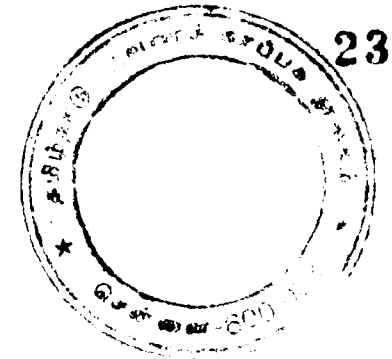


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MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
DEBATES

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OFFICIAL REPORT

FRIDAY, 27TH JUNE 1952

VOLUME II—No. 1

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PERSONNEL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

SRI SRI PRAKASA.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

- 1 THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI, *Chief Minister.*
- 2 THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY, *Minister in charge of Medical and Health.*
- 3 THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM, *Minister in charge of Finance, Food and Elections.*
- 4 THE HON. SRI K. VENKATASWAMY NAIDU, *Minister in charge of Religious Endowments and Registration.*
- 5 THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI, *Minister in charge of Public Works.*
- 6 THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO, *Minister in charge of Education, Harijan Uplift and Information.*
- 7 THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER, *Minister in charge of Prohibition.*
- 8 THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO, *Minister in charge of Industries and Labour, Motor Transport, Settlement of Ex-servicemen, Railways, Posts and Telegraphs and Civil Aviation.*
- 9 THE HON. DR. R. NAGANA GOUD, *Minister in charge of Agriculture, Forests, Veterinary, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and Cinchona.*
- 0 THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI, *Minister in charge of Local Administration.*
- 1 THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER, *Minister in charge of Land Revenue.*
- 2 THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR, *Minister in charge of Courts and Prisons and Legal Department.*
- 3 THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI, *Minister in charge of House Rent Control.*
- 4 THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO, *Minister in charge of Rural Welfare, Commercial Taxes and Scheduled Areas.*
- 5 THE HON. SRI D. SANJEEVIAH, *Minister in charge of Co-operation and Housing.*

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS.

Chairman.

DR. P. V. CHERIAN.

Deputy Chairman.

JANAB A. M. ALLAPICHAJ.

Panel of Chairmen.

SRI K. BHASHYAM.

SRIMATHI S. MANJUBHASHINI.

SRIMATHI J. SITAMAHALAXMI.

DR. R. K. SHANMUKHAM CHETTY.

Secretary to the State Legislature.

SRI R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR, B.A., M.L.

Joint Secretary to the State Legislature.

SRI G. V. CHOWDARY, LL.B. (London),
Bar.-at-Law.

Deputy Secretary to the Council.

SRI M. SURYA RAO, B.A., B.L.

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

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
1 Abdul Salam	South Arcot <i>cum</i> Tanjore <i>cum</i> Tiruchirappalli Local Authorities.
2 Adityan, S. B.	State Legislative Assembly.
3 Allapichai, A. M.	Do.
4 Annamalai Pillai, N.	Do.
5 Balasubramanya Ayyar, K.	Madras South Graduates.
6 Bashyam Ayyangar, V.	Nominated.
7 Bhashyam, K.	Madras South Graduates.
8 Chakkarai Chetty, V.	State Legislative Assembly.
9 Chengalraya Chetty, S.	Nellore <i>cum</i> Chingleput <i>cum</i> North Arcot Local Authorities.
10 Cherian, Dr. P. V.	Madras South Graduates.
11 Clubwala, Mrs. M. N.	Nominated.
12 Daivasikamani Achariyar, T. M.	Do.
13 Ethirajalu, M.	State Legislative Assembly.
14 Gnanamuttu, Alexander	Madras South Teachers.
15 Govinda Menon, M. P.	State Legislative Assembly.
16 Govindarajulu Naidu, R.	Do.
17 Gurunandan Row, V.	Do.
18 Harischandra Prasad, M. . . .	West Godavari <i>cum</i> Krishna <i>cum</i> Guntur Local Authorities.
19 Krishnamoorthy, G.	Madras South Teachers.
20 Krishnamurthi, T. G.	State Legislative Assembly.
21 Krishna Rao, The Hon. Dr. M. V. (Minister).	Madras North Graduates.
22 Kunhipocker, T. T. P.	West Coast Local Autho- rities.
23 Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, Dr. A.	Madras South Graduates.
24 Mahabaleswarappa. Y.	Ceded Districts Local Authorities.
25 Manjubhashini, S.	State Legislative Assembly.
26 Marthandam Pillai, P. N.	Nominated.
27 Marudavanam Pillai, C.	South Arcot <i>cum</i> Tanjore <i>cum</i> Tiruchirappalli Local Authorities.
28 Muthulakshmi Reddi, Dr. S.	Nominated.
29 Nathamuni Reddy, R.	Nellore <i>cum</i> Chittoor Local Authorities.

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
30 Nalla enapathi Sarkarai Manradiar, N.	State Legislative Assembly.
31 Narasapaya, S.	West Coast Local Authorities.
32 Nathamuni Naidu, Dr. C.	Madras cum Chingleput cum North Arcot Local Authorities.
33 Odayappa, S. O. S. P.	Madurai cum Ramanathapuram cum Tirunelveli Local Authorities.
34 Palaniswami Gounder, K. N.	Salem cum Coimbatore cum Nilgiris Local Authorities.
35 Parameswaran, E. H.	Madras South Teachers.
36 Pendyala Sree Ramachandra Venkatakrishna Ranga Rao.	State Legislative Assembly.
37 Perumalsamy Reddy, C.	Madras cum Chingleput cum North Arcot Local Authorities.
38 Prakasam, T.	State Legislative Assembly.
39 Purushothama Mudaliar, T.	Madras cum Chingleput cum North Arcot Local Authorities.
40 Rajagopalachari, The Hon. Sri C. (Chief Minister).	Nominated.
41 Rajeswara Rao, C.	State Legislative Assembly.
42 Ramakrishniah, S.	Madras North Teachers.
43 Ramakrishna, V.	State Legislative Assembly.
44 Ramaswami Reddiar, O. P.	Nominated.
45 Ranganathan, V. R.	Madras South Teachers.
46 Ranga Reddi, The Hon. Sri N. (Minister).	State Legislative Assembly.
47 Rangaswami Naidu	Salem cum Coimbatore cum Nilgiris Local Authorities.
48 Sankaranarayana Pillai, T. S.	Madurai cum Ramanathapuram cum Tirunelveli Local Authorities.
49 Satyanarayana, M.	Nominated.
50 Satyanarayana, N.	Do.
51 Seetharamayya, P.	Srikakulam cum Visakha-patnam cum East Godavari Local Authorities.
52 Shanmukham Chetty, Dr. R. K.	State Legislative Assembly.
53 Sitamahalahaxmi, J.	Madras North Graduates.

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
54 Sitarama Dass, M.	West Godavari cum Krishna cum Guntur Local Authorities.
55 Sivagnana Gramany, M. P.	State Legislative Assembly.
56 Sivasubramania Nadar, S. P.	Madurai cum Ramanathapuram cum Tirunelveli Local Authorities.
57 Somasundaram, A.	South Arcot cum Tanjore cum Tiruchirappalli Local Authorities.
58 Subramanyam, A.	State Legislative Assembly.
59 Subrahmanyam, B. V.	Do.
60 Subbulakshmi Ammal, Srimathi R. S.	Nominated.
61 Sudarsanam, M.	State Legislative Assembly.
62 Suryanarayana, K.	Srikakulam cum Visakha-patnam cum East Godavari Local Authorities.
63 Syed Mahaboob	State Legislative Assembly.
64 Thiagaraja Reddiar, P. B. K.	Salem cum Coimbatore cum Nilgiris Local Authorities.
65 Usman, Janab Mahomed	Nominated.
66 Venkatasubbarao Chowdary, R.	Srikakulam cum Visakha-patnam cum East Godavari Local Authorities.
67 Venkatachalam, G.	Nominated.
68 Venkateswarlu, N.	West Godavari cum Krishna cum Guntur Local Authorities.
69 Venkata Reddi, G.	Ceded Districts Local Authorities.
70 Venkata Rao, D.	Madras North Teachers.
71 Wilson, T. J. M.	State Legislative Assembly.
72 Yagneswara Sarma, K. P.	Do.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 27th June 1952.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at half past six of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

I.—SWEARING-IN OF A NEW MEMBER.

Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar was sworn in.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Constitution of a separate Ministry for House Rent Control.

* 1 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons for constituting a separate Ministry for House Rent Control; and

(b) whether it is proposed to add any other portfolio to the above Ministry?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“(a) The question of living accommodation in overcrowded urban areas and the difficult and delicate work of controlling and managing the properties of private persons in a just manner requires the concentrated attention of a Minister.

“(b) In addition to House Rent and Accommodation Control, Raja Sri Shanmuga Rajeswara Sethupathi is in charge of ‘Sports and playing fields’, and he also helps to some extent the Minister for Education without reducing the latter’s responsibility. There is no proposal now to add to his portfolio. As the Council of Ministers is collectively responsible, the allotment of work by mutual arrangement among its members is not a proper matter for public discussion in any form.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“The Hon. the Chief Minister replied that the Hon. Minister for Rent Control is also in charge of Sports’. May I ask, Sir, whether ‘Sports’ includes horse-racing also?”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“It does, Sir. A dictionary would have helped my friend instead of a question here.”

[27th June 1952]

Government Headquarters Hospital, Ootacamund.

*2 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the report in the 'Mail', dated 19th April 1952, of the proceedings of the Ootacamund Municipal Council pointing out the unsatisfactory state of the Government Headquarters Hospital, Ootacamund;

(b) whether the Government have called upon the Director of Medical Services, Madras, to enquire into the above and report immediately;

(c) who is the present Superintendent of the Government Headquarters Hospital, Ootacamund, and how long he has been in that place;

(d) whether there is any rule that District Collectors and other Government officers should not be kept in the same station for more than three years and that they shall be transferred once in three years; and

(e) whether the rule has been suspended during war time, and if so, why it has not been revived?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“(a) & (b) The municipal council's complaint is under investigation.

“(c) to (e) The present Superintendent of the hospital has been there from 29th September 1950, i.e., for much less than two years. If, therefore, the implication of the question was that the officer has been there for more than three years, it is wholly incorrect. The hon. Member, who is a retired Superintendent of the Health Department, should know that the so-called three-year rule is that no officer should unnecessarily be transferred within three years. It is therefore the other way about. But this too cannot always be adhered to.”

Transfer of secondary schools from district boards to Government control.

*3 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to take over the control of secondary education from the district boards;

(b) if so, whether any of the secondary schools have been actually taken over by the Government from the district boards;

(c) how many such secondary schools have been ordered to be taken by the Government during the last year and this year and what they are; and

(d) whether any compensation is given to the district boards for transfer of the school buildings to the Government in such cases?

27th June 1952]

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—“(a) No.

“(b) to (d) The Government propose to take over the following eight schools belonging to the District Boards under their management with effect from the school year 1952-53:—

1 Board High School, Bhadrachalam, East Godavari Agency district.

2 Board High School, Kotagiri, the Nilgiris district.

3 Board High School, Paramakudi, Ramanathapuram district.

4 Board High School, Tirur, Malabar district.

5 Board High School, Harpanahalli, Bellary district.

6 Board High School, Kunnathur, Chingleput district.

7 Board High School, Attur, Salem district.

8 Board High School, Mulki, South Kanara district.

“The transfer is necessitated consequent on a regulation framed by the University of Madras that Lecturers appointed to Government Training Colleges should have put in a service of three years in a Government secondary school. In order to comply with this Regulation, the Government have decided to take over under their management a few secondary schools now under local bodies' control and run them as model secondary schools wherein qualified persons could have the necessary training for this purpose. No compensation is proposed to be given to the local bodies on this account.”

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR:—“May I ask, Sir, whether the local bodies were consulted before the schools were taken over by the Government?”

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—“I want notice, Sir.”

Issue of liquor permits.

*4 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(a) whether liquor permits are issued on health certificates;

(b) whether it is a fact that the quota recommended by medical authorities is generally cut down by the Government with reference to the income statement furnished by the applicants for such permits; and

(c) whether the Government have considered liberalization of rules for grant of liquor permits on medical grounds?

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“(a) Yes, Sir.

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“(b) The quota recommended in medical certificates is generally being granted except when Government consider that in view of the low income of the applicant there is a likelihood of misuse.

“(c) As permits for the consumption of liquor are being granted on medical grounds, the question of liberalisation of rules does not arise.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“With reference to answer to clause (a), may I know whether permits on grounds of ill-health are granted to high Government officials who are on duty?”

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“I have already said that permits are issued on medical grounds.”

SRI ALEXANDER GNANAMUTTU:—“May I know what exactly is the minimum quota that will be allowed on a health certificate?”

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“That varies with reference to the recommendations of the doctor.”

SRI Y. MAHABALESWARAPPA:—“May I bring to the notice of the Government that as some of the District Prohibition Officers do not possess telephone connections, they are put to great inconvenience and difficulty, and ask how these officers can effectively discharge their duties without telephone facilities?”

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“This question, I submit, does not relate to the main question. I suggest that a fresh question might be put.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“May I know, Sir, whether high Government officials who have been granted permits on grounds of ill-health are allowed to be on active service and do heavy duties? Is it correct to assume that an officer who is ill enough to be granted a certificate for a liquor permit is not so ill as to necessitate his going on leave? The Hon. Minister said that high Government officials are also granted liquor permits on grounds of ill-health. I am asking, Sir, whether high Government officials who have been granted liquor permits on grounds of ill-health are allowed to be on active duty and do heavy duties?”

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“I did not really mean that. What I meant by the expression ‘medical grounds’ was the recommendation of the doctor.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“May I ask, Sir, if the Government are really serious about strictly enforcing the policy of Prohibition, why they should not start with their high officials and refuse liquor permits to them?”

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“It is a matter for consideration and I want notice.”

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SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY:—“Can the Hon. Minister say how many such medical certificates have been issued and what the quantity is of the liquor, foreign and indigenous, that has been supplied to them?”

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“Notice, Sir.”

III.—MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

MR. CHAIRMAN:—“I have to announce to the House that I have received the following letter, dated the 25th May 1952, from Shri Sri Prakasa, Governor of Madras:—

‘I have received with great satisfaction your Resolution of thanks for the Address with which I opened the present session of the Legislature.’”

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

IV.—BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1952-53.

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of the Minister for Finance, I present to this House the Budget of the Government of Madras for the year 1952-53. Copies of the Budget speech of the Finance Minister are now with all hon. Members and I think it is not necessary that I should formally read out his speech. With your leave, I shall make only a few observations.

“The main feature of the present Budget is that it is highly deficit. This was to be expected in view of the increasing demand of the public for welfare services. Ambitious targets have been set for the constructive work of all departments. New items of ameliorative service are making increasing demands on the exchequer. Political conditions and the post-war economic confusion have created new problems in administration, which call for substantial increases in administrative and security services. The progressive increase in expenditure in various departments can be seen from the following comparative figures:—

	Expenditure in 1945-46 RS. LAKHS.	Estimated expenditure in 1951-52 RS. LAKHS.
Education	460	1,180
Public Health	234	483
Agriculture	74	389
Highways	146	499
Rural Development	NIL	57
Harijan Uplift	29	113
Police	298	668
General Administration	427	712

* See Appendix on pages 17-53 infra.

[Sri C. Rajagopalachari] [27th June 1952]

In order to meet the growing needs of the exchequer, additional taxes had been levied from time to time. The one source which was found most fruitful, was the General Sales Tax, including the levies on petrol and entertainments. While there need be no limit to the amount that can be spent by a welfare department, there is a natural limit to the growth in the revenues of the State, because the latter must necessarily come out of the taxable margin in the *per capita* income of the citizen. We can have a Welfare State only if we work for it and step up production. To those who see, the present Budget draws attention to this grim reality in Public Finance.

"The precarious balance between Revenue and Expenditure, which had been maintained during the past few years was now thrown completely out of gear, by famine. The outlay on the various relief measures has been roughly estimated at about Rs. 6 crores as detailed in the Budget speech. At the same time, the slump in trade and industry has materially affected our revenues from the General Sales Tax. As against a total revenue of Rs. 63½ crores, as anticipated in the revised estimate of last year, the actual realization was only a little over Rs. 59 crores, registering a fall of Rs. 430 lakhs. The decrease in revenue was mainly under Land Revenue—Rs. 121 lakhs, Sales Tax—Rs. 67 lakhs, Electricity Schemes—Rs. 53 lakhs and Stamps—Rs. 74 lakhs. The net result of last year's transaction, was a revenue deficit of Rs. 329 lakhs, as compared with a deficit of only Rs. 10 lakhs, anticipated in the revised estimate. This deficit was covered by the only expedient possible, namely, by withdrawal from the Reserves.

"For the current year, the Interim Budget presented last March, had anticipated a revenue of Rs. 63 crores 90 lakhs and an expenditure of Rs. 64 crores 76 lakhs, leaving a deficit of Rs. 86 lakhs. These estimates were prepared on the actuals of the first eight months of last year and before the adverse turn in our fortune had set in. According to present anticipations, our revenues are not likely to exceed Rs. 61 crores 76 lakhs, but our expenditure will be of the order of Rs. 65 crores 35 lakhs, leaving a deficit of Rs. 3 crores 59 lakhs. Receipts under General Sales Tax alone are likely to fall by Rs. 1 crore 50 lakhs and the subsidies anticipated from the Government of India on Grow-More-Food schemes, have come down by Rs. 60 lakhs. The expenditure on relief measures is expected to be Rs. 73 lakhs more than what had been estimated earlier.

"In a year of large revenue deficit, it is not orthodox finance to enter into new commitments. And yet we have granted liberal concessions to large numbers of public servants at a cost which may well mount up to Rs. 1 crore per annum. Several beneficent new schemes, the ultimate cost of which will amount to Rs. 4 crores, are proposed to be introduced, as explained in paragraph 12 of the Budget speech. Actually, the deficit in the Budget could

[Sri C. Rajagopalachari] [27th June 1952]

be reduced very considerably or even wiped off, if these new measures are put off. If we had decided to steer that course, this House would have rightly said that we lacked a dynamic policy.

"If the State should be progressive in respect of new development schemes, it follows axiomatically that new resources should be tapped. The new taxation proposals explained in paragraph 20 of the Budget speech have therefore become unavoidable. These proposals may bring in an additional revenue of about Rs. 4 crores in a full year; but the amount taken credit for during the remaining period of the current year is only Rs. 270 lakhs, reducing the deficit to manageable proportions. It may be possible, in due course, to effect some savings in certain administrative departments in the light of the new policies of the Government. The problem of University-educated middleclass unemployment by retrenching large establishments is real, but it has to be faced to the extent practicable. The matter is engaging our close attention.

"On the side of Capital Expenditure, we are doing fairly well. Our projects are making rapid progress and a good many of them may be expected to be completed this year and the next. We have invested about Rs. 16 crores on them last year and we have programmed to invest a similar sum on them during the current year. With this investment, our reserves will be practically wiped out, but as explained by the Finance Minister, the reserves were built up primarily for the purpose of financing capital works and therefore, we should not regret having put them to proper use. We may be in difficulties to find the resources needed next year for completing our programme; but it may be too soon to worry about our ways and means difficulties for the coming year. I would like to draw particular attention to our general position. Our assets are worth Rs. 131 crores and our liabilities amount to Rs. 92 crores, leaving a favourable margin of Rs. 39 crores. The general public can therefore see that this State continues to be as safe an investment as ever, for the surplus cash in the private sector."

"The key to welfare is more production. And that cannot be achieved unless we create a zest for production. Portrait painting and works of art may flourish by reason of the pleasure in the work itself. But the hard work, and drudgery involved in the cultivation of foodcrops requires at least the sense of freedom to dispose of what is raised by that work and that drudgery. After decontrol, I have found everywhere a reaction of joy over it and a sense of general well-being and freedom almost as intensely felt as when the British left us declaring we were free to rule ourselves. I have every confidence we shall find that our people deserved this freedom. Let not political interests warp our judgment or affect our attitude in this respect. I am grateful to all those leaders who despite political and other differences welcomed the step I took and in particular to the Government of India that helped us so readily and willingly to put our policy into effect."

[27th June 1952]

S. B. ADITYAN:—“ Sir, will this speech, which is, I think, supplementary to the speech of the Hon. Finance Minister, be printed and distributed to us before we actually start discussion on the Budget on Monday next? ”

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“ This is not really a part of the Finance Minister's speech. This is merely a summary of that speech, which is not important for the discussion. Further, we cannot arrange to print this so quickly, especially when a Sunday is intervening.”

V.—PRIVILEGE MOTION RE LEAKAGE OF INFORMATION REGARDING GOVERNMENT'S TAXATION PROPOSALS.

MR. CHAIRMAN:—“ I have received notice of a Motion given by Mr. Adityan regarding a question to be referred to a Committee of Privileges. He will now move his Motion.”

* SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Motion I have given notice of runs as follows:—

‘ The question of breach of privilege of the Members of this House arising out of the publication in newspapers of the taxation proposals contained in the Hon. Finance Minister's Budget speech, before they were available to the Members of this House, be referred to a Committee of Privileges to be constituted under Rule 143 of the Council Rules.’

Sir, I shall briefly state the facts of the case. While reading through the speech of the Hon. the Finance Minister, we find that many of these Budget proposals have actually been published in the newspapers on the 18th and the 19th of this month, though we, Members of this House, came to know of them only to-day, the 27th June. Regarding the increased levy of sales tax on the sale of petrol, the information was published in the morning editions of certain newspapers on the 19th instant. I have got the copies of those newspapers; in case the Chairman wants to peruse them, I shall hand them over to him. In the ‘ Indian Express ’ of the 19th instant, we find that this item is actually mentioned as item number one. It mentions it as a little increase in the sales tax on the sale of motor spirit. Again, with regard to the betterment levy which is mentioned as item (d) of the proposals for additional taxation in the Hon. Finance Minister's speech, the same newspaper says, ‘ It is proposed to levy a betterment fee on land.’ This is mentioned in the ‘ Mail ’ also under huge headlines. We are now therefore faced with a serious situation, viz., some newspapers have actually published these proposals about 8 or 9 days before they were placed before the Members of this House. Even the levy of sales tax on foreign liquors is mentioned in the newspapers. It is mentioned as follows: ‘ A special tax is to be imposed on a new article ’. So, Sir, as I said, we are now faced with a serious situation, namely, that certain newspapers have published news about the

27th June 1952] [Sri S. B. Adityan]

new items of taxation even before they were made available to us, Members of this House. The question arises as to how this Budget secret of fresh taxation proposals was communicated from the Cabinet to the newspapers. It might have been got by the newspapers from the Ministers, which, I hope, is not the case, or from some friends of Ministers or from some other persons. Anyway, these taxation proposals have appeared in the newspapers long before they were made available to the Members of this House. The Government themselves have admitted in the Ordinance recently issued by them that their taxation proposals have appeared in the newspapers. In other words, they have admitted that the proposals have been divulged. The proposals have come into the possession of the newspapers without the knowledge of responsible authorities. The question of privilege arises in this way: we, as Members of this House, are entitled to know the Budget proposals before any other person comes to know of them, or I may say, before they appear in the newspapers. For it is our right, it is our privilege to know them first. This is a serious matter. I am not mentioning any person in particular in this affair; I am not casting any reflection on any particular Minister. From May's Parliamentary Practice and Procedure, page 363, it will be seen that a Motion for the formation of a Committee of Privileges may be moved on certain urgent matters. Among those matters are mentioned things such as assaults upon members, insults to members and also communication of certain kinds of information to a newspaper. It is admitted by Government in the Preamble to the Ordinance issued recently for the levy of an increased sales tax on the sale of petrol that there has been leakage of information about it. I say this leakage of a Budget secret is a serious matter, because it may be found on investigation that there was also a violation of the Official Secrets Act. I am not in a position now to say how far that Act has been violated. But I can say that because the information regarding the taxation proposals has been divulged by a Cabinet Minister or a person in authority, it has already led to undesirable consequences such as taxation by means of an Ordinance. In Madras Ordinance III of 1952 promulgated by the Madras Government on 19th June 1952, the Preamble says—

‘ Whereas information about the intention of the Government of Madras to obtain the approval of the Legislative Assembly to an increase in the existing tax on retail sales of petrol from the present rate of four annas per gallon to six annas per gallon has been unauthorizedly obtained and given wide publicity.’

Here is an open admission by Government that some unknown person in authority, I do not say necessarily a Cabinet Minister, who is supposed to keep such things secret, has given out the information. This point is amplified further in the Explanatory Statement to that Ordinance. For it says—

‘ The decision of the Government to secure the approval of the Legislative Assembly to an increase in the tax on sales of petrol from four annas per gallon to six annas per gallon has been unauthorizedly obtained and given wide publicity in the newspapers.’

[Sri S. B. Adityan] [27th June 1952]

"I submit this question of giving wide publicity to Budget proposals in newspapers before they are brought before the Legislature is a very serious matter. When such proposals are divulged to newspapers, there are certain natural consequences which follow. In every democratic State, according to democratic usage and constitutional propriety, if secrets have been let out by a Cabinet Minister, even involuntarily, even without deliberate intent on his part, it leads to his resignation. In this connexion, I shall quote some passages from the Proceedings of the House of Commons, regarding the celebrated case of Sir Hugh Dalton (Volume 444, page 551)—

7 p.m. 'M. Raikes asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether he has considered the accurate forecast of the Budget proposals in a newspaper on sale at 3-45 p.m. yesterday, a copy of which has been sent to him, and if he will institute an inquiry into the source of the information.'

Now it was stated in the question that it was merely a forecast. It was not even suggested, as it has been admitted in the Preamble to the Ordinance, that the information has been 'unauthorisedly obtained'. The Chancellor of the Exchequer said—

'I very much regret to tell the House that the publication to which the hon. Member refers arose out of an incident which occurred as I was entering the Chamber to make my speech yesterday. In reply to questions put to me by the Lobby correspondent of the 'Star' newspaper, I indicated to him the subject-matter contained in the publication in question.'

Then he continued—

'I appreciate that this was a grave indiscretion on my part, for which I offer my deep apologies to the House.'

You know the history of this case and how these deep apologies were not fully accepted by the House and how the grave indiscretion later on resulted in the resignation of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

"Sir, I ask the Hon. the Chief Minister to take this House into his confidence. Now, how did this Budget secret leak out? Was it through some Cabinet Minister, and if so, we shall be very glad if the facts are told and if the proper consequences follow. But if, on the other hand, it is not due to the mistake of any Minister, even then let us hold an inquiry and find out who was the person who did this anti-social act. I ask the Hon. the Chief Minister, how did this secret leak out? If it is the fault of any Cabinet Minister, let him not shield him. Let him take the House into his confidence and let him take the proper step in the matter. If it is not to be so, he must agree and rightly agree to an inquiry being instituted so that we may go into it and give proper punishment to the person who deserves it. Sir, the proper procedure in such cases, as I have indicated in the Motion, is to refer this matter to a Committee of Privileges. The Committee of Privileges will be presided over by the Hon. Deputy Chairman and there will be Members elected by this House. That committee will go into the matter. As this matter is agitating the public mind a great deal

27th June 1952] [Sri S. B. Adityan]

and as it has led to the issue of an Ordinance by the Governor without the consent of the elected representatives of the people, I request the Chair to treat it as a serious matter. I also request the Hon. the Chief Minister to treat it as an urgent and serious matter, and if possible, to agree to a committee going into the whole question."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not know the procedure which you intend to follow in this case. If the Motion is to be accepted, there must be some *prima facie* grounds, and the hon. Member has placed his grounds before the House, namely, the actual passages that have appeared in the newspapers and the preamble to the Ordinance. These are the material grounds on which he bases his request. So far as the paper publication goes, it may help us to have the passages read again; they are not too long—

'New taxes, hinted at by the Chief Minister during his tour of Rayalaseema, may bring in an aggregate revenue of about . . . lakhs of rupees. There may be an additional tax on petrol. Betterment levy on land, and a tax on land growing commercial crops are mentioned. besides a suggestion to levy a tax on agricultural incomes.

Despite retrenchment here and there, the slowing down of a number of irrigation projects . . .

These are not very relevant. Then—

'Like Hyderabad and Bombay, Madras may levy an additional tax on petrol. The burden of this, it is said, may fall mainly on private car owners, but also affect bus owners.

The next two small sources of revenue suggested by the Kumaraswami Raja Ministry are the levy of tax on land which have benefited from the new irrigation sources and on land growing commercial crops.

A tax on agricultural income is also suggested but the question is . . .

In spite of all these, Rajaji may have something up his sleeves which will be divulged on June 27, when the Finance Minister will present his Budget to the Legislative Assembly."

Now, if that is taken by itself, I would submit that nowadays Editors and Reporters of newspapers have developed their own technique in making guesses, in peeping through key-holes, in listening to conversations and in collating things together and producing interesting reports. I do not think that there is anything very wonderful or surprising. At any rate, the hon. Member who moved the Motion should not be surprised at a thing like this which happens daily in his own chamber, in his editorial office. (Interruption.)

"Do not insinuate unnecessarily. You can do it when necessary.

"This is a matter for no kind of surprise to anybody and it would be idle to refer this to a committee of inquiry or an investigation department of any kind. It will be absolutely useless; much less will it be useful to refer it to a Committee of the House which

[Sri C. Rajagopalachari] [27th June 1952]

cannot investigate as a policeman could do and search houses and get things done and see whether anything useful could be got out of it.

“The plausible point that is made next is, since we have, in issuing this Ordinance, admitted leakage, there is a case of breach of privilege. Now, it is very interesting to read the Dalton case. But everything that was said in the Dalton case has no application here. In the Dalton case, Mr. Dalton admitted that he himself had said something to a newspaper reporter and it became the duty of the Prime Minister of England to take that into account and dismiss him, but the position here is, we do not know how the leakage of information which we complain about in the Ordinance occurred and who was responsible for it; and without knowing it, there is no use whatsoever in referring it to a Committee of Privileges. I can understand it if I am asked to refer it to some of the police officers of the Government to make further research. But to refer it to a Committee of Privileges of the House, what we require is a definite failure of duty or breach of privilege on the part of a Member here or any outsider which we can definitely bring before that Committee. Now it is impossible to frame charges against the Editor of the ‘Mail’ on this subject, from what I have read.

“So far as the Preamble to the Ordinance goes, the position is this—while the other things are guesses the information regarding the petrol tax which was to be levied and the form in which it appeared was proof of the *corpus delicti*, if I may say so, of the leakage. But beyond that we have nothing. That leakage had occurred is true, but who was responsible for the leakage is the proposed point for the Committee of Privileges; but the fact of leakage is enough for the issue of an Ordinance; otherwise, the Government would lose revenue as there would be rush sales of petrol on a considerable scale to avoid payment of increased tax. Therefore, the actual leakage was the cause for the Ordinance; but for a breach of privilege we should have something more. I submit there is nothing. I would not be standing in the way of an inquiry if we could get something out of it. I would very much like to get at the guilty persons. (Interruption.) My hon. Friend’s mouth waters for a Minister, but my mouth waters for the newspaperman who got the information. Whoever may be responsible, I would very much like to trace them. But it is impossible, and taking all the possibilities into account, it would be sheer waste of time for the Committee of Privileges to take up a matter of this kind. There is no question that the particular leakage referred to in the Ordinance has occurred. Regarding other things, they are guesses. Any one could make them. The betterment tax proposal has been in circulation for eliciting public opinion for a long time and even a Bill has been prepared and officers have been busy over it. So far as the tax on motor spirit goes, there was a leakage which would affect the revenues of the State. But there is no indication available for a reference to a Committee of Privileges. (Interruption.) I could order a police

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inquiry, as I have already said, if we expected fruitful results. It would mean getting into the offices of newspapers and getting at copies of reports and things like that. There is no other way. If a Committee of Inquiry is set up, it is not conceivable that it can get into the offices of newspapers or summon newspaper men. Inquiry is different from investigation. The hon. Member who moved the Motion knows very well the difference between inquiry and investigation. An investigation is impossible of being done by a Committee of Privileges. If it had been conceivable and possible for me, Sir, as the head of the Government, to order a police investigation, I would have done it long ago without any request from any hon. Member of this House. But it is not practicable. Just as I have put aside into the ‘no action’ basket a number of complaints which have been made, which may be true but in regard to which there is no hope of finding out the facts, in the same manner, I do not think a police inquiry will produce anything in this case, and I am certain a Committee of Privileges will produce nothing.

“Sir, it is another thing to say that it is the business of the Chief Minister and his Ministers to make such matters cent. per cent. proof against all leakage. If there had been no newspapers, I could guarantee that there would be no leakage. There is a profession that has been started for the purpose of getting at and exploiting leakage. I can only say that we cannot get rid of newspapers, nor can we get rid of Ministers so easily (laughter). You must pass a vote of no-confidence against a Minister if you want to get rid of him. I can cite gruesome cases about crime. Can I read them before a law court when I prosecute a person in a murder case? It would prejudice the court. The court would rule me out. The Dalton case has nothing to do with the present case. If any of my Ministers had called upon me and told me ‘I was the cause for the leakage and I am very sorry that it has happened’ and at the same time tendered his resignation also, I would have no hesitation in accepting it, and even if he did not tender his resignation, I would ask for it. But now it is an impossible proposal.”

* SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY:—“Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am rather surprised and even astounded at the immense sophistry of the Chief Minister. I have always admired his intellectual dialectics but on this occasion . . .”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“We can go to the subject without commenting on one another.”

* SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY:—“I am commenting upon the extreme ability and ingenuity which have been displayed by the Hon. the Chief Minister in whitewashing his Cabinet or whoever he may be who was responsible for this scandal of the first magnitude. Everywhere in Madras and other places, people have been talking about this scandal and the first duty of the Chief

[Sri V. Chakkarai Chetty] [27th June 1952]

Minister must have been to enquire into this matter before such a Motion as this was moved. Instead of doing that, he has come here and put forward an elaborate justification for this scandal.

7-15 p.m. "If he means to say that on every occasion that a leakage of this kind takes place, it ought to be attributed to the skill in speculation of a newspaper, there could then be no leakage of a taxation proposal on which action could be taken. It is too general a proposition for the Chief Minister to make that it is possible for newspapers to make large guesses about financial matters. If that is true, then an enquiry like the one that has been asked for must be able to bring it out. The newspaper gentleman, whoever it was, that was responsible for making Cabinet secrets public, would have the candour and, I believe, the honesty to say wherefrom he got this valuable information with regard to the Budget proposals. I do believe, Sir, that the newspaper editor will be able to tell you that. Of course, you may not be able to take action against the Editor. That is not our prime purpose in bringing forward here a Motion like this. The purpose is to ask the Cabinet and the Chief Minister who is responsible for it, how such a leakage could possibly have taken place? It seems to me, Sir, that the Dalton case was a case in which, though Dalton was guilty of an indiscretion, he was at the same time honest enough to admit it. But, in this case, I am sorry to say, that no Cabinet Minister has the honesty to come forward and say that it was owing to his indiscretion that a leakage like this one had taken place."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—"You assume that it is a Cabinet Minister that was responsible."

* SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY:—"Yes, I assume that, unless you contradict it; but, you are the guilty party and I am not going to take your voice as tantamount to proof. If the Cabinet is responsible for Cabinet secrets and if they leak out, then you are responsible for it, and I have assumed rightly in this case, that you are responsible for the leakage of this Cabinet secret. If you say that you are not responsible, it simply means that it is an irresponsible Cabinet. Cabinet secrets can leak out, but at the same time you want me to presume or assume that you are not the guilty party. I charge you with being responsible for it and, if you can prove that you are not responsible but on the contrary the *Mail* has by some means or other been able to find out the secrets, then you can be exculpated. Does it mean that the *Mail* has the power of thought-reading or telepathy which has now become not merely fashionable but a scientific and an accepted fact? Do you mean to say that the *Mail* has been able to pierce into the inner consciousness of the Finance Minister and discover what new financial proposals are going to be made? I think, Sir, it is necessary to appoint a committee like the one proposed. Otherwise, an indelible stigma will attach to the present Cabinet and it will go down in history as a Cabinet that was not honest enough to admit its faults."

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MR. CHAIRMAN:—"Is the hon. Member, Sri S. B. Adityan, pressing his motion?"

* SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"Sir, I am insisting on this Motion because a *prima facie* case has been clearly made out and a clearly admitted case of leakage of Budget secrets should not be brought down to the level of leakage of school examination questions which usually take place. I ask you, Sir, to hold that a *prima facie* case has been made out. I have got more evidence though I am not adducing it now. A *prima facie* case has been made out by the clear terms contained in the Preamble to the Ordinance and the Explanatory Note and also by the publications in the newspapers. A case has been made out and other people have been given the information before the hon. Members of this House have had it. That is all I need say and I insist on the Motion."

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"This is a very important question of privilege and I have to take some time to give my ruling. I shall do so when we meet again on the 30th instant."

"The House will now adjourn and meet again at 4 p.m. on Monday, the 30th June 1952."

The House then adjourned.

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

1. *Annual Report of the Madras Public Service Commission for 1950-51 under Article 323 (2) of the Constitution of India.*

2. *Notifications making amendments to Madras Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940, published with Home Department Notification No. 357, dated 29th March 1950, as subsequently amended.*

(i) *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 35, Home, dated 4th January 1952.*

(ii) *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 100, Home, dated 9th January 1952.*

(iii) *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 159, Home, dated 17th January 1952.*

(iv) *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 892, Home, dated 7th March 1952.*

(v) *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 1054, Home, dated 19th March 1952.*

Papers laid on the table of the house.

(vi) Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 1276, Home, dated 9th April 1952.

(vii) Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 1322, Home, dated 14th April 1952.

3. Ordinance—The Madras Requisitioned Land (Continuance of Powers) Ordinance, 1952 (Madras Ordinance II of 1952).

4. Amendment to the Regulation under Article 320 (3) of the Constitution of India, issued with G.O. Ms. No. 1543, Public (Services), dated 10th June 1952. [Laid on the table in accordance with Article 320 (5) of the Constitution.]

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APPENDIX

[Vide item IV on page 5 supra.]

Speech of Sri C. Subramaniam, Finance Minister, presenting the Budget for 1952-53 to the Legislative Assembly and Council of Madras on the 27th June 1952.

Sir, I consider it a privilege to present this budget ^{Introductory.} to the first legislature of this State elected under our New Constitution. Honourable Members are aware that a budget for the current year was presented to the old legislature last March and a vote on account was obtained to cover the expenditure of the Government during the first four months of the year. That budget has now been revised, making allowance for the altered trend of receipts and expenditure and the changes in policies proposed by the present Government.

2. The budget, as now recast, shows that our ^{Famine.} revenues are likely to fall from Rs. 6,390 lakhs, as estimated last March, to Rs. 6,176 lakhs and that our expenditure may increase from Rs. 6,476 lakhs to Rs. 6,535 lakhs. The reasons for this adverse turn in our fortunes, are not far to seek. In preparing the earlier estimate, the Finance Department was guided, as usual, by the actuals of the first eight months, April to November, of 1951-52. Seasonal conditions, which were expected to be normal, took a distressing turn by December. No provision had been made for

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the wholesale remission and suspension of land revenue and cesses in many districts and the huge unprofitable outlay on famine relief measures. With the recent rains, we may hope to have passed through the worst phase of this famine, but as the crisis unfolded itself in all its grimness last March and April, we had necessarily to mobilise all our available resources, to ward off the impending catastrophe. In dealing with this famine, which is comparable to the worst that had afflicted Rayalaseema in living memory, we had to develop a new technique to suit the times. Famine relief measures in the past, consisted very largely of the provision of Test-works, by which, work was exacted from the able-bodied at the subsistence level of wages. The test, as prescribed in the Famine Code, was indeed rigorous and enabled the labourer, after the day's fatigue, to earn just enough to keep body and soul together and the wages were paid in the staple grains of the district. Relief administered in this severe form, did serve the end in the past, at a comparatively low cost, but this method seemed to savour of exploitation of the misfortunes of the stricken-people and fitted ill with the spirit of the new Constitution and the responsibilities of a Government set up on adult franchise. No attempt was therefore made by the Government to declare the areas as famine-affected and to apply the Famine Code. Work was provided by opening up a large number of irrigation, road and well works in all parts of the affected areas and the only limit set to this activity, was the demand for employment. Wages were paid not at the subsistence level prescribed in the Famine Code, but at current market rates. Whenever a tendency was noticed on the part of the contractors to lower wages and thereby to exploit the distress of the people, they were eliminated and direct departmental execution was ordered. Gruel centres were opened in

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all areas and a cheap meal was served, free of cost, to the aged, the infirm and children. Middle class people who were unaccustomed to hire themselves out as casual labour, were assisted by the grant of subsistence loans free of interest. The grant of takkavi loans was liberalised for the support of the larger pattadars. The most distressing feature of the present famine was the acute scarcity of drinking water. Hundreds of wells were sunk and deepened at public cost and arrangements were also made for the transport of water to the affected areas by rail, motor and country carts. A lump-sum grant of Rs. 150 was sanctioned for each village-community for deepening one well in their habitation. In order to preserve the cattlewealth of the area, hill-grass and other fodder, were arranged to be sold at subsidised rates wherever possible. It is too soon to form a reliable estimate of the cost of these relief measures, because the works are still going on and the bills take time to be embodied in the Public Accounts. Under our existing system of accounts, the expenditure on different items of relief is not shown under one single head. The outlay on irrigation works is entered under the Irrigation Head, on wells under Rural Water-supply and on roads under Civil Works or grants to Local Bodies. On a rough reckoning, the total cost of all relief measures has been estimated at about Rs. 6 crores under the following broad categories:—

(a) Suspension and remission of Land Revenue and cesses—Rs. 150 lakhs.

(b) Relief works—Rs. 150 lakhs—These are made up of construction and special repairs of roads, irrigation works and wells. A portion of the outlay under this head has been found by concentrating the normal programme of the State in the famine districts; but this expedient has not gone very far.

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(c) Gratuitous relief—Rs. 50 lakhs—This is mainly the cost of running gruel centres.

(d) Takkavi and subsistence loans—Rs. 200 lakhs—The possibility that a good portion of these loans might ultimately have to be written off as irrecoverable has to be borne in mind by the Government.

(e) Miscellaneous expenditure—Rs. 50 lakhs—This sum represents the expenditure on various items such as provision of fodder for cattle, prevention of epidemics, cost of special establishments, etc.

A good portion of the total estimated outlay was incurred during the last financial year resulting in a large deficit for that year, to which I shall refer a little later. In the past, the expenditure on famine was usually met by withdrawals from the Famine Relief Fund. The amount to the credit of this fund now is about Rs. 60 lakhs and this would have been sufficient to meet the cost of relief measures on past standards. But, the present expectations on relief measures have so altered that the accumulations in the Fund would not go far and I am considering whether our annual contribution to this fund should not be enhanced with effect from next year. It is now proposed to withdraw Rs. 55 lakhs from this fund during the current year. The Government of India have taken note of our difficult financial position and the Prime Minister has expressed his anxiety to do his best to help this State. In order to release funds for relief works, the Central Government have bought Rs. 2 crores worth of our securities at current market rates. They have also promised to give us a half-grant on the sum spent on gratuitous relief and this may amount to about Rs. 25 lakhs. We should indeed be grateful for this much of monetary assistance; but considering the magnitude of the calamity that has

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overtaken us, I need hardly mention that the assistance held out is not nearly enough to set us back on our feet. We have requested the Government of India for an outright grant of Rs. 2 crores and let us hope that our request will be granted. In the meanwhile, we shall keep the relief measures going to the extent necessary under the altered conditions, till a crop matures in the affected areas.

3. Before I leave this subject, I must request the House to place on record, our appreciation and gratitude for the timely help rendered by the army in relieving water scarcity and I hope my friends on the Opposition benches will join with me, in this respect. The measure of the army's help can hardly be reckoned in terms of money, but our fighting forces may well take comfort in the thought, that by this kindly act of theirs, they have earned the goodwill in abundance of the stricken people. We must record our gratitude to the Prime Minister, who had lost no time in drawing public attention to the disaster that had overtaken Rayalaseema and for the generous donation amounting to about Rs. 4 lakhs from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund. Our thanks are also due to the various non-official organizations and individuals, within and outside this State, who have canvassed assistance in cash and kind and also helped in organizing various relief measures.

4. Another important factor which has upset the balance of our budget, is the recent slump in trade and industry. As honourable Members are aware, the sales tax is our major source of revenue. To the extent prices have fallen, the yield from this multi-point-tax, will diminish correspondingly. When prices are unsteady, transactions in the wholesale market get temporarily arrested and this diminution in the total turnover, accentuates the fall in receipts.

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from sales tax. On the eight months' actuals of last year, we had estimated a revenue of Rs. 1,625 lakhs under this head for 1951-52 but the collections amounted to only Rs. 1,558 lakhs, registering a fall of Rs. 67 lakhs. We are now taking credit for only Rs. 1,450 lakhs under this head for the current year, as against the estimate of Rs. 1,600 lakhs anticipated in the budget presented last March and it remains to be seen whether even this revised target would be reached at all.

Relief to
handloom
weavers.

5. The fall in prices would have been welcomed by the Government, in spite of the immediate reduction in revenues, but for the fact that it is now causing a famine of a different kind, but of almost equal malignancy, in the handloom industry, which is the sole occupation of one in every thirteen of our people. Stocks manufactured with the high-priced yarn have accumulated in large quantities with weavers, who are unable to sell them at competitive rates in the open market, where there is a glut of the cheaper mill-goods. These weavers have not accumulated reserves, with which to cut their losses and they have been without employment for some time now. The matter has been engaging the attention of the Government and they have just initiated proposals to set the wheels of this industry moving again. Unemployed weavers are to be organized into co-operative societies, the Government advancing the share capital due from individual members. The rolling capital required for the purchase of yarn will be borrowed from commercial Banks on the guarantee of the Government. Weavers will be paid daily wages, more or less at a subsistence level and the finished product will be sold at prices at which the market would absorb them. The losses sustained by the societies will also be made good by the Government. The financial consequences of these proposals cannot be assessed now, but it is

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the intention of the Government to implement them irrespective of cost and to ask the House for a supplementary demand later on in the year. A solution of the problem on this basis of State-aid can only be of a temporary nature, but it is hoped that the industry would soon be able to hold its own, on a competitive basis. The lasting solution to the problem lies in finding an assured internal or overseas market and the Government will do its best to assist in this respect. In the meanwhile, the Government of India have been apprised of the facts of the situation and it is hoped that they would do their best to press handloom products to the maximum extent possible for departmental use and also to so regulate the manufacture and export of mill goods, as to create an internal demand for this cloth.

6. The fall in the general price level, which I almost seemed to regret, as Finance Minister, is however the most important factor which helped to set my mind as Food Minister, on the policy of relaxation of controls over foodgrains, now being implemented. When prices fall, speculators do not venture to make easy money by cornering stocks. They have all burnt their fingers in varying degrees in recent months and are not likely to be tempted to fresh adventures for some time. That was the reason why we are now having surprisingly large stocks of sugar, cloth and other essential articles in the free market and that was also one of the reasons why the stock of grains in Government godowns touched the peak figure of 5 lakhs of tons. We have been keeping the vexatious controls on, all these years, not because we had liked them at any time, but because we felt defenceless without them. Here then was an opportunity to shake the fetters off the cultivator, without undue risk to the consumer and the Government considered it best, not to let the chance slip. Today rice of good quality is available in adequate quantities in the free markets of all rural and urban areas of this State, at prices

Relaxation
of food
controls.

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within the reach of the average consumer. I quite see that with the lean months immediately ahead of us, it would be presumptuous to draw optimistic conclusions; but with the stocks in Government godowns, still very much intact, we should not be unduly apprehensive. If our bold bid should succeed, we must receive in time the usual import quota of about 2 lakhs of tons of rice, to be sent to the danger zone of Malabar and the Nilgiris. And the bulk of this quota should be low-priced rice from other States in India and not the expensive stuff imported from overseas. Now that we have relinquished control over local procurement, it is no longer open to us to levy the usual surcharge on the local produce, with which to balance the high price on foreign imports. The disparity in price between the foreign and the local rice—about Rs. 12 per maund—is too vast to be subsidised in full, out of State revenues. The Government of India have given us the necessary assurances in this respect and let us hope that they would be able to sustain us, as was agreed on. The de-control would incidentally enable us to effect some retrenchment in the expenditure on food administration which has amounted to about rupees one crore per-annum. This being a transition-year, we have to be alive to unexpected developments and therefore, we are not taking credit in the budget for the probable savings under this head. The final picture will be presented to the House along with the revised estimates for the year.

Relief to
public ser-
vants.

7. The downward trend in prices should be welcomed by us for yet another weighty consideration, namely that it is assisting a large number of hard-pressed public servants on fixed incomes, to stabilise their domestic budgets. It is no doubt true that these classes can feel appreciable relief, only if food prices fall, but the reduction though slight, in the prices of other articles such as cloth, jaggery, edible oils and condiments, is not an inconsiderable

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factor. The Government have considered this question very carefully and have gone some way to give them relief. The children of all Non-gazetted Government servants, and of employees of local bodies drawing Rs. 300 and less per month, and of aided school teachers, will in future be given full-fee concessions in elementary and lower secondary schools and half-fee concessions in high schools. Non-gazetted Government servants and employees of local bodies are already enjoying certain concessions in respect of medical attention and it is now proposed to enlarge these concessions, so that they may enjoy full and free medical attention in all public medical institutions. The cost of these concessions cannot be assessed now, because relevant statistics have not been maintained. Considering that about 4 lakhs of public servants are eligible for these concessions and they may be sending their children to schools, in larger numbers in future, the ultimate cost may be of the order of rupees one crore per annum. Provision is being made in the budget for a sum of Rs. 50 lakhs as additional educational grants, but if more money is actually required, the House will be approached in due course, for a supplementary grant. The advantage of this form of relief, as against the enhancement of Dearness and other allowances, is that it reaches the people, more or less in proportion to the size and needs of their families. The Government feel that they have done their best to these people under the present circumstances and let us hope that these measures will be appreciated by the beneficiaries.

8. Before I deal with the revised budget figures for the current year, I shall refer briefly to the financial position as disclosed in the accounts of the last financial year:—

	Budget Estimates for 1951-52.	Revised Estimates for 1951-52.	Preliminary Accounts for 1951-52.
	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.
Revenue	5,963	6,348	5,918
Expenditure	6,030	6,358	6,247
Deficit	67	10	329

Accounts
1951-52.

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It will be some time before the Accountant-General can furnish the accounts for last year as finally adjusted by him. On the basis of the information now available, the revenue for 1951-52 amounted to only Rs. 5,918 lakhs as against the revised estimate of Rs. 6,348 lakhs. The revised estimate was, as usual, prepared on the basis of eight months' actuals of the year and had not taken into account the subsequent deterioration due to adverse seasonal conditions and the slump in the commodity market. The fall in revenue of Rs. 430 lakhs occurred chiefly under "Land Revenue" (— Rs. 121 lakhs), "Stamps" (— Rs. 74 lakhs), "General Sales Tax" (— Rs. 67 lakhs), "Electricity Schemes" (— Rs. 53 lakhs) and grants from the Government of India for Grow More Food schemes (— Rs. 47 lakhs). The fall in revenue was to some extent compensated by reduction in expenditure amounting to Rs. 111 lakhs which occurred mainly under "Civil Works" (— Rs. 92 lakhs), and "Agricultural Engineering" (— Rs. 54 lakhs). The expenditure on "Police", however, showed a rise of Rs. 33 lakhs. The net result was a revenue deficit of Rs. 329 lakhs, as compared with a deficit of only Rs. 10 lakhs anticipated in the revised estimate.

9. The total capital expenditure excluding State Trading Schemes in 1951-52 was Rs. 19.7 crores which was practically the same as the revised estimate. As regards State Trading Schemes, the revised estimate took credit for a net sum of about Rs. 2 crores, but the accounts now available, show a credit of about Rs. 1 crore only. The cash balance shown in the accounts of State Trading Schemes, does not represent any profit to the Government on the working of these schemes. It only represents the net result of the purely cash transactions of the year, as posted in the accounts and does not make allowance for the value of stocks on hand, outstanding liabilities or

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other dues. The Government have been subsidizing these State Trading Schemes heavily both directly and indirectly and, therefore, it was a misnomer to have called them trading schemes. It would perhaps be more appropriate to classify them as welfare schemes.

10. Under "Loans and Advances by the State Government", the net disbursements amounted to Rs. 317 lakhs as against the original Budget figure of Rs. 200 lakhs. The increase was mainly due to larger disbursements to cultivators, necessitated by the prevailing adverse seasonal conditions.

11. I now pass on to the figures in the Budget for the current year 1952-53—

	Interim Budget.	Present Budget.	Budget Estimate, 1952-53. Revenue Account.
	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	
(a) Revenue (on the basis of existing taxation).	6,390	6,176	
(b) Expenditure on Revenue Account.	6,476	6,535	
(c) Deficit (on the basis of existing taxation).	86	359	

As compared with the interim Budget, our revenues may go down by Rs. 214 lakhs. The reduction is mainly under General Sales Tax (— Rs. 150 lakhs) and subsidies from the Government of India for Grow More Food and other schemes (— Rs. 60 lakhs). On the other hand, the present estimate of expenditure is higher than the interim Budget by Rs. 59 lakhs. The main increases are under relief works (Rs. 73 lakhs) and fee concessions (Rs. 50 lakhs) and are off-set by the proposed withdrawal of a sum of Rs. 55 lakhs from the Famine Relief Fund. The Budget assumes that seasonal conditions in this year will be normal and therefore there will be no necessity for large-scale

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remissions. It further assumes that trade will revive after the present temporary hesitation and that wholesale prices will stabilize at about present levels. It will be seen that the deficit in the Budget as now envisaged (Rs. 359 lakhs) is of the same order as the deficit disclosed in the accounts of last year (Rs. 329 lakhs). I shall deal with the measures to cover this deficit a little later.

New
schemes.

12. Even though we are faced with an alarming deficit, substantial provision has been made in the Budget for new schemes covered by the National Plan, the ultimate cost of which will amount to Rs. 357 lakhs non-recurring and Rs. 42 lakhs recurring. A full list of the new schemes will be found in Annexure I of the Budget Memorandum. Special mention may be made of a building grant of Rs. 4 lakhs towards the opening of a new Engineering College by the Alagappa Chettiar's College Endowment Trust at Karaikudi, a building grant of Rs. 2 lakhs to the Engineering College run by the P.S.G. & Sons' Charities, Coimbatore, and special grants of about Rs. 1 lakh each to the Andhra and Annamalai Universities and Rs. 30,000 to the Madras University. Provision has been made, as usual, for building and equipment grants, amounting to Rs. 10 lakhs to various aided educational institutions. It is proposed to raise the Government Arts College for Women, Guntur, from II Grade to I Grade and new courses of study are being opened in the Arts Colleges of Srikakulam, Kumbakonam, Madras, Rajahmundry and Pudukkottai. It is also proposed to put up new buildings to accommodate the Engineering College, Anantapur, now located in semi-permanent army hutments. In the Public Health Department also, several beneficent schemes are being taken up. The available bed-strength is being increased in the City and district hospitals to the extent new space is available. The expansion of the Guntur Hospital, to an ultimate bed-strength of 500, is being sanctioned

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along with the proposal to construct the Medical College buildings. Grants-in-aid will be given to 38 new Maternity and Child-Welfare Centres. A special grant of Rs. 2 lakhs is proposed to a new tuberculosis sanatorium in Malabar. A programme for the provision of drinking water in the Agency areas at an ultimate cost of Rs. 16 lakhs is being sanctioned. Amongst the new schemes of the Animal Husbandry Department, the key-village scheme is of special interest, because it aims at stocking certain select areas with cattle of improved breeds to serve as centres for the spread of those breeds to adjacent villages. In the Industries Department, it is proposed to sanction the manufacture of 50 additional hand-boring sets for being hired to cultivators. The accommodation available at Todhunternagar for low-paid employees of the Government in the City will be increased by the construction of 30 additional quarters at a cost of Rs. 2 lakhs. The usual provision is being made for loans to local bodies, Rs. 17 lakhs to the Madras Corporation, Rs. 9 lakhs to other local bodies and Rs. 10 lakhs to the City Improvement Trust.

13. Honourable Members may have heard, from accounts in the Press, of the Community Development Projects, sponsored by the Government of India, with American technical and financial aid. What is contemplated under these projects is Intensive Rural Development in certain selected areas with special emphasis on food production. Six such centres of development will be located in this State, one in the area of the Cuddapah-Kurnool canal in the Ceded Districts, another in the ayacut of the Lower Bhavani Project in Coimbatore, the third in the Malampuzha Project lands of Malabar, the fourth in the Periyar ayacut of Madurai, the fifth in the rain-soaked hinterlands of South Kanara and the last in the old delta of East Godavari. Each centre will consist of about 300 villages and will be in charge of a Development

Community
Develop-
ment
Projects.

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Officer who will be guided and advised by a committee consisting of officials and non-officials and presided over by the District Collector. The development of each centre is expected to cost about Rs. 60 lakhs and the outlay now contemplated will be spread over a period of three years. Agriculturists are to be given help for increased production in the form of manures, improved strains of seed, essential machinery, irrigation facilities and cheap credit. The social and educational aspects of rural development will also be attended to by an expert staff on the co-operative basis. It is the ultimate aim to spread out this form of development gradually from the select centres over the entire country in due course, as and when adequate money and staff become available. Financial assistance is proposed to be rendered to States in the initial years, as grants and loans from a Central Fund, to which the Government of the United States of America will make liberal contributions. The work in the States will be guided and co-ordinated by the Central organization under the control of the Planning Commission. We have just appointed a Special Officer of the status of Secretary to the Government to draw up the necessary plans. It is proposed to accord financial sanction to this programme later in the year after the investigation is completed. At this stage it is not possible to assess the direct financial implications on the State Budget and therefore only a token provision is being made in the Budget for this purpose. Operations in the field are expected to commence by next October and let us hope that the high expectations that are now being aroused, will materialize.

Firka
Develop-
ment
Schemes.

14. The work envisaged under the Community Projects is not far different in its scope or shape from what is being attempted by us in the 84 firkas selected for Intensive Rural Development. What we have been attempting in these firkas is to educate the villagers on the art of self-help, with small grants from the State in providing rural water-supply, internal

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communications and common amenities. We had also combined our Khadi Development Schemes with this programme in order to absorb the idle hours of agricultural labour. We had not been able to achieve spectacular results, merely because we did not have funds enough to do the job on the American model. The Special Officer of the Government of India in charge of the Community Development Projects was pleased to observe, after his recent visit to some of our selected firkas, that we had already made a good start, comparable to what is being done under the much publicized Etawah Development Scheme of the Uttar Pradesh Government. A provision of Rs. 6 lakhs has been made in the Budget for extending our less ambitious scheme to 25 new firkas, lying contiguous to the existing ones.

15. The total estimated capital expenditure for the year outside the Revenue Account is Rs. 1,986·5 lakhs. The bulk of this expenditure is on Irrigation, Rs. 897 lakhs and Electricity, Rs. 800 lakhs. Honourable Members are aware, that early in the post-war period, long before the Planning Commission came into existence, we had launched a programme of irrigation and electricity development in this State. The Tungabhadra multi-purpose project, the Bhavani and the Malampuzha irrigation projects, the Machkund and Moyar hydro-electric projects, the Pykara, Papanasam and Madras electrical plant extensions, are some of the major items of this programme. Progress was slow in the initial years owing to the post-war shortages in machinery and technical man-power, but these bottle-necks were relieved by 1949, when increasing outlay became feasible. We had invested about Rs. 16 crores on these projects last year and a larger outlay is possible this year, if funds are available. The smaller items of this programme, such as the Nellore and Madurai Thermal Schemes, the Ceded Districts Scheme, the Vijayavada and Visakhapatnam plant extensions have already come into fruition and the

Capital
outlay.

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first set of generators of the Moyar hydro-electric project has just been commissioned. With the outlay proposed for the current year, the Bhavani Project can be completed this year and the Tungabhadra and the Malampuzha Projects can be brought up to the last stage. When our programme is completed by next year, we would have rendered additional irrigation possible on about 1 million acres of land and also doubled the power generation of the State. The Central Government, while assisting us to the maximum extent possible, by way of loans and purchase of our holdings of securities, have been advising us of late, to restrict our outlay for this year, in view of the overall financial difficulties facing the country. We have pruned down the estimates of our engineers to the maximum extent possible and have now limited the total outlay to about Rs. 20 crores, which, it is hoped, would be acceptable to the Centre. If further curtailment is not enjoined on us, as a matter of national necessity, it would be possible to go ahead with the major projects like Tungabhadra, Bhavani, Malampuzha, Machkund and Manimuttar, according to the present progress and requirements of those works. Details of the allotment under each project are given in an Appendix to the printed copy of my speech.

Grow More
Food
Schemes.

16. We have been spending, in recent years, very considerable sums for the construction of a large number of small irrigation schemes and the renovation of our existing irrigation tanks. These works of high Grow More Food value, were being subsidized by the Centre in full at one time and up to 50 per cent of the unproductive outlay in recent years. We are now told that the Centre is no longer in a position to grant these subsidies indefinitely. According to their latest formula, the agriculturists benefited by these schemes should themselves provide half the outlay in cash or kind and if that is agreed to, the remaining cost should be shared by the Centre and the State in equal proportions. We can undertake these works in future, on

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the scale we had been doing so far, only if the concerned ryots volunteered to meet half the cost. I hope the necessary amount of sacrifice and co-operation would be forthcoming from the people to enable us to carry on this useful programme. In the meanwhile, we have provided in the Budget Rs. 60 lakhs for small irrigation works and Rs. 60 lakhs for the renovation of tanks. Works already on hand will be completed expeditiously, but new works of this kind can be undertaken only on the basis of self-help, with assistance from the State.

17. A provision of Rs. 70 lakhs has been made under the capital head for deposit towards compensation to zamindars and inamdars, on the acquisition of their estates. The process of acquiring these estates for being converted into the ryotwari system, is expected to be completed this year and this would register a landmark in the history of our land-tenures. Survey and Settlement operations are now going on in the areas and the long-neglected irrigation sources are all being set right at heavy public cost. It may take a few more years before these works are completed in an orderly manner; but this delay has not prevented the affected ryots from enjoying the major benefits of the scheme, such as fixity of tenure and reduction in assessment. Under the Acquisition Act, the balance of compensation due to zamindars, can be paid in full, only after the Survey and Settlement operations are completed. In order to provide a Reserve, from out of which the final payment can be made, the Government have opened a special fund, into which Rs. 30 lakhs was put in last year and Rs. 20 lakhs is proposed to be put in this year.

Zamindari
Abolition.

18. With the decontrol of foodgrains and the abolition of procurement, the transactions under State Trading Schemes will diminish very considerably. At this time of flux, it is impossible to forecast whether there would be any net credit or debit under this head, affecting the general ways and means budget. For the

State
Trading
Schemes.

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present, it is presumed that these transactions will balance each other. The Budget provides for a net outlay of Rs. 9 lakhs only, under this head, to cover the subsidy and establishment charges mainly on certain manure distribution schemes.

Loans and
Advances by
the Govern-
ment.

19. The net disbursements in the current year under loans and advances, are expected to be only Rs. 132 lakhs as against Rs. 317 lakhs last year. The reduction in outlay is due to the fact that the loan instalments postponed last year, owing to adverse seasonal conditions, are expected to be recovered along with the next harvest, which falls in the current financial year itself.

Proposals
for
additional
taxation.

20. I shall now pass on to the measures proposed by the Government to bridge the wide gap in the revenue budget. We had run into a deficit of Rs. 129 lakhs in 1950-51 and the preliminary accounts have shown a deficit of Rs. 329 lakhs in 1951-52. If we had large reserves and only inappreciable outlay on capital works, we could have desisted from levying fresh taxes to cover the deficit of a particularly bad famine year like this. But our reserves are fast getting depleted on useful capital works, and there will be very little to fall back on at the end of the current year. The alternatives before us are, either to cut out all new schemes and retrench on existing schemes, to bring about a saving of Rs. 3½ crores or to increase our resources to cover the deficit, in keeping with the general scheme of the National Plan. That Plan envisages the augmentation of our resources by Rs. 5 crores in each of the 5 years, of which Rs. 4 crores are expected to be raised by additional taxation and Rs. 1 crore by retrenchment on routine administrative expenditure. The Plan has not made allowance for the inroads of natural calamities like famine and floods, on the resources of the State, as has happened to us now. The Government have applied their mind carefully to this matter and they feel that the proper course is to endeavour to implement the Plan, even

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though it would mean some little extra sacrifice. They have therefore decided to impose the following new taxes forthwith:—

(a) A surcharge on passengers travelling by public transport buses at the rate of one pie per mile. Operators will be enjoined to levy this surcharge from passengers along with fares and remit the amounts every month into the Government Treasury. This measure is expected to give a yield of Rs. 2 crores in a full year and about Rs. 1 crore in the current year.

(b) Enhancement of the Sales Tax on motor spirit from 4 annas to 6 annas per gallon. In anticipation of the approval of the House, this measure was implemented with effect from last week. Transport buses subject to surcharge on passenger fares, will be given full rebate on this additional levy from the date the surcharge is actually collected. This measure may give Rs. 30 lakhs in a full year and Rs. 20 lakhs in the current year.

(c) Levy of a surcharge on land revenue on larger holdings based on a sliding scale. This is expected to bring in about Rs. 75 lakhs in the current year.

(d) Levy of betterment fees on lands newly brought under irrigation at public expense. The levy is proposed to be spread in easy instalments over a period of years. This may bring in about Rs. 60 lakhs in the current year.

(e) Levy of a special tax on the sales of foreign liquor to permit-holders. This may yield about Rs. 15 lakhs in the current year.

If all these proposals for new taxation are accepted, our resources during the current year will be enhanced by Rs. 270 lakhs, leaving a deficit of Rs. 89 lakhs only.

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Now that we have decontrolled foodgrains, some portion of the remaining deficit may be covered by retrenchment in the Civil Supplies Department. Any little balance that may still be left over can be met by withdrawal from the Revenue Reserve Fund. The additional taxes may be expected to yield over Rs. 4 crores in a full year and therefore we may be having some little margin in the coming year to implement a few more useful schemes covered by the National Plan, assuming of course, that Nature will be kind to us, at least in the ensuing agricultural season. We can now claim that we had played the part expected of us in the National Plan towards developing new resources and let us hope that the foreign and Central assistance held out to us in the Plan will reach us without halt or hesitation.

Ways and
Means.

21. With the breach in the Revenue budget practically closed, our requirements on the general ways and means side during the current year will be about Rs. 28 crores.

	RS. LAKHS.
(a) Overdraft from the Bank at the beginning of the year.	442
(b) Capital expenditure outside the Revenue Account.	1,986
(c) Capital outlay on State Trading Schemes ..	9
(d) Loans and advances by State Government (net disbursements).	132
(e) Repayment of the outstanding balance of the 3 per cent loan raised in 1937 and 1940.	219
(f) Minimum balance to be kept with the Bank ..	40
	—
	2,828
	or
	28 crores.

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Against this sum, we were having at the beginning of the year about Rs. 14½ crores worth of securities in the Revenue Reserve Fund and Cash Balance Investment Account and let us assume that we can cash them during the year. We may hope to raise a sum of Rs. 4 crores in the open market including a conversion operation of the loan, which becomes due for repayment this year. The Government of India had assisted us with a loan of about Rs. 7 crores last year, besides buying up large blocks of our securities. They have not yet indicated the measures of their assistance for the current year, but we may assume, that in view of our special difficulties, they might be in a position to lend us from the Special Development Fund and other sources, about Rs. 10 crores. If these anticipations materialise, we may hope to close up the year's transactions, without any appreciable overdraft from the Bank.

22. We would have practically exhausted our accumulated reserves during the course of this year. On the 1st of April 1946 we were holding unattached securities worth Rs. 43½ crores in the Revenue Reserve Fund and Cash Balance Investment Account and this had come down to Rs. 14½ crores on the 31st of March 1952. We had thus depleted the Reserves by about Rs. 29 crores. During the same period, we had borrowed in all, from the Government of India and the open market, about Rs. 31 crores. The total worsening by about Rs. 60 crores on the debit side has been more than covered by the capital outlay of Rs. 62 crores and net disbursements to local bodies and agriculturists of about Rs. 16½ crores, making a total investment of Rs. 78½ crores during the same period. It is true that our capital investments have not yet begun to yield us a return, but they may be

Utilization
of reserves.

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expected to do so almost immediately, with the completion of our major projects. Honourable Members can, therefore, see that far from squandering our reserves, we have augmented them appreciably from current resources during this period and what is more important, put them to proper use on projects which would not only bring in a fair return to the exchequer but also spread prosperity and good cheer to large sections of the people. There is no special virtue in accumulating reserves as such. They are after all intended to meet the needs of lean years.

Assets and liabilities.

23. In respect of our debt also, we continue to maintain a very strong position. The total public debt and other liabilities of the State under all heads amounted to Rs. 92 crores on the 31st of March 1952. As against this, we held on the same date, capital and remunerative assets of the value of Rs. 131 crores. The details can be seen in Annexure II to the Budget Memorandum. I therefore claim with confidence that the advance we have so far been able to make is built upon a foundation of sound policy coupled with financial rectitude.

Conclusion.

24. I take this opportunity to place on record our gratitude for the consistent support extended to us by the Reserve Bank in recent years, in the matter of ways-and-means accommodation. No doubt, we held large blocks of securities, but those securities matured only on distant dates and the Bank was not bound to advance large sums to us on their pledge. Under the agreement with the Bank, the maximum overdraft that we are eligible to at one time is only Rs. 80 lakhs, but there were occasions in the last two years when the overdraft amounted to several times that figure. Shri B. Rama Rau, the Governor and his Deputies had recognized from the very start, that such temporary

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difficulties were unavoidable for a State, implementing a substantial programme of productive capital works. They stood by us steadfastly on all those occasions and we have indeed cause to be gratified, that the direction of this great institution is in hands worthy of the people's trust and confidence.

Before I conclude, with your permission, Sir, and that of the House, I wish to express my appreciation of the able work of the officers and staff of the Finance Department, particularly that of the Finance Secretary, during the period I have been in office. It is not a mere formal compliment, for no one knows better than myself, how ably and loyally they have discharged their duties throughout this difficult period.

25. With these observations, Sir, I commend to the acceptance of the House, the budget estimate for 1952-53, as recast by the present Government.

ANNEXURE I.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE ON REVENUE ACCOUNT OF THE MADRAS STATE FROM 1938-39 TO 1952-53.

Major heads of revenue.	1938-39.	1945-46.	1946-47.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52 (Revised Estimate, Accounts).	1951-52 (Preliminary Estimate, 1952-53.	Interim Budget Estimate, 1952-53.	Present Budget Estimate, 1952-53.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
A. REVENUE.											
Taxes on income other than Corporation tax	22.50	4,31.25	4,48.05	5,35.32	8,42.22	8,23.32	8,29.15	9,15.43	9,15.43	8,83.40	8,83.40
Land Revenue—											
Gross receipts including portion due to irrigation.	7,00.78	7,97.33	8,53.19	8,08.42	7,68.79	8,12.09	9,50.71	10,41.80	9,20.59	10,43.55	10,43.55
Excise	3,72.23	16,79.50	14,67.99	10,69.18	3,66.54	58.82	55.28	39.15	38.39	33.54	33.54
Stamps	1,73.37	3,74.20	4,37.74	3,35.92	4,05.67	4,32.68	4,88.49	5,28.49	4,54.61	5,19.62	4,75.00
Forest	45.63	1,43.24	1,61.39	1,82.81	1,59.57	1,65.70	1,88.56	2,23.44	2,08.04	1,86.04	2,00.00
Registration	32.70	69.83	75.96	78.90	86.55	95.47	1,07.97	1,18.49	1,09.58	1,20.00	1,20.00
Receipts under Motor Vehicles Acts.	81.22	97.96	1,31.11	1,66.64	1,97.45	3,00.73	3,48.74	3,85.38	3,90.31	3,85.66	3,85.66
Other taxes and duties—											
General sales tax	..	5,82.70	6,95.90	8,31.26	13,03.01	15,24.35	15,86.87	16,25.00	15,58.21	16,00.00	14,50.00
Other items	3.19	1,45.33	1,49.38	1,98.52	2,29.32	2,85.54	3,08.61	3,53.36	3,60.42	3,50.82	3,50.82
Total	3.19	7,28.03	8,45.28	10,29.78	15,32.33	18,09.89	18,95.48	19,78.36	19,18.63	19,50.82	18,00.82

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Irrigation—																				
Direct receipts	6.31	11.73	12.82	11.86	12.06	13.78	14.29	14.29	12.30	13.30	13.34									
Deduct—Working expenses.	— 38.39	— 70.00	— 79.38	— 91.08	— 1,03.44	— 1,17.86	— 1,14.94	— 1,30.32	— 1,35.11	— 1,11.62	— 1,11.65									
Net receipts	— 32.08	— 58.27	— 66.56	— 79.20	— 91.38	— 1,04.08	— 1,00.65	— 1,16.03	— 1,12.81	— 98.32	— 98.31									
Irrigation—																				
Direct receipts	1.99	2.80	3.02	2.80	3.09	4.23	4.54	2.89	3.25	4.37	4.37									
Interest	19.73	95.00	1,24.43	79.95	93.72	91.73	77.07	72.48	69.77	58.96	58.96									
Administration of Justice ..	15.39	53.75	48.92	72.51	73.12	80.99	84.55	88.52	84.65	88.76	88.76									
Jails and Convict Settlements.	5.68	15.76	13.93	13.21	15.99	22.05	20.98	25.48	19.23	23.43	23.43									
Police	5.66	18.93	15.76	13.79	19.51	27.28	26.86	27.16	28.86	19.06	19.06									
Ports and Pilotage	44.67	..	..	47.08	..	..	..	..	..	..	..									
Education	8.35	15.41	27.58	32.63	30.29	42.54	31.90	46.53	54.00	37.77	38.08									
Medical	10.25	18.15	17.81	20.35	23.33	23.08	27.07	25.52	25.85	25.60	25.60									
Public Health	2.59	6.63	5.95	5.49	7.79	6.34	7.55	9.09	8.70	8.02	8.02									
Agriculture	3.12	20.73	30.05	22.64	23.86	35.30	1,18.24	1,11.22	1,10.94	1,30.47	1,40.59									
Veterinary	1.02	3.34	3.62	2.73	3.50	5.30	5.93	7.94	7.54	7.92	8.34									
Co-operation	4.18	7.60	7.68	8.89	12.28	18.82	26.45	27.52	18.83	23.91	25.49									
Industries	18.85	59.17	60.96	72.49	75.81	77.82	1,20.39	1,35.60	1,13.28	2,02.14	2,23.10									
Miscellaneous departments.	7.62	11.02	15.09	17.14	20.68	25.64	42.61	36.53	41.21	37.06	37.06									
Civil Works	25.12	48.46	66.31	1,11.25	86.34	1,15.54	1,06.47	1,24.39	1,05.37	1,97.09	1,97.09									
Receipts from Electricity Schemes (Gross).	42.51	1,17.73	1,25.14	1,83.89	2,71.22	3,21.41	3,77.61	4,61.46	4,67.70	5,09.12	5,09.12									
Deduct—Working Expenses.	— 24.81	— 63.88	— 72.24	— 1,21.93	— 1,86.10	— 2,20.19	— 2,33.13	— 2,71.05	— 3,30.51	— 3,19.66	— 3,19.72									
Net receipts	17.70	53.85	52.90	61.96	85.12	1,01.22	1,44.48	1,90.41	1,37.19	1,89.46	1,89.40									

	1938-39.	1945-46.	1946-47.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52 (Revised Esti- mate).	1951-52 (Preliminary Accounts).	Interim Budget Estimate, 1952-53.	Present Budget Estimate, 1952-53.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.

A. REVENUE—cont.

Receipts in aid of super-annuation.	2.88	6.03	6.46	7.39	4.80	5.07	5.96	5.06	5.02	4.79	4.79
Stationery and Printing ..	3.96	12.92	13.04	13.75	13.44	33.67	16.90	17.10	16.78	16.32	16.32
Miscellaneous—											
Gross Receipts from Bus Service (a).	..	..	..	23.35	95.88	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other items ..	14.58	41.34	87.53	93.54	92.40	1,39.22	1,65.52	90.93	99.90	1,06.87	1,34.21
Total ..	14.58	41.34	87.53	1,16.89	1,88.28	1,39.22	1,65.52	90.93	99.90	1,06.87	1,34.31
Receipts from Road Transport Schemes—Gross Receipts (b).	..	..	..	..	..	1,04.06	1,16.68	1,21.39	1,14.99	1,33.08	1,33.08
Working expenses (b) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Net receipts ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous, adjustments between Union and State Governments.	0.27	0.13	0.14	0.10	0.21	0.22	0.20	0.20	0.06	0.20	0.20

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Extraordinary Receipts ..	..	0.18	2,36.47	2,98.66	2,79.25	3,26.22	2.09	1,66.26	1,22.50	1,49.78	67.13
Transfer from Revenue	..	..	5,00.00	..	5.00	..	..	..	..	..	..
Reserve Fund.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Civil Defence ..	..	..	7.32	15.45	0.47	0.40	0.41	4.46	0.01	2.53	2.53
Grand total ..	16,13.45	47,98.89	57,06.02	50,70.15	53,23.52	55,89.49	58,16.24	63,49.02	59,17.94	63,90.21	61,75.74

(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."

Major heads of expenditure.

	1938-39.	1945-46.	1946-47.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52 (Revised Preliminary Estimate).	1951-52 (Preliminary Accounts).	Interim Budget Estimate, 1952-53.	Present Budget Estimate, 1952-53.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.

B. EXPENDITURE ON REVENUE ACCOUNT.

Land Revenue ..	25.36	26.01	27.12	28.98	37.44	40.42	46.10	91.92	88.43	86.74	86.76
Excise ..	32.18	51.59	53.09	59.44	69.04	77.24	79.79	77.04	83.66	77.91	77.91
Stamps ..	4.72	13.74	18.23	21.04	21.16	23.05	25.25	25.23	23.72	25.22	25.22
Forest ..	40.17	77.00	80.15	86.28	79.10	79.26	74.81	80.51	78.46	83.24	83.48
Registration ..	29.13	28.56	43.75	48.62	51.86	50.83	52.19	53.65	53.55	54.70	54.82
Charges on account of Motor Vehicles Acts—											
Payment to local bodies.	75.06	68.19	80.67	96.47	1,01.67	90.27	90.34	90.32	90.73	90.32	92.87
Other departmental expenditure.						6.59	8.50	9.62	9.93	9.45	9.45

Major heads of expenditure.	1938-39.	1945-46.	1946-47.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52 (Revised Estimate).	1951-52 (Preliminary Accounts).	Interim Budget Estimate, 1952-53.	Present Budget Estimate, 1952-53.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
Other taxes and duties— Payments to local bodies. Other departmental expenditure.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS./ LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.
Irrigation—Interest on works for which capital accounts are kept.	64	48-41	68-72	87-03	1,19-47	{ 97-72 43-03	1,01-94 45-45	1,18-22 45-06	1,12-46 48-64	1,10-00 45-43	1,10-00 45-43
Irrigation—Other revenue expenditure financed from ordinary revenues.	39-09	77-54	93-94	1,28-06	1,43-57	1,49-42	1,43-25	1,40-52	1,30-11	1,28-84	1,28-84
Construction of irrigation, etc., works.	1-25	6-11	0-63	2-60	4-07	5-80	3-29	0-17	0-55	0-14	0-14
Interest on debt and other obligations.	58-54	65-40	78-52	81-96	1,00-04	1,09-39	1,23-66	1,54-06	1,29-53	1,77-37	1,82-08
Deduct—Interest transferred to Commercial Department.	-1,07-54	-1,26-45	-1,31-53	-1,47-82	-1,73-58	-2,13-18	-2,65-54	-3,43-57	-3,43-57	-4,34-25	-4,34-25
Net amount met out of ordinary revenues.	-49-00	-61-05	-53-01	-65-86	-73-54	-1,03-79	-1,41-88	-1,89-51	-2,14-04	-2,56-88	-2,72-17
Appropriation for reduction or avoidance of debt.	5-13	55-90	57-00	1,42-78	69-68	75-47	75-68	1,02-31	1,02-31	1,00-97	1,06-26
General administration	2,76-76	4,27-24	6,13-86	5,00-40	5,82-05	6,26-32	6,54-90	6,66-43	7,31-89	7,04-12	7,11-61
Administration of Justice	90-63	1,28-80	1,42-42	1,45-64	1,50-03	1,58-34	1,65-56	1,71-05	1,75-86	1,72-82	1,72-82
Jails and convict settlements.	23-22	61-50	65-78	79-63	1,10-22	1,18-52	1,20-37	1,25-38	1,29-54	1,21-54	1,21-93
Police	1,60-96	2,98-03	4,05-71	4,64-81	6,51-97	6,89-89	6,98-89	6,83-43	7,16-88	6,67-27	6,68-38
Ports and Pilotage	5-00	4-56	0-01	0-01	0-01	0-01	0-01	0-01	0-01	0-01	0-01
Scientific Departments	0-96	1-53	1-21	1-37	1-52	1-58	1-64	2-23	2-31	1-90	1-92
Education	2,61-98	4,59-72	5,90-27	7,03-70	8,65-94	9,58-41	10,42-65	10,94-39	10,95-64	11,24-16	11,79-67
Medical	98-14	1,80-00	2,15-93	2,38-50	2,76-54	2,96-18	3,14-87	3,30-08	3,14-46	3,27-25	3,33-81
Public Health	26-57	54-48	87-32 (a)	1,90-55	90-54 (b)	1,14-42	1,04-16	1,61-58	1,85-77	1,43-19	1,49-10
Agriculture	20-62	74-06	1,65-74	1,16-93	1,26-74	1,82-74	2,75-35	3,82-03	3,11-54	3,83-97	3,88-74
Veterinary	12-85	23-64	26-95	31-81	40-58	49-67	56-69	66-32	61-31	60-60	62-02

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Co-operation	13-82	30-33	44-33	43-69	53-41	73-64	76-68	74-99	75-86	77-31		
Industries	27-54	72-49	96-90	1,12-71	1,30-30	1,29-00	1,57-46	2,23-19	1,87-03	2,95-50		
Capital outlay on Industrial Development.	..	22-10	..	0-02	0-06	0-32	0-25	0-19	0-35	0-25		
Aviation.	21-11	71-93	87-50	1,19-82	1,15-55	1,31-99	1,49-34	1,65-43	1,60-28	1,71-17		
Miscellaneous departments (d).	1,19-70	2,81-65	3,97-72	4,66-69	5,88-84	7,30-05	8,27-83	8,01-20	7,09-12	8,27-89		
Civil Works	18-92	35-96	39-45	49-92	66-92	87-41	1,14-36	1,57-28	1,57-28	2,07-10		
Interest on capital outlay on Electricity Schemes.	..	1-18	2-32	2-92	0-11	-24	8-47	-24	10-18	-2-47		
Other revenue expenditure connected with Electricity Schemes.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Famine	16-04	6-32	20-38	3-80	4-75	25-03	8-00	11-58	13-95	7-41		
.. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1-94	7-31	2-07	7-03		
Territorial and Political Pensions.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Supernannuation allowances and Commutation of pensions	97-12	1,38-19	1,43-30	1,57-53	1,56-36	1,65-44	1,85-24	1,98-45	1,92-88	1,92-31		
Stationery and printing	27-07	43-07	51-66	49-42	71-98	94-51	87-10	81-31	90-95	9-40		
.. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	71-15		
(a) 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) Represents amount transferred from the Famine Relief Fund.												
(d) Includes expenditure on Harijan Uplift, Labour and other items. The details of expenditure under Harijan Uplift are shown below :—												
Accounts, 1945-46.	RS. LAKHS.	Accounts, 1946-47.	RS. LAKHS.	Accounts, 1947-48.	RS. LAKHS.	Accounts, 1948-49.	RS. LAKHS.	Accounts, 1949-50.	RS. LAKHS.	Accounts, 1950-51.	RS. LAKHS.	Present Budget Estimate, 1952-53.
28-84	35-29	..	..	41-38	63-75	82-44	1,00-46	1,13-11	1,16-70	1,09-73	1,12-57	
Gross expenditure on Harijan Welfare.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Amount met from the Fund for Village Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift.	28-84	35-29	39-57	59-65	64-00	64-00	64-00	64-00	64-00	64-00	64-00	
Net amount	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	

Major heads of expenditure.	1938-39.	1945-46.	1946-47.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52 (Revised Estimate).	1951-52 (Preliminary Estimate).	Interim Budget Estimate, 1952-53.	Present Budget Estimate, 1952-53.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.

B. EXPENDITURE ON REVENUE ACCOUNT—cont.

Miscellaneous—

Expenditure on Bus Service.	..	..	..	12.44	90.31	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other items ..	4.39	1,52.66 (a)	5,21.98	1,06.86	1,33.24	43.58	29.76	23.72	23.62	72.35	22.35
Extraordinary charges—											
Net outlay on State Trading Schemes transferred to the Revenue Account.	..	..	12,20.77	—16.04	2,03.63	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)
Other items ..	..	— 0.02	2,15.80	1,84.53	78.61	1,13.41	1,06.29	94.58	95.99	87.96	90.46
Total ..	..	— 1,60.37	14,38.67	1,68.49	2,82.24	1,13.41	1,06.29	94.58	95.99	87.96	90.46
Transfer to Revenue Reserve Fund.	..	17,31.00	..	4,80.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Civil Defence ..	..	1,62.64	38.79	20.29	1.17	0.72	0.45	0.16	0.05	..	..
Grand total ..	..	47,98.74	57,04.65	50,69.93	53,33.42	55,54.01	59,45.21	63,57.64	62,47.04	64,76.18	65,34.44
Final Revenue Surplus (+) or Deficit (—).	+ 3.73	+ 0.15	+ 0.37	+ 0.22	+ 0.10	+ 35.48	— 1,28.87	— 9.62	— 3,29.10	— 85.97	— 3,58.70

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(a) Includes Rs. 400 lakhs representing contribution to the Village Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift Fund.

(b) Shown under Capital Account. The figures are:

* Working Expenses of the Madras City Bus Service are taken in deduction of the receipts from 1949-50.

ANNEXURE II.

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DETAILS OF CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.

Description of schemes.	Approximate estimated cost.	1946-47.		1947-48.		1948-49.		1949-50.		1950-51.		Revised Estimate, 1951-52.	Total (1946-47 to 1951-52).	Interim Budget Estimate, 1952-53.	Present Budget Estimate, 1952-53.
		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)				
(1)	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.
A. IRRIGATION, NAVIGATION, ETC., SCHEMES.															
Tungabhadra Project (Irrigation Side).	17,00.00	52.40	1,07.92	1,33.27	2,42.01	2,28.51	..	..	..	..	..	3,40.00	11,54.11	2,90.00	2,90.00
Lower Bhavani Project	3,03.00	..	1.85	29.38	1,62.06	2,55.99	..	..	..	..	..	2,60.00	7,09.27	1,94.00	1,94.00
Mettur Canals Scheme	2,36.00	..	..	..	5.07	13.39	..	..	..	..	..	27.46	45.92	35.13	27.13
Malampuzha Project	3,81.00	..	..	..	18.40	60.93	..	..	..	..	..	84.80	1,64.13	1,00.33	1,00.33
Rallapad Project	48.00	..	..	..	4.60	2.74	..	..	..	..	..	4.78	12.80	13.49	10.49
Manimathar Project	3,69.00	..	..	..	..	6.09	..	..	..	..	..	13.50	19.59	50.20	40.20
Godavari Delta System	(a) 9.57	..	20.79	(b) 22.49	(b) 22.49	3.40	..	..	..	..	..	4.55	39.25	12.71	10.03
Krishna Delta System	(c) 1.29	..	14.94	(b) 2.17	(b) 1.26	22.69	..	..	..	..	..	8.10	86.08	11.32	10.00
Rompuru Drainage Scheme	(c) 2.60	..	..	..	..	1.05.53	..	..	..	..	..	97.00	2,02.53	75.00	19.99
Tank Improvement Schemes	1,01.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	75.00	60.00
Lump-sum provision for Irrigation Schemes having G.M.F. value.	(a) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	75.00	60.00
Other Irrigation Schemes (Productive and Unproductive).	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pro-rata charges on Establishment and Tools and Plant.	1.04	..	3.67	3.55	1.75	7.07	..	..	..	..	..	4.75	21.83	6.29	6.29
Lump-sum deduction for probable savings.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	61.58	1,56.88	2,48.46	4,78.48	6,62.49	9,05.62	25,13.71	8,96.59	8,96.59	8,96.59	8,96.59	8,96.59	8,96.59	8,96.59	8,96.59

(a) Consists of several works some of which have been completed while others are in progress. Hence no estimated cost is given.

(b) Included under "Other Irrigation Schemes."

(c) Represents transfer from the Deposit Account of Procurement Bonus given by the Government of India towards expenditure on approved G.M.F. Schemes.

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Description of schemes.	1946-47.		1947-48.		1948-49.		1949-50.		1950-51.		Revised Estimate, 1951-52.	Total (1946-47 to 1951-52).	Interim Budget Estimate, 1952-53.	Present Budget Estimate, 1952-53.
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)				
	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.
B. CAPITAL OUTLAY ON ELECTRICITY SCHEMES.														
Machkund Hydro-Electric Scheme	12,87-40	3-32	10-09	29-18	89-38	72-79	2,28-26	4,33-02	2,61-54	2,61-54	4,33-02	2,61-54	2,61-54	2,61-54
Moyar Hydro-Electric Scheme	4,63-90	23-68	35-67	69-96	64-68	74-72	66-85	3,35-56	11-66	10-31	3,35-56	11-66	10-31	10-31
Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme	..	21-45	71-56	40-18	82-01	1,18-98	86-66	4,20-84	1,77-67	1,40-98	4,20-84	1,77-67	1,40-98	1,40-98
Mettur Hydro-Electric Scheme	..	20-27	60-44	68-21	65-49	1,01-82	82-08	3,98-31	96-15	75-99	3,98-31	96-15	75-99	75-99
Papanasani Hydro-Electric Scheme.	..	17-54	..	90-83	66-09	58-97	58-89	2,91-67	97-90	71-40	2,91-67	97-90	71-40	71-40
Madras Thermal Electric System	6,21-00	..	1,65-67	49-16	34-40	1,76-78	1,04-00	5,80-01	1,41-76	1,27-40	5,80-01	1,41-76	1,27-40	1,27-40
Oded Districts Scheme	75-78	..	10-26	13-83	22-97	17-26	6-60	71-47	9-66	8-21	71-47	9-66	8-21	8-21
Vizakhapatnam Thermal Scheme	..	2-46	5-54	4-04	17-09	10-38	8-79	48-30	10-89	6-21	48-30	10-89	6-21	6-21
Vijayavada Thermal Scheme	..	2-12	15-77	8-76	16-46	4-62	5-13	52-86	16-29	5-13	52-86	16-29	5-13	5-13
Kakinada Thermal Scheme	..	..	..	3-01	4-57	3-51	1-38	12-78	2-08	1-28	12-78	2-08	1-28	1-28
Vijayavada-Rajahmundry-Samalkot Extensions.	1,57-74	6-88	22-76	41-49	35-46	46-40	13-86	1,66-85	14-92	10-25	1,66-85	14-92	10-25	10-25
Nellore Thermal Scheme	..	..	27-13	..	6-92	18-02	6-46	59-43	15-90	13-67	59-43	15-90	13-67	13-67
Kurnool Thermal Scheme	..	1-12	..	..	1-66	0-59	0-43	4-35	1-77	1-52	4-35	1-77	1-52	1-52
Tungabhadra Hydro-Electric Scheme.	7,94-00	..	..	..	..	0-93	2-32	3-25	35-30	18-16	3-25	35-30	18-16	18-16
Lump-sum provision for payment of compensation for acquisition of electrical undertakings of local authorities and private companies.	3,89-00	..	..	..	..	..	20-00	20-00	64-43	20-00	20-00	64-43	20-00	20-00
Other Minor Schemes	..	1-28	..	4-53	6-67	31-68	33-29	77-76	41-47	28-00	77-76	41-47	28-00	28-00
Lump-sum deduction for probable savings.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	..	1,00-85	4,24-76	4,24-55	5,63-85	7,37-45	7,25-00	29,76-46	8,00-00	8,00-00	29,76-46	8,00-00	8,00-00	8,00-00

Description of schemes.

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Description of schemes.	1946-47. 1947-48. 1948-49. 1949-50. 1950-51.										1951-52 (Revised Estimate).	Total (1946-47 to 1951-52).	Interim Budget Estimate, 1952-53.	Present Budget Estimate, 1952-53.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	
C. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES.														
Ginchona Plantations	..	13-71	13-04	17-23	21-52	12-44	9-82	87-76	6-97	6-98				
Kerala Soap Institute	..	..	..	..	..	..	0-11	0-11	0-40	0-40				
Madras Industrial Engineering Workshop.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0-02	..	..				
Fish Liver Oil Industry	..	..	..	..	..	0-05	0-40	0-50	2-00	2-00				
Madras Vegetable Ghee Factory	..	..	..	2-01	4-25	3-16	1-75	12-11	1-70	1-70				
Government Silk Filatures	..	..	..	..	1-36	0-14	2-39	3-89	..	0-20				
Polytechnics (buildings and tools and plant).	..	..	..	..	9-58	2-47	22-53	34-58	21-25	14-77				
Artesian Wells	..	..	..	..	..	9-80	6-00	15-80	0-15	6-15				
Shares in Fertilisers and Chemicals, Limited, Travancore.	..	..	..	20-00	..	1-00	..	21-00	..	..				
Shares in Madras Industrial Investment Corporation, Madras.	..	..	..	51-00	..	51-00	..	1,02-00	..	..				
Other Shares	..	..	..	..	..	2-40	..	2-40	..	..				
Ceramic Industry	..	..	..	..	..	..	0-82	1-00	6-50	6-30				
Andhra Paper Mills	..	..	..	26-35	..	0-43	0-48	26-26	..	..				
Total ..	13-98	13-71	1,15-61	36-94	82-89	44-30	44-30	3,07-43	38-97	32-50				
D. CAPITAL OUTLAY ON ROAD TRANSPORT SCHEMES.														
Madras City Bus Service	..	2-76	30-68	26-65	12-95	8-83	..	77-19	..	6-48				
E. CAPITAL OUTLAY ON CIVIL WORKS.														
Original Works—Buildings	..	10-72	9-89	33-36	61-09	84-51	1,16-07	3,15-64	1,80-94	1,80-94				

NOTE.—For State Trading Schemes, see footnote on page 34 above.

[27th June 1952]

ANNEXURE III.

STATEMENT OF THE DEBT POSITION OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT (EXCLUDING TEMPORARY ADVANCES).

When issued.	Description of loan.	Total amount issued.	Amount out-standing on 31st March 1952.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
		RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	
I. OPEN MARKET LOANS.				
September 1937 and September 1940.	3% Loan, 1952, I and II issues.	2,33.54	2,18.95	
September 1938.	3% Loan, 1953.	1,51.29	1,42.08	
June 1939 ..	3% Loan, 1959.	1,50.00	1,23.96	
September 1942.	3% Loan, 1955.	1,25.00	1,23.25	
September 1943.	3% Loan, 1956.	1,25.10	1,25.10	
August 1944 ..	3% Loan, 1958.	1,10.00	1,07.95	
September 1945.	3% Loan, 1960.	3,00.00	2,78.44	
September 1946.	2½% Loan, 1961.	4,09.30	3,81.77	
July 1950 ..	3% Development Bonds, 1960.	4,39.75	4,38.26	
September 1951.	3½% Loan, 1962.	3,01.49	3,01.49	
	Total, I ..	23,45.47	22,41.25	

II. LOANS FROM THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.

(1) Pre-autonomy consolidated debt (1st April 1937).	..	7,56.71	3,19.77	The Madras Government's debt to the Government of India after certain adjustments amounted to Rs. 7,56.71 lakhs on 1st April 1937. This debt was consolidated into a 4½ per cent loan and it is repayable by 1981-82 by half-yearly equated instalments.
(2) Post-autonomy debt—				
1947-48 ..	..	..	6,00.00	These are loans given by the Government of India for capital expenditure on Irrigation and Electricity Schemes when the Madras Government did not raise any market loan. Interest is payable at 2-7/8 per cent half-yearly. The principal is repayable after 15 years in each case.
1948-49 ..	..	..	3,00.00	
1950-51—				
Fisheries Programme—	..	1.33	..	As there was no likelihood of the loan being utilized for the purpose, it was repaid to the Government of India in full with interest at 3½ per cent per annum in October 1951.
For giving a loan to the South Madras Fishermen Co-operative Society.	..	..	..	

27th June 1952]

When issued.	Description of loan.	Total amount issued.	Amount out-standing on 31st March 1952.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
		RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	
II. LOANS FROM THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT—cont.				
(2) Post-autonomy debt—cont.				
1950-51—cont.				
Tractor Reclamation.	..	..	30.00	Loans given by the Government of India in connexion with the Intensive Cultivation Schemes. Interest at 3½ per cent per annum is payable half-yearly. Principal is repayable after 15 years.
Oil Engines, Electric Motors, etc., Hire purchase.	..	..	20.00	
Oil Engines, Electric Motors, etc., Hire purchase.	..	..	40.00	Loans given in connexion with the Intensive Cultivation Schemes. Interest at 3½ per cent per annum is payable half-yearly. Principal is repayable after 15 years.
P.W.D. Irrigation and Tank Improvement Schemes.	..	..	45.00	
Purchase of cotton seeds from Madhya Pradesh for expansion of cotton cultivation.	..	10.00	..	The loan was free of interest and the principal was repaid on the 31st March 1952.
1951-52—				
Purchase and distribution of manure to the ryots.	..	1,00.00	..	This was a short-term loan repaid on the 31st March 1952.
To finance capital expenditure on Tungabhadra and Lower Bhavani Projects.	..	..	6,00.00	Repayable by annual equated instalments commencing from 1955 and ending in 1961. For the first three years, i.e., 1952-53, 1953-54 and 1954-55, interest alone at 3½ per cent per annum is to be paid
P.W.D. Irrigation Schemes.	..	..	28.00	Repayable in fifteen annual equated instalments with interest at 3½ per cent per annum.
River Pumping Schemes.	..	..	9.00	Repayable in ten annual equated instalments with interest at 3½ per cent per annum.

[27th June 1959]

When issued.	Description of loan.	Total amount issued.	Amount outstanding on 31st March 1959.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
		RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	

II. LOANS FROM THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT—cont.

(2) Post-autonomy debt—cont.

1951-52—cont.

Tractor Cultivation Schemes.	..	..	13.00	Repayable in ten annual equated instalments with interest at 3½ per cent per annum.
Purchase and distribution of oil engines, and electric motor pump-sets.	..	..	12.00	Repayable in five annual equated instalments with interest at 3½ per cent per annum.
Industrial Housing Schemes.	..	..	9.00	This loan was interest-free and the principal is repayable after 25 years.
		Total, II ..	20,20.77	
		Total, I and II ..	42,62.02	

III. SPECIAL IRREDEEMABLE LOANS.

	Amount.
	RS.
(1) Four bonds bearing interest at 8 per cent per annum issued between the years 1796 and 1807.	1,33,000
(2) Two bonds bearing interest at 6 per cent per annum issued in the years 1795 and 1817.	10,500
(3) A deposit bearing interest at 6 per cent per annum received in 1817.	41,770
(4) A deposit bearing interest at 4 per cent per annum (now treated as an Endowment for the Stanley Hospital, Madras).	66,878
	Total, III .. 2,52,148
	or .. 2.52 lakhs.
	RS.
	LAKHS.
Grand total—Loans outstanding [on the 31st March 1959 (I + II + III).	42,64.54

27th June 1952]

ANNEXURE IV.

STATEMENT COMPARING THE PROVISION MADE IN THE REVISED ESTIMATE, 1951-52, AND BUDGET ESTIMATE, 1952-53, FOR THE SCHEMES INCLUDED IN THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN WITH THE ALLOTMENTS ORIGINALLY MADE IN THAT PLAN FOR THESE TWO YEARS.

	1951-52.		1952-53.	
	Plan.	Revised Estimate.	Plan.	Present Budget Estimate.
	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.
I. Agricultural and Rural Development—				
1 Agriculture	478	536	352	345
2 Veterinary and Animal Husbandry.	20	20	20	19
3 Dairying and Milk supply.	15	15	15	16
4 Forest	11	10	7	10
5 Co-operation	24	10	28	13
6 Fisheries	12	16	19	12
7 Rural Development ..	29	24	31	29
Total, I ..	589	631	472	443
II. Major Irrigation and Power Projects.	1,804	1,471	2,268	1,544
III. Industry—				
1 Cottage Industries ..	37	22	21	20
2 Other Industries ..	59	48	27	32
Total, III ..	96	68	48	60
IV. Transport (Roads) ..	204	202	152	162
V. Social Services—				
1 Education	142	117	158	118
2 Medical	102	47	81	74
3 Public Health	168	145	173	110
4 Housing	120	91	120	61
5 Labour and Labour Welfare.	..	..	..	..
6 Amelioration of Backward Classes.	93	124	93	123
Total, V ..	625	524	625	486
Grand total ..	3,318	2,896	3,565	2,895

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MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DEBATES

OFFICIAL REPORT

MONDAY, 30TH JUNE 1952

VOLUME II—No. 2

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Monday, the 30th June 1952.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at four of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Constitution of the Public Health Engineering Department.

* 5 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Public Health Engineering Department is now treated as a branch of the Public Works Department;

(b) whether the Highways Department has been constituted into a separate Department recently;

(c) whether the water-supply and drainage committee appointed by the Madras Government recommended that the Public Health Engineering Branch should be constituted into a separate Department with a view to speedy and efficient execution of water and drainage works; and

(d) what action has been taken by the Government to implement the scheme recommended by the Water-Supply and Drainage Committee?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

“(b) The Highways Department was constituted into a separate Department on 1st April 1946.

“(c) The answer is in the affirmative.

“(d) The Sanitary Engineering Department has been reorganized into an independent unit as a preliminary to the formation of a separate Public Health Engineering Department. The work of execution of water-supply and drainage schemes has been transferred from the Public Works Branch to the Sanitary Engineering Branch. The Sanitary Engineer, however, continues to be under the general control of the Chief Engineer (Public Health).”

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR.—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government have any proposal to up-grade the post of Sanitary Engineer as Chief Engineer, Public Health?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“The matter is under the consideration of the Government.”

[30th June 1952]

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" May I know, Sir, when the scheme recommended by the Water-Supply and Drainage Committee will be implemented? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" That will take some time, Sir."

The State Transport Scheme.

* 6 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Government buses now running under the State Transport Scheme;

(b) the amount of annual savings to the State since the inception of the scheme; and

(c) the steps taken to further nationalization of Bus Transport System by extension of the same to adjoining district centres radiating from the Madras City?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (a) There are in all 339 buses in the State Transport Department, of which 285 buses are normally scheduled to ply on the road in each shift.

" (b) A statement^a furnishing the information required is laid on the table of the House.

" (c) The Government have deferred for the present the question of extension of the scheme of nationalization of Motor Transport outside the Madras City."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" May I know, Sir, whether there is a proposal to increase the number of buses in the City? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" There is a proposal to replace some of the buses which have become old and rickety. But at present there is no proposal to increase the number of buses."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" May I know, Sir, whether any arrangements have been made by the Government to relieve the congestion of traffic during peak hours? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I would like to inform the hon. Member that during peak hours we run shuttle services which, to a great extent, have relieved the congestion in passenger traffic. If it is possible to put more buses on the road we may do it; but that means more congestion in bottlenecks near Central Station and Mount Road."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" With reference to the statement placed on the Table of the House, may

[30th June 1952]

I know, Sir, whether in assessing the savings, the Hon. Minister has taken note of the loss of income from motor vehicles taxation which the Government would have got if private buses had been licensed? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Notice."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" It is found in the statement placed on the Table of the House, that the Government have made a profit of about six lakhs of rupees from the Government Bus Service in 1947-48, about eight and a half lakhs of rupees in 1948-49, Rs. 1,47,602 in 1949-50, and Rs. 4,21,937 in 1950-51. May I know the reason for the fall in the annual savings to the State during 1949-50 and 1950-51? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I would like to inform the hon. Member that buses run efficiently for the first two years and in the third year they have to undergo a lot of repairs. The cost of spare parts, petrol and tyres had gone up tremendously during these years. That explains why there have been less savings. Of course in 1950-51, there have been more savings. I must say, however, that in the current year the position is not as bright as it was in 1950-51."

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—" May I know, Sir, whether the fall in savings in 1949-50 was due to the less number of passengers that travelled in the buses or to the high cost of the repairs that had to be carried out to the buses? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Sir, roughly about 33,000 passengers travel every day. During special seasons about 50,000 passengers travel. There is no fall in the number of passengers. Apart from seasonal variations or extra circumstances, the loss in annual savings is due to increased expenditure and not due to the fall in the number of passengers carried."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" In view of the fact that the Government are now making a handsome profit in this transport business, may I know, Sir, whether they have any proposal to reduce the bus fares in order to help the poor people who are mostly walking from their homes to their places of work? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I think the hon. Member will grant that there can be two views on the question of profit. We are not making a handsome profit. If we do make a handsome profit, we will consider the hon. Member's suggestion."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether the figures furnished in the statement placed on the Table of the House do not represent profits made by the Government? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" The savings shown under the Automobile Workshop and the Coach Building Factory have no relation whatsoever to the passenger traffic. We have only to take into account the savings under the

[80th June 1952]

Bus Service in considering the question of reduction or increase in passenger fares. I think I should require notice, if I have to give more details as to whether this amount of profit is sufficient to warrant a reduction of passenger fares and if so, to what extent they can be reduced. The hon. Member may put a separate question on this subject."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have got any proposal to meet the surcharge on bus fares under the Bill pending before the legislature, out of the Government's savings instead of collecting it from the passengers themselves? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I am very glad to inform the hon. Member that there is a proposal before the Government to exempt the Madras City Bus Transport from the operation of this new Bill, under which we propose to levy a surcharge on fares collected by operators of buses or stage carriages."

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—" We thank you, Sir, very much for it."

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR :—" Have the figures shown in the statement been obtained after a thorough audit of the accounts of the Transport Department? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" There is an auditor for the department."

Elections to local bodies.

* 7. Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) when the general elections of members of the Municipal Councils and Panchayat Boards (Ex-Union Boards) and Village Panchayats were last held;

(b) whether the term of these bodies is being extended from time to time;

(c) what action has been taken to conduct immediately elections to all District Boards, Municipalities and Panchayat Boards on the basis of adult suffrage; and

(d) when the elections are programmed to be held to the several local bodies stated above?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDY :—" (a) For Municipal Councils in 1947; for Panchayats in 1939.

" (b) Yes.

" (c) & (d) Orders have already been issued to the Election Authority, namely, the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards for the conduct of elections to all municipal councils during this year on the basis of adult suffrage so

[30th June 1952]

that the new councillors may come into office on 1st November 1952. The question of elections to District Boards is still under consideration.

" As regards panchayat elections, no date has been fixed. Elections will be held on adult suffrage as provided in the Madras Village Panchayats Act. Preparations are being made to hold elections to existing panchayats as soon as possible. These elections will be held in groups in each district one by one."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" May I know, Sir, whether any representations have been made to the Government by the Madras Chamber of District Boards with regard to the postponement of elections to District Boards? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDY :—" I do not think that any representations have been made."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have considered the question of spacing the elections to Municipalities, District Boards and Panchayats so that elections to Municipalities may be held one year, elections to District Boards the next year, and elections to Panchayats in another year, so that all elections need not be held during one and the same year? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDY :—" At present, elections to Municipal Councils alone have been ordered. As regards panchayat elections no date has been fixed. The question of conducting elections to District Boards is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—" Sir, it is learnt from the newspapers that the Government have appointed a Sub-Committee of the Cabinet to examine the provisions of the Madras Village Panchayats Act. May I know, whether the elections to the Panchayats will be conducted after this examination by the Sub-Committee of the Cabinet is over? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDY :—" The Cabinet Sub-Committee which is examining this matter has not finalized its proposals. The Cabinet will go into the Sub-Committee's proposals as soon as they are submitted to them."

Constitution of separate committees for increasing the powers of the municipal councils and district boards.

* 8 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether separate committees have been constituted to consider the question of increasing the powers of the municipal councils and district boards;

[30th June 1952]

(b) whether the reports of the respective committees have been received by the Government; and

(c) the reasons for the delay in publishing the reports and passing orders on the same?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDY :—“(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

“(b) The report of the Committee on municipal administration has been received; the Committee on district board administration has not yet concluded its labours and its report is awaited.

“(c) The various recommendations of the Committee on municipal administration had to be examined in detail in consultation with the heads of departments concerned. Government will shortly take a decision on them after which the question of issuing a white paper with a copy of the report appended to it will be considered.”

Elections to the Madras Corporation.

* 9 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) when the general elections to the Madras Corporation were last held;

(b) when the next elections to the Madras Corporation are due to be held;

(c) whether arrangements have been made to have the elections conducted accordingly; and

(d) whether the elections are proposed to be held on the basis of adult franchise?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDY :—“(a) The general elections to the Madras Corporation were last held in August-September 1948.

“(b) The term of office of the councillors and aldermen was extended by legislation up to 1st November 1952. The next elections are due to be held in August-September 1952.

“(c) & (d) Yes.”

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government have considered the resolution passed by the Corporation of Madras for the postponement of elections and for redistribution of electoral divisions?”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDY :—“Redistribution of electoral divisions is not necessary, and elections to the Madras Corporation can be held.”

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—“May I know, Sir, whether reservation of seats for minorities would continue for the Corporation elections this year?”

[30th June 1952]

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDY :—“It will continue, Sir.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government have any proposal to abolish the pocket boroughs for a few privileged persons in the seats provided for the Nattukottai Chettiers' Association, the Chambers of Commerce and other special interests?”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDY :—“They are continuing for this election. I do not know what the hon. Member means by a ‘pocket borough’?”

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—“May I know whether the electoral rolls have been modified or revised since the last Assembly elections took place?”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDY :—“The Assembly rolls will be used for the Corporation elections also. They have been revised according to the divisions of the Corporation.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—“Is it correct, Sir, that under the ordinary territorial constituency as many as 20,000 people elect one Member while a few hundred persons in the Chambers of Commerce and the Nattukottai Chettiers' Association elect a Member each?”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDY :—“The existing arrangements will continue for this election.”

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government are keeping separate electorates for Muslims, Christians, etc., under the existing arrangements?”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDY :—“The existing separate electorates are continued, Sir.”

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—“Have the Government any idea of abolishing separate electorates as they have done in the case of Assembly elections?”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDY :—“That will be done in due course.”

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

II.—MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

ANNOUNCEMENT re THE MADRAS REQUISITIONED LAND (CONTINUANCE OF POWERS) BILL, 1952, (L.A. BILL NO. 3 OF 1952) (AS PASSED BY THE ASSEMBLY).

MR. CHAIRMAN :—“I have to announce to the House that I have received the following message, dated the 28th June 1952, from the Hon. the Speaker, Madras Legislative Assembly :—

‘I transmit a copy of the Madras Requisitioned Land (Continuance of Powers) Bill, 1952 (L.A. Bill No. 3 of 1952), (as passed by the Assembly) on the 28th June 1952 and signed by me for the concurrence of the Council.’”

4-15
P.M.

[30th June 1952]

III.—CHAIRMAN'S RULING ON THE PRIVILEGE MOTION *RE* LEAKAGE OF GOVERNMENT'S TAXATION PROPOSALS.

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" On the 27th June, the hon. Member. Sri S. B. Adityan, the Leader of the Opposition, made the following motion: 'That the question of breach of privilege of the Members of this House arising out of the publication in newspapers of the taxation proposals contained in the Finance Minister's Budget speech before they were available to the Members of this House be referred to a Committee of Privileges to be constituted under Rule 143 of the Council Rules.'"

"I have to decide whether this Motion is in order, whether there is any question of privilege of this House involved in the alleged premature publication of the taxation proposals of Government, and whether there is a *prima facie* case of breach of privilege to go before the Committee of Privileges of this House.

"As the question for decision was one of some importance, I took time to consider it.

"I have carefully considered the authorities and am clearly of opinion that no question of breach of privilege of this House arises in this case. What is alleged is a divulgence or leakage of a Cabinet secret. The Cabinet is of course entitled in its discretion to treat its discussions and decisions as secret until it itself permits their disclosure. But the privilege of secrecy of a Cabinet secret is that of the Cabinet and its protection is its own concern. The secrecy of Cabinet decisions cannot be a privilege of this House, though the House will be justified in the public interest in its maintenance. Nor is the first disclosure to Parliament of the Government's taxation proposals included among the recognized privileges of Parliament. The words 'Privileges of Parliament' are technical in their import and restricted in their content. They should not be confounded with Functions of Parliament. They have become defined by the practice of centuries in England, where it is settled law that no new privilege can be created (page 45 of May, 15th edition).

"The hon. Members will remember that even in the case of Dalton, which was relied upon in support of this Motion, the disclosures of Cabinet secrets were not raised on a Motion of Privilege and as breach of a Parliamentary privilege, and were not asked to be referred to the Committee of Privileges of the House. The question was raised only as a matter of public concern and was not referred to the Committee of Privileges.

"In the circumstances, I must hold that the Motion before the House is out of order and should be disallowed. I disallow it accordingly."

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IV.—PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" I have to announce to the House that under rule 15 of the Council Rules, I have nominated the following four Members of the Council to be the Panel of Chairmen for the second session of the Legislative Council under the new Constitution :—

Sri K. Bhashyam,

Srimathi S. Manjubhashini,

Srimathi J. Sitamahalaxmi,

Dr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty.

V.—GOVERNMENT MOTIONS.

(I) HOUSE COMMITTEE.

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move—

'That with reference to Rule 144 of the Madras Council Rules, the House do proceed on a date to be fixed by the Hon. the Chairman to elect six Members to be Members of the House Committee for the financial year 1952-53.'"

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" The question before the House is—

'That with reference to Rule 144 of the Madras Council Rules, the House do proceed on a date to be fixed by the Hon. the Chairman to elect six Members to be Members of the House Committee for the financial year 1952-53.'"

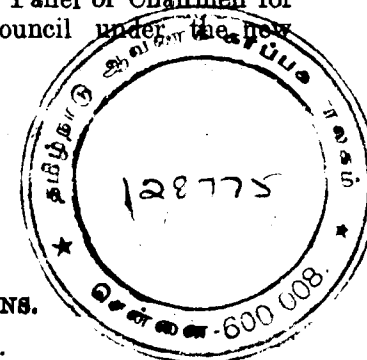
The Motion was carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" I have to inform the House that, in accordance with the Regulations framed by me for the holding of elections according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, I fix 5 p.m. on Thursday the 3rd July 1952 as the time within which nomination of candidates for election to the House Committee should reach the Secretary. There will be an election between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Monday, the 7th July 1952 if the number of candidates nominated exceeds six."

(2) COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES.

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move—

'That with reference to Rule 143 of the Madras Council Rules, this Council do proceed on a date to be fixed by the Hon. the Chairman to elect nine Members to be Members of the Committee of Privileges for the financial year 1952-53.'"



[30th June 1952]

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" The question before the House is—

' That with reference to Rule 143 of the Madras Council Rules, this Council do proceed on a date to be fixed by the Hon. the Chairman to elect nine Members to be Members of the Committee of Privileges for the financial year 1952-53.' "

The Motion was carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" I have to inform the House that, in accordance with the Regulations framed by me for the holding of elections according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, I fix 5 p.m. on Thursday the 3rd July 1952 as the time within which nomination of candidates for election to the Committee of Privileges should reach the Secretary. There will be an election between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Tuesday the 8th July 1952 if the number of candidates nominated exceeds nine.' "

(3) STATE LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move—

' That in pursuance of Rule 2 (1) (v) of the Madras Public Libraries Rules, 1950, this Council do proceed on a date to be fixed by the Hon. the Chairman to elect one person to the State Library Committee constituted under Section 3 of the Madras Public Libraries Act, 1948 (Madras Act XXIV of 1948). ' "

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" The question before the House is--

' That in pursuance of Rule 2 (1) (v) of the Madras Public Libraries Rules, 1950, this Council do proceed on a date to be fixed by the Hon. the Chairman to elect one person to the State Library Committee constituted under section 3 of the Madras Public Libraries Act, 1948 (Madras Act XXIV of 1948). ' "

The Motion was carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" With reference to the Motion of the Hon. the Minister for Education regarding the election of one Member of this Council to the State Library Committee, I am to state that the nominations should be handed over to the Secretary before 5 p.m. on Wednesday, the 2nd July 1952. Nomination forms can be obtained from the Secretary.

" There will be an election, between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Thursday, the 3rd July 1952, if the number of candidates nominated exceeds one. The election will be by the ordinary method and not according to the method of single transferable vote."

[30th June 1952]

(4) REORGANIZED M. & S. M. RAILWAY LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE SOUTHERN RAILWAYS.

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move—

' That, as the term of membership of Sri N. Ranga Reddi, who has been elected to represent the Madras Legislative Council on the reorganised M. & S. M. Railway Local Advisory Committee for a period of two years from October 1950 has since expired consequent on the expiry of the term of the Madras Legislative Council and as the General Manager, Southern Railway, has requested the Government to communicate to him the name of the fresh representative of the newly constituted Council on the Committee, this Council do recommend to the Government to communicate to the General Manager, Southern Railway, the name of one Member elected by this Council to serve on the Committee.' "

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" The question before the House is—

' That, as the term of membership of Sri N. Ranga Reddi, who has been elected to represent the Madras Legislative Council on the reorganized M. & S. M. Railway Local Advisory Committee for a period of two years from October 1950 has since expired consequent on the expiry of the term of the Madras Legislative Council and as the General Manager, Southern Railway, has requested the Government to communicate to him the name of the fresh representative of the newly constituted Council on the Committee, this Council do recommend to the Government to communicate to the General Manager, Southern Railway, the name of one Member elected by this Council to serve on the Committee.' "

The Motion was carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" The following procedure shall be adopted for conducting the election of one Member to the Local Advisory Committee of the reorganized Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway. Hon. Members will please hand in the nominations to the Secretary before 5 p.m. on Wednesday, the 2nd July 1952. If the number of candidates nominated exceeds one, an election will be held between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. on Thursday, the 3rd July 1952. The election will be by the ordinary method and not according to the method of single transferable vote."

[30th June 1952]

VI.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

THE MADRAS REQUISITIONED LAND (CONTINUANCE OF POWERS) BILL *, 1952 (L.A. BILL NO. 3 OF 1952) (AS PASSED BY THE ASSEMBLY).

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move—

‘That the Madras Requisitioned Land (Continuance of Powers) Bill, 1952 (L.A. Bill No. 3 of 1952), as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration.’

“ Sir, the Bill as passed by the Assembly has been circulated to hon. Members. I should like to say a few words about the necessity for this legislation. During the War, lands and buildings were requisitioned under the Defence of India Act, 1939, and they continued to be subject to requisition under the Requisitioned Land (Continuance of Powers) Act, 1947 (Central Act XVII of 1947). That Act expired on the first of April 1951 and it was extended for a further period of one year by Central Act IX of 1951. But that Act did not apply to State properties and therefore, the Madras State passed another Act, Madras Act II of 1951. In March, this year, a new measure called the Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property Act, 1952 (Central XXX of 1952) was passed by Parliament and this repealed Act XVII of 1947. The result was that while the Central Government took care to make suitable provision in respect of Central properties, the State was left without any legislation concerning its properties. Therefore, Madras Ordinance I of 1952 was promulgated and that had to be replaced by a regular legislation. Pursuant to that, this Bill was introduced in the other House. Though it is a small Bill, it was thought fit to refer it to a Select Committee. The Select Committee consisted of Members from the various sections of the House; a lady Member of the Assembly, who is an advocate was also on the Committee. The Committee went carefully into the provisions of the Bill and therefore despite the many changes made in it, the Assembly accepted the measure as it emerged from the Committee and passed it in a few minutes. The Bill has now come here, and I am sure there will not be much difficulty in this House passing the measure also.”

MR. CHAIRMAN :—“ The Motion before the House is—

‘That the Madras Requisitioned Land (Continuance of Powers) Bill, 1952 (L.A. Bill No. 3 of 1952), as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration.’ ”

* SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have been given copies of the Bill and we find that on the first page of the little pamphlet there is a report of the Select Committee which was appointed to consider the Bill in the other House. As regards the history of this measure, I see that, it was published in the Gazette and introduced in the other House; and there it was thought to be such an important measure that a Select Committee

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should go into it and accordingly a Select Committee was set up. As the Hon. Minister himself observed, the Committee which consisted of a lady Member also, went thoroughly into the Bill and made a report. Then the House considered the report and passed the Bill as amended by the Select Committee. The Bill has come to this House at this stage. I ask, Sir, whether we can now do any useful work with regard to this Bill; it has come to us at its final stage, at which it will not be possible for us to make any real contribution in shaping it. Can we change even a comma or a fullstop or even a word in the text of the Bill? I am sure the Government are not prepared to accept any such thing. I submit what really ought to have been done with a Bill of this nature is that it should have been referred to a Joint Select Committee of both the Houses of Legislature. I agree that in regard to Money Bills we cannot make any effective contribution, but in the case of all non-Money Bills, which are considered important enough to be referred to Select Committees, they must be referred to Joint Select Committees. Members of this House are reputed to be persons with ripe experience, as a higher age limit has been fixed for Membership of this House; as a matter of fact, this House consists of very able persons, persons of talent and wide experience. It is but proper that some of them should take part in the deliberations of the Select Committee on such a Bill so that they could make effective contribution to the discussions relating to the shaping of the Bill. It is not as if the changes made in this particular Bill by the Select Committee are unimportant.

“ Sir, I find actually in the report of the Select Committee that important changes have been made. The Committee themselves say that the changes they have made are important. They say that they have made provision for notice. They have made special provision in regard to the possession by the Government of the requisitioned property. They have also made provision for compensation. These changes are important. Why should we assume that good suggestions will be made only by the Members of the other House? Sir, this question has been considered before. This is not the first time that this matter has been raised here. Some years ago this matter, that is, the question of appointing a Joint Select Committee of both the Houses was considered and there was a discussion between the then Leader of the other House, Mr. Gopala Reddi and the then Chairman, Mr. R. B. Ramakrishna Raju. It was finally agreed that in the case of all non-Money Bills which are considered to be important enough to be referred to a Select Committee, that Committee should consist of members of both the Houses, so that the ripe experience of the Members of this House may also be put to use for the purpose of drafting the Bill. I do not know why that procedure has not been observed in this case, while we have been observing that convention all along. It is not a ruling, but it is a practice that has been observed in regard to matters of this kind. So far as I know, if a Joint Select Committee had been appointed, it would have been possible for the Members of this House to express their opinion. We have got persons in this House who possess legal

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experience and administrative ability. We have got Sri Bhashyam Ayyangar, a retired Judge, for whom I have great respect. We have also got Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar and Dr. Shanmukham Chetty. Such persons ought to have been given an opportunity to effectively express their opinions on this Bill. Do the Government think that the suggestions they may make should not carry any weight? This is a matter for the Hon. Chairman to take up and consult all persons concerned, and I hope at least from next time onwards it would be agreed as a convention or arrangement between the two Houses that Select Committees appointed to consider non-Money Bills should be Joint Select Committees.

"Sir I am not saying anything against the inclusion of a lady Member from the other House. But I do not understand the point made about the lady Member. I am sure, we have lady Members here also who could make as much contribution to the discussion of the Bill as the Lady Member of the other House. If we cannot have an effective voice in the shaping and wording of a Bill of this kind, what for are we here? Are we merely to set our seal of approval on whatever the other House passes or the Select Committee of that House is pleased to send here? Are we merely to rubber-stamp anything that comes from the other House and then pass it? Therefore, my humble submission is that, if we cannot make an effective contribution, this House is practically useless, and it may even be better to abolish it. I can understand it if there is no Joint Select Committee for a Money Bill. But in the case of a Bill not certified by the Speaker to be a Money Bill, there should be a Joint Select Committee of both the Houses. Otherwise, what is the purpose for which we are here? Are we not possessing that amount of knowledge and talent the other House possesses? Is it not necessary that we should contribute our share to the making of a Bill of this kind? If not, I think, it is mere waste of money to have this House. Some time ago, actually there was a proposal to abolish this House. I find that hon. Members on the other side are also agreeing with me. It is not only the opposition side that is powerless but also the other side. I say, let any hon. Member on the other side try to make any change and he will see what happens. Such changes will not be allowed to be made. Is this House intended for the purpose of finding seats for Ministers who are either lazy or unwilling to face an election? I am not referring to the Hon. the Chief Minister. We have had other nominations of Ministers as Members. We have had Dr. Gurubatham and Sri Kala Venkata Rao who were chosen as Ministers and nominated as Members of this House instead of making them face an election. Is that all the purpose of this House? I think, if that is to be the view, we must cease spending public funds on this House. We are merely wasting public money. Of course, the Congress Party is in a majority in this House and we in the opposition are in a minority, and they can get anything they want, but at the same time we have got to think of the people's money. We should not waste their money. What do we actually find to-day? The

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other House had appointed a Select Committee and under Rule 109 we are prevented from appointing a Committee of our own.

"Now, I come to another matter. We did not have time to go through the Bill thoroughly. We must have had some three days' notice. Some of us got the Bill only yesterday and I hope in future we will be given sufficient time to go through Bills."

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am not claiming any right as a man of legal experience and talent, as my hon. Friend Mr. Adityan claims, but I am speaking as an ordinary man. Perhaps, the Hon. Minister who moved this Motion thinks that he is the chief shepherd and we are the sheep, and he expects us all to follow him wherever he goes. I am quite prepared to do that on certain occasions, but at present, Sir, I feel that we ought to have been given some more time to think about this matter. It may be that it is purely a formal matter not requiring much consideration, and it may be that even after we have gone into this Bill thoroughly we may not feel called upon to make any radical changes in the Bill, and we may practically rubber-stamp this Bill as passed by the Assembly. But whatever it may be, I wish also to ask you, Sir, to give us time not only to consider the Bill but, if necessary, to propose amendments. I do not know whether the Rules under the Constitution prevent us from making suitable amendments to any Bill that might have been passed by the Assembly. No doubt, we are only, in one sense, an auxiliary or a subordinate body, not having any original jurisdiction in regard to matters of this kind. But in all fairness, a certain amount of latitude and indulgence ought to be allowed to this House in order that it may make some contribution, however humble it may be, to the improvement of the Bill. I wish that this may be taken into consideration, though at this stage we are called upon to follow in the footsteps of our chief leader so far as this Bill is concerned and vote for it."

* SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR :—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, I also wish to mention certain difficulties in regard to the passing of this Bill. This is a short Bill and the principles involved in the Bill are very few. Still some verbal amendments may be necessary. It may not be possible now to propose such amendments because notice of such amendments should be given three days in advance. Sir, only yesterday, we got the Bill as passed by the Assembly, and even in that Bill some corrections were made in ink some of which were not legible. It is only now that we saw the Bill finally printed and placed on the Table of this House. As I went through the provisions of the Bill carefully, I found that some clauses of the Bill require alteration and some verbal amendments. For instance, the Defence of India Rules have been bodily incorporated as a Schedule to this Bill. I do not know whether it has been noted by the Members of the Assembly.

[Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar] [30th June 1952]

"Now, Sir, I find, in the Schedule to the Bill, a reference to the Central Government appointing arbitrators. Section 19 (1) (b) of the Defence of India Act, 1939, as incorporated in the Schedule says—

'Where no such agreement can be reached, the Central Government shall appoint an arbitrator, a person qualified under sub-section 220 of the abovementioned Act, for appointment as a Judge of a High Court.'

Is it contemplated that the Central Government should appoint a person as arbitrator while we are dealing with the requisitioned properties? As a matter of fact this has been done merely in the course of drafting, when the Rules under the Defence of India Act have been incorporated as a Schedule to the Bill. Bills have to be carefully scrutinized by all the people concerned. Nobody should think that he can completely go through all the provisions in the Bill. Always there are drafting difficulties. Even the most competent person might, of course, overlook some provisions. It is, therefore, better that we should have Members of both the Houses on the Select Committee appointed to consider a Bill of this nature, so that the talent that is available in this House can be made use of for improving the Bill."

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p.m.

* SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW :—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would also add my remarks regarding the unnecessary hurry in bringing forward this Bill. Ordinance II of 1952 was passed only on the 6th June; only after six weeks' time it will lapse. Further it is not as if we are sitting to-day for the last time in this session. In fact we have only commenced our sitting just now. The discussion of the Budget is not yet over; so we can take up this Bill later after the Budget discussion is over, instead of to-day. The Bill was received by us only yesterday evening, as was stated by the previous speaker, Mr. Balasubramania Ayyar. So it is impossible for anybody in such short time to give it the best attention and care that it deserves.

"Sir, just in passing, I may as well say this: though I have not made a thorough study of the Bill, from a perusal of it, it seems to me there is some constitutional difficulty involved in it. I doubt, whether even if we pass this Bill to-day, it will be constitutionally valid. As I said earlier, I have not studied it well; still, I hope I am not incorrect in my contention. For, I would like here to draw the attention of the House to Clause 2 of the Bill. It runs thus—

'Continuance of requisition.—All immovable properties which were requisitioned by or under the authority of the State Government and for their purposes under the rules made under the Defence of India Act, 1939 (Central Act XXXV of 1939), and which at the commencement of this Act continued to be under requisition by virtue of the Requisitioned Land (Continuance of Powers) Act, 1947 (Central Act XVII of 1947), Madras Act II of 1951, Madras Ordinance I of 1952 and Madras Ordinance II of 1952 shall continue to be subject to requisition until the expiry of this Act.'

Sir, I understand, at the time when Ordinance I of 1952 was placed on the table of the other House and this Bill came before that House, objection was raised as to the validity of that Ordinance because I think, when Madras Act II of 1951 was taken into consideration, the provisions of the Central Act had ceased to have

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effect, that is, that Act had been repealed. So, long before Ordinance I of 1952 was passed the Central Act itself had lapsed, and so the Madras Act ceased to have any existence at all. So it is doubtful whether Ordinance I had been effective. Then further complications arose, and Ordinance II of 1952 was promulgated. This Ordinance was passed after the commencement of the Legislature. In fact, it was passed after the Legislature had met and appointed a Select Committee to go into the Bill. The Legislature was prorogued. For what reason it was done, I do not know. In any case, once a Bill is before the House, I doubt very much whether an Ordinance on the subject will be valid; because it will go against Article 213 of the Indian Constitution, which provides that the Ordinance shall cease to operate at the expiration of six weeks from the reassembly of the Legislature. Sir, the Government cannot do indirectly what they cannot do directly. The effect of Madras Ordinance II is that Government indirectly make Ordinance I have effect for more than six weeks. So I will content myself now with saying that certainly there is a constitutional flaw, and I wish hon. Members of this House had been given more time, so that they may study the Bill thoroughly and make their best contribution to the shaping of the measure instead of showing them scant courtesy by circulating the Bill on a previous evening, asking them to study it overnight and pass it the next day after rushing it through all the stages."

* SRI B. V. SUBRAHMANYAM :—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, I too wish to make a few remarks on the same lines on which my friends have done with respect to this Bill. Firstly, I have not myself studied the Rules, and I plead guilty for not having done so. I wish it had been possible for one or two of us from this House to sit along with the Members of the Lower House in the Select Committee on this Bill. Then we could have trusted their judgment. Most of us have so many other matters to devote our attention to and in hurrying this Bill in this Chamber we feel that things have been done in the proper way. If only this House had been given some representation on the Select Committee the deliberations of this House would have been different to-day. As I said earlier, I have not studied the Rules; but if the Rules permit, or rather if the Rules do not make a Joint Select Committee impossible, I would say now, that at least as a matter of convention it should be made possible for this House hereafter to choose one or two Members of this House to sit on such a Committee, so that on an occasion like the present one we can contribute our mite to the proper shaping of the Bill. One or two such Members, if they were on the Committee could act as if briefed for us and put the case to us. At present, I will not say, 'I protest', but I will say, it seems unfair not to allow us sufficient time to devote our full attention to this measure. I say it is unfair to some of us who are trained for such a task not to allow us time to study the Bill from an angle different from that of the Members of the other House and present our amendments to the measure. So I should join my Friends, I do not say

[Sri B. V. Subrahmanyam] [30th June 1952]

Friends on our side only, in appealing to the good sense of the Government and that of the Hon. Minister concerned, to postpone the further discussion of this measure in this House to some other occasion, when, it may be possible for us to make our suggestions and put forward such amendments as are necessary. I think it would be best to have this measure taken up here a few days later, say, soon after the Budget discussion is over, that is, three or four days hence, so that we may have sufficient time to look into the great principles involved. So I appeal to the good sense of the Hon. Minister to postpone the discussion of this measure here for a few days."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to the suggestions made by hon. Members on the other side, on the general principles with regard to the procedure to be followed in future in piloting Bills. It was said that this House has an equal amount of interest in them, that it has plenty of talent and is anxious that ways should be found to utilise that talent. Sir, belonging as I do to this House and in which I am the Leader of the House, I do not deny that we have plenty of talent, and so I need not be expected to contradict my Friends on the opposite side when they claim that they should be put in a position to examine the merits and demerits of any measure brought forward here. I wish hon. Members who have protested against the passing of this Bill now, to understand the *bona fides* of our procedure. I see no objection to the procedure suggested by them. But I wish here to explain our *bona fides* in this measure. The object of this Bill is only this : There is no question of requisitioning property now. It is only a question of regularising the possession of property when derequisition process is going on. As we go on derequisitioning property we should take care to see that there is no legal law in the possession of property, until derequisitioning and handing-over is completed. The history of the measure has been traced by the hon. Mover of the Bill. When the Central Government reiterated their position when they re-enacted their measure they made the mistake, either knowingly or unknowingly of not providing for the necessary legal possession of properties in this State. It is only to correct that position that this Bill has been introduced now. There is no question of using this measure to requisition properties. It is to be used only to regularise the possession of properties while the derequisition process is going on.

" Then, Sir, with reference to the procedure we followed in regard to this Bill, I wish to say a few words. We introduced this Bill in the Assembly last session; we explained to that House the object of this legislation; we never expected such a formal Bill would demand the attention of a Select Committee; but it was proposed to refer the Bill to a Select Committee by certain Members and the Assembly agreed to it. The Select Committee went in great detail into the implications of the Bill; it devoted time to discuss the Bill, clause by clause. The changes made by the Select Committee are only formal. All the same I do not wish to say the

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changes are unimportant. These changes ought to have been made in the original Bill itself. It is only lapses of attention which necessitated the amendments. The amendments only filled the gaps in the law, which occurred due to lapses of attention while drafting it. As regards the *bona fides* of the Government in regard to this Bill when they first brought it forward, it was open to them to have brought forward a Resolution for referring this Bill to a Joint Select Committee. But at that time nobody ever expected that the Government would be asked to refer this measure to a Select Committee. No doubt the Rules provide for the formation of a Joint Select Committee. First of all a Resolution has to be brought forward in the Assembly for referring a Bill to a Joint Select Committee and then a similar resolution has to be brought forward here for such a purpose. I realise it is in Government's own interest that I should get every Bill thrashed out in a Joint Select Committee, where I have no doubt, more attention will be devoted and greater deliberation into the entire legal aspects of a measure will take place. But I have to say on this occasion, we have no time for all that now. But at the same time I wish to assure the House that there is no danger in passing this measure as it has emerged from the Assembly.

" As regards the point referred to by Mr. Balasubramania Ayyar, naturally, being a lawyer, he has laid the finger on the right spot. We shall certainly attend to it. The Ordinance is to lapse within a certain time. As regards the point raised by the Leader of the Opposition that there is no great hurry to pass this legislation, I would say there is no particular risk involved in passing this measure to-day.

" I promise on behalf of Government that in future, I shall 5 p.m. always remember that when there is any question of importance we shall follow the procedure of having a Joint Select Committee so that we may have all talent put together and it will be easier to examine a thing when several heads come together. In so far as this Bill is concerned, I beg of the House to get through it without any further delay."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" The question is—

' That the Madras Requisitioned Land (Continuance of Powers) Bill, 1952 (L.A. Bill No. 3 of 1952), as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration.' "

The Motion was carried.

Clauses 2 to 9 were put and carried.

The Schedule was put and carried.

Clause 1 was put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Sir, I beg to move—

' That the Madras Requisitioned Land (Continuance of Powers) Bill, 1952 (L.A. Bill No. 3 of 1952), as passed by the Assembly be read a third time and passed.'

[Sri M. A. Manickavelu Naicker] [30th June 1952]

" In doing so, I wish to thank the hon. Members of this House for co-operating with us on this side of the House and seeing that this Bill is passed into law. I did not mention it in the beginning, but it was mentioned by the Hon. the Chief Minister, that the chief idea of this Bill is not one of requisitioning but derequisitioning and this derequisitioning also is not a new thing. It has been going on for a long time. By this legislation, we are only regularising the possession of property when this process is going on and there is nothing new in it. The Central Government's Act took care of their own properties and left this State to legislate for the properties that were in their possession. We are only making this process legal. Sir, originally, this Bill was not proposed to be referred to a Select Committee at all. It was put down in the Agenda of the Assembly only for being taken into consideration and passed into law. Later on, in response to the wishes of a certain section of that House the Bill was referred to a Select Committee."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Sir, may I ask the Hon. Minister not to spoil the effect of the Hon. the Chief Minister's speech? "

* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Sir, I am not spoiling the effect of the Hon. the Chief Minister's speech at all. I am only saying that this is not a new piece of legislation. My hon. Friend will have ample opportunities of exhibiting his talent when there are other and bigger Bills coming before this House. I am only explaining that this is a very harmless piece of legislation."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" The question is—

' That the Madras Requisitioned Land (Continuance of Powers) Bill, 1952 (L.A. Bill No. 3 of 1952), as passed by the Assembly be read a third time and passed.' "

The Motion was carried and the Bill was passed.

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" The House will now adjourn and meet again at 4 p.m. on Friday, 4th July 1952."

The House then adjourned.

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

1. *The Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation (Amendment) Ordinance, 1952 (Madras Ordinance No. III of 1952)*

2. *The Madras Requisitioned Land (Continuance of Powers) Bill, 1952 (L.A. Bill No. 3 of 1952), as passed by the Assembly and received therefrom in the Council.*

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No 6 asked by Sri T. Purushothama Mudaliar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 30th June 1952, page 56 supra.]

Statement showing annual savings to the State since the inception of the State Transport Department.

Accounting period.		Government Bus Service.	Government Automobile Workshop.	Government Coach Building Factory.
		RS.	RS.	RS.
Since inception—				
1947-48	..	6,00,461	Loss 1,208	(Not in existence)
1948-49	..	8,59,296	32,960	2,07,317
1949-50	..	1,47,602	1,07,146	1,03,291
1950-51	..	4,21,937	2,03,048	85,414
Total	..	20,29,296	3,41,946	3,96,022

APPENDIX II.

[Vide item VI on page 66 supra.]

L.A. BILL No. 3 OF 1952.

(As passed by the Assembly.)

A Bill to provide for continuing the requisition of, and for acquiring where necessary, certain immovable properties which are now subject to requisition under the Madras Requisitioned Land (Continuance of Powers) Ordinance, 1952 (Madras Ordinance II of 1952).

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for continuing the requisition of, and for acquiring where necessary, certain immovable properties which are now subject to requisition under the Madras Requisitioned Land (Continuance of Powers) Ordinance, 1952 (Madras Ordinance II of 1952); It is hereby enacted as follows :—

1. *Short title, extent and duration.*—(1) This Act may be called the Madras Requisitioned Land (Continuance of Powers) Act, 1952.

(2) It extends to the whole of the State of Madras.

(3) It shall come into force at once, and shall cease to have effect on the 1st day of April 1953 except as respects things done or omitted to be done before that date; and section 8 of the Madras General Clauses Act, 1891 (Madras Act I of 1891), shall apply as if this Act had then been repealed by a Madras Act.

2. *Continuance of requisition.*—All immovable properties which were requisitioned by or under the authority of the

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State Government and for their purposes under the rules made under the Defence of India Act, 1939 (Central Act XXXV of 1939), and which at the commencement of this Act continued to be under requisition by virtue of the Requisitioned Land (Continuance of Powers) Act, 1947 (Central Act XVII of 1947), Madras Act II of 1951, Madras Ordinance I of 1952 and Madras Ordinance II of 1952 shall continue to be subject to requisition until the expiry of this Act; and the State Government may use or deal with any such immovable property (hereinafter referred to as requisitioned land) in such manner as may appear to them to be expedient:

Provided that the State Government may at any time release any requisitioned land from requisition.

3. Release from requisition.—(1) Where any requisitioned land is to be released from requisition, the State Government may, after making such inquiry, if any, as they consider necessary, specify by order in writing the person to whom possession of the land shall be given:

Provided that an order under this sub-section specifying some person other than the person from whom possession of the land was taken at the time of the requisition shall not be passed unless notice is given to the latter, or if he is dead, to his heirs or legal representatives and his or their representations, if any, have been considered.

(2) The delivery of possession of the requisitioned land to the person specified in an order made under sub-section (1) shall be a full discharge of the State Government from all liability in respect of such delivery, but shall not prejudice any rights in respect of the land which any other person may be entitled by due process of law to enforce against the person to whom possession of the land is so delivered.

(3) Where the person to whom possession of any requisitioned land is to be given cannot be found and has no agent or other person empowered to accept delivery on his behalf, the State Government shall cause a notice declaring that the land is released from requisition to be affixed on some conspicuous part of the land and shall also publish the notice in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

(4) When a notice referred to in sub-section (3) is published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, the land specified on such notice shall cease to be subject to requisition on and from the date of such publication; but the State Government shall be in charge of such land until it is delivered to the person specified in the order under sub-section (1), or to his heirs or legal representatives or to an agent or other person empowered to accept delivery on behalf of such person or his heirs or legal representatives.

(5) The State Government shall not be liable for any compensation or other claim whatsoever in respect of the

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land for any period after the date of the publication of the notice referred to in sub-section (3), in any case, including the case where they are in charge of the land in pursuance of sub-section (4).

4. Power to acquire requisitioned land.—(1) If at any time the State Government are of opinion that it is necessary to acquire any requisitioned land for a public purpose, they may acquire such land by publishing in the *Fort St. George Gazette* a notice to the effect that they have decided to acquire such land in pursuance of this section.

(2) When a notice as aforesaid is published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, the requisitioned land shall, on and from the beginning of the day on which the notice is so published, vest absolutely in the State Government free from all encumbrances, and the period of requisition of such land shall end.

(3) No requisitioned land shall be acquired under this section except in the following circumstances, namely:—

(a) where any works have during the period of requisition been constructed on, in or over, the land wholly or partly at the expense of the State Government and they decide that the value of, or the right to use, such works should be preserved or secured for the purposes of the State Government; or

(b) where the cost of restoring the land to its condition at the time of its requisition would, in the determination of the State Government, be excessive having regard to the value of the land at that time and the owner declines to accept the release from requisition of the land without payment of compensation from the State Government.

(4) For the purposes of clause (a) of sub-section (3), "works" includes buildings, structures and improvements of every description.

5. Payment of compensation.—(1) In respect of the continued subjection of requisitioned land to requisition under this Act, compensation shall be determined and paid in accordance with the provisions of section 19 of the Defence of India Act, 1939 (Central Act XXXV of 1939), and of the rules made thereunder set out in the Schedule to this Act:

Provided that all agreements and awards for the payment of compensation in respect of any requisitioned land for any period of requisition before the commencement of this Act and in force immediately before such commencement, shall continue to be in force and shall apply to the payment of compensation in respect of that land for any period of requisition after such commencement.

(2) In respect of any acquisition of requisitioned land under this Act, the amount of compensation payable shall be the price which the requisitioned land would have fetched in the open market if it had remained in the same condition as

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it was at the time of the requisition and been sold on the date of acquisition, and such amount shall be determined and paid in accordance with the procedure set out in the aforesaid section 19 and the rules made thereunder.

(3) For the purposes of sub-section (1) all the provisions of the aforesaid section 19 and of the rules made thereunder, and for the purposes of sub-section (2) such of those provisions as relate to matters of procedure, shall be deemed to be continuing in force.

6. Power to obtain information.—(1) The State Government may, with a view to carrying out the purposes of sections 2 to 5, by order require any person to furnish to such authority as may be specified in the order such information in his possession relating to any requisitioned land as may be specified.

(2) Every person required to furnish such information as is referred to in sub-section (1) shall be deemed to be legally bound to do so within the meaning of sections 176 and 177 of the Indian Penal Code (Central Act XLV of 1860).

7. Exercise of Government's powers and duties by others.—The State Government may, by order notified in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, direct that any power conferred or any duty imposed on them by this Act shall, in such circumstances and under such conditions, if any, as may be specified in the direction, be exercised or discharged by such officer as may be so specified.

8. Protection of action taken under the Act.—(1) No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie against any person for anything which is, in good faith, done or intended to be done in pursuance of this Act or any order made thereunder.

(2) No suit or other legal proceeding shall lie against the State Government for any damage caused or likely to be caused by anything, in good faith, done or intended to be done in pursuance of this Act or any order made thereunder.

9. Repeal of Central Act XVII of 1947, Madras Act II of 1951, Madras Ordinance I of 1952 and Madras Ordinance II of 1952.—(1) The Requisitioned Land (Continuance of Powers) Act, 1947 (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), in so far as it relates to the immovable properties referred to in section 2, and the enactments continuing the operation of that Act, namely, Madras Act II of 1951, Madras Ordinance I of 1952 and Madras Ordinance II of 1952, are hereby repealed:

Provided that anything done or any action taken in the exercise of any power conferred by or under the said Act or Madras Ordinance II of 1952, at any time before the commencement of this Act, shall be deemed to have been done or

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taken in the exercise of the corresponding power conferred by or under this Act, as if this Act were in force at the time when such thing was done or such action was taken.

(2) For the avoidance of doubt, it is hereby declared that the repeal of the said Act by Central Ordinance III of 1952 and Central Act XXX of 1952 shall not be deemed to have affected the operation of the said Act, as respects any requisitioned land as defined therein which at the time of such repeal was subject to requisition by or under the authority of the State Government and for their purposes.

SCHEDULE.

(See section 5.)

SECTION 19 OF THE DEFENCE OF INDIA ACT, 1939 (CENTRAL ACT XXXV OF 1939).

19. (1) Where by or under any rule made under this Act any action is taken of the nature described in sub-section (2) of section 299 of the Government of India Act, 1935, there shall be paid compensation, the amount of which shall be determined in the manner, and in accordance with the principles, hereinafter set out, that is to say:—

(a) Where the amount of compensation can be fixed by agreement, it shall be paid in accordance with such agreement.

(b) Where no such agreement can be reached, the Central Government shall appoint as arbitrator a person qualified under sub-section (3) of section 220 of the abovementioned Act for appointment as a Judge of a High Court.

(c) The Central Government may, in any particular case, nominate a person having expert knowledge as to the nature of the property acquired, to assist the arbitrator, and where such nomination is made, the person to be compensated may also nominate an assessor for the said purpose.

(d) At the commencement of the proceedings before the arbitrator, the Central Government and the person to be compensated shall state what in their respective opinions is a fair amount of compensation.

(e) The arbitrator in making his award shall have regard to—

(i) the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 23 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, so far as the same can be made applicable; and

(ii) whether the acquisition is of a permanent or temporary character.

(f) An appeal shall lie to the High Court against an award of an arbitrator except in cases where the amount thereof does not exceed an amount prescribed in this behalf by rule made by the Central Government.

(g) Save as provided in this section and in any rules made thereunder, nothing in any law for the time being in force shall apply to arbitrations under this section.

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(2) The Central Government may make rules for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this section.

(3) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may prescribe—

(a) the procedure to be followed in arbitrations under this section;

(b) the principles to be followed in apportioning the costs of proceedings before the arbitrator and on appeal;

(c) the maximum amount of an award against which no appeal shall lie.

RULES MADE UNDER SECTION 19 OF DEFENCE OF INDIA ACT, 1939.

1. (1) These rules may be called the Defence of India (Payment of Compensation and Arbitration) Rules, 1948.

(2) These rules shall apply to all cases where action is taken under rule 75-A of the Defence of India Rules by or on behalf of the State Government, or by an officer of the State Government on behalf of the Central Government.

2. In these rules unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,

(a) "the Act" means the Defence of India Act, 1939;

(b) "Collector" means the Collector of a district or any officer authorized to exercise the powers under rule 75-A of the Defence of India Rules in regard to immovable property;

(c) "Court" means a Principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction;

(d) "person interested" includes all persons claiming an interest in compensation to be made for immovable property requisitioned or acquired under rule 75-A of the Defence of India Rules;

(e) "property" means immovable property requisitioned or acquired under rule 75-A of the Defence of India Rules.

3. In determining the amount of compensation the Collector shall be guided,

(a) in case of requisitioning, by the principles which the State Government may, by order, specify in that behalf; and

(b) in cases of acquisition, by the provisions contained in section 23 (1) of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, so far as the said section can be made applicable.

4. The Collector shall, as soon as may be practicable after the making of a requisitioning order or the service or publication of a notice of acquisition, communicate, to each person interested, an offer of what, in the opinion of the Collector, is a fair amount of compensation payable to such person in respect of the property requisitioned or acquired.

5. If the owner of the property is not readily traceable or if there be no person competent to alienate the property or if the ownership of the property is in dispute or if there be any dispute

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as to the title to receive the compensation or as to the apportionment of the amount offered as compensation, the Collector shall deposit in Court the amount of the compensation as determined by him under rule 3. He shall at the same time submit to the State Government through the Board of Revenue, a report setting forth the full facts of the case with all the connected papers and apply for the appointment of an arbitrator. Where the compensation is recurring, the Collector shall, in cases covered by this rule, deposit the amount in Court from time to time in arrear as it falls due.

6. (1) Every person interested, to whom an offer is made under rule 4, shall, within fifteen days of the receipt of the offer, communicate in writing to the Collector his acceptance or otherwise of the offer. If he accepts the offer, the Collector shall enter into an agreement with him on behalf of the State Government or the Central Government, as the case may be, in the form in Schedule I or Schedule I-A annexed to these rules with such modifications as the nature of the case may require. Except in the cases specified in sub-rule (2), the Collector shall, as soon as may be practicable thereafter, pay to such person the sum specified in the offer.

(2) If the compensation is recurring, it shall, except in the cases hereinafter mentioned, be paid in arrears. If in the opinion of the Collector some immediate payment is necessary to alleviate hardship and the person interested has accepted the offer made under rule 4, the Collector may make an advance payment to him of an amount not exceeding the compensation payable for the first six months. If the compensation payable for a year does not exceed Rs. 10, the Collector may pay half-yearly in advance, the compensation due for every six months.

(3) In the following circumstances, the Collector may, at his discretion, make, to persons of small means, an advance payment up to 80 per cent of the amount which, in his opinion, is likely to be assessed as compensation, or recurring compensation for the first six months, as the case may be—

(a) when there is likely to be delay in assessing compensation,

(b) where the Collector has made an assessment but there is delay in reaching an agreement, though there is a reasonable prospect of agreement being reached, or

(c) where it is clear that an agreement cannot be reached.

(4) If the Collector makes an advance payment under sub-rule (3), he shall enter into an agreement with the person to whom payment is made on behalf of the State Government or the Central Government, as the case may be, in the form in Schedule II annexed to these rules, with such modifications as the nature of the case may require.

7. If any person to whom an offer is made under rule 4 does not accept the offer or does not within fifteen days of the receipt of the offer, communicate in writing to the Collector his acceptance or otherwise of the offer, the Collector shall, as soon as may be, submit to the State Government through the Board of Revenue a report setting forth the full facts of the case particularly as regards the nature and extent of disagreement

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between himself on the one hand and the said person on the other and he shall also forward with the report all the connected papers. The Collector shall at the same time deposit in court the amount offered by him to the said person under rule 4.

8. If on examination of the report submitted by the Collector under rule 7, and after further enquiries if necessary, the State Government are satisfied that an agreement cannot be reached they shall appoint an arbitrator under section 19 (1) (b) of the Act. They shall also likewise appoint an arbitrator in every case in which they receive an application from the Collector under rule 5.

9. As soon as an arbitrator is appointed, the State Government or the Collector shall forward or cause to be forwarded to the arbitrator the relevant records connected with the case.

10. (1) The arbitrator shall, not later than three weeks from the date of receipt of the records referred to in rule 9, fix a day or days for hearing the claims and shall give notice thereof to the person or persons interested and to the Collector, at least five clear days before such hearing.

(2) On the day or days so affixed, the arbitrator shall proceed to inquire into the case, shall take such evidence as may be adduced on behalf of the claimants and on behalf of the State or Central Government, as the case may be, and shall make an award of the amount of compensation which in his opinion should be allowed for the property and of the apportionment of the said compensation among all persons known to be interested in the property.

(3) The arbitrator may adjourn his sittings, if he finds it necessary to do so, but the case shall be disposed of as expeditiously as possible.

11. Every award under rule 10 shall be in writing signed by the arbitrator and shall specify the grounds of the award.

12. As soon as the arbitrator makes an award under rule 10, the Collector shall pay the compensation awarded by the arbitrator to the persons entitled thereto according to the award except in the following cases:—

(1) Cases mentioned in rule 5.

(2) Cases in which the persons interested do not consent to receive payment but propose to appeal to the High Court against the award of the arbitrator and in which such an appeal lies under rule 14.

In the excepted cases, the Collector shall deposit in court the amount if any awarded by the arbitrator in excess of that determined by him under rule 3.

13. If any money is deposited in court under rule 5, rule 7 or rule 12, the court shall deal with it in the manner laid down in sections 82 and 83 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894.

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14. No appeal shall lie to the High Court against the award of an arbitrator—

(i) in the case of an award of recurring compensation, where the total amount of such compensation for a period of five years does not exceed Rs. 5,000;

(ii) in other cases where the amount of the award does not exceed Rs. 5,000.

15. The arbitrator shall include in his award a statement of all costs, expenses and charges properly incurred by each of the parties in the course of the arbitration proceedings and, having regard to all the circumstances of the reference to arbitration, the proceedings thereon and the results thereof, decide how these costs, expenses and charges should be apportioned between the parties.

16. No person claiming under an award made under rule 10 shall be liable to pay any fee for a copy of the same.

SCHEDULE I.

[See rule 6 (1).]

Form of agreement to be made on behalf of the ^{State} ~~Central~~ Government with owners of immovable property requisitioned when payment is made in full.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT made this _____ day of _____
one thousand nine hundred _____
son of _____ by caste _____
by occupation _____

at present residing at _____

hereinafter referred to as the ^{owner} ~~owners~~ (which expression shall unless excluded by or repugnant to the context be deemed to include ^{his} ~~their respective~~ heirs executors administrators and assigns) of the one part AND THE ^{GOVERNOR OF MADRAS} ~~CENTRAL GOVERNMENT~~ (hereinafter referred to as the Government) of the other part.

WHEREAS the immovable property particulars whereof are set out in the schedule hereunder (hereinafter called the said property) has been requisitioned under the Defence of India Act, 1939, and the rules framed thereunder and on the _____ day of _____ 19 _____ taken possession of by or on behalf of or under the authority of the Government;

AND WHEREAS the ^{owner has} ~~owners have~~ represented and stated to the Government that the ^{owner} ~~owners~~ alone ^{is} ~~are~~ entitled to all compensation payable in respect of the said property and no other person has any right to such compensation or any part thereof:

AND WHEREAS the said property consists *inter alia* of land and structures and Government has dismantled the said structures; [Omit if the owner had no structures.]

[30th June 1952]

[Omit if the owner had no structures.] AND WHEREAS the owner and the Government have mutually agreed to settle the amount of compensation payable by the Government to the owner in connexion with the said requisition in the manner hereinafter appearing;

AND WHEREAS the Government have agreed to pay to the owner in advance a sum not exceeding the recurring compensation payable for the first months of the said requisition;

NOW THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSETH as follows:—

[Omit if the owner had no structures.] 1. The Government shall pay and the owner shall accept and receive a sum of Rs. in full settlement of the compensation for the structures.

2. The Government shall pay and the owner shall accept and receive a payment of Rs. per month/quarter/year in arrear for the said property with effect from the said day of 19, so long as the Government shall remain in possession thereof and the requisition continues, the payment for the first months being paid in advance.

3. The owner shall not claim or be entitled to any other compensation whatsoever in connexion with the said requisition.

4. The owner shall meet and pay the revenue, rent, municipal taxes and all other outgoings relating to the said property whether payable by the owner or the occupier thereof.

5. If it hereafter transpires that the owner is not entitled or exclusively entitled to the compensation payable in respect of the said property or if the Government have to pay any compensation to any other person the owner shall refund to the Government the compensation paid or such part thereof as the owner is not entitled to and shall otherwise indemnify the Government against any loss or damage suffered by the Government by reason of any fault or defect in title as represented by the owner. Without prejudice to any other remedies for the enforcement of such refund and indemnity the Government may recover any sum payable by way of refund and/or indemnity as arrears of land revenue.

6. Should any dispute or difference arise out of or concerning the subject-matter of these presents or any covenant, clause or thing herein contained or otherwise arising out of the requisition aforesaid the same shall be referred to an arbitrator to be appointed by the State Government and the decision of such arbitrator shall be conclusive and binding on the parties hereto. The provisions of the Arbitration Act, 1940, shall apply to such arbitration.

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Schedule above referred to.

(Particulars and description of property requisitioned.)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF these presents have been executed the day and year first above written.

SIGNED and DELIVERED by the abovenamed
owner in the presence of
owners

SIGNED and DELIVERED for and on behalf
of the Governor of Madras by
Central Government in the presence of

(When advance payment is made, the following shall be endorsed on the agreement.)

The owner acknowledges to have received on this date the sum of Rs. being an advance payment of the amount payable under paragraph hereof in respect of the period from to

Dated the day of

SCHEDULE I-A.

[See rule 6 (1).]

Form of agreement to be made on behalf of the State Government with the owner of immovable property acquired when payment is made in full.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT made this day of 19

BETWEEN son of
by caste by occupation
at present residing at
(hereinafter called the owner which expression shall unless excluded by or repugnant to the context be deemed to include his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns) of the one part

AND the Governor of Madras (hereinafter called the Government) of the other part.

WHEREAS the immovable property, particulars whereof are set out in the schedule below (hereinafter called the said property) has been acquired under the Defence of India Rules on the day of

AND WHEREAS the owner has represented and stated to the Government that he alone is entitled to the compensation payable in respect of the said property and no other person has any right to such compensation or any part thereof;

AND WHEREAS the owner and the Government have mutually settled the amount of compensation payable by the Government to the owner in connexion with the said acquisition;

[30th June 1952]

Now, THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSETH as follows:—

The Government shall pay and the owner shall accept and receive a sum of Rs. _____ in full settlement of the compensation for the said property.

2. If it hereafter transpires that the owner is not entitled or exclusively entitled to the compensation payable in respect of the said property or if the Government have to pay any compensation to any other person, the owner shall refund to the Government the compensation paid or such part thereof as the owner was not entitled to receive and shall otherwise indemnify the Government against any loss or damage suffered by the Government by reason of any fault or defect in title as represented by the owner. Without prejudice to any other remedies for the enforcement of such refund and indemnity, the Government may recover any sum payable by way of refund and/or indemnity as arrears of land revenue.

3. Should any dispute or difference arise out of or concerning the subject-matter of these presents or any covenant, clause or thing herein contained or otherwise arising out of the acquisition aforesaid, the same shall be referred to an arbitrator to be appointed by the Government and the decision of such arbitrator shall be conclusive and binding on the parties hereto. The provisions of the Arbitration Act, 1940, shall apply to such arbitration.

Schedule above referred to.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF _____ and _____ acting for and on behalf of and by the order and direction of the Governor of Madras Central Government have hereunto set their hands.

SIGNED by the abovenamed }
in the presence of

SIGNED by the abovenamed }
in the presence of

(When payment is made, the following shall be endorsed on the agreement.)

"The owner acknowledges to have received on this date the sum of Rs. _____ in full settlement of the compensation payable under clause 1 hereof."

SCHEDULE II.

[See rule 6 (4).]

Form of agreement to be made on behalf of the State Central Government with owners of immovable property requisitioned when the persons to be compensated are known but for want of agreement as to the amount of compensation certain sums are paid on account.

[30th June 1952]

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT made this _____ day of _____ one thousand nine hundred and _____ BETWEEN

son of _____ by caste _____ at present residing at _____ by occupation _____ hereinafter referred to as the owner (which expression shall unless excluded by or repugnant to the context be deemed to include his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns) of the one part AND THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS CENTRAL GOVERNMENT (hereinafter referred to as the Government) of the other part.

WHEREAS the immovable property, particulars whereof are set out in the schedule hereunder (hereinafter called the said property) has been requisitioned under the Defence of India Act, 1939, and the rules framed thereunder and in the _____ day of _____ 19 taken possession of by or on behalf of or under the authority of the Government;

AND WHEREAS the said owner has represented and stated to the Government that the owners have the owner alone is entitled to all compensation payable in respect of the said property and no other person has any right to such compensation or any part thereof;

AND WHEREAS no agreement has been arrived at between the parties as to the amount of compensation payable to the owner and the Government has at the request of the owners agreed to make payment to the owner on account pending an agreement between the parties as to the amount of compensation payable or the final determination of such amount under the law.

Now THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSETH as follows:—

1. The Government shall pay and the owner shall accept and receive payment of Rs. _____ per month/quarter/year for the said property with effect from the said day of _____ 19 pending agreement as to or determination of the amount payable as compensation to the owner.

2. Upon such agreement or determination of the amount payable as compensation as aforesaid, an account shall be prepared crediting the Government with the payments made by the Government as aforesaid and debiting the Government with the amount payable as compensation. If on such account being prepared there is a balance in favour of the Government, the amount of such balance shall be forthwith refunded by the

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owner
owners to the Government. If there is a balance payable to the owner
owners, the Government shall pay the amount thereof to the owner
owners.

3. If it hereafter transpires that the owner is
owners are not entitled or exclusively entitled to the compensation payable in respect of the said property or if the Government have to pay any compensation to any other person, the owner
owners shall refund to the Government the payments made hereunder and shall otherwise indemnify the Government against any loss or damage suffered by the Government by reason of any fault or defect in his
their title as represented by him
them. Without prejudice to any other remedies for the enforcement of any refund and/or indemnity, the Government may recover any sum payable by way of refund and/or indemnity as arrears of land revenue.

4. Should any dispute or difference arise out of or concerning the subject-matter of these presents or any covenant, clause or thing herein contained or otherwise arising out of the requisition aforesaid the same shall be referred to an arbitrator to be appointed by the State Government and the decision of such arbitrator shall be conclusive and binding on the parties hereto. The provisions of the Arbitration Act, 1940, shall apply to such arbitration.

Schedule above referred to.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF these presents have been executed the day and year first above written.

SIGNED and DELIVERED by the abovenamed
owner
owners in the presence of

SIGNED and DELIVERED for and on behalf of the
Governor of Madras
Central Government by

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P. N. SWAMINATHA SIVAN, Pudukkottai, Tiruchirappalli district.
S. KRISHNASWAMI & Co., Tiruchirappalli, Tiruchirappalli district.
V. S. VASAN & Co., Tirunelveli, Tirunelveli district.

IN OTHER STATES.

BANVARILAL JAIN, Agra.
BENARES BOOK CORPORATION, P.O. Lanka, Benares.
BENS ABHIRAVA VAIDYA SHARADA BOOK DEPOT, Bangalore-2.
THE BANGALORE BOOK CENTRE, Bangalore-2.
THE STANDARD BOOK DEPOT, Bangalore-2.
HARI GOVIND BOOK STALL, Baroda.
NEW BOOK COMPANY, Bombay.
D. B. TARAPORWALA SONS & Co., Bombay.
THACKER & Co., LTD., Bombay.
N. S. WAGLE, Girgaon, Bombay.
THE POPULAR BOOK DEPOT, Lamington Road, Bombay-7.
THE BOOK COMPANY, Calcutta.
LAW BOOK SOCIETY, Calcutta.
THACKER SPINK & Co., Calcutta.
B. CAMBRAY & Co., Calcutta.
CHAROTAR BOOK STALL, Anand (Gujarat).
HYDERABAD BOOK DEPOT, Hyderabad.
OSMANIA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' CO-OPERATIVE BOOK DEPOT, Lallaguda P.O., Hyderabad (Deccan).
S. M. JAGANNATHAN, Nagercoil.
BHAWNANI & SONS, New Delhi.
JAIN BOOK AGENCY, New Delhi.
INTERNATIONAL BOOK SERVICE, Poona.
INTERNATIONAL BOOK HOUSE, Trivandrum.



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MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DEBATES

OFFICIAL REPORT

FRIDAY, 4TH JULY 1952

VOLUME II—No. 3

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 4th July 1952.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at four of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Grant of special conveyance allowance to non-executive gazetted officers in the City.

* 10 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a special conveyance allowance has been granted to the non-executive Gazetted officers in the Secretariat and other Gazetted officers in the Madras City with effect from this year;

(b) the special reasons for the grant of this allowance not provided for in the Fundamental Rules, to the Secretariat and other Gazetted officers in the City; and

(c) whether the Government have under consideration any proposal to grant similar allowance to the Superintendents and other ranks of non-gazetted officers in the Madras City?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“(a) In February 1952 a conveyance allowance of Rs. 75 per mensem was granted to gazetted officers in Madras City on pay not exceeding Rs. 1,000 but maintaining a car.

“(b) I am not in a position to say more than this, that it does help Government if this class of officers maintain a quick conveyance and a modest conveyance allowance like this would be a good inducement.

“(c) I am sorry, No, Sir.”

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR:—“May I know, Sir, if the Fundamental Rules have been changed?”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“No, Sir, I do not think the Fundamental Rules have been changed. For this purpose, it is not necessary to change them. Probably the hon. Member (Mr. Purushothama Mudaliar) who has more experience in the Secretariat than myself may know it; I may be wrong.”

DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU:—“May I know, Sir, what the actual cost is?”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“I will enquire and tell, Sir.”

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SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR:—"When the higher paid officers are paid this allowance, would it not be fair, and reasonable, Sir, if the Superintendents of the Secretariat who also take files home are granted some modest allowance, say a cycle allowance of Rs. 4 per mensem?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"This conveyance allowance for maintaining a fast conveyance does not bear comparison with what the hon. Member has proposed; I am more likely to cut this one out than increase in other directions."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR:—"Would it not be possible to make some arrangement in the City Bus Service for taking the Government servants to the Secretariat and other public offices and back by at least providing them with monthly season tickets at concession rates?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"We shall take the suggestion of the hon. Member into consideration; I hope the hon. Member will support us when other people make a grievance of it."

Gorwala's Report on Public Administration.

* 11 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether a copy of Gorwala's Report on Public Administration (1951) was received for consideration by this State Government;

(b) what steps have been taken to improve the administrative machinery and methods in the light of the suggestions contained in Gorwala's Report; and

(c) what steps have been taken to avoid delay in the despatch of business in all departments of Government?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—" (a) A copy of the report was received by this Government.

" (b) & (c) Orders in respect of certain recommendations have already been issued. Other recommendations are under examination."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"Will the Hon. the Chief Minister give details of the recommendations of the Gorwala Committee's Report?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"It is a long report and some suggestions have been published widely in the newspapers; its chief aim is to improve administrative efficiency. Some of the instructions would be quite confidential such as those concerning office work but other matters may be published as soon as the recommendations are accepted."

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SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that the Committee has recommended the appointment of tribunals in the case of charges against Ministers and if so, may I ask whether he has any proposal to appoint a tribunal to go into the charges made against Congress party Ministers by the hon. Sri Prakasam?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"The Gorwala Committee Report is about improving administrative efficiency and in democracy Ministers would not come really under that kind of attack or defence and I do not think I have any such proposal in my mind. I would rather let the Minister go out quietly than hold enquiries about him."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"Is the Hon. the Chief Minister aware that the Committee has recommended that Ministers should not accept hospitality from wealthy interests; may I know if that is being observed by the Ministers? It occurs on page 25 of the Report."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Sir, it is a fundamental principle in political life that no one should get committed to doing favours to others and we are following that principle and perhaps I am following it with a certain amount of rigorousness but we cannot afford, in the democracy, to be impolite to friends."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that the question of politeness was also dealt with in the Report? May I know whether the Chief Minister has instructed his Cabinet colleagues not to accept hospitality from wealthy interests and if so, will he explain why a Cabinet Minister attended a tea party given by a cinema owner in Madras City?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"It is not a case of accepting hospitality but it is a case of getting into touch with all kinds of interests within the State."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"Does the Hon. the Chief Minister mean that the only way to be in touch with all kinds of interests is to accept invitations to tea parties, dinner parties and garden parties given by wealthy interests?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"It is not the only way. I can carry on a debate on this; it is not the only way; there are many ways of getting into touch, the sweet way, the bitter way, the formal way and the informal way also."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"Am I to take it that the Hon. the Chief Minister justifies a Cabinet Minister opening a cinema theatre and attending and taking part in a tea party?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I would not do it and my not doing it is a sufficient deterrent."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"Will the Hon. the Chief Minister instruct the other Ministers to follow his example?"

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I do not find any necessity to instruct my colleagues who are doing very well as far as I can understand, and even now they refuse on as many occasions as possible and I do not know if I should be, if I may so say, too squeamish about these things."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"May I know, Sir, if the Gorwala Committee Report has gone into the waste-paper basket so far as this State Government is concerned?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Sir, it has not gone into the waste-paper basket; the report is too big in quality as well as in quantity to go into it. There are many good things in it just as there are many things in it which may probably be ignored. The report, I wish to tell the hon. Member, is not a political document and it was originally intended for improving administrative efficiency. Democracy is a little far away from Mr. Gorwala's experience."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"May I know whether in the Gorwala Committee's Report, the Chapter on Integrity applies only to others but not to Ministers?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I do not think I will carry on a debate."

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY:—"May I know from the Hon. the Chief Minister if he cannot take any other action against any Minister if he is found guilty except that he should resign; does it mean that he should go scotfree and not be subject to any process such as impeachment or trial by a tribunal?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Not at all, Sir. If a Minister or any person is guilty of any offence, he must be subject to some trial suitable for such a case and such type of case."

*Alleged speech of the Finance Minister at Coimbatore
re: assignment of lands to political sufferers.*

* 12 Q.—SRI S. B. ADITYAN: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) (1) whether, on or about 1st May 1952, the Hon. the Minister for Finance expressed in his speech at Coimbatore the view that, as regards assignment of lands to political sufferers, it was wrong in principle for a party to favour its followers in this manner; and

(2) whether he announced in the same speech that the question of transferring lands already allotted to well-to-do political sufferers was engaging the attention of the Government; and

(b) whether the Government have accepted it as their policy that it was wrong for a party in power to favour its followers by assigning lands, and if so, what concrete action has been taken by the Government to implement this policy?

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—" (a) (1) Yes. The speech was made at a meeting of the Coimbatore Congress Workers to impress upon them the correctness of the present policy of the Government, and was not intended to be a public statement of policy and cannot, I submit, be subject-matter for public discussion.

(2) I am informed that the Finance Minister did not make any such announcement and that what he said was that if well-to-do politicals were willing to part with lands assigned under the previous Ministry's policy to enable Government to give them to poor landless political sufferers, Government would welcome it.

" (b) The question is not of favouring the followers of the party in power. What was done before was assignment of land not brought under cultivation to persons who suffered in the struggle for National Independence. The present orders of the Government with regard to these grants of land to political sufferers result as follows:—

No further applications from political sufferers will be entertained. In regard to pending applications, poor politicals will not be worse off than others, in respect of assignments of lands which are not in the possession of any sivayijamadar and which have no special value by reason of proximity to urban areas. Any land in the possession of a previous sivayijamadar will not be touched."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"May I know whether the Hon. the Chief Minister has received any response to the request made to political sufferers to return back to the Government lands assigned to them?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Some response has been received, but I am not satisfied."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"Has the Chief Minister got any response from Cabinet Ministers who were assigned public lands? Have they returned back the lands to the Government?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"This, Sir, is an insinuation. If the Hon. Member has got any information in his possession of any Minister having such lands, I would ask him to give a list to me, of course, with a list of opposition leaders' cases also."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"I can say that there is no such opposition leader.

"May I know whether the Government have any proposal to bring in legislation so that the assignments which have been made to Congressmen could be cancelled? It was mentioned by the Hon. the Chief Minister that assignment once made could not be revoked according to law. If so, is there any proposal to change the law so that these lands could be got back?"

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"It is not so easy; even if we try to change the law whether in the case of a person who has rendered war service or national service and the like, if the terms of the grant had been fulfilled, it would amount to confiscation or compulsory acquisition and we would have to be ready with a scheme of compensation. I think the hon. Member is being carried away by partisanship in this question."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"May I know, if the land is once disposed of, it is given away once and for all? What is the total value of lands involved. I do not want exact figures but to the nearest crore."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"These are all lands which had not been cultivated; there may be mistakes here and there. It will be difficult for me to ask the officers to evaluate them and send me a report for the entire State and to add them up and present them to the House."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"May I know in a rough manner at least whether the value of these lands which have been gifted away to Congressmen exceeds the revenue which is expected to be got by way of the imposition of taxes on bus passengers?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"It is not only the Congressmen and the like that got lands; everyone who claimed to have participated in the struggle for Independence could claim and he was asked to make the claim. Parties on this side and opposite, Congressmen and non-Congress men at the present moment, if they had participated in the Independence movement, had a right to apply and they did apply and I know that many prominent members who are bitterly opposed to the present Government have also taken such assignments. The question now is, they have brought the lands under cultivation and it is a process which involved investment and a lot of trouble and it is not easy to calculate the value at this moment nor is it of any use because no purpose will be served by such a calculation except for purposes of debate in a political discussion."

4-15 p.m. SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"I repudiate the suggestion that any Opposition Leader on this side has got any lands."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"If you repudiate it, may I know whether your brother has received any property under this class?"

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"As far as I am concerned nothing whatever has been given to me. I have even given away my hereditary lands."

"May I know, whether any steps have been taken to ensure that the lands assigned to Congressmen would not be confiscated and returned to the Government in the event of another party coming to power?"

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"The other party will have to consult its Advocate-General" (Laughter.)

DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU:—"I would like to know from the hon. Member Mr. Adityan, whether he has given away the entire portion of his hereditary land or only a portion of it?"

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"I have given away my entire property."

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May this House be enlightened whether the hon. Deputy Leader, when he was the Chief Whip of the Party in power, advised the then Government not to give any land to political sufferers and supported the view that some of us took, that it was not a good thing to apportion lands to political sufferers of the party concerned."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"This is a question for my personal explanation."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"It is a question addressed to me. I am poorly informed about the history of the Government of this State, I am sorry. But I presume I have enough information."

"The Opposition Deputy Leader was the Chief Whip. Whether he can now question me about any step that he did not take then, is the question now. Sir, politics is a curious game and men may take any position at any time according to expediency."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"On a matter of personal explanation. I have always stood against it. I opposed it from the very beginning and I never applied for any land."

SRI C. RAJESWARA RAO:—"The Hon. Chief Minister has just now said that all political sufferers who had gone to jails and participated in the National Movement have received lands. May I ask, if he is aware that no member of the Communist Party has applied and got any land as a political sufferer?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Sir, according to my understanding of that policy, which I do not approve and which I have cancelled as far as I can, all people who had suffered whether by going to jail or otherwise in the struggle for Independence during the last thirty years were entitled to apply. Many among them, who deserved and who were willing to take over the uncultivated land and to spend money on it, got it. There might have been cases where there were improper requests and improper grants made by error and I do not know what the question is. Am I to classify those who received land assignments under the scheme that is now under discussion? If I have to classify them on the basis of opinions they now hold, it is a difficult matter."

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SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"This has developed into a debate. May I ask for a half-hour debate under rule 21 of the Council Rules?"

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"No."

SRI C. RAJESWARA RAO:—"Is the Hon. Chief Minister aware that the lands given to political sufferers are lying idle for the last four years and if those cases are brought to the notice of the Government, may I know what the Hon. Chief Minister proposes to do in the matter?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I have already said—if correct information is given to the Government—if the conditions of the assignment have been broken—and I presume that one of the conditions is to bring the land under cultivation—I shall be too willing to get the assignment cancelled. But the hon. Member may give me information about his own case also, I hope."

SRI C. RAJESWARA RAO:—"If the Hon. Chief Minister wants, I can give information. I have got several cases."

"The Hon. the Chief Minister said that lands in the possession of sivayijamadars have not been touched. Sir, there are several cases where the lands belonging to sivayijamadars have been taken away and assigned to political sufferers. If those cases are brought to the notice of the Hon. Chief Minister, may I know what he is going to do in the matter?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"The hon. Member who put the question is making a mistake but I shall answer as far as I can. The previous policy of assignment was to grant, under certain conditions, uncultivated land to certain classes of applicants and it is quite possible that in those cases there might have been previous occupants. As I have said, henceforth the present Government has made strict rules that if any person is in occupation with or without licence, he shall not be dispossessed. That is the present policy. If the assignment has not been completed, this Government has stopped it. If the assignment has been completed, I have already explained the legal position."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"I believe that about 11,000 assignments have been made. What is to happen to the former owners who have been dispossessed? Is any compensation proposed to be given to those who have been displaced in favour of political sufferers?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"There is no question of compensation to people who had no right to the land. It is a question of policy and of protection and of welfare. There is no question of compensation arising. If the hon. Member proposes any scheme to compensate all the poor people, I shall be glad to serve as one of the trustees."

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SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"What the U.D.F. proposes is to take back all those lands squandered away and restore them to the people's Government. I want to know whether compensation will be given to those who had expended money in bringing the land under cultivation and who were asked to give up their lands to political sufferers?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"The premises of the hon. Member are all wrong. There is no question now of dispossessing any person who has either spent money or not spent money. The question is asked, whether we will give compensation to people who have spent money and who have been dispossessed in favour of political sufferers. It is impossible for me to answer this question because it is not the intention to dispossess even a man who has not spent money."

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW:—"Will the Hon. Chief Minister inform the House whether the Government have consulted the Legal Department regarding the validity of these assignments without a law being passed for that purpose?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"The question is, whether legal advice was taken before assignments were made. The assignments were made—as the hon. Member is aware—before this Government came to office. Since this question relates to an earlier period, I can answer only from the information I have, viz., that no legal advice was taken. The assignments were made by the Revenue Department to applicants for lands which were not under cultivation and which were available for assignment. There is no question of legal opinion."

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW:—"Will the Hon. Chief Minister now consider the advisability of having the matter re-examined as the assignment of lands without passing an appropriate law was invalid and that no compensation need be given?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Probably the hon. Member is referring to a very difficult question, with reference to the land tenure in our country. All these assignments have been made under the laws governing assignments of land in our country from time immemorial. If the hon. Member means to say that we must re-enact laws, bring Bills and pass laws governing holding of lands in our country, it would be nothing short of utter chaos."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"On a point of Order, Sir. The Hon. Chief Minister said that there is no case of a man who, after having spent money on his land, has been dispossessed of his land. I gave one such case when I gave notice of a question recently but the Hon. Chairman has disallowed it."

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"The reasons were given to the hon. Member as to why it was disallowed."

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SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"This is concerning Periyakulam taluk, Madurai district, where a man who had been in possession of this land for three years and who had spent money on it had been dispossessed of his land. As the Hon. Chief Minister has asked to give instances of such cases, I request the Chair to allow my question. Either the question must be allowed so that the particular case may be examined or the Chief Minister must be prevented from telling a thing which is not correct."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I am sorry, the hon. Leader of the Opposition has curious notions about points of order. This is a curious point of order. As I have already said, it is impossible at the present moment under the present scheme, for any person who has spent money on any piece of land to be dispossessed because the order is very specific and everyone is following it and no assignment will be made where there is any previous occupant, whether he has spent money or otherwise. If the hon. Member is referring to past cases, he must put a separate question. If necessary, he may even write to me. I shall look into the files and tell him, if the Government dispossessed any man without paying compensation. I shall be glad to do it. When was it? Will the hon. Member kindly tell me?"

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"In your Congress Ministry."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"What does the hon. Member mean by saying, 'your Congress Ministry'? Was it before this Government came into office?"

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"Two years ago."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"If it is a case which happened two years ago, I would request the hon. Member—if he wants me to correct anything wrong that had been done—to give me all the facts or write to me about them."

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY:—"On what grounds does the Hon. the Chief Minister disapprove of the principle of assigning lands to political sufferers?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I understand, the question is, on what ground does this Government disapprove of the policy of assigning lands. The ground is that in this poor country, where any person has already taken possession of uncultivated land without licence and is cultivating it, he does so under stress of necessity and he is subject to extra levies in the course of the year from time to time. My view is—as I am asked to explain the reason in this case—it is not a good thing for any person who really took part in the struggle for national independence to dispossess such persons."

4-30 P.M. SRI M. HARISCHANDRA PRASAD:—"May I suggest to the Government, Sir, that, when assigning lands to political

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sufferers, they do not interfere with the lands kept for communal purposes, like guntas, tanks, etc., to avoid frictions in the villages?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Any acquaintance with the rules on the subject would show that nobody can make or allow such assignments to be made of lands which are used for communal purposes. Such lands cannot be assigned at all. In cases where there is any doubt there is an inquiry held. The Collector assigns only such lands as are not required for communal purposes."

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY:—"I believe the Hon. Minister did not follow my previous question. Why does he disapprove of the principle of assigning lands to political sufferers and why does the present Ministry not approve the policy of the past Ministry, as distinct from the question whether it is right or wrong to dispossess a person to whom land is assigned and he has spent money on it in improving it?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I thought I made it quite clear. A man or a Government disapprove of a thing because in his opinion or in their opinion the thing is wrong. I have already said, I consider it wrong for one who claims to be a patriot, after doing a patriotic service, to ask for a return for such service, especially in the form of grant of land which is in the occupation of another person, who for the sake of maintaining himself has squatted on that land. The circumstances show the stress of poverty of the individual. But while anything wrong or unlicensed should be set right, such poor men should not be deprived of their means of subsistence. I do not disapprove of the policy of grants to men who have done national service but I disapprove of the consequences of that policy. I do not quite understand what the object of the question is. I have answered it as far as I could understand it."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"Does the disapproval go to the extent of getting back the land? Is it disapproval in words or in action also?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"The disapproval is in words, and as far as law permits in action as well, and as far as I can get influence to bear upon people without the help of law, I shall also try to do it. But I cannot go beyond a certain point. If the hon. Member who puts the question suggests these things for his own purposes and if I followed the hon. Member's opinion even my conduct would be misunderstood." (Laughter.)

Minimum wages for agricultural labour.

* 13 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to fix minimum wages for agricultural labour; and

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(b) if so, when the proposals will be finalized and orders issued?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—“(a) Yes, Sir.

“(b) A special enquiry is being conducted in low wage areas of the State. Orders will be issued after examination of the results of the enquiry.”

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR:—“May I enquire whether it is proposed to fix the minimum wages for agricultural labour in cash or in kind?”

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—“It has not been decided yet, Sir. As soon as the report is received, Government will consider in what manner it should be fixed. At the present moment, it is paid in different forms, sometimes in cash and sometimes in kind.”

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY:—“May I know, Sir, whether the recommendation to be made, is, as to what should be the minimum wages?”

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—“Yes, Sir; the minimum wages for agricultural labour. We are now conducting an inquiry in the low wage areas in the State and we hope to finish the inquiry before 31st December 1953.”

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY:—“May I know whether any committee has been appointed to go into the question. Because I know as a matter of fact, in all matters of fixing minimum wages, a committee is being appointed first to go into the question; then, when it submits its report, the Government examine it, and then the Labour Commissioner finalizes the recommendations. Have all these steps been taken before fixing the minimum wages?”

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—“I have already said that at the present moment we are making an investigation to find out if there is sub-standard wage paid to agricultural labour, and if so, in which areas. As soon as that report is received, it will be the time then, to decide whether a committee should be appointed and if so, who should be the personnel of that committee.”

SRI C. RAJESWARA RAO:—“Sir, in the light of the urgent necessity to pay adequate wages to agricultural labour, will the Hon. Minister see that the report of the inquiry is brought out within the course of the next six months. Of course, he says, it will be received by the end of December 1953. But as the matter is urgent, will he see that it is brought out within the next six months?”

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—“Sir, I may tell the hon. Member that it has taken us three months to investigate 84 villages. In the eleven districts we have taken up for this inquiry, we intend to make a survey in 425 villages; and it seems rather too big a promise to make to finish this within six months.”

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SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“Sir, in view of the troubled conditions prevailing in Tanjore district, as the standard of wages for agricultural labour there is about the lowest, will the Hon. Minister take up the inquiry there first and finish it as quickly as possible?”

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—“In the eleven districts taken up by Government, Tanjore does not find a place. The eleven districts we have chosen are areas where absolutely low wages for agricultural labour prevail. That shows that Tanjore district is certainly better off than Bellary, Visakhapatnam, North Arcot, etc., which are all low wage areas.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“What does the Hon. Minister mean by ‘no’ wages? Am I to understand that people there are working for no wages?”

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS:—“‘Low’ wages.”

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—“I said ‘low’ wages.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“May I know what those eleven districts are?”

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—“They are Bellary, Visakhapatnam, Srikakulam, North Arcot, South Kanara, Chittoor, South Arcot, Nellore, Chingleput, Salem and Kurnool.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“Does the Hon. Minister mean that in these districts the agricultural wages paid are lower than those paid in Tanjore district?”

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—“My information is that the distress is more acute in those areas than in Tanjore district. In view of the suggestion of the hon. Member that in Tanjore district it is worse, I shall consider his suggestion.”

Provincialization of the posts of Municipal Commissioners.

* 14 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether the municipal councils have agreed to the provincialization of the posts of Municipal Commissioners;

(b) if so, whether the posts of Municipal Commissioners have accordingly been provincialized;

(c) the comparative scales of pay for Municipal Commissioners, Municipal Health Officers and Municipal Engineers of the several grades;

(d) the stage, at which the constitution of a combined service for all employees of local boards and municipal councils stands; and

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(e) whether the employees of local boards and municipal councils of several categories including teachers will be granted the same scale of pay and allowances as corresponding Government servants?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—“(a) A Majority of the municipal councils have agreed to the proposal of the Government for constituting a Municipal Service for Municipal Commissioners in the State under section 77-A of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920.

“(b) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

“(c) The scales are these:—

Grades.	Municipal Commissioners.	Municipal Health Officers.	Municipal Engineers.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	RS.	RS.	RS.
I	300-25-500	50-30/2-340-40/2-580	500-50/2-850
II	200-10-300	160-20/2-280	260-30/2-380-40/2-500.
		(Medical graduates and men with L.M. & S. qualifications are started on Rs. 200 in that scale).	
III	150-5-200		150-10-250.

“(d) There is no such proposal under consideration.

“(e) Peons and attenders under District Boards and Municipal Councils are given the same scales of pay as in Government service. The scales of pay of other classes of servants excluding teachers of local boards and municipal councils are lower than those, applicable to servants of the State. There is no proposal to grant them the scales of pay admissible to corresponding posts in the State Service. The scales of pay for teachers in schools under local bodies are lower than those applicable to teachers in Government schools.

“However, certain municipalities whose financial position was satisfactory, have been permitted to adopt Government scales of pay for their teachers in elementary schools. No district boards have been permitted to adopt Government scales of pay for their teachers in elementary schools. So far as teachers in secondary schools are concerned, it is open to local bodies to adopt Government scales of pay for teachers, with the sanction of Government, if the local bodies can finance the extra cost. Many local bodies have adopted Government scales of pay for their teachers in secondary schools. The sanction is generally accorded if the local body can meet the extra cost from its own funds.”

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY:—“I should like to know whether the Madras Corporation is included in the municipalities of this province?”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—“I think it is included, Sir.”

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SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY:—“Then, will the Hon. Minister let me know what difference there is between the salary of the elementary grade teachers of the Corporation and the salary given to the same class by Government?”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—“I think a fresh question may be put.”

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY:—“May I know what the amount is of allowance, I think, it is called dearness allowance, given to teachers in Government elementary schools? Is it according to what is called cost of living index number, or is it a lump sum fixed by the Government?”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—“Notice.”

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY:—“It is a curious thing that the Hon. Minister does not know, on what basis the dearness allowance is being fixed. If he does not know it, I can give him the information.”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—“I cannot give the answer offhand as I may commit mistakes.”

SRI S. RAMAKRISHNIAH:—“Will Government make it mandatory on the part of local boards and municipalities to pay to their employees the Government scales of pay?”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—“It is not mandatory; it is only left to their option.”

SRI S. RAMAKRISHNIAH:—“I am asking, will the Government make it mandatory on the part of local boards and municipalities to implement the Government scales of pay to their employees?”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—“That is under the consideration of the Government. The suggestion will be considered.”

SRI S. RAMAKRISHNIAH:—“Is it a fact that the Kurnool District Board has passed a resolution some time back to permit them to implement Government scales of pay to their employees, but that this Government have not approved of their action?”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—“I have no information. A fresh question may be put.”

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY:—“May I know, Sir, why even after five years of Swaraj, Government do not recognize teachers irrespective of the agency they may be serving under as national servants, discharging the primary functions of the Government and as entitled to a salary on a par with that of teachers serving directly under the Government auspices?”

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—“This question may be put to the Hon. Education Minister.” (Laughter.)

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR:—“With reference to the scales of pay of the several municipal officers furnished by the

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Hon. Minister, may I know, Sir, whether it is not proper to give the Commissioners of Municipalities who are the chief executive officers at least the scales of pay fixed for the respective grades of Municipal Health Officers and Municipal Engineers?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—"The scales of pay seem to be low and they will be decided when a separate service for Municipal Commissioners is constituted."

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

II.—ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE HON. THE CHAIRMAN.

(1) ELECTION OF SIX MEMBERS TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"I have to inform the House that the following candidates were nominated for election to the House Committee for the financial year 1952-53:—

1. Sri K. Suryanarayana.
2. ,, Sri A. Subramanyam.
3. ,, T. Purushothama Mudaliar.
4. ,, R. Nathamuni Reddy.
5. ,, V. Ramakrishna.
6. ,, M. P. Sivagnana Gramany

"As the number of candidates nominated is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, viz., six, I hereby declare them to have been duly elected to the House Committee.

"In addition to the above, under Rule 144 of the Madras Council Rules, I nominate the following two members to be members of the said Committee:—

1. Sri M. Sudarasanam.
2. Srimathi J. Sitamahalaraxmi.

(2) ELECTION OF NINE MEMBERS TO THE COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES.

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"I have to inform the House that the following candidates were nominated for election of nine members to the Committee of Privileges, for the financial year 1952-53:—

1. Sri M. P. Govinda Menon.
2. ,, V. Gurunandan Row.
3. ,, V. Bhashyam Ayyangar.
4. ,, V. R. Ranganathan.
5. ,, N. Venkateswarlu.
6. ,, K. Bhashyam.
7. ,, N. Satyanarayana.
8. ,, S. Chengalraya Chetty.
9. ,, Mrs. M. N. Clubwala.

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"As the number of candidates nominated is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, viz., nine, I hereby declare them to have been duly elected to the Committee of Privileges."

(3) ELECTION OF ONE MEMBER TO THE STATE LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"I have to announce to the House that two nomination papers were filed proposing the following candidates for election to the State Library Committee:—

1. Sri Alexander Gnanamuttu.
2. ,, C. Perumalsami Reddy.

"Sri Alexander Gnanamuttu's nomination was not made in the prescribed form and hence his nomination paper was rejected.

"C. Perumalsami Reddy, the other candidate has withdrawn his candidature by notice in writing.

"Therefore fresh nominations have to be called for. I fix, 4 p.m., on Monday, the 7th July as the last hour when the nominations in the prescribed form should be handed over to the Secretary from whom the nomination forms can be obtained.

"There will be an election between 11 a.m. and 1-30 p.m. on Wednesday, the 9th July 1952 if the number of candidates nominated exceeds one. The election will be by the ordinary method and not according to the method of single transferable vote."

(4) ELECTION OF ONE MEMBER TO THE LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE REORGANIZED MADRAS AND SOUTHERN MAHRATTA RAILWAY.

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"I have to announce to the House that Sri T. J. M. Wilson is the only candidate duly nominated for the election of one Member of the Legislative Council to the Local Advisory Committee of the reorganized Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway. I hereby declare him duly elected."

(5) ELECTION OF TWO MEMBERS TO THE SENATE OF THE ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY.

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"I have to announce to the House that the following three candidates were duly nominated for election to the Senate of the Annamalai University:—

1. Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar.
2. Srimathi S. Mansubhashini.
3. S. P. Sivasubramanya Nadar.

Srimathi S. Manjubhashini has since withdrawn her candidature.

"As the number of candidates remaining is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled in, viz., two, I hereby declare them duly elected to the Senate of the Annamalai University."

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III.—GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR THE
YEAR 1952-53.

* SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW :—“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, ever since the Hon. the Chief Minister accepted the leadership of the Congress Party and accepted his appointment as Chief Minister, there has been a propaganda, both in the Press and outside, creating and fostering certain illusions that Rajaji is going to solve the vital problems of the country by a new approach to them and also that he would set right the misrule that had been taking place during the last five years of Congress Raj. We all waited, Sir, till the Budget because in the first session we had nothing but a discussion on the Governor's Address. We thought that this Budget would present a really new approach to the problems and would not be on the same lines as either the previous Congress Government's Budget or any other previous Budget. The people are slowly becoming disillusioned because today this Budget is in no way different from not only the previous Congress Budgets but also the British Budgets even before the days of dyarchy. Sir, I must say there is one exception about this Budget. There is something which has become worse now than even during British dyarchy.

“ In 1945-46, there were reserves of about Rs. 43 crores accumulated by the Advisers' Government which were intended for post-war reconstruction and other schemes. But, Sir, the Hon. the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech on page 22 now says, ‘ We would have practically exhausted all our accumulated reserves during the course of this year.’ It is, Sir, against all canons of public finance, not the economics of either Marx or Engels but the bourgeois economics of probably Keynes, Laski or anybody like that, to throw away your reserves in whatever direction you want. There must be some reserves to meet certain emergencies. In this connection, I will explain how these reserves are being taken up in the Budget. It is admitted by the Hon. the Finance Minister that we are passing through lean years. It is not as though we are in a flourishing condition; we are in a period of crisis and still at the end of this year we will have nothing to fall back upon if there is a famine or any other emergency. This is the first criticism that I have to make and it is that this Budget leaves any future Government absolutely high and dry quite unable to meet any emergency and we will have to go hat in hand to the Central Government and beg of them for more subventions or grants or loans.

“ The next point I want to make is rather a serious one. I hope I am wrong. There seems to be a mysterious disappearance of money amounting to more than one crore and a half of rupees. In this connection, I wish to refer you, Sir, to the Hon. the Finance Minister's speech at page 21. In dealing with the ways and means position, the Finance Minister says: ‘ Against this sum, we were having at the beginning of the year about Rs. 14½ crores worth of securities’ How he gets this figure of Rs. 14½ crores is beyond my comprehension but, I think, Sir, the figures should be Rs. 19.4 crores as the Hon. Sri A. B. Shetty has also stated in his

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speech presenting the interim Budget for 1952-53 on 15th March 1952, page 7, that ‘ after meeting all the outstanding liabilities, we may expect to close the current year with an unattached balance of about Rs. 19 crores. The White Paper issued on the interim Budget also says that Rs. 19.4 crores should be the unattached balance of reserves at the end of the current year 1951-52. Now, Sir, how this Rs. 19.4 crores has become Rs. 14½ crores is not explained. I have tried to find it out and I hope that to some extent I have been able to reconcile the statement; whereas the previous Budget provided for a deficit of only Rs. 10 lakhs, the actual preliminary accounts have shown that it is Rs. 329 lakhs. It is only 33 times more. This shows how the revised estimates have been made but still even if this amount of Rs. 329 lakhs is added to the Rs. 14½ crores it does not come to Rs. 19.4 crores. I would like the Hon. the Finance Minister to explain to this House what has happened to the balance. The Hon. Sri A. B. Shetty has said that at the end of the financial year 1951-52 there would be Rs. 19.4 crores as reserves and the preliminary account only shows a deficit of Rs. 329 lakhs in the Revised Budget. Therefore the question which the Hon. the Finance Minister will now have to explain is whether any amounts have been drawn from the Consolidated Fund without any authority. (Interruption from the Hon. the Finance Minister). Yes, Sir, the revised estimate for the year 1951-52 had shown from the eight months' actuals that only 10 lakhs of rupees would be the deficit during that year but curiously enough, though it is tried to be explained away by the slump and therefore taxes have been introduced and also the fact that seasonal conditions were adverse and Government had to incur losses by way of remissions of land revenue, it still shows how our revised estimate is absolutely no criterion on which we can rely.

“ Now, let us see, Sir, what the present Budget says. The present Budget Estimates are also equally unreliable, Sir, for this reason. Let me take an instance from the revenue part of the Budget. They expect two crores of rupees for the whole year from the tax on bus passengers.

“ Sir, on what basis has this estimated yield of Rs. 1 crore in 5 p.m. the current year been made. Sir, if the Government tax a minimum of quarter anna as surcharge on passengers travelling by public transport buses and if the Government exempt Madras City for this purpose as announced by the Hon. Minister for Industries and Labour, then Sir, I ask on what basis the Government are calculating that they will get this one crore of rupees for the remaining part of the year? If this Bill to levy a surcharge on passengers is passed, many people, particularly in the mofussil, will prefer to walk because they will have to pay quarter anna more even if it be a mile that they travel. This figure of estimated income is absolutely as unreliable as the figures that have been supplied in the past.

“ Let me take an example of estimates prepared by Government on the expenditure side. A sum of about Rs. 50 lakhs has been set apart under the Demand for Education to meet the cost of educational concessions to the children of non-gazetted officers. Sir, I do

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not know on what basis this estimate has been made. Are the Government aware of the number of children of non-gazetted officers? Has any enquiry been made as to the number of school-going children who will be entitled to these educational concessions. Sir, I may say the cost of these concessions may be anywhere from Rs. 20 lakhs to two crores of rupees. The estimate made by the Government is without any basis. The Government make just an estimate and afterwards find the estimate to be much less than the actuals. The deficit of Rs. 10 lakhs shown (in the revised estimate for the year) in the Budget speech of the Hon. Sri A. B. Shetty has now become Rs. 329 lakhs, i.e., nearly 33 times. All the estimates whether they are on the revenue or on the expenditure side are all equally unreliable.

“Now Sir, I shall deal with the main question of revenue. I realize, Sir, that the limitations to the powers of taxation of the State Government are many. There is the Constitution which gives all the residuary powers of taxation to the Central Parliament. As it happens, Sir, most of the sources of taxation have already been exhausted. The only sources that are left, as far as taxation is concerned, are the agricultural income tax, succession duty and the surcharge on passengers travelling by public transport vehicles. Now, Sir, the policy of taxation should be so framed that the incidence of a tax should be on those that can bear. But it has been a habit with the Congress Government and it is in no way different with this Government, Sir, that the incidence of taxation is mostly on the common man, on the poor man. I shall show that it is so even in the case of the levy of surcharge on land revenue on larger holdings proposed by the Government where an attempt is made to appear that the levy is made only on richer classes. Sir, even the Hon. Mr. Shetty in his Budget speech in March this year accepted that taxation has reached the peak out-turn and it is expected to fall hereafter. There are many ways, Sir, by which this Government can save money and avoid taxing, as for instance passengers travelling by public transport vehicles.

“The three major sources of revenue by which most of the income of this State is made up are land revenue, sales tax and the subvention from the Centre in regard to income tax, and these form nearly 40 per cent of the total revenue of the State Government. As regards land revenue, I may say that the land revenue system now prevailing is absolutely defective. Under this system, even the poorest pattadar, even the poorest peasant has to pay something to the Government on his land. There is no gradation at all in the incidence of this tax. Poor men are taxed in the same proportion as the rich men, provided the type of land is the same. Now, Sir, I have made some research in this matter. I find from the Subramaniam Committee's Report that 43 per cent of the number of pattadars pay Rs. 30 or less of land revenue, and these 94 per cent of the pattadars pay only about 45 per cent of the total land revenue. These figures show that six per cent of the pattadars pay something more than 50 per cent of the land revenue. They also show the high concentration of land holdings in the hands of

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a few in the State. I shall now come to the question of the levy of a surcharge on land revenue that is now proposed by the Government. I say, Sir, that this levy of a surcharge on land revenue should not be made on the ground already given, namely, that the whole system of land revenue should give place to an agricultural income tax levied on a steeply graded basis with exemption up to a particular limit; the income tax limit most likely will be the most reasonable exemption limit. If the Government to-day try to levy a surcharge on land revenue, it is absolutely useless because the burden of the levy will really fall upon the share cropper. Unless the Government have a law whereby they can give every tenant occupancy right and whereby they can give every tenant a fixation of rent, which will prevent their eviction and prevent landlords claiming exorbitant rent or share of the crop, any attempt to have land revenue surcharge without these safeguards means that whatever levy is demanded by the Government will be passed on to the share-cropper and there will be large scale eviction. Therefore, I oppose this levy on these grounds.

“As regards sales tax, the method of collection is neither equitable nor just. It hits the common man because this tax is levied on most essential commodities like foodstuffs. On the other hand, this tax on luxury articles like motor-cars is not very high and I think—I am not certain—it is about nine pies rupee on motor cars. In England, not in the Soviet Union, the Government are charging 26½ per cent as the purchase tax on motor cars. Why cannot the Government here introduce a similar thing for all luxury articles including motor cars? (Interruption—What about import duty on cars?) The incidence of taxation should only be on the people who can bear and a man who can purchase a car for Rs. 14,000 can certainly pay 25 per cent more as sales tax. A graded system of sales tax should be levied on all luxury articles which the common man does not need and foodstuffs and other essential articles should be exempted from the operation of this tax.

“As far as the administration of sales tax is concerned, there is a lot of harassment of the merchants by the officials. I suggest the constitution of committees of merchants for purposes of consultation regarding the procedure of collection of this tax. It must not be thought that all merchants are evaders of tax. Just as the Government have put faith in them and removed controls, they have to put faith on them—big as well as small merchants. If the Government put faith on them, then there will not be so much harassment by the petty officials.

“Then, Sir, I shall come to the question of one other source of revenue which has been lost as a result of the introduction of Prohibition. I do not think anybody will doubt that Prohibition has been a total failure. In fact it has become a cottage industry. Sir, I have nothing to say against fighting the evils of drink. Government cannot fight the evils of drink by merely passing a law, ‘Thou shall not drink’. The argument that was put up, Sir, was that the poor man after spending all his earnings in the

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toddy shop used to go home and beat his wife and that Prohibition was necessary to save him and his family. Both on grounds of health and social betterment, Prohibition was sought to be justified. But to-day it has become a cottage industry. Not only the poor man, Sir, but his wife and children also have started to drink. There is another problem, Sir, namely, preventing people from drinking all sorts of injurious drinks which are being sold almost openly. Sir, in the interests of the health of the people, Prohibition must be dropped. I can understand, Sir, Government pursuing the policy of Prohibition if it is a success. When it is in fact really a failure, I do not see any reason why the Government should lose a revenue of 15 crores of rupees which they used to get before.

5-15
p.m.

“ The question of tainted money does not arise because after all you are giving permits to people and you are charging for it. In this connexion, I may point out that I was surprised to find one item in the Budget which I am not able to explain, a fairly large amount is spent on the supply of opium; I saw some such thing in the statement and I am unable to find out where it is stated and I shall refer to it later. If you are going to sell opium and are going to make money out of the sale of opium and are making money from the issue of permits for the consumption of foreign liquor, where is the question of the tainted money?

“ About the surcharge on passenger tickets on buses, I wish to say it is beyond doubt a most unreasonable tax. First of all there is a distinction made between the City and the mufassal. Let me also examine its incidence. We shall take the case of a car owner; on the assumption that on an average, it gives 24 miles per gallon, it works to one pie per mile and if it is a four seater, it is just a quarter pie per mile. The car owner does not pay it straight but pays by way of tax on a gallon of petrol. But in the case of the bus traveller, who has to go by the bus for his avocation, he has to pay a minimum of a quarter anna per mile whether he travels two furlongs, one or two miles. Even if we take that it is a two-seater that the car owners possesses, the rate will work to only half a pie per mile whereas the ordinary man has to pay three pies per mile. Is that the way that the incidence of taxation should work; is the poor man not sufficiently burdened? Let me take another aspect of the case. You have given some concession to the N.G.Os. in the matter of educational facilities and you have provided Rs. 50 lakhs for that purpose but what you give with one hand you take away with both hands. He has to pay the bus fare and the bus fare for his children. There are also others who do not get any benefit out of this Rs. 50 lakhs. There are many Government servants who have not got the advantage of this concession with the result that they not only not get the concession but also they have to be subject to this additional taxation. So it will all boil down to this that you want to cover your deficit by taxing the poor. What is the amount that you will be getting from this source—petrol tax—only Rs. 30 lakhs?

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“ Taking the expenditure side, I am pained to observe that in several departments, the same old methods, the same old expenditure and the same old waste is being continued as it has been all these years. There is nothing new except for a few changes here and there between this and the interim Budget as far as expenditure is concerned. Let me take the Demand for Education. The Hon. the Chief Minister when he presented the Budget said that we spent only Rs. 2½ crores in 1945-46 whereas now we are spending Rs. 11 crores. It may be four times what we spent previously but the question is when we shall be able to reach the targets we have fixed for ourselves. I am reminded of what happened when I was in England. The British people used to tell me how much they were spending and how they were spending more and more year after year and we used to calculate and tell them that at the rate at which they were proceeding in regard to educational facilities, they would take 273 years before they can make the whole of India literate. I would like to be contradicted by the Hon. the Minister for Education when I say that the progress is something like that even now and I would like to ask him whether the rate of progress has been accelerated during the last five years; or we shall have to wait for 253 years to come.

“ If we take Agriculture another big sum is shown as spent as compared with 1945-46. But the point to be considered is how it is being spent. Let us take the hoax about tractors, seeds and manures. To-day the tractor driver is given a pay of Rs. 40 and some allowance and he has to do very hard work as he has to go to fields far off from his home but inadequate batta will be paid to him. Naturally he goes to the rich peasant and works on his field and gets some bakshis with the result that the poor peasant does not get any benefit out of the scheme. There are two types of tractors, the wheel tractor and the caterpillar tractor to be used according to the nature of the field; there is no co-ordination, each going in its own way without reference to particular kind of ground that it is to work on and the whole amount is mis-spent and the peasant is absolutely not benefited from these schemes. If the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture would come with me incognito not as a Minister, I shall show him that fieldmen send him reports, which are all false and which are made so that they can keep their job.

“ About Public Health, the question of the inadequacy of the strength of the Medical Department is generally recognized and the grants made to hospitals are totally insufficient. I shall illustrate by one example. Taking the case of the Krishnagiri hospital, the hospital is treating about 300 patients a day and the annual grant for that hospital for purposes of medicine is only Rs. 10,000. There is a private doctor in that place, who is treating about 60 patients per day but he requires Rs. 1,000 a month for his medicines. They are treating five times the number treated by the private doctor with less than what the private doctor requires for his medicines for his 60 patients per day.

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Under those circumstances, how can the two doctors give any attention to the patients coming to the hospital, unless they merely give them some coloured water; they cannot give it.

"Another subject which is very important is forests. It is one of the most important departments because it can stop soil erosion and we can prevent drought by proper afforestation. What is the policy of the new Government, the Government of the Hon. Sri C. Rajagopalachari; I find there is absolutely no difference. Out of the Rs. 83 lakhs spent for the department only Rs. 4 lakhs odd are being spent for regeneration and conservation of forests. But the amount of profit made out of the sale of timber is going on the increase and nobody seems to bestow any care on the question of extending forests and whether it is good to take timber without putting in anything and whether you can go on felling trees and selling timber and showing large amount of profits without planting more forests. Are we merely to rely upon prayer for our rains? We must have our forests in good condition in the interests of food production of the country, to prevent droughts and check soil erosion.

"I wish to observe that in regard to the Police Budget, it does not show the complete expenditure for that department. It is the stereotyped statement that is found there. Something is also included under General Administration because of village policing and we do not know how much it costs. If I try to look into General Administration there are several things in respect of which I am unable to know what that expenditure is made up of. I must submit, Sir, this is not the way to give information to the House. We should be told how much actually is being spent upon the Police. There is no difference between the old one and this. Large amounts are going to be spent in the same old way as has been done for the last three years; it is gradually increasing. At any rate for the last two years, I find that the Budget is for a certain amount but the revised estimate is something higher than that and the preliminary accounts are still higher. Although the preliminary accounts for the last year show an expenditure of Rs. 7 crores odd, to-day the Budget provides for something less than that. But I am sure there will be the usual supplementary grant in the Revised Budget and the preliminary accounts as usual will show figures yet higher. Even though you know from the preliminary account that last year you have spent a certain amount you do not show that amount as the estimate. If you do not show like that, you do not also tell us why you expect an expenditure less than what has been spent last year.

5-30
P.M.

"Sir, in this Police Demand, the peculiar thing is that items like Contingencies, Miscellaneous, Rewards, etc., come to 33 lakhs of rupees. Then, Sir, there is another factor, viz., Travelling Allowance. I do not know if policemen travel so much or travel by paying anything. I have never seen a policeman paying bus fare whenever he travels."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—"Have you ever travelled in a bus?"

4th July 1952]

* SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW:—"I always travel in a bus. I am a regular bus-goer.

"I am yet to see a police constable getting into a bus and paying the bus fare. Do you know what the travelling allowance for the whole of the State comes to? It comes to—you will be surprised to hear it—somewhere about 91 lakhs of rupees. What is this for? One would have thought that the police had no conveyance like lorries—and wagons and things like that. One could understand it if it stops there. Again, there comes the motor transport charges which come to Rs. 19 lakhs. So, in addition to spending Rs. 91 lakhs towards travelling allowance, there is this motor transport charge of Rs. 19 lakhs. Along with these two items, if items like Miscellaneous, Contingencies, etc., are added, they come to one crore and 43 lakhs of rupees. Is this expenditure just and proper? Is there any necessity for such an expenditure? I would like to know how much of travelling has been done for the purpose of keeping the Communists under control? Under this head, there is an item 'Miscellaneous and other Contingencies.' What are the other contingencies, we do not know.

"Then, Sir, I wish to refer to some of the excesses committed by the police in the past. The Hon. Chief Minister said that he is anxious to right the wrongs if people inform him about the wrongs done previously and here I shall inform him of a case where two Sub-Inspectors illegally detained a person and had him beaten in Coimbatore. The matter went up to the High Court and the High Court held that these two Sub-Inspectors were responsible for his illegal detention. Then what happened was that it was not the Government that took action but it was the other party that had to file an application to obtain sanction for prosecuting these police officers for perjury and it was granted. But till now, I ask, Sir, what has been done to those Sub-Inspectors? They have not been punished. No public enquiry has been made and no notice has been taken of the judgment of the High Court which, I understand, should be done in all cases where certain remarks are made against police officers."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—"Is not the trial going on?"

* SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW:—"There is a case pending before the Supreme Court as the police officers had filed an application before it.

"Sir, the judgment of the Court gets absolutely no respect from this Government.

"Then, Sir, there is another case, where people have been forced to file *habeas corpus* petitions for the purpose of getting their release from police camps. This question of police camps is something scandalous. There is no law or order there and people are being taken straight from their houses and detained in police camps, and tortured and sometimes shot to death in cold blood.

[Sri V. Gurunandan Row] [4th July 1952]

One such instance came to my notice. A person came to me and said that he wanted to file a *habeas corpus* petition in respect of a person who was arrested along with him and put in a police camp. The other person was not released and he was still there. I filed the petition and what is the result? After the notice was given and before the date of the hearing, the person who filed the *habeas corpus* on behalf of his friend, came to me and said: 'Please withdraw it. Otherwise, my life and the life of my family are in danger in the place where I am.' So, Sir, I was compelled to withdraw that petition. But the police reported later on that the man was shot in an encounter. It is an invention of the police that he was shot in an encounter. These are the types of instances and one's blood begins to boil when he hears such instances. There is no law or order and what has this Government done to right the wrongs that have been done?

"Sir, the Hon. Chief Minister said yesterday in the Assembly that the police force could be disbanded if the Communists had accepted his advice about God. It would appear as though the police are there only for the Communists. It would mean that the Hon. Chief Minister wants to ram God down our throats with the aid of the police. If he has got so much faith in God, then why does he want the police? Why has he no faith in God? He said that it is his old habit to talk about God. In the name of God, what did he do when he was the Home Minister of the Central Government? He allowed hundreds of peasants in Telangana to be shot. He allowed the Constitution to be amended so that the fundamental rights of the people are amended. Sir, all this has been done in the name of God and I am glad that I do not have any belief in such a God who makes a tool of the Chief Minister to do His inscrutable will. The Hon. Chief Minister has tried a number of times to make this anti-Communism his chief weapon. He has tried to say that Communism is the danger and that it is a choice between Rajaji's Government and the Communist Government. There is nothing new in this matter. The old Congress Government lived on anti-Communism. The Congress party was rejected by the electorate because of its anti-Communist prejudice and still this Government have not learnt the lesson. In areas where this Government said that the Communists had committed atrocities, there the Communists have been returned in large numbers. Also in places where there was oppression by the Government, Communists have been returned. The absolute absence of law and order is the main reason why the Congress Party has failed to get a majority. Any stick is good enough to beat the Communists with, as far as the Hon. Chief Minister is concerned."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"The hon. Member is referring to what I said in the other House. It is not quite relevant to the Budget debate. I said that the Communists were not so much a danger as the instability of mind of the intellectual classes."

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* SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW:—"Yes, Sir, if the Government want to take any action against the people, they always call them Communists—whether they belong to the intellectual class or any other class. As I said, any stick is good enough to beat the Communists with as far as the Chief Minister and his Ministry are concerned."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"If the hon. Member is serious about it, does the hon. Member who is a lawyer of standing not know that quite a number of murders—I do not wish to go into actual numbers—had been committed in the Telangana area by the Communists? Is he not aware of it?"

* SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW:—"I will leave it to my hon. Friend Mr. Rajeswara Rao to reply to this."

"Sir, all that I wanted to say is that Communists were and are still being made scapegoats for any happening in the country. For anything and everything, it is the Communists that you blame. You would blame them for raising discontent among the people."

"Sir, what is the new thing in this Budget? There is absolutely nothing worth mentioning in this Budget. It has been prepared in the same old way. It is the same old Budget, and the same old way of taxing the poor."

"Sir, I want to say one thing about this talk of God by the Hon. Chief Minister. If he is logical enough about this faith in God, why not he abolish all portfolios and have only one portfolio, namely, God? That is the logical thing that he should do. There is no point in saying that he has faith in God. Why not everything be done by God? What is the necessity for human action? Where does the human action come in? After all, this is not the place where you can rely on God for everything. You must also rely on the people."

"Finally, I would say this. Whatever the Hon. Chief Minister may say about Communists, I hope, I will be pardoned by him if I say something about him. If he had served the people with half the zeal with which as he said, he served his God, he would not be in the present predicament."

* SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இந்தச் சபையில் கனம் பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்களால் சமர்ப்பிக்கப் பட்டிருக்கும் வரவு செலவுத் திட்டத்தை ஆதரித்து சில வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன்."

5-45
P.M.

"வரவு செலவுத் திட்டம் என்பது ஒவ்வொரு வருஷமும் அந்தந்த வருஷத்திற்குண்டான வரவு செலவுகளைப்பற்றி அரசாங்கத்தால் ஒரு திட்டம் வகுக்கப்பட்டு, அந்தத் திட்டமானது சட்டசபைக்கு முன் வைக்கப்பட்டு, அதன்மீது அங்கத்தினர்கள் விவாதத்தை நடத்தி, கடைசியாக அந்தத் திட்டமானது நிறைவேற்றப்படக்கூடிய விஷயம். அப்படி கொண்டு வரப்படும் திட்டத்தின் மீது விவாதத்தை நடத்தும்போது, அதில் என்னென்ன குறைகள் இருக்கின்றன, அதில் இன்னும் என்ன திட்டங்கள் சேர்க்கப்பட வேண்டும், அவ்விதம் சேர்த்தால் ஜனங்களுக்கு ஏற்படும் நன்மைகள்

[Sri N. Annamalai Pillai] [4th July 1952]

என்னவென்பதையெல்லாம் பொது விவாதத்தில் அங்கத்தினர்கள் பேசலாம். ஜனங்களுக்கு நன்மை ஏற்படுகிற வகையில் அங்கத்தினர்கள் பேச வேண்டுமென்பது தான் என்னுடைய கோரிக்கையாகும். ஆகவே, நமது தலைவர் கனம் பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்களால் இந்த சபைமுன் கொண்டு வரப்பட்டிருக்கும், வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தை அப்படியே ஆதரிக்கவேண்டுமென்று நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

“அப்படியானால், இங்கிருக்கிறவர்களுக்கு என்ன வேலை? அப்படியே ஆதரிக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்கிறீர்களே! என்று என்னைக் கேட்கலாம். கனம் ஸ்ரீ ராஜகோபாலாச்சாரியார் அவர்கள் எவ்வளவு தூரம் இந்நாட்டு மக்களின் அன்பைப் பெற்றிருக்கிறார் என்பதை நான் உங்களுக்குச் சொல்லத் தேவையில்லை. இந்தத் தேசத்திற்கு சுதந்திரம் கிடைத்திருக்கிற தென்றால் அது யாரால் கிடைத்தது? அது மகாத்மா காந்தியடிகளால் என்பதை யாரும் மறுக்க முடியாது. அவருக்கடுத்தபடியாக நமது தலைவர் கனம் சக்கரவர்த்தி ராஜகோபாலாச்சாரியார் அவர்களால் தான் என்பதையும் யாரும் மறுக்கமாட்டார்கள். அப்படிப்பட்ட ஒரு தலைவரானவர் நமக்கு இந்தச் சமயத்தில் கிடைத்திருக்கின்றார். இந்த நாட்டிலுள்ள கஷ்டங்களைப் போக்குவதற்கு, இந்நாட்டிலுள்ள பஞ்சத்தைத் தீர்ப்பதற்கு, இந்நாட்டில் அராஜகம் ஏற்படாமல் தடுப்பதற்கு, இந்நாட்டில் வேட்கையில்லாத திண்டாட்டத்தை ஒழிப்பதற்கு, இந்நாட்டில் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் பல சிக்கல்களைத் தீர்த்து வைப்பதற்கு அவரைத் தவிர வேறு ஒருவர் இருக்கின்றார் என்று மனம் துணிந்து எவரேனும் சொல்வார்களேயானால், அவர்கள் தங்கள் மனச்சாட்சிக்கு விரோதமாகச் சொல்லுகிறார்கள் என்று தான் சொல்லவேண்டும். அவரைப்பற்றி நான் வெகுவாகப் புகழ்ந்துகொண்டேயிருந்தால், நான் அவரை ஸ்தோத்திரம் செய்கிறேன் என்று நீங்கள் சொல்லிவிடுவீர்கள். ஆனால் உண்மையை மறந்துவிடக்கூடாது.

“சுயராஜ்யம் கிடைத்து ஒரு சில ஆண்டுகள் ஆகின்றன. ‘ஓராயிரம் ஆண்டு ஒய்ந்து கிடந்த பின்னர், வாராது போல் வந்த மாமணியைத் தோற்போமோ’ என்றார் பாரதியார். நாங்கள் இதைத் தோற்றுவிடமாட்டோம், விட்டுவிடமாட்டோம் என்கிறார் பாரதியார். இந்த நாட்டை ஆண்டு வந்த ஆங்கிலேயர்கள் ஒரு நெருக்கடியான சமயத்தில் இந்த நாட்டை விட்டு விட்டுப் போய்விட்டார்கள். எந்த தேசத்திலேனும் ஒரு அரசாங்கம் மாறி இன்னொரு அரசாங்கம் வருமேயானால், அராஜகம் ஏற்படாமல் இருந்திருக்கிறதா? கிடையாது. சரித்திர பூர்வமாக இல்லையென்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன். இந்த நாடு சுதந்திரமடைந்த பிறகு யாதொரு அமைதி பங்கும் ஏற்படாமல் நமது சர்க்கார், நாம் நிர்ணயித்துக்கொண்ட சர்க்கார், நம்மைக் காப்பாற்றிக் கொண்டு வந்திருக்கிறது. அப்படியிருக்கும் போது நீங்களே உங்களைக் குறைகூறிக்கொண்டிருந்தால் அது எனக்கு அவமானகரமாக இருக்கிறது. சிக்கமுடியவில்லை. இந்த நாட்டில் நமக்கு ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிற சிக்கல்கள் எவ்வளவு, கஷ்டங்கள் எவ்வளவு, வேறுமாதிரி மழை இல்லாமல் பஞ்சத்தினால் பாதிக்கப்பட்ட மக்களுக்கு உணவளித்துக் காப்பாற்றி வந்திருக்கிறது இந்த சர்க்கார். இதே நிலைமையில் இன்னொரு தேசம் இருந்திருக்குமேயானால், இத்தனை நாள் கொலையும் குழப்பமும் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும். அந்த விதமான ஒரு நிலை ஏற்படாமல் நமது சுதந்திர சர்க்கார் இந்த நாட்டைக் காப்பாற்றி வந்திருக்கிறது.

“நண்பர் கனம் ஸ்ரீகுருநாதன் ராவ் அவர்கள் பேசுகிறபோது ‘போலீஸ் காரர்கள் பஸ்ஸிலே பணம் கொடுக்காமல் பிரயாணம் செய்துவிட்டு சர்க்காரிடமிருந்து ப்ராவலிங் அலவன்ஸ் வாங்கிக்கொள்கிறார்கள்’ என்று சொன்னார். நான் அவரை கேட்கிறேன், கேவலம் 30 ரூபாய் சம்பளம் வாங்குகின்ற ஒரு போலீஸ் மகன் எப்பொழுதோ ஒரு தடவை பஸ்ஸில் இலுமாக பஸ் முதலாளிகளின் தயவிலோ அல்லது கண்டக்டர் தயவிலோ சென்றான் என்றால், அதற்கு அவனுடைய ஏழ்மையான நிலைதான் காரணம். அதை லஞ்சமென்றும், அவனை லஞ்சப்பேய் என்றும், பிசாசு என்றும் வர்ணிப்பதற்கு இது தகுதியான இடமாபென்று கேட்கின்றேன்.

“கல்லாதவர்களே நல்லவர்கள். நல்லவர்கள் கற்றும் அறிவில்லாத கருமத்தை என் சொல்வேன்’ என்று தாயுமானவர் சொன்னார். படித்து விட்டு இப்படிப்பேசினால் அதை என்னவென்று சொல்வது?

[Sri N. Annamalai Pillai] [4th July 1952]

“எழை என்றும் அடிமையென்றும் எவருமில்லை ஜாதியில், இழிவு கொண்ட மனிதர் என்போர் இந்தியாவில் இல்லையே’ என்றார் பாரதியார். இழிவுப்படுத்தும் மக்கள் இந்தக் கவுன்ஸிலிலும் வீற்றிருக்கிறார்கள். ஏழைகளைக் கண்டு ஏளனம் செய்பவர்கள் கம்யூனிசம் பேசுகிறார்கள். ஏழைகளைக் கண்டு எள்ளி நகையாடுபவர்கள் சமத்துவம் பேசுகிறார்கள், ‘நாங்கள் அதிகாரத்தில் வந்தால் பாலும் தேனும் ஓடும் இந்நாட்டில்’ என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள்.

“கடவுளைப்பற்றி அடிக்கடி நினைக்கிறீர்களே, சொல்லுகிறீர்களே, கடவுள் உங்களிடம் வந்து நேராகப் பேசுகிறதா? என்று ஒரு சிலர் கேட்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் சொல்வது ஒன்று, நாங்கள் சொல்வது ஒன்று; நாங்கள் சொல்வது தென்னுதொட்டு நடப்பது ஆயிரக்கணக்கான வருஷங்களாக மனித சமூகம் ஏற்பட்ட நாள் முதல் ஒரு சீர்திருத்தம் ஏற்பட ஆரம்பித்ததிலிருந்து இன்று வரை அனுஷ்டானத்தில் இருந்துவருகிறது. எம்மத்தினராலும் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளப்பட்டது.

“நேற்றையதினம் நம்பிக்கைத் தீர்மானம் வந்தபொழுது தேசமக்கள் உங்களுக்கு என்ன பதில் சொன்னார்கள்? கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் இதைக் கவனிக்க வேண்டும். கம்யூனிஸ்டு கையில் தேசம் இருப்பதாகச் சொல்லுகிறார்களென்றால், அவர்களுக்குச் சாதகமாக வேட்டு செய்தார்களா’ என்று கேட்கிறேன். ஆகையால் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளை மக்கள் ஆதரிப்பதாக ஒருவரும் நினைக்கக் கூடாது. கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் தங்கள் மனப்பான்மையை மாற்றிக்கொண்டு இந்தத் தேசத்திற்கு உடனடியாகச் செய்யவேண்டிய பணியைச் செய்ய வேண்டுமே தவிர, நல்ல காரியங்களுக்கு தடங்கலாக இருக்கக்கூடாது. கனம் சக்கரவர்த்தி ராஜகோபாலாச்சாரியார் தலைமையில் நடக்கும் இந்தச் சர்க்காருக்கு விரோதமாக இல்லாமல், கம்யூனிஸ்டு அன்பர்கள் ஒழுங்காக நடந்து, இந்த தேசத்தைப் பாதுகாக்க வேண்டுமென்று ஏழை மக்கள் பெயரால் அவர்களைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.

“மதுவிலக்கு பயனற்று ஒரு குடிசைத் தொழிலாக மாறிவிட்டது என்று கனம் மெம்பர் ஒருவர் சொன்னார். அதைக் கேட்க நான் மிகவும் வருத்தப்படுகிறேன். இதற்கு முன் ஏழைகள் எப்படிக்கெட்டுப்போனார்கள் என்பது எனக்கு நன்றாகத் தெரியும். அவர்களோடு நான் தாடுகளிலும் மலைகளிலும் உழன்று வந்திருக்கிறேன். அதனால் அவர்களைப் பற்றி எனக்கு நன்றாகத் தெரியும். அவர்கள் இப்பொழுது மதுவிலக்கினால் சுகமாக வாழ்கிறார்கள் என்பதைச் சொல்லுவதற்கு எனக்கு யோக்கியதை உண்டு. மதுவிலக்கு தோற்றுவிட்டது என்ற அபிப்பிராயத்தில் இருப்பவர்கள் பெரிய செல்வந்தர்கள் ஏழைகளின் வாழ்க்கை என்னவென்பதை அறிந்து கொள்ள முடியாதவர்கள். அவர்களால் அறிந்து கொண்டிருக்க முடியாது. அவர்கள் சுகமாக மாளிகையிலும் அம்சதானிகாமஞ்சத்திலும் உரங்கிக்கொண்டிருப்பவர்கள். அவர்களுக்கு ஒன்றும் தெரியாது. இந்த மதுவிலக்கைப்பற்றி அவதூறாகச் சொல்வது பிசகு. மதுவிலக்கு ஜனங்களுக்கு எவ்வளவோ நல்லது செய்திருக்கிறது. மதுவிலக்கு விசாரணை கமிட்டி ஒன்று சர்க்காரால் நியமிக்கப்பட்டு அதைப்பற்றி விசாரித்து ரிபோர்ட்டு அனுப்பிக்கும்படி செய்தோம். அதற்கு காலம் சென்ற கனம் நாச்சியப்ப கவுண்டர் தலைவராக இருந்தார். நிலைமையை விசாரித்து ஒரு ரிபோர்ட்டையும் கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். மதுவிலக்கினால் எவ்வளவோ நன்மை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்று அக்கமிட்டி தெரிவித்தது. ஒன்றிரண்டு பேர்கள் கள் இறக்குகிறார்கள் என்பதற்காகவும் சிலர் சாராயம் காய்ச்சுகிறார்கள் என்பதற்காகவும் இது கெட்டுப்போய்விட்டது என்று சொல்வது சரியல்ல. அதற்காக சட்டத்தை எடுத்துவிடவேண்டு என்று சொல்வதும் பிசகு. கள்ளுக்கடை தெருவில் வந்து விட்டது என்று சொல்வதும் அபத்தம். கோயம்புத்தூர் ஜில்லாவில் மாத் திரம் இந்த சட்டம் வருவதற்கு முன் சுமார் ஒரு வருஷத்தில் 390 கொலைகள் நடந்திருக்கின்றன. ஆனால் கள்ளுக் கடைகளை எடுத்து விட்ட பிறகு வருஷம் ஒன்றுக்கு 90 கொலைகள் தான் நடந்திருப்பதாகத் தெரிய வருகிறது. ஆகவே இந்த மதுவிலக்கு சட்டம் வருஷாவருஷம் ஒரு ஜில்லாவில் மாத் திரம் 300 பேர்களுக்கு பிராணபிச்சை கொடுத்திருக்கிறது. இன்னும் என்ன சாட்சி வேண்டும். ஜனங்கள் இப்பொழுது நல்ல துணி கட்டிக்கொள்ளுகிறார்கள். நல்ல சாப்பாடு சாப்பிட்டுக்கொண்டு

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வாழ்கிறார்கள். ஐந்து கோடி ஜனங்கள் நமது மாகாணத்தில் இருக்கிறார்கள். அதில் 2½ கோடி ஜனங்கள் பெண்கள். மீதமுள்ள 2½ கோடியில் 1½ கோடி 15 அல்லது 16 வயதிற்குட்பட்டவர்கள். அதில் குடிக்காதவர்கள் ½ கோடி. மிச்சம் ½ கோடி ஜனங்கள் தான் குடித்தார்கள். இந்த முக்கால் கோடி ஜனங்கள் 16 கோடி ரூபாய் வருமானத்தைக் கொடுத்துக்கொண்டு வந்தார்கள். அதை வாங்கிக்கொண்டுதான் நாம் சுகபோகம் அடைந்து கொண்டிருந்தோம். இந்த முக்கால் கோடி ஜனங்கள் னுடைய பணத்திலிருந்துதான் நாம் சுகபோகம் அனுபவிக்கவேண்டுமா என்று கேட்கிறேன். இது அநியாயம், பெரும் தவறுதலான காரியம். இவ்விதம் ஏதிர்க்கட்சியினர் சொல்வதால் அரசாங்கம் இந்த சட்டத்தை விட்டு விடுவது கூடாது என்பதாக நான் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். சட்டத்தை சரியாக அமல் நடத்தவேண்டும். அஞ்சி பிச்சை கேட்காதே, கெஞ்சி மணியம் பன்னாது என்பது பழமொழி. திருடினால் குற்றம் என்று சட்டத்தில் இருக்கிறது. அதனால் திருடாமல் இருக்கிறார்களா? திருடுகிறார்களே என்று சட்டத்தை எடுத்து விடுகிறதா என்று கேட்கிறேன். மதுவிலக்கு சட்டத்தினால் ஜனங்கள் மிக மிக நன்மைகள் அடைந்திருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த நன்மையினால் முக்கால்வாசி ஜனங்கள் சௌகரியமாக வாழ்கிறார்கள். மனைவி மக்கள் எல்லோரும் நல்ல உடை உடுத்திக்கொள்ளுகிறார்கள், வீடு வாசல் குடும்பங்களுடன் சுகமாக வாழ்ந்து வருகிறார்கள். நம் மேல் அவர்கள் அன்பு வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். மக்களுக்கு நன்மையைக்கொடுத்தி திருக்கும் மதுவிலக்கு சட்டம் எப்பொழுதும் இருந்து மக்கள் சுகமாக திருக்கவேண்டும் என்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

6 p.m. “இந்த பஞ்ச காலத்தில், அதுவும் 6 வருஷம் மழை இல்லாததால், கள்ளுக்கடை இருந்திருந்தால் மக்கள் எல்லோரும் சாம்பலாகப் போயிருப்பார்கள். சாப்பாட்டிற்கு வழி இல்லாமல் மண்ணோடு மண்ணும் வங்காளத்தில் மாண்டு போனது போல் போயிருப்பார்கள். இங்கு அப்படி நடக்கவில்லை என்பதை நாம் பார்க்கிறோம். இந்தக் கள்ளுக்கடை இல்லாததால்தான் ஏதோ கிடைக்கும் கொஞ்ச பணத்தை வைத்துக்கொண்டு கால் அல்லது அரை வயிறு சாப்பிட்டு ஜீவித்து வருகிறார்கள்.

“தலைவர் அவர்களே, போலீஸ் படைகள் என்ன செய்தார்கள், ஒன்றும் செய்யவில்லை என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். இந்த 6 வருஷ பஞ்சத்தில் நாட்டில் கொலையும் குற்றமும் நடைபெறாமல் ரத்தக் கிளிகள் ஏற்படாமல் இது வரையில் தடுத்து வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். அது உங்கள் கண்ணுக்குத் தெரியவில்லையா? போலீஸ்காரர்கள் எவ்வளவோ தங்கள் கடமையை செய்து இருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதை நீங்கள் கவனிக்கவேண்டும். வெள்ளைக்காரர் ஆட்சி நடந்த காலத்தில் சுமார் 30 வருஷத்திற்கு முன் சென்னையில் நடந்த ஒரு சம்பவம் இப்பொழுது எனக்கு ஞாபகம் வருகிறது. அப்பொழுதும் ஒரு பஞ்சம் ஏற்பட்டது, அப்பொழுது பஞ்சத்தால் பாதிக்கப்பட்ட ஜனங்கள் ஒத்தவாடையில் அரிசிக்கடைகளைக் கொள்ளையடித்துக்கொண்டு போய்விட்டார்கள். சூரியனே அஸ்தமிக்காது என்று சொல்லிக்கொள்ளும் அந்த வெள்ளைக்கார ஏகாதிபத்திய ராஜ்யத்தில் அவ்விதம் நடந்தது. இப்பொழுது 6, 7 வருஷ காலமாக பஞ்சம் ஏற்பட்டும் தண்ணீர் இல்லாமல் திண்டாடி தெவிட்டு நிற்கும் பொழுதுகூட அப்படிப்பட்ட கொலை, திருட்டு ஒன்றும் நடக்கவில்லை. இது போலீசின் திறமையா, அல்லது கனம் மெம்பர் பேசினாரே அவருடைய திறமையா? நாம் எல்லோரும் சேர்ந்து ஏற்படுத்தி வைத்து இருக்கும் அந்தப் போலீஸ் படையினால் தான் நாம் பகிரங்கமாக வெளியே உலாவுகிறோம் என்பதை மறக்கக்கூடாது.

“போலீஸ்காரர்கள் நம்முடைய சொத்தையும் பொருளையும் காப்பாற்றிக் கொடுத்தற்கு நாம் அவர்களுக்கு என்ன சன்மானம் செய்திருக்கிறோம் என்பதை யோசிக்கவேண்டும். தங்களுடைய உயிரையும் தியாகம் செய்து நம்மைக் காப்பாற்றுகிறார்கள். ஆனால் அவர்களுக்கு நாம் கொடுப்பது என்ன? கேவலம் முப்பது ரூபாய் மாதச் சம்பளமாகக் கொடுக்கிறோம். இந்த முப்பது ரூபாய்க்கு அவன் திண்டாடி தெருவில் நிற்கிறான். போலீஸ் படையினால் பிரயோசனம் இல்லை என்று சொல்வது தவறு. அவர்கள் நல்ல வேலை செய்கிறார்கள் என்பதை தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

[4th July 1952] [Sri N. Annamalai Pillai]

“அடுத்தபடியாக நம் உணவு உற்பத்திக்கு கவனம் செலுத்தவேண்டும். ‘பேசிப்பயன் என்னடி கிளியே’ என்று பாரதியார் பாடினார். பேசுவதில் பிரயோசனம் இல்லை. உணவு நெருக்கடி தருவதற்கு ரொம்களில் நிறைய உணவு உற்பத்தி செய்யவேண்டும். பேசிக்கொண்டிருந்தால் பசி தீர்ந்து விடுமா? மழை பெய்யும் என்று நினைப்பதற்கு இல்லாமல் இருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது மிகவும் கஷ்டமான நிலைமை. உணவு உற்பத்தி செய்யவேண்டுமென்றால் அதற்கு பணம் எங்கே இருக்கிறது. ஆனால் வரி போடுகிறார்களே என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஒரு உபாத்தியாயருக்கு சம்பளம் ரூ. 30, என்று சொல்பபடியாக ரூ. 18, ஆக ரூ. 48 அவனுக்கு வருகிறது. அவனுக்கு இன்றைக்கு அது பொதுமானதாக இருக்குமா என்பதைப் பாருங்கள். இப்பொழுது இருக்கும் 30 ரூபாயை 60 ரூபாயாக வையுங்கள். பஞ்சம் தெளியத் தெளிய ரூ. 80-லிருந்து 40-ம், பிறகு 40-லிருந்து 30-ம், பிறகு 20, 10 என்று குறைத்துக்கொள்ளலாம். இந்த முறையைக் கையாள் வேண்டுமென்று நாளுக்குடனாகக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“மற்றொரு வார்த்தை சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். ஜில்லா போர்டில் உபாத்தியாயர்களாகவும், மற்றும் இதர ஸ்தாபனங்களில் உபாத்தியாயர்களாகவும் இருப்பவர்களை இங்கிருந்து இங்கும் மாற்றப்படுகிறார்கள்—வட ஆற்காடு ஜில்லாவில், அரக்கோணம் தாலுகாவில் இருக்கும் உபாத்தியாயரை செங்கத்திற்கும், செங்கத்தில் இருப்பவரை அரக்கோணத்திற்கும் மாற்றிவிடுகிறார்கள். அரக்கோணத்தில் இருப்பவர் செங்கத்திற்கு மாற்றப்படுவதால் அவர் என்ன செய்ய முடியும்? ரூபாய் 30 சம்பளத்தில் எப்படி அவர் உயிர்வாழமுடியும்? ஆகையால் எல்லா பள்ளிக்கூடங்களையும் எப்படி அவர் உயிர்வாழமுடியும்? ஆகையால் எடுத்துக்கொள்வது மாத் சர்க்கார் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். சர்க்கார் எடுத்துக்கொள்வது மாத் சர்க்கார் எடுத்துக்கொள்ள சர்வீசாகவும் மாற்றவேண்டும். மாகாண திரமல்ல, இதை மாகாண சர்வீசாகவும் மாற்றவேண்டும். மாகாண சர்வீசாக இருந்தால், ஒரு ஜில்லாவிலிருந்து இன்னொரு ஜில்லாவுக்கு மாற்றப்படும் நிலை ஏற்பட்டாலும், அவர்கள் உயர்ந்த சம்பளத்தைப் பெறுவதனால் அவர்களுக்கு சௌகரியமான இடத்தில் வாழவும் வசதி இருக்கும். அப்படியில்லாமல் ஒரே ஜில்லாவில் உள்ள பல இடங்களுக்கு மாற்றப்படுவதால், அவர்களுக்கு பலவிதமான அசௌகரியங்கள் ஏற்படுகின்றன.

“இல ஊர்களில் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் இருந்தாலும் உபாத்தியாயர்களுக்கு வீடுகள் கிடையாது. கல்விக்கு இருப்பிடமாக உள்ள அந்த புனித இடத்தில் மனைவி மக்களோடு குடியிருக்கவும் வேண்டிய நிலைமை ஏற்படுகிறது. குடியிருக்க வீடு கிடைக்காததால், சரஸ்வதி வாழ்கின்ற தூய்மையான இடத்தில் உபாத்தியாயர்கள் தம்பதியாக வாழும் இடமாகவும் ஆகின்றது. ஆகையால், உபாத்தியாயர்களுக்கு குடியிருக்க வீடு இல்லாமல் ஒரு ஊருக்கு பள்ளிக்கூடம் மட்டும் இருந்தால் பிரயோஜனமில்லை. ஒரு ஊருக்கு பள்ளிக்கூடம் வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டால், அந்தப் பள்ளிக்கூடத்திற்கு வேண்டிய உபாத்தியாயர்கள் குடியிருப்பதற்கு வீடுகள் கட்டிய பிறகே, பள்ளிக்கூடம் வைப்பதற்கு அனுமதி தரவேண்டும். அப்படி உபாத்தியாயர்களுக்கு வீடு கட்டிக்கொடுக்கப்படாத இடங்களுக்குப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் வைக்க அனுமதி தரக்கூடாது. இப்படிப்பட்ட உத்தரவை சர்க்கார் பிரப்பிக்க வேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“இப்பொழுதிருக்கும் சர்க்காரால் ஒன்றும் பிரயோஜனமில்லை, சரியாக நடக்கவில்லை, எல்லாம் கெட்டுப் போய்விட்டது என்று ஏதிர்க்கட்சியினர் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அப்படி அவர்கள் சொல்வது சரியல்ல. அதற்குப் பதில் என்னவென்றால், ‘இந்த தேசத்தில் மக்கள் அதிகம் சாகாமல் இருக்கிறார்கள். அதற்கு இந்த சர்க்கார் உதவி செய்கிறது’ என்று சொல்லுகிறேன். ஒரு மாதத்திற்கு முன்பு குடியாத்தத்தில் முனிசிபல் ஹெல்த் ஆபீசரைப் பார்த்து, ‘இந்த முனிசிபலிட்யில் ஜனனம் எவ்வளவு? மரணம் எவ்வளவு?’ என்று கேட்டேன். ஐந்து மாதத்தில் 726 பேர்கள் பிறந்திருக்கிறார்கள், 296 பேர்கள் இறந்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்று சொன்னார். கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இதை நீங்கள் கொஞ்சம் கவனிக்கவேண்டும். பிறப்புக்கும் இறப்புக்கும் எறக்குறைய சுமார் 400 பேர்கள் அதிகமாயிருக்கிறார்கள் (உயிருடன்). ஆகையால் சாவே அதிகம் கிடையாது என்று கூட சொல்லலாம். மக்கள் சாகா வரம் பெற்றிருக்கிறார்களோ என்று கூடச் சொல்லும்படியாக இருக்கிறது. இவ்வளவு தூரம் எதற்காகச் சொல்லுகிறேன்

[Sri N. Annamalai Pillai]

[4th July 1952]

என்றால், 'சானிடேஷன்' ரொம்ப முன்னேற்றம் அடைந்து விட்டது என்பதற்காகச் சொல்லுகின்றேன். சுகாதாரத்தில் தேர்ந்த அதிகாரிகள் முனிசிபாலிட்டிகளைக் கண்ணும் கருத்துமாகக் கவனித்து வருவதன்மூலம் அதிக சாவு ஏற்படாமல் இருக்கின்றது.

"அடுத்தபடியாக இந்நாட்டில் டாக்டர்கள் மிகக் கெட்டிக்காரர்களாயிருக்கின்றார்கள். ஆங்கு அநேக பெரிய டாக்டர்கள் அங்கத்தினர்களாக இருக்கும்பாடு, டாக்டர்களைப்பற்றி நான் அதிகம் சொல்லவேண்டியதில்லை; இருந்தாலும், டாக்டர்கள் எவ்வளவுதூரம் இந்நாட்டில் முன்னேற்றம் அடைந்திருக்கிறார்கள், எவ்வளவு தூரம் ஜனங்களுக்கு உதவியாக அவர்களுடைய வேலைகளைச் செய்துவந்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதற்காகச் சொல்லுகின்றேன். 'பெனிஸிலின்' என்று ஒரு இன்ஜெக்ஷன் மருந்து கண்டுபிடிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அது தலை தோஷம், காலரா, ஜெரம் போன்ற எல்லா வியாதிகளையும் குணப்படுத்தக்கூடிய சர்வ சஞ்சீவியாக இருக்கிறது. சாதாரணமாக ஒரு கட்டி வந்தால், இந்தப் பெனிஸிலின் இன்ஜெக்ஷன் கொடுத்துவிட்டால், அந்தக் கட்டி மாயமாய் மறைந்துவிடுகிறது. இதற்கெல்லாம் மருந்து கண்டுபிடித்தும், டைபாய்டு ஜெரத்திற்குத்தக்க மருந்து இல்லை என்றிருந்தது. அதற்கும் இப்போது இன்ஜெக்ஷன் கண்டுபிடிக்கப்பட்டிருப்பதாகக் கேள்விப்படுகின்றேன். இவ்வளவுதான் நாலுக்கு நான் வைத்திய இலாகா முன்னேறிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. மனிதன் சாகாமல் இருக்கக்கூடியதற்குக்கூட இன்ஜெக்ஷனே மருந்தோ கண்டுபிடித்துவிடுவார்கள் போலிருக்கிறது. இந்த நாடு வெகுவகமாக உயர்த்தியதில் முன்னேறிக்கொண்டு மக்களுக்கு எல்லாவகையிலும் வேண்டிய சௌகரியங்களைச் செய்துகொண்டிருக்கின்றது.

"சென்ற சில வருஷங்களாக மழை இல்லாமல் மக்கள் பஞ்சத்தினால் வாடிக்கொண்டிருக்கும் நிலைமையிலும், ஜனங்கள் ரொம்ப நானையமாகத் தான் இருக்கிறார்கள். 'பசி வந்துப் பதும் பறந்துப் பாம்' என்ற பழமொழிப்பால், ஜனங்கள் பஞ்சத்தால் கஷ்டப்பட்டபாதினும் உணவுப் பணிகீட்டு முறையிருந்தும் நாட்டில் அமைதி நிலைத்திருக்கிறது. இதைவிட உயர்ந்த ஏற்பாட்டை இனி ஏதிர்பார்க்கமுடியாது.

"கடைசியாக ஒரு வார்த்தையைச் சொல்லவிரும்புகின்றேன். மதுவிலக்குச் சட்டம் வருவதற்கு முன்னால் மதுவினால் எவ்வளவு வரும் எனம் வந்து கொண்டிருந்ததோ, அதைவிட விற்பனை வரிமூலமாக அரசாங்கத்திற்கு அதிகமாக ஈனம் இப்பொழுது வந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறது. சுமார் 15 அல்லது 18 கோடி ரூபாய் வருமானம் வருகிறது. இவ்வளவு வருமானம் வந்த பிறகும், கள்ளக்கடைகளைத் திறக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னால், அது நியாயமா? என்று நான் கேட்கின்றேன்.

"வியாபார வரியை வசூலிக்கும் அதிகாரிகள் பூக்கிறார்களே அவர்களைக் கொஞ்சம் சர்க்கார் கட்டு திட்டம் செய்துவைக்கவேண்டும். வியாபாரிகள் கணக்குப் புத்தகங்களைப் பார்ப்பதற்காகத் தான் அவர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். வியாபாரிகள் கணக்குகளைக் கொண்டுவரும்போது, அதிகாரிகள் அவர்களைக் கொஞ்சம் மரியாதையாக நடத்தவேண்டும். வியாபாரிகளிடமிருந்து வரியை வசூலிக்கும் அரசாங்கம், அவர்களை அவமானகரமாக நடத்தக்கூடாது. அதிகாரிகள் அவர்களை உதாசீனமாகப் பேசுகிறார்கள் என்று வியாபாரிகள் புகார் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். இம்மாதிரி அதிகாரிகள் நடந்துகொள்ளாமல் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று சம்பந்தப்பட்ட அதிகாரிகளுக்கு ஒரு உத்தரவை அரசாங்கம் பிறப்பிக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.

"இந்த வரவு செலவு திட்டமானது ரொம்பவும் நன்றாகத் தயாரிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதை எல்லோரும் ஒத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். வெள்ளைக் காரண்டம் அடிமைப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருந்த இந்த தேசம், சுதந்திரம் அடைந்து விட்டது. ஜனங்களுக்கு வேண்டிய நன்மைகள் இன்னும் எவ்வளவோ செய்யப்படவேண்டும். ஆகையால், கனம் ஸ்ரீமான் ராஜாஜிப்பால்வாச்சாரியார் அவர்களிடம் இந்த மாகாண நிர்வாகத்தை இன்னும் ஐந்து வருஷத்திற்கு விட்டு வைத்தால் எவ்வளவோ நன்மைகள் ஜனங்களுக்கு ஏற்படும். அவர் அவ்விதம் செய்வார் என்று நான் நம்புகின்றேன். நங்களும் அவ்விதம்

[4th July 1952]

[Sri N. Annamalai Pillai]

நம்பினால் இந்தத் திட்டத்தை ஆதரித்து அவர்களுக்கு எல்லா விதத்திலும் ஒத்தாசையாக இருக்கவேண்டும். அப்படி நாம் செய்தால்தான் இந்த நாட்டு நிர்வாகம் சீர்படும். நான் அவரை—டிக்டேராக இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று பொரிச்சுச் செய்தேன் என்று நீங்கள் நினைக்கவேண்டாம். அவர் மீது நம்பிக்கை இருந்தால் அவ்விதம் செய்யுங்கள் என்று தான் கேட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றேன். இந்த நாடு பஞ்சத்தால் பாதிக்கப்படாமல் இருப்பதற்கு, மக்கள் பசியால் வாடாமல் இருப்பதற்கு, இந்த தேசம் சீரும் சிறப்புமாக இருக்க வேண்டுமென்றால் கனம் ராஜாஜி அவர்களுக்கு அனைவரும் ஆதரவு தரவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு, இந்த வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தை ஆதரித்து என் வார்த்தையை முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்."

* DR. S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI:—"Mr. Chairman, 6-15 p.m.
Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this Budget. All of us realize that it is a deficit Budget, for which we cannot blame the present Government. We have to blame the elements of nature, the failure of the seasonal rains and our misfortunes. We are here to give some constructive suggestions.

"We are grateful to this Government for the provisions in the Budget for some beneficent causes in spite of it being a deficit Budget, which is an indication of the good intention of this Government to improve the conditions, economic, social and others, of the people of this State. Now, about the food policy of the Government, the women welcome the removal of food control. Two years ago, the Women's Association of this State brought to the notice of the then Government the enormous bribery and corruption such as blackmarketing and oppression of the weak prevalent in the State consequent on that. Several new laws were passed to enforce food control. Thereby people were very much harassed. Mostly poor people were caught and rich people escaped. We urged on the Government to remove control on food, but our voice was a cry in the wilderness. Now, we are all happy that it was left to the able statesmanship of Sri Rajagopalachari to courageously come forward and remove the control on food.

"Then, about Prohibition I have to say a word. We, women, picketed toddy and arrack shops in the days of the British rule when we agitated for the removal of the drink evil. In our struggle we had on several occasions to become the victims of lathi charges, and we even courted imprisonment in that struggle. Now we are all glad that Prohibition has been introduced. The previous speaker has described in full the benefit of Prohibition in sweet colloquial Tamil. I have to point out here how much the womenfolk, the poor women, the working class women, have all been profited by this Prohibition policy of the Government. I know how they feel happy over it as I am living almost in their midst, I am living in Adyar, for the last several years. In the days when toddy and arrack shops were in full swing, our girls and inmates of our Home, could not pass by the Lattice Bridge road immediately after dark, for men used to pass by that road fully drunk, shouting in all sorts of obscene language. Now, what a contrast I see! Even at twelve o'clock at night, it is all quite safe there for people to go along that road. While previously, decent people, respectable people and women shuddered to come out at night on that road; now, due to the great change that has come about there, people without any

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fear pass along that road. I know illicit distillation, in the small villages round about that place, is going on. I admit the evil is there. It is an evil. But we cannot compromise with the evil of drink. Can we say that the Indian Penal Code should be repealed simply because thefts are going on all round us, or because there are several cases of murder taking place around us? We should enforce the Prohibition Act rigorously, because drink is an evil, from the social, health and economic points of view. It affects the health, not only the health of the addict but his children also. As a young student in the days when I had been studying in the Medical College, I used to see young children coming for treatment for blindness, deafness, mental deficiency and some kind of deformity or other. On enquiry into the history of those cases, I shuddered to find that they were all children of addicts. I know all sorts of criticism are hurled against the Ministry to make them repeal the Prohibition Act. I would plead with all the emphasis at my command not to repeal it. Remember the days when we picketed toddy and arrack shops and received lathi charges and insults from the Police and courted imprisonment to do away with drink evil. Why blame Government, why criticise Government if there is breach of law here and there? Enforce the law more rigorously.

"Now, Sir, I proceed to another subject. I am glad to see that educational fee concessions have been given to the children of the non-gazetted officers and also to the children of servants of local bodies and aided school teachers. I plead on this occasion that the same concessions may be extended to the orphans and destitutes in this State. There are thousands of children in that condition to-day. We want many more orphanages. Every district should have such an orphanage. We are running the Avvai Home in Adyar for orphans and destitute women. We have destitute poor children being cared for there. Almost every day, when I come out of my house in the morning, what do I see before me? The pathetic sight of orphans or deserted children, ill-fed, in ragged clothes hanging on to their mothers seeking admission. Very often, I felt, I should run away from there, because we were helpless and could not admit all of them for want of accommodation and finance. I prayed to God to help us. For I have also faith in God. Now, missionaries from distant lands have worked on these lines already, and have established educational institutions and hospitals, for the benefit of the poor of this land on account of their faith in Jesus. Our land has produced a Sankara, a Buddha and a Ramanuja, who are all great religious masters. Our land has produced Thiruvalluvar, the author of Kural, who has said in the first stanza—

‘அகர மதலொழிந்தெல்லாம் ஆதி பகவன் முத்திற உலக.’

The great woman Poetess Avvai has said:

‘கோயில் இல்லா ஊரில் குடியிருக்க வேண்டாம்.’

"These great people, whose works have come down to us not through any material medium but through thoughts which are written in letters of gold, these great men, lived thousands of years

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ago and are still remembered by us. Why? Because they have propounded truths; and truth is eternal. But that is by the way. What I was saying was, that destitute children should have the same fee concessions as the children of the non-gazetted officers. I know I should plead with the Hon. Finance Minister for this concession. I hope funds are available. Here I am not criticising him, but I am putting this suggestion to this Council of elders.

"Then, coming to education, there is primary education, secondary education and collegiate education. Of course, primary education has now become basic education. It is a good move in the right direction. Some of the villages and taluks have introduced compulsion in their schools to boys only but not to girls. Under the new Constitution we are guaranteed equal rights and opportunities. That being so, why should a difference be made by local boards and municipalities between boys and girls in imparting elementary education? The proportion is two boys to one girl. I am placing this fact before this House only to say that both boys and girls should be treated alike. There should be no discrimination between a boy and a girl in the elementary education stage.

"Again, Sir, when compulsion is introduced in the elementary education stage, you must see that the child is fed. Most of the pupils have no food to eat. What will a hungry child learn at school? Can you make him learn anything? No. So local bodies should make efforts to provide food to the hungry poor children.

"Then, with regard to secondary education, we find here, that the proportion of girls to boys is only 1 : 7. This is not proper. Because we want lakhs of midwives, nurses and women teachers. More than that we want good mothers. Now, Sir, we see our national character is very low. We want to make our people cultured in the real sense of the word. This training should begin in the home. For that, unless you have an educated mother, you cannot expect to have good citizens in future. Therefore I would ask you to give priority to girls' education.

"Here I may say a word about the bifurcated course. Only 92 schools have adopted it. I submit these courses should be introduced in every girls' school. This course comprises lessons in domestic science, home-craft, mother-craft, hygiene, music, in fact all arts which really go to make a real home. It is said that our ancients knew 64 *kalais*; but that is all forgotten now. I am interested to see that bifurcated courses are introduced also for our boys. Medical, science, engineering, etc. courses should be introduced as quickly as possible. The previous speaker said that there is great need to give training in agriculture to our boys. It is a very good suggestion, and I suggest that this training should be given in the high schools. I would urge on the Government to give more encouragement in starting professional colleges. What is the use of starting more and more Arts Colleges? What are these students going to do after finishing their Arts course, unless they intend to specialize in higher learning? So all the money spent on them is really a loss to the State. Either those students.

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should go to the engineering course or take to medicine, or they should be satisfied with the School Final Course and from there turn to some profession.

"Now, I turn to another point. I would place before you, Sir, the question of school medical service. I see in the Health Report of the Medical department that cholera, dysentery and smallpox are on the increase except malaria, which has been kept under control. Even venereal diseases have increased. Why so? Because you have not inculcated in the people the elementary principles of health and hygiene. Frequent medical inspection alone can achieve that end. Now we have four million children attending schools in the elementary stage. We have five lakhs of boys and girls in the secondary education stage, forty thousand in colleges. If all these people are made healthy in the early years, what a fine set of people we will have! Then, Sir, not only children will learn to live healthy lives but also the teachers and parents as well. They will be missionaries of health. We have appointed so many doctors and yet they are found to be too few in number to meet the needs of the people. So this important branch of preventive medicine, namely, School Medical Service should be introduced in all schools, to elementary school children, to secondary school children and college students. Again, Sir, teachers should be medically examined frequently, and they should be given education in health and hygiene. Because they are the people who are in contact every day, with their pupils; and so, very much depends upon the teacher. I am in perfect sympathy with those who want more emoluments and better salary and better conditions for teachers. I sympathize with them. But, at the same time, we have to see that they are given good training. The future of our children depends upon the kind of teachers they have. Everybody is not a born teacher. So we should appoint a committee for the selection of good teachers.

"Now, coming to the Budget for health services, I find Government have provided for Agriculture, Industries, etc., a good sum but not for Public Health."

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"The hon. Member may take a few minutes more and finish her speech."

6-30
p.m.

* DR. S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI:—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, I should like to quote from the report of the Director of Public Health but there is no time. Cancer is a dreadful disease. It takes a toll of lakhs of lives every year. It is one of the most fatal and one of the most deadly of diseases. Scientists and Specialists have now discovered that this disease which was considered incurable can be cured if diagnosed early and adequately treated. It is now acknowledged that it is more curable than many other diseases. People should therefore be educated to seek early treatment. In advanced cases cancer is one of most painful diseases. It kills more people nowadays and it is next to tuberculosis in mortality and morbidity. In the department of the Director Public Health there

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must be an Anti-cancer department and provision must be made for Anti-cancer Campaign with posters, with films, with models and literature in all the languages to educate the people as to the nature of the disease and advise them to seek early treatment. Six persons die of cancer every hour and 140 to 150 people die every day of cancer. It is the great Tamil Poetess Avvayar who said:

‘கொடிது கொடிது வருமை கொடிது, அதனினும் கொடிது
ஆற்றெனக் கொடுநாய்’

She is a great woman who has pronounced disease to be worse than hunger and famine. Probably there was cancer even in those days! We must see that provision is made to bring this truth home to every citizen. As many time is up, I do not want to continue and I thank you, Sir. I support this Budget wholeheartedly and I wish this Government to continue so that they may bring in beneficial measures for improving the health of the people and also for promoting education and many other things like agriculture, etc."

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"The House will now adjourn and meet again at 4 o'clock on Saturday, the 5th July 1952."

The House then adjourned.

IV—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE,

G.O. Ms. No. 1839, P.W. (Electricity), dated 28th April 1952, regarding the acquisition of Periyakulam Municipal Electrical Undertaking.

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MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DEBATES

OFFICIAL REPORT

SATURDAY, 5TH JULY 1952

VOLUME II—No. 4

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Saturday, the 5th July 1952.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at four of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Promotion of Sub-Collectors as District Collectors.

* 15 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) what the minimum period of service Sub-Collectors have to put in before they are promoted as District Collectors is;

(b) whether the rule is strictly followed and whether officers without sufficient revenue experience are promoted as Collectors as significantly pointed out in Gorwala's Report on Public Administration; and

(c) whether steps are being taken to avoid such anomalies in the interest of efficiency of public service?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“(a) to (c) No such minimum period has been prescribed. Care is always taken to see that only the more experienced among our officers are promoted as Collectors.”

Abolition of races.

* 16 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to stop the Madras Races and ban the publication of all news relating to races in this State; and

(b) if so, when the Act and the rules governing the above are likely to be brought into force?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“(a) & (b) There is no such proposal.”

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR:—“Sir, was there not originally a proposal in this regard when Dr. P. Subbarayan was here?”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“Sir, there is a confusion between stopping of races and stopping of betting. The stopping of betting was proposed and it has been accepted statutorily and the date has to be fixed. On a future date it may be introduced but there is no question of stopping of

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racers. There is also now prevention of publication of betting news outside certain limits. This is even now in force. There is no question of stopping that or the publication of all news relating to races."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Sir, is not the Hon. Minister for Sports, the Raja of Ramnad, in charge of this portfolio? If he is in charge, may I ask why he is not answering this question? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, it is not open to hon. Members to prescribe who should answer but, as the hon. Member apparently wishes to have the information, I will furnish him. It is one thing to be in charge of physical health, sports and activities of that kind on the playing fields and the like, but this is a question of the Police, of the prevention of betting and gaming and so the question has been put to me."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know, Sir, when the Act for the abolition of betting will be enforced and how long it will remain a dead letter as its enforcement has been postponed from time to time? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, there is no such thing here as a dead letter and this is another case of confusion. In the Act it was provided that a date should be fixed for bringing it into force. So the expression 'dead letter' is wrong. The date that has been provisionally fixed by the Government is April of next year."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Sir, is it the policy of Government to encourage horse-racing or put an end to horse-racing? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, I am answering off-hand for myself and not for the Government. It is my desire that horse-racing should not be discouraged."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Sir, is it correct that the Hon. the Chief Minister himself gave a grant for a cup for horse-racing in Calcutta? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" It is not relevant, Sir, but I think the hon. Member is correctly informed."

Retrenchment in public expenditure.

* 17 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have carried out any schemes of retrenchment in State public expenditure since the present Ministry assumed office; and

(b) if so, whether the Government will lay on the table of the House a list of such schemes together with the savings under each head?

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) & (b) The matter is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—" May I know, Sir, whether this Government has taken into consideration the report submitted by the Retrenchment Committee appointed by the previous Ministry and whether in the course of their present consideration that report will be considered? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, everything is being taken into consideration in effecting retrenchment."

Increase in the rents for stalls in Alandur markets.

* 18 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether any representation has been received by the Government from the Alandur General Market Merchants' Association with regard to the increased and arbitrary levy by the local panchayat board of rents for stalls in the markets taken over by the panchayat board, with effect from 1st April 1952; and if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Yes. The matter is under correspondence with the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" May I know, Sir, when was the resolution passed by the panchayat board to take over the private market under its control? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Sir, the information is not available with me now but from the date the Act came into force the panchayat boards cannot allow any private markets."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" Sir, I am aware of it, but may I also know whether notice was issued to the stallholders before the increase of rent was ordered by the panchayat board, and if so, when was the notice issued and served on the parties? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Sir, the required information will be obtained and supplied."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" Sir, is it a fact that the increase in the rents ordered by the panchayat board varies from shop to shop and in some cases the increase varies from 50 per cent to 150 per cent and in some even up to 300 per cent? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Sir, I think it may vary from shop to shop according to the size of the shop. To give definite information I require notice."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" Sir, will it not be in the interests of the administration that the stalls should be

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reclassified according to the size, importance and position of commanding view in the market and reasonable rents be fixed accordingly?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—"Sir, it is the look-out of the panchayat board and I think the panchayat board will be fair in that respect."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR:—"Sir, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to convey this suggestion to the panchayat board through the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—"Certainly, Sir."

Functions of the Efficiency Officers in the Revenue Department.

* 19 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what the duties of Efficiency Officers working under District Collectors in the Revenue Department are;

(b) how many such Efficiency Officers are working in each district;

(c) whether the duties of the Efficiency Officers cannot be performed by the regular Divisional Officers; and

(d) whether the abolition of these posts is being considered?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—

"(a) The Efficiency Officers maintain close personal watch over the progress of execution of Intensive Cultivation Schemes. They also verify in the course of their tours whether the village and taluk registers prescribed by the Commissioner of Food Production for localisation of extents receiving Grow More Food benefits and for assessing the results under each scheme are properly maintained. They themselves verify the results in as many cases as possible and see that the karnam's estimates of production include the additional production that should have been realised under the various Intensive Cultivation Schemes. They also attend to all items of work under the various well subsidy schemes, which were previously discharged by the former Special Deputy Collectors for Wells. The Efficiency Officers submit their notes of inspections, if any, to the District Collectors concerned.

The Efficiency Officers are working directly under the Commissioner of Food Production, Madras, and are subject to his administrative control and supervision and not under the District Collectors.

"(b) There are eight Efficiency Officers in the State each in charge of 2 to 4 districts.

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"(c) The Revenue Divisional Officers can perform those duties to a certain extent, but they will not be able to devote such close and constant attention to those duties as the Efficiency Officers can.

"(d) Yes. The question of abolition is being considered."

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

II.—GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1952-53—cont.

* SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIAR:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது இந்தச் சபை முன்பு வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தைப்பற்றி சர்ச்சை நடந்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறது. குறிப்பாக, வரவு செலவு நன்றாக நடத்தப் படவேண்டுமென்றால் அரசாங்கம் ஸ்திரமானதாக இருக்கவேண்டும். அரசாங்கம் ஸ்திரமானதாக இருக்கவேண்டுமென்றால், எல்லோரும் ஒத்திழைத்து, நாட்டிலுள்ள ஜனங்களுக்குச் செய்யவேண்டிய தொண்டை சரியாக செய்வதற்கு நாம் எல்லோரும் தயாராக இருப்பது உசிதமானது.

"சென்ற இரண்டு மாதங்களாக புது அரசாங்கம் இங்கு நடந்துவருகிறது. புது அரசாங்கமானது இந்த மாகாணத்தில் எந்தச் சூழ்நிலையில் வந்தது என்பதைப்பற்றி நான் சொல்லவேண்டாம். நாட்டில் ஏழ்மை, பசிப்பிணி இவைகளெல்லாம் அதிகமாகத் தாண்டவமாடுகிறது. இந்த நிலைமையில் காங்கிரஸினுடைய செல்வாக்கு கொஞ்சம் குறைந்திருக்கின்றன. சமீபத்தில் நடந்த தேர்தலில் வேறு கட்சிகளும் தோன்றி, அவர்களும் இந்த நாட்டு நிரவாகத்தில் பங்கு கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்ற முறையில் சட்டசபையில் வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனாலும், சட்டசபையிலே சர்ச்சைகள் நடப்பதைப் பார்த்தால், துவேஷம் அதிகமாக இருக்கிறதேயொழிய, மக்களுக்குத் தொண்டு செய்ய வேண்டிய முறையிலே சட்டசபையிலே சர்ச்சைகள் நடப்பதாகத் தெரியவில்லை. நாட்டில் பஞ்சமும், பசிப்பிணியும் ஒரு புறமிருக்க, இயற்கையும் ஒத்தாசை செய்யவில்லை. இந்தச் சூழ்நிலையில் அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்துவது ரொம்ப கஷ்டம். யார் அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்தினாலும் எந்தக் கட்சியார் அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்தினாலும், அங்கத்தினர்கள் அதிகமாகக் கோபம் கொள்ளாமல், தகுந்த முறையில் நடத்தினால்தான் முடியும். அதிலும் குறிப்பாக, அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்தும் கட்சி இன்னும் அதிக பொறுமையாக இருக்கவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. அப்படியில்லாமலிருந்தால் ஆளும் கட்சி எதைப் பேசினாலும்கூட, எதிர் கட்சியாளர்கள் அதை வேறு விதமாக அர்த்தம் செய்துகொண்டு அதிக கோபத்தை உண்டாக்கிவிட்டு தாக்குதலில் இறங்கிவிடுகிறார்கள். இந்தச் சூழ்நிலையில் நாம் அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்தவேண்டுமென்றால், எதிர்க் கட்சியாக இருந்தாலும் சரி, அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்தும் கட்சியாக இருந்தாலும் சரி, சரியாக அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்தமுடியுமா என்று யோசிக்கவேண்டும். ஏன் இதைச் சொல்லுகிறேன் என்றால் வரவு செலவு சரியாகக் நடக்கவேண்டுமென்றால், ஸ்திரமான அரசாங்கம் இருக்கவேண்டும். ஸ்திரமான அரசாங்கம் இருந்தால்தான் மக்களுக்கு நன்றாகச் சேவைசெய்யமுடியும். மக்களுக்கு நன்றாகச் சேவை செய்தால்தான் அவர்களுடைய கஷ்டங்களை நிவர்த்திக்கமுடியும். அவர்களுடைய கஷ்டங்கள் நீங்கினால்தான் இந்த நாட்டில் சுபிட்சமும் சுகமும் உண்டாக முடியும். இவ்விதமாக எந்தக் கட்சியாக இருந்தாலும், அவரவர்கள் செய்யவேண்டிய கடமையைச் செய்யாவிட்டால் அவர்கள் மக்களுக்குச் செய்யவேண்டிய கடமையைச் செய்ய தவறியவர்களாவார்கள்.

"இங்கே சட்டசபையில் நாம் பிரதிநிதித்துவம் வகிப்பது நமக்காக மாதிரம் அல்ல, நம்முடைய கட்சிக்காக மாதிரம் அல்ல. இங்குள்ள அங்கத்தினர்கள் தனியாகவோ கூட்டாகவோ எல்லா ஜனங்களுக்கும் நாம் ஜவாப்தாரி என்பதை மறந்து விடுகிறோம். ஆகையினாலே, இந்த நிலையில் நாம்

[Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar] [5th July 1952]

எல்லோரும் மக்களுக்குச் சேவை செய்வதற்காகவே வந்திருக்கிறோம் என்பதைக் கவனித்து நடந்து கொள்ளவேண்டும். நான் யாரையும் குறை கூறுவதற்காகவோ, குற்றங்கள் கண்டுபிடிப்பதற்காகவோ சொல்லவில்லை.

“இந்த நாடு இருக்கும் நிலை என்ன? வறுமை தாண்டவமாடுகிறது, மக்களைப் பசிப்பிணி வாட்டுகிறது, பஞ்சம் ஒரு பக்கம் இருக்கிறது. சென்ற 6, 7 வருஷங்களாக பருவ மழையில்லாமல் பஞ்சம் இருந்துக்கொண்டு வருகிறது. பஞ்சம் 1945-ம் வருஷமே வந்துவிட்டது. அதாவது கங்கிரஸ் மந்திரி சபையைக் கைப்பற்று முன்னே பஞ்சம் ஆரம்பமாகிவிட்டது. அரசாங்கத்திலுள்ள கணக்கை எடுத்துப் பார்த்தால் எப்பொழுது பஞ்சம் ஆரம்பித்தது, எத்தனை வருஷங்களாக பஞ்சம் இருக்கிறது, பஞ்சத்தின் காரணமாக அரசாங்கம் வருஷா வருஷம் எவ்வளவு வரி வாங்கிச் செய்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்பது தெரியவரும்.

“கடவுள் பாபமோ என்னவோ தெரியவில்லை. கடவுள் என்றால் சிலர் குறை கூறுகிறார்கள், அதைப் பற்றிக் கவலையில்லை. கடவுள் மீது நம்பிக்கையுள்ளவர்கள் கடவுள் பற்றி பேசுவதை யாரும் தடுக்க முடியாது. இப்பொழுது பேச்சு, எழுத்து சுதந்திரம் இருக்கிறது. யார் எதை வேண்டுமானாலும் தாராளமாகச் சொல்லிக் கொள்ளலாம். இந்த நிலைமையில் நம்முடைய வாழ்க்கை போய்க்கொண்டிருக்கிறது.

4-15 p.m. “சட்டசபையிலே சட்டங்களைச் செய்வதற்காக இருக்கும்போது நாம் ஜனப்பிரதிநிதிகளாக இங்கு வந்திருக்கிறோம் என்பதை மறந்துவிடுகிறோம். சட்டம் செய்வதற்காக நாம் கூடியிருக்கும்போது வார்த்தைகளை அளந்து பேசவேண்டும். மக்களுக்கு, சபித்சம் ஏற்படும் வகையில் நாம் சட்டங்களைச் செய்வோம், சாதக பாதகங்களை நன்றாகச் சர்ச்சை செய்து, நல்ல முறையில் அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்துவதற்கு உதவுவோம் என்று ஜனங்கள் நம்பிட்டுமிருந்து எதிர் பார்த்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் நாம் பேசுவது, நாம் நடந்து கொள்ளும் விதம், இவையெல்லாம் அவர்கள் எதிர்பார்க்கும் அளவு இருக்கவில்லை. ஏதோ ஒரு கட்சியில் பேசும்போது ஒருவருக்கொருவர் குத்தலாகப் பேசுவதோ, அசன் மீது ஆயிரம் வார்த்தைகளைக் கொட்டி அதிகமாகப் பேசிக்கொண்டிருப்பதனால் பொது ஜனங்களிடம் என்ன ஏற்படுகிறதென்றால், அவர்களுக்கு அரசாங்கத்தின் மேல் மதிப்பு இல்லாமற் போய்விடுகிறது. ஜனப்பிரதிநிதிகள் எல்லோரும் இப்படித்தான் இருப்பார்கள் போலும் என்ற நிலையில் ஜனங்களிடத்தில் ஒரு எண்ணம் பரவுவதற்கு காரணமாயிருக்கிறது. இதனால் நாட்டின் அரசாங்கத்தின் மீது நல்ல அபிப்பிராயம் இல்லாமற் போய்விடுகிறது. ஜனங்கள் சட்டத்திற்கும், நியாயத்திற்கும் மதிப்பு வைக்க முடியாத நிலைமை ஏற்படுகிறது. யால் சட்டசபையிலுள்ள எல்லா அங்கத்தினர்களும், குறிப்பாக அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்தும் கட்சி நிதானத்துடன் மக்களுக்குச் சேவை செய்யும் நோக்கத்தோடு, அதற்குத் தகுந்த முறையில் நடக்கவேண்டியது அவசியமென்பதை நான் சுட்டிக் காட்ட வேண்டியதில்லை. இருக்கின்ற எல்லோரும் அனுபவம் உள்ளவர்கள்; அவர்கள் அரசாங்க நிர்வாகத்தில் நல்ல அனுபவமுள்ளவர்கள்; அவர்கள் சட்டத்தை நன்றாக உணர்ந்தவர்கள் என்ற நம்பிக்கையில் நான் அதிகம் பேசத் தேவையில்லை.

“இன்னொரு சபையில் சர்ச்சைகளைப் பார்க்கும்போது அதிகமாகப் பேசுகிறார்கள். இது பொது ஜனங்கள் மனதிலே நம்மையப்பற்றி எந்த எண்ணம் உண்டாகுமென்பதை யோசிக்கவேண்டும்.

“அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்துவதற்கோ, சட்டங்களைச் செய்வதற்கோ நாம் தகுதியுள்ளவர்களென்ற எண்ணத்திலேதான் ஜனங்கள் அங்கத்தினர்களை தேர்ந்தெடுத்து அனுப்பியிருக்கிறார்கள். இவர் ஏதோ வேதாந்தம் பேசுவதற்கு வந்து விட்டார் என்று குறை கூறலாம். இருந்தாலும் என் மனதில் பட்டதைச் சொல்லவேண்டும். அதைச் செய்யாவிட்டால் நான் என்னுடைய கடமையைச் செய்தவனாகமாட்டேன். சொல்லிவிடுவதில் கூட நியாயமில்லை. மனிதன் தன்னை வரையறைகுட்படுத்திக் கொண்டு

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வாழ்க்கையை நடத்தவேண்டும். நினைத்தபடி வாழ்க்கையை நடத்திக் கொண்டிருந்தால் அது பக்கத்தில் இருப்பவனை பாதிக்கும் என்றெல்லாம் நினைத்துக் காரியங்களைச் செய்வேண்டும். நம்முடைய எண்ணமும், சொல்லும், செயலும் அம்மாதிரி பிறருக்கு கெடுதலைவிளைவிக்காவண்ணம், இருக்கவேண்டும். அதில்தான் இருக்கிறது நம்முடைய முன்னேற்றமும், நாட்டின் முன்னேற்றமும் என்பதை நாம் மறந்துவிடுகிறோம். இதை குறுக்கப்படுத்திக் கொள்ளவேண்டும்.

“தவிர, அரசாங்கம் நடக்கவேண்டுமென்றால், அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்துகிறவர்களுடைய நாடு இப்பொழுது எந்த நிலையில் இருக்கிறது, அரசாங்கம் எந்த நிலையில் இருக்கிறது, அரசாங்கத்தை எப்படி நடத்தவேண்டும், எந்த நிலையில் இருக்கிறது, அப்பாங்கத்தை எப்படி நடத்தவேண்டும், நடத்துவதற்கு என்னென்ன தடைகள் இருக்கின்றன, அந்தத் தடைகளை எப்படி நீக்கவேண்டும், அதிகமாக தடைகள் இருக்கின்றனவா என்பதையும் யோசனை செய்யவேண்டும். இல்லாவிட்டால் அரசாங்கம் நம்முடைய கட்சியைப்பற்றி மாதிரி நினைத்துக் கொண்டிருந்தால், இப்பொழுது இருக்கையிலுள்ள மாதிரி நினைத்துக் கொள்வதற்கு ரொம்ப நன்றாக நடத்தமுடியுமா என்பதும் சூழ்நிலையில் அரசாங்கத்தை ரொம்ப நன்றாக நடத்தமுடியுமா என்பதை யோசிக்கவேண்டும். ஆகையால், அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்தும் நமது பெரியார்கள் கனம் ஸ்ரீ ராஜகோபாலாச்சாரியார் அவர்களுக்கு நான் எடுத்துச் சொல்லவேண்டியதில்லை. அவர் நல்ல அனுபவமுள்ளவர். திறமையுள்ளவர். ஆனாலும் அவரும் அதைக் கவனித்திருக்கின்றார் என்று தெரியும். இருந்தாலும் அதை இன்னும் அதிகமாகக் கவனித்து, ஸ்திரமான அரசாங்கத்தை ஏற்படுத்துவதற்குத் தகுந்த முறையில் இந்த அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்துவதற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்வாரென்று நினைக்கிறேன். மத்திய அரசாங்கத்திலிருந்து அப்போதைக்கப்போது முடுக்கட்டைகள் இருந்து வந்தன. இப்பொழுது அம்மாதிரி முடுக்கட்டைகள் இருக்கிறதோ என்னவோ தெரியாது. நான் பிரதமராக இருந்தபோது அம்மாதிரி முடுக்கட்டைகள் இருந்தன. ஆனால் அவர்களுக்கும் இப்பொழுதுள்ள நிலையை எடுத்துச் சொல்ல வேண்டும்.

“அப்பொழுதிருந்த சூழ்நிலை வேறு; அப்போது நம்முடைய கட்சியில் அதிகம் பேர் இருந்தார்கள். இப்பொழுது இருக்கும் நிலையைப் பார்த்தால் நாம் தனியாக அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்த முடியுமா என்பதை யோசனை செய்யவேண்டும். ஏதோ அதிகமாகச் சொல்லுகிறேன் என்று நினைக்கக் கூடாது. ஸ்திரமான அரசாங்கம் வேண்டுமென்றால் அடிப்படையில் விரோத மில்லாத கட்சிகளை சேர்த்துக்கொண்டு அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்தவேண்டுமென்று நினைக்கிறேன். எவ்வளவு தூரம் என்னுடைய யோசனை உசிதமென்று பகிறதோ எனக்குத் தெரியாது. அம்மாதிரி இருந்தால் ஒரு ஸ்திரமான அரசாங்கத்தை நாம் சரியாக நடத்த முடியும் இல்லையென்றால் அடிக்கடி இந்தப் போராட்டங்கள் இருந்துக்கொண்டதான் இருக்கும். இதிலிருந்து தைரியமாக எந்தக் காரியத்தையும் ஜனங்களுக்குத் தொண்டு செய்ய முடியாது. அந்த நிலையில் அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்துவதென்றால் ரொம்பவும் கஷ்டமென்பதை எடுத்துச் சொல்ல வேண்டும். அனுபவத்தின் மூலம் தெரியும். நீங்களே அதற்குத் தகுந்த முறையில் நடந்து கொள்வீர்களென்று நினைக்கிறேன்.

“தவிர, அரசாங்கத்தை நாம் நடத்திக்கொண்டு வரும்போது எந்தெந்தத் துறையில் நாம் வரி விதிக்கிறோம், யார் யார் வரிகள் கொடுக்கிறார்கள், அந்த வரிகள் எப்படி எப்படி ஜனங்களுக்கு உபயோகப்படுத்தப்படுகின்றன, வரி கொடுக்கும் ஜனங்கள் ஒவ்வொருவருக்கும், அதில் எவ்வளவு பங்கு போய் செருகிறது, விவசாயிகளை எடுத்துக் கொள்ளுங்கள், வியாபாரிகளை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளுங்கள். இன்னும் இதேபோல வேலையில் இருக்கக் கூடியவர்களை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளுங்கள். இப்படியாக இந்த மாகாணத்தில் தொழில்கள் புரிந்து கொண்டிருக்கக்கூடியவர்களை அவர்கள் தொழில் படி எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் ஒவ்வொருவர் மூலமாகவும் இந்த மாகாணத்திற்கு எவ்வளவு வருமானம் வந்து கொண்டிருக்கிறது. அவர்கள் ஒவ்வொருவரும் எவ்வளவு வரி கொடுத்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் கொடுக்கும் வரியிலிருந்து எவ்வளவு பங்கு பணம் அவர்களுக்கே போய்ச் செருகிறது என்பதையெல்லாம் யோசிக்க வேண்டியிருக்கிறது.

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இப்போது வரி கொடுக்கிறவர்கள் ஒரு பகுதியினர். ஆனால் அதிகமான செளகரியங்களை யெல்லாம் அடைகிறார்கள் மற்றொரு பகுதியினராக இப்போது இருக்கிறார்கள். இது ஜனங்களுக்கு நன்கு தெரிந்தவிட்டது. ஏனென்றால் நாம் ஜனங்களுக்கு அதிகமாக நன்மையைச் செய்யப்போகிறோம் என்று பொல்லிக்கொண்டுதான் ஜனங்களுடைய பிரச்சனையை அதிகமாகக் கிளப்பி விட்டிருக்கிறோம். அதிகமான வரி ஒரு பக்கமும் அதன் பளுவை தாள் மாட்டாமல் மக்கள் படும் கஷ்டம் ஒரு பக்கமும் அதிகமாக இருக்க இப்போது புதிய வரியை போட நாம் உத்தேசிக்கும்போது பல பக்கங்களிலிருந்து கிளர்ச்சி ஏற்படக்கூடும். இப்பொழுது சர்க்காருக்கு விரோதமாக எத்தனையோ கிளர்ச்சிகள் இருக்கின்றன. இந்த சர்க்கார் ஒழிந்தால் தாங்கள் பதவிக்கு வந்தவுடன் அவர்களுடைய இஷ்டம்போலவே எல்லா வகைகளிலும் தொண்டு செய்வதாக அவர்கள் சொல்லிவருகிறார்கள். அதற்காக வரி போடக்கூடாதென்று நான் சொல்லவில்லை. ஆனால் நியாயமான முறையில் யாருக்கு வரி போடவேண்டும். யார் இப்போது அதிகவரி கொடுக்காமல் லாபம் அதிகம் சம்பாதித்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதைப் பார்த்து அவர்களுக்கு வரி போடவேண்டுமே தவிர இப்போது அந்த வரி செலுத்திக் கொண்டிருப்பவர்களுக்கே வரி மறுபடியும் போடக் கூடாது என்பதற்காகத்தான் சொல்லுகிறேன்.

“இப்போது பட்ஜெட் தயாரிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. மிகவும் ஜாக்கிரதை யாகத்தான் இந்த பட்ஜெட் தயாரிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறதென்பது எனக்குத் தெரியும். இதற்குமுன்னிருந்த அரசாங்கம் செய்திருந்தவைகளை சில வற்றை மாற்றியிருக்கிறார்கள். எந்த அரசாங்கம், எந்தக் கட்சி பதவியில் இருந்தாலும் சரி அவர்கள் தங்கள் கொள்கைகளுக்குத் தக்கபடிதான் பட்ஜெட்டை தயார்செய்வார்கள். இந்த அரசாங்கம் அப்படியே புதிய கொள்கைகளுக்குத் தக்கபடிதான் இந்த பட்ஜெட்டை தயார்செய்திருக்கிறது. இவர்கள் பட்ஜெட்டை தயார்செய்யும்போது, இந்த மாகாண அரசாங்கத்தின் வருமானம் என்ன, எந்த எந்த இனங்களில் எவ்வளவு கோடி ரூபாய்கள் செலவு செய்யப்படவேண்டும், எந்தந்த புதிய திட்டங்களை அமுலுக்குக் கொண்டுவரவேண்டும், அதற்காக எவ்வளவு பணம் வேண்டியிருக்கிறது, இருக்கும் வருமானத்தைக்கொண்டே அதை நடத்திச் செல்ல முடியுமா என்பதையெல்லாம் யோசித்தாக வேண்டும் யோசித்தும்தான் இருப்பார்கள்.

“முக்கியமாக ஒன்றை கவனியுங்கள், 1939-ம் வருஷத்திலே இந்த அரசாங்கத்திற்கு 16 கோடி ரூபாய்கள் வருமானம் வந்து கொண்டிருந்தது. இப்போது சுமார் 60 கோடி ரூபாய்கள் வருகின்றன. இதில் நிலவரி மாதிரி சர்க்காருக்கு எவ்வளவு வருகிறது என்று பார்க்க வேண்டும். நிலவரி மூலமாக சர்க்காருக்கு சுமார் 11 கோடி ரூபாய்கள் வருகின்றன. விற்பனை வரி மூலமாக சர்க்காருக்கு சுமார் 15 கோடி ரூபாய்கள் வருகின்றன. அதேமாதிரியாக காடுகள், ஸ்டாம்பல், ரிஜிஸ்ட்ரேஷன் முதலியவைகள் மூலமாக சர்க்காருக்கு வருமானம் வந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறது.

“இருந்தாலும் பொதுவாகப் பார்க்குமிடத்து கிராம ஜனங்களிடமிருந்து வரும் வருமானத்தைவிட மிகக் குறைவாகவேதான் நகரங்களிலுள்ளவர்களிடமிருந்து சர்க்காருக்கு வருமானம் வந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறது. நில வரி, தண்ணீர் வரி, ரிஜிஸ்ட்ரேஷன், ஸ்டாம்பல் விற்பனை வரி போன்றவைகளில் கிராமங்களில் கிடைக்கும் வருமானம்தான் அதிகம். அப்படியிருந்தும் கூட இப்போது நகரங்களில் தான் அதிகமாக கல்விக்காகவும், ரோடுகளுக்காகவும், மற்ற இதர செளகரியங்களை செய்து கொடுப்பதற்காகவும் செலவு செய்கிறீர்களே தவிர மற்றபடி கிராமங்களில் ரோடுகளைக் கவனிப்பதே கிடையாது. ஆஸ்பத்திரி வசதியைப் பற்றியோ, கல்வி வசதியைப் பற்றியோ, கிராமங்கள் சரியாக கவனிக்கப்படவில்லை.

“கிராமப்புரங்களில், நகரப்புரங்களிலிட மிக அதிகமாக ஜனங்கள் வசிக்கிறார்கள். புள்ளிவிவரங்களை எடுத்துப் பார்த்தால் அது மிக நன்றாகத்தெரிய வரும். மொத்தமுள்ள 5 கோடியே 60 லக்ஷம் ஜனங்களில், கிராமங்களில் மாதிரி 4 கோடியே 60 லக்ஷம் ஜனங்கள் வசிக்கிறார்கள். இன்னும் 88 லக்ஷம் பேர்கள் முனிசிபல் பிரதேசங்களிலும்,

5th July 1952] [Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar]

44 லக்ஷம் பேர்கள் மேஜர் பஞ்சாயத்துகளிலும் வசிப்பது 1950-ம் வருடத்திய கணக்குப்படி பார்த்தால் தெரியவரும், இந்த இரண்டு வருஷ புள்ளி விவரங்கள் என்னிடம் இல்லை. கிடைக்கவுமில்லை, இப்போது கொஞ்சம் எல்லாவற்றிலும் அதிகமாகியிருக்கலாம். கிராமத்திலுள்ள ஜனங்களில் சுமார் 3 கோடியே 70 லக்ஷம் பேர்களுக்குத் தான் நிலமிருக்கும். பாக்கியிருப்பவர்கள் நிலமற்றவர்கள். ஆகவே கிராமத்திலுள்ள 3 கோடியே 72 லக்ஷம் பட்டாதாரிகள் தான் சர்க்காருக்கு நிலவரி, நீர் வரி என்று ஏராளமாக வரிகள் கொடுத்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். முன்பு ஸ்டாம்பல் மூலமாக சுமார் 1½ கோடி ரூபாய்கள் வந்ததென்றால் இப்போது 4 கோடியே 75 லக்ஷம் ரூபாய் வந்து கொண்டிருக்கிறது. இப்படியாக பல துறைகளில் பார்த்தாலும் கிராம ஜனங்கள் தான் அதிகமான வரியைக் கொடுத்துக் கொண்டுவருகிறார்கள் என்பது பட்ஜெட்டை நாம் சரியாகப் பார்த்தால் தெரியவரும். அதேசமயத்தில் அவர்களுக்கு திரும்பவும் எவ்வளவு பணம் போய் சேருகிறதென்பதைப் பார்த்தோமானால் அது தான் மிகவும் குறைவாக இருக்கிறதென்பதை அதே பட்ஜெட் மூலமாக நன்றாகத் தெரிந்து கொள்ளலாம். நானும் இதற்கு முன் இந்த மாகாணத் தலைவராக இருந்தபோது நகரங்களிலுள்ள ஜனங்களுக்கு எவ்வளவு பணம் செலவிடப்பட்டுக் கிராமங்களிலுள்ள ஜனங்களுக்கு எவ்வளவு பணம் செலவு செய்யப்பட்டு வருகிறதென்பதை அறிந்து கொள்ள புள்ளிவிவரங்களைத் தருவித்தேன். எனக்குக் கிடைத்த தகவல்களிலிருந்து அதிகமாக நகர்புறங்களில் தான் செலவிடப்படுகிறதே தவிர கிராமங்களில், நகர்புறங்களில் செலவிடப்படும் தொகையில் நாலில் ஒரு பங்கு கூட செலவிடப்படவில்லை யென்பதை அறிந்து கொண்டேன். சமூகத்தொண்டை எடுத்துக் கொண்டாலும், பொது சுகாதாரத்தை எடுத்துக் கொண்டாலும், கல்வி வசதிகளை எடுத்துக் கொண்டாலும் நகரங்களிலெல்லாம் அதிகம் செலவிடப்படுகிறதென்பதை நீங்கள் இப்போது பரிசீலனை செய்தாலும் நன்றாகத் தெரியவரும். அதேசமயத்தில் கிராமங்களில் ஜனங்கள் கொடுக்கும் வரியைவிட நகரங்களிலுள்ள ஜனங்கள் அவ்வளவு வரி கொடுக்கவில்லை யென்பதை நாம் ரூபகத்தில் வைத்துக் கொள்ளவேண்டும். நீங்கள் இப்போது கிராமங்களிலுள்ளவர்களுக்கு அதிகமான வசதியைச் செய்து கொடுக்கும் முறையில் எல்லா திட்டங்களையும் மாற்றி அமைக்க வேண்டும். இதை ஒரே நாளில் மற்ற விடமுடியுமென்று நான் நினைக்கவில்லை. ஆனால் எப்படியும் அதை மாற்றியமைக்கவேண்டுமென்பதை உங்களுக்குச் சொல்லவே விரும்புகிறேன்.

“மஹாத்மா காந்தியவர்கள் அடிக்கடி என்ன சொல்லி வந்தார்கள்? கிராமங்களிலுள்ள ஜனங்களுக்குத் தான் நாம் அதிகம் தொண்டு செய்ய வேண்டும். அவர்கள் தான் இன்று ரொம்பவும் பிற்போக்கான நிலைமையில் இருக்கிறார்கள். கிராம ஜனங்களின் ஏழ்மை நிலைமையை, அறியாமை நிலைமையை மாற்றியமைக்கப் பாடுபடவேண்டுமென்று சொல்ல வில்லையா? அவர்கள் யோசனைப்படி காங்கிரஸ் கட்சியில் கிராம அபிவிருத்திக்காக பல சமூகத்தொண்டுகளையும் திட்டங்களையும் எடுத்துக் கொண்டு பாடுபடுவீலையா? இப்போதும் அந்தப் போலவே நமது காங்கிரஸ் அரசாங்கம் கொள்கைகளையும், திட்டங்களையும் போட்டு வேலை செய்யவேண்டுமென்பதாக நான்கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். அதற்குத்தகுந்த முறையில் அதிகமான தொகையை கிராமங்களுக்கு ஒதுக்க வேண்டுமென்றும் நான் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“இப்போது பார்த்தால் நம்முடைய வருமானத்தில் சுமார் 4-ல் 3 பங்கு நம் அரசாங்க ஊழியர்களின் சம்பளத்திற்கே செலவு செய்து விடுகிறோம். அதனால் அவர்களுக்குச் சம்பளம் கொடுக்கக்கூடாதென்று நான் சொல்லவில்லை. ஆயிரக்கணக்காக இவர்களுக்கு சம்பளம் கொடுக்கிறோமே இது யாருடைய பணம்? பணம் கொடுக்கிறவர்களுக்கு நாம் இப்போது எவ்வளவு செலவு செய்கிறோம்” நமக்கு பணம் கொடுக்கிறவர்கள் மிகவும் ஏழ்மையான நிலையில் இருக்கும்போது அவர்களுடைய நிலைமையை உயர்த்துவதற்கு நாம் என்ன ஏற்பாட்டை செய்திருக்கிறோம் என்றுதான் பார்த்த வேண்டுமென்பது என்னுடைய பிரச்சனை. ஆயிரம், ஐயாயிரம் என்று சம்பளம் கொடுத்தாலும் அதை வாங்குகிற அரசாங்க ஊழியர்கள் இன்றைக்கு சரியாக நடக்கிறார்களா? அரசாங்க நிர்வாக இயந்திரம் இன்று சரியாக

[Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar] [5th July 1952]

நடக்கிறதாயென்று பார்த்தால் அது சரியாக நடைபெறவில்லை யென்று தான் சொல்ல வேண்டும். நாம் திட்டங்களையும், கொள்கைகளையும் போடுகிறோம். ஆனால் அதை நிறைவேற்றி வைக்கவேண்டியவர்கள் மிகவும் பொறுப்பற்ற முறையில் நடத்தி வைக்கிறார்கள். அதனால் இன்று அதில் பல குறைபாடுகளும், குற்றச்சாட்டுகளும் ஏற்பட்டுக் கொண்டிருக்கின்றன. நாம் எந்தக் கொள்கையை கடைப்பிடிக்கவேண்டுமென்று பணம் ஒதுக்குகிறோமோ அந்தக் கொள்கைக்காக ஒதுக்கிய பணம் எல்லாம் செலவுபிக்கப் படுகிறதாயென்றால் அது தான் இல்லை. பெரும்பாலான பணம் விரயமாக்கப்படுகிறது. எத்தனை பணம் ஒதுக்குகிறோமோ, அத்தனை பணமும் கிராம வாசிகளிடம் போய்ச் சேருவதில்லை. ஒவ்வொரு மாதமும் பத்திரிகைகளில் பார்த்தாலும் தெரியும். மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தின் பணமும், மாகாண அரசாங்கத்தின் பணமும் கோடிக்கணக்கில் விரயமாகிக் கொண்டு வருகிறது என்பதைப் பற்றி பல விஷயங்கள் வெளியாகிறது. இதைப் பாரக்கும்போது அதிகமாக நாமே திருக்கிறோம் முறையில் பணம் விரயமாக்கப் படுகிறதெயென்று தான் வருந்த வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்தும் மந்திரிமார்கள் மாத்திரம் கவனித்தால் போதாது. அரசாங்கத்தை ஸ்திரமாக நடத்தும் அரசாங்க ஊழியர்களும் அதிகக் கவனமுள்ளவர்களாக இருக்கவேண்டும். அது இப்பொழுது கொஞ்சம் கொஞ்சமாகக் குறைந்து கொண்டுவருகிறது. அவர்கள் எவ்வளவு தூரம் அக்கறை கொண்டு, நம்நாட்டு ஏழைமக்களுக்குச் செய்யவேண்டிய தொண்டைச் செய்கிறார்கள் என்பதைப் பொறுத்திருக்கிறது நம் நாட்டு மக்களின் முன்னேற்றம். அரசாங்கம் திட்டங்களுக்காக ஒதுக்கின பணம் சரியாக ஏழை மக்களுக்கு அந்தந்தப் பகுதிகளுக்குப் போகிறது என்பதைக் கவனிக்க வேண்டும். இல்லாவிட்டால் பிரயோஜனமொன்றுமில்லை. நமது தலைவர்கள் ராஜாஜி அவர்கள் இப்பொழுது அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்துகிறார்களால், அவர் ஒருவர் மாத்திரம் இரவும் பகலும் வேலை செய்தால் போதுமா? எல்லா மந்திரிமார்களும் தகுந்த முறையில் வேலை செய்யவேண்டும். அரசாங்க இயந்திரமும் சரியாகப் பணியாற்றவேண்டும். Departmental heads இன்னும் கவனமாக வேலை செய்யவேண்டும். அவர்கள் இதற்குமுன் கவனமாக வேலை செய்து வந்தார்கள். இன்னும் அம்மாதிரியே வேலை செய்வார்களென்று நினைக்கின்றேன். அம்மாதிரி நடந்தால் ரொம்ப நல்லது. இருந்தாலும் கண்காணிப்பு அதிகமாக இருக்கவேண்டும். அவர்கள் மனதிலே நம் ஜனங்களுக்குச் சேவை செய்ய வேண்டுமென்ற எண்ணங்கள் இருக்கவேண்டும். இல்லாவிட்டால், அரசாங்கம் பணத்தை ஒதுக்கி விட்டபோதிலும் எதிர்பார்த்தப் பயனை அடையமுடியாது. ஆகையால், பணம் விரயமாகாதபடி அதிகாரிகளும் மந்திரிகளும் கண்காணிக்கவேண்டும். ஏழைகளிடமிருந்து பணத்தை வாங்கி, விநியோகப்பதற்கு நாம் கங்கணம் கட்டிக்கொண்டு, சட்டசபை, மந்திரிசபை எல்லாவற்றையும் வைத்துக் கொண்டு, அந்தப் பணத்தை சரியாக அவர்களுக்கு திட்டங்கள் மூலம் போய்ச் சேரவில்லையென்றால், அதனால் என்ன பயன்? இதனால் நாட்டுப் புறங்களிலுள்ள ஏழைமக்களுக்கு எந்த அரசாங்கம் நடந்தபோதிலும் அதன்மீது கோபம் உண்டாவது இயற்கையே. ஆகையால், நாட்டு மக்களின் முன்னேற்றம், அரசாங்கத்தின் ஸ்திரத்தன்மை எல்லாவற்றையும் கவனத்தில் கொண்டு காரியங்களைச் செய்துவரவேண்டும். இதையெல்லாம் நான் ஏன் சொல்லுகிறேன் என்றால் பிறருக்கு இது தெரியாது என்பதற்காக அல்ல; ஆனால், வேலை தொந்தரவுகளுக்கிடையே, பல தொல்லைகளில் மனது ஓடிவிடுகிறது. எதைக் கவனிக்கவேண்டுமோ அதைக் கவனிக்காமல் விட்டுவிடுகிறோம். அதனால் தவறுகள் ஏற்பட்டு, மக்கள் பயனை அடைய முடியாமல் போய்விடுகிறது.”

SRI S.B. ADITYAN :—“குதிரைப்பந்தயம் போன்றவைகளுக்கென்று ஒரு மந்திரி இருக்கிறாரே, அவர் அதிகப்படியான சில இலாகாவைப் பார்க்குமா?”

* SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIAR :—“சொல்லிக்கொண்டே வருகிறேன். சந்தேகம் இருந்தால் கேளுங்கள். தொந்தரவுகள் இருக்கும்போது எவ்வளவு பேரை நாம் கவனிக்க வேண்டுமென்பதையும் யோசிக்க

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வேண்டும். அவர்கள் மாத்திரமல்ல, சட்டசபை அங்கத்தினர்களும் ஜவாப் தாரி என்பதை மறந்துவிடக்கூடாது. மந்திரிகள் மாத்திரமல்லாமல் நாமெல்லோரும் ஜவாப்தாரி என்பதை மறந்துவிடக்கூடாது. எந்தெந்த துறையில் நாம் ஒத்தாசை செய்யவேண்டுமோ, எங்கெங்கே தவறுகள் இருக்கிறதோ அவைகளைச் சுட்டிக்காட்டி, நல்லது இருக்குமானால் அதற்குத் தீங்கும்கூட ஒத்தாசை செய்து அரசாங்கம், எந்த அரசாங்கமாக இருந்தாலும், நன்றாக நடப்பதற்குத் தகுந்த முறையில் நாம் ஒவ்வொருவரும் எவ்வளவு தூரம் அக்கறை கொள்ளுகிறோமோ அதைப் பொருத்திருக்கிறது அரசாங்கம் நடப்பது. அரசாங்கத்தை இன்று இவர்கள் நடத்தலாம். நாளை நீங்கள் நடத்தலாம். யாராயிருந்தாலும் சரி, அடிப்படை விதியை மறந்துவிடக்கூடாது. அடிப்படையை மறந்து, மக்களின் நலனை மறந்து, கொஞ்சம் அலட்சியமாக நாம் இருப்போமேயானால் அது ஜனங்களிடத்தில் எவ்வளவோ கஷ்டங்களை உண்டாக்குகிறது என்பதை எல்லோரும் சிந்திக்கவேண்டும். இன்று நாட்டில் வறுமையும் பஞ்சமும் தாண்டவ மாடும் நிலைமையில் நாம் எவ்வளவு ஜாக்கிரதையாகவும் நேர்மையாகவும் நடந்து கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்பதற்காகத்தான் நான் இதைச் சுட்டிக்காட்டுகின்றேன்.

“இந்த மாகாணத்தை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளுங்கள். இந்த மாகாணத்தின் பரப்பு சுமார் 1,25,000 சதுரமைல்கள். இதில் ஒரு லட்சம் சதுர மைலில் வெள்ளாமை நடக்கிறது. பதினேழு லக்ஷம் சதுர மைல்கள் காடுகள். ஏழு லக்ஷம் சதுர மைல்கள் இனும் நிலங்கள்.

“இந்த மாகாணத்திலுள்ள 4 கோடி ஏக்கர்களில், சுமார் 1 கோடி ஏக்கர் நீர்ப்பாசன வசதியுள்ளன. அந்த நீர்ப்பாசன வசதியுள்ள இடங்களைப் பார்த்தால், 40 லக்ஷம் ஏக்கர்கள் ஜீவநதியால் நீர்ப்பாசனமாகிறது. மூப்பது லக்ஷம் ஏக்கர்கள் பாசனவசதிகளுள்ள ஏரிகள், குளங்கள் இவைகளால் பாசனமாகிறது. இருபது லக்ஷம் ஏக்கர்கள் கிணறுகளால் பாசனம். இதையெல்லாம் பார்க்கும்போது, ஒரு கோடி ஏக்கரென்று கணக்கிடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. நாற்பது லக்ஷம் ஏக்கர்தான் பாய்ச்ச முடியும் ஜீவநதியால்.

“மற்ற இடங்களில் மழை இல்லாமல் நஞ்சையாக இருந்தாலும் புஞ்சையாக இருந்தாலும் அதிகமாக பஞ்சம்தான் உண்டாகிறது. அதைப்பார்க்கும்போது, 1944-45-ல் எவ்வளவு நம் அரசாங்கத்திலே remission கொடுத்திருக்கிறோம். அதுமுதல் இன்றுவரை remission ஆனது எவ்வளவு அதிகமாய்க்கொண்டு வந்திருக்கிறது என்பதைப் புள்ளிவிவரங்களைப் பார்த்தால் தெரியும்.

“1955-ம் பசலியில் 70 லக்ஷம் 30 ஆயிரம் ரூபாய்; 1956-ம் பசலியில் 19 லக்ஷம்; 1957-ம் பசலியில் 81 லக்ஷம் 23 ஆயிரம்; 1958-ம் பசலியில் 81 லக்ஷம் 60 ஆயிரம்; 1959-ம் பசலியில் 110 லக்ஷம் 40 ஆயிரம். இன்னும் இரண்டு பசலிகளுக்கு கணக்கு கிடைக்கவில்லை. இந்த பசலிகளிலும் அதிகமாகவே ‘ரெமிஷன்’ கொடுத்திருக்கிறோம். இதையெல்லாம் பார்க்கும் போது 7 வருஷமாக வருஷா வருஷம் அதிகமாகப் பஞ்சம் உண்டாகிக் கொண்டுவருகின்றது.

“இன்னொரு விஷயம், நமது மாகாணத்திலிருக்கிற, நிலப்பரப்பு 10 ல 9 பங்கு மழையை எதிர்பார்த்தப் பிரதேசம். நாற்பது லக்ஷம் ஏக்கரில் 7 ஆயிரம் சதுர மைலில் ஜீவநதிகளால் நீர்ப்பாசனம் நடக்கிறது. மற்றவையெல்லாம் வானத்தைப் பார்த்து அதன் மூலமாக பயிரிடப்படவேண்டும். ஆகையினாலே, அந்த நிலையில் இருக்கிறதால், வருஷாவருஷம் எவ்வளவு தூரம் விவசாயிக்கு நஷ்டம் உண்டாகிறது? ஆனால், நம்முடைய Remission Rules பார்த்தால் எவ்வளவு அதிகமாகக் கொடுக்கின்றோம் என்று பார்க்கும் போது அவனுக்கிருக்கும் கஷ்டம் எவ்வளவு, நாம் கொடுப்பது எவ்வளவு என்று பார்த்தால், மற்ற துறைகளில் கொடுப்பதற்கும் இதற்கும் ஒருவித சம்பந்தமில்லாமல் இருக்கிறது. மற்ற துறைகளில் கொடுப்பதை விட இவர்களுக்கு சலுகைகள் அளிப்பது மிகவும் குறைவு.

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“வருமான வரியை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால், ரூ. 3,800-க்கு மேல் வருமானம் இருக்கிறவர்களுக்கு வருமானவரி என்று இருக்கிறது. இன்னும் விற்பனை வரியை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால், அதை எல்லோரும் கொடுக்கிறார்கள் பலதுறைகளில். ஸ்டாம்பு பட்டியை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் 100-க்கு 1½ ரூபாயிலிருந்து 7 ரூபாயாக ஆகிவிட்டது. செஸ் 1 ரூபாய்க்கு 2 அணுவிலிருந்து 5 அணுவாகி விட்டது. இப்படி ஒவ்வொன்றையும் பார்க்கும்போது, ஒரு பக்கம் பஞ்சம், இன்னொரு பக்கம் வரி அதிகமாய்க்கொண்டே போகிறது. அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்தும்போது வரவு செலவு சரியாக்க முடியவில்லையென்றால், யார் பேரி லாவது வரிபோட்டு வசூலிக்கத்தான் வேண்டும். இல்லாவிட்டால் அரசாங்க இயந்திரம் நடக்காது. ஆனாலும், நாம் செய்வது சரியா என்பதை யோசிக்கவேண்டும். வேறு துறையில் அதிகமாகப் பணம் சம்பாதிக்கிறவர்களிடத்தில் நாம் வரி வசூலிக்க முயற்சிக்கவேண்டும். வேறு துறைகளில் பணம் சம்பாதித்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறவர்களிடம் வசூல் செய்வது உசிதமா அல்லது சென்ற சில வருஷங்களாக அதிகத்தொந்தாவது அடைந்துவரும் விவசாயிகளிடத்திலும் ஏழை மக்களிடத்திலும் வசூல் செய்வது உசிதமா என்பதை யோசிக்கவேண்டும். தர்மத்தை அடிப்படையாகக் கொண்டு அரசாங்கம் நடத்தவேண்டுமென்று நினைக்கிறோம்.. ஆனால் பல தொல்லைகளில் முடியவில்லை. அதை மனதில் வைத்துக்கொண்டு நாம் செய்தால் தான் (இன்று ஒரே அடியாக மாற்றிவிட்டமுடியாது). இந்த அடிப்படைக் கொள்கையை வைத்துக் கொண்டு செய்தால்தான், நம்முடைய கடமைகளை நாம் சரியாகச் செய்தவர்களாக முடியும். அதிகமாகப் பணம் இருக்கிறவர்களிடத்தில் வசூலித்து, பலருக்கு நன்மை பயக்கக்கூடிய காரியங்களைச் செய்யவேண்டும். இதைத்தான் நம்முடைய பெரியோர்கள் வற்புறுத்தி வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஈக்களும், வண்டிகளும் புஷ்பத்தினிடம் சென்று, அதனுள்ளே தேனை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு, அதிலுள்ள மகரந்தத்தை அந்தச் செடிகளின் அபிவிருத்திக்கு உதவுவதுபோல, வரிக்கொள்கை இருக்க வேண்டும். எப்படி ஒருபக்கம் தேன் எடுத்து, இன்னொரு பக்கம் அபிவிருத்தி ஏற்படுகிறதோ, அதே முறையில் அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்துபவர்களும், மக்களிடத்தில் வரி விதிக்கும்போது, அவர்களுக்கு நன்மையும் ஏற்படச்செய்ய வேண்டியது அவசியம். ஆகையால், அந்த முறையில் அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்தவேண்டுமென்றுதான் நினைக்கிறோம். ஆனால், நம்முடைய தொல்லைகளினாலே இவைகளைச்செய்ய நினைக்கமுடியாததால் கிளர்ச்சி அதிகம் செய்யாதவர்களின்பேரிலும், பேசாமல் இருக்கிறவர்கள் பேரிலும் வரி விதிக்கிறோம். இதுதான் இன்றுவரை நடந்துவருவது. தர்மத்தை அடிப்படையாகக்கொண்டு நாட்டை நடத்தவேண்டுமென்று நினைப்பதால், அதை நாம் மனதில் வைத்துக்கொண்டு அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்தவேண்டும்.

ரொம்பப் பேர்கள் இப்பொழுது வருமான வரியைக் கொடுக்காமல் ஏமாற்றிவிட்டார்கள் என்பதை பத்திரிகைகளில் பார்த்தேன். இம்மாதிரி யாரும் ஏமாற்றாமல் இருப்பதற்குத் தக்க நடவடிக்கைகளை எடுத்துக் கொள்ள வேண்டும். அவர்கள் எல்லோரும் ஏமாற்றாமல் ஒழுங்காக சர்க்காருக்கு வரி செலுத்தினால் இன்னும் 20, 30 கோடி ரூபாய்கள் கூட கிடைக்குமென்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. அதற்குத் தக்க நடவடிக்கைகளை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். எல்லோரும் இவ்விஷயத்தில் சேர்ந்து ஒத்துழைத்தால் தான் காரியத்தை வெற்றிகரமாக நடத்த முடியும். இல்லாவிட்டால் போய்க்கொண்டிருக்கும் பணத்தை தடுக்க முடியாது.

“கிராமங்களில் வசிக்கக் கூடிய 4 கோடியே 60 லட்சம் ஜனங்கள் தான் இன்று வைத்திய வசதியற்று, கல்வி வசதியற்று, போக்குவரத்து வசதிகள் அற்று, இன்னும் பலவிதமான வசதிகளும் அற்று, வரியை மாத்திரம் அதிகமாக சர்க்காருக்குக் கொடுத்து விட்டு தவித்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுடைய ஏழ்மை நிலை ஒருபுறம் அவர்கள் வதைக்கிறது. வெள்ளாமை செய்வதற்கு போதுமான பொருளாதார வசதிகள் இன்றியும் அவர்கள் ரொம்பவும் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். வெள்ளாமை செய்வதற்கு அவர்களுக்கு என்ன செலவாகிறதென்று பாருங்கள். குறைந்தது 60 ரூபாய்களிலிருந்து 80 ரூபாய்கள் வரை புஞ்சைப் பயிருக்கு ஒரு ஏக்கருக்குச் செலவாகிறது. அதேபோல நஞ்சைப் பயிராக இருந்தால் 80 ரூபாய் முதல் கொண்டு 250 ரூபாய்கள் வரை செலவாகிறது. இன்று போன்ற பாசனங்கள்

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உள்ள நஞ்சைப் பயிர்களுக்கு 350 ரூபாய் முதற்கொண்டு 400 ரூபாய்கள் வரை செலவாகிறது. ஆனால் வெள்ளாமை குறைந்து நிலவரி வஜா செய்யும்போது எவ்வளவு செய்கிறோம் என்று பார்க்கவேண்டும். புஞ்சைப் பயிரானால் 1½ ரூபாய் முதற்கொண்டு 2 ரூபாய்கள் வரை கொடுக்கிறோம். நஞ்சைப் பயிரானால் 6 ரூபாய் முதல்கொண்டு 7½ வரை கொடுக்கிறோம். இது ரொம்பவும் சரியானது அல்ல. இந்த அடிப்படை வரிக்கொள்கையே மாற்றியமைக்கப்பட்டாகவேண்டும். முன்பெல்லாம் அரசாங்க இயந்திரம் நடத்த படவேண்டுமென்பதற்காக பொது ஜனங்களுடைய கேஷமத்தில் கருத்தில்லாமல் இந்தமாதிரியான முறையில் நிலவரிக் கொள்கை அவலம்பிக்கப்பட்டு வந்தது. ஆனால் நாம் இதை இப்போது மாற்றியமைத்தாக வேண்டும். இப்போது மிகவும் அதிகமாக எப்போதும் வரி கொடுக்கிறவர்கள் மீது மீண்டும் வரியைப் போட்டு எப்போதும் செளகரியமாக இருப்பவர்களை அப்படியே இருக்கட்டுமென்பதாக சொல்லுவது போல சர்க்கார் கொண்டு வரும் வரிப் பிரேரணை சரியானதல்ல. 80 ரூபாய் முதற்கொண்டு, 350 ரூபாய்கள் வரை செலவு செய்கிறால் விவசாயி. நிலம் மழையின்மையால் வீணாகிப் போய் பயிர் நாசமாகிவிட்டால் அவனுக்கு சர்க்கார் கொடுக்கும் நில வரி வஜா? ரூபாய்கள் என்றால் இது சரியாகுமா? இதைச் சற்று யோசிக்க வேண்டுமென்பதாக நான் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். உழவுத் தொழிலில் ஈடுபட்பவர்களுக்கு கொஞ்சம் அதிகமாக சலுகை கொடுத்து அவர்களுக்கு அதில் ஊக்கம் உண்டாகும்படியாகச் செய்யவேண்டும். அவர்களது வாழ்க்கை நிலைமையை உயர்த்துவதற்கு சர்க்கார் தக்க நடவடிக்கைகளை எடுத்துக் கொள்ளவேண்டும். இல்லாவிட்டால் உழவுத் தொழில் நடக்காது. அவர்களுக்குத் தக்க வசதி செய்து கொடுத்தால் எப்போதும் விவசாயிகள் சர்க்காருக்கு ஒத்தாசையாக இருப்பார்கள்.

“கிராமத்திலுள்ள விவசாயிகள் ஏழ்மை நிலையில் இருப்பதன் காரணமாக இன்று கிராமங்களிலுள்ள லேவாதேவிகாரர்கள் என்ன செய்கிறார்கள் 4-45
P. M
அவர்களுக்கு (ஏழைகளுக்குப்) பணம் கொடுத்துவிட்டு பின்னர் ரொம்பவும் கஷ்டம் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். பணத்தை ஒவ்வொரு நாளும் அதிகமாக்கவேண்டுமென்பதற்காக செய்யப்படும் அக்கிரமங்கள் கொஞ்சநஞ்சமல்ல. லேவாதேவிச்சட்டத்தை கனம் ராஜகோபாலாச்சாரியார் அவர்கள் தான் முன்பு கொண்டு வந்தார்கள். ஆனால் அந்தச் சட்டம் இப்போது எப்படி நடைபெற்று வருகிறதென்பது எல்லோருக்கும் தெரியும். அதனால் தான் வெறும் சட்டத்தைப் போட்டு விட்டால் மாத்திரம் போதாது. சட்டங்கள் சரியான முறையில் நடைபெற்று வருகிறதாயென்றும் பார்த்துக் கொள்ள வேண்டும்.

“விவசாயத் தொழிலில் அதிக லாபம் வருவதாக யாரும் எண்ணிவிடக் கூடாது. நானும் ஒரு விவசாயி தான். அதில் செலவு எவ்வளவு ஆகும். ஆனால் அதே சமயத்தில் லாபம் எவ்வளவு வருமென்பது எனக்குத் தெரியும். அப்படி யாராவது அந்தத் தொழிலில் லாபம் சம்பாதித்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்றால் அவர்கள் உணவு தானியப் பொருள்களை விட்டு வியாபாரப் பொருள்களை உற்பத்தி செய்திருப்பவர்களாக இருப்பார்கள். இப்படி விவசாயிகள் பெரும்பாலோர் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக் கொண்டு வரும்போது அவர்களுக்கு எந்தவிதமான செளகரியமும் செய்து கொடுக்காமல், அவர்கள் பொருளாதார நிலையை உயர்த்துவதற்குப் பாடுபடாமல் இப்போது புதிய வரியைக் கொண்டு வருவதை நான் விரும்பவில்லை. நகரங்களில் இப்போது வரி கொடுப்பதெல்லாம் மத்திய அரசாங்கத்திற்கு வருமானவரியாக பெரும்பாலும் போய்விடுகிறது. எப்படி மாகாண அரசாங்கங்கள் லோகல் போர்டு, ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்களுக்கு வரும் வருமானத்தில் ஒரு பங்கை எடுத்துக் கொண்டு விடுவதைப் போல மாகாண அரசாங்கங்களுக்கு நகரங்களிலிருந்தும் கொஞ்சம் அதிக வருமானம் வரும்படியாகப் பார்த்துக் கொள்ளவேண்டும். கிராம மக்களையே மறுபடியும் கஷ்டப்படுத்துவது மிகவும் சரியாகாது.

“இப்பொழுது குறிப்பாக வைத்திய வசதி சம்பந்தமாக எப்படியிருக்கிறதென்றால், இந்த மாகாணத்தில் மொத்தம் 1,446 ஆஸ்பத்திரிகள் இருக்கின்றன. அவைகளில் 409 நகரங்களிலும், 1,037 கிராமங்களிலும் இருக்கின்றன.

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“ டாக்டர்களை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால், மொத்தமுள்ள 2,372 டாக்டர்களில் 1,306 நகரங்களிலும், 1,066 கிராமங்களிலும் வேலை செய்கிறார்கள்.

“ மருத்துவச்சிகளை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால், மொத்தமுள்ள 2,238 பேர்களில், 1,164 நகரங்களிலும், 1,074 கிராமங்களிலும் இருக்கிறார்கள்.

“ நர்சுகளை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால், மொத்தமுள்ள 1,863 பேர்களில், 1,705 பேர்கள் நகரங்களிலும், 158 பேர்கள் கிராமங்களிலும் இருக்கிறார்கள்.

“ புள்ளிவிவரங்களைப் பார்க்கும்போது என்ன தெரிகிற தென்றால், நகரங்களுக்கு 90 பங்கு வசதிகள் செய்து கொடுத்தால் கிராமங்களுக்கு 10 பங்கு தான் செய்யப்படுகிறது என்பது விளங்கும்.

“ நகரங்களிலே 5,600 பேர்களுக்கு ஒரு டாக்டர் வீதம் இருக்கிறார், கிராம ஜனங்கள் 2,89,000 பேருக்கு ஒரு டாக்டர் இருக்கிறார்.

“ அதுமட்டுமல்ல. அடுக்கிக்கொண்டே போகலாம். கிராமங்களுக்கு அதிக செலாகியங்களை செய்துகொடுக்கவேண்டும் என்று கொள்கையளவில் இருந்தாலுங்கூட நடைமுறையில் செய்யப்படவில்லை, அதை நாம் மாற்றியமைக்கவேண்டும்.

“ ஆஸ்பத்திரிகளிலுள்ள படுக்கைகளின் எண்ணிக்கையைப் பார்த்தால் மொத்தமுள்ள 19,565 படுக்கைகளில், 0.8 கிராமங்களில், 1.9 நகரங்களில் என்ற வித்தாசாரத்தில் இருக்கின்றன.

“ மாகாணத்திலுள்ள மொத்த டாக்டர்கள் 8 ஆயிரம் சொச்சம் பேர்கள். அவர்களில் 2,372 டாக்டர்கள் தான் அரசாங்கத்தில் வேலை செய்கிறார்கள். மற்றவர்கள் வேறு துறைகளில் வேலை செய்கிறார்கள். ஒரு டாக்டரை நாம் வைத்தியக் கல்லூரியில் தயார் செய்வதற்கு ரூ. 25,000 செலவாகிறது ஐந்து வருஷத்துச் செலவையும் சேர்த்து அவ்வளவும் பொது ஜனங்களிடமிருந்து வருகிற பணம். ஆனால், அவ்வளவு டாக்டர்களையும் அரசாங்கம் வைத்துக்கொள்ளமுடியாது. கிராமங்களில் அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய வாழ்க்கை வசதிகளையும் செய்து முடியவில்லை. இப்பொழுது எல். எம். பி. போய்விட்டது. எல். எம். இந்த வருஷம் எடுத்துவிட்டிருக்கிறார்கள்.

“ இதையெல்லாம் பார்க்கும் போது அரசாங்கத்திற்கு பணத் தொந்தரவு எவ்வளவோ இருக்கின்றன. செய்யவேண்டிய காரியங்களும் அதிகம்.

“ பொது சுகாதாரத்திற்குச் செய்யும் மொத்தச் செலவு 2 கோடி, 29 லக்ஷ ரூபாய். கிராமங்களில் 22 லக்ஷம் 38 ஆயிரம் ரூபாயும், நகரங்களில் 2 கோடி 29 லக்ஷம் ரூபாயும் செலவு செய்யப்படுகிறது. இதையெல்லாம் மனதில்கொண்டு நாம் நிர்வாகத்தை நடத்தவேண்டும். எங்கு அதிக வசதிகள் இருக்கின்றனவோ அங்குதான் அதிகம் செலவு செய்கின்றோமென யொழிய, எங்கு செலாகியங்கள் இல்லையோ அங்கு செய்வதில்லை. ஜன சங்கியை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால், நகரங்களில் நபர் ஒன்றுக்கு ரூ. 2-5-0 செலவு செய்யப்படுகிறது. கிராமங்களில் நபர் ஒன்றுக்கு ரூ. 0-0-10 செலவாகின்றது. வைத்தியவசதியோ நகரங்களில் சராசரி நபர் ஒன்றுக்கு ரூ. 2-5-1-ம் கிராமங்களில் சராசரி ரூ. 0-1-2-ம் செலவழிக்கப்படுகிறது.

“ கல்வி சம்பந்தமாக சுமார் 7 கோடி ஆரம்பகல்விக்குச் செலவிடப்படுகிறது. அரசாங்க கிராண்டுகள் எவ்வளவு கொடுக்கின்றோம் என்று பார்க்கும் போது மொத்தம் சராசரி நபர் ஒன்றுக்கு ரூ. 4-9-7 நகரங்களில் செலவு செய்கின்றோம், ரூ. 0-12-4 கிராமங்களில் செலவு செய்கின்றோம்.

“ செகண்டரி கல்வியை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால், 10-ல் ஒரு பங்கு பள்ளிகள் கிராமத்திலும், 9 பங்கு பள்ளிகள் நகரங்களிலும் இருக்கின்றன. இதனால் நகரங்களில் ஜனசங்கியை அதிகமாகின்றது. ஒரு பக்கத்தில் கிராமங்களுக்குப் போகவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறோம். இன்னொரு பக்கம் நகரங்களில் அதிகமான வசதிகளைச் செய்து கொடுக்கின்றோம். அதனால் கிராம ஜனங்கள் நகரங்களுக்கு வந்துசேரும்படியான நிலை ஏற்படுகிறது. இதையும் கவனிக்க வேண்டும்.

[Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar] 5th July 1952]

“ பல துறைகளில் நாம் நம்முடைய அரசாங்கத்தின் செலவுகளையும் பொறுப்புக்களையும் கவனிக்கும்போது, ஒரு பக்கம் குறைந்த வருவாய், அதிக வசதி. இன்னொரு பக்கம் அதிக வருவாய் குறைந்த வசதி என்ற நிலையில் இருக்கிறது. நகரங்களிலும் ஏழைகள் இருக்கிறார்கள். கிராமங்களில் மாத்திரம் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்று சொல்லவில்லை. ஆனால், கிராமங்களிலிருந்து வரும் வருவாயை அவரவர்கள் வீதாசாரப்படி செலவு செய்யட்டும். நகரங்களிலிருந்து வரும் வருவாயை, நகரங்களில் வீதாசாரப்படி செலவு செய்யட்டும். ஒருவர் அதிகச் சிரமம் அடையவேண்டாம் என்பதற்காக இதைச் சொல்லுகிறேன். அந்த முறையில் திட்டம் வகுத்து காரியங்களைச் செய்யவேண்டும். அந்தக் கொள்கை நடைமுறையில் கொண்டு வருவதற்கு அவ்வப்போது கவனமாக இருந்து தகுந்தமுறையில் பணத்தைத் திருப்பவேண்டும். இல்லாவிட்டால் எங்கு வித்தாசாரப்படி செலவு செய்யவேண்டுமென்று நம் எண்ணம் இருந்தாலும் அதைக் கவனிக்க முடியாமல், அது எங்கேயோ போய்க்கொண்டு இருக்கும்.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—“ பஸ் வரி நகரத்திற்கு கிடையாது. கிராமத்திலுள்ளவர்களுக்குத் தான் இருக்கும்.”

SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIAR :—“ ஒன்றிரண்டு மாதத்திற்குள் எல்லாவற்றையும் செய்துவிடமுடியாது. ஆனால், கொள்கையை நன்றாக வகுத்து ஒவ்வொருவரும் அதற்குத் தகுந்த முறையில் ஒத்தாசை செய்து நாட்டின் நிர்வாகத்தை நடத்த வேண்டுமென்பதற்காகச் சொல்லுகிறேன்.

“ இப்பொழுது வரிகொள்கை வந்திருக்கிறது. வரிகொள்கையை வேறுவிதமாக மாற்றமுடியும். விற்பனை வரி எங்கெங்கே வசூலிக்கப்படுகிறது? கவனித்துப் பார்த்தால் தெரியும். மொத்தம் 15 கோடியில், ஒரு பகுதியில் 11 கோடியும், இன்னொரு பகுதியில் 3½ முதல் 4 கோடியும் வசூலிக்கப்படுகிறது. ஒரு பக்கத்தில் பூராவும் ஏமாற்றுகிறவர்கள் (வருமான வரியை ரூ. 20, 25 கோடி வரையில் எப்படி ஏமாற்றினார்களோ அதே மாதிரி). ஆகையால் எல்லோரும் ஒத்தாசை செய்து இன்னும் கொஞ்சம் அதிகமாகக் கவனித்தால் ஒரு தம்படி கூட வரியை விடாமல் அதிலிருந்து ஈடு செய்யமுடியும்.

“ அப்படி முடியாவிட்டால் வேறு விதமாகவும் செய்யலாம். வியாபாரப் பயிர்கள் பயிரிடுபவர்களிடமிருந்து ஏதாவது வரிகள் வாங்கலாம். சுமார் 60, 70 லக்ஷம் ஏக்கர்களில் வியாபாரப் பயிர்கள் சாகுபடி செய்யப்படுகின்றன. எங்கே வசதிகள் இருக்கிறதோ அங்குதான் உற்பத்தி செய்யமுடியும். வியாபாரப் பொருள்கள் பயிரிடுபவர்களிடமிருந்தும், எங்கே வசதிகள் செய்து கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறதோ அங்கு சில வரிகள் போடலாம்.

“ அபிவிருத்தி வரியை நகரங்களுக்கும் போடவேண்டும். விவசாயி உற்பத்தி செய்கிறான். Controlled Economy என்று சொல்லுகிறோம். ஆனால், அவன் இஷ்டப்படி விற்கமுடியுமா? அனுபவிக்கமுடியுமா? இல்லை. எல்லோரும் தான் பயனை அனுபவிக்கிறார்கள்.

“ அரசாங்கத்தில் நான் இருந்தபோது Parity Economy என்பதைப் பற்றி எழுதியிருக்கிறேன். காபினெட்டில் வைத்து, மத்திய சர்க்காருக்கும் அனுப்பினேன். அவர்களிடம் சண்டை போட்டேன்.

“ Parity Economy என்பதைப்பற்றி நான் எழுதின புத்தகத்தைப் பார்த்தால் தெரியும். எந்தெந்த நிலையில் யார் யார் உற்பத்தி செய்கிறார்கள். பல துறைகளில் இருக்கிறவர்கள், அதிகமாகப் பணத்தை அடிக் காமல் சமுதாய முன்னேற்றத்திற்குத் தகுந்தமுறையில் இருக்கவேண்டும். ஆனால் ஜனநாயக அரசியல் அதையெல்லாம் கொண்டுவருவது ரொம்பக் கஷ்டம். Regimentation இருந்தாலும் கொண்டுவரலாம். எங்கு அதிகமாகக் கஷ்டம் இருக்கிறதோ அங்கே அவர்களுக்கு வசதி செய்துதரவேண்டுமென்று நான் சொல்லுகின்றேன்.

“ அரசாங்கம் தனக்குக் கிடைக்கும் வருமானத்திலிருந்து ஒரு சாராருக்கு மாத் திரம் நன்மையைச் செய்வதற்காக இல்லை. எல்லா வருப்பார்களுக்கும் நன்மையைச் செய்யத்தக்கதாக அதன் கொள்கை இருக்க வேண்டும்.

[Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar] [5th July 1952]

நான் இப்போது அந்த விஷயங்களை யெல்லாம் எதற்காகச் சொல்லுகிறேன் என்றால் விவசாயிகள் தான் இப்போது அதிகமான வரியைக் கொடுத்து வருகிறார்கள். ஆனால் விவசாய கிராம வாசிகளுக்கு அதிகமாக ஒரு செளகரியங்களும் செய்து கொடுக்கப்படவில்லை. அவர்கள் இன்று ரொம்பவும் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால் மறுபடியும் இன்னும் அவர்களே கஷ்டப்பட்டு வேண்டுமென்ற ரீதியில் புதியதாக வரி விதிக்கும் கொள்கையை கொண்டு வந்திருப்பது சரியல்ல என்று சொல்வதற்காகத் தான்.

“ நகரங்களிலே இன்னும் கொஞ்சம் அதிகமான வரியை எந்தத் துறையில் போடலாம் என்பதைப் பற்றி கொஞ்சம் யோசிக்க வேண்டும். நகரங்களிலுள்ளவர்கள் இப்போது அதிக செளகரியத்தை அடைந்தாலும் கிராமவாசிகளைப் போல் அதிகமான வரிச் சுமையை அடையாமல் இருப்பதால் அவர்களுக்குக் கொஞ்சம் இப்போது வரி கூடப் போடலாம். அதைவிட்டு மறுபடியும் கிராமவாசிகள் பேரிலேயே வரி போடுவது சரியல்ல. அது நன்றாகவும் இராது என்று நான் சொல்லிக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“ சர்க்கார் இவைகளையெல்லாம் வெற்றிகரமாக நடத்தி வைக்க, சர்க்கார் நிர்வாக இயந்திரமும் திறம்பட வேலை செய்வது அவசியமாகிறது. அது சரியாக இயங்காததின் காரணமாகத் தான் இப்போது பல குறைபாடுகள் ஏராளமாக ஏற்பட்டுக் கொண்டிருக்கின்றன.

“ ஆகையால் கனம் நிதி மந்திரி அவர்களும், பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்களும் கிராம ஜனங்களின்பால் அதிக அக்கரை கொண்டு அதற்குத் தகுந்த முறையில் திட்டங்களை வகுத்து எல்லாம் மாற்றியமைக்க வேண்டுமென்பதாகவும், அதற்கு ஒத்தாசையாக எல்லா மந்திரிமார்களும் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்பதாகவும் கேட்டுக் கொண்டு அப்போது பொது மக்களும் சர்க்காருக்கு ஒத்தாசையாக இருப்பார்கள் என்றும் சொல்லிக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். இதர கட்சி அங்கத்தினர்களும் ஸ்திரமான ஒரு சர்க்கார் இந்த மாகாணத்தில் இருக்க வேண்டுமென்ற ஒரே எண்ணத்துடன் நன்றாகத் தங்கள் கடமைகளை யாற்றி பணிபுரியவேண்டுமென்பதாகவும் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஸ்திரமான சர்க்கார் ஏற்பட்டால் தான் எதைச் செய்தாலும் அதை பூர்ணமாக மக்களுக்கு நன்மை ஏற்படக்கூடிய வகையில் செய்ய முடியுமென்பதையும் தெரிவித்துக் கொண்டு, அதற்கு எல்லோரும் உதவி செய்யவேண்டுமென்பதாகவும் கேட்டுக் கொண்டு என் பேச்சை முடித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not want to take much of your time by traversing the whole region of the budget. There are one or two preliminary remarks that I should like to make which, I believe, would clear a good deal of misapprehension regarding the point of view that some of us have been obliged to take. It is not my intention to merely carry on a kind of desultory or guerilla war against the Congress Ministry. But, at the same time, in a parliamentary democracy it is the duty of the Opposition to oppose, not every beneficial measure but such of those measures as seem to be harmful or injurious to the public interest. Now, the Hon. Chief Minister seems to stand upon a peculiar pedestal of isolation. He dissociates himself from the previous Congress Ministry, in ever so many respects, thereby practically cutting himself off from any continuity of financial or political policy. That is indeed a most lamentable thing. Yesterday we heard about his disapproval of compensating political sufferers. Our ex-Chief Minister of the Government, Comrade Kumaraswami Raja—I call him Comrade as usual in the way I address other people—could only say, ‘ Save me from my friends ! ’ This is the unkindest cut of all ! I have said this in order to show that this budget has been framed in utter disregard of the policies

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carried on by the previous Congress Ministry. Whether there can be any justification for dissecting Congress Ministries in this fashion according to the whims and fancies of the Hon. Chief Minister or not, I leave it to the consideration of other Congress Ministers. But, it seems to me, that the present Congress Ministry cannot entirely dissociate itself from the programmes and policies carried on by previous Congress Ministers.

“ In the second place, how did this budget come into existence? There used to be a time in my younger days when I thought that a budget was a mysterious product emanating from some mysterious source. I did not understand exactly how a budget was framed till I entered the portals of the Madras Corporation. I believe, Sir, the revenues of the Corporation of Madras amount to Rs. 200 lakhs whereas the revenues of the whole State of Madras amount to over Rs. 6,000 lakhs—about 30 times as much as the Corporation gets. But, at the same time, there is no mystery, Sir, about the budget of the Corporation of Madras. There is no leakage of secrets from the Standing Committee of the Corporation of Madras and nobody has been taken to task. That is the difference between the budget that we are going to consider and the budget that is being considered year after year by the Members of the Corporation of Madras.

“ Now what has happened? For some reason or other we have fallen into a minus budget—what they call a deficit budget. That is to say, we are not going to get as much as we expect to get. I am not going to burden the Members with facts and figures that are available in the Budget. But I am summarising only as far as possible what I have been able to gather from the budget. Well, our income has fallen and our expenditure has also increased, and we have a deficit of Rs. 329 lakhs.

“ The question is, how are the Government going to meet this deficit? Well, to them, all canons of financial propriety seem to dictate that the only way to meet the deficit is to impose taxes upon the people, and that there is no other possibility of increasing the income of the State to balance the budget. I do not know whether the Hon. Chief Minister will agree with me, when I say, that balancing the budget is not an absolute necessity. It is not a divine command that a budget should be balanced. Supposing, we have a deficit budget, what is going to happen to us? The Heavens are not going to fall on our heads. The State is not going to be pulverized. We shall carry on somehow or other as many people whose income is less than their expenditure carry on in the world. I do believe, Sir, that it is quite possible for the State to carry on without burdening the poor tax-payer. We have somehow or other fixed upon five items of taxation and these will have to come from the poor man as has been so ably and so pathetically expounded by Mr. Reddiar. It seems to me that both the proposals for increasing the bus fare of passengers and for levying a surcharge on land revenue have to be condemned more or less in toto. I cannot help feeling that ‘ The Hindu ’ of Madras has done

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a valuable service by pointing out how both these taxation proposals are going to hit hard the poor. It is obvious to all of us that it is going to hit the poor and I hope there will be a clamour from all sides of the House for dropping the abovementioned proposals. I want to say only one word in passing about the decontrol policy of the Government of Madras. I am not going to be a pessimist or a prophet of ill-omen. At the same time I have grave apprehensions regarding the possibility of success of this scheme. Unfortunately the desire for making more money is a contagion which has caught our people during the last ten years. Everywhere there is a desire to make more money. I am not going to exclude any one including myself with regard to this matter. This desire to make more money acts like a contagion. Not all the exhortations, not all the homilies of the Hon. Chief Minister can prevent people from making more money. There are indications everywhere that prices are not going to be stabilised. Probably prices are going to be stabilised round about the highest black market—now the white market—figures. This levy of surcharge on land revenue is going to hit hard some of our agriculturists and they are likely to so act as to retard the successful working of the policy of decontrol that has been embarked upon. Although this Council is not going to consider any money Bills that are being brought before the Legislative Assembly, still it is our duty to point out the dangerous consequences of the new taxation proposals. I wish to refer to two or three other matters and I shall now take up the Police Budget. I am extremely interested in the Police. From my early days, the Policeman with the red turban used to be with me a figure of supernatural awe. Well, as a matter of fact, somebody said here that God himself is a divine Policeman with a lath in his hand. Evidently, that is so in the minds of many people. Now, Sir, do people know how during the last three or four years they have suffered at the hands of the Police? During the last three or four years as a result of close contact with the people, I have been hearing harrowing tales of suffering undergone by the people at the hands of the Police. You are going to spend to the tune of Rs. 710 lakhs, that is nearly one-tenth of the entire revenues of the State, for the maintenance of the Police. Unfortunately, the Police, as the guardians of Law and Order in the State, are to-day the most unpopular; medals may be received by them from the Governor or whomsoever it may be, but people in touch with popular movements, I may say, think, the Police are most unpopular and in many places, they are the most hated. I have been taking some little interest in the election campaigns and I want to tell the House one simple incident. A Communist candidate was put up against a Congressman. He was a man of very little importance in the estimation of many people, a simple man without any English education and he was put up against a very strong Congress candidate. But he won. Not because he was a man of any great ability or capacity but because the man was ill-treated by the Police and paraded through the streets of a town in the South, the people knew who he was and what sufferings he had undergone at the hands of the Police and when the election came he swept the polls and defeated the Congress candidate. I know

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that in several places in South India or rather Tamilnad—I do not know much about the Andhradesa—wherever the independent candidates or Communist or non-Congress candidates came into prominence and succeeded it was because of the unbearable atrocities committed by the Police. It is a great pity that the Police being the guardians of Law and Order have become so unpopular that we wish for a reduction in the number of Police stations. It was during the year 1950-51 that the Budget figures in respect of this department reached the peak figure.

“ Now, Sir, when we take the Jail administration, it does not consume so much as the Police department. If my memory serves me right, we spend about Rs. 70 lakhs. I do not know how the jails are being administered. Before our Chief Minister took up office we have again and again complained to the various Ministers that the diet given to some of our political prisoners should be improved but I cannot say to what extent the state of things in regard to this matter has been remedied. I can say that the way in which jails were administered is one of the chief causes of the downfall of the Congress during the last election. I remember those anxious days when in Salem 23 of our comrades were shot dead and more than 100 and odd were stabbed in their backs, and I may say, assassinated. Well, what happened? An enquiry committee was demanded and an enquiry was instituted behind closed doors. The report must have been submitted to the Government but it never saw the light of day. We have been demanding again and again the publication of this report but it has not been published. The reason may not be far to seek. The members of the committee, though practically inimically disposed towards the Communist detenus, did not in their report spare the Superintendent in charge of the jail. Now, Sir, I wish to know why this incident should have taken place and ask, is it not a blot upon the administration of jails and is it any use defending a policy like this? Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar appealed to us and everybody for cordial co-operation with the Government. With due deference to him, I should say that it is not the policy that we should adopt. It is not as if the people should dance round the Government, with the Government as the centre of the orbit and we being the satellites going round the Government. My view is that it is the Government that should go round the people and not that the people should go round the Government. That the people should go round the Government is the view held in Government circles which is in accordance with the ethics prevailing in the days when the people had not come of age. It is the people who have authorized the Ministry and are their masters, and do you want the masters to dance round their servants? Is it not the duty of the servant to serve his master? It is this topsy-turvy view of the ethics of Government that has cost the Congress Ministry its reputation. If they consider the views of the people as of any value, they must publish the report. It is said that the Superintendent of the Jail was found fault with. Then he must be taken to task. I do not want his head on a charger and I do not want him to be shot. Although this kind of

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action may be attributed to the Communists, I do not want the Superintendent to be treated in that way but the fear of the people must be instilled in the minds of such officers.

“ Another thing I wish to address myself to is Prohibition. It has cost us a considerable slice of our revenues though it has been replenished by the sales tax. From my earliest days, I believe in the principle that we cannot make people virtuous by enacting legislation. This warning has been uttered by thinking people again and again but to no purpose. In America, they tried Prohibition by means of an amendment and, what happened? It was a disastrous and dismal failure. Now I hear the same thing here. Prohibition is failing and I am told that people have begun to make liquor in some way or other. It is easy to do that and thus they evade the Prohibition Law and you go on increasing the number of Prohibition Officers! That is not the way to go about the business. As has been pointed out by the Neogy Committee, it is a thing which runs against the current of human nature and, if you want to introduce Prohibition, it could not be by such means; and you can only do it by other means, perhaps by restrictions on the sale of liquor. On the other hand, to use the language of the Hon. the Chief Minister, this habit of drinking was there in the olden days and it is borne out by a verse which appears in Nalaventa :

‘காதல் கவருடல் கள்ளுண்டல் பொய் மொழிதல்
ஈதல் மருத்தல் இவை கண்டாய்—போதில்
சினையாமை வையும் திருநாடா செம்மை
நினையாமை பூண்டார் நெறி.’

and I do not know whether any of the Ministers of the Tamil kings ever wanted to try Prohibition. It is an Anglo-Saxon fad ‘made in America’ about which we learned when Pussyfoot Johnson came to this country and talked about it. Here, let me remind you that we are going to meet with this difficulty, namely, that as the years roll on, Prohibition will become more and more difficult to carry out and it will become a failure till at last after it has become dismal and disastrous, you will be called upon to repeal it at a time when it has become as good as dead.

“ Now let me come to the Community Projects to which some reference was made in his short speech by the Hon. the Minister for Finance. He went on to say that the Scheme of Community Development Projects was not different from the Firka Development Scheme but he has not explained why he wants to duplicate the scheme. Six centres are going to be opened and nearly Rs. 60 lakhs are going to be spent and I wish to ask, Sir, whether the Government are going to benefit the common man by the introduction of these schemes. No doubt, Sir, in America owing to the vast amount of wealth that she possesses, they have been able to make good the scheme. But I warn the Government: ‘America is a rich country and ours is a poor country and a poor man ought not to imitate a rich man as many poor people do and come to grief.’ Let us take up schemes which are within the means of our people and let us recognize that above all, if you want a project to succeed in our country, it is not by means of the technical knowledge and expert advice coming from foreign countries,

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from Britain and America, not by multiplying official machinery, surveying and re-surveying, collecting statistics and making plans and altering them; it is not by such means that you are going to increase the income of the people but it can only be achieved by enlisting the co-operation of the people. Do the people realize that the interests of the villages will be promoted by the execution of such schemes? Unfortunately, from my little knowledge, I can tell you that there is no real enthusiasm from the people for the projects that emanate from the Government because you do not take the people into your confidence. For the self-sufficiency and development of the village, any scheme must depend upon the co-operation of the people just as they have achieved in the Soviet Union but, unfortunately, we impose a scheme from the top and they do not feel any confidence in a scheme like this. I believe, Sir, the Community Projects Scheme is not going to be of much use to the people, but on the contrary, as it happened in the case of the Grow More Food Scheme it would be a dismal failure. I always used to think that this would be an absolute failure. Population has increased and production has lagged much behind and what is the use of calling upon people to produce more and more; the more they produce, the more they will have to give to other people. The purpose of any scheme ought to be to secure the co-operation of the people. If we do not want the co-operation of the people, the people are not going to co-operate with us and any scheme that the Government may have will fall flat upon the ears of the people.

“ You, as a doctor, know something about anæmia. If for one reason or another a person has not sufficient blood in his veins and if that state of affairs is allowed to continue much longer, what will happen to him; death, inevitable death! When this Ministry came to office, it found an anæmic body, a legacy of the previous Ministry. What is it that the present Government are going to do? The anæmic Government have started to take blood from the poor patient donkey, the common people.

“ Well, they are taking blood from the poor people that is the common people: the poor ‘donkey’s’ blood has gone to the ‘Blood Bank’. You are taking their blood from the ‘Blood Bank’ by means of these taxation proposals. Blood from the common people is transferred into the Budget, with the result that they can only crawl but not walk or stand on their own legs. That is how I look at this Budget. It is a Budget of unstable equilibrium. It is a Budget that depends upon the blood of the poor. Without the ‘donkey’, the Budget is not going to succeed very much in producing the required amount of money from the taxes. I make all these criticisms not because of any desire to usurp the functions of the present Government or to find fault with the Hon. Chief Minister or his beloved Colleagues. It is not my purpose to do it. That is not my profession and I have not come here out of my own free will. I never thought about it till almost the day of my election and people who had some liking for me wanted to put me up. I put forward these criticisms for the simple reason, as

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Sri Omandur Ramaswami Reddiar has said, that the condition of our poverty-stricken people—women and children—may be improved. I wanted to speak about the fate of our women and children but I could not do so owing to the shortness of the time at my disposal. As a Member of the Textile Enquiry Committee—I was made a Member of the Committee by the previous Government—I visited about 40 factories during the last one year and a half. Wherever I went, I found our factory labourers living in hovels and no accommodation has been provided for them, and in the plantation area things are even worse.

“Sir, in Madras the pavement-dwellers are increasing by leaps and bounds. The beggar problem is ever with us. All these things are there. If the Government are to bring forward these taxation proposals—proposals which emanated from the previous regime—do they think that they are going to save the lives of our people? Sir, we are going to constitute a Welfare State. People talk about the Welfare State. Well, the less they talk about the Welfare State the better it will be because during the last 25 years or more when I was a Member of the Madras Corporation, people used to say that the beggar problem was going to be removed and the beggar problem is still there! The City Improvement Trust is catering to the rich for their big buildings. I know that it could do very little. It took three years to survey and four years to plan, and now we find that the City Improvement Trust is only for the benefit of the richer classes and does not confer any benefit at all on the poor classes in our City.”

* SRI G. VENKATACHALAM :—“Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am new to this Council; in fact, I am new to the Legislature itself. What I would like to speak to-day is about the cause for which I was nominated. I was nominated, I take it, Sir, to represent the cause of art and the artists in this State. With the liquidation of the Princely Order, with the money market becoming tighter and tighter, with the rich men in this country having no taste for beauty or art, the lot of the poor artists in this country is more pitiable than the lot of either the peasants or the weavers or the teachers, for whom representations have been made in such eloquent terms by their respective representatives. Sir, these creators of beauty, the messengers of joy and happiness are in a very pitiable plight to-day. As you all know there are many types of artists. There are the musicians. There are music sabhas where they give performances to earn some money for their living. The dancers have film companies to patronize them and make them rich. It is to the lot of the painters that I want to draw the attention of my Hon. Friend, the Minister for Finance and the Minister for Education and see if they could find their way to provide a little sum for them in this Budget. As I went through the Budget prepared by the Hon. Minister for Finance, I saw that he has made provision liberally, as much as it is possible for him under the circumstances for Education but there is one serious omission—serious from my point of view—and that is, not even a pie has been provided for any cultural activity in this State.

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“Sir, I take this opportunity to thank our Hon. Chief Minister and through him the Governor of this State for recognizing the necessity of having more than one representative to represent the cultural activities of our State in this House. Our cultural heritage is as great as the heritage of any other country in the world. Fortunately for us there are creative artists in this State who can do better things and who can bring more happiness in our daily life if they are given a certain amount of patronage by the State. I do not know whether it is too late to ask the Hon. Finance Minister to make any provision, however small it may be, for cultural activities, but I would venture to ask this much from him.

“Sir, I do not understand neither this Budget nor its implications. In fact, as I said, I feel like a fish out of water in this House. I know, Sir, India is a land of big talkers, but I never realized before I came to this House that the Legislative Assemblies and Councils could be converted into such happy hunting grounds for all kinds of talkers—tall talkers, loud talkers, idle talkers and irresponsible talkers. If the function of democracy is to produce such types of men, I despair of democracy. I do not know if the word ‘democracy’ has any meaning to the common people who have often been exploited by these talkers. Sir, I still believe democracy is only a word in the political dictionary. Like God, nobody has seen democracy at work. I would like to ask my hon. Friends sitting on the opposite side and who profess to stand by democracy and the common man, whether anyone of them has ever seen a State functioning truthfully with democratic ideals and principles? Democracy, like God, is a vision, an ideal. I hope to be pardoned for this digression. I was induced to say that for I often see that the common man is being exploited in the name of democracy.

“Sir, as you all know, I have come here to plead the cause of the artists. For the last so many years, I have represented their cause through writings, through speeches, and through financial aids, as much as it was possible for me. But here I have a chance to represent their grievances and I hope I shall be able to do something for these suffering artists of our State through the Government. There are many pet schemes in my mind which I would like to carry out as a Member of this House if I am given a chance. One of them is to start small national art galleries in the municipalities throughout our State. In 1948 this Government passed an Act to levy a library cess and this cess has yielded large sums of money to some of the bigger municipalities like Madurai, Tiruchirappalli, Vijayavada and so on. This amount has not been utilized for the purpose for which it has been raised and is being raised. I think the Corporation of Madras is also levying a library cess and the amount accumulated by way of this cess, is really very much indeed and it is not spending all the money it has got on the libraries. Sir, in countries like England and the United States of America, usually libraries and State Museums are run with the money that comes by way of the library cess. Also, these municipalities do not spend the money that they get by levying this cess

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for the purchase of books. For instance, Madras Library spends only Rs. 60,000 a year for buying books and the Connemara Library about Rs. 15,000 a year. So, most of the money that is collected by these municipalities is not being spent for buying books. Therefore, I suggest to the Hon. Minister for Finance and the Hon. Minister for Local Administration to bring an amendment to the existing rules relating to the library cess so that a certain portion of the cess can also be utilized for the starting of small art galleries in municipal towns. The existing Town Halls in the municipalities should be converted into cultural centres as was done in Russia in the early days of the Revolution. These cultural centres should be made the meeting place of not only the general public and the visitors to the town but should also be the place where beauty and art could be appreciated. It is in such centres that people can see beautiful pictures and beautiful sculpture. These should reflect the moral and mental stature of contemporary life. I know from my experience of thirty years that they do influence the life of man. I am busy now putting up a big museum—one of the biggest in the country—in the Hyderabad State and in the last two years thousands of people visited this museum—both men and women, young and old and children. After visiting this museum, they go back enthralled and ennobled. Sir, the use of a museum need not be emphasized to an educated House like this. Starting of art galleries in important towns of our State will not involve any expenditure whatsoever. Sir, a part of the Entertainment Tax at least should be used for the purpose of maintaining these art galleries. Also, a small subsidy from the Government will greatly help to improve and maintain these centres in the towns. As I said, the lot of painters in this State is very dismal indeed and the State should come to their help by purchasing good works of art from painters. These works are available in plenty in our State and they can be exhibited in the hundreds of municipal art galleries that are to be opened. That will really give relief to the poor painters in this State. Also, the Hon. Minister for Finance should set apart a modest sum of one lakh of rupees out of a total revenue of 60 crores of rupees for helping the artists in this way. What a great service he would be rendering to this small population of artists and craftsmen who may not number more than 3,000! Though they are a minority, I think, Sir, they are a great asset to the State and the Nation and they must be helped. Sir, regarding other matters of culture in this State I shall take advantage to mention them as and when the occasion arises. My present plea to the Treasury Bench is to come to the immediate rescue of the suffering painters of this State."

* SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, when I rise to take part in the discussion of this year's Budget, I must confess, at the outset, that I find myself rather in a happy mood. I had occasion to take part in the Budget discussions for the last half a dozen years. I was then a member of the party in power, and so I was expected to support the Government. But,

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unfortunately for me then, I was in a pessimistic mood, as I had, even as a member of the party in power, to say that the budget was unsatisfactory. Sir, to-day I rise to congratulate the Government. By this I am not saying I am in entire agreement with the present Government's Budget proposals. There are some features in the Budget, for which I want to congratulate the Cabinet—not the entire Cabinet, but the real person who is responsible for them. I am not here to congratulate the satellites who have gathered round their leader as planets round the sun. So my congratulation does not extend to all the members of the Ministry."

THE HON. C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We are here to accept that fact."

* SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—" I am glad the most prominent of the satellites has recognized his position and confesses his own limitations."

" Now, Sir, as regards the decontrol policy, I certainly welcome it. I know there is danger in the step taken. I know there is risk involved in it. It has manifested itself already. For we hear of a threat of strike by the M. & S.M. Railway workers on the ground of sudden increase in the price of foodgrains. In spite of that, it is absolutely necessary to have decontrol. Mr. Chairman, Sir, during all these half a dozen years of food control, we have been living in an unmoral world. Food control had brought in its wake petty harassment by the official, corruption, blackmarketing and a sense of dishonesty among the people. We were all living in an unmoral world. Everyone in this State was compelled to live in an unmoral world. I know the prosecutor who prosecutes, the judge who sits on the Bench and decides and convicts the accused for food offences—they all knew that the accused was an innocent person, but still they had to do their duty; even the legislators and the Ministers were guilty of food offences. Not only that. Our very children were living in this unmoral world. They saw how we were concealing our food, so that we may have sufficient to eat. It was a very bad life we were living. Our children, if they had been continued in this unmoral way of living, would have been completely spoiled. I think this was realized by our Rajaji; this mighty person foresaw the danger towards which the State was heading and so took courageously this bold step to cancel food control. So, Sir, I congratulate him on removing food control. I see, Sir, on reading between the lines, that this policy is not to be confined to our State alone, but that it is to be an all-India policy. Still, I must congratulate the person who began decontrol first, and I do not want to withhold the credit from him, though the Central Government may be responsible for initiating that policy."

" In this connexion, I want to say one thing more. There are many pending cases under food offences. They were all booked under the orders then existing. As a gesture of magnanimity, let this Government to-morrow itself order withdrawal of all such cases."

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(An hon. Member: 'To-morrow is a holiday.') If to-morrow is a holiday the next day, let Government order withdrawal of those pending cases. I would also say that there are some persons now undergoing sentences for food offences. I would request Government to remit the unexpired portion of the sentences.

"Now, Sir, coming to my own district, I have to confess it is always an unhappy district. It is a deficit district, absolutely deficit. Our food production will not satisfy us even for five months in a year. For the remaining months of the year we have to depend on others. Before the war we were depending on Burma for our food, which we were importing from there. Now, Sir, I have to make a suggestion to Government. I do not quarrel with their zonal system, but I want Malabar to be attached to some other district. I do not say it should be allied with Coimbatore, the district of my Friend, the Hon. Finance Minister, which is also unhappily a deficit district like mine. It could be allied with South Kanara, but it is also not possible as it is an equally deficit district; nor could it be allied with the Nilgiris. But there is a C-class State, near our district, the tiny State of Coorg, which has escaped the attention of the Hon. Chief Minister and which is a surplus area, as it produces paddy in large quantities. I request this Government to move the Central Government to link Malabar district with Coorg so that paddy may be moved freely from there to my district. The Government may also allow South Kanara to be linked with Coorg as it is also an equally deficit district.

"Then, Sir, if Government want to make decontrol a success in my district, they should run the fair price shops for some time more. They should openly declare that they are going to supply food to the people through these fair price shops and that if such food is not available within the district they are prepared to import it from abroad and supply it through the fair price shops. The Hon. Chief Minister need not have any fear about running these shops. My hon. Leader, Mr. Prakasam, when he was Chief Minister has revolutionised the food administration in Malabar by starting what are called producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies. It is a mighty organization. In a very short time we were able to collect huge sums of money as shares to run these societies. They had the monopoly of procurement as well as distribution of food. Sir, if Government want to run fair price shops, these ration shops are already there. Mr. Chairman, Sir, you know the nature of a village in Malabar. It does not obtain, as it does in other districts, in the form of streets. The houses are all scattered. We have to walk half or a full furlong if we have to go from one house to another. In such a place it is not an easy matter to supply food to the people. The man who is in charge of food procurement should also be in charge of distribution. It has to be worked as a monopoly system. Especially, in South Malabar the entire procurement and distribution should be in the same hands; then alone will the societies work well. Otherwise they would go to dogs."

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—"There is no procurement now."

* SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"They must be allowed to be the direct purchasing agency from the producer, and whenever there is no local supply, they alone should be allowed to import from abroad. Here I want to say one word about these producer-cum-consumer societies. Previously we raised huge sums of money by way of shares. There is not one person in a village who is not a member in it. It is a mighty co-operative society; it is a revolutionary co-operative society; it was thriving under a monopoly system of collecting and distributing food. Some device should be found out to revive it now. That huge sum of money collected as reserve fund is lying idle for the last so many years. I would request Government to refer this matter of reviving this system of co-operative societies to a committee consisting of some officials and non-officials to find out ways and means of doing so. I would go to the extent of suggesting the names of some of the non-official members. I would suggest the name of Mr. Kelappan, the father of this movement in Malabar during the Ministry of Mr. Prakasam. He was the person who travelled through the entire district, who went to village after village and organized the producer-cum-consumer societies. A person like Mr. Kelappan should be the first person on that committee.

"Another point on which I wish to congratulate the Hon. Chief Minister is on the small fee concessions given to the non-gazetted officers serving under Government and local bodies and, more especially, to the teachers in the aided elementary schools. There is an army of such teachers in this country who are doing useful service in the cause of the country. They are shaping the destiny of the future citizens of this great Republic. They are the persons who take care of the future voters of this great country and they are the persons who are moulding the future politicians, future statesmen and administrators of our land. I am glad that this fee concession is given also to the children of teachers.

"In this connexion, may I ask Government, what their educational policy is? It is a shame for us that after the Republic was established two years ago and after we got independence five years back, there is still no policy regarding education in this State. Sir, there is a directive principle in the Indian Constitution that we must have compulsory primary education given to every child in our land. Two years have passed since that principle was adumbrated and yet there is no definite educational policy in our State. Is it not our duty to educate our future masters? Having introduced adult franchise, should we not educate our voters so that they may exercise their vote properly? So I urge Government to take up compulsory elementary education forthwith. What are they now doing? They are now paying the salary of these teachers and they are now paying the maintenance charges of the managers in running these schools. Cannot Government take charge of these

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primary schools themselves? Let them take one district as an experiment and try this compulsory elementary education. Let them select Malabar district in the first instance. Or let them take one taluk in each district, as an experimental measure if it is not possible for them to try it on a districtwide scale. I ask Government to take my district of Malabar to try this experiment. Why do I say that? There is a reason for that, namely, that there are more elementary schools there than in any other district. We may be lacking in many other things but not in education. I hope Government will seriously consider this question.

6 p.m. "Another thing on which I wish to congratulate Government—I feel very strongly on it—is regarding the continuance of Prohibition. I stand or fall by Prohibition. Prohibition was started long ago. It was started by Mr. C. Rajagopalachari in 1937. It was revived by Mr. Prakasam while he was the Chief Minister in this State and it was continued by the successive Congress Governments thereafter. But now, after the recent general elections, Congressmen have begun to say that Prohibition has been a failure. I remember several members of the previous Ministry had been saying that they were defeated because of the Prohibition policy. No. I tell them, 'you were defeated for your misrule. You were defeated not because of Prohibition policy. Prohibition is not a failure. It is a vote against your misrule. It is not a vote against Prohibition.' I have been to many villages in the centre of my district. During dramas and on festival occasions I did not see anybody drunk. You are aware, Sir, that during the last elections on a countrywide scale which aroused passions on both sides there was no incident or trouble. Why? Because there was Prohibition. Prohibition might have failed in America or in the Western countries. It would have been a greater success redounding to the credit of this country, and more Congressmen would have succeeded in the elections if only Congressmen had been loyal to their creed of prohibition. In one place in my own district there was an inauguration ceremony of the Congress election campaign. The function was presided over by an Hon. Minister. The Hon. Minister delivered his speech and luckily for him he departed from the meeting place. The candidate, who was chosen by the Congress, and the 'Malabar Kala Venkata Rao' were in the Travellers' Bungalow. My definition of 'Kala Venkata Rao' is one who kills the Congress. This Malabar Kala Venkata Rao and the other persons who were working for the Congress then brought liquor to the Travellers' Bungalow and indulged in drinking to the knowledge of the villagers there. Sir, I ask, how could prohibition succeed when your own leaders are indulging in drinking? To add to all this, one of the persons who took part in this drinking bout was a Circle Inspector of Police who was not working there but had come specially to take part in the inauguration campaign of the Congress candidate's election. The Taluk Congress Committee of which Sri V. Sankaranarayana Menon, now an M.L.A., was President, had put in a complaint that this Inspector was openly violating the Prohibition Act. The

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hon. Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar was the Chief Minister then and, honest man that he was, he wanted an enquiry to be held in this matter. The District Superintendent of Police conducted the enquiry. I am a bit of a criminal lawyer myself and I know there was sufficient evidence to convict that Inspector. What did actually happen? Malabar Kala Venkata Rao interfered. That Circle Inspector was not punished but promoted. How can you expect prohibition to succeed if you are not honest in carrying it out? If you are honest, whatever may be the political party to which I belong, I will stand for prohibition and work for it if you do really want to follow in the footsteps of the Father of the Nation whose portrait is above us. You know, Sir, young men and young women were picketing the toddy shops. The lathi blows which they received are nothing compared to the intolerable insults flung at them accusing the chastity of their mothers and sisters. At least in the name of those who died for prohibition let me appeal to the Government not to give up prohibition. I am glad, Sir, that the Hon. the Chief Minister has got the courage to say that prohibition will stand. It will be better not to touch prohibition at all.

"Then, Sir, the recent order in regard to prohibition is virtually killing Ayurveda in Malabar. I have great respect, Sir, for your allopathic system. I hope, Sir, that no Hon. Minister will have any occasion to suffer from rheumatism! How can you have this very fine treatment special to Malabar without these *arishtas*? These new rules are killing this Malabar system and I hope the Hon. Minister in charge of Prohibition will take this into consideration.

"I understand, Sir, that there is now a proposal to take over three Headquarters Hospitals by the Government. I personally appeal to the Hon. Sri A. B. Shetty, who, I am glad, is the sole survivor of the 'Great catastrophe' which overtook the last Ministry, to take over my Headquarters Hospital at Perintalmanna in Walluvanad taluk.

"My leader, Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar, spoke about the sufferings of the people in the villages and the necessity for giving medical aid to the villagers. Money must be found by some means or other. But, I am a different person when I come to these taxation proposals. Is it necessary to have a Rajagopalachari to bring these taxation measures? Even a Kumaraswami Raja or a Gopala Reddi would have done it better. I do not know who is responsible for placing these unpopular taxation measures before us. I will take only one instance which affects the whole of my district of Malabar, viz., the surcharge on land revenue. I do not know who is responsible for that magnificent definition given for 'registered holder' in the Bill which has been placed before the Legislature now. It says:

'Registered holder', in relation to any land, means the person who is registered in the revenue accounts of the Government as the person who should pay the land revenue in respect thereof, whether as a sole or as a joint proprietor, or as a lessee or licensee; and includes every person who is in actual occupation or enjoyment of the land, whether or not he is registered as aforesaid.

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"Thanks to the mighty brain which invented this definition every person will be included and the whole of Malabar will be killed because of the special tenancy system in Malabar. Under the direct relationship with the landlord every tenant who now has to pay Rs. 5 will have to pay Rs. 10 if the surcharge is levied. This will mean double taxation of the tenant as well as landlord. Why not we be honest and think of proposals like a tax on agricultural income instead of this dishonest proposal? I hope the Finance Minister will consider the wide repercussions in the district of Malabar if this Bill is to be passed and I will request him to consider it in consultation with persons who are well known for their legal practice in Malabar, for instance, the Hon. Sri K. Kuttikrishnan Nair. Even Sri K. Bashyam who has had a number of cases from Malabar will be able to point out how Malabar will be ruined if this measure is passed. I only appeal to the Treasury Benches not to add to the one Aruppukkottai which is causing sufficient headache to the Chief Minister. Do you want Aruppukkottais in Malabar too because if this Bill is passed the whole of Malabar will become Aruppukkottais? The Hon. Sri Kuttikrishnan Nair will not be able to go to Malabar and will have to go to some other place if this Bill is passed. He must repudiate this Bill if he wants to come there.

"Sir, the Hon. the Chief Minister was pleased to call the Opposition, that is the Communist section of it, as Public Enemy No. 1. I do not say I was glad when he said so, but he is absolutely correct when he said that the Public Works Department—Public Waste Department—was his Enemy No. 2. Is not the new Assembly Chamber a standing monument of the public waste of the Public Works Department? I was glad the Hon. the Chief Minister has called it a waste."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Is the hon. Member referring to the inmates or to the building?"

* SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"I mean only the building, Sir. The Public Works Department is Enemy No. 2. Very good, Sir! But I want to place before the Hon. the Chief Minister another enemy. This enemy is not the Communist Party nor the Kisan-Mazdoor Praja Party which came out, because the Congress Government is not really following the footsteps of the Mahatma. The real enemy—you may call it by any name—is the petty official tyrant in the village. Sir, you know the havoc done by these people who do not think that the masses are the masters in this country. Recently there was an incident at Lak-kidi village in Ottapalam. The Sub-Inspector of Police went to arrest a man. There is nothing unusual in arresting and remanding a man to custody because we lawyers will defend him. But an unfortunate thing happened here. It is our traditional practice, Sir, if one wants to show respect to any person to remove his angavastram and tie it round his waist. As soon as this mighty Sub-Inspector, a man imported from a Tamil district who did not know either the language or the customs of the people, saw this accused person tying up his angavastram to his waist, thought

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he was about to assault him. The Police put him into a car and throughout the entire distance of three miles to the Police station they assaulted him. Not only this but every constable assaulted him while he was in the lock-up with the result that he sustained grievous injuries. If such things are happening even today, where is the safety for a democratic Government if it could not control its own officers? I would only say that these people are the enemies of the Government now and are going to be its enemies hereafter also.

"Turning now to the tax on bus passengers, this one pie may bring you many crores. Rajaji is the father of the Sales Tax and he wants to be the father of the Surcharge on Land Revenue and this increase in bus fares. I pay my tribute to him but this will do to the Government more harm. It will stare at them everywhere because it is a tax on the poor and psychologically bad. I request him to withdraw this addition to the bus fare as well as the surcharge on land revenue. Let the Chief Minister tax foreign liquor to his heart's content. There is an alternative to all these taxation measures. We have inherited a top-heavy administration. As my leader, Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiyar, pointed out, out of Rs. 60 crores only about 30 crores are spent on the people and the rest is spent on the administration. Cannot the Hon. the Chief Minister change this system? Why should they maintain the white elephant of a Board of Revenue with five members? The Board of Revenue served only as a preserve of the bureaucracy. Retrenchment meant only retrenching a few peons and masalchis. I think even Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar retrenched a few masalchis. We must have real retrenchment at the top and save money. Perhaps it will be said that there must be checks and counter-checks and there must be some persons to supervise. Where is the need for all these? I would only say, think of retrenchment before you propose taxation. These are the comments I have to offer to those on the Treasury Benches."

* SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY:—"Mr Chairman, Sir, before I begin to criticise the budget, I should like to offer my humble tribute to the Hon. the Chief Minister for the two bold steps which he has taken since we met here last. One is with reference to the decontrol which was effected and which, as was pointed out by the previous speaker, had a great effect in correcting the morals of the people. Even the most honest man was forced to tell a lie. Of course, we had our own fears, as one of the previous speakers pointed out, whether the future generation would be a generation of liars. But this bold step has brought about a thorough spiritual reformation, if I may say so, of the society. With reference to the second bold step that he has taken, I may say, that the Hon. the Chief Minister has for the first time since the introduction of the grant-in-aid code conceded the principle that the teacher working in an aided secondary school is on a par with a teacher in a Government institution. So far as I knew, this is the first occasion when the Government has accepted

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full responsibility with reference to the payment, cent per cent, of charges incurred on behalf of an aided secondary school teacher. I hope this will be the fore-runner of many of the privileges that are expected by the aided secondary school teachers and the aided elementary school teachers that they be put on a par with Government institutions recognizing their service as national service which is the main function of a Government.

6-15.
P.M.

" Now, coming to the budget proper, I beg to point out that it does not differ much from the previous budgets barring these two points which I just mentioned. This budget does not seem to be a poor man's budget. There is a tendency all these days, since the advent of the Britisher in this country, to forget the poor man and the villager as the hon. Mr. O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar so rightly pointed out. Sir, we have been paying more attention to the plants on the pavements than to the children living there. Last week, Sir, I had occasion to see them getting drenched in the rains which we really wanted and which Lord Varuna was pleased to shower on us. These children living on the pavements are being withered in the sun and drenched in the rains. They are the plants that would flower and yield fruit, the wealth of the nation. Are they not to be cared for? Then what about beggars? Have the Government provided anything for the disabled beggars in this budget? Let us start reforming our social life from the bottom, at least from this year when we have got our revered Rajaji as our Chief Minister. Why are we here if we are not for these poor beggars? Are we not expected to follow in the footsteps of the Father of the Nation? If we do not think of them, who else will do so? Are we not to think of them even after five years of Swaraj? Let us pass some legislation for these disabled beggars to provide them at least rations from Government stores free of cost.

" Let us then come to the pavement dwellers. Let us stop building towers for clocks which though they may sometimes show the correct time are not needed in these days of wrist-watches. Let us stop building monuments with guards to prevent the poor from resorting to them and let us emulate the Father of the Nation and follow in his footsteps and see that in future monuments are provided in the budget in the form of huts for these pavement dwellers and beggars.

" Next comes the neglected elementary school teacher. Rs. 12 crores are spent annually for education out of a total revenue of about 60 crores of rupees. This is really a large slice. But I say, these 12 crores of rupees are simply wasted by the Government. Real education is carried on in our State and practically throughout the whole of India from Kashmir to Cape Comorin through 'Cinema Houses'. Real elementary education, secondary education, university education, adult education—all types of education are carried on nowadays through the cinema. The eyes, the most appealing sense organs, are catered to in a most filthy way in the films now shown. The effect of education given by the Government at a cost of Rs. 12 crores of rupees every year is

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being nullified by these 'Cinema Houses'. There is a Film Censorship Board. Here is an opportunity for the State Government to point out to the Union Government how the money spent by them on education of children is going to waste as a result of these 'Cinema Houses' and to request them to pass appropriate legislation or take suitable measures to ban children from seeing films. With the co-operation of the Film Censorship Board, all films affecting the formation of character of children should be thoroughly banned and films of real educational value only shown to children. Let us not imitate the Western methods, as the Laubauch method of imparting adult education, which are useless and let us see that real adult education is given, in these days of advanced science, through audio-visual methods, films and the radio.

" The elementary school teachers who are paid Rs. 30 take away a sum of Rs. 7 crores out of 12 crores of rupees spent by the Government. Can the Government spend more on education? Can any Government spend more than 20 per cent on education? Is this not enough reason, Sir, to change the method of education? Only 35 lakhs out of 70 lakhs of school-going children attend schools now. The teachers are not paid even half of what they legitimately want. When we take these facts into consideration, we require Rs. 48 crores for education alone. It is high time we take into consideration all these things and begin our reform of education from now onwards. We have been pointing out to the Union Government and to the Government in this State that a new type of education should be evolved. But so far nothing has been done. Should not Madras lead the other States in this matter also as it has led the other States in regard to decontrol of foodgrains? We wish the Hon. Minister for Education to form committees with representatives of teachers in them for the various stages of education for reorganizing the whole scheme of education. Let us examine whether it is not sufficient to have elementary schools working for 200 days only with a 2½ hours working day; whether the number of years for the matriculation course cannot be reduced; and whether it is necessary to teach History and Geography about foreign countries which do not help children at all and impractical science which is useless to them. Let us teach them the things that are needed. In this country where the average age of a person is only 23 years, let us shorten the number of working days in a year and the working hours in a day and let us promote pupils every six months. Let us make the teachers work two shifts. Let the present strength of the elementary school teachers be the maximum number required for imparting elementary education and let us stop further recruitment beyond the limit required for filling vacancies caused by death or retirement. Let us stop starting further training schools. Let us make the teachers work for five hours and let us decide to pay them double of what they get now. The question naturally arises as to how the Government can pay a teacher double of what he gets now? If Government introduce taxes there is a big clamour from the public against them. At the same time, members of other professions want more money.

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What can the poor Finance Minister do? The only solution is to have a fair distribution of the revenues of the Government. Let us spend the revenues of the Government in a proper way. I find from the budget Rs. 8.37 crores are to be spent on civil works alone. Out of this sum, more than Rs. 6 crores are to be spent on roads, bridges, highways, etc. Let us have bridges that are necessary. Out of the sum of Rs. 6 crores to be spent on roads, bridges, highways, etc., provision has been made for cement concreting of certain roads. When I turned to the pages of the budget memorandum, I was pained to see at short intervals items of provision for cement concreting of roads. I understand that cement concreting one mile of road costs one lakh of rupees. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Members here, 'Is a poor country like India fit enough to spend one lakh of rupees for cementing one mile of road while cement is not to be had by the poor man living in a thatched hut?' Is it proper, Sir, to imitate the West? Why should, Sir, so much money be spent on foreign machinery and foreign experts? Metalling one mile of road costs about Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 90,000 can be saved per mile and taking roads alone, I am not speaking of buildings, etc., we can save Rs. 3 crores and this amount can be spent for the teachers.

"I will also suggest a reduction in the inspectorate employed by the Department of Education. I ask, why should teachers alone, Sir, be singled out of the members of all professions for being suspected? Why should a teacher have so many visits from ordinary Deputy Inspectors of Schools? His visits do not help the teacher in any way and they are only a disturbance to school work. Superfluous offices as that of the Divisional Inspectors can be abolished. Why should there be external examinations for students? Why should not the teacher be made to judge as to whether a student is fit for promotion to the next class or not? Let the external examinations go. Let the inspectorate be reduced to the minimum strength required. Let the Directorate also be reduced. These items will give us a saving of three-fourths crore of rupees. Government can also take under their control all secondary schools and order all the boys to remit their school fees in the treasury. They can pay the managements, say, 15 per cent of the collections made. It has been found, Sir, after 1947 that the running of a secondary school has been profitable and that the running of an elementary school is a great loss. This will give the Government a revenue of Rs. 1.68 crores which will be enough for paying old age pensions and gratuity to teachers and extend the fee concessions to further stages of education. Let the teachers be paid double their present salary from out of the three crores of rupees savings effected from the expenditure on roads.

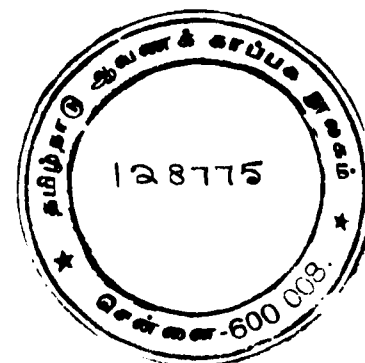
"Sir, we treat building a dam or a bridge or digging a canal as 'capital expenditure'. Is not education given to young children, which cannot be stolen by a thief and which is to be passed on from generation to generation as a great cultural heritage, a

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reater capital expenditure? Is not making capital of our children a greater capital expenditure than the amount spent on the construction of a bridge which may sometimes last only 15 or 20 years? We want, Sir, at least Rs. 3 crores to raise the salaries of teachers. It does not matter wherefrom the money comes, whether it be from the finances provided for the 'Community projects' or the Five-year Plan or the Revenue Reserves which the teachers have been claiming from 1945. No teacher from the elementary school to the college stage should have any cause to feel at any part of his life that he is suffering for having entered his profession which is called 'noble'. So we wish, Sir, the budget to be completely revised with reference to the amelioration of the poor classes, first, the beggars, then, the pavement dwellers and then, the elementary school teachers. We also wish the organization of education to be carried out by forming committees at various stages with representatives of the respective teachers in them. With these words, I conclude."

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"I now adjourn the House till 4 p.m. Monday, the 7th July 1952."

The House then adjourned.



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