவே சுகாதார முறையில் அறிவு புகட்டக்கூடிய படங்களைத் தயார் செய்து முக்கியமாக கிராமங்களில் சினிமா மூலம் காட்டவேண்டும்.

"Compost-ஐப் பற்றி ஒரு வார்த்தை சொல்லிவிட்டு முடித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். சில முனிசிபாலிட்டிகளில் இப்பொழுது compost செய்யப்படுகிறது.

[Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman] [14th March 1950]

இதைச் செய்வதில் ஒன்றும் கஷ்டமில்லை. இதர முனிசிபாலிட்டிகளிலும் பஞ்சாயத்துகளிலும் உடனே எடுத்துக்கொண்டு இதைச் செய்து வரலாம். அதனால் சுகாதாரத்தையும் காப்பாற்ற முடியும். கிராமங்களிலுள்ள விவசாயத்திற்கு வேண்டிய முதல்தரமான உரமும் அதில் நமக்கு கிடைக்கிறது. இவ் விஷயத்தில் சர்க்கார் அதிகம் கவனம் செலுத்தவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக் கொண்டு கம்போஸ்டை அதிகம் உற்பத்தி செய்வோருக்கும் கிராம சுற்றுப்புறத்தை சுத்தமாய் வைத்துக்கொள்ளுகிறவர்களுக்கும் பரிசு கொடுத்து ஊக்குவிக்கும்படியாக கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்."

3 p.m. JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not for a person like me to attempt to write the history of political science to discover whether it is better to have a medical man for the medical portfolio, and if the decision is in favour of having a medical man, I think the Hon. Minister who for the last 2½ years has been dealing with the Food Department, has produced nothing. But the age of the Hon. Minister in charge of Public Health is both an advantage and a disadvantage. We have a good element in him that he is having less of tours and only he has to go to his farm once a month or so . . . 22"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let the hon. Member criticise the Budget and not make personal remarks."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Sir, I can prove it by instances. Since the Hon. Minister has taken charge of this portfolio, he has not visited any place in Andhra, especially Guntur which is the second biggest town in Andhra and being the Vice-Chairman of the Municipality of the town I know what is the nature of public health there. There is no water to drink and no drainage. Sir, if only you and the hon. Members of this House have read carefully this morning's leading newspapers, they would have seen that there is smallpox raging there. Therefore, Sir, I think, I am right in saying that he is only touring in his place and not in Andhra. Sir, when such is the condition in Andhra, the Hon. Minister in charge of Public Health is indulging in saying something about the Andhra Province. Whether the Andhra Province is buried or it is dead, the fact remains it is there."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, there is no use speaking on the Andhra Province while we are on the Public Health Demand."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Sir, the other day, it was not in this Assembly where you are presiding, but in the other House . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have already said that what has taken place in the other House should not be taken note of here. I wish to make it clear to hon. Members that they should not forget this, when there is a resolution in one House it should not be discussed in the other House."

JANAB MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—"On a point of order, Sir, on what you have just said. Supposing the Members of the Cabinet speak, what happens?"

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MR. SPEAKER:—"I am mentioning that this is the principle to be followed by hon. Members, that when there is a resolution in one House it should not be discussed in the other House or say anything about what has taken place there."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Sir, the unfortunate position in which I am and the sin I have perhaps committed is that I have come from the Andhra districts which are neglected, which have not been visited by the Hon. Minister and for which sufficient money has not been allotted in the Budget which is under discussion. Sir, I suppose I am entirely correct in saying that under the Public Health demand under discussion, money has not been allotted in the way in which it ought to be allotted for Andhra districts. Sir, it was only the other day that the hon. Mr. Viswanatham proved that we have not been properly treated in the matter of representation in services and I do not want to give a list of how the Andhras are not properly treated, in view of your ruling, but I would like to take this opportunity to prove to the Hon. Minister—though he is very anxious not to be interrupted or rather he is not in a mood to be interrupted—that the Andhra districts are not treated properly . . ."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, I want to draw your attention. This subject is not at all under discussion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think the hon. Member is referring to Public Health."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Only about six months ago, I had a mandate from the people of the Guntur district, who returned me to the Assembly to say that there must be some special reasons for more cholera, less water and more plague in Guntur and this, I think, is a matter with which the Hon. Minister is concerned in this demand. If he had been able to devote some time and money for the Andhra districts, things would not have happened like this. Sir, I ask him, instead of going to one district and telling that a medical college will be specially created only for the Tamils—and that was a question of point of information and Budget leakage in this House—could he not go to the Andhra districts and devote some little time to these matters? Sir, was it not a matter of discussion that the Hon. Minister in charge of Public Health went to some district and told there . . ."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I beg to draw your attention, Sir, to the insinuation of the hon. Member, which I never mentioned."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister denies that and let the hon. Member come to the point."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Sir, my point was that in the Andhra areas, there is no protected water-supply and if the Hon. Minister is so zealous in defending his cause let him

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get up after me and say, we have allotted so much for Visakhapatnam, Rajahmundry, Guntur, etc. But, he is not able to do that."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is always open to the hon. Member to ask for information on any matter and I do not think I have ever denied him anything."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Sir, it would have been better if I am allowed to proceed without much excitement on the other side. Sir, I am anxious to point out to this House that the Andhra districts, in every matter including the question of public health which also vitally affects life and death, are neglected and as a matter of fact there is no proper allotment of money or proper schemes in that area. Sir, it is a very difficult matter to explain this to the Hon. Minister, but it is a very simple matter that the Andhra districts have been neglected. But, the difficulty seems to be, as I said, age is both an advantage and a disadvantage and the Hon. Minister has fixed views on this matter. That is why I began my speech by saying that it is better to have a doctor for the medical portfolio, and we have come from the districts with a mandate to explain how our districts have been neglected. But, here is an Hon. Minister who has got fixed views and it is difficult for us to change him and his views. Here is an opportunity that has been given to this Hon. Minister than perhaps the other Ministers, but I am not concerned here with the other aspects. Sir, if proof is necessary it is there, that proper facilities are not given in the matter of public health in Andhra districts. Sir, it is possible for the Hon. Minister to get up and say, 'well, you have not seen the Budget, I will give you figures, I have allocated so much in the Budget and see how I am doing and so on.' But, I would like to ask him, from his knowledge of the public health of this Province from 1937, how many important towns have protected water-supply, in how many districts important towns have drainage and if a list of these things is given it will be evident to you, Sir, and to the hon. Members of this House, what little has been done to the Andhra districts in regard to these matters. And, Sir, is it wrong on my part to ask that question. The other day, in this House when some Muslim members got up and asked for some facilities, it was said that it was communalism. I ask, is it not provincialism or religious feeling on the part of this Government in neglecting certain districts? Well, Sir, it will be very clear if a list showing the towns and districts in which there is protected water-supply and also the places where there is drainage system, is furnished and then it will be a certificate enough to take this Hon. Minister to a judicial enquiry, if necessary, and if it is ordered by you."

* SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion moved by the Hon. Minister for Public Health. Sir, I find from the Budget figures that more than 24 lakhs of rupees have to be spent on Establishment. In regard to rural water-supply the last year's revised Budget gives

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53 lakhs whereas in the Budget for 1950-51 it is only 47.57 lakhs. I do not know what are the details of expenditure—that will be incurred out of this 47.57 lakhs. In former years the House used to be supplied with Administration Reports ending with the previous official year and also the report on the Public Health activities of the department during the previous year which naturally would open the eyes of the members of the Assembly so that their criticisms may be intelligent. But, in the absence of these reports, I thought it necessary that I might rise up and ask for information on certain things.

"Sir, as I have already pointed out, rural water-supply is one of the important items in the new set up and if all the communities in the villages are all considered important then this item of rural water-supply should not in any way be small.

"Sir, another factor I find is, under Colonization schemes, Rs. 1,22,000 will be spent in the next year. Again in regard to Chintapalli and Araku Valley anti-malarial campaigns provision has been made for Rs. 58,300. I do not know whether these Colonization schemes have proved fruitful for this Government or not and whether it is necessary that this amount ought to be spent on these Colonization schemes, in view of the fact that more urgent schemes like rural water-supply are awaiting sanction and to be pushed through. Sir, in the report that has been supplied to the hon. Members of this House, namely, Madras in 1948—that is the earliest report that has been placed before this House—I find the following: '20 tons of D.D.T. were requisitioned by the Government of India, 1,500 gallons of 1 per cent pyrethrum extract and 25,000 gallons of distribution of "Aromex", a good solvent for D.D.T. were obtained. Free distribution of quinine was pushed through. Synthetic anti-malarial drugs like paludrine, mepacrine were found to be more effective than quinine for curative and prophylactic purposes.' Sir, this has greatly shaken me because who is responsible for saying that paludrine is more efficacious than quinine. We have spent in this Province lots of money on cinchona plantation and on erecting factories and if we are to encourage a foreign drug like paludrine to the detriment of our national industry and plantation, I do not know what will be the fate of this country which has been employing lakhs of workers on plantations. I would like to know from the Hon. Dr. Rajan, who is an expert not only in foreign medicines but of late he has also been interesting himself in Ayurvedic systems of medicines and other things, what exactly is the efficacy of the paludrine as compared with quinine.

"Recently, when I was in Delhi, there was a conference of medical experts and the Surgeon-General of Madras was also present and it was brought to notice that they were trying to belittle the efficacy of quinine. I waited on the Director-General of Public Health and told him what would be the result of belittling quinine to the advantage of paludrine. As a matter of fact, they decided the Conference not to touch the reduction of cinchona plantations for at least for one year. It is high time that the Hon.

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Minister consults the Minister in charge of quinine plantations and makes quinine to be the important ingredient for the prosecution of anti-malarial operations. It is said that the Government would be purchasing quinine to the value of Rs. one lakh; I think this and pyrethrum for disinfecting purposes must be encouraged so that what is produced in our country may be used for these operations.

"I know, Sir, that some of the districts I have visited have given very good reports of the activities of the Public Health Department. One of the hon. Members coming from the Andhra area was observing that nothing has been done there. Recently, Sir, in East Godavari, there was a big *dharshan* of Balaguru Yogi, which you yourself have known and there was an assembly of more than five lakhs of people; it was a big congregation. I know the arrangements made there were quite satisfactory and even one single man or woman did not die of any epidemic disease. These are things which have to be taken note of. There is the visitation of cholera in our Province due to climatic conditions and other things and I know, in that connection, action is being taken in proper time, so that people may not suffer from it and other epidemic diseases. I am glad that the Public Health Department is playing a very good part. But, for the Harijans, there is a provision of Rs. 6 lakhs for water-supply and other sanitary amenities. I do not know whether there is co-ordination between the Public Health Department and the department catering for the Harijan Welfare so that the money that is spent in this department and in that department is put to the maximum use and there are wells both in the Harijan hamlets and also in other places. This will enable the question of water-supply being solved in a short time. I request the Hon. Minister to bestow special attention on the question of water-supply in rural areas especially of the Harijan hamlets, because wherever we go to the cry is that the scheme for the supply of protected water has not touched the fringe of the question. As has been explained by my hon. Friend, Mr. Subbaraman, water-supply is the first necessity for life and I wish the Government move quickly and rightly in this direction."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would not have intervened in the debate but for certain remarks made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillay, about Arakku Valley and Chintapalli. He said he did not know whether anything useful has been accomplished there and why Rs. 58,000 should be wasted upon Chintapalli and Arakku Valley. I was thinking why Mr. Muniswami Pillay should have concerned himself with that nook and corner of this Presidency. I thought it was not in any way advantageous to him to make adverse remarks on that scheme. His remarks coming as they did from a respected member of this House might have some damaging effect upon the future development of the Arakku Valley and Chintapalli."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"My suggestion was not regarding the amount spent but to find out whether it was useful."

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* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"I am only referring to that. I am not in the least blaming him, Sir, because those are areas which are a little far removed from Ooty wherefrom my hon. Friend comes. Arakku Valley and Chintapalli are situated in such a very favourable position that the development of those two places is not merely desirable but also absolutely necessary if we want to improve the resources of our province, not only with regard to food but with regard to water-supply, electricity and other kindred matters. Both these areas are situated on a high level, on a plateau of about 3,000 feet above the sea level; they are the centres of a big circle with radius of fifty miles, containing virgin soil of the utmost fertility and having a most salubrious climate but the only defect of those areas is that they are malarial and the Government will be only doing the right thing in taking up anti-malarial operations there because by doing that, we will be adding to our province an area of a circle with about 50 to 60 miles radius. Therefore, let not the Hon. Minister or the Government have any misapprehension that the amount is ill-spent. In fact, several of the Hon. Ministers have already visited the areas in one connection or other and they have seen the good effects of the anti-malarial operations there. Our only complaint is that more operations of this nature have not yet been undertaken and more money has not been spent. When once it is rid of malaria, the valley will become an asset not only to this province but the whole country."

"Having risen to speak, I would appeal to the Hon. Minister on another point and that is with regard to the health officers in the municipalities. May I ask the Hon. Minister either to make them entirely independent of the local bodies or to make them work in co-ordination with the local bodies. I refer to the relationship between the health officers and the municipalities. The municipalities have absolutely no control over the health officer. He sends his communications to the Director of Public Health directly and not even through the Chairman. The Chairman or the municipal council have practically no control over him. I hope the Hon. Minister will be pleased to look into this or to make it altogether a Government department so that the entire public health question may become the responsibility of the Government."

"I wish to say a word or two about the Sanitary Engineering Department. There is great difficulty in the prosecution of water-supply schemes because the Sanitary Engineer does not hold any independent place in the scheme of things; he is under another engineer, the Chief Engineer for all practical purposes. If, Sir, we want to make decent progress with regard to water-supply schemes, the Sanitary Engineer should be made an officer directly responsible to the Government having direct communications with the Government on all matters without going through the Chief Engineer for any and everything. He has not got all those facilities to which an independent presidency officer is entitled and that makes for delay. For instance, does the Hon. Minister know for how many years a small water-supply scheme, namely, the Cholararam scheme, has been pending? The scheme had been under investigation even as early as 1937 when the Hon. Minister was

[Sri T. Viswanatham] [14th March 1950]

in charge of Public Health and till to-day, it is in the same stage. I submit to the Hon. Minister that he should therefore consider the question of putting the Sanitary Engineer on a higher basis and a better basis and of making the department stronger and better-manned. As it is, the complaint is that it is absolutely undermanned. I hope the Hon. Minister will bestow his attention on the three or four points mentioned by him."

SRI B. SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, ప్రజాస్వామ్య అభివృద్ధికి ఏమి అడ్డంకు ఉన్నాయి? దీని ఆరోగ్యకర ఫలపాలనకు నాను ఈ కొద్దిపాటి లక్షల రూపాయల ఖర్చుతో మన మద్రాసు రాష్ట్రములోని ప్రజల ఆరోగ్యాన్ని అభివృద్ధిచేయుటకు సాధ్యమేకాదు. ప్రజల ఆరోగ్యములో విమీ మార్పు కనిపించుట లేదు.

“గ్రామాలలో మంచినీటి సౌకర్యాలు (rural water-supply) సరిగా లేవు. ముఖ్యంగా మా విశాఖపట్నం జిల్లాలోని చాలా గ్రామాలలో మంచినీటి సౌకర్యాలు లేక ప్రజలు చాలా బాధలు పడుతున్నారు. ముఖ్యంగా ఈ వేసవికాలంలో కొన్ని గ్రామాలలో త్రాగునీరు నీరు కొరతగా ఉంది. ఈ గ్రామాలవారు మట్టు పట్టినప్పుడు మంచినీరు ఉండే గ్రామాలకుపోయి నీళ్లు తెచ్చుకొని రోజంతా వారు ఆ నీటినే వాడుకొనవలసి వచ్చుచున్నది. నేను నివసించేటటువంటి చోడవరంలో కూడా మంచినీటి సౌకర్యాలు సరిగా లేని కారణంచేత మేము పక్క గ్రామాలకుపోయి బట్టి మీద నీళ్లు తెచ్చుకొని ఆ నీళ్లను త్రాగతూ రోజంతా వాడుకొనవలసి వస్తోంది.

“మా చోడవరం తాలూకా ముఖ్యస్థానం (headquarters). అక్కడ water-supply scheme 1924 వ సంవత్సరములో estimate చేసారు. అనగా ఇప్పటికి రూపాయి గత 26 సంవత్సరాల నుంచి ఆ scheme అప్లై అయ్యింది. ప్రతి సంవత్సరం ఈ scheme ను అమలుచేయ దలచినట్లు బడ్జెటులో provision చూపిస్తారు. కాని సంవత్సరాలతాని చూస్తే వచ్చే సంవత్సరానికి postpone చేసినట్లు ఉంటుంది. ఇది చాలా విచారకరమైనటువంటి విషయం. ఉదయం సలాం గారు మాట్లాడుతూ ఆంధ్రరాష్ట్ర ప్రాంతాలలోని పనులు సరిగా జరుగుతున్నదని, మంత్రిగారు మా జిల్లాలను ఆశ్రయించేస్తున్నారని అంటే వారికి కోపం వచ్చింది. కాని సలాం గారు చెప్పిన విషయాలు యధార్థమని నేను మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. మా అభిప్రాయాలు సరికావని రుజువు చేయవలసిన బాధ్యత మంత్రిగారి మీద ఉన్నది. రాజ్ గారు వారు సమాధానం చెప్పేటప్పుడు గత 26 సంవత్సరాలనుంచి మా చోడవరం water-supply scheme అమలు చేయక పోవటానికి కారణం చెప్పవలసి యున్నది.

“శ్రీ మునిస్వామి పిళ్లెగారు వారి ఉపన్యాసంలో చింతపల్లి, అరుకు లోయలలో అధికంగా డబ్బు ఖర్చుచేస్తున్నట్లు అభిప్రాయాన్ని వెలిమిచ్చినారు. వారు పారపాటు పడినారు. చింతపల్లి, అరుకు లోయలలో anti-malarial operations చేయవలసి యున్నది. ఇవే కాకుండా కృష్ణదేవిపేట మొదలైన ఇతర agency ప్రాంతాలలో కూడా anti-malarial operations చేయవలసి యున్నది. ఈ agency ప్రాంతాలలోని ప్రజలు మలేరియావల్ల చాలా బాధలు పడుతున్నారు. వారికి క్వినైన్ ఇంకా ఎక్కువగా supply చేయించవలసి యున్నది. Agency ప్రాంతాలలోని ప్రజలను ఉద్ధరించవలసిన ముఖ్యంగా వారి ఆరోగ్యాన్ని బాగుచేయటానికి ప్రభుత్వంవారు హెచ్చు శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొనవలసి యున్నది.

“పంచాయతీలలో Sanitary Inspector లను వేయాలని ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఉత్తర్వులిచ్చారు. కాని ఈ Sanitary Inspector లకు ఇచ్చే జీతము చాలా తక్కువ.

[14th March 1950] [Sri B. Satyanarayana Raju]

వగా నిర్ణయించారు. అందుచేత ఎవరు పంచాయతీలలో పనిచేయటానికి రావడం లేదు. ఈ నాడు చూచినట్లయితే ఏ పంచాయతీలో కూడా Sanitary Inspector లు ఉన్నట్లు లేదు. Sanitary Inspector లు ఉంటేనేగాని గ్రామాలలో పారిశుధ్యమును అభివృద్ధిచేయుట సాధ్యమౌకాదు. కాబట్టి Sanitary Inspector ల జీతము పెంచి వారు గ్రామాలలో పనిచేయుటకు ప్రోత్సాహము కలుగజేయవలసినదిగా ప్రభుత్వం వారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

“Health centres ను పెట్టే విషయంలో కూడా ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఆంధ్ర రాష్ట్రానికి చాలా అన్యాయంచేస్తున్నారని ప్రజలు అనుకుంటారు. ఈ Health centres ను ఏర్పాటు చేయవలసినదని 1945 వ సంవత్సరంలో ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఒక scheme ను తయారు చేశారు. 1948-49 వ సంవత్సరంలో కాబోలు గుంటూరులో రెండు Health centres ను ఏర్పాటు చేశారు. 1949-50 వ సంవత్సరములో జిమీ పెట్టలేదు. 1950-51 వ సంవత్సరంలో కూడా ఇందుకుగాను Budget లో విమీ provision ఉన్నట్లు లేదు. తెలుగు జిల్లాలలో మొత్తము 2 Health centres మాత్రమే ఉన్నవి. కాని అరవ జిల్లాలలో 18 Health centres ఉన్నాయి. తెలుగు జిల్లాలపట్ల ఇటువంటి ఆశ్రద్ధ ఎందుకు చూపుతున్నారో బోధపడడంలేదు. ఇండాక సలాం గారు మంత్రిగారు ఆంధ్రదేశంపట్ల నిర్లక్ష్యంగా ఉన్నారని అంటే వారికి కోపం వచ్చింది. అనవసరంగా కోపముపడేకన్న అరవ జిల్లాలను తెలుగు జిల్లాలను ఒకేవిధంగా చూడవలసియున్నది. దీనికి శ్రీ రాజ్ గారు సమాధానము చెప్పవలసియున్నది.

“మా జిల్లాలోని విజయనగరం పట్నానికి drainage scheme లేదు. ఇందువల్ల దోమలబాధ చాలా ఎక్కువగా ఉన్నది. దోమకాటువల్ల చాలామందికి బూరకాలు, వరిపీకం మొదలైన జబ్బులు వచ్చుచున్నవి. అందుచేత, మేండు వారు ఈ సంవత్సర మైనా ఈ scheme విషయమై శ్రద్ధ చూపిస్తారని అనుకుంటున్నాను. ఇదివరలో మహారాజావారు కూడా కొంత డబ్బు యిస్తామని చెప్పినారు. ఈ విరాళము తీసుకొని గవర్నమెంటువారు కొంత grant యిచ్చి ఈ drainage scheme ను వెంటనే ఈ సంవత్సరంలో పూర్తిచేయించి విజయనగరం municipality లో నివసించేటటువంటి ప్రజలకు సహాయము చేయవలసినదని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

“అంటే కాకుండా మా చోడవరం rural water-supply scheme ను వెంటనే అమలు చేయించవలసినదని కోరుచున్నాను.”

* JANAB K. M. SEETHI:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the cut motion on the Public Health Demand I have to stress one or two points that have been adverted to by the mover of the cut motion, and give some illustrations to show how these points deserve to be taken notice of by the hon. Minister in charge of Public Health. The absence of any effective scheme of protected water-supply and also drainage system for many of the towns in the Presidency and also the rural areas is a vital defect in the administration of public health by this Government. On the condition of some of the West Coast towns like Kozhikode, Badagara, Ponnani and Balipatam, I had occasion to speak even during the discussion of the last budget. But I find nothing done by the Government in the course of last year to improve matters. If only one visits the town of Kozhikode, he would be amazed at the colossal neglect of various parts of the town, where one does not find any system of drainage whatsoever. No provision has been made for protected water-supply, with the

3-30 p.m.

[Janab K. M. Seethi] [14th March 1950]

result that almost every third man one meets, will be found to be a victim of elephantiasis, hydrocele or disease of that type. The same is the case with the towns of Ponnani, Badagara and Baliapatam. I request the Hon. Minister that the conditions of these towns might be improved without any delay. The propaganda done by the Health Department is inadequate and ineffective. Their publications, in the vernaculars, are not distributed among the people at large. Ordinarily the masses do not read them or know about them. So I would suggest to the department the desirability of publishing them or the gist of them in the daily newspapers, which are read by the man in the street.

"I have given notice of a cut motion to emphasise the specific point relating to the neglect of certain malarial areas in Malabar. Some of the parts of Chirakkal taluk in North Malabar, the Wynad taluk, and the eastern part of the Ernad taluk are highly malarial. I am yet to come across any effective measures taken by the Public Health Department to give protection to the unfortunate victims of malaria in those areas. If only some of the Members of the House visit those parts and see the helpless victims of malaria going about uncared for by the Health Department or the Medical Department they will be convinced of the gravity of the problem.

"Coming now to the question of vaccination, I would request the Government to appoint lady vaccinators in the case of communities whose women adopt gosha or seclusion. It becomes very difficult for ladies to appear before male vaccinators on specified days, and when they so fail, they are prosecuted. This is a great hardship for them. So I would request Government to appoint lady vaccinators. That would ensure vaccination of those ladies and avoid their prosecutions also."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I allotted two hours for this Demand. Already one hour and fifteen minutes have passed, and I see there are several hon. Members who wish to speak. So I allot five minutes for each member."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a proverb which means, 'If wealth is lost, nothing is lost; but if health is lost, everything is lost.' If a nation should improve and exist consistent with its respectability, it must maintain its health. For, health is a primary necessity for any nation. Here, in our State, the Hon. Dr. Rajan recently assumed charge of this portfolio. Before that, a different gentleman was holding that portfolio. On the whole, there is joint responsibility in the Cabinet. I can say with authority that sufficient protected water-supply has not been made to the public of this State. For instance, the Salem town has a municipal area consisting of more than two and a half lakhs of people. It has to go to Mettur to get its protected water-supply. From the year 1935 onwards the scheme is pending. I do not know why this Government is not in a position to execute it. When it was decided that water for Salem should come from Mettur, then, there was a lot of trouble about laying of pipes. Now there is trouble regarding securing pumping machines to take out water

[Sri P. Kandaswami] [14th March 1950]

from the river to the higher level. Sir, if there is a will there is a way. Now, water-supply has been made to every district except Salem. Just now, the hon. Member, Mr. Salam was accusing Government that it had not provided protected water-supply to Guntur. In that respect, I have to submit that Government has not shown any partiality between Andhra and Tamil, which Venom, my Friend over there wants to introduce in the body politic. Sir, the Hon. Minister always goes on the merits of the case. I know him for very many years. There are so many other places which are suffering from lack of protected water-supply, and yet Government have not paid any attention to the scheme. That is my opinion of the case. Anyhow, I would request him to give Salem water-supply scheme as it is a big weaving centre with lakhs of people. The sum has not yet begun; but water scarcity has already begun. So Government must make arrangements to see that water is brought from Mettur before the end of 1950.

"Regarding village water-supply, our lamented leader Mr. Sanyamurthi promised us that when we got Swaraj we might even bring the Gauges here. Now, what I say is, every village, if it gets protected water-supply by way of a well, that is sufficient. We must see that that is attained. Otherwise there is no use of saying that we are taking interest in rural welfare.

"Then, again drainage is another problem. In 1937 when the Congress Ministry was in existence, a Public Health Act was passed. It contained so many good things to prevent insanitation in municipalities. It has a bad aspect also, which has been mentioned by Mr. Viswanatham. I entirely agree with him when he said that the public health staff in the districts are under the control of the Director of Public Health and not of the Commissioner or Chairman of the municipality where they are working. It is high time that sorry state is remedied.

"Then there is one more point. Whenever there is a festival in a village, the public health authorities do not take proper care to provide water-supply to the visitors, with the result that cholera breaks out. If only adequate water-supply is given, cholera would not break out. I hope that will be attended to."

JANAB ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, I shall immediately take up the subject that I wish to refer in my remarks. That is a very important subject, and that is about the City of Madras. Our water-supply is rather ancient in the business of mechanical filters. The Corporation of Madras has made representations to the Government of Madras and have applied for a big loan of 24 lakhs for that, without which it will be impossible for us to instal those mechanical filters. As we all know, the population of the City has increased considerably, and compared to that our water-supply has decreased in the same proportion; and it is a miracle in spite of the failure of three monsoons and in spite of the failure of the Poondi reservoir we have been able to get on with the water-supply from the Red Hills Lake. In order to improve the quality of the water and also the supply thereof we have to lay down

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quickly three new conduits to the various parts of the City. I am sure Government will not hesitate to grant sums for that. Being a metropolitan city, its population has increased; so many Government offices are there, and so it is absolutely necessary that Government should consider this demand favourably.

"Next I will deal with the poor homes in the City of Madras. We have to a very minimum extent tried to solve the beggar problem. Beggars, vagrants and disabled people are maintained in the homes which are run by the Corporation of Madras. The maintenance of these homes costs a good deal. Tackling the beggar problem is not, strictly speaking, the concern of a municipality; it should be the concern of the State Government. When the State Government have not tackled the problem, they should at least meet a good portion of the expenditure incurred on the maintenance of these poor homes by giving liberal grants to the Corporation of Madras.

"Next I will speak about the district which I have the honour to represent in this House. The town of Kurnool and the other parts of the district are very very backward and neglected and I cannot describe the wretched condition in which people live there. The headquarters town of Kurnool itself is full of dust; it has no dust-proof roads. Recently two extra filters have been fitted up in the town water works. But for want of materials like pipes, water is not supplied to all parts of the town.

"I will speak about water-supply and drainage schemes in all municipalities in general. Even important towns like Kurnool and Tiruchirappalli do not have underground drainage, with the result that cholera, smallpox and other water-borne diseases prevail. In summer season there is cholera and in winter season there are plague and smallpox. Several epidemics come in a cyclical order and take a heavy toll of human lives. After all, this is a big State with a population of fifty million people and a budget of nearly sixty crores of rupees. The first duty of such a State is to see that people are made to live in healthy surroundings and that the high adult, infantile and maternal mortality rate is brought down. People die young because of the unhealthy surroundings in which they are allowed to live. The two major requirements which the Public Health Department should provide by spending any amount of money are protected water-supply and underground drainage. I am sure the provision of these two important things at least in major municipalities and towns will go a long way to reduce the high mortality rate.

"I should like to say that about two years ago a drainage scheme was promised for Kurnool town. But that scheme has gone very low in the priority list of drainage schemes.

"These are some of the things which I wish to stress. There are many things which one can say on the subject of Public Health because, next to food, public health is the most important thing that the Government should attend to. It is unfortunate that the Government do not possess a sense of proportion in the priority needs

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of the people. People have been crying for food and cloth. People can go without many clothes. But certainly they cannot live in such very unhealthy conditions in which people of even big towns are allowed to live. If the Government do not improve the amenities for public health, certainly they cannot be said to be discharging their duty properly."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:— "Mr. Speaker, Sir, since I have to be very brief, I will take point by point in a particular order.

"The first is the question of policy. I am very glad that the Government have at least at the Secretariat level separated Public Health from Education with which it was coupled. Public Health has to be treated as the foundation of everything else. In my opinion even food is only next in importance to health. A low standard of public health will undermine not only the health of the population but also activities in the direction of increased food production but also activities in the direction of increased food production. Up till now the emphasis has been on the provision of increased hospital facilities. The policy in future ought to be to shift the emphasis from increased hospital facilities to increased facilities for prevention of disease. Even mere prevention is only a negative approach; we should shift the emphasis to the positive approach of providing amenities, clean water and clean surroundings for improving the health of the masses. Public Health Department has truly widespread if I can borrow a metaphor used with reference to water. It has something to do with education because children have to be taught to take care of their health. It has got much to do with town-planning because it has to look to the provision of open spaces, proper conservancy, etc. It has also to provide for new towns in preference to extending old towns and I will deal with this a little later. It has much to do with rural welfare in general, because all welfare activities in villages depend primarily on the maintenance of health. The ramifications of the activities of this department are so widespread that the expenditure on this department has got to be much more than what it is at present. As I said during the general discussion of the Budget, our expenditure on medicine is 9 pies in the rupee, on public health, 3 pies and one pie each on agriculture and veterinary service. The order must change and change quickly. I have no doubt that the Hon. Minister will answer that the provision made in the budget is not the only amount spent on public health and that there is the 12½ per cent of the revenue of every municipality which the Public Health Act insists on being spent on public health. I am aware of that. I say that the percentage stipulated in the Public Health Act itself is very low and the expenditure on public health both in towns and municipalities must bear a very much larger proportion to the total revenues. To-day the expenditure is mostly on drugs imported from abroad. Let the Hon. Minister analyse the figure and see for himself how much is spent on import of drugs to fight this or that preventable disease and how much is spent relatively on water-supply, drainage and things like that. That is why I plead for a shifting of the emphasis in policy. If we spend more on

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Hospitals and less on prevention of disease, the result is only Sisyphean labour. Only there is the strain left out of the effort with no result at all.

"Let me come to water supply in towns and villages. There must be some order of priority. Schemes which are once made have got to be remade sometimes because during the interval between the initiation and finalisation of a scheme the population of the place concerned has far outrun the original estimate. In many cases schemes have got to be revised because of the emergence of certain new factors which could not be foreseen when the scheme was originally drawn up. Priority must be given to pilgrim towns and towns which hold fairs and festivals, priority must be given to places which are marshy and full of swamps, priority must be given to places where drought is a common occurrence and where the threat of famine appears at the slightest failure of monsoon. That is the order of priority that we want. In this connection, let me refer to my own little town of Tirupati. It has expanded and expanded and the Hon. Dr. Rajan knows it only too well. He has just been talking of providing good water-supply for Tirumalai Hills where the Temple of Lord Venkateswara is situated. But what is the provision made for the thousands of floating population who come to Tirupati every day and suffer for want of water? The scheme has been taken up again and again. Why should the Government seek for alternative after alternative simply because of complaints that the riparian rights of certain individuals are affected? Is the safeguarding of the riparian right affecting 50 or 100 acres more important than the health of the 30,000 to 40,000 people of the town including the floating population? I want a definite answer. I have been told that sometimes interference of a very improper sort has prevented the execution of the scheme. Let the people of Tirupati know about this.

"Generally speaking, the Government adopt a money-lender's mentality in giving loans. Some municipalities may have adequate income to attend to water-supply and drainage. But many municipalities have not got funds to provide water-supply and drainage. The Government should adopt a more liberal policy. They should spread repayment over a larger number of instalments and give grants in addition to loans wherever necessary.

"Housing is intimately connected with public health. Why do the Government extend the existing towns? In the City of Madras itself, there is Sembiam which place I visited only recently. In Sembiam, sullage water flows right down in every locality. Without spreading out existing towns and cutting down the available open spaces, why should not the Government open new towns wherever necessary? Opening of new towns will be conducive to the development of healthy and vigorous men.

"Housing of agricultural labourers in villages is most important. It is neglected to-day, sadly neglected in certain districts. If there is no proper housing, death-rate among agricultural labourers

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will increase. As a matter of fact, many agricultural labourers are dying and there is acute scarcity of labour for agricultural purposes in certain areas."

SRI M. A. EASWARAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting 4 p.m. the Demand moved by the Hon. Minister for Public Health, I have to state that the public health of the province depends upon the food that is supplied by the Government to the people. Sir, this rationing system has been in force for the last seven years. Before rationing was introduced, it was generally accepted that the normal requirement of a person which was 20 ounces, per day, should be maintained, because it was this quantity that was taken by him before the introduction of that system. After rationing was introduced, people were given only 16 ounces per day, then it was reduced to 12 ounces and even this was reduced to 8 ounces later and now in some places even this 8 ounce ration has been reduced to 4 ounces. More than that, even the foodgrains that are supplied through the ration shops are not of good quality."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We are now on Demand XVII. This subject will not come under this Demand."

SRI M. A. EASWARAN:—"Sir, I am saying that public health depends upon the quality of foodgrains that are supplied to the people and that because that the food supplied is bad, the health of the people has deteriorated. And so, Sir, I think, it is in that way that this subject is relevant to the Public Health Demand. I want, Sir, that the food articles that are supplied to the people should be inspected by some medical or public health officer, before they are distributed to the people through the ration depots, just as what the Government are doing in the matter of supplying food to prisoners in jails. But, as I have just now said, the foodgrains that are supplied in the ration-shops are of a very inferior quality and there is too much of mud and dust therein. That is why they affect the health of the people very much. It is therefore very necessary that these foodgrains should be inspected by some public health officer before they are distributed through the ration depots.

"Again, Sir, it has now-a-days become a very common practice among merchants and dealers to adulterate foodstuffs, because of the high prices of pure articles. For instance, ghee, butter, milk, oil, and in fact every article of food is adulterated by some cheaper or inferior stuff and this affects the health of the people. The punishment that is now given to these offenders is only a simple fine. I think, Sir, that unless some more drastic punishment, such as imprisonment is given, the situation will not improve.

"Sir, the hon. Gentleman Mr Abdul Hameed Khan referred to poor houses and said that even if poor houses are started by private people, the Government should give them some State grants in order that they might be run properly. I entirely agree with him, Sir, and I want that the Government should take steps to see that these poor-homes are run properly and efficiently and feeding the poor who are unable to eke out their living by any other means.

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[Sri M. A. Easwaran] [14th March 1950]

"Sir, a word about contagious diseases. We see hundreds of people who are suffering from contagious diseases mixing freely with the society and thereby spreading contagion among healthy people. I suggest that some segregation camps might be started and that beggars who are suffering from contagious diseases like leprosy might be sent to that place, so that they may not mix with the crowd and spread contagion.

"In conclusion—

"In conclusion, Sir, I wish particularly to draw the attention of the Government to the very poor quality of foodgrains supplied in the ration depots and once again suggest that the Government should depute some medical or public health officers to inspect the stocks before they are distributed to the people."

*SRI P. S. VELAYUTHAN

*SRI P. S. VELUCHAMI GOUNDER :—“கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்
களை! எனம் சுகாதார மந்திரி அவர்களின் மானியத்தை நான் ஆதரிக்க
கிறேன்.”

[illegible]

“கும்பகோணம் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.
திலே கும்பகோணத்தின் கொட்டைப்பாக்கு பெற்றது. ஆனால் இருமங்கலத்
பன், பாட்டன், பூட்டெல்லையிருக்கிறது. ஆகவே அந்த ஊர் பஞ்சாயத்
துபேயர் சொந்த செலவில் சர்க்கரை, திட்டவேலையைச் செய்வதற்கு சர்க்கார்
தத்தில் அனுமதி கோரியிருந்தது. சர்க்காரும் 2,000 ரூபாய் பெயரில் கட்டி
இல் ஒரு சூப்பிரைவசரை நியமித்து investigation செய்யுமா? அல்லது
தித்தது. போர்டும் டிபாசிட் கட்ட ஒப்புக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்களா? அல்லது
சர்க்காரில் சூப்பிரைவசர்களை நியமித்து இந்த சர்க்கரைத் திட்டத்தைச்
செய்து கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.
“ மதுரை ஜில்லாவில் கம்பம் பள்ளத்தாறு என்று
சுமார் ஒருசுதும் ஊர்க்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. அங்குள்ள சர்க்கரைத் திட்டத்தைச்
செய்து கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

“மதுரை ஜில்லாவில் கம்பம் பள்ளத்தாக்கு மிகவும் முக்கியமானது. சுமார் ஒருலட்சம் ஜனத்தொகை கொண்ட ஐந்து கம்பம், கூடலூர், சின்னமனூர், உத்தமபாளையம், சாமயகவண்டன்பட்டி (கம்பம் combined water scheme) பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டுகளின் திட்டமொன்று இருபது வருஷகாலமாக சம்பந்தப்பட்ட போர்டாரால் முயற்சியெய்யப்பட்டு வருகிறது. சென்ற யுத்தம் ஆரம்பமாவதற்கு முன் எனைய அந்த திட்டம் நடந்து விடுமென்று எண்ணி யிருந்தோம். ஆனால் யுத்தம் ஆரம்பித்து விட்டதின் காரணமாக அந்த வேலை தடைபட்டு விட்டது. சென்ற வருஷத்தில் அந்த ஐந்து பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டுகளிலிருந்தும் குடிதண்ணீர் சப்ளை திட்டமும், சாக்கடை திட்டமும் எடுத்திக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென வற்புறுத்தியிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த பட்ஜெட்டிலேயே அதற்கு provision ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த பட்ஜெட்டிலேயே இல்ல; 5 ஊர்களில் ஒரே ஊரான கூடலூரில் ஒரே ஒரு குடிதண்ணீர் கிணறு; இருபதாயிரம் ஜனத்தொகைக்கு அதிலிருந்து தன் தண்ணீர் சப்ளை யாகிறது. மற்ற இடங்களிலுள்ள இரண்டொரு கிணற்றிலும் 50, 60 அடி ஆழமிருக்கின்றன. உப்புத் தண்ணீர்; கூடலூர் தவிர மற்ற நான்கு இடங்களில் பெரியாற்றுக்காலவாய்க்கு ஒருமைல் இரண்டுமைல் தூரம் சென்று தண்ணீர் மொண்டு கொண்டு வரவேண்டும். கோடைகாலத்தில் அந்த பெரியாற்றுக் காலவாயில் ஓடுகின்ற காலங்களில் தண்ணீரை எடுத்துக் குடித்தால் காலரா முதலிய பலவித வியாதிகள் வருகின்றன. அதனால் ஏராளமானபேர்கள் சாகும்படி ஏற்படுகிறது. தவிர தண்ணீர் கிடைக்காத காரணத்தினால் அந்த இடங்களில் மக்கள் குடிதண்ணீருக்காக பட்டம் கஷ்டம் எவ்வளவு என்று சொல்லமுடியாது. அந்த இடங்களிலுள்ள பள்ளிக்கூடங்களுக்குச் சென்று பார்த்தால் செல்ல அப்பார்களுக்காக இருக்க வேண்டிய பள்ளிச் சிறுவர் சிறுமிகள் சொரியப்படுகிறார்கள்.

14th March 1950] [Sri P. S. Veluchami Gounder]

உயர்தர, மத்தியதர, நடுதர வகுப்பினர்கள் யாரைப்பார்த்தாலும் சொரிந்துகொண்டேயிருக்கிறார்கள். தண்ணீர் இல்லாத காரணத்தினால் தான் அந்தமாதிரி நிலைமை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இக்குறையை போக்க வேண்டியது சர்க்கார் கடமையாகும்.

“அதுமட்டுமல்ல, இந்த 5 பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டுகளிலேயும் 12 வருஷகாலமாக்குடிதண்ணீரிடாதத்திற்காக வீடுவரியை இரட்டிப்பாக்கியிருக்கிறார்கள். இதையும் investigations-க்குக் கொண்டுவந்து கூடிய சீக்கிரத்தில் எல்லாத்திட்டங்களையும் தயாரித்து, கம்பமப்பள்ளத்தாக்குக்கு இந்த தண்ணீர் சப்ளையும் கொடுத்து உதவுவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“ஆகவே சர்க்கார் கோரியிருக்கும் இந்த மானியத்தை மறுமுறையும் ஆதரிக்கிறேன்.”

* SRI P. VENKATASUBBIAH:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demand moved by the Hon. Minister for Public Health and in doing so I want to make some observations regarding the state of public health in our backward areas.

“ Sir, if you go through the administration report, you will find that it is stated therein that about 258,000 people died of fever in the whole of the Madras State during last year. Of this the districts of Kurnool, Cuddapah, Bellary and Anantapur top the list. So it clearly shows how these parts are neglected for the last so many years. Sir, when I refer to fevers that prevail in our districts, it is my primary duty to draw the attention of the House to malaria which is rampant in those parts. In the district of Kurnool, malaria is especially rampant and so many villages have become completely depopulated and many of them are now on the verge of desolation. Regarding malaria that is prevailing in this country, one Director of Malaria Survey in India wrote in a bulletin in 1938 as follows:—

These figures suggest that about 40 to 50 times as many deaths occur in rural areas as in urban areas. As malaria is pre-eminent a rural disease and agriculture is the chief support of the country, the loss which the staple industry of India sustains must be enormous. The influence of this disease upon agriculture is therefore one of the most important economic problems of India.

The problem of existence in very many parts of India is the problem of malaria. There is no aspect of life in this country which is not affected, either directly or indirectly by this disease. It constitutes one of the most important causes of economic misfortune, engendering poverty, diminishing the quantity and quality of food-supply, lowering the physical and intellectual standard of the nation and hampering increased prosperity and economic progress in every way.

“ Therefore, if the Government do not take any special interest in combating this dreadful disease, it will certainly tell upon the agricultural production of this country. Naturally our rural population and the agricultural labour which are often affected by this disease will not be able to contribute their share towards the agricultural production in this country. Therefore it is the primary duty of the Government to see that malaria is effaced from this Province.

"Sir, appalling conditions are now prevailing in our rural parts, because in most of the villages there is no protected water-supply nor any medical aid and so when epidemics such as cholera, plague, smallpox, etc. visit these rural parts, which they frequently do, they take away a large toll of life and deplete the rural population as a whole.

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“ Sir, speaking on the floor of the House once, I requested the Hon. Minister for Public Health that the scheme of primary health units which has been sanctioned by the Government and put into operation in certain areas might be extended to our merged areas. Let me again take this opportunity of requesting the Hon. Minister to see that that scheme is extended to our areas also, namely, the merged States, because, compared with the conditions prevailing in those areas, the Madras State is by far better. Long years of neglect by the rulers of those States has resulted in a considerable deterioration of public health of the population in those tracts and it is high time that the Government of Madras take into consideration the conditions prevailing there and do the needful to improve the public health, as expeditiously as possible.

"Sir, the prevention of malaria, as I have referred to, is being tried by various methods but they are not at all sufficient. I think, Sir, that intensive spraying of D.D.T. in all these rural areas will, to a great extent, prevent malaria from spreading. Regarding other epidemic diseases that often visit these places, the Government must instruct the public health staff to be more alert and pay more attention to these areas, which are the breeding places of these diseases.

“ Sir, it will not be very inappropriate, if I quote on this occasion a remark of Sir Ronald Ross, the great discoverer of the cause of malaria. He says, ‘ The prevention of malaria depends not so much on profuse expenditure as on the intelligence, enthusiasm and energy of those who are responsible for sanitary affairs. ’ ”

* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very thankful to all the hon. Members of this House who have taken such a keen interest on this subject of Public Health. First of all I shall try my best, in the little time at my disposal, to give such answers as are possible for me, by way of information to some of those points that were raised by certain hon. Members. The hon. Lady Member Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin raised certain questions and first of all in answer to her, let me state that the total number of midwives we have to-day is 2,231, that is 1·38 for every thousand child-birth.

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p.m. " I am mentioning these things not to say that they are sufficient, but I am telling you the facts in my possession so that you may judge whether they are sufficient or not. Now we train 574 midwives every year. Hitherto the figure was 474."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“On a point of information, Sir. In the report of the Director of Public Health it is mentioned that in 1948 the total number of midwives was 595. I want to know whether there is any mistake in his report or whether the increase had been effected in 1949.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The information that I give is more or less up-to-date. Therefore, there may be some

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slight difference. But I can assure the hon. Member that the number of midwives that we are training is more than what it was last year and every year it is progressively increasing.

“As regards water-supply, we have formulated a five-year plan for municipal areas and we have committed ourselves to an expenditure of over 2 crores of rupees for that purpose. We have also taken special steps to obtain supply of cast iron pipes necessary for our work and we are maintaining a reserve stock which cost us about 10 lakhs of rupees. As regards rural water-supply, the expenditure in the current year is nearly half a crore and, according to our programme, the scheme is being implemented vigorously. Rural areas without an adequate supply of water will get supply, according to our programme, in ten years.

“ With regard to the question of maternal mortality, I have to state that the figure which used to vary from about 8.97 to 9.98 in the previous years was brought down to 7.28 in 1948 and it is expected that the figure will be still lower in 1949. The total number of maternity centres in operation in 1949 was 446 and provision has been made for opening 61 more centres during the course of the year.

“ I may mention, in reply to Mr. Salam who made a stormy protest, that water-supply scheme for Guntur has been sanctioned. Out of the 60 schemes put down for execution in the first five-year period, no fewer than 26 are in the Andhra area of which 7 are already under execution and execution is about to commence in 3. I am glad to say that it is the first time that definite programme to be executed within a definite period has been drawn up by any Government of the States.

“ With regard to the point of Mr. Muniswami Pillai, I have to state that on account of paper scarcity, administration reports were discontinued for a long time. But it is proposed to recommence the publication of the reports from this year onwards.

“As regards quinine production, I can assure him that this Government at least, whatever may be the prevailing opinion in other parts of India, stand committed to the scheme of quinine production in which we are engaged and in which we are having a good profitable trade. Not only in the interests of health but also in the interests of good trading business, we as a State are dedicated to it and we cannot lose the revenue we are getting from the manufacture of quinine. But as a point of information, I may tell the hon. Member that quinine as an antidote of malaria still holds the field. It is not only an antidote but is cheaper than any other drug in the market, cheaper than even paludrine. Paludrine, of course, is an effective one but when compared with the sulphate that is produced and all the products of quinine like cinchona and many other stuff produced along with cinchona, we get very often anti-malarial properties which have also the effects of a tonic. Cinchona is productive of multiple products. Cinchona has got a much better effect than quinine separately. All round, the products of cinchona and quinine have still got a sustained value both in the interests of prevention of disease and in the interests

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of health. We on our part as a State Government have held the opinion that cinchona production should stand and it should continue.

“ With regard to the co-operation of Public Health and Harijan Welfare Departments, I may assure the hon. Member that we work jointly and we will not work separately at all. In fact, wherever Harijan wells are provided, we do not duplicate that work. Wherever wells are dug, the people that are benefited must get an even distribution of water, whether they are Harijans or caste Hindus. All those days are gone when a separate Harijan water-supply scheme was formulated in this State. It is time that we wake up because I know what amount of trouble such a distinction leads to in the distribution of water-supply to Harijan cheris. Wherever we went, there were two sets of Harijans. So, where one well was quite enough, we had to provide two wells. Where Rs. 1,000 expenditure was enough, we had to spend Rs. 10,000 on account of the caste feeling among the Harijans of those days. But now we have well-passed that stage and we can definitely tell our Harijan people in the cheris, ‘ Whatever may be your sect, you will have good water.’ That is the sort of programme we have chalked out.

“ With regard to water-supply to rural areas, we are committed to the scheme that all villagers should be given good drinking water and we have undertaken to do it within the course of ten years. A definite programme for the first five years has been drawn up and it is actually being implemented. Necessary pumping sets and other equipments required to accelerate this programme have been provided for and with an expenditure of 15 lakhs every year it is hoped that within a period of ten years we will be in a position to say that we have provided at least one well to each of the areas in our State.

“ Sir, I may state that the Sanitary Engineering Department has been separated definitely from the Public Health Department. Now the Sanitary Engineering Department is a separate department solely concerned with drainage and water-supply and they are all in charge of a Superintending Engineer who has got a number of subordinate officials under him with ten of them working in the various parts. We have divided the whole State into five regions to which they are now distributed. Implementing the scheme in this way, I am sure we will be able to get along with the work within the time we have stipulated. I may incidentally mention that we have also started a scheme of combined water-supply to villages. This scheme is intended to give good potable drinking water-supply to villages. We commenced that scheme in Tirunelveli district. We have now covered an area which will cost us nearly Rs. 37 lakhs. We are giving water to nearly 12 very big villages from the same source. The headworks are 20 to 25 miles away from the river Tambraparni where we have water and we take it through a protected pipe to all these big villages in that area. The work is practically nearing the stage of completion. This is one of the schemes by which we want to provide good

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potable water to a number of villages from one main source of supply. If we could tap other sources, we will pursue our scheme in various other areas, because our difficulty is not merely water but to provide potable water which should be preserved, purified and distributed free to the people for drinking purposes.

“ Mention was made about cholera and I may tell the House here and now that the whole problem of cholera has got to be tackled only by the provision of rural water-supply. Water being the source of spread of cholera, we have taken it on ourselves to do the work of giving protected water-supply both to municipalities and rural areas. I may incidentally mention that the World Health Organization has taken a live interest in this question of cholera in India and they have now undertaken the work in South India where they want to experiment first. They have contributed men and money and we have got two camps where as many as 20 scientists are working with laboratories. Investigation is going on in a number of areas. What they do is to collect statistics from as many villages as possible. There are over a large number of districts three or four of them together who have their headquarters at some central place and carry on the experiment in the laboratories.

“ With regard to the spread of cholera, there is one ‘ vipreu ’ which science has not helped us to prevent. But Egypt carried on investigation and it has to-day got rid of cholera. (Sri S. Nagappa: ‘ What is it? ’) If you will become a student of research, I will tell you what it is. I am not here to lecture. You do not know how cholera is produced by cholera parasites which live in some areas for some time so that they may sting both you and me and murder us by cholera. (Laughter.) We have found that and we are not going to study the life-history of cholera. When once that is solved, the whole problem of cholera is solved. This Government has also contributed a good percentage of the expenditure of the World Health Organization who have done good work in this direction. We are thankful to them for the work that they have done.

“ We have to thank the World Health Organization for another thing. They have also taken up the work of eradication of malaria in our country, about which mention has also been made by some speakers here. As regards malaria in Wynaad, I may tell that we have been at this work for the last ten years or so. As a result of our continuous hard work, I am glad to say that to-day malaria is practically non-existent in Wynaad. We have successfully encouraged a number of people, ex-servicemen and others—to colonize there and they are living there with their families and children. Last year, when I inspected the area, I found that not a child was suffering from the disease in that place which was once reputed to be malarial, where people will not colonize even for a day. To-day we have got over that difficulty. Some investigation with the help of the World Health Organization was started in the Malabar district. In connexion with that scheme, we propose to have in Ernad our men—sanitary staff, health officers and health

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workers—necessary for the scheme. As soon as the scheme is completed, we propose to take experienced workers, doctors and others and send them to malarial areas wherever they may be found. To-day, in South Kanara in Puthur taluk and neighbouring places, our anti-malarial team is working. The result produced by last year's work encouraged us to carry on the work further. Within about one or two years, we are fairly certain that malaria will be stamped out of all these places. This Government has not stinted money with regard to malarial schemes or health schemes whenever they were put forward before them. The difficulty in our way has been the import of drugs for which we have to pay a good price. Take for instance D.D.T. We have got some stock of this. This has got to be imported from other countries. We have taken every care to conserve as much of the stock of drugs we have as possible in the interests of public health.

"Therefore, I am simply describing to you what all has been done in the course of the period in which I was in charge of Public Health and I can say these with certain authority and perhaps even with some knowledge. To that extent, I may say that in whatever we did, we always enlisted the co-operation of enlightened people and workers who have done the same work and have shown success in their efforts. In that way, we got inspiration from those people and with the help of those people, we propose to carry on our work.

"I heard some remarks about public health work in municipalities and medical work. World opinion is perhaps very different from what our hon. Friends have mentioned to-day. The world wants the combined efforts of the Medical and Health Departments. The world movement to-day is to bring the two departments of Public Health and Medicine together into one scheme. The recommendations of the Post-war Reconstruction Committee and the Bhore Committee are also to this effect, although they are separate to-day in Madras. So I hope the hon. Members will understand this point. Public health problem is not the property of a particular municipality, nor is it the property of a small panchayat. It is a national problem in which the co-operation and control by one united body is absolutely necessary. When once an epidemic breaks out in a particular place, the neighbouring municipality cannot say, 'Oh, the disease has not attacked our place. We would not send our Health officers and other health staff to that place. We do not care about what happens in other places.' In such cases, all organizations should get up together, fight the disease and put a stop to it. Even nations cannot keep themselves separate when there are epidemics. World opinion is moving fast to bring all health organizations together as far as possible. Therefore it is I want the help of organizations to be centralized effectively in the interests of public health in the State. Suppose the local municipalities pass a vote of censure on the Health Officer and say, 'We do not want to have this Health Officer and so take him away'. Just consider what will be the position. To-day, this Government is paying the Health Officers and everyone of those things that affect health is being paid by the Government. So, let us at least have that capacity to direct

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the work in right directions. If that is taken away from us and if the local bodies are allowed to interfere in that work, then I tell you that public administration will be quite impossible.

"One word about what Dr. Samuel, who is himself a medical man, has said. I was surprised to hear from him a statement about the incidence of measles after vaccination was done. That is what I heard him to say. I must inform him that these two infections are quite different from one another. Vaccination for smallpox does not prevent measles. But people confuse these two, and we are not in a position to show that these two are separate. General opinion is vaccination prevents all poxes to which people are subjected. It is not so and people do not know it. Therefore when we do vaccination, we must specify that our vaccination is for a specific purpose and it is not for all types of poxes."

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—"I did not say measles; my point,

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"If you did not say measles, I have no remark on that. But it ought not to be mistaken. That is the point."

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—"My point was that though we do vaccination smallpox is recurring after six months."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"You are a doctor and you must know the period of protection with regard to vaccination. I have been watching the reports about the attacks of smallpox with interest. I have always insisted on the Health Department to give me the number of vaccinations that has been done. So I have got a classification of the vaccinations done, viz., vaccinated once, vaccinated twice and vaccinated thrice. I am now comparing the effects of these vaccinations and I find that in cases where persons have been vaccinated twice and had an attack, the mortality has been reduced and persons who have been vaccinated thrice were not at all attacked. In cases where persons have been vaccinated only once, I find 25 to 30 per cent recurrence. I am simply saying all these things, because our people to-day are still fighting shy of vaccination, particularly in villages. It is really a very sad state of affairs that people are not taking to vaccination which is a secure proof against smallpox. This morning there was some complaint about vaccinators and it was said that sometimes vaccination was done by people who did not know much about the science and about the disease. Reference was also made regarding the lack of lady vaccinators. I am glad to tell Begum Amiruddin that lady vaccinators are at work though their number is not as much as is required or necessary. We are quite alive to the problem of getting women vaccinators. Even so, when we employ a large army of vaccinators to go on vaccinating people, you cannot expect all of them to become trained doctors before they begin to vaccinate. I may tell this much. The effect of this preventive method of public health work has proved itself absolutely beyond all doubt. Here I may tell one

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instance to you, Sir. As soon as I took up office, we had a festival in Mathurai, which attracted two or three lakhs of people. All these people crowded together and went to Tirupparankunram. I rushed health staff and other health workers to the place. We posted guards to prevent the people from drinking the water that was available there. We stopped it entirely. Instead, we gave them what we considered to be protected water which they drank. I am glad to tell that there was not even a single solitary case among the vast numbers of people who had been attacked by any of the water-borne diseases.

"Here is my friend from Guntur who has talked so much of that place. He does not know about Guntur as much as I know. Unfortunately, he is not aware of how I served Guntur and saved thousands of lives there. On starting work as Health Minister, I had been in Guntur for three weeks doing anti-cholera inoculation work. I called every doctor worth the name in Guntur to come out of his house and go with me and do anti-cholera inoculation work. Before I started inoculation work in Guntur, the daily death-rate was about 300 or so. By the time I left Guntur at the end of three weeks, there was not a single death in Guntur. So it was possible for me to do that once in a way. But I cannot give pure protected water-supply to Guntur in one day. Nobody can do that. What I mean to say is that the member who made the charge of partiality should live longer to know my work. I admit that I am old, but still I can give a longer history to these younger people who challenge my acts. I have given equal attention to all the districts. Knowing my work as I do, I shall certainly resent the challenge as being most unfounded and uncharitable. (Cheers.)

"I have got some thing more to say about medical services. Unfortunately, we have not much time to debate upon that. But I can certainly give some idea of what we are doing. I would like to have the sympathy of this House with me for the national appeal that I am making. To-day, we have not got sufficient medical staff, men and women, for work in this Province. It is true both in north and south, Tamil and Andhra, we are not in a position even to replace the numbers that we lose by deaths in the profession. Of those that are in service, so many die and we could not create that number to replace them. That is the position. It comes to this, that is, we must have more institutions; we must have more training places. That means to say we must have more money to start these colleges. Under post-war reconstruction works, Mathurai, Guntur and many other districts were mentioned. We started a College in Mathurai and were able to run it there only for two years. We started a College in Guntur and are running it for the third year. In Mathurai we could not do it on account of financial stringency. If I took from the financial point of view, I will require nothing less than one crore of rupees for each medical college. That is really a very big sum to demand from the Finance Minister. Besides this, we want Rs. 5 crores for enlarging the existing medical institutions. What I said

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in Tanjore and other places was that apart from the claims of some places, Mathurai shall be taken up. That is all what I said. I never said Tamil or Andhra. I said that there will be one more College and that will be in Mathurai. Of all places, Mathurai is the only place which has a first-class hospital where we could train medical men of the type that we want. Our University standards and medical standards are very high.

"Our medical standards are very high, and will compare favourably with those of any other country in the world (Hear, hear.) We cannot manufacture medical institutions over-night, and train men in medicine and surgery. We want quality because we are dealing with problems of life and death. Therefore, to reduce the quality and multiply in quantity is not the method to be applied to subjects like medical science. Whatever that is, we are to-day wanting in men who would do research work. We want them badly and I would much like them to be sent to America and other places where knowledge in this field is up to date. If we do not have that fundamental primary education provided in our Universities, it would not be possible for us to take up higher studies in the other Universities abroad. It is in order to make them fit to be admitted to foreign Universities that I say they should be given a quantum of good education and this is what we do now. As a matter of fact, we cannot take up things which we cannot afford to, and I say this because of a demand from certain quarters to increase the number of colleges. At the same time, I am not unaware of the work that we can do with those trained in indigenous system of medicine. The indigenous systems are good and many of our people are particularly keen in making them more popular. In my opinion, they have turned out good work so far. I may say, Sir, that within two years, as I have already pointed out, we shall give them further training and make use of them, not as doctors proper, in the Public Health Department. We want thousands of first-class men for work like giving injections, for doing vaccination work and so on. They can be trained—and it does not require high academic education on the part of the men who come forward for this work—and sent out to the villages. We have got now the village Vaidyas' scheme designed for the same end. They are trained with a view to being sent to unreachable places in the villages with an elementary knowledge of drugs and injections so that they may be called for work in times of emergency, i.e., whenever epidemics break out, as was done by me in Guntur recently when cholera broke out. We want more number of men in as short a time as possible. We want some intelligent men, men who know something about medicine. We know that the period of training in the case of village vaidyas, viz., six months is too short. But we want to train them to the extent necessary to enable them to know how to give injections, or, say, how to administer diarrhoea mixture and what drugs they should have in their chest. They will be taught how to prevent infection. In short, these are the things which every one of our rural medical practitioners has to be proficient in and we propose to do it. We have started four different centres in

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four different parts of the State, one in Madras, one in Eluru, one in Tanjore and one, if I remember aright, in Mangalore. Each centre is expected to train about 65 men and in the course of another six months, we will have nearly 300 men trained in all the four centres put together, and they will go out to the villages. Any useful suggestions, Sir, which hon. Members may have in this regard will certainly be examined if they will help to amplify the scheme and if they come within the sphere of my knowledge and activities. This is the idea with which the Rural Health Scheme has been drawn up. I may frankly state that we are not enamoured of a health scheme as such. The difficulty is we are unable to get sufficient number of doctors. The maximum that we can expect is about 50 doctors a year—I mean, M.B.B.S.,—who would never go to the villages because they spend thousands of rupees for prosecuting their education and training. In fact, we cannot ask them or expect them to take up work in the villages for a pot of paddy which they may get by way of fees after having invested so heavily. But we can get hold of the men I have just mentioned who might be willing to work for a measure of paddy and the like. They will have no objection to their fees being paid in kind. So, this is the type of men we require. The one good thing here is that these men are willing to be taught and it is a great asset. My only fear, however, is they want to be called 'doctors.' They want to become doctors within the course of six months! This is certainly more than I can promise. As it is, one of these Vaidyas has already begun to complain that they are not called doctors. So, I know they are complaining. But that is not exactly the purpose of training these people. The training given to them is such that they cannot be treated on a par with top-ranking medical men . . ."

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—"On a point of information, Sir,

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon the Minister is not yielding. The hon. Member may resume his seat."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, if hon. Members have any doubts or misgivings, they may express them at the end of my reply and I shall answer their points. So, Sir, these are the lines on which we are proceeding and they are open to be analysed and criticised by hon. Members. I would request them to say so, if we go wrong and if what we have done is right, let them tell us that also. To-day our medical men are few and far between. But we have got a number of bogus medical men who have become more or less a public danger. I say 'public danger' because they do not know anything which they profess to know. It is in order to prevent this mischief from spreading that we have now started the College of Indigenous Medicine. The duration of the course is five years and the educational qualification prescribed for admission to the course is a pass in the Intermediate examination. These people are given basic training in anatomy, chemistry and other sciences as in any other medical institution. They are trained by professors who know their work. About 200 men will

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be selected every year and at the end of five years we may have more doctors from this college than we can expect from the Medical College. But they may not be high grade medical men in the sense in which the doctors from the Medical Colleges are internationally known or recognized. I do not also think that they can stand comparison with those people. But I do concede that some of these people turned out by the College of Indigenous Medicine may be clever and it is left to them to prove cleverer than those trained in other systems. Our Medical Colleges cannot produce more than fifty doctors a year. The University will not allow them to take in more candidates than they physically can train. As it is, we require ten beds per student and if the hospitals contain only 500 beds we cannot give training to more than 50 people. The University issues Diplomas and Degrees to the successful candidates and so we have to abide by their decision. In this connexion, I may also state that the University has recognized the course instituted in the College of Indigenous Medicine, as B.I.M. (Bachelor of Indigenous Medicine). The University is going to give Degrees or Diplomas. These people will be like any one of our M.B.B.S. fellows and it is left to them to choose the village or the city for practice.

"Sir, in the light of what I have said, I am sure that hon. Members cannot complain that the Medical Department has been partial and has not given chances to those who want to come up. I have clearly stated the position and if in spite of this hon. Members have got any more doubts, I shall certainly clear them."

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—"On a point of information, Sir, may I ask the Hon. the Minister for Public Health whether these village Vaidyas who have been trained recently are sent to the villages to run rural dispensaries? My information goes to prove the contrary."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"These medical practitioners have not yet come out for being sent to the villages. But we are sending to places where no doctors could be had, B class practitioners. They are called B class practitioners because they do not have high academic education. As hon. Members are aware, 500 of the rural dispensaries have been closed for lack of men to be in charge of them. We are sending these people to those places where the re-opening of the closed institutions is urgently called for."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Sir, with regard to the reservation of pipes, the Hon. the Minister has stated that the Government are holding pipes worth as much as 10 lakhs of rupees for water supply to towns. May I submit to him that the scheme in Visakhapatnam that has been practically held up for want of pipes and may I request him to lend a portion of the reserved pipe line for work in Visakhapatnam?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I may tell the hon. Member that Visakhapatnam is not the only place that needs pipes. Pipes are wanted in so many other places. I may add that even

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those pipes which I have got reserved for work in Tirunelveli has been diverted to some other scheme by the Engineering Department without my knowledge (laughter) with the result that my scheme is held up, in a half-finished state. The dearth of pipes is terrible and the demand is abnormal and even after rationing them we are not able to do justice to those who are entitled to priority. They are more precious than gold coin or American Dollars. We are alive to the difficulties of the people and shall do our best when the position improves."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Sir, we have taken a loan from the Government for the extension of water-supply and we are actually paying interest. But just for want of pipes the work has been held up and we are continuing to pay interest. The Government, if they cannot supply pipes immediately, may in the alternative waive the interest." (Laughter.)

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The hon. Member knows how much I have done for the Visakhapatnam Municipality. (Sri T. Viswanathan: 'I am very thankful to you, Sir, for that.') Let him not think that I have lost interest in the Visakhapatnam Municipality. Knowing me, as he does, fully well, he ought not to have put this question to me in this House. He might have come to me through the proper channel to discuss matters."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"I shall certainly come to you through the proper channel. I know the Hon. the Minister has not lost interest in our municipality. In fact, if it were any other Minister, I would not have put this question. (Laughter.) Then, Sir, the Sanitary Engineer—this is my second point—should be made independent of the Chief Engineer and not to work directly under him."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The Sanitary Engineer is independent of the Chief Engineer to some extent."

JANAB MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM:—"Sir, in view of the fact that the Public Health Act was passed twelve years ago—as early as 1937—will the Hon. the Minister consider the advisability of amending it in the light of his experience in the last twelve years?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"We have been receiving several amendments to the Act and we are examining them. I may claim some credit for this measure in the fact that I introduced it and the hon. Members may take it for granted that I shall try my best in the matter. As I said, it has got to be examined and when the examination is complete, the whole thing will be properly arranged and brought before this House in the form of an amending Bill."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"I understand that a sum of two and a half lakhs of rupees allotted for research in the College of Indigenous Medicine has not been spent because the scheme is yet to receive approval."

[14th March 1950]

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The work is not yet taken up and as soon as it is taken on hand, the amount allotted will be spent."

"I would request the hon. Member, Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin, to withdraw her cut motion to enable me to have the Demand granted."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Sir, the Hon. the Minister has answered many points, but has not answered certain points which I raised. I would like to tell him that the question of provincializing Women Medical Officers has been pending for a long time—for a number of years—and his predecessor, the Hon. Mr. A. B. Shetty promised to do something early . . ."

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

DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The hon. lady Member is agitated 5 p. over it unnecessarily. Want of Women Medical Officers is one thing and provincializing the services of Women Medical Officers in the local bodies is another thing. Therefore the Government have got to consider not only women medical officers and larger money payment which will naturally follow from the local bodies having to pay increased salaries to these people. It is not a question which stands by itself. The thing is, more than one proposition has been moved. The question is whether we are going to attend to maternity welfare work. That is the thing that claims our primary attention. When we are able to satisfy that field of work and put in properly qualified women we shall certainly come to the other aspect, namely, Women Medical Officers in local bodies in general."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is the hon. lady Member withdrawing the cut motion?"

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"In view of the assurances given by the Hon. Minister and knowing as I do that he is keenly interested in public health, being a medical man himself, I withdraw the cut motion."

The cut motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—"

"That Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 97,67,000 under Demand XVII—Public Health."

The Demand was carried and the Grant made.

The House adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, the 15th March 1950.

[14th March 1950]

APPENDIX.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE NAMES OF MEMBERS OF
THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REFERRED TO
IN THE ANSWER TO LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
STARRED QUESTION No. 62. (Vide page 762 supra.)

I. ELECTED MEMBERS.

- (1) Sri K. Venkataswami Nayudu.
- (2) Sri N. Venkatachalamaji.
- (3) Sri Nadimpalli Ramabhadra Razu.
- (4) Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu.
- (5) Sri Subbarama Reddi.
- (6) Sri B. Bhima Rao.
- (7) Hon. Sri C. Perumalswami Reddi.
- (8) Sri S. A. S. Rm. Ramapatham Chettiyar.
- (9) Sri M. K. Sundarama Ayyar.
- (10) Sri Medai Dalavoi T. Kumaraswami Mudaliyar.
- (11) Hon. Sri Kozhipurath Madhava Menon.
- (12) Sri D. Manjaya Hegde.
- (13) Janab V. Hamid Sultan Marakayar.
- (14) Janab Kottal Uppi.
- (15) Sri A. S. T. F. Rodriguez.

II. NOMINATED MEMBERS.

- (16) Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar.
- (17) Sri P. R. K. Sarma.
- (18) Sri A. R. L. Pathy.

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UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA.

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